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# EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.

#### Employment.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further improvement during February. It was good at coal mines, in steel sheet manufacture, and in the worsted trade; fairly good in the tinplate trade; and fair in the iron and steel, woollen, hosiery, jute, carpet, ready-made clothing and paper trades. In most of the other large industries employment continued slack, but some improvement was reported in the iron mining, pig-iron, engineering, shipbuilding, building, furniture and pottery industries.

The percentage unemployed among members of Trade Unions from which returns are received was 13<sup>.1</sup> at the end of February, as compared with 13<sup>.7</sup> at the end of January, and 16<sup>.3</sup> at the end of February, 1922. The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11<sup>.8</sup> at 26th February, as compared with 12<sup>.7</sup> at 22nd January, and 15<sup>.5</sup> at the end of February, 1922. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 26th February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was approximately 1,376,000, of whom 1,073,000 were men and 218,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 29th January the corresponding total was 1,460,000, of whom 1,138,000 were men and 226,000 were women.

#### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are compiled by the Department the changes in rates of wages reported as having taken effect in February resulted in an aggregate reduction of  $\pounds 64,000$  in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 480,000 workpeople, and in an increase of  $\pounds 400$  in the wages of nearly 8,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by reductions included iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, and steel smelters in most districts, who sustained a decrease of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on standard rates in each case, equivalent to from  $1\frac{3}{4}$  to 2 per cent. on current rates. In the clothing trades the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople employed in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade and the wholesale mantle and costume trade in Great Britain were reduced by amounts varying from 1d. to 2d. per hour. There were also reductions in the Trade Board minimum rates for males and females employed in the ready-made and wholesate bespoke tailoring trade and for female workers in the linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece goods trade in Northern Ireland.

Among other large bodies of workpeople whose wages were reduced in February were men employed in nonfederated shipyards at Belfast and in ship repairing yards on the Mersey; gold, silver and jewellery workers at Sheffield; coopers; flour millers; and workpeople in the electricity supply industry on various districts.

Under the Trade Boards Acts, in addition to the reductions mentioned above, there were decreases in the minimum rates fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry and in those fixed for workers in the general waste materials reclamation trade in Great Britain.

The principal group of workpeople whose wages were increased in February were iron ore miners in Cumberland, who received an increase of 3d. per shift.

During the first two months of 1923 the changes in the rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of over £120,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 950,000 workpeople and in a net increase of £43,000 in the weekly wages of 670,000 workpeople. Detailed statistics are given on page 101.

#### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st March the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 76 per cent above that of July, 1914. The corresponding figure for 1st February was 77 per cent., and that for 1st March, 1922, was 86 per cent. The highest point reached was 176 per cent. above the pre-war level, in November, 1920, and the present figure is the lowest recorded since May, 1917. For food alone the increase at 1st March, as compared with July, 1914, was 71 per cent.

The statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

For further particulars and details of the statistics reference should be made to the article on page 90.

#### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in February, was 41. In addition, 36 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month.

The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including those workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 40,000, as compared with 19,000 in the previous month and 30,000 in February, 1922. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during February was 337,000 working days, as compared with 117,000 days in January, 1923, and 269,000 days in February, 1922.

The principal disputes in progress during the month involved about 9,000 coal miners near South Shields and about 4,000 workpeople in the bookbinding trade in London.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BILL.

A BILL to amend the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1922, was introduced in the House of Commons by the Minister of Labour on 28th February.

The Bill makes provision for a further grant of "uncovenanted " unemployment benefit (i.e., benefit paid irrespective of contributions), as from 12th April next.

The "Fourth Special Period" of benefit (as defined in section 3 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1922)\* is to be prolonged, so as to extend from 2nd November, 1922, to 17th October, 1923. During the period as thus prolonged a total of 44 weeks of benefit may be drawn, subject to the condition that when a person has received 22 weeks of benefit in the fourth special period (i.e., since the beginning of November, 1922), a gap of two weeks will occur before he becomes entitled to further benefit (clause 1).

From October, 1923, the Bill provides that benefit years shall be paid, either in respect of contributions. For subsequent bene-ft wars the maximum particle of the payment o fit years the maximum period of benefit will be 26 weeks, payable only in respect of contributions (clause 2).

The 26 weeks of benefit within the first benefit year may be drawn without a break, if payable in respect of contributions, but, if benefit is authorised irrespective of contributions, a gap of three weeks will occur after 12 weeks of such benefit have been drawn (clause 2, proviso (2)).

The Bill proposes to make permanent the additional benefits payable in respect of a wife (or invalid husband) and dependent children, which, under existing legislation (Unemployment Insurance Act, 1922), are to continue only until the end of the "deficiency period" of the Unemployment Fund. The rates of contribution after the end of the deficiency period (i.e., the date when the Treasury certifies that the Unemployment to Fund is again solvent) are to be such as will be sufficient to provide for these additional benefits, but are not to exceed 6d. a week from the unemployed person and 6d. from the employer, in the case of a man; 4d. from the employed person and 5d. from the employer, in the case of a woman; and half these rates in the case of a boy or a girl, respectively. (At present the rates are 9d. a week from the worker and 10d. from the employer, in the case of a man, and half of those amounts in the case of a boy; 7d. a week from the worker and 8d. from the employer, in the case of a woman; and 4d. from the worker and 44d. from the employer, in the case of a girl.) The State contribution after the end of the deficiency period is to be onefourth of the joint contributions of employers and employed, instead of the present proportion of approximately one-third (clause 4)

With a view to meeting certain anomalies, the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, with regard to continuity of unemployment are amended. The new rule proposed is that benefit shall be payable, subject to a waiting period, for any three days or more of unemployment occurring during any six consecutive days, though not necessarily within one calendar week (clause 5).

With a view to carrying out the recommendations made by Lord Chelmsford (Juvenile Employment Inquiry, 1921), pro-vision is also made with regard to the exercise by Local Education Authorities of their powers of adopting a choice of employment scheme under section 107 of the Education Act, 1921 In order to prevent duplication of machinery, the exercise of those powers is made conditional on the authorities undertaking the administration of unemployment benefit in respect of the juveniles concerned (clause 6).

Minor amendments are also proposed in regard to-(a) Ante-dating claims to benefit (clause 7). (A period of unemployment is not deemed to begin until the insured contributor makes application for benefit in the prethe scribed manner, but the new clause provides that Minister may make regulations permitting some earlier date to be substituted for the date of application when there is good cause for the delay in making application.)

(b) Provisions as to insurance stamps (clause 8).
(c) Recovery of sums wrongly paid by way of benefit (clause 9)

(d) Adaptation of "special schemes" (clause 10). (The new clause gives power to the Minister of Labour, after consultation with the body charged with the administration of a special scheme, to vary or amend the provisions of a scheme, in order to ensure benefits not less favourable than those provided by the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts.)

In a Memorandum<sup>+</sup> issued by the Ministry of Labour, regard-ing the financial clauses of the Bill, it is stated that if, when the reduced rates of contribution come into force, they are at the maximum rates permitted by the Bill (as specified above), the State contribution will be about £6,000,000 annually, as compared with the present amount of about £12,500,000 annually; while the combined contributions from employers and employed will be annually £24,000,000 instead of the present figure of about £35,000,000.

It is also stated that the amount of benefit payable from 19th April, 1923, to 15th October, 1924, under the provisions of the Bill, is estimated at £62,500,000, assuming that the number of per-

- See'the April, 1922. issue of this GAZETTE, page 157. † Cmd. 1824. H.M. Stationery Office. price 2d. net.

sons unemployed (including an allowance for short-time worker may be, on the average, 1,250,000. It is estimated that a this basis the deficiency on the Unemployment Fund (whi will be approximately £18,500,000 on 19th April, 1923) w April, 1924, falling back to £20,700,000 in October, 1923, and to £22,500,000 maximum borrowing power, as fixed by the Act of 1922, £30.000.000.

March, 1923

The further grant of benefit does not involve any increase in the rates of contribution from employers, employed or the State during the deficiency period; but as it must prolong the deficiency period and consequently postpone the date at which the present rates of contribution can be reduced, the effect is to increase the total emport of the contributions to be reduced. to increase the total amount of the contributions to be paid all three parties during the deficiency period.

# HEALTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

REPORT OF INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE

THE Inter-Departmental Committee appointed in January, 1922 "to consider the relations of Health Insurance and Unemploy ' ment Insurance, and to investigate the possibility of reducin ' the total cost of administration by modifying the Unemplo ment Insurance Scheme and by amalgamating Unemploymer

and Health Insurance cards, records, and, as far as possible administration " have presented their third interim Report.+ The present Report is devoted to the two provisions of the existing scheme which require the continuous maintenance of separate ledger account for each insured person, viz. (i) the provision in the second schedule to the Act of 1920 (usually known as the "one-in-six" rule), restricting unemployment

benefit to one week for every six contributions; and (ii) the provision in Section 25 of the Act entitling an insured person, or reaching the age of 60, to a refund of the excess of his own con tributions over the amount of benefit received, together with

compound interest at 2½ per cent. The Committee were led to consider these questions mainly from the point of view of economy in administration; but they have also been impressed with the reactions of the provision relating to refunds of contributions upon the financial position of the Unemployment Fund.

The One-in-Six Rule.—This rule makes benefit depend upon the whole past history of the individual, and therefore involves a running account of contributions and benefits in respect of over 11,000,000 persons, for an indefinite number of years. is recognised that some limit must be placed on the claims for unemployment benefit, as has been done, for example, by the Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit; but these Trade Unions have nothing corresponding to the "one-in-six" with the excessive burden of accounting it involves. The rule The Con mittee point out, also, that the operation of the rule makes difficult for insured persons to attempt any independent calcu lation of their benefit rights.

The Committee therefore propose that the "one-in-six" rule should be abandoned, and that instead of it the amount of benefit payable in a given year should depend on the averag number of contributions paid in a given period preceding the benefit year. They suggest three contribution years as a suit able period.

They propose that the maximum period of benefit in any year should be 26 weeks. To qualify an insured person to receive the maximum period of 26 weeks' benefit, they propose that at least 48 contributions should have been paid on the average of the three preceding years, and that there should be a reduction of two weeks' benefit for every fall of three con They further propose that benefit should tributions. They further propose that benefit should be withheld altogether from a person whose average contribu-tions in a year do not reach twelve, on the ground that such person is obviously an intermittent worker, and not properly nsurable at all

The scheme proposed would need slight modifications, (a) a the present time, to meet the case of those who have been suffering heavily from unemployment during the past two years and (b) permanently, as regard new entrants.

The effect of the new proposals would be that benefits would not be subject to any reduction on account of benefits paid in previous years, but would be dependent solely upon the average

number of contributions during the three previous years. Numerous experiments which have been made show that somewhat greater amount of benefit would be provided on th average than under the present system. The new system would specially benefit those who are normally in regular work, bu are subject to serious interruption of work, for example, in the

Refunds .- The refund system is open to objection on groun of principle, embodying, as it does, two essentially differen forms of thrift, viz., insurance and banking : it involves the illogical proposition that, under a scheme of insurance, a person who is fortunate enough to have no occasion to make a claim entitled to have his premium back. The system also involves complications in accounting; and the difficulty of insured persons in ascertaining their rights applies with even greater forc to the refund provision than to the "one-in-six" rule.

The Committee also discuss, in detail, the serious effect of the refund provision (and in a less degree of the " one-in-six rule) upon the finances of the Unemployment Fund, particularl

See LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1972, page 106.
 † Cmd. 1821; price 3d. r.
 For notice of first and second interim reports see LABOUR GAZETTE for MC 1922, page 202

at the present time of stress. Instead of holding substantial reserves against its liabilities under these heads the Fund is eavily indebted to the Exchequer, owing to the recent extensive grant of "uncovenanted" benefit. The Committee recommend the total abolition of the refund

system. They make no recommendation as to compensation; they are satisfied that no material present value attaches to the ntingent rights in this regard of persons under 50; while as egards those over 50 any payment of compensation would in-olve "making small individual payments to persons who, in the nature of the case, have been in practically full employ-ment during the long period of stress which has fallen so heavily upon a large section of their fellow-workers." The mount of compensation payable to the insured persons over 50, f any should be paid, would approach £2,000,000.

The Committee estimate that the simplification of the records ad accounts which it would be possible to effect under the pregoing recommendations would involve a saving of about

£120,000 in a normal year, including bonus at the present rates.

# **USE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT IN RELIEF** OF WAGES.

THE following is a summary of a Government Report shortly to be ublished on the subject of proposals to utilise the unemploy-lent benefit payable under the Unemployment Insurance Acts assist the provision of work for the unemployed.

The proposals are of two forms: to use unemployment benefit part payment of wages on relief work provided through Local uthorities, and to use unemployment benefit in aid of wages paid by private employers.

The proposals are supported by the arguments that the pay-nent of unemployment benefit is expenditure without return, and hat long continued idleness is demoralising to unemployed work-Although these arguments are at first sight reasonable, ople.

he objections to the proposal are found to be conclusive. In the first place, the Unemployment Insurance Fund is *intributory*, and although the State directly contributes a share, mee-fourths of the revenue is derived from the contributions by mployers and employed. The Fund has borrowed from the reasury over £16,000,000, and, in order to repay this debt, conibutions will have to be maintained at their present high rates or a considerable period. During the past 12 months the Fund has paid out in benefit £47,700,000, of which £33,800,000 epresents contril tions from employers and workpeople, the ontribution of the workpeople amounting to  $\pounds 15,700,000$ . Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts benefits are mainly two kinds-" Covenanted " benefit, i.e., weekly benefit to which rkpeople are entitled in virtue of the requisite number of

reekly contributions paid during employment standing to their redit; and "Uncovenanted" benefit, an emergency " advance " f benefit to persons who, through the abnormal unemployment ince 1920, have not a credit sufficient to entitle them to benefit the basis of contributions.

The payment of uncovenanted benefit has been made possible artly by the loan from the Treasury, which will have to be epaid from future contributions. The Unemployment Fund is a reat Trust Fund, maintained to provide benefit for contributors hen unemployed

If unemployed. If unemployment benefit were to be diverted from its present object in the manner suggested—and in any case this could not be done without legislation—the effect must be to strike a serious dow at the contributory principle, if not absolutely to destroy , and probably to endanger repayment of the debt owing by the und. Even if the use of benefit were confined to the assistance Local Authorities in respect of relief works, which have hitherto been financed directly out of rates and taxes, this is an object quite different from that for which the contributions were collected, and might lead to protests from the contributors the Fund.

If it is argued that the grants to Local Authorities in respect of relief schemes are insufficient, the case should be argued on hat basis. Such a plea is not in itself a justification for raiding he Unemployment Fund.

If the proposal is extended to include assistance to private employers, the claim of those who would lay the whole charge relief of unemployment upon the Exchequer would become sistent, and, in addition, employers might naturally raise an bjection to the use of their own contributions in aid of other employers, with whom they have no direct concern, and who night, in certain cases, be competitors.

As regards the special case of relief works undertaken by Local Authorities, there are the following objections, in addi 

At its first meeting on 20th February the National Council decided to ask all King's Roll Committees which had been estab-lished to complete the register of disabled ex-Service men un fined to works put in hand expressly for the purpose of providing relief for the unemployed, and excluding those which it is the statutory duty of the authority to pay for out employed in the locality and to classify the men on the completed register into three categories according to the difficulties likely of the rates. (ii) Much relief work is placed out to contract, with a to be experienced by them in finding employment owing to the view to stimulating ordinary trade. The difficulty of nature of their disability

applying the scheme to such work would be insuperable; it would have to be confined to work carried out by direct labour.

(iii) The amount to be paid to a local authority would be the amount of the man's unemployment benefit. This is not extended indefinitely, and when the man's benefit was exhausted he might be discharged, because he would no longer carry a "premium." If he was kept on until the

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relief works ended, he would still be faced with the fact that he would have pro tanto exhausted his benefit; and benefit might fail him just when he wanted it most.

(iv) Although the proposal would be less unsatisfactory if the payment could be confined to additional persons taken on to relief works, who are definitely a burden upon the Unemployment Fund, it would be difficult to resist the extension of such payments to the large number of men already engaged upon relief works.

As regards the application of the proposal to private industry, two detailed schemes have been considered. In one of these it was suggested that unemployed workpeople should surrender their benefits to an employer, who would be enabled to cut his prices and thus secure business. The benefit would only be payable in respect of a proportion of the men taken on additional to the complement existing on an appointed day. This scheme, however, is open to two fatal objections. It would be inequitable as between firm and firm; it would not benefit firms that were fully employed on the appointed day, but only those that were working with a reduced staff, and this reduced activity might be due to the firms' own inefficiency. Moreover, it would be difficult to guarantee that the subsidy would, in fact, be used to reduce prices; again, if one of a number of competing firms was enabled by the scheme to cut prices, the other firms would object to such a use of the Unemployment Fund to which they themselves had contributed.

Another scheme suggested aimed at meeting some of the obections to subsidising private schemes. It was suggested, for example, that the subsidy should apply only to the numbers employed in excess of the average number em-ployed by a firm before a given date. This, however, would involve heavy administrative expenses in checking claims. It was also suggested that firms coming under the scheme should bind themselves to make no profits, or only limited profits, during any period when they were receiving a subsidy. But in this case (a) if no profits were allowed to be made, it is doubt-But in ful whether many firms would take up the scheme; (b) there is nothing to prevent the subsidy being paid in respect of men who might have obtained employment in any event in consequence of improvement of trade.

Moreover, any scheme for subsidising wages in private indus-try is open to the objections applying to the notorious Speenhamland scheme, which prevailed in agriculture, in certain areas, before the Poor Law of 1832. Under this system wages were subsidised from the Poor Law, with the result that they fell to a disgracefully low level, and it was difficult for any worker not on the Poor Law to obtain employment; while the poor rate was raised to a level which became intolerable.

The conclusion reached in the Report is, therefore, that the use of the Unemployment Insurance Fund to subsidise 'wages, whether on relief work carried out by local authorities 'or of employers in private industry, would be objectionable in 'principle, as gravely endangering the contributory basis of the 'Fund, and impossible in practice without serious inequities and risk of abuse.

#### KING'S ROLL NATIONAL COUNCIL.

THE Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Training and Employment of Disabled Ex-Service Men reported last year (August, 1922) in favour of the establishment in the various counties and county boroughs of Local King's Roll Com-mittees, whose work should be co-ordinated by a National Council. These recommendations of the Committee were accepted by the Government, and, at the invitation of the Minister of Labour, King's Roll Committees are being set up in the various towns in the country, and a National Council has been constituted with the following members :--

Field-Marshal Earl Haig, K.T., G.C.B., O.M., etc., Chairman.

Major-General Sir John Davidson, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., M.P., Vice-Chairman. Viscount Burnham, C.H., Lord Elphinstone, Lord Gorell,

Viscount Burnham, C.H., Lord Elphinstone, Lord Gorell,
C.B.E., M.C., House of Lords.
Major The Hon. J. J. Astor, M.P., Major J. B. Cohen, M.P.,
J. Lawson, Esq., M.P., House of Commons.
T. W. Phillips, Esq., C.B., C.B.E., J. A. Barlow, Esq.,
C.B.E., Ministry of Labour.
I. G. Gibbon, Esq., C.B.E., Ministry of Health.
C. F. A. Hore, Esq., C.B., Ministry of Pensions.
Captain Appleby, D. P. Pielou, Esq., M.P., British Legion.
James Lithgow, Esq., J. E. Baker, Esq., National Confederation of Employers' Organisations.

tion of Employers' Organisations. Honorary Secretary : Lieut.-Col. Vivian L. Henderson, M.C.

It will be the task of the Local King's Roll Committees to try to secure employment under ordinary commercial or industrial conditions for as many disabled ex-Service men as possible, and for others to be employed on light jobs. The Committees are further charged with the task of examining the position of ex-Service men whose disability is so serious that if they are to be employed at all, they must be employed in some special institution set up for such classes of men.

### **OVERSEA SETTLEMENT**, 1922.

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THE Oversea Settlement Committee have issued their Report for the year 1922.\* The first part of the Report is historical, describing the circum-

stances under which the Committee began its work soon after the Armistice; the special conference on State-aided Empire Settlement in January-February, 1921; and the passing of the Empire Settlement Act in May, 1922. Since the passing of the Act negotiations have been going on with the Oversea Govern-ments for the establishment of schemes of assisted migration, land settlement, etc., under the Act. The Committee express the view that at the present time there

is definite over-population in this country. During the war, migration practically ceased, and has not yet recovered to its pre-war level; at the same time our foreign trade has been crippled by the impoverishment of many of the countries with which we traded, and, even when normal conditions are restored. is likely to be more difficult than before, owing to higher tariffs and to the establishment of competing industries abroad. The Dominions, on the other hand, are in need of population, especi ally upon the land; and they are by far the best markets for our manufacture. This is shown in the following Table :--

and the Design of the protection of the second seco	s corre of h lo i sorie la Long a sorie	Produce and 1	United Kingdom Manufactures (other w materials).		
Country.	White Population.	Total Value.	Value per head of white population of importing country.		
Australia	5,437,000 8,943,000 264,000 1,240,000 94,821,000 426,900,000 39,210,000	£ 45,356,000 18,988,000 315,000 14,467,000 38,760,000 172,006,000 31,030,000	$ \begin{array}{c} \pounds & \text{s. d.} \\ 8 & 6 & 10 \\ 2 & 2 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 11 \\ 11 & 13 & 4 \\ 0 & 8 & 2 \\ 0 & 8 & 1 \\ 0 & 15 & 10 \end{array} $		

The most desirable classes of migrants, in the opinion of the Committee, are children and juveniles. The Committee " are so " convinced of the importance of youth and adaptability in connection with settlement overseas that they see little prospect "of successful development of the new policy unless child migra-"tion and juvenile migration are stimulated to such an extent "as to form a substantial portion—(say) not less than one-third "----of the whole volume of migration." They point out that there are at present about 200,000 juveniles, male and female, in this country who have no immediate prospect of absorption in suitable industry; and that about 750,000 juveniles leave school each year. They add that public opinion will not be favourable to juvenile migration in the absence of ample safe-guards for the welfare of the young settlers after their arrival. The migration of women is also a thing to be specially en-

couraged, owing both to the great excess of the female over the male population in this country, and to the "urgent and unlimited" demand for women in the Dominions, especially as unlimited " demand for women in the Dominions, especially as household helpers. Unfortunately, women are, at least in normal times, less disposed to migrate than men; though this may be less so at the present time, in view of the lack of employment in this country. One great obstacle is the high cost of passages, and the Committee suggest that this might be met by more liberal State assistance for women's passages. The Committee also emphasise the importance of providing suitable opportunities overseas for educated women.

As regards males, the Committee point out that the only male settlers for whom there are openings in the Dominions in any considerable numbers are those who are able and willing to work upon the land. Young, unmarried men are the class whose settlement overseas presents fewer difficulties than that of any other class; and assisted passages are available for such at the present time to certain of the Dominions, under specified conditions. The settlement overseas of married men with their families is ideally the best of all forms of migration; but it presents very great difficulties.

The special provision for ex-Service men and women came to an end (with certain exceptions) on the 31st December last. The following Table shows the approximate number of ex-Service men and women, and their dependants, who sailed under the Govern-ment free passage scheme from the commencement of the scheme on the 8th April, 1919, to the 31st December, 1922† :--

make in the second second	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
To Canada " Australia " New Zealand " South Africa & Rhodesia " Other Destinations	11,539 16,514 5,467 2,688 991	7,522 8,316 3,391 1,777 666	7,499 9,923 4,032 1,429 442	26,560 34,753 12,890 5,894 2,099
Total	37,199	21,672	23,325	82,196

The Report discusses the further measures which it seems desirable to take to make State-aided Empire settlement successful. The existing official machinery in this country must be supplemented by voluntary effort, and the voluntary organisations which interest themselves in Empire migration and settle-

• Cmd. 1804; price 6d. net. † These figures do not include persons who received assisted passages under the Empire Settlement Act, 1922 (see Article in next column).

ment must be strengthened. It will probably be found desirable, at no distant date, to encourage the establishment of migration committees in the various counties, and probably also in the cities and county boroughs, to advise and assist intending settlers. Even more important, in the opinion of the Committee, is an improvement in the arrangements in the Dominions for the reception, distribution and initial supervision of British settlers, which are still in many respects inadequate. The Report describes the arrangements which already exist in the various Dominions under this head.

Two sections of the Report deal with "Young Farmers' Clubs," which distribute live stock among children in various districts, and give them instruction as to the best means of dealing with them; and with the schemes for free or assisted passages, and the like, which have already been completed under the Empire Settlement Act, or are under negotiation with the various Dominion Governments, with charitable societies, etc.

Warrious Dominion Governments, with charitable societies, etc.
In conclusion, the Committee say:—
"At the present time every male or female, child, juvenile
"or adult, who is surplus to the industrial needs of this
"country is a source of weakness to the Empire. . . The
"problem is not one of relieving immediate and abnormal
" unemployment in this country. It is one of finding the
" way to facilitate the expansion of the British race, which,

" if it continues, as at present, to be over-congested in these "islands and sparsely scattered in the Dominions, is likely " both to deteriorate here and to fail to maintain itself " overseas.

#### ASSISTED PASSAGE SCHEMES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE Empire Settlement Act, 1922, empowers His Majesty's Government, in association with the Government of any part of His Majesty's Dominions, to co-operate in carrying out agreed schemes for affording assistance to suitable persons in the United Kingdom who intend to settle in any part of His Majesty's Deminions.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, His Majesty's Government and the Government of the Commonwealth of Aus tralia have jointly agreed upon a scheme for granting assistance towards the cost of passages and, where necessary, initial allowances to persons who desire to settle in Australia. This agree-ment came into operation on July 19th, 1922, and particulars of the scheme may be obtained on application at any Employment Exchange. An agreement (dated 28th August, 1922) has also been concluded between His Majesty's Government and the Government of New Zealand for the grant of assisted passages to suitable persons desiring to settle in that Dominion. Particulars regarding assisted passages to New Zealand may be obtained on application to the Office of the High Commissioner for New Zealand, 413, Strand, London, W.C. 2. Arrangements have also been made with the Government of the Province of Ontario, Canada (under an agreement dated 1st February, 1923), for the grant of assisted passages by way of loan, to enable a limited number of experienced farm labourers and domestic ser-vants to proceed to that Province. The total number of assisted passages granted from the incep-tion of these schemes to the end of 1922 was 8,191, of which

7,058 were to Australia and 1,133 to New Zealand. The numbers of applications for assisted passages received during January and February, 1923, and the numbers of passages granted during those months, were as shown below :--

	Application	as Received.		Passages nted.
Destination.	January.	February.	January.	February.
Australia New Zealand Ontario	10,000* 455 (Not	10,000*, 395 available.)	2,139 343	1,953 442 400

It should be observed that the numbers of applications shown are exclusive of any dependants of the applicant for whom assisted passages are desired, but that the numbers of passages granted relate to the total numbers, inclusive of dependants.

# **GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY FOR NEW WORKING-**CLASS HOUSES.

An announcement issued by the Ministry of Health on 15th March states that the Minister of Health (Mr. Neville Cham-Municipal Corporations and of the Manchester Conference, introduced by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, and discussed with them the financial assistance to be given by the Government to the local authorities for the provision of new workingclass houses

After considerable discussion, the Minister agreed to offer a subsidy of £6 per house per annum for 20 years, to be available for a non-parlour house of five rooms. This figure was accepted by the representatives as one which would enable the building of houses to be pressed forward with the utmost vigour.

It is understood that the subsidy will be available for the encouragement by the local authorities of building by private enterprise, and those present unanimously agreed that measures to this end would have a prominent place in their programme.

\* Approximate total.

#### March, 1923.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES.

DURING the four weeks ended 24th February nine meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and one meeting of an Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee, as well as a number of meetings of sub-committees and district councils, were reported to the Ministry of Labour.

### WAGES. HOURS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

At a meeting of the *Electrical Cable-making* Joint Industrial Council, held on 15th February, the workpeople's side requested that overtime rates in the industry should be brought into orrespondence with those in the engineering industry. This uestion was discussed, and the matter was adjourned for a nonth for further consideration. In the issue of the Ministry Labour Gazette for January and February reference was made of Labour Gazette for January and February reference was made to the decision of the *Electricity Supply* Industrial Council that the District Councils should consider the question of revising the rates of pay and that points remaining undecided after con-sideration both by the District Councils and the National Council should be referred to the Industrial Court for arbitra-tion. The No. 2 (Yorks) Area District Council was not able to gree, and the question was referred to the Industrial Court. agree, and the question was referred to the Industrial Court. This body has now issued its award, a summary of which will be found on page 114 of this issue. At a meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council, held on 16th February, the time allowed to District Councils in outstanding cases for the con-tinuation of negotiations was extended until 13th March. It are reported at this meeting that are compared by the second as reported at this meeting that agreements had been reached the No. 9 (Home Counties) Area and the No. 13 (Scotland) Area, and these agreements were approved by the National Council. The East Midlands Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services on the 24th January referred to its Executive Committee certain proposals but forward by the employers for revision of the existing liding scale, and at a meeting held on the 21st February the ommendations of the Executive Committee were accepted by the Provincial Council. Future adjustments in wages will be made on a revised sliding scale operating quarterly.

#### ORGANISATION.

The three existing Provincial Councils for Local Authorities Administrative, Technical and Clerical Services have had under onsideration the possibility of reviving the national organisation for these services, and have discussed the matter with an officer of the Ministry of Labour. The Match Manufacturing Joint Industrial Council on 15th February carried unanimously a reso-lution reducing the membership of the Council from 20 to 16 members, that is, eight on each side.

#### OTHER TOPICS.

The Admiralty Departmental Industrial Council, at a meeting held on the 16th February, discussed certain points arising out of the recruitment of labour for Admiralty Dockyards, and dealt at some length with the practice of giving preference to ex-Service men, and especially to ex-Naval men. On the 22nd February the *Clay* Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee eccived a report on the work of the Disputes Committee, which had been successful in settling a number of disputes in the industry. The Interim Committee also discussed the scheme presented by a representative of the Ministry of Labour for training disabled ex-Service men in the red-ware section of the pottery trade. The Committee felt that the heavy nature of most of the operations left little opportunity for placing disabled men, but agreed that one member of each side of the Committee should be appointed to serve on the National Trade Advisory should be appointed to serve on the National Trade Advisory Committee dealing with this question, but without power to commit the Interim Committee. The *Paper Making* Joint In-dustrial Council, on the 23rd February, remitted to a joint com-mittee of employers and workpeople for consideration, and, if possible, for settlement, a dispute on the non-union issue. The *Printing* Joint Industrial Council held a special meeting on 2nd February for consideration of a dispute concerning the wares of Printing Joint Industrial Council held a special meeting on 2nd February for consideration of a dispute concerning the wages of certain employees engaged in the bookbinding trade in London. The Council appointed a Conciliation Committee, and subse-quently this Committee and the parties to the dispute met the Chief Labour Adviser to the Ministry of Labour, when a sugges-tion that the matter should be referred to arbitration was generally approved. Later an *ad hoc* Board of Arbitration was set up of which Sir David Harrel was appointed Chairman.\* which Sir David Harrel was appointed Chairman.\* The Tin Mining Joint Industrial Council is understood to be taking joint action with the China Clay Joint Industrial Council with a view to securing a reduction of coal freights to Cornwall. On the 1st and 22nd February, the War Department Industrial Council considered a number of items, such as questions of payment to piece workers for attendance at Works Committee neetings. The submission of proposed promotions to Works Committees, the penalisation of workmen coming late, and the question as to what class of workpeople should be engaged in

the examination of Lewis guns.

\* The Board made an award on 6th March, determining the question under which Agreement wages should be paid.

March, 1923.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

# **EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.**

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

AT 27th February, 1923, the number of men in training was 16,839, and the number awaiting training 11,725. Since 1st August, 1919, 68,173 men have terminated training.

#### INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to the 7th March, 1923, 44,698 apprentices have been accepted for training with 17,846 employers, as compared with 44,696 apprentices with 17,844 employers on 7th February, 1923. The apprentices rejected up to the 7th March, 1923, numbered 2,178, this being the same as on the 7th February, 1923. Of those accepted 42,498 had terminated their training and 2,200

were still in training. The corresponding number on the 7th February, 1923, were 42,328 and 2,368. The number of men who have received Institutional Training has increased during the four weeks from 2,301 to 2,306.

#### NATIONAL SCHEME.

On the 28th February, 1923, the number of employers on the King's National Roll was 30,791.

King's National Roll was 30,791. The undertakings given by these employers under the pro-visions of the National Scheme for the employment of disabled ex-service men cover approximately 300,000 disabled ex-Service

# BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

BEFORE building operations are begun in this country, the plans of the buildings<sup>\*</sup> which are to be erected have to be submitted for approval to the competent Local Authority of the district; accordingly, periodical statistics of the estimated cost of build-ings, for which plane have here around anomide on indication ings for which plans have been approved provide an indication of the prospects of employment for workpeople in the building

of the prospects of employment for workperper in the second strades and various subsidiary industries. From early in 1910 to the year 1920 statistics were regularly collected by the Department and published in this GAZETTE, showing the estimated cost of the buildings for which plans had been ing the estimated cost of the buildings of the principal towns. In approved in a considerable number of the principal towns. In view of the rapid changes in the costs of building and of the considerable number of plans approved upon which work was not proceeding, the publication of these statistics was discon-tinued after October, 1920; but as the influence of these two factors is now much less marked, it is proposed to resume their pub-lication. Applications have accordingly been made to the Local Authorities in 167 of the principal towns in Great Britain, asking for particulars of the numbers and estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed in January and February, 1923, and 134 Authorities have supplied returns giving these particulars 134. Authorities have supplied returns giving these particulars. The summarised figures are given in the following Table, to-gether with the population in 1921, as shown by the Preliminary Reports on the Census for that year, for the 134 localities to which the returns relate :--

and an art and a sign	Estimated Cost of Buildings for which plans were approved in January and February, 1923, in the 134 towns from which returns have been received.							
District, and Aggregate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses, and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings. ?	Other Buildings, and Ad ditions and Alterations.	TOTAL.		
Barrow Changes	£	£	£	£	£	£		
ENGLAND AND WALES-		TT	14 Service	a de la	and the			
Northern Counties (852,887) Yorkshire (2,048,246)	111,600 352,500	28,700 96,200	12,200 89,500	29,100) 91,500	39,400 189,900	221,000 819,600		
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,057,585)	481,800	86,200	84,600	21,100.	101,300	775,000		
North and West-Midland Counties (2,433,429)	286,600	82,000	142,700	111,600	185,800	808,700		
South-Midland and East- ern Counties (641,260) Outer London †(1,756,336)	297,200 578,400	32,100 43,200	29,300 81,500	11,700 31,500	35,100 105,600	405,400 840,200		
South-Eastern Counties (1,027,151)	476,100	9,400	36,300	30,000;	118,700	670,500		
South-Western Counties (432,465)	142,900	900	5,900	13,000	27,200	189,900		
Wales and Monmouth shire (834,190)	89,500	5,100	29,200	7,100	27,800]	158,700		
SCOTLAND (2,105,143)	331,600	67,600	5,200	112,400	381,200	898,000		
Total (14,188,692)	3,148,200	451,400	516,400	459,000	1,212,000	5,787,000		

It will be seen that dwelling-houses account for over one-half of the estimated total cost of all the buildings for which plans were approved by the 134 Local Authorities who have supplied information to the Department.

• There are some exceptions, e.g., Government Buildings, Asylums. † The figures are exclusive of the London County Council area, as; to which particulars are not available.

# INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.

ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS IN COTTON WEAVING. THE Industrial Fatigue Research Board have issued a Report\*

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board have issued a Report\* containing the results of investigations into the atmospheric conditions in weaving sheds in the cotton industry. The preface to the Report gives an account of the various inquiries that have previously been held into the effects of temperature and ventilation in cotton-weaving factories, especially in relation to the practice of artificial humidification, and of the measures that have been taken to remedy or reduce the discomfort caused by such humidification. The question whether humidification causes actual ill-health has never been settled, but progress has been made in the study of this quessettled, but progress has been made in the study of this ques-tion, and definite lines of inquiry are under consideration lines of inquiry are under consideration

The present Report suggests that the discomfort caused by humidification might be relieved (i) by greater attention on the part of the operatives to suitable clothing; and (ii) by the introduction of some means for artificially increasing the move-ment of the air in the neighbourhood of the operatives, thereby increasing its cooling power. Suggestions are made as to the increasing its cooling power. Suggestions are made as to the most suitable clothing to be worn by operatives, and as to means of increasing the air movement.

# COST OF LIVING : IRISH FREE STATE.+

THE Ministry of Industry and Commerce of the Irish Free State has prepared a further Report on the Cost of Living, in which it is stated that the following are the Cost of Living figures which have been compiled up to the present for the Irish Free

M'IT I dot.		Ind	ex Number
Mid-July, 1914	 ,	 	100
Mid-March, 1922	 	 	191
Mid-June, 1922	 	 	185
Mid-October, 1922	 	 	189
Mid-January, 1923		 	190

The general basis on which the figures have been collected and compiled is the same as that which was explained in the Report on the Cost of Living for Mid-June last (see MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1922, page 364).

# THE FAMILY WAGE SYSTEM ABROAD.

The term "family wage system" as used in the present article has reference only to the system whereby differentiation is made between the wages payable to individuals according to their family responsibilities. For present purposes, therefore, it will not be necessary to discuss the system enforced by statute in Australia and New Zealand, which fixes the minimum or basic wage of an adult workman (whether married or single) at a figure calculated to enable him to support a family.<sup>‡</sup> calculated to enable him to support a family.<sup>‡</sup> In European countries it needed the pressure of the social

In European countries it needed the pressure of the social and economic problems created by the rise in the cost of living due to the War to develop a movement in favour of the family wage system. In no case, however, except Austria, has this system found acceptance to the extent of being embodied in a statute. The countries in which it has made most progress are France, Germany, Belgium, Holland and Austria. France.—In France, where the family wage system has been most highly developed, employers have been actuated partly by the desire to encourage the rearing of large families so as to

most highly developed, employers have been actuated partly by the desire to encourage the rearing of large families so as to avert a threatened scarcity of native labour in the future. In private employment the system first began to assume importance in 1916, when a firm of iron founders in Grenoble decided to pay its workers an allowance of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  francs for three and 48 francs for four, with 12 francs for each child in excess of four. Immediately afterwards seven other firms in the district adopted this system, and in May, 1918, realising the necessity of placing the system on an obligatory basis and of distributing the cost fairly over the district and industry as a whole, the Iron Founders' Association of the Isère set up a special "compensa-tion fund," to which each member contributed an amount calcu-lated on his wages bill, and from which the whole of the family allowances were paid. This removed any incentive of employers allowances were paid. This removed any incentive of employers to engage unmarried men or women in preference to married. institution of this fund was important in that it has served as a

institution of this fund was important in that it has served as a model for most of the compensation funds set up since 1918. The latest information on the growth of the movement is furnished by a speech made by the chairman of the Family Allowance Committee at the celebration, on 16th November, 1922, of the establishment of the hundredth "compensation fund."

Industrial Fatigue Research Board. Report No. 21. H.M. Stationery Office, Price 2s not

+ "Report on the Cost of Living, January, 1923," Messrs. Eason and Son Ltd., 40-41, Lower O'Connell-street, Dublin,

1 According to the decision of Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Common-wealth Arbitration Court (delivered in 1907) the wage should be sufficient "to provide for the normal needs of the average worker regarded as a human being living in a civilized community," normal needs being held to include provision for a man, wife and three children. A General Order of the New Zealand Court of Arbitration, dated 8th May, 1922, states that in making its awards it endeavours to provide for at least a "fair standard of living." It cites what it considers to be an adequate definition of this term: "The wages paid to a man of average industry and capacity should at least enable him to marry, to live in a decent house, and to provide the necessaries of physical efficiency for a normal family, while allowing a reasonable margin for contingencies and recreation."

The speaker stated that there were at that time 107 such funds. The speaker stated that there were at that time 107 such funds, covering nearly a million workers with 300,000 children under fourteen years of age, and an annual disbursement in family allowances of about 90,000,000 francs. If the public administra-tions and the private enterprises that pay family allowances but do not belong to a compensation fund are included, the total annual disbursement in family allowances for the whole of the country is stated to be some 300,000,000 francs in respect of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million workers. country is stated t  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million workers.

24 million workers. Various methods have been adopted for calculating the distribution of the cost, and for determining the nature, amount and conditions of the allowances. There appear to be three recognised bases of assessment of the contributions of individual firms to the compensation funds:—(1) The number of workers employed; (2) on the number of man-hours or man-days actually worked; (3) on the total wares hill

to the compensation funds:-(1) The number of workers em-ployed; (2) on the number of man-hours or man-days actually worked; (3) on the total wages bill. Official and comprehensive details as to scales of allowances are not available for a later period than the year 1920, when the French Government investigated the subject. At the end of October, 1920, forty-three compensation funds were in existence, of which eighteen were confined to single indus-tries, while twenty-five extended their operations to the whole of the industries in a particular district. The largest of these funds appears to have been the Paris (Commercial) Fund, to which were affiliated 1,000 employers having an aggreof these funds appears to have been the Paris (Commercial) Fund, to which were affiliated 1,000 employers having an aggre-gate annual wages bill of 1,200,000,000 francs, 200,000 work-people, and a total estimated annual disbursement in family allowances of 30,000,000 francs, or 2½ per cent. of the wages bill. The rates of family allowance and the conditions under which the allowance was naid varied from district to district. In the allowance was paid varied from district to district. In thirty-three funds the methods of computing the allowances may be divided into five groups :--

Funds.

2.

(1) Increased allowance for second and subsequent children children
(2) Same allowance for each child ....
(3) No allowance for first child or first two children, 17 ...

but high allowances for subsequent ones ... ame (rather low) allowance for first two children, increased allowance for subsequent (4) Same

(5) Higher allowance for first or first two and lower for subsequent children

#### Total ... ... 33 ... ...

The monthly allowance paid to a man with five children by these thirty-three funds ranged from 50 to 160 francs, but the methods appear on the whole to make relatively little difference in the amount of benefit for men with large families, it being found that for twenty-one funds the allowances for five children ranged from 100 to 140 francs a month. The maximum monthly sum paid to a man with five children in 1920 was thus equal to about one week's wages. The Textile Trade Compensation Fund for the Roubaix-Tourcoing district, however, has paid since November, 1921, 12 francs a working day for four children. or Fund for the Roubaix-Fourcoing district, however, has paid since November, 1921, 12 francs a working day for four children, or double the amount of any other Fund of which the rates of pay-ment are known to the Department. In addition, maternity bonuses were generally paid. The age limit for children in respect of whom allowances are paid is generally thirteen or fourteen

In addition to the compensation funds, there were in the year of the official inquiry eleven employers' associations (including seven in the metal trade), the constituent firms of which have agreed to pay family or dependants' allowances on the usual basis. In these cases no contribution was made to a general fund, each firm bearing the whole cost of its own allowances. For the mining industry, a separate movement developed in the fund, each firm bearing the whole cost of its own allowances. For the mining industry, a separate movement developed in the course of the War. On the 31st December, 1917, an agreement between the owners and the men provided for a payment of three francs a month per child to miners in the Pas-de-Calais. Other agreements followed, and impetus was given to the movement by the setting up of joint councils by the Ministries of Labour and Munitions, the object of these councils being to grade the wages of the miners in relation to the rise in the cost of living. Except in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts, where a daily allowance of one franc was granted for each child by a Govern-ment arbitration award in March, 1920, the allowances for miners were lower than those granted by the funds for other industries, and ranged between 50 and 60 francs a month.

were lower than those granted by the funds for other industries, and ranged between 50 and 60 francs a month. In February, 1920, a private Bill was introduced to make it compulsory for employers to belong to a compensation fund. Compulsion, however, is strenuously opposed by the advocates of the system. In November, 1921, the Higher Council of Labour recommended that a clause requiring contractors for public works to belong to a compensation fund and to pay family allowances should be included in the forms of tender. This recommendation has been adouted in a particular recommendation has been adopted in a modified form by the French Parliament. An Act dated 19th December, 1922, makes *permissible* the insertion in the forms of tender for public works of a clause requiring the contractors to pay family allowances to those employed on the work.

No development of the family wage system in agriculture has so far been recorded.

Germany.—In Germany the system of paying extra allow-ances in respect of family responsibilities is now very wide-spread. An analysis, from this point of view, of the terms of current collective agreements was recently undertaken by the German Ministry of Labour. It shows that while there are scarcely any trades in which the family wage principle is not March, 1923.

March, 1923.

applied to some extent, there are a number of important indusapplied to solid cractify inversally recognised, amongst the latter ries in which it is universally recognised, amongst the latter being coal mining, mechanical engineering, textile, and paper and cardboard manufacture. It is to be met with very seldom in the building and woodworking trades (other than saw-mill-ing), in the clothing trades, in hotels and restaurants, and in the industries working in flax and leather; while in a third group of trades the field is divided about equally between the family wage system and that based wholly on the worker's value to his employer. This group comprises printing, the food, drink and tobacco trades, the pottery, glass, etc., trades, and It is to be met with very se cardboard manufacture. mercial employment.

commercial employment. In most cases the principle is applied in the form not of a higher substantive or standard rate of wages, but of an allowance paid in addition to that rate. These allowances gener-ally consist of the "household allowance" (also called "wife's allowance") and the "children's allowance." Many agreements, however, provide only for a "children's allow-

In some agreements the "children's allowances" are graded according to the number and age of the children. In some the amount fixed decreases as the number of children increases; in amount fixed decreases as the number of children increases; in others the amount increases with the number of children (e.g., an)agreement for the Dresden electricity works dated 1st August, 1922, provides 48 marks a week for the first child and 347 marks for each succeeding child; while an agreement for the textile industry of the München-Gladbach district, dated 19th June, 1929, marks for the first child 7 marks for the

industry of the München-Gladbach district, dated 19th June, 1922, provides 6 marks a day for the first child, 7 marks for the next, up to 10 marks for the fifth and each succeeding one. Allowances are paid only for dependent children, which, in the majority of cases, means children under 14. Other agreements state that allowances will be paid "until the completion of compulsory school attendance." Some agree-ments pay the allowances for children up to 16 and some even up to 19, if they are being trained for particular occupations requiring further education. In the agreement for Federal Government Undertakings and in a few other agreements allow. requiring further education. In the agreement for Federal Government Undertakings and in a few other agreements allow-ances may be paid for children up to 21 years, and in two agree-ments for University-trained employees in the chemical industry up to 22 and to 24 years.

up to 22 and to 24 years. Allowances are paid to the father if the father is Allowances are paid to the father if the father is a wage-earner. Provisions are, however, to be found in some agreements to prevent the father spending the money on himself instead of on his family. One agreement prescribes that if this is likely to occur the employer, on the proposal of the Works Council, may take steps to pay the allowance direct to the mother or the children. Similar provisions are contained in the Berlin metal trade agreement and the agreement for the Rhenish-Westphalian Iron and Steel Trade, dated July, 1922. The family wage system is applied in agriculture as well as in The family wage system is applied in agriculture as well as in industrial and commercial undertakings. Agricultural workers for this purpose may be divided into two classes : lar workers living on the estate; and

(a) regular workers living on the estate; and
(b) "free labourers."
The first class, which is most common on large estates in Northern Germany, receive a large part of their wages in kind.
For married workers the payments in kind might be divided

(1) fixed payments consisting of a house, plot of land, pasture

 hxed payments consisting of a house, plot of land, pasture for cattle, fuel, etc.; and
 varying payments consisting of grain, potatoes, milk.
 In fixing the payments in kind provision is made for a family of a certain size, sometimes of two, sometimes of three or four, children, and the allowances of milk, grain and potatoes are in-respond for each child in excess of an encoded number. For the creased for each child in excess of an agreed number. For the "free labourers" (day workers of a more or less permanent kind) the family wage principle is more directly operative, as they are paid largely in cash, though receiving some allowance in kind. Among such workers the higher remuneration to married men with families takes five forms :--

a higher cash wage where no payments in kind are made;
 higher cash wage with same allowance in kind as unmarried

(3) higher allowance in kind, but lower cash wage;

(4) higher allowance in kind and the same cash wage; and(5) both higher allowances in kind and higher cash wages. The agreement generally provides that these payments are con-ditional on the workers coming regularly to work. Sometimes the requisite annual number of working hours is fixed, *e.g.*, at 2,800 hours.

2,600 hours. The number of "compensation funds" is small in comparison with the number of trades or districts in which family wages are paid. This is partly due to the fact that in some trades the family allowances are small in proportion to the wages, and also that the allowances have sometimes remained stationary while wages for a stationary state average of administry also that the allowances have sometimes remained stationary while wages have risen; in such cases the expense of administer-ing a compensation fund would outweigh the advantages the employers would derive from it.\* But the general reason for the absence of compensation funds is probably the great demand for labour in industry, which has prevented any discrimination against married men with large families. Such funds as exist are mostly local or confined to a single employers' association. Only one fund covers the whole of Germany, that set up by the collective agreement for pharmacists, which is managed by a joint committee of employers and workers. The following other funds were established by the employers and

• This is confirmed by a statement in an article on wages by Herr Paul Schmerne in *Stahl und Eisen* (1st Feb., 1923) to the effect that while family ("Social") wages are paid in most districts, these are so small as to be negligible from a social point of view.

are managed entirely by them :--Metal trades manual workers (Berlin), non-manual workers (Anhalt), Rhenish-Westphalian cement works, and the textile trades of the Thuringian and Barmen-Elberfeld districts. The contributions paid by the em-ployers are based either on the total number of workers em-ployed or—as this method proved unfair to undertakings on short time—on the total wages bill.

Belgium.—In private enterprises, family allowance funds have existed in Belgium since 1915, especially in the mining industry. The rates paid in the latter indus-try vary in amount, the rate most frequently met being 25 centimes per working day per child under 14, raised in some cases to 50 centimes for the third or fourth and each succeeding child. At one mine in respect of each working day 40 centimes are paid for the wife, 40 centimes for the first child under 14, 60 centimes for the second, 80 centimes for the third, and 1 franc for the fourth and each succeeding for the first child under 14, 60 centimes for the second, 80 centimes for the third, and 1 franc for the fourth and each succeeding child. Funds for the payment of family allowances have been in operation, since 1920, in the whole of the Verviers district (excluding the textile industry). The rate of allowance at present paid is 18 frances a month for each child under 14 to families with at least two children. A maternity allowance of 90 frances is also paid.

of 90 francs is also paid. The more recent development of the family allowance system in Belgium is partly due to the desire of Belgian employers to counteract the attraction of Belgian labour into France by the higher wages obtainable in undertakings where family allowances are paid in that country. On 1st September. 1922, the Quarrymasters' Association of the

On 1st September. 1922, the Quarrymasters' Association of the Tournai district established a compensation fund, from which allowances are paid in respect of children under 14 years of age and infirm dependants. The rates are 50 centimes a working day for each of the first two children or dependants, 75 centimes for the third, and 1 franc for each child or depen-dant in excess of three. The National Fund for Family Allow-ances and Social Insurance in the Building and Public Works Industry pays quarterly allowances. The rates for the fourth quarter of 1922 were 30, 56, 108 and 156 francs for families with one, two, three or four children under 14 respectively, plus quarter of 1922 were 30, 66, 108 and 156 frances for families while one, two, three or four children under 14 respectively, plus 48 frances for each additional child under 14. A compensation fund for the Liége district, which includes 85 engineering and iron and steel enterprises, with 40,000 workers, was established in December, 1922. Monthly rates of 10 frances for the first child under 14, 20 for the second, 30 for the third, and 40 for the form the add following children are paid. A maternity allowthe fourth and following children are paid. A maternity allow-ance of 250 frances for the first and 150 frances for each subsequent

ance of 250 francs for the first and 150 francs for each subsequent child is also paid. The allowances are regarded by the employers as being quite distinct from wages, and are paid direct to the mother of the children (or to the person in charge of them). It is also reported that the Industrial Committee of Louvain proposes to pay family allowances to the workers employed in the industrial establishments of Louvain and district; and that the Federation of Associations of Cigar Manufacturers (with head-quarters at Turnhout) has decided, at the request of the Christian Tobacco Workers' Federation, to establish a compensation fund.

Holland.—Up to 1st January, 1920, there had been concluded 22 collective agreements affecting 756 establishments with 34,000 workers, which contained provisions as to family allowances. Grants were made in respect of children up to ages varying from 13 to 16, and the allowance ranged from 0.20 to 1.30 florins making for each child. In some cases grants were made for all weekly for each child. In some cases grants were made for all children below the ages indicated; in other cases they began with the third or fourth child.

The collective agreement in the tobacco trade provides for an allowance of 1 florin a week for each child under 14 years of age, beginning with the fourth. The grants are made from a age, beginning with the fourth. The grants are made from a fund to which each employer contributes 1 per cent. of his wages bill. The total number of workers covered by the agreement was about 23,000, and allowances were paid on 1st January, 1921, to 988 of these. Similar agreements and funds exist in the baking 988 of these. Similar agreements and funds exist in the baking industry in six large towns and in the boot and shoe industry industry in six large towns and in the boot and shoe industry throughout the country. An agreement between Roman Catholic employers and workers in the Limburg clay industry provides for the establishment of a fund for the payment of children's allow-ances, to be managed by a committee of five—two employers and two workers—with the "spiritual adviser" of the Workers' Association as chairman. The fund pays an allowance of 1 florin a week for each child under 14, beginning with the third. All employers pay into the fund a contribution representing a fixed percentage of their wage bill.

Austria .- A system of allowances for dependent children paid to the worker by the employer had been in operation in some im-portant Austrian industries (notably metal working and engineer portant Austrian industries (notably metal working and engineer-ing) for a considerable time before the Act of 21st December, 1921, on the Abolition of State Food Subsidies, made it universal. The Act provided that the allowances should be abolished by in-stalments, and that the employer should pay bonuses on wages and salaries in proportion to the price of bread for the worker, his wife and each dependent child under 14. The Act itself expired in Loss 1992 in June, 1922, but a special clause in it guaranteed that the chil-dren's allowance should be maintained until the passing of a Children's Insurance Act.\* The allowance is 1,155 kronen a week for each child. In order to equalise the burdens for employers compensation funds were established, into which employers pay an equal sum for each of their workers, married and unmarried.

\* According to Industrial and Labour Information for 16th February, the social Democratic Party has prepared a Bill for the institution of a system of Social Democratic

March, 1923.

Other Countries .- In Czecho-Slovakia provisions for the payment of children's allowances are included in certain collective agreements, notably in coal mining.

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In Spain a conference of the Employers' Association at Vigo in June, 1921, declared itself in favour of the "family-wage principle, and decided to establish compensation funds under the sole direction of the employers, which should pay an allowance to the worker for each child under 13. No details are available as to the working of this scheme.

In Sweden the private railway companies in June, 1919, con-cluded an agreement with their staffs whereby married salaried employees were to have special cost-of-living allowances for their wives and every child under 15.

# COST OF UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN SWITZERLAND.

THE following particulars are taken mainly from Messages of the Federal Council to the Federal Assembly, published in recent issues of the Feuille Fédérale :-

The number of totally unemployed persons of whom there was official cognisance in Switzerland rose from 3,004 (of whom 404 were in receipt of unemployment donation) at the end of June, 1920, to 99,541 (of whom 56,057 were in receipt of unemployment donation) at the end of February, 1922. Thereafter, the number declined, until it reached 59,456 at the end of June, 1922. The average number of totally unemployed over the whole of this period was about 66,000, and the average number in receipt of unemployment donation about 34,000. At the end of June, 1921, 8,863 persons were employed on relief works. This number rose to 24,560 at the end of April, 1922, and the average number of persons so employed over the period June, 1921, to June, 1922, was about 19,000.

The total population of Switzerland, according to the census of December, 1920, was 3,880,000, of whom, on the basis of the 1910 census, about 30 per cent., or, approximately, 1,164,000, in-cluding both sexes, would be normally engaged in gainful occupa-tions as manual or subordinate non-manual workers—that is to say, at the end of February, 1922, when unemployment in Switzerland was at its worst, some  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the total number of workers as defined above were known to be entirely without employment, except in so far as they were occupied on relief works. Early in 1917 the Federal Government (by Decree of 24th March of that year) had set aside a proportion of the war profits tax for the creation of a fund to relieve unemployment. By the end of June, 1922, nearly 108 million frances had been paid into the Fund, and nearly 94 millions expended. In addition, sums amounting to nearly 136 million francs were voted by the Federal Assembly for the same purpose.

The relief of unemployment has taken two forms :--(a) The provision of unemployment donation, to the cost of which the Federal Government, the cantons and communes, and the em-ployers, all contributed; and (b) the "creation of opportunities for work," to the cost of which the Federal Government and the cantons and communes contributed, but not the employers. The total amount expended under both heads by the end of June, 1922, is shown in the following Table :---

Object of Expenditure.	Federal Government.	Cantons and Communes.	Employers.	Total.
<ul> <li>(a) Donation</li></ul>	Francs. 59,966,873 164,428,196	Francs. 50,000,000 110,000,000	Francs. 17,000,000 —	Francs. 126,966,873 274,428,196
Total	224,395,069	160,000,000	17,000,000	401,395,069

The cost of administration, etc., absorbed a further 2,528,960 francs.

The "opportunities for work " provided out of Federal contributions included :---

### Amount expended.

	Francs.
Mortgage loans	11,100,000
Subsidies towards house building and unemploy-	
ment relief works	80,000,000
Federal Government works	
Financial aid to the watch-making industry*	5,000,000
Financial aid to the intellectual and artistic pro-	non angios
fessions	1,219,945
Subsidies to encourage industrial production	308,251
Other purposes	800,000
and a set a set of the part of	CANADARIA LA

Total ... ... 164,428,196

As regards the efficacy of these measures the following two illustrations may serve as examples.

• See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, 1921, page 629, and 1922, page 441.

(1) Subsidies towards housebuilding, etc.-The 80 millions (1) substates towards houseoutlaing, etc.—Ine of millions appropriated for this purpose were made up of three sums of 15, 15 and 20 millions, voted in 1921, and of a sum of 30 millions taken from the Unemployment Fund. Of this total 71,166,700 francs had, on 1st August, 1922, been allotted as subsidies to-wards house building and public works schemes, undertaken by private enterprise, co-operative societies, etc., the cantons and communes and the Federal Government itself. In all a total expenditure of 612,057,400 francs on these schemes was involved, expenditure of 012,057,400 francs on these schemes was involved, of which, it is estimated, some 65 per cent., or about 400 mil-lion francs, represented wages, either directly or indirectly. The Federal Government subsidy amounted to 11.6 per cent. of the total cost; and these figures show that each £11 12s. granted by the Federal Government gave occasion for an expenditure of £100 on building and public works schemes, of which about £65 went in wages. It is stated that work was thus provided, not only for a large number of unemployed, but also for numerous skilled workers in the building and allied industries;\* and that by these means the private enterprises engaged on the work were enabled to tide over a difficult period.

(2) Financial aid to the watch-making industry.—A subsidy of 5 million francs to the watch-making industry was granted in December, 1921, and a further subsidy of 6 million francs in October, 1922. At the time the first grant was proposed (Octo-ber, 1921) there were 20,525 wholly and 13,802 partially unem-ted in the industry is a grant of 75 per cent of ployed in the industry-i.e., some 70 to 75 per cent. of the total number of persons normally engaged in the industry. By the end of 1922 the number of unemployed watchmakers had fallen to 9,015 (6,537 wholly and 2,478 partially); and according to a report forwarded by H.M. Commercial Secretary at Berne this reduction is to be attributed to the Federal subsidy.

In addition to the sums mentioned above, a further credit of 50 million francs for the relief of unemployment was voted in October last (see MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, November, 1922, page 441), and, in the same month, a scheme for the relief of the embroidery industry was adopted, involving a total allo-cation of 12 million francs (see MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, December, 1922, page 478).

# JOINT COMMITTEES FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF LABOUR DISPUTES IN SPAIN.

A ROYAL DECREE, † dated 5th October, 1922, provides for the creation of joint committees for the settlement of disputes between capital and labour in agricultural, commercial, industrial, mining and transport undertakings. The committees will be set up either on the initiative of the Minister of Labour (or of the provincial authorities or the local offices attached to the Ministry) or at the instance of the interested parties. They will be of two kinds-permanent and ad hoc. They may be set up for an industry, for a group of enterprises, for a particular trade or occupation, or for a single enterprise employing over 500 workers. They may be either local or regional.

Each joint committee, whether permanent or ad hoc, will be composed of an equal number of employers and of workers, who composed of an equal number of employers and of workers, who must be actively engaged in the industry or occupation they represent. The chairman is to be non-partisan and chosen by agreement between the two sides, or, in default of agreement, nominated by the Minister of Labour. He has a casting vote only by the unanimous agreement of both sides; otherwise his function is purely conciliatory. The committee may either appoint technical experts or request the Minister of Labour to appoint technical experts, or request the Minister of Labour to nominate them, to assist it in its deliberations. The Minister may, of his own accord, appoint technical experts to attend the meetings of the committee. In either case such technical experts do not vote

Permanent joint committees will be established by Royal Order in the more highly industrialised districts. The members of the committees will be elected by secret ballot among the members of the employers' associations and the workers' trade unions concerned, or, where these do not exist, at separate meetings of employers and employed held for the purpose. Permanent joint committees are to be renewed every two years.

Temporary (or ad hoc) joint committees will be set up as occasion arises to deal with particular disputes in the less industrialised districts. The members of the committee will be ap-pointed by the local authorities after consultation with the representatives of employers and employed.

The committees may decide, by a unanimity of votes, that the matter in dispute between the two sides shall be submitted for arbitration to the local authority, to an official organisation or to the Minister of Labour. The decisions of the committees are operative, subject to the rules governing the procedure of each

\* Over 40 per cent. (28.3 million francs) of the Federal subsidies to relief works went towards the construction of dwelling houses, involving an expendi-ture of 327.5 million francs, or 53 per cent. of the total expenditure (612 millions) to which relief works gave rise.

† Published in the Boletin del Instituto de Reformas Sociales, November-December, 1922.

# March, 1923.

## **UNEMPLOYMENT IN ITALY: GOVERNMENT INOUIRY.**\*

THE Minister of Labour and Social Welfare has recently pub-lished the results of a special enquiry instituted in order to ascertain the effects of the industrial crisis on unemployment small, medium and large-scale industries respectively.

A comparison was made between the situation in July, 1920 (a period of great industrial activity), November, 1921 (a period of serious economic depression), and that in July, 1922, when the crisis had decreased somewhat and certain branches of industry were even working satisfactorily.

Industries were classified as small, medium and large-scale, on he basis of the organisation either of labour or of technical methods in each of the undertakings in question.

methods in each of the undertakings in question. The enquiry covered 10,677 undertakings, employing 975,119 workers. Generally speaking, the results of the enquiry show that large-scale industry was much more seriously affected by the crisis than small and medium-scale industry. In large-scale industry the number of workers employed had decreased by 14 per cent. in November, 1921, while in medium industries the hence was only 6 was act, and in small industries only 5 decrease was only 6 per cent., and in small industries only 5 per cent.

In July, 1922, the situation in large-scale industry showed a substantial improvement, as the number of workers employed was only 10 per cent. less than in July, 1920. In small and medium industries, on the other hand, the situation had re-mained stationary, and in the former there was even a change for the worse, as the number of workers employed was 9 per cent. less than in 1920, instead of only 5 per cent., as in November, 1921.

In almost all districts small industries suffered least from the crisis. Venetia, Abruzzi, Campagna and Sardinia were exceptions.

# LABOUR DISPUTES IN HOLLAND IN 1922.

PROVISIONAL figures relating to strikes and lock-outs in 1922 have been published in the *Maandschrift* (the journal of the Central Statistical Office) for 31st January, 1923. The number of strikes, viz., 297, was somewhat greater in 1922 than in 1921, when the total was 278. One hundred and seven of the disputes of 1922 occurred in the building trades. Full particulars are available in regard to 275 of the dispute Full particulars are available in regard to 275 of the disputes only. In these 30,332 workers took part, as compared with 43,604 participants in the 278 strikes of 1921 and 47,027 in the 446 strikes of 1920.

The year 1922 is remarkable for the large proportion of strikes against reductions in wages (25.59 per cent. of the total). The following Table classifies the strikes in the three years under review, according to the principal causes :-

the private Out of a start	Percentage of Total No. of Strikes.			
Demands.	1922.	1921.	1920.	
Wages, for increase Wages, against decrease Wages, other Hours of labour Recognition of Trade Unions Other causes Causes not ascertained		20.00 25.59 13.12 10.11 0.86 25.37 4.95	22.55 14.51 18.04 8.43 0.78 33.14 2.55	33·33 3·16 18·05 14·79 1·08 27·12 2·47
Total,	100	100.00	100.00	100.00

The number of lock-outs in 1922 was 17, affecting 13,681 workers, the corresponding figures for 1921 being 9 and 4,125, and for 1920, 25 and 19,437 respectively. A large proportion of the 1922 lock-outs (39 per cent.) were in order to enforce reductions in wages

No information is yet available as to how the strikes terminated.

# WAGE REDUCTION IN DENMARK.

UNDER an agreement entered into on 4th April, 1922, between the Danish Employers' Association and the Danish Federation of Trade Unions, wages were to rise or fall in accordance with the movements of the cost of living index number, which is calculated twice yearly by the Danish Statistical Department. The latest computation (for January, 1923) shows a decrease of 6 per cent, as compared with January, 1922. The Commercial Secretary to H.M. Legation at Copenhagen reported on 20th February that a corresponding wage reduction would take place. • Industrial and Lubour Information, 9th February, 1923. (Communications from the Italian Ministry of Labour.)

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

# CHANGES IN WAGES IN DENMARK: THIRD QUARTER OF 1922.

THE issue for 2nd March, 1923, of the journal (Statistiske Efterretninger) of the Danish Statistical Department contains statistics of wages for the third quarter of 1922, compiled from returns furnished by the Danish Employers' Association. The data relate to a number of trades which, it is stated, are sufficient to be recorded as a stated of the state to be regarded as representative of manufactures and handicrafts generally. The figures bring the information concerning the general movement of wages down to the third quarter of 1922. For information relating to the second quarter of 1922 see p. 479 of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for December last.)

The number of people covered by the latest returns is approxi-mately 100,000, and the industries most strongly represented are metal and engineering (21,600), building (14,100), pottery, glass and stone (11,200), food preparation (10,600), textile (7,800) and printing and paper (6,300).

The general result of the computation shows that, if the country be taken as a whole, the average hourly earnings in the industries covered remained at the same level as in the second quarter of 1922 (viz., 1.42 kroner), and that they were 183 per cent. above the level of 1914. For skilled workmen the average hourly earnings increased from 1.72 kroner in the second quarter to 1.73 kroner in the third quarter, and those for unskilled remained stationary (1.40 kroner). The average hourly earnings of female workers during the same period fell from 0.92 kroner to 0.90 kroner.

# THE GARMENT INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES: WAGES AND HOURS, 1911 TO 1922.

THE Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington, in the December issue of the Monthly Labour Review, presents comparative statis-tics of wages and hours of labour for the years 1911 to 1922 in the principal occupations engaged in the manufacture of men's ready-made suits and overcoats in the United States.

The figures given below are taken from this source. They show the conditions prevailing in those occupations which in show the conditions prevailing in those occupations which in December, 1922, gave employment to over 500 workers. Each figure is an average computed from the hours actually worked and earnings actually received during a selected representative pay-roll period in each of the years specified. "Full-time hours per week" is taken to mean the number of hours accepted by employees and unchanged is a conditioned. employers and workpeople as constituting a regular full working week, beyond which any work done is considered as overtime.

The 1922 data shown in the source relate to 25,013 wage-earners employed in 112 establishments in New York City, Chicago, Baltimore, Rochester, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Boston. According to the 1919 United States Census, this total represents about 14 per cent. of all wage-earners in this industry in the United States as a whole and 22 per cent. of those in the seven cities taken together. The figures for years prior to 1922 are taken from the results of earlier investigations by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, the results of which have been published in the Bulletins of the Bureau. Wages data were not collected for the years 1915 to 1918, 1920 and 1921.

	C. mainte	and the second	SPAR ALS	1.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	and the second second	131.1 7 AV	9322.23	10 - 11 - A-12	
Occupation.	ge Full-time rs per week, 1922.	Average Earnings per hour, 1922.	kge Full-time ngs per week, 1922.	Ind		Carnin	of Aver gs per = 100.)		ull-
	Average Hours 1	Avera	Average F Earnings 1 192	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1919.	1922.
Males. Basters, coat Cutters, cloth Machinists,* coat , trousers Pressers, coat , trousers	44·3 44·0 44·1 44·1 44·1 44·1	Dols. *848 1.033 *962 *902 *869 *879	Dols. 37.58 45.50 42.46 39.63 38.41 38.66	87 95 92 84 87 86	85. 96. 92 86 89 93	100 100 100 100 100 100	95 103 104 94 99 93	173 140 176 174 169 161	268 215 267 242 253 240
Females. Basters, coat Severs, coat ", vest Machinists,* coat ", trousers ", trousers ", vest	43.8 44.2 44.0 44.0 43.9 43.9 43.8	•574 •526 •519 •422 •593 •574 •596	25·35 23·35 22·91 18·61 25·98 25·14 26·27	99 91 93 90 102 95 95	94 90. 92 96 96 96 96 95	100 100 100 100 100 100 100	99 98 99 91 106 102 104	175 162 154 158 167 158 141	261 250 234 219 251 242 222
Both Sexes. All Occupations †	44-1	•728	31-91	90	92	100	99.	155	234

From the last line of the table it will be seen that if all occupations and both sexes be taken together, the average earnings per week in 1922 were 134 per cent. higher than in 1913, and 160 per cent. higher than in 1911.

\* The term "Operators" is used in the original. † Including occupations not shewn in the Table.

# CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st MARCH, 1923.

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

90

#### All Items included ... ... ... 76% Food only ... ... 71% ....

...

#### FOOD.

DURING February there was a further slight decline in the average cost of the pre-war working-class dietary. This was mainly due to further large reductions in the prices of eggs and bacon. As compared with 1st February, the average price of eggs at 1st March showed a decline of about 3d. each, and of eggs at 1st March showed a decline of about  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each, and that of bacon a decline of nearly  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. Fish and potatoes were also considerably cheaper at the later date, and flour, bread, milk and imported meat slightly so. On the other hand, the average prices of sugar and butter increased by about  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. a pound, and those of British mutton, tea and cheese by  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. a pound during the month. As a net result of all the changes percended the average ingresses in the retail prices of ford a pound during the month. As a het result of all the changes recorded the average increase in the retail prices of food over the level of July, 1914, fell to about 71 per cent. at 1st March, as compared with about 73 per cent. at 1st February. In the following Table is given a comparison of average prices of the articles of food included in these statistics in July, 1914, at 1st February, 1923, and at 1st March, 1923 :-

Article.	Avera unless of	ge Price () berwise in	per 1b. idicated).	or De at 1st M	Inc. (+) c. (-) (ar., 1923, ared with
	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1923.	1st Mar., 1923.	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1923.
Poof Duitich	1 s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef, British- Ribs Thin Flank Beef, Chilled or Frozen-	0 10 0 61/2	1 6 0, 10½	1 6 0 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	+ 0 8 + 0 4	
Ribs	0 71 0 48	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 6 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 & 10 \\ 0 & 6 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 3 \\ + & 0 & 1_{\frac{1}{4}} \end{array}$	- 0 01
Legs	0 101 0 61	1 8½ 0 11¾	1 8 <sup>3</sup> 1 0	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 10\frac{1}{4} \\ + & 0 & 5\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \\ + & 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)*	0 63 0 4 0 111	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 0 <sup>3</sup> 0 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> 1 6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 6 \\ + 0 & 1^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ + 0 & 7 \end{array}$	$-\frac{-}{0}$ 1 <sup>‡</sup>
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea	$\begin{array}{c} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 5\frac{3}{2} \\ 1 & 6\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	1 4 0 9 2 6 5 4 0 7	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 5\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 3\frac{1}{4} \\ + 1 & 0 \\ + 0 & 3\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} - & 0 & 0 \ddagger \\ + & 0 & 0 \ddagger \\ + & 0 & 0 \ddagger \\ - & - \end{array}$
Fresh Salt Cheeset Margarine Eggs (fresh) Potatoes per 7 lb.	1 21 1 22 0 88 0 7 14 0 44	2 2 2 0 1 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 0 3 0 5	2 2 <sup>34</sup> 2 0 <sup>4</sup> 1 4 <sup>304</sup> 0 2 <sup>44</sup> 0 4 <sup>44</sup>	$ \begin{array}{c} + 1 & 0\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 7\frac{1}{4} \\ - 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 1 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ + & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ + & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ - & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ - & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \end{array}$

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st March, 1923, in relation to the prices of July, 1914, and 1st February, 1923 :--

		Average I 1st Mar W	Corre- sponding		
Article.		Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	figure for 1st Feb., 1923.
Beef, British-	1. C. 1. 2. 1. 10	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs.		82	79	81	80
Thin Flank		59	62	60	60
Beef, Chilled or Fi	ozen-			00	00
Ribs.		45	41	43	44
Thin Flank		19	28	23	25
Mutton, British		100	and the second		Stream Providence
Legs Breast		102	99	100	98
Mutton, Frozen		87	81	84	81
Legs		90	79	84	84
Breast		36	36	36	37
Bacon (streaky)•		68	59	64	74
Fish		117	103	110	118
Flour	000	49	51	50	50
Bread		45 57	53	55	52 56
rea		64	67	65	63
Sugar (granulated)		231	211	221	185
Milk		99	101	100	101
Butter-	The second		Harris Contractor	Contra Malana	89
Fresh		79	86	83	79
Salt		73	76	75	69
Manganina	••	90 - 4	$-\frac{91}{8}$	91	87
Eggs (fresh)		- 4	- 8	- 6 77	- 6 140
Potatoes		7	-10	-2	140
All above articles of (Weighted Perc Increase).		73	70	71	73

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

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

changes which have taken effect under the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest ((Restrictions) Act, 1920, indicate that the

average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st March, 1923, was about 50 per cent. Of the total increase somewhat less than one-half is accounted for

the total increase somewhat less than one-half is accounted for by increases in rates and water charges, and about one-third is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Act falling within the remainder. As regards *clothing*, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been efforted by weight

different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the

changes, it is impossible to make an exact catomation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, network in the prices in the

textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st March the level of retail

principal towns, indicates that at 1st March the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds pur-chased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was about the same as a month earlier, and about 125 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. In the *fuel and light* group the average increase in the retail prices of coal at 1st March, as compared with July, 1914, was about 90 per cent., or the same as a month earlier. For cas the average percentage increase remained between 70 and 75

gas the average percentage increase remained between 70 and 75 per cent. above the pre-war level. For lamp oil and for

candles the average percentage increases, as compared with July, 1914, were about 70 per cent. and 35 per cent. respec-tively, or about the same as a month earlier. For matches also

there was no appreciable change during the month. In the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase, as compared with July, 1914, was between 85 and 90 per cent., or about the same as at the beginning of February.

\*ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also

made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic iron-mongery, brushware and pottery, tobaccco, fares and newspapers

(averaging about 85 per cent.), the resultant figure for 1st March, 1923, is approximately 76 per cent.\* over the pre-war level, as compared with 77 per cent. at 1st February and 86 per cent. at 1st March, 1922. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the

and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1923 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

#### SUMMARY TABLE : 1915 TO 1923.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January 1915. The figure for 1st March is lower than that for any date since May, 1917 :--

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914-All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c.)

			,	0,	and the second second	,	/	V2 318 -	142122
Month (beginning of).	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923
January February March April May June	10-15 15 15-20 15-20 20 25	35 35 35-40 35-40 40-45 45	65 65-70 70 70-75 75 75-80	85-90 90 90-95 95-100 100	120 120 115 110 105 105	125 130 130 132 141 150	165 151 141 133 128 119	92 88 86 82 81 80	78 77 76 —
July August September October November December	25 25 26 30 30–35 35	45-50 45-50 50-55 60 65	80 80 80–85 75–80 85 85	$100-105 \\ 110 \\ 110 \\ 115-120 \\ 120-125 \\ 120 \\ 100 $	105-110 115 116 120 125 125	152 155 161 164 176 169	119 122 120 110 103 99	84 81 79 78 80 80	11111

NOTE.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1921, contained a full account of the scope and method of compilation of the above statistics

\* If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, the verage increase at 1st March, 1923, is about 5 per cent. less.

March. 1923.

### GENERAL SUMMARY.

tinued good with wool sorters and wool combers, and in the worsted spinning branch, where, however, a slight decline was reported. In the weaving branch there was a decline, although many firms were working full time, and, in some instances, overtime. In the hosiery trade employment continued fair generally, but showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month; in the silk trade employment continued bad in the Macclesfield and Leek District; in the Eastern Counties it was reported as fairly good. Employment in the lace trade continued EMPLOYMENT showed a further improvement during February. It was good at coal mines, in steel sheet manufacture and in the worsted trade; fairly good in the tinplate trade; and fair in the iron and steel, woollen, hosiery, jute, carpet, ready-made clothing and paper trades. In most of the other important industries it continued slack, but some improvement was re-ported in the iron mining, pig iron, engineering, shipbuilding, building, furniture, and pottery industries. reported as fairly good. Employment in the lace trade continued bad generally, except in the curtain section, where it was reported as moderate. In the carpet trade there was an improvement, and employment generally was reported as good; in the jute trade a further improvement was also reported, and employment was fair; in the linen trade it continued slack. In the textile, bleaching, SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.\* Among 1,188,041 members of Trades Unions from which returns ere received the percentage unemployed was 13.1 at the end February, as compared with 13.7 at the end of January and printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment continued slack on the whole; it was reported as fair, however, with hosiery trimmers and finishers at Leicester and Basford, good with silk dyers at Leek and Macclesfield, and very good with hosiery dyers at Basford.

of February, as compared with 13.7 at the end of January and 16.3 at the end of February, 1922. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,750,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unem-ployed at 26th February, was 11.8, as compared with 12.7 at 22nd January and 15.5 at the end of February, 1922. For males alone the percentage was 13.4 at 26th February, as compared with 14.4 at 22nd January; for females the corresponding figures were 7.7 and 8.2. The number of workpeople on the Live Regis-ter of the Employment Exchanges at 26th February was approximately 1,376,000, of whom men numbered 1,073,000 and women 218,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corre-sponding total for 29th January was 1,460,000, of whom 1,138,000 were men and 226,000 women. It should also be noted that were men and 226,000 women. It should also be noted that some unemployed persons, *e.g.*, some of those who have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who are not insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, do not register at the Employment Exchanges, and the Live Register figures, therefore, do not indicate the total number unemployed.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment in the coal mining in-dustry continued good on the whole. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 24th February was 1,139,649, an increase of 0.5 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 6.0 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of days worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 24th February was 5.50, as compared with 5.56 in January and 5.35 in Echanomy 1022 535 in February, 1922.

At iron mines employment showed some improvement; it was fair in Cumberland and Lancashire, but was still bad in the Cleveland district and moderate in other dis-tricts. At the mines covered by the returns received the num-bers employed during the fortnight ended 24th February showed an increase of 92 per cent. as compared with January, and of over 90 per cent. as compared with February, 1922. The average number of days worked per week by these mines in February, 1923, was 5:34 as compared with 5:50 in January, and with 5:17 in February of last year. At shale mines employment con-tinued fair on the whole. It was also fair at limestone quarries, where much time was lost owing to had weather but had at where much time was lost owing to bad weather, chalk quarries. At whinstone quarries in East Scotland employ-ment continued moderate; at stone quarries producing road material in the Clee Hill district it was bad. Employment was fair on the whole at granite and slate quarries and fairly good at china clay quarries.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment was still bad, but showed a further improvement. Of a total of 487 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of February was 189, as compared with 183 at the end of January and 101 at the end of February, 1922. In the iron and steel trades employment was fair on the whole, and showed a purchased improvement as compared with the pre-In the iron and steel trades employment was fair on the whole, and showed a marked improvement as compared with the pre-vious month. It continued moderate generally, however, in the Cleveland and Lancashire districts, and was quiet at Leeds. A further improvement was also reported in the tinplate trade, where employment was fairly good; in the steel sheet trade it continued good. At the end of February 509 tinplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation, as compared with 500 at the end of January and 436 at the end of February, 1922.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.-Employment in the engineering trades continued bad, but showed a further improvement in most of the principal centres; in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades a slight improvement was also reported, but employment still continued very bad. In the other metal trades employment continued slack generally, although further improvements were reported in the brass and wire trades, and in a few other sections. Employment was fair in the brass and sheet metal trades, the needle and fishing tackle and the holloware trades. other metal trades employment continued slack and the holloware trades; it was fairly good in the wire trades; but bad in the chain and anchor, lock and latch, and, gold, silver and jewellery trades.

Textile Trades.—In the cotton trade employment was good in the section spinning Egyptian cotton, but continued very bad in the section spinning American cotton. In the weaving branch it showed a slight improvement, but many looms continued to be idle. In the woollen trade employment continued fair on the whole; in the spinning branch it was good with firms spinning for the hosiery trade. In the worsted trade employment con-

\* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

# EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY.

Clothing Trades .- Employment in the tailoring trade continued slack on the whole in the bespoke branch and fair in the ready-made branch; short-time working was reported from several districts, particularly in the bespoke branch. In the felt hat trade employment continued very quiet. In the boot and shoe trades employment showed a slight further improvement on the whole, but continued slack; in some districts there was much short time. In the leather trades employment was fair with tanners and curriers, and in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section; with saddle and harness makers it was bad

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building trades employ-ment, though hindered by weather conditions, showed a slight improvement, but continued slack in the majority of centres. With painters employment showed a marked improvement, but was still very bad; it was also very bad with builders' labourers and with workpeople on construction of works. In the brick trade appleurer exciting and market and and a dependent trade employment continued moderate, and was adversely affected by bad weather.

Employment in the furnishing trades showed an improvement. and was fair generally. With coachbuilders it improvement, on the whole, and in some districts was reported as good; with basket makers employment was fairly good; with brush makers it was fair; with packing-case makers it was slack; and with mill-sawyers it was bad on the whole.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.-Employment in the paper trade remained fair on the whole, though there was a decline in the hand-made branch. In the printing trade em-ployment was generally slack, but showed a slight improvement on the whole, as compared with the previous month, except with lithographic printers, who reported a decline at most centres and much short time; it was reported as very good with electrotypers and stereotypers in London. In the bookbinding trade employment continued bad on the whole, though a slight improvement on the previous month was reported in London and at Leeds.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery trade employment con-tinued bad on the whole, but showed a slight improvement com-pared with the previous month; in the glass trades it also coninued bad

Agriculture and Fishing .- In agriculture the supply of labour was ample for all requirements, and, owing to bad weather, there was an increase in the number of men unemployed in some districts. Employment in the fishing industry continued fair on the whole with fishermen, and was generally moderate with fish dock labourers and fish curers.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued quiet. With seamen it was slack on the whole, the number of engagements being much below that for the previous month. At most of the ports large numbers of men failed to obtain berths.

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed (a) among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained and (b) among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland month by month since January, 1922.

Real Real	Date.				Percentages un	employed among
(End	l of Mon	nth.)	1		Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.
1922.	1271 253	and the second	100.000			A STANDARD STA
January					16.8	16.0
February			1		16.3	15.5
March					16.3	14.4
April	2.4.4.4		1		17.0	14.4
May					16.4	13.5
T					15.7	12.7
The Area	10 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	••		••	14.6	12.3
		••		••	14.0	
August						12.0
September	·				14.6	12.0
October	100.000	24.12	0.00.00		14.0	12.0
November	20	1			14.2	12.4
December	1700-15-01	15.0	1.19		14.0	12.2
1923.					and the second states in a second	
January	A lasting	11 m	an la	-	13.7	12.7
February	1 20 120		1. 1. 1.	-	13.1	11.8

Further details and statistics as to the state of employment in a number of the principal industries are given on pages 93-97.

# TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED.

92

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 1,188,041 in the branches covered by the returns received reported 155,165 (or 13.1 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of February, 1923, compared with 13.7 per cent. at the end of January, 1923, and 16.3 per cent. at the end of February, 1922.

	Member- ship of Unions reporting	Unemp at en Febru 1923	id of lary,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a		
Trade.	at end of February, 1923.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Buildingt Coal Mining	125,226 134,343	11,102 8,133	8·9 6·1	···- 0·1	$+ \frac{2 \cdot 2}{- 7 \cdot 6}$	
Engineering and Ship- building Miscellaneous Metal	416,627 55,854	100,425 5,329	24·1 9·5	-0.9 -1.4	- 4·2 - 5·2	
Textiles : Cotton Woollen and Worsted Other	60,77 <b>1</b> 12,213 57,095	4,625 136 2,507	7.6 <b>‡</b> 1.1 4.4	 + `0·1	- 3·3 - 1·6 - 0·6	
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Furnishing Other Woodworking	96,055 23,902 44,044	5,452 1,774 2,824	5.7 7.4 6.4	$ \begin{array}{c} - 0.6 \\ - 1.6 \\ - 0.6 \end{array} $	- 2·3 - 0·2 - 3·9	
Clothing: Boot and Shoe Other Clothing Leather	75,204 42,847 6,741	3,858 1,316 587	5·1 3·1 8·7	-0.7 -0.7 -0.3	-0.2 -1.3 -1.3 -2.1	
Glass	1,241 31,000 4,878	38 5,500 1,559	3·1 17·7 32·0	+ 0.4 - 1.7 + 0.7	-2.1 - 4.8 + 2.9	
Total	1,188,041	155,165	13.1	- 0.	- 3.2	

# UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

THE percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.8 per cent. (males, 13.4 per cent., females 77 per cent.) at 26th February, as compared with 12.7 (males, 14.4 per cent., females 8.2 per cent.) at 22nd January. A Table showing the estimated number insured and the numbers and percentages unemployed in the principal industries appears on page 99.

## SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in February, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 93 to 97.

~	CEDTAIN	MINING	AND	METAL	TRADES.
1	URRIAIN	TITUTING.	AND	THEFT	TTTTTTTTT

matural grant and the	Workpeople	Tabaaaa	Inc. (+) or Dec. (- as compared with a		
Trade.	in the Returns for Feb., 1923.	February, 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Coal Mining Iron " Shale "	1,139.649 9,085 4,180	Days Worked per week by Mines. 5·50 5·34 5·96	Days -0.06 -0.16 +0.06	Days. + 0.15 + 0.17 + 0.02	
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet Iron and Steel	  79,257	Furnaces in Blast 189 Mills Working 509 Shifts Worked (one week). 427,651	Number. + 6 + 9 Per cent. +7.7	Number. + 88 + 73 Per cent + 33.0	

		(b) (	THER ]	TRADES.		ALL STREET	and the section of th
A CONTRACTOR	1000	Number E	of Worl	rpeople		ages Paid orkpeople	
Trade.		Week ended	Inc. ( Dec. (-		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		24th Feb. 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Textiles : Cotton Woollen Worsted Boot and Shoe Pottery Brick		87,564 17,082 31,781 50,996 11,476 5,714	Per cent. - 1·2 + 0·9 - 0·4 + 0·3 + 0·3 + 1·9	Per cent. + 67 +111 + 83 + 44 + 28 - 48	£ 153,570 35,491 62,392 116,881 21.506 12,284	Per cent. + 2.4 + 0.5 - 0.4 + 1.8 + 2.4 - 3.4	Per cent. - 5·3 +12·2 + 1·6 + 2·9 - 1·8 -18·0
Total		204,613	- 0.3	+ 6.1	402,124	+ 1.4	- 0.9

\* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked-out are also excluded. t The percentage is based on returns relating to woodworkers and plumbers, and as regards woodworkers, who constitute the bulk of the membership reported on the returns, relate to January. 1 In addition to those totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit." % The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.

mainly cigar makers. U Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

### EMPLOYMENT CHART.

(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS

March, 1923.

MAKI	NG	RET	UR	NS :-	Too ye							
	ck Cu		1.20					23.			6.8087. 10/11-7	
Cha	n Cun in Cu	urve				-		an o				
	The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1893-1922.								Unicn 2.			
e) PER		TAG	E	UNI	EMP	LOY	ED	AN	10N	G	wo	RK.
PEOP UNDI	LE ER T	INS HE	UN	ED EMP	AG LOY	AIN	ST NT I	UN NSU	EM]	PLO	YMH AC'	ENT Γ:
UNDI				d Cu						23.		
	Thi	Thin Dotted Curve 1922.										
PER					a late	a de la	: \$0	Si I	1.01		0	
CENTAGE UNEM-	JA	N FE	BM	AR A	PL MA	Y JU	NE JU	LY AU	G SE	P OC	TNO	DV DE
PLOYED	10	HO S	autos.		1. 233		1112	0.05	L. V	111	1.0	
23		13 1			1200	103	<192,I		1.5	12,6	0.0	
22	and a	evia unui	540		1921 3	r	0 10		1. ha 1. j	n a Antonio	11 1 5 1 - 5	and a
aparate and	1.00	045 10.37 1	2 10	121	2012		100	2010) 27 (1)	CO.	and a second	1 T.	DATE:
21			0.940	12440	515 T	AL	11 10	01.8	1.51	ndig:	i. to	0.1
20	84	11	17/1	107	1019	.171	E M	17	NE PA	100	1.00	
19	lent Catt	197	2.4			1.90	and a	1000	in a	11.125	1 70 1 70 1 70	-
18		1.1.		1921	*	dir.	i n	200	5.20	1.10	1. 400	0.0
17	1922	1110	and a		K	12.20	1 12	1021	250	1003	233	1921
	1 BLL		and the second	1 /				1921				
. 16		1922	*	1922			174	10000	41921	1021	123,	*1921
the good		1922		1922		1		10000	2	1921	× 1	×1921
15		1922	· · · · ·	1922				10000	2	1921	× *	×1921
15 14		1922		1922		/		10000	2	To:	X	×1921
15 14 13		922						10000	2	To:	X	>1921
15 14		922		1922				10000	2	To:	×	>1921
15 14 13		1922						10000	2	To:		>1921
15 14 13 12		1922						10000	2	To:		>1921
15 14 13 12 11		1921 ···		1922				10000	2	To:	*	>1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9		1921 ···						10000	2	To:	× · · ·	>1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8		1922						10000	2	To:		×1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7		1922						10000	2	To:		×1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6		1922						10000	2	To:		×1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7		1922 ···				0-0		10000	2	To:	*	>1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6		1922				0-0		10000	2	To:	×	×1921
15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5		1922 ···						10000	2	To:	×	×1921

#### NOTE.

1916 1916 × 1916 × 1916 3

1916

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

The figures for insured workpeople relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and exclude the Irish Free State. Detailed figures are given on page 99.

#### March, 1923.

## DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

#### COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued good on the whole. The average weekly number of days (5.50) worked by the pits in the fortnight ended 24th February, showed a decrease of 0.06 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 27th January, but an increase of 0.15 of a day on a year ago. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 24th February showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. on the number at 27th January, and of 6.0 per cent. on a year ago.

The proportion of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 4.1 per cent. at 26th February, as compared with 4.5 per cent. at 2nd January.

The following Table shows, for the principal districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books, and the average number of days worked by the collieries, as indicated by the returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals :--

	Wage East	l Number ners on Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*		
Districts.	24th Feb.,	Inc.(+) (-)as co wit	mpared	Fort- night ended 24th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	1923.	Month ago.			Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES: Northumberland Durham Cumberland and West- morland South Yorkshire	61,129 166,304 11.523 106,974	+ 0.5 + 0.8 - 0.7 + 0.5	Per cent + $6.5$ + $14.0$ + $4.1$ + $4.5$	Days. 5.47 5.00 5.71 5.54	Days. -0.02 -0.38 -0.02 -0.09	Days. -0.01 -0.27 +0.02
West Yorkshire Lancs. and Cheshire Derbyshire Notts. and Leicester Warwick North Staffordshire South Staffordshire	66,604 105,102 63,926 63,486 21,690 34,477	$ \begin{array}{r} -0.1 \\ +0.5 \\ +0.9 \\ +0.3 \\ +0.4 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 1.6 \\ + 0.2 \\ + 3.1 \\ + 2.2 \\ - 1.0 \\ + 1.6 \end{array} $	5.69 5.21 5.77 5.58 5.94 5.67	$ \begin{array}{r} - \\ + 0.01 \\ + 0.03 \\ + 0.05 \\ - 0.02 \\ + 0.01 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} + 0.42 \\ + 0.55 \\ + 0.43 \\ + 0.37 \\ + 0.08 \\ + 0.67 \end{array}$
and Salop Glouc. and Somerset Kent North Wales South Wales and Mon.	34,935 14,348 1,804 17,452 234,602	$ \begin{array}{r} + 1.2 \\ + 0.7 \\ + 2.7 \\ + 1.1 \\ + 0.2 \end{array} $	+ 4.5 + 4.5 + 30.3 + 10.7 + 8.5	5.94 5.56 5.69 5.85 5.62	+0.32 +0.16 -0.08	$\begin{array}{r} + \ 0.23 \\ + \ 0.22 \\ + \ 0.71 \\ + \ 0.54 \\ - \ 0.10 \end{array}$
England and Wales	1,004,356	+ 0.5	+ 6.0	5.49	- 0.09	+ 0.12
SCOTLAND. Mid & East Lothians Fife and Clackmannan Rest of Scotland	15,308 29,665 90,320	+ 0.2 + 0.7	+ 4.8 + 8.2 + 6.3	5•35 5•54 5•53	$ \begin{array}{r} - 0.02 \\ + 0.15 \\ + 0.04 \end{array} $	+ 0·32 + 0·41
Scotland	135,293	+ 0.2	+ 6.6	5.51	+ 0.02	+ 0.34
Great Britain	1,139,649	+ 0.2	+ 6.0	5.50	- 0.06	+ 0-15

The average weekly number of coal-winding days lost by the pits in the fortnight ended 24th February, was 0.27 of a day, of which 0.17 of a day was due to transport difficulties and want of trade. In the fortnight ended 27th January the average time lost was 0.21 of a day, of which 0.17 of a day was due to transport difficulties and want of trade. For the fortnight ended 28th February, 1922, the average time lost was 0.41 of a day, nearly all due to the same causes. The non-winding time in each of these periods was about one-quarter of a day. The output of coal in Great Britain in the four weeks ended 24th February, 1923, was returned to the Mines Department at 22,246,800 tons, compared with 21,219,200 tons in four weeks ended 27th January, and with 19,763,000 tons in the four weeks ended 25th February, 1922. The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers in the foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted in February to 7,792,841 tons, or 97,302 tons less than in January.

7,302 tons less than in January.

#### IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron .- In the Cleveland district emplo ent was again bad: as compared with the previous month there was an improvement in the numbers employed, but the average time worked showed

• The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allow-ince being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron, <sup>30</sup>, was got and drawn from the mines included in the returns. It is not eccessarily implied that all the *persons* worked every day the mines were open-dines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked † Including Cannock Chase. tons, as compared with 567,900 tons in January and with 300,100 tons in February, 1922. \* See \* footnote in previous column.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

a slight decline. In Cumberland and Lancashire employment was fair; in other districts it continued moderate, with a ten-dency towards improvement.

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

	peopl Mine	ber of V e employ s includ e Retur	yed at ed in	Average No. of Days* worked per week by the Mines.		
Districts.	Fort- night ended 24th	lnc. ( Dec.(-) pared	as com-	Fort- night ended 24th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as com- pared with a	
5. m 1 4 1 1	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Yean ago.	Feb., 1923.	Month age.	Year ago.
Cleveland		Per cent. + 14.5	Per cent. + 93.7	Days. 4.65	Days. - 0.19	Days. - 0.13
Cumberland and Lanca shire	4,253	+ 7.3 + 2.5	+123.9 + 27.4	6.00 5.07	+ 0.07 - 0.66	+ 0.04 + 0.68
All Districts	9,085	+ 9.2	+ 91 5	5.34	- 0.16	+ 0.17

Shale.—Employment was fair, on the whole, with little change as compared with January. Returns received from firms employ-ing 4,180 workpeople in the fortnight ended 24th February, 1923, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the total number employed as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 22.9 per cent. as compared with February of last year. The average number of days\* worked per week by the mines was 5.96 in February, 1923, 5.90 in January, 1923, and 5.94 in February, 1922. Shale .- Employment was fair, on the whole, with little change

#### **PIG IRON INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT during February, though still bad, showed a further improvement. As compared with a year ago there was a marked improvement.

Improvement. The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of February, as shown by the returns collected by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, was 189, compared with 183 at the end of January, and with 101 at the end of February, 1922. Returns received by the Federation from 86 firms employing 22,504 workpeople at the end of February showed an increase of 35 par ant compared with the number employed at the of 3.5 per cent. compared with the number employed at the end of January, when the number was 21,739. At the end of February, 1922, 16,162 workpeople were employed by these firms.

The following Table shows the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of February, 1923, January, 1923, and Feb-ruary, 1922, according to returns collected by the Federation :---

L5 16 38	Feb., 1923. 40 16 16	Jan., 1923. 39 17 15	Feb., 1922. 27 9 8	Month ago. + 1 - 1 + 1	Year ago. + 13 + 7
16	16	Caser- and	9	A CARATA	
58	16	15	8 *	+ 1	
		123.27.38		STRATE.	+ 8
3	35	34	19	+ 1	+ 16
22	16 18	15 19	6 12	+1 - 1	+ 10 + 6
33	8	8	8	-	
35	149	147	89	+ 2	+ 60
)2	40	36	12	+ 4	+ 28
37	189	183	101	+ 6	+ 88
	22 58 33 35 50 22 37 ron	22         16           58         18           33         8           36         149           37         40           37         189           ron in Fel         Fel	16         15           58         18         19           53         8         8           56         149         147           52         40         36           37         189         183           ron in February         18	16         15         6           18         19         12           33         8         8           36         149         147           37         189         183           101         ron in February amount	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

### TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

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EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in the tinplate trade, and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month; it was much better than a year ago. At the end of February 392 mills, about four-fifths of the total number in existence, were reported to be in operation, as compared with 365 at the end of January and with 329 a year ago. Employment in the steel sheet trade continued good, and showed an improvement as com-pared with both the previous month and a year ago. At the end of February the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns was 117, as compared with 115 at the end of January, and with 107 in February, 1922. The number of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at the Employment Exchanges, was 2,575 at 26th February, as compared with 2,623 at 22nd January. The following Table shows the number of works reported to be open and the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received at the end of February, 1923 :--EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in the tinplate trade, and

the states	Number	r of Work	s Open	Number of Mills in Operation			
. Works.	At end	Inc. ( Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Atend	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Tinplate Steel Sheet	74 13		+ 7	392 117	+ 7 + 2	+ 63 + 10	
TOTAL	87	17-1	+ 7	509	+ 9	+ 73	

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in Feb-ruary, 1923, amounted to 96,233 tons, or 1,820 tons more than in January, 1923, and 23,636 tons more than in February, 1922.

#### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works was fair on the whole, and showed a considerable improvement as compared with the pre-vious month. It continued moderate generally, however, in the Cleveland and Lancashire districts, and was very quiet at Leeds. As compared with a year ago employment showed a general im-

provement. According to returns received from firms employing 79,257 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 24th February (as indicated by the number of workpeople em-ployed at each works, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each case) showed an increase of 7.7 per cent. on the previous month and of 33.0 per cent. on a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open in the week was 5.4, as compared with 5.3 in January and 4.9 in February, 1922. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three dates under comparison :--

comparison :-

	empl	f Workp oyed by ing retu	firms	Aggregate number of Shifts.*		
	Week ended 24th Feb., 1923.	ended compared 24th with a		Week ended 24th Feb.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Crucible Furnaces Bessemer Converters Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	8,539 285 717 4,673 29,235 2,690 7,805 6,356 18,957	$\begin{array}{r} + & 8.7 \\ + & 4.0 \\ - & 5.2 \\ + & 4.4 \\ + & 4.8 \\ + & 1.2 \\ + & 9.9 \\ + & 7.8 \\ + & 7.8 \\ + & 6.9 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} + & 27.9 \\ + & 17.8 \\ + & 12.2 \\ + & 37.4 \\ + & 27.8 \\ + & 2.9 \\ + & 4.6 \\ + & 9.6 \\ + & 21.1 \end{array}$	49,617 1,278 3,663 22,456 149,805 13,654 43,031 35,254 108,893	$\begin{array}{r} + & 9.8 \\ + & 14.5 \\ - & 3.6 \\ + & 9.1 \\ + & 6.7 \\ + & 11.8 \\ + & 8.8 \\ + & 6.8 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} + 36.4 \\ + 44.2 \\ + 25.8 \\ + 75.9 \\ + 46.0 \\ + 15.7 \\ + 10.9 \\ + 13.6 \\ + 29.2 \end{array}$
Total	79,257	+ 6.2	+ 21.3	427,651	+ 7.7	+ 33.0
DISTRICTS. Northumberland and Durham Cleveland	6,578 8,483	+ 9.6 + 8.1	+ 20.9 + 25.8	35,474 48,665	+ 9·9 + 12·0	+ 37.6 + 30.9
Sheffield and Rother- ham	18,787 2,426	+ 3.9 + 1.1	$+ \frac{18.5}{- 2.6}$	99,038 13,332	+ 5.1 + 2.1	+ 34·2 + 11·2
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire	8,691 8,415 3,982 7,769	$\begin{array}{r} + & 9.0 \\ - & 0.4 \\ + & 1.2 \\ + & 0.8 \end{array}$	+ 30.2 + 28.4 + 26.3 + 7.3	45,402 45,152 20,883 43,305	$\begin{array}{r} + & 9.7 \\ + & 1.8 \\ + & 1.5 \\ + & 1.1 \end{array}$	+ 42.0 + 35.0 + 39.6 + 9.9
Total, England and Wales	65,131 14,126	+ 4.4 + 15.5	+20.3 +26.1	351,251 76,400	+ 5.7 + 18.1	+ 30•8 + 44•2
Total	79.257	+ 6.2	+ 21.3	427.651	+ 7.7	+ 33.0

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

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned to the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 707,100 tons, compared with 634,100 tons in January and 418,800 tons in February, 1922.

March. 1923.

#### ENGINEERING.

ENGINEERING. EMPLOYMENT in this industry in February continued bad, but showed a further improvement in most of the principal centres. On the North-East Coast employment was still bad, but there was a further slow improvement. In Lancashire and Cheshire there was an improvement in general engineering, but in the textile machinery section a decline was reported at some centres. Employment was a little better in Yorkshire, at Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester, and in the Eastern Counties. The improve-ment in the motor industry at Birmingham was maintained; with pattern-makers employment was reported as fairly good. At Coventry a further improvement was reported, affecting the motor, cycle, aeroplane, and machine tool sections; a consider-able amount of overtime was worked. In London there was a further improvement; but in the Southern Counties little change was reported. In South Wales conditions were again rather better. rather better.

In the Glasgow district there was a slight improvement, and on the East Coast of Scotland conditions were rather better on the whole. In the Belfast district also there was a decrease in

the whole. In the beliast district also there was a decrease in the percentage of unemployment. The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople registered as unemployed in the engineering and iron-founding industry according to the Unemployment Insurance records, at 26th February, as compared with 22nd January :--

Divisions.	Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 26th February, 1923.	Percentage of Unemploy- ment at 26th February, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 22pd Jan., 1923.
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	21,698 11,792 8,312 36,329 52,135 42,241 30,465 1,671 2,947	15-0 15-5 13-7 16-6 22-6 19-2 22-3 12-5 24-7	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.6\\ -1.3\\ -2.6\\ -2.6\\ -1.2\\ -1.3\\ -2.4\\ -2.4\\ -2.4\\ -2.4\\ \end{array} $
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	216,590	18.8	- 1.7
Males Females	211,193 5,397	19.6 7.2	$-\frac{1.8}{-0.5}$

#### SHIPBUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades during February continued very bad, though it again showed a slight improvement.

Division.	Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 26th February, 1923.	Percentage of Unemploy- ment at 26th February, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentages as compared with 22nd Jan., 1923.
London	4,511	25-8	$\begin{array}{rrrrr} - & 0.3 \\ - & 1.3 \\ - & 0.9 \\ - & 0.2 \\ - & 3.0 \\ - & 2.5 \\ - & 3.7 \\ - & 0.9 \\ - & 1.8 \end{array}$
South-Eastern	1,908	17-2	
South-Western	8,053	18-1	
Midlands	199	21-2	
North-Eastern	36,189	38-9	
North-Western	15,166	33-0	
Sootland	35,830	37-7	
Wales	4,890	28-1	
Northern Ireland	8,242	24-8	
BREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	114,988	32.1	- 2.2
Males	114,521	82.4	- 2.3
Females	467	8.3	

On the North-East Coast employment continued very bad, On the North-East Coast employment continued very bad, though a further slight improvement was reported. On the East and South Coasts it was still bad, but a slight improve-ment was shown on repair work. At the Bristol Channel Ports, however, repair work declined towards the end of the month. On the Mersey employment was bad, but an improvement was reported by shipwrights on new work. At Barrow it was very bad.

bad. In Scotland employment continued very bad generally, though it improved with shipwrights and joiners on the Clyde; at Dundee employment was rather worse than in the previous month. At Belfast employment remained bad.

#### March, 1923.

#### COTTON TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in the section of the trade spinning Egyptian cotton, but it was still very bad in the section spin-ning American cotton. Organised short time, in this section, as mentioned last month, had ceased at the end of January; bat a very large amount of short time continued to be worked during February, as recommended by the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, and at the end of the month EMPLOYMENT in these trades in February showed little change on the whole as compared with the previous month, but there on the whole as compared with the previous month, but there was much variation as between one branch of trade and another, and even as between one firm and another. Employment in the wool sorting, wool combing, and worsted spinning branches continued to be better than in other sections, in which, however, employment was considerably better on the whole than in February of last year. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 3'8 per cent. on the 26th February, as compared with 4'4 per cent. on 22nd January. WOOLLEN TRADE. Cotton Spinners' Associations, and at the end of the month the General Committee of the Federation passed a reso-lution recommending the members of the Federation in the American section to curtail production to the extent of 50 per cent. during March. Employment on the manufacturing side of the industry also continued to be very poor, and many looms were again idle; but there was an improvement as com-pared with February of last year. WOOLLEN TRADE.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the numbers of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.6 on the 26th February, as compared with 11.7 on the 22nd January.

In the Oldham, Ashton, Stockport, and Rochdale districts employment was bad both in the spinning and in the weaving departments, except in the velvet section, where there was a marther improvement and employment was fairly good. Spin-ners were still working short time.

At Bolton, employment remained about the same as in Janu-ary, both in the spinning and in the weaving departments; with spinners at Leigh it was fairly good; at Bury it was still bad, but slightly better than in January.

In the Blackburn, Burnley, Preston and Darwen districts In the Blackburn, Burnley, Preson and Darwen districts mployment in the weaving department was still very slack, ut showed, on the whole, a slight improvement : it was appre-ably better than in February of last year. Some firms closed ntirely for a week at a time, and short time was worked in arious forms; while many weavers were minding less than the ormal number of looms: at Blackburn it was estimated that 20,000 looms were stopped each week during the month. Em-ployment was also slack in the spinning department in these districts; except at Accrington, where it was fair, and better in January.

The following Table summarises the returns received from nose employers who furnished returns for the three dates under view :-

		umber o orkpeopl		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.				
	Week ended		(+) or -) on a	Week	led bee.(-) of			
	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*		
DEPARTMENTS. Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Not specified	12,193 22,639 36,263 8,987 7,482	Per cent. - 2.0 - 1.6 - 1.4 - 1.3 + 2.9	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + & 3 \cdot 1 \\ + & 1 \cdot 7 \\ + & 10 \cdot 2 \\ + & 3 \cdot 0 \\ + & 17 \cdot 8 \end{array}$	£ 19,887 38,658 59,665 21,295 14,065	Per cent. + 1.1 + 0.7 + 4.7 + 1.6 + 0.4	Per cent. - 12.6 - 11.5 + 0.5 - 6.5 + 3.4		
Total	87,564	- 1.2	+ 6.7	153,570	+ 2.4	- 5.3		
DISTRICTS. Ashton Stockport, Glossop and Hyde Bolton and Leigh	3,865 8,379 10,794 14,879	+ 6.2 + 4.9 + 0.1 + 0.3	$\begin{array}{r} + & 8 \cdot 2 \\ + & 15 \cdot 7 \\ + & 4 \cdot 3 \\ + & 3 \cdot 4 \end{array}$	6,451 13,740 19,959 25,839	+ 4.6 +19.5 + 4.5 + 0.2	$ \begin{array}{r} - 5.9 \\ + 1.5 \\ - 17.6 \\ - 10.2 \end{array} $		
Bury, Roch Iale, Hey- wood, Walsden, and Todmorden Manchester Preston and Chorley Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	9,019 5,181 6,829 8,216	-2.9 -11.2 +3.2 -2.6	+ 0.6 - 11.6 + 11.7 + 9.4	14,176 8,886 12,024 15,078	- 2.5 - 7.8 + 7.5 + 2.8	- 7.6 - 19.1 + 18.8 - 1.8		
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson Other Lancashire Towns	9,861 3,589	- 5·8 - 2·2	+ 14.5 + 24.3	20,143 5,701	+ 2.0	+ 0.1 + 14.9		
Yorkshire Towns Other Districts Total	4,413 2,539 87,564	-1.0 -2.0 -1.2	$+ \frac{6.8}{+ 4.6}$ + 6.7	7,562 4,011 153,570	-2.6 -2.8 + 2.4	$-\frac{4 \cdot 2}{-0 \cdot 3}$		

In the week ended the 24th February, about 20 per cent. of he workpeople covered by the returns were working short time, the extent of nearly 14 hours a week on the average. In he week ended 27th January about 26 per cent. of the work-eople covered by the returns then received were on short me, to the extent of about 13 hours a week on the average.

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton nters) were 119,888,800 lbs. in February, 1923, compared with 19,909,300 lbs. in the previous month, and with 91,454,200 lbs. February, 1922.

The exports of cotton yarn were 10,881,600 lbs. in February, 923, compared with 12,814,700 lbs. in January, 1923, and 4,913,200 lbs. in February, 1922.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 342,558,500 square ards, as compared with 399,988,200 square yards in the previous bonth, and with 251,954,800 square yards in February, 1922.

Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

### THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

#### WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE. In the woollen-spinning branch employment was good with firms spinning for the hosiery trade, but not with those spinning for the woollen weaving trade. There was a decline in employ-ment in the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts. In the heavy woollen district (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) it showed a slight improvement, and was considerably better than a year ago. There was a considerable improvement in the low woollen trade of Leeds and Morley. In the blanket and rug trade em-ployment continued fairly good; in the rag and shoddy trade there was a slight improvement. In the tweed trade there was little change; some firms were working overtime during part of the month, but only for a short period. In the flannel trade employment in the Stockport and Rochale districts was good, full time being generally worked. In Scotland employment remained fairly good, though em-ployers continued to find difficulty in running all the looms full time.

time

The following Table summarises the information received from those firms which furnished returns for the three dates under review :---

WE COURT AND A TOM		umber o prkpeop			Wages p Vorkpeo		
	Week ended 24th		+) or -) on a	Week ended 24th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
all the state of the second	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Departments. Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not Specified TOTAL	418 4,175 6,844 5,068 577 17,082	Per cent. + 2 <sup>.5</sup> + 1 <sup>.3</sup> + 1 <sup>.1</sup> - 0 <sup>.0</sup> + 1 <sup>.1</sup> + 0 <sup>.9</sup>	Per cent. + 14 <sup>5</sup> + 16 <sup>2</sup> + 10 <sup>3</sup> + 7 <sup>4</sup> + 11 <sup>2</sup> + 11 <sup>1</sup>	£ 1,013 8,523 12,734 11,675 1,546 35,491	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 5.0 \\ + 1.0 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 0.4 \\ + 3.3 \\ + 0.5 \end{array}$	Per cent. + 12.6 + 16.7 + 10.9 + 10.1 + 15.3 + 12.2	
Districts. Huddersfield District Leeds District Dewsbury and Batley District Other Parts of West Riding	1,330 1,794 1,986 1,985	+ 0.2 + 3.7 + 1.7 - 0.3	+ 10.3 + 19.9 + 6.4 + 7.0	3,461 3,789 4,401 4,577	+ 0.4 + 1.9 + 4.0 + 4.0	+ 10·2 + 14·5 + 18·2 + 13·9	
Total, West Riding Scotland Other Districts	7,095 4,866 5,121	+ 1.4 + 0.4 + 0.6	+ 10.4 + 14.8 + 8.7	16,228 9,728 9,535	+ 2.7 + 1.5 - 4.0	+ 14·4 + 13-6 + 7·4	
TOTAL	17,082	+ 0.9	+ 11.1	35,491	+ 0.5	+ 12.2	

In the week ended 24th February about 21 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns received from employers were working short time, to the extent of nearly 8 hours a week on the average.

#### WORSTED TRADE.

WORSTED TRADE. Employment during February continued good in the wool sorting and combing and worsted spinning branches, though not quite so good as in January. In the weaving trade there was, on the whole, a decline, although many firms were work-ing full time, and, in some instances, overtime. In the stuff trade employment at Bradford, Keighley and Silsden was worse than in January, though somewhat better than a year ago. In the Bradford coating trade the decline was not so marked. The following Table summarises the information received from

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

	Number of Workpeople.				Wages paid to Workpeople.		
1	Week	Inc. ( Dec. (-		Week	Inc. ( Dec. (-		
	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago. j	Year ago.*	
Departments. Wool Sorting and Combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not specified	4,483 16,474 5,607 2,911 2,306	Per cent. - 0.5 + 0.4 - 1.4 - 0.9	$\begin{array}{c} P_{er} \\ cent. \\ + 8.5 \\ + 7.7 \\ + 10.5 \\ + 9.8 \\ + 5.4 \end{array}$	£ 12,355 26,269 11,823 7,351 4,594	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - & 0.2 \\ - & 0.8 \\ + & 0.8 \\ - & 1.1 \\ - & 0.3 \end{array}$	Per cent. + 1.7 - 2.4 + 11.8 + 0.5 + 2.9	
TOTAL	31,781	- 0.4	+ 8.3	62,392	- 0.4	+ 1.6	

• Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

and the second s	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
tra do <u>stan</u> an ana	Week ended		(+) or -) on a Week ended		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	24th Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*		
Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Halifax District Huddersfield District Other Parts of West Biding	15,871 5,477 2,814 3,454 3,046	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - & 0.8 \\ + & 0.2 \\ - & 0.5 \\ + & 0.5 \\ - & 0.3 \end{array}$	Per cent. + 9·9 + 2·0 + 2·1 + 26·0 + 2·0	£ 32,995 10,471 5,031 7,065 5,150	Per cent. - 0.7 + 0.0 + 0.5 + 1.1 - 1.4	Per cent. + 2·1 - 2·4 - 2·7 + 21·2 - 8·7		
Total, West Riding Other Districts	30,662 1,119	- 0.4 + 0.1	+ 8.3 + 8.0	60,712 1,680	- 0.3 - 2.4	$+ \frac{1.7}{-3.6}$		
<b>TOTAL</b>	31,781	- 04	+ 8.3	62,392	- 0.4	+ 1.6		

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In the week ended 24th February about 3 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were working short time, to the extent of nearly 9 hours a week on the average. In the previous month approximately the same proportion were work-ing a similar amount of short time.

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep or lambs) were 45,629,700 lbs. in February, 1923, compared with 54,705,800 lbs. in January, 1923, and 70,792,100 lbs. in February, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,098,400 lbs., compared with 3,878,500 lbs. in January, 1923, and 3,147,700 lbs. in February, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 17,559,700 square yards, compared with 22,063,500 in January, 1923, and 11,783,300 square yards in February, 1922.

The exports of blankets were 112,597 pairs, 160,307 pairs and 61,923 pairs in February, 1923, January, 1923, and February, 1922, respectively.

#### BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

**EMPLOYMENT** during February continued slack, with much short time. There was little general change as compared with January, slight improvements in some districts being nearly balanced by a decline in others.

by a decline in others. There was a further improvement at Leicester, where employ-ment was fair, and at Stafford, where it was good, following upon improvements in January; in both these towns employment was decidedly better than in February of last year. There was also a slight improvement at Norwich. On the other hand, there was a further decline in the Bristol and Kingswood district, in the Leeds district, and in Scotland; and there was still much short time in these districts, and also at Northampton and Ketter-ing, and in the country districts of Leicester and Northampton. Employment in the Rossendale Valley was fair. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the boot, choe, and slipper making and repairing trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8'2 on the 26th February, 1923, as compared with 8'8 on the 22nd January.

January

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

Income with all many it	Num	ber of V people.	Vork-		Wages p Workpe	
dura - at a	Week ended 24th		+) or -) on a	Week ended 24th	Inc. ( Dec. (-	+) or -) on a
a fra sa sa hita in	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.•
England and Wales :	NOT SE	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London Leicester Leicester Country Dis-	2,041 9,349	+ 2.3 + 2.4	+ 2·9 + 6·4	4,806 25,237	+ 2.1 + 7.1	- 5.0 + 10.8
trict	<b>2,</b> 555 6,654	$+ 0.5 \\ - 0.7$	- 2·4 - 3·9	5,647 15,526	+ 2.8 + 2.0	- 6.4 - 2.4
District	7,174 3,193 2,524 4,244	$\begin{array}{r} - & 0.8 \\ + & 0.3 \\ + & 0.6 \\ + & 2.1 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 4 \cdot 3 \\ + & 2 \cdot 7 \\ + & 7 \cdot 2 \\ + & 7 \cdot 1 \end{array} $	15,804 8,005 6,035 8,298	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 1 \cdot 1 \\ + & 1 \cdot 3 \\ + & 2 \cdot 2 \\ + & 3 \cdot 6 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 2.9 \\ + 0.0 \\ + 15.1 \\ - 6.1 \end{array} $
Bristol, Kingswood and District	<b>2,111</b> 1,952	- 4.4 + 1.2	+ 8.3 + 4.6	4,301 3,994	- 2.5 - 4.3	+ 13.0 - 2.3
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) Birmingham and Dis-	4,259	1- 0.3	+ 22.4	9,617	+ 0.5	+ 22.6
trict	1,021	+ 0.1	+ 4.4	1,744	- 13.3	,- 10·6
and Wales	1,492	+ 0.3	+ 7.9	2,919	+ '2.6	+ 17:8
England and Wales	48,569	+ 0.4	+ 5.0	111,933	+ 1.9	+ 3.4
Scotland	2,427	- 1.6	- 5.7	4,948	- 2.2	- 5.6
Great Britain	50,996	+ 0.3	+ 4.4	116,881	+ 1.8	+ 2.9

• Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

Returns received from firms employing 32,600 workpeople showed about 27 per cent. on short time at the end of the month, to the extent of about 12½ hours a week on the average. At the end of the previous month about 34 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns then received were on short time to the extent of about  $10\frac{1}{2}$  hours a week on the average.

March, 1923.

The *exports* of boots and shoes in February, 1923, amounted to 70,849 dozen pairs, or 2,362 dozen pairs less than in January, 1923, but 25,030 dozen pairs more than in February, 1922.

#### **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.**

EMPLOYMENT in these trades, taken as a whole, showed a slight improvement during February; it continued slack, however, at the majority of centres. Unsettled weather conditions prevailed throughout the month, and short time was worked in a number of districts. A decrease in the percentage unemployed, as indi-cated by the number of unemployment books remaining lodged at Employment Exchanges, was evident in all the geographical divisions shown in the Table given below; the percentage unem-ployed for the whole of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 18:8 at 26th February, as compared with 20.7 five weeks earlier.

Employment showed a marked improvement with painters and a slight improvement with all the other occupations mentioned in the Table except plumbers. On the whole, however, it was still very bad with painters, builders' labourers and workpeople on construction of works, and bad or slack with other classes.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 26th February, and the increase or decrease in the percentage as compared with 22nd January :-

Building Trade.         Carpenters       14,455       10.7 $-$ 0.9         Bricklayers       2,269       9.5 $-$ 0.7         Masons       2,269       9.5 $-$ 0.7         Slaters       2,269       9.5 $-$ 0.7         Plasterers       2,269       9.5 $-$ 0.7         Plasterers       2,269       9.5 $-$ 0.7         Plasterers       2,269       15.6 $-$ 1.1         Plasterers       2,269       15.6 $-$ 1.1         Painters       4,355       13.0 $+$ 0.6         Labourers of above       4,355       13.0 $+$ 0.6         All other occupations       12,730       18.8 $-$ 1.1         Total       .       .       141,803       18.4 $-$ 1.9         Mavies       .       .       .       3,673       21.1 $-$ 2.0         Grand Total       .       .       165,476       18.8 $-$ 1.9         Divisions.       .       .       .       .       .       .         Londron       .       .       .       .       .       .         Divisions. </th <th>Occupation.</th> <th>, 1 </th> <th>Number of Unemployment Books Remaining Lodged at 26th Feb., 1923.</th> <th>Percentage of Unem- ployment at 26th Feb., 1923.</th> <th>Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 22nd Jan., 1923.</th>	Occupation.	, 1 	Number of Unemployment Books Remaining Lodged at 26th Feb., 1923.	Percentage of Unem- ployment at 26th Feb., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 22nd Jan., 1923.
Bricklayers        7,450       12.1 $-0.7$ Masons        2,269       9.5 $-0.7$ Slaters        818       14-6 $-1.2$ Plasterers        2,699       15-6 $-1.7$ Painters        2,699       15-6 $-1.7$ Plumbers        4,855       13.0 $+0.6$ Labourers of above        62,566       22.9 $-1.5$ All other occupations        14,903       18-8 $-1.1$ Total         141,903       18-4 $-1.9$ Construction of Works.        8,687       24-6 $-2.0$ All other occupations        14,986       19-4 $-2.1$ Total         14,986       19-4 $-2.2$ Matother occupations         165,476       18-8 $-1.9$ Divisions.                London	Building Trade.	- 11			
Masons        2,269       9.5 $-0.7$ Slaters        318       14.6 $-1.2$ Plasterers        2,699       15.6 $-1.1$ Painters        27,961       24.3 $-6.3$ Plumbers        4,855       13.0 $+0.6$ All other occupations       18,730       18.8 $-1.1$ Total         141,803       18.4 $-1.9$ Construction of Works.       8,687       24.6 $-2.0$ All other occupations        14,985       19.4 $-2.1$ Total         23,673       21.1 $-2.0$ Grand Total        165,476       18.8 $-1.9$ Divisions.         16,512       12.9 $-2.3$ South-Eastern         23,220       21.0 $-1.5$ South-Eastern          23,220       21.0 $-1.8$ North-Eastern           23,220       21.0<		130	14,455		
Slaters $2818$ $14^{+}6$ $-1^{+}2$ Plasterers $27,961$ $24^{+}3$ $-6^{-}3$ Plumbers $4,855$ $130$ $+0^{-}6$ Labourers of above $4,855$ $130$ $+0^{-}6$ Labourers of above $62,566$ $22^{-}9$ $-1^{+}5$ All other occupations $141,803$ $18^{+}4$ $-1^{+}9$ Construction of Works. $8,687$ $24^{+}6$ $-2^{-}0$ All other occupations $14,986$ $19^{+}4$ $-2^{+}1$ Total $23,673$ $21^{+}1$ $-2^{+}0$ Mother occupations $14,986$ $19^{+}4$ $-2^{+}1$ Total $23,673$ $21^{+}1$ $-2^{+}0$ Grand Total $165,476$ $18^{+}8$ $-1^{+}9$ Divisions. $23,673$ $21^{+}1$ $-2^{+}0$ Midlands $23,673$ $21^{+}2$		••			
Plasterers        2699       15-6       - 1·1         Painters        27,961       24·3       - 6·3         Plumbers        4,855       13 0       + 0·6         Labourers of above        62,566       22·9       - 1·1         Total        18,730       18·8       - 1·1         Total        141,803       18·4       - 1·9         Construction of Works.       8,687       24·6       - 2·0         All other occupations        141,803       18·4       - 1·9         Construction of Works.       8,687       24·6       - 2·0         All other occupations        14,986       19·4       - 2·1         Total         23,673       21·1       - 2·0         Grand Total        165,476       18·8       - 1·9         Divisions.         37,872       20·4       - 1·5         South-Eastern         16,312       12·9       - 2·3         Midlands         23,220       21·0       - 1·5         Scotland	C1 /				
Painters        27,961 $24.3$ -6.3         Plumbers        4,855       13.0       +0.6         Labourers of above        62,566       22.9       -1.5         All other occupations       18,730       18.8       -1.1         Total        141,803       18.4       -1.9         Construction of Works.       8,687       24.6       -2.0         All other occupations        14,985       19.4       -2.1         Total         23,673       21.1       -2.0         Grand Total        165,476       18.8       -1.9         Divisions.        165,476       18.8       -1.9         Midlands         23,673       21.1       -2.0         Midlands         165,476       18.8       -1.9         South-Eastern         23,673       21.0       -1.5         South-Western          24.6       -2.2         Midlands           19.4         South-Eastern					
Plumbers		0.0			
Labourers of above $62566$ $22 \cdot 9$ $-1 \cdot 5$ All other occupations $12,730$ $18 \cdot 8$ $-1 \cdot 1$ Total $141,803$ $18 \cdot 4$ $-1 \cdot 9$ Construction of Works. $141,803$ $18 \cdot 4$ $-1 \cdot 9$ All other occupations $141,803$ $18 \cdot 4$ $-1 \cdot 9$ Construction of Works. $8,687$ $24 \cdot 6$ $-2 \cdot 0$ All other occupations $14,986$ $19 \cdot 4$ $-2 \cdot 1$ Total $23,673$ $21 \cdot 1$ $-2 \cdot 0$ Grand Total $165,476$ $18 \cdot 8$ $-1 \cdot 9$ Divisions. $23,673$ $21 \cdot 1$ $-2 \cdot 0$ Midlands $-1 \cdot 9$ $-1 \cdot 5$ $500th \cdot Eastern$ $16,512$ $12 \cdot 9$ $-2 \cdot 3$ South Western $-1 \cdot 20,688$ $21 \cdot 2$ $-1 \cdot 5$ $7,320$ $21 \cdot 0$ $-1 \cdot 8$ North-Eastern $-20,688$ $21 \cdot 2$ $-1 \cdot 5$ $8 \cdot 0 \cdot 1 \cdot 9$ $18 \cdot 7$ $-2 \cdot 6$ Scotland $-1 \cdot 93$ $18 \cdot 7$ $-2 \cdot 6$ $-2 \cdot 3$ $8 \cdot 6 - 2 \cdot 3$ $8 \cdot 6 - 2 \cdot 3$	mi line				
All other occupations $18,730$ $18\cdot8$ $-1\cdot1$ Total $141,803$ $18\cdot4$ $-1\cdot9$ Construction of Works. Navvies $8,687$ $24\cdot6$ $-2\cdot0$ All other occupations $14,986$ $19\cdot4$ $-2\cdot1$ Total $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Grand Total $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Grand Total $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Divisions. $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Midlands $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Divisions. $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Midlands $23,673$ $21\cdot1$ $-2\cdot0$ Midlands $20,688$ $21\cdot2$ $-1\cdot9$ South-Eastern $23,220$ $21\cdot0$ $-1\cdot8$ North-Eastern $23,220$ $21\cdot0$ $-1\cdot8$ North-Eastern $23,220$ $21\cdot0$ $-1\cdot5$ Scotland $23,034$ $18\cdot6$ $-2$					
Construction of Works. Navvies       8,687       24.6 $-2.0$ All other occupations       14,986       19.4 $-2.1$ Total        23,673       21.1 $-2.0$ Grand Total        23,673       21.1 $-2.0$ Grand Total        23,673       21.1 $-2.0$ Joint Scale        165,476       18.8 $-1.9$ Divisions.        165,312       12.9 $-2.3$ South Vestern        15,570       14.4 $-2.4$ Midlands         20,682       21.2 $-1.5$ South Western         15,570       14.4 $-2.4$ Midlands          20,682       21.2 $-1.1$ North-Eastern          23,220       21.0 $-1.8$ North-Western               Wales                Great Britain and Northern		2.3		18.8	- 1.1
Navvies        8,687 $24.6$ $-2.0$ All other occupations       14,986       19.4 $-2.1$ Total $23,673$ $21.1$ $-2.0$ Grand Total        165,476       18.8 $-1.9$ Divisions. $37,872$ $20.4$ $-1.5$ South Featern        165,476       18.8 $-1.9$ North-Eastern $12,570$ $14.4$ $-2.4$ Midlands         20,688 $21.2$ $-1.6$ North-Eastern $23,220$ $21.0$ $-1.8$ North-Western $23,220$ $21.0$ $-1.8$ North-Western $24,474$ $21.2$ $-1.5$ Scotland $7,034$ $18.6$ $-2.26$ Wales $4,113$ $31.2$ $-2.9$ Great Britain and Northern       165,476 $18.8$ $-1.9$	Total		141,803	18.4	- 1.9
London       37,872       20.4       -1.5         South-Eastern       16,312       12.9       -2.3         South Western       15,570       14.4       -2.4         Midlands       -       20,688       21.2       -1.1         North-Eastern        20,688       21.2       -1.1         North-Kestern        24,474       21.2       -1.1         Scotland        16,193       18.7       -2.6         Wales         7,034       18.6       -2.3         Northern Ireland        4,113       31.2       -2.9         Great Britain and Northern       165,476       18.8       -1.9	Navvies		23,673	19·4 	- 2·1 - 2·0
South-Eastern       16,312       12.9       - 2.3         South Western       15,570       14.4       - 2.4         Midlands       -       -       20,688       21.2       - 1.1         North-Eastern        23,220       21.0       - 1.8         North-Western        24,474       21.2       - 1.6         Scotland        16,193       18.7       - 2.6         Wales         16,193       18.7       - 2.6         Wales         4,113       31.2       - 2.9         Great Britain and Northern       165,476       18.8       - 1.9	Divisions.	1.4	3-1-10	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	
South Western        15,570       14.4 $-2.4$ Midlands        20,688       21.2 $-1.1$ North-Eastern        23,220       21.0 $-1.8$ North-Western        24,474       21.2 $-1.5$ Scotland        16,193       18.7 $-2.6$ Wales        7,034       18.6 $-2.3$ Northern Ireland        4,113       31.2 $-2.9$ Great Britain and Northern       165,476       18.8 $-1.9$	London		37,872		
Midlands         20,688       21·2       -1·1         North-Eastern        23,220       21·0       -1·18         North-Western        24,474       21·2       -1·5         Scotland        16,193       18·7       -2·6         Wales         4,113       31·2       - 2·9         Great Britain and Northern       165,476       18·8       - 1·9			16,312		
North-Eastern        23,220       21.0       - 1.8         North-Western        24,474       21.2       - 1.5         Scotland        16,193       18.7       - 2.6         Wales         4,113       31.2       - 2.9         Great Britain and Northern       165,476       18.8       - 1.9					
North-Western         24,474         21-2         -         1-5           Scotland          16,193         18-7         -         2-6           Wales          7,034         18-6         -         2-3           Northern Ireland          4,113         31-2         -         2-9           Great Britain and Northern Ireland          165,476         18-8         -         1-9			20,688		
Scotland           16,193         18.7         - 2.6           Wales          7,034         18.6         - 2.3           Northern Ireland          4,113         31.2         - 2.9           Great Britain and Northern         165,476         18.8         - 1.9			24.474		
Wales          7,034         18.6         - 2.3           Northern Ireland          4,113         31.2         - 2.9           Great Britain and Northern Ireland          165,476         18.8         - 1.9					
Northern Ireland          4,113         31·2         - 2·9           Great Britain and Northern Ireland          165,476         18·8         - 1·9					
Ireland 165,476 18.8 - 1.9	Northern Ireland		4,113	31.2	- 2.9
		ern	and the second second	0	and the state of the
Malao 165 1/6 18.0 _ 1.0	Ireland		165,476	18.8	- 1.9
Hates $Hates$	Males		165,146	18.9	- 1.9

# BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during February continued moderate on the whole, and was adversely affected by bad weather. It was again bad in the Birmingham and Nottingham Comparison with a year ago showed a general decline in employment.

The percentage of people unemployed in the brick, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th February, was 14'1 per cent., as compared with 15'1 per cent. at 22nd January.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three dates under comparison :-

March, 1923.

Nor sh Ch Mid Co Sout

	Numbe	r of Wor	kpeople	Total Wages Paid all Workpeople		
Districts.	24th 24th		Inc. ( Dec. (-			
			A CONTRACTOR OF	Feb.,	Month ago.*	Year ago.*
all and the state of the state	1.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per Per	
thern Counties, York- ire, Lancashire and peshire	1,649	- 1.0	- 8.8	3,591	cent. - 3.8	cent. -21.4
lands and Eastern	3,425	+ 3.5	- 0-9	7,233	- 4.0	-14.1
th and South-West	550	+ 0.9	-13.0	1,243	+ 1.6	-27.5
er Districts	. 90		-13.5	217	- 2.7	-24.1
Тотал	5,714	+ 1.9	- 4.8	12,284 -	3-4	-18.0

Returns from firms employing 4,885 workpeople show that 7 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time, to the extent f 9 hours on the average, during the week ended 24th February.

#### POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades during February remained bad on the whole, but showed a slight improvement as compared h the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by he unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.8 at 26th February, 1923, as compared with 15.5 at 22nd anuary, 1923.

The following Table summarises the information received from ose employers who furnished returns for the three dates under

	Number of Workpeople.				Wages paid to Workpeople.			
	Week ended 24th		(+) or -) on a			(+) or -) on a		
	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Feb., 1923.	Month ago.*	Year ago.*		
The second se		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
BRANCHES. China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture	1,424 8,409	- 0·3 + 0·3	- 10·1 + 5·0	2,611 15,829	+ 0.6 + 3.8	- 19·3 - 0·4		
other Branches (including unspecified)	1,643	+ 0.2	+ 4.3	3,066	- 3.1	+ 10.7		
TOTAL	11,476	+ 0.3	+ 2.8	21,506	+ 2.4	- 1.8		
DISTRICTS. Potteries Other Districts	8,811 2,665	+ 0.5 - 0.4	+ 2.4 + 4.1	16,021 .5,485	+ 2.4 + 2.4	-1.1 - 3.6		
TOTAL	11,476	+ 0.3	+ 2.8	21,506	+ 2.4	- 1.8		

Returns from employers relating to short-time working showed that of 9,974 workpeople covered 41 per cent. were working, on in average, about  $18\frac{1}{2}$  hours less than full time in the week ended 24th February.

	12 13		<u></u>			The share's tend days, but	N	umber of	Seamen*	shipped	in
DOCK	AND RIV	ERSIDI	E LAB	OUR.		Principal Ports.	Feb.,		(+)or -)on a		non ths led.
EMPLOYMENT amor quiet. The percent river, harbour, door	tage of wor k, and what	kpeople rf service	unemple, as in	loyed in dicated k	the canal, by the un-	unte sei basien eren tenne nie basien eren	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Feb., 1923.	Feb., 1922.
employment books February, 1923, v January. London.—The foo of dock labourers wharves, in each v	vas 19·9, a ollowing Tab employed a	ole shows t the do	the avocks, an	with 19.1 erage dai	l at 22nd	ENGLAND & WÀLES : Bast Coast— Tyne Ports Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Grimsby	1,530 184 385 1,236 —	- 45 - 114 - 156 - 489 - 21	+ 459 - 71 + 110 + 394 - 4	3,105 482 926 2,961 21	3,094 437 603 1,938 25
	Docks an	ly Numbe d at Princ Docks.	r of La cipal Wl	ourers employed in arves in London.		Bristol Channel- Bristolt Newport, Mon	69 779 954	$- 153 \\ - 413 \\ + 24$	- 59 - 73	1.711 2,321	1,735
Period.	By the Port of London	By		At Wharves		Cardiff: Swansea	3,151 402	+ 24 - 612	+ 497 - 277	6.278 1,416	6,209 1,193
	Authority or through Contractors.	Ship- owners, etc.	Total.	making Returns.	Principal Wharves.	Liverpool London Southampton	8,744 6,644 4,298	- 4,390 - 1,632 - 4,336	+ 537 - 223 - 2,086	21,878 14,920 12,932	18.068 14,587 11,457
Week ended- 3rd Feb., 1923	6 100	2,535	7,635	7,789	15 404	SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and	198	- 377	+ 10	773	494 .
10th " 17th " 24th "	5,100 4,931 4,675 4,694	2,606 2,488 2,649	7,540 7,163 7,343	8,014 8,029 7,861	15,424 15,554 15,192 15,204	Grangemouth Glasgow	253 1,742	-175 + 230	+ 90 + 22	681 3,254	348 3,178
Average for 4 weeks	1				Tantan and a state	NORTHERN IRELAND: Belfast	106	- 118	- 189	330	633
ended 24th Feb., 1923	} 4,851	2,569	7,420	7,923	15,343	TOTAL	30,606	-12,777	- 863	73,989	65,758
Average for Jan., 1923	5,224	- 2,772	7,996	8,219	16,215	• It will be understood	that the	number	airon ar	o the nu	mbers
Average for Feb., 1922	5,574	2,758	8,332	8,648	16,980	separate engagements, aud	not of s	eparate i			mbers of
* Comparison of earn	ings is affected	1 by reduct	ions in r	ates of wag	68.	t Including Avonmout t Including Barry and					

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in February was 827, as compared with 978 in the previous month, and with 1,175 in February, 1922.

*East Coast.*—Employment with coal trimmers and teemers on the Tyne and Wear continued good; with other classes of work on the Tyne it varied, but was generally somewhat better than in January. At Blyth it remained slack. At Middlesbrough there was a marked improvement with dock labourers. At Hull employment was fair, and at other East Coast ports there was little change compared with the previous month.

Southern and Western Ports.—At Southampton employment was slack. At the South Wales ports there was, on the whole, little variation from the level of the previous month. The average weekly number of dock labourers employed at Liverpool during the four weeks ended 26th February was 15,321, com-pared with 14,958 in the five weeks ended 29th January, and 13,628 in the corresponding period of last year.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow and Leith employment was moderate and fair respectively. At Dundee it was fair, but not so good as in the previous month. It declined at Belfast, and was reported as moderate.

#### SEAMEN.

DURING February employment with seamen was slack on the whole, the number of engagements being much below that for the previous month. At most of the ports large numbers of men failed to obtain berths.

The percentage of seamen unemployed, as indicated by the un-employment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22.2 at 26th February, as compared with 22.3 at 22nd January.

Employment on the Thames was fair during the greater part of February, but declined at the end. The demand for men on the Tyne declined, and was reported as quiet at the end of the month. It was quiet on the Wear and on the Tees. At Hull employment declined, except for a revival during the week ended 24th February. Employment was quiet throughout the month at Southampton, poor at Bristol, and moderate at Avonmouth. The demand at Cardiff was fair. Employment at Swansea fluctuated during February, being described as moderate at the close of the month. The demand continued good at Newport. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand showed a sub-stantial decline in the first half of February, but improved after-wards, being reported as fair at the end of the month.

The demand was quiet on the Clyde and slack at Leith, and improved in both districts towards the end of the month. Em-ployment at Belfast was dull.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during February :---

# MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\*

THE number of persons remaining on the "live registers" of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland— i.e., of applications for employment outstanding from work-people—at 26th February, 1923, was 1,376,409, of whom 1,072,677 were men, 46,516 boys, 218,431 women, and 38,785 girls. Com-pared with 29th January, there was a decrease of 84,009, which was distributed as follows : Men, 65,170; women, 7,834; juveniles, 11,005 11,005.

During the four weeks ended 26th February the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 72,842, of which 45,899 were for men, 15,892 for women, and 11,051 for juveniles. Compared with the four weeks ended 29th January, there was an increase of 8,368 in the total number of vacancies filled

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 26th February, 1923 :--

The state of the second	Applica-		Application ing at end	
Week ended	tions by Employers.	ns by Filled. From Workpeople		From Employers.
29th January, 1923	 20,214	15,927	1,460,418	15,690
5th February, 1923 12th " " 19th " " 26th " "	  19,070 21,079 21,929 21,572	17,247 17,611 19,178 18,806	1,433,803 1,411,653 1,389,440 1,376,409	14,973 16,361 16,183 16,166
Total (4 weeks)	 83,650	72,842	-	

A detailed analysis of the figures in the preceding paragraphs is not yet available, but statistics for the four weeks ended 5th February are dealt with below :—

February are dealt with below :--Applications from Workpeople.-The total number of applica-tions (553,005) from workpeople during the four weeks ended 5th February showed a daily average of 23,042--a decrease of 3,731, or 140 per cent., compared with the daily average of the pre-vious month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 14,803, women for 5,508, and juveniles for 2,731--decreases of 15<sup>-5</sup> per cent. and 17<sup>-9</sup> respectively, in the case of men and women, and an increase of 7<sup>-5</sup> per cent. in the case of juveniles. Vacancies Notified.-During the four weeks ended 5th Feb-

an increase of 75 per cent. in the case of juveniles. Vacancies Notified.—During the four weeks ended 5th Feb-ruary there were 75,518 vacancies notified, representing a daily average of 3,146, as compared with 2,773 during the preceding period. Of this daily average 1,718 were for men, 934 for women, and 494 for juveniles. Compared with the previous month the number of vacancies notified for men, women and juveniles increased by 98 per cent., 131 per cent., and 290 per cent., respectively. Vacannesies Estimate The total purpher of vacancies of the total purpher of the total purpher of the total purpher of vacancies of the total purpher vacance of the total purpher of vacancies of the total purpher vacance of the total purpher of vacancies of the total purpher of the total purpher of total purpher of vacancies of the total purpher vacance of the total purpher of vacancies of the total purpher of the total purpher of total purpher of total purpher of total purpher where total purpher of total purpher of total purpher of total purpher where total purpher of total purpher where total purpher of t

29.0 per cent., respectively. Vacancies Filled.—The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 63,031—a daily average of 2,626, as compared with 2,555 during the previous statistical month. Of this daily aver-age, men accounted for 1,538, women for 649, and juveniles for 439. The corresponding figures for the previous month were : Men, 1,449; women, 568; and juveniles, 338. Juveniles.—During the period, 31,500 applications were re-ceived from boys and 34,036 from girls. The number of vacan-cies notified for boys was 5,307, and 4,852 vacancies were filled. In the case of girls, 6,542 vacancies were notified, and 5,684 were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles, 21.7 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school. Statistics relating to Building Trades (men) and to Domestic

Statistics relating to Building Trades (men) and to Domestic Service occupations (women) for the four weeks ended 5th Feb-ruary have been summarised under the principal occupations,

ruary have been summarised under the principal occupations, and the outstanding features are dealt with below :--In the building trades 6,770 vacancies were notified for men and 5,955 vacancies were filled. The principal occupations con-cerned were : Carpenters, 1,570 vacancies notified and 1,390 filled; bricklayers, 1,023 vacancies notified and 864 filled; painters, 1,393 vacancies notified, and 1,120 filled; and builders' labourers, 1,218 vacancies and 1,209 placings.

The number of men on the "live register" in the building trades was 140,602<sup>+</sup> at 5th February, compared with 151,764<sup>+</sup> at 8th January.

The number of vac incies notified for women in domestic service during the four weeks ended 5th February was 13,505. Of this number 5,935 were for resident domestic servants, 2,846 for non-resident domestic servants, 3,409 for charwomen, and 576

for waitresses; other domestic occupations accounting for 739. Of the 8,754 vacancies filled, 2,497 were placings in resident domestic service, 2,144 as non-resident, 3,103 as charwomen, and 461 as waitresses.

The total number of women remaining registered on 5th February for work in domestic services was 34,302, compared with 32,205 on 8th January.

The figures above, except those in the first three paragraphs, are exclusive of dock labourers and coal labourers. The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations during the period of four weeks ended 5th February was 1,890.

\* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The figures for Great Britain alone, as already published in the Press, show that on 26th February, 1923, there were on the Live Registers 1,042,000 men, 202,000 women and 84,000 juveniles, compared with 1,165,000 men, 235,000 women, and 85,800 juveniles at 1st January, 1923. † Workmen on short time are not included.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment
Exchange administrative areas and for the principal towns therein
the number of persons remaining on the "live registers" at the
Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland
at 26th February, 1923. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham,
Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one
Exchange Area :

March, 1923.

Area.			s <b>remaini</b> ng 86th Februa		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared
613 91 4 CR.	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	with 29th Jan., 1923.
London South Eastern Division Brighton Chatham Ipswich Norwich Rest of South Eastern	168,998 67,489 3,229 3,070 3,647 4,038 53,505	<b>\$7,586</b> <b>9,547</b> 739 432 380 333 7,663	16,829 6,775 651 628 409 177 4,910	223,413 83,811 4,619 4,130 4,436 4,548 66,078	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 10,503 \\ - & 6,793 \\ - & 326 \\ - & 468 \\ - & 137 \\ - & 627 \\ - & 5,235 \end{array}$
South Western Division Bristol Plymouth Reading Southampton Swindon Rest of South Western	73,919 13,044 5,941 6,257 1,939 7,345 1,297 38,096	11,068 3,426 1,006 636 218 607 199 4,976	7,118 1,708 610 815 371 555 275 2,784	<b>98,105</b> 18,178 7,557 7,708 2,528 8,507 1,771 45,856	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 4,556 \\ - & 476 \\ - & 245 \\ + & 344 \\ - & 267 \\ + & 457 \\ - & 118 \\ - & 4,251 \\ \end{array} $
Midlands Division Birmingham Coventry Cradley Heath Derby Leicester Northampton Nottingham Smethwick Walsall West Bromwich Weot Bromwich Rest of Midlands	137,186 36,023 3,755 3,765 3,378 2,454 1,857 7,244 4,604 7,066 4,741 2,822 6,957 52,418	33,813 10,309 583 948 376 278 480 1,360 1,387 4,505 854 587 1,998 10,148	10,584* 1,866 101 201 304 27 131 450 583 699 1,343 226 449 4,204	181,583 48,198 4,439 5,016 4,058 2,759 2,468 9,054 6,574 12,270 6,938 3,635 9,404 66,770	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$
North-Eastern Division Barnsley Bradford Darlington Dewsbury Doncaster Gateshead Grimsby Halifax Halifax Huddersfield Huddersfield Lincoln Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyne South Shields Stockton-on-Tees Sunderland York Rest of North-Eastern	203,592 2,665 4,888 2,292 1,301 409 6,420 2,640 1,679 7,095 2,533 10,117 15,765 3,733 8,342 18,208 1,619 26,040 5,644 7,056 15,317 1,891 57,739	18,244 189 581 209 336 662 206 203 322 229 777 1,823 490 328 1,418 1,75 2,649 388 197 918 279 5,729	$\begin{array}{c} 11,712\\ 156\\ 96\\ 55\\ 115\\ 600\\ 210\\ 210\\ 11\\ 333\\ 102\\ 1,131\\ 651\\ 126\\ 276\\ 61\\ 128\\ 283\\ 1,399\\ 233\\ 1,399\\ 281\\ 317\\ 863\\ 693\\ 2,743\\ \end{array}$	255,348 3,010 5,564 2,640 1,692 690 7,652 3,056 1,893 7,750 2,864 12,025 18,239 4,349 8,946 20,749 2,087 30,088 6,313 7,569 17,098 2,863 66,211	$\begin{array}{c} - & 16,155 \\ + & 39 \\ - & 130 \\ - & 130 \\ - & 145 \\ - & 360 \\ - & 73 \\ - & 57 \\ - & 436 \\ - & 434 \\ - & 723 \\ - & 1,309 \\ - & 1,51 \\ - & 1,249 \\ - & 799 \\ - & 362 \\ - & 1,612 \\ - $
North Western Division Accrington	$\begin{array}{c} 191,027\\ 1,944\\ 3,620\\ 8,244\\ 6,933\\ 4,443\\ 1,153\\ 5,246\\ 4,268\\ 1,912\\ 1,115\\ 41,460\\ 27,209\\ 1,186\\ 5,994\\ 4,978\\ 3,310\\ 3,076\\ 3,076\\ 9,092\\ 3,489\\ 2,596\\ 47,433\\ 155,942\\ 6,484\\ 4,426\\ 4,$	62,418 929 1,396 606 2,150 826 1,049 3,948 1,479 3,511 7,534 4,246 3,359 1,433 3,384 3,038 2,045 2,500 3,682 3,682 3,682 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,693 3,500 3,682 3,500 3,682 3,500 3,682 3,500	17,887 133 282 676 961 353 124 9209 627 163 73 4,016 2,177 68 389 897 171 355 1,389 279 114 740 3,642 10,464 4,834 4,834 4,834 4,844 3,662 2,915 \$,760 687 688 188 188 292 1,525 1,5	$\begin{array}{c} 271, 282\\ 3,006\\ 5,298\\ 9,438\\ 8,500\\ 6,946\\ 2,103\\ 6,504\\ 8,863\\ 3,554\\ 1,539\\ 5,3010\\ 2,005\\ 10,629\\ 9,234\\ 4,914\\ 3,815\\ 13,519\\ 5,813\\ 2,670\\ 7,018\\ 67,794\\ 4,914\\ 3,815\\ 13,519\\ 5,813\\ 2,670\\ 7,018\\ 67,794\\ 4,963\\ 3,2670\\ 7,018\\ 67,794\\ 4,963\\ 3,300\\ 2,559\\ 7,486\\ 5,3300\\ 2,559\\ 7,486\\ 5,3300\\ 4,9569\\ 7,486\\ 5,3300\\ 4,9569\\ 944\\ 2,986\\ 3,656\\ 34,133\\ 4,8,555\\ 29,161\\ 3,062\\ 2,126\\ 2,126\\ 2,126\\ 2,126\\ 2,126\\ 1,172\\ 1,003\\ 3,061\\ 2,126\\ 3,062\\ 2,126\\ 3,002\\ 3,052\\ 2,126\\ 3,002\\ 3,052\\ 3,002$	$\begin{array}{c} - & g_{,837} \\ - & 166 \\ - & 401 \\ - & 570 \\ - & 861 \\ - & 655 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 288 \\ - & 1,226 \\ + & 463 \\ - & 102 \\ - & 1,281 \\ - & 2,233 \\ + & 464 \\ + & 1,239 \\ + & 2,865 \\ - & 450 \\ - & 233 \\ - & 661 \\ - & 233 \\ - & 661 \\ - & 233 \\ - & 661 \\ - & 461 \\ - & 2,565 \\ - & 1,459 \\ - & 24,318 \\ - & 668 \\ - & 1,459 \\ - & 243 \\ - & 5,677 \\ - & 2,567 \\ + & 791 \\ - & 2,860 \\ - & 2,567 \\ + & 791 \\ - & 2,860 \\ - & 2,567 \\ + & 791 \\ - & 2,860 \\ - & 2,567 \\ + & 791 \\ - & 2,860 \\ - & 2,657 \\ + & 711 \\ - & 2,860 \\ - & 43 \\ - & 1680 \\ - & 145 \\ - & 43 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ - & 185 \\ - & 18 \\ -$
Ireland Total Gt. Britain and	8,128	3,402	301	11,831	- 2
Northern Ireland	1,072,677	218,431	85,301	1,376,409	1 - 84,009

# March, 1923.

# UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

UNDER the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 and 1921, sub-stantially all persons for whom Health Insurance contributions have been paid, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Employees of local authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme, may, in certain circumstances, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under 16 years of age. An applicant for unemployment benefit must, *inter alia*, prove continuous unem-ployment, and it is provided that two periods of unemployment of not less than two days each, separated by a period of not more than two days, during which the insured contributor has not been employed for more than 24 hours, or two periods of unemployment of not less than six days each, separated by an interval of not more than six weeks, shall be treated as continuous unemployment for this purpose. Persons employed in establish-ments where, owing to trade depression, the number of working days has been reduced on a systematic basis in such a manner as to full within the above requiring are accordingly eligible for days has been reduced on a systematic basis in such a manner as to fall within the above provision are accordingly eligible for benefit. Payment of unemployment benefit is subject to certain statutory conditions and disqualifications. The procedure requires the "lodging" of an unemployed person's unemployment book, and the record of books "lodged" thus affords a measure of the extent to which unemployment is prevalent in the insured industries.

	Estim	ated nu	mbèr of	108.3. 1 1			I	NEMPLOY	MENT.*		6	
Industry.	Insur	ed Work	people.	Unemp remai	Number of ployment ning lodg h Feb., 19	Books ed at		ercentag nemploy		con	-) or Dec. mpared w id Jan., 1	ith
noisers, indiant sin, arrestrup ristera descritero acceltrati,	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.
Building and Construction of Works : Building Construction of Works other than Building.	763,000 111,590	5,790 830	768,790 112,420	141,503 23,643	300 30	141,803 23,673	18·5 21·2	5-2 3•6	18·4 21·1	- 1.9 - 2.0	+ 0.6 - 0.1	- 1.9 - 2.0
pbuilding	353,020 1,077.840 186.380 182,410 175,500	5.620 74,890 30,410 39,270 65,410	358,640 1,152,730 216,790 221,680 240,910	114,521 211,193 22,389 21,871 21,060	467 5,397 2,549 2,918 4,825	114,988 216,590 24,938 24,789 .25,885	32·4 19·6 12·0 12·0 12·0	8·3 7·2 8·4 7·4 7·4	32·1 18·8 11·5 11·2 10·7	$ \begin{array}{r} - 2.3 \\ - 1.8 \\ - 0.4 \\ - 0.9 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{c} - & 0.5 \\ - & 1.4 \\ - & 0.9 \\ - & 0.1 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 2.2 \\ - 1.7 \\ - 1.7 \\ - 0.6 \\ - 0.8 \end{array} $
tal Trades :	293,880	14,270	308,150	51,731	1,107	52,838	- 17.6	7.8	17.1	- 3.3	•-	- 3
Sheet Manufacture. Brass, Copper, Zinc, etc., Manufacture Electrical and Surgical Instruments,	51,770 66,560	13,230 38,260	65,000 104,820	9,097 8,064	1,476 2,694	10.573 10,758	17.6 12.1	11·2 7·0	16·3 10·3	- 0.5 - 1.1	-1.4 - 0.2	- 0.
etc. Hand Tools, Cutlery, etc Needles, Pins, Steel Pens, Dies, Seals,	20,640 5,440	8,360 9,750	29,000 15,190	3,897 605	1,226 1,024	5,123 1,629	18·9 11·1	14·7 10·5	17·7 10·7	- 0.8 + 0.2	- 2.2	- 0· - 1·
etc. Wire and Wire Goods Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Chains, Anchors,	21,650 20,060	6,230 15,320	27,880 35,380	2,647 4,477	563 2,490	3,210 6,967	12·2 22·3	9·0 16·3	11·5 19·7	-1.3 -3.9	$- 0.2 \\ - 1.5$	- 1
etc. Hardware and Hollow-ware	58,100 30,630 36,100	49,230 20,570 16,620	107,330 51,200 52,720	7,681 4,434 3,594	7,069 1,924 1,638	14,750 6,358 5,232	13·2 14·5 10·0	14·4 9·4 9·9	13·7 12·4 9·9	- 0.3 - 0.7 - 0.5	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 1.3 \\ - & 0.5 \\ - & 1.5 \end{array}$	- 0· - 0·
ing Musical Instruments). bber and Leather Trades:	34,890 48.040 68,470 36,930	30,120 21,250 8,910 34,650	65,010 69,290 77,380 71,580	5,042 5,679 9,636 4,158 7,075	2,704 2,101 1,259 5,002 716	7,746 7,780 10,895 9,160 8,691	14·5 11·8 14·1 11·3 21·0	9.0 9.9 14.1 14.4 9.3	11.9 11.2 14.1 12.8 19.0	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1.9 \\ - 0.5 \\ - 1.1 \\ - 2.7 \\ - 1.0 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1.2 \\ - 0.6 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 2.6 \\ - 0.9 \end{array} $	- 1 - 0 - 1 - 2 - 1
ss Trades (excluding Optical, Scientific, to.). tel. College, Club, etc., Services Indry Service	37,900 86,470 15,980 120,610	7,730 190,560 87,730 81,640	45,630 277,030 103,710 202,250	7,975 12,744 1,434 9,008	16,015 4,512 2,734	28,759 5,946 11,742	14·7 9·0 7·5	8·4 5·1 3·3	10·4 5·7 5·8	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	- 0·4 -	- 0 - 0
anking. Insport Services:	241,530 98,900 158,410 110,810 190,040 32,780	12,670 5,190 4,080 1,490 2,940 5,560	254,200 104,090 162,490 112,300 192,980 38,340	18,738 4,174 28,132 24,829 38,011 7,024	575 170 127 149 383 618	19,313 4,344 28,259 24,978 38,394 7,642	7.8 4:2 17.8 22.4 20.0 21.4	4.5 3.3 3.1 10.0 13.0 11.1	7.6 4.2 17.4 22.2 19.9 19.9	$ \begin{array}{c} - 1.2 \\ - 0.1 \\ - 1.0 \\ + 0.8 \\ - 0.1 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.6 \\ + & 0.2 \\ - & 1.0 \\ - & 3.3 \\ + & 1.0 \\ - & 0.2 \end{array} $	- 1 - 1 - 0 + 0 - 0
Coal Mining and Ironstone Quarrying Other Mining and Ironstone Quarrying Other Mining Quarrying (other than Ironstone), Clay, Sand, etc., Digging.	1,214,990 22,920 9,810 59,330	9,670 60 230 770	1,224,660 22,980 10,040 60,100	49,948 4,591 2,437 4,478	435 7 16 58	50,383 4,598 2,453 4,536	4·1 20·0 24·8 7·5	4·5 11·7 7·0 7·5	4·1 20·0 24·4 7·5	$ \begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.5 \\ + & 10.0 \\ + & 1.8 \\ - & 0.8 \end{array} $	- 0 - 2 - 1 - 0
nting and Paper Trades — Paper Making and Staining — — Manufactured Stationery Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	43,340 22,220 131,330	17,660 47,980 81,820	61,000 70,200 213,150	3,465 1,684 9,759	1,063 3,110 4,264	4,528 4,794 14,023	8.0 7.6 7.4	6.0 6.5 5.2	7·4 6·8 6·6	- 0.2 - 0.5 - 0.5	$\begin{array}{c c} + & 0.1 \\ + & 0.1 \\ - & 0.2 \end{array}$	- 0
xtile Trades:	220,320 111,820 11,460 28,270 11,930 7,250	381,150 156,570 22,050 62,480 30,180 14,870	601,470 268,390 33,510 90,750 42,110 22,120	22,235 6,272 872 4,755 1,712 952	41,269 3,830 1,137 12,413 3,478 1,502	63,504 10,102 2,009 17,168 5,190 2,454	10-1 5-6 7-6 16-8 14-4 13-1	10.8 2.4 5.2 19.9 11.5 10.1	10.6 3.8 6.0 18.9 12.3 11.1	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 0.4 \\ - & 0.9 \\ + & 0.5 \\ - & 1.1 \\ - & 0.9 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1.6 \\ - 0.5 \\ + 0.1 \\ - 1.0 \\ - 1.4 \\ - 0.5 \end{array} $	- 10
facture. Hosiery Trade	19,080 10,860 9,990 78,600 13,200	65,560 16,960 14,050 26,620 31,340	84,640 27,820 24,040 105,220 44,540	757 <b>2,34</b> 6 400 6,250 1,214	1,546 1,185 446 1,657 2,635	2,303 3,531 846 7,907 3,849	4·0 121·6 4·0 8·0 9·2	2·4 7·0 3·2 6·2 8·4	2.7 12.7 3.5 7.5 8.6	$\begin{array}{c cccc} + & 0.3 \\ - & 2.5 \\ - & 0.2 \\ + & 0.4 \\ - & 0.5 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} - 16 \\ + 06 \\ + 06 \\ + 02 \end{array} $	+++
thing Trades : Tailoring Trades Dress. etc., Making, Millinery, Furriers,	65,810 22,450	132,680 214,750	198,490 237,200	7,775 1,931	10,939 15,480	18,714 17,411	11.8 8.6	8·2 7·2	9·4 7·3	- 1.6 - 0.3	- 2·4 - 1·3	- 2
etc. Hats, Caps and Bonnets Corset Trade	13.190 2.160 97.300 18,790	20,880 12,180 53,080 23,000	34,070 14.340 150.380 41,790	1,420 116 10,317 2,096	1,198 625 2,006 1,406	2,618 741 12,323 3,502	10.8 5.4 10.6 11.2	5.7 5.1 3.8 6.1	7.7 5.2 8.2 8.4	$\begin{vmatrix} - & 1 \cdot 1 \\ - & 3 \cdot 7 \\ - & 0 \cdot 6 \\ - & 0 \cdot 4 \end{vmatrix}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} - & 1.0 \\ + & 0.5 \\ - & 0.5 \\ - & - \end{vmatrix} $	
d. Drink and Tobacco :	270,310 13,990	174,790 32,970	445,100 46,960	26,495 1,226	20,512 2,797	47,007 4,023	9·8 8·8	11.7 8.5	10.6 8.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.5	+-
cellaneous Trades and Services :- Public Utility Services Oilcloth, Linoleum and Cork Carpets Distributive Trades National and Local Government Service.	21 6,270 9,800 573,720 250,240	12,580 3,370 437,800 73,780	228,850 13.170 1,011,520 324,020	17,261 596 46,887 27,680	564 110 24,300 3,874	17,825 706 71,187 31,554	8.0 6.1 8.2 11.1	4.5 3.3 5.6 5.3	7.8 5.4 7.0 9.7	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.3 \\ - & 0.6 \\ + & 0.1 \\ - & 0.7 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.1 \\ + & 0.3 \\ + & 0.4 \\ - & 0.2 \end{array} $	
Service. Professional Services	63,160 160.790	69,550 59,410	132,710 220,200	<b>3,907</b> 41,523	1,817 6,071	5,724 47,594	6·2 25·8	2.6 10.2	4·3 21·6	- 0.4 - 1.5	- 0.1	-
TOTAL	8,541,030	3,209,420	11,750,450	1,142,348	246,512	1,388,860	13.4	7.7	11.8	- 1.0	- 0.5	- " (

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# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

#### March, 1923.

## **TRADE DISPUTES.\***

Number, Magnitude and Duration .- The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in February, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 41, as compared with 54 in the previous month and 62 in February, 1922. In these new disputes 23,000 workpeople were directly involved and 6,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, 11,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 36 disputes which began before February and were still in

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35 disputes which began before February and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 77, involving 40,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during February of 337,000 working days. The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved (whether directly or indirectly) at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month in all the disputes in progress :--in progress :--

91 - 20 - 4		er of Dispu ess in Feb		Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration inWorking
Groups of Industries.	Started before 1st Feb.	Started in Feb.	Total.	volved in all Dis- putes in progress in Feb.	Days of all Dis- putes in progress in Feb.
Mining & Quarrying Metal, Engineering	5 14	19 5	24 19	23,000 1,000	199,000 13,000
and Shipbuilding Textile and Clothing Printing, Paper, etc., Trades	13	7	8 3	6,000 5,000	23,000 64,000
Other Trades	13	10	23	5,000	33,000
Total, Feb., 1923	36	41	77	40,000	337,000
Total, Jan., 1923	17	54	71	19,000	117,000
Total, Feb., 1922	44	62	106	30,000	269,000

The principal new dispute was one involving 6,147 coal miners, etc., in the South Shields district, who were idle from 12th to 23rd February in sympathy with workpeople at a neighbouring colliery where a dispute was in progress from 25th January to 23rd February on a question respecting the payment of the minimum wage. On work being resumed, the question in dispute was settled by an agreement confirming the practice already in force, with certain reservations. A number of stoppages of work occurred in February at collieries in South Wales and Monmouthshire to compel non-members of the South Wales Miners' Federa-tion to join the Federation. In most cases the object was at-tained after a brief stoppage of work, but one dispute involving 2,300 workpeople was still in progress at the time of going to press. The dispute which began on 20th January, involving about 4,000 workpeople in the bookbinding industry in the London district, terminated on 13th February, when the matter in dispute was submitted to arbitration. The arbitrators decided that the bookbinding employers (whose refusal to adopt the rates of wages for warehousemen, packers, porters, etc., agreed upon by the London Master Printers' Association occasioned the dispute) were parties to the agreement in question. *Causes.*—Of the 41 disputes beginning in February, 8, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 11, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 14, directly involving 9,000 workpeople, on questions of unionism and non-unionism; one, directly involving 6,000 work-people, in sympathy with workpeople involved in another dis-pute; and 7, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, from other causes (including one dispute as to the landing of fish from shire to compel non-members of the South Wales Miners' Federa-

causes (including one dispute as to the landing of fish from German trawlers).

German trawlers). Results.—Settlements were effected during February in the case of 29 new disputes, directly involving 17,000 workpeople, and 15 old disputes, directly involving 9,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 19, directly involving 12,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 8, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 17, directly involving 12,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 7 disputes, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

### PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING FEBRUARY, 1923.

Occupations and Locality.†	Approx Number people I	of Work-	Date whe	u Dispute	Cause or Object.	Result.†	
Occupations and Post	Directly.	Indi- rectly.†	Began.	Ended.	Alexen estis condentaria	and a second sec	
MINING AND QUARRYING :	<b>r</b> 3,09	9	25 Jan.	23 Feb.‡	Dispute as to payment of mini-)	Agreement reached confirming	
Coal miners, etc.—South Shields (near).	6,14	17	12 Feb.	23 Feb.	mum wage. In sympathy with workpeople involved in above dispute.	practice in force, but providing that "reserved "cases be dis- cussed before pay-notes are issued.	
Coal miners, etc.—Newport, Mon. near).	2,30	10	5 Feb.		Refusal to work with non- members of the South Wales Miners' Federation.	No settlement reported.	
Coal miners, etcLlanelly (near)	{ 80 90 90	0	5 Feb. 14 Feb. 19 Feb.	10 Feb. 20 Feb. 24 Feb.	Refusal to work with non- members of the South Wales Miners' Federation.	Non - members joined the Feder- ation.	
CEXTILE AND CLOTHING TRADES :- Cotton spinners, etcStockport	9	39	22 Feb.	•••	Against proposed change in piece price list, involving reduction in wages.	No settlement reported.	
Jute workers—Dundee	1,75	15§	23 Feb.		Dispute arising out of reduction in the number of workpeople employed at certain sets of spinning frames.	No settlement reported.	
Tailors, etc. London	557	•	25 Jan.	7 Feb.	For the re-employment of a workman who was alleged to have been victimised.	Workman in question to be re- employed at the earliest opportunity.	
Raincoat garment workers- Manchester.	2,0	00	14 Feb.	19 Feb.	D spute arising out of proposed reduction in wages.	Temporary settlement effected.	
RINTING, PAPER, ETC., TRADES : Paper workers-Edinburgh (near)	487	36	18 Jan.	.1.20.1	Refusal to work with a non- unionist.	No settlement reported.	
Bookbinders, warehousemen, packers, porters, etcLondon district.	4,000¶		20 Jan.	13 Feb.	Dispute arising out of refusal of bookbinding employers to adopt rates of wages for ware- housemen, packers, porters, etc., agreed upon by the London Master Printers' Association.	Arbitrators decided that the bookbinding employers were parties to the agreement between the London Master Printers' Association and the workpeople's Trade Union.	
OTHER TRADES:- Fishing vessels' skippers, mates and crews-Aberdeen.	3,0	00¶	24 Feb.		Against landing of fish from German trawlers.	No settlement reported.	
and crews-Aberdeen. Furnishing trades operatives- London (near).	500		5 Jan.		Against proposed introduction in certain departments of system of piece-work or pay- ment by results.	No settlement reported.	
Employees of co-operative society Glasgow,	650		9 Feb.	9 Feb.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Proposal withdrawn.	

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days. † 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 there previde not the statistics of any set of workpeople and the statistics of any set of any bu

t.	not themselves parties to the disputes The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.	
-	Temporary resumptions of work occurred 2501-3011 and any and 2601 and 2701 resumption occurred on 26th February, but in March § Number directly and indirectly involved at the works originally affected. At these works a partial resumption occurred on 26th February, but in March	otner
	a humber involved	13. B

cks became involved. || Irregular stoppages of work occurred prior to this date. || Estimated number.

March, 1923.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of £64,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 480,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £400 in the wages of nearly 8,000 workpeople. The groups of industries principally affected are shown below:—

Group of Industries.		ximate of Work- fected by	Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.		
and the second second second	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
ron and Steel Manufac- ture	· · · · · · ·	92,000	£	£. 4,350	
and Other Metal		57,000 199,000 129,000		6,550 38,900 14,200	
Total	7,750	477,000	420	64,000	

In the iron and steel group the workpeople affected by reductions included iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Mid-lands, who sustained a decrease of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on standard rates, equivalent to about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. on current rates. Steel smelters generally, and steel millmen in the West of Scotland and in several districts in England, also had their wages reduced by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on standard rates (equivalent to about 2 per cent. on current rates). There was a reduction of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on standard rates (about 1 per cent. on current rates) in the wages of Siemens steel workers in South and West Wales. Men employed in non-federated shipyards at Belfast and in ship-repairing yards on the Mersey had their wages reduced by amounts varying, according to the amount of their wages, from 2d. to 2s. 6d. per week, the full reduction of 2s. 6d. applying to all piece-workers and to time-workers whose wages, previous to 1st January, were 52s. 6d. per week or over. In other metal trades there were reductions of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on basis rates in the case of workpeople employed in the gold, silver and allied trades at Sheffield, and of 5 per cent. on the basis time and piece rates of male workers in the metallic bedstead industry. There were also reductions in the wages of farriers in a number of towns in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland. The principal changes in the clothing trades took effect as the

The principal changes in the clothing trades took effect as the result of Orders under the Trade Boards Acts. In the ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade the minimum hourly rates for men were reduced by amounts varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}d$ . to  $2\frac{1}{4}$ . in Orthern Ireland, and for heaving the minimum patter were reduced by  $1\frac{1}{2}d$ . women the minimum rates were reduced by 1d. per hour in Great Britain and by  $1\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour in Northern Ireland, reduc-tions of smaller amounts being made in the rates of young persons. Workpeople employed in the wholesale mantle and costume trade in Great Britain also sustained reductions of 1d. ber hour in the case of women and of 11d. to 2d. per hour in the case of men. Female workers in the linen and cotton hand-kerchief and household goods and linen piece goods trade in Northern Ireland had their minimum time rates reduced by

d. or ½d. per hour. In other trades there was an increase in the wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland. There were reductions in the wages The principal change reported in February was an increase of one hour per week in the working hours of brewery workers at of coopers in most of the important centres in Great Britain and Sheffield.

# PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1923.

NOTE.—The following Table relates mainly to changes which came into operation in February, with effect either from that month or from earlier dates. Certain earlier changes, however, of which particulars were received during February are also included. The weekly rates quoted are in respect of a full ordinary working week and do not take into account the effect of short time working.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			BUILDING AND ALLIED	FRADES.
Building	Inverness and District II Moray, Banff and Nairn Oban Douglas and Dis- trict (Isle of Man)	1 Feb.           21 Feb.           8 Feb.           6 Feb.           3 Feb.           1 Lather           3 Feb.           1 Lather	Masons and joiners Slaters and plasterers Painters Plumbers Plumbers Plumbers Masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers Bricklayers. masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plas- terers, painters and labourers	<ul> <li>Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: masons, 1s. 3½d.; joiners, 1s. 3d.</li> <li>Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: slaters, 1s. 4½d.; plasterers, 1s. 4d.</li> <li>Decrease of 2½d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 3¼d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 3d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 4d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 2d per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 1d. per hour, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> <li>Decrease of 1d. per hour, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).</li> </ul>

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, "gricultural labourers omestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Details of changes in the urrent rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, however, so far as reported to the Department, are included in the list of principal changes aported. The statistics relate to weekly full-time rates of wages, on the basis of employment of the full numbers of persons in the respective industries. The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

# CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

# [Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Under the Trade Boards Acts, in addition to the reductions mentioned above in the clothing group, there were decreases in the minimum rates fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workpeople employed in the jute industry, and in those fixed for workers in the general waste materials reclamation trade in Great Britain.
Of the decreases taking effect in February, seven, amounting to factors, nineteen, amounting to £5,000 per week, were arranged by Standing Joint bodies of employers and workers; twenty-eight, amounting to nearly £4,400 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; seven, amounting to £200 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; four, amounting to £450 per week, were arranged by arbitration; and the remaining sixty-two cases, amounting to £12,000 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties. Reductions in wages preceded by disputes involving stoppages of work accounted for only £200 per week. Five increases in wages were reported in February, two of which, amounting to about £380 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices, the remaining three increases being arranged by direct negotiation.
Summary of Changes in January and February, 1923.

## Summary of Changes in January and February, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the first two months of 1923:---

Group of Trades.	Appro: Number peo affected	of Work- ple	Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.		
Angerer etc	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
Building and Allied	1.00		£	£	
Trades Mining and Quarrying Iron and Steel Engineering, Shipbuild-	100 622,000 19,500	24,000 57,000 161,000	10 40,800 750	7,600 750 7,300	
ing, &c	600 9,200 7,000 2,700	148,000 47,000 50,000 210,000 49,000	 15 145 440 540	20,300 7,000 4,200 40,200 7,900	
Furniture and Wood- working	-	22,000	-	3,700	
Pottery, &c. Food, Drink and Tobacco Public Utility Services Other	 10,000	22,000 72,000 55,000 27,000		3,350 9,700 6,800 3,200	
Total	671,100	944,000	43,000	122,000	

In the corresponding two months of 1922 there was a net reduc-tion of  $\pounds$ 970,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 5,520,000 work-people, and a net increase of  $\pounds$ 3,400 in the wages of 20,000 work-people.

#### Hours of Labour.

March, 1923.

March, 1923.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1923-(continued)

Trade.	* Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics).	Trade.	Locality.
		A:	MINING AND QUARRYI	NG.		
(			Iron ore miners Winding enginemen	Increase, under sliding scale,* of 3d. per shift in the bargain price (9s. 4d. to 9s. 7d.), and of 3d. per shift in the minimum wage (6s. 8d. to 6s. 11d.). Increase, under sliding scale,* of 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d. per shift (8s. 2 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d.	Anna an	Tees-side (cert non - federa firms) Mersey District
Iron Mining, etc.	Cumberland	5 Feb. (	Other underground and surface workers	to 8s. 5d.). Increase, under sliding scale,* of 1½d. per shift for men and of ¾d. for boys under 16. Rates after change for underground 1st class or leading labourers, 6s. 2d. per shift.	- ANA STORE	
	North Lincolnshire	4 Feb.	Ironstone miners and quarry- men	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 1½ per cent. on stan- dard rates of 1909, leaving wages 39½ per cent. above		A dia and a dia
(	Northumberland and Durham	15 Feb.	Freestone quarrymen and labourers	the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift. Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: quarry- men, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. per hour.		Mersey District
Quarrying	West Cumberland	12 Feb.	Limestone quarrymen	Increase, under sliding scale,* of 1½d. per shift for men, and of 3d. per shift for boys under 16. Rates after change: knobblers, 8s. 3d. per shift; day borers (1st class), 7s. 9d.; day labourers (1st class), 7s. 1d.;	Engineering, Shipbuild- ing, Ship-	Birmingha Wolverhamp West Bromw Walsall and trict
and a state	Clee Hill District	31 Jan.	Roadstone quarrymen, sett- makers, stone breakers, labourers, etc.	ruddmen, 6s. 7d. per shift. Decrease of 7½ per cent. on present earnings.	re pairing, eto.	Portsmouth Barry, Car Newport, Pena
Coke and By-products	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Feb.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase of 5 per cent. on standard base rates of 1916 and 1917, making wages 17½ to 27½ per cent. above standard.†		Newport, Pena Port Talk Swansea, Sha ness, Avonmo and Bristol
	an estrantia dari	IRO	N AND STEEL SMELTING AND	MANUFACTURE.		Clyde District Belfast (n
Pig Iron Manufacture	North Lincolnshire	4 Feb.	Blastfurnacemen Engineers, electricians, appren- tices, improvers, etc., em- ployed on maintenance work at blastfurnaces and in iron and steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 12 per cent. on standard rates of 1909, leaving wages 392 per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift. Minimum rate for labourers after change: 3s. 8d. per shift plus 392 per cent. plus 1s. 1d. per shift. Decrease, under sliding scale, of 12 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 302 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change: pattern-makers, 44s.; boilersmiths, 43s.; fitters, turners, smiths, electricians and armature winders, 42s.; machine men (millers, borrers, planers, etc.), 30s. to 38s.; strikers, 30s. (and		federated firm
The second	-			322. 6d. after one year), plus in each case the per- centage addition of 30½ per cent. and a tonnage bonus.	Wire Manufac- ture	London
(	England and West of Scotland‡	4 Feb.§	Steel melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producermen and charge wheelers	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on the standard of 1905, leaving melters' wages 33% per cent. (basic process) and 8% per cent. (acid process) above the standard.§	Bedstead	Birmingh
1993	England and Scot- land	4 Feb.∦	Roll turners	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 12 of the total amount of advance in wages given between August. 1914, and 30th April, 1921, making a total decrease of about 82 per cent. of that advance since 1st May, 1921.	Manufac- ture	S m e t h w i Dudley, Bils Manchester, V rington, Sow Bridge, Keig and Glasgow
	Tees-side	4 Feb.	Workpeople employed in steel rolling mills and production departments	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 21 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 331 per cent. above the standard.	-	and in such a
	Workington	4 Feb {	Steel millmen, engineers' labourers and general labourers Engineers employed at steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 33% per cent. above the standard. Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on standard rate, leaving rate 42s. per week plus 33% per cent. plus a tonnage bonus.	Bobbin and Shuttle Making Optical	Scotland
	The second s	ſſ	Rail millmen	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.	Instrument Manufac- ture	
	Barrow - in - Furness	4 Feb.	Enginemen, cranemen, etc	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 333 per cent. above the standard. Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on	Gold, Silver and Allied	Sheffield
Iron and Steel Manu- facture		5 Feb	Wire hoop millmen	standard rates, leaving wages 40 per cent. above the standard.	Trades	A to be do the first
	Scunthorpe	4 Feb. {	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers, engineers' labourers, general labourers, etc.	Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 33% per cent. above the standard. Decrease, under sliding scale,* to a rate of 1s. 2.5d. per	and the same	/ Liverpool and kenhead Manchester,
			Bricklayers employed at steel works Iron puddlers	hour (plus tonnage bonus). Decrease under sliding scale.* of 21 per cent. on	A CARDON	ley, and Stoke Trent Other large to
	Midlands (includ- ing parts of South	and the second	Iron and steel millmen	standard rates, leaving wages 40 per cent. above the standard. Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 21 per cent. on	Farriery	in Lancas and Cheshire Smaller towns
	Yorkshire and South Lanca- shire)	5 Feb. {	Other classes	standard of 1908, leaving wages 40 per cent. above the standard. War bonuses reduced by 6d. per week for men, 3d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years of age, and 12d. per week for boys under 18 years.	Tallely	Lancashire Cheshire** ( Kendal and Peak District Various town
	South and West Wales	3 Feb.	Workpeople (excluding mainten- ance men) engaged in Siemens steel manufacture	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 14 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 183 per cent. above the standard, plus an additional 20 per cent. for those with base earnings of not more than 30s. per week; an additional 6d. per shift for those with a base rate of 30s. 1d. to 40s. per week, and an additional 4d. per shift for those with a base rate of 40s. 1d. to		Yorkshirett Cardiff, Swar Newport a Merthyr Glasgow Distr
	West of Scotland	4 Feb.§	Steel millmen, gas producermen, enginemen, cranemen, fire-	50s. per week. Decrease, under sliding scale,* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 33% per cent. above the standard.§	making a total re war bonus). † Except tho	nged that reduction duction after 5th M se whose wages are nged that reduction

\* The sliding scale referred to in this case is based on selling prices.
† The above increase was given under the terms of an agreement by which it was decided that two reductions totalling 174 per cent. which were made in December, 1921, and May, 1922, should be restored to the extent of 5 per cent. on 1st February, 5 per cent. on 1st May, and 24 per cent. on 1st August. The ercentages above standard vary at the different plants.
‡ The change applied to firms who are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, those in England being situated principally in the North East Coast district, Cumberland, Lancashire, South and West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and the Midlands.
§ In the case of semi-skilled men and labourers, the reduction of 24 per cent. was to be applied as follows :-14 per cent. or 15 of war advances from 8th April.
# On the North East Coast the reduction took effect in two equal instalments of 14 of war advances on 11th March and 8th April.

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PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1923-(continued). Date from Particulars of change. which change Classes of Workpeople. (Decreases in italics.) took effect. ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING, ETC. Workpeople employed in engi-neering, boilermaking, bridge-building, etc., shops Men employed in the ship-re-pairing trade (including en-gingers) 12 Feb. Decrease of 6s. 6d. per week. tain Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week for timeworkers whose wages (including 10s. war bonus), previous to 1 Jan-uary, were 52s. 6d. per week or over; and of smaller 12 Feb. gineers) amounts for timeworkers whose wages (including 10s. war bonus), previous to 1 January, were more than 37s. 6d., but less than 52s. 6d. per week; and no reduction for those whose wages (including 10s. war bonus), previous to 1 January, were 37s. 6d. per week or under.\* 1 Jan. 22 Jan. 12 Feb. or under." Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Further decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Further decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for a full week: 52s. 6d. Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. to 1s. 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d.). Sailmakers a m, pton, wich. Dis-1 Jan. Boatbuilders Men employed in the shipbuild-Decrease, in war bonus, of 1s. per week.t 1 Feb. ing, engineering, etc., tradest Platers, caulkers, riveters, holders-up, drillers, ship-wrights, etc., employed on piecework in the ship-repairrdiff, arth, bot, 1 Feb. Residuary war bonus of 3s. 9d. per week withdrawn. harp-nouth ing trade Decrease of 11d. per hour. Rates after change: boiler scalers, 1s. 3d.; ship scalers, 1s. per hour. Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week for timeworkers whose wages (including 10s. war bonus), previous to 1 Jan-uary, were 52s. 6d. per week or over, and for piece-workers; with smaller amounts for timeworkers whose wages (including 10s. war bonus), previous to 1 January, werg more than 37s. 6d. but less than 52s. 6d. per week; and no reduction for those whose wages (including 10s. war bonus), previous to 1 Jan-uary, were 37s. 6d. per week or under.§ 17 Feb. Boiler scalers and ship scalers ... Men employed in the ship-build-ing, engineering, etc., trades 1 Feb. non-OTHER METAL TRADE S. Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4d.) for time-workers and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers, leaving piecework prices in operation previous to November, 1922, subject to a reduction of 10 per cent. 1st full Adult male wire workers ... pay pre ceding week ending 10 Feb. Decrease of 5 per cent. in the basic time and piece-work rates for men, and in the basic piecework rates for women engaged in dipping bedsteads in black. Basis rates after change: men—cupola men, 1s. 3d. per hour (56-hour week); frame setters, 1s. 4d. per hour (56-hour week); stock-fitter in charge, 55s. per week; stock-fitter (second hand, able to fit all classes of stocks), 70s. per week; stock-fitter (improver, not less than 3 years' experience), 30s. per week; bending, 1s. 3d. per hour; less 5 per cent. in each case, and subject to a bonus addition of 16s. per week. (See also Decision No. 748 on p. 113).
Decrease of 5s. per week for men. Rates after change: skilled men, 52s.; semi-skilled, 45s. 6d.; labourers, 39s. Workpeople employed in the metallic bedstead trade ham, ick, lston, War-werby ghley 12 Feb. Workpeople employed in the bobbin and shuttle making industry 1 Feb. Decrease of  $\frac{1}{2}d$ . per hour (7 $\frac{1}{2}d$ . to 7d.) for those 18 years of age and over. 1st pay day in Feb. Women employed in the optical instrument making trade Bonus of 47½ per cent. for timeworkers, and of 52½ per cent. for pieceworkers, reduced to 40 per cent. and 45 per cent. respectively. Hourly rates after change for men: skilled, 1s. or 11d. (according to occupation); semi-skilled, 10d.; unskilled, 9d.; plus, in each case, bonus of 40 per cent.
Revised scale of weekly basis rates adopted, varying according to age, from 5s. at 14 to 15 years to 15s. at 19 to 20 years; such rates to be subject to an addition of 40 per cent. Workpeople employed in the gold, silver and allied trades lst p**ay** day in Feb. ... Warehouse women and girls employed in the gold, silver and allied trades Decrease of 3s. per week. Rates after change: firemen, 75s.; doormen, 73s.
Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 7d. per hour or 74s. 5d. per week; doormen, 1s. 6d. per hour or 72s. 5d. per week.
Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6d. per hour or 72s. 5d. per week; doormen, 1s. 6d. per hour or 72s. 5d. per week.
Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6d. per hour or 70s. 6d. per week.
Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 6s. 7d. per week; doormen, 6s. 7d. per week. Feb. l Bir-Farriers .... Farriers 26 Feb Han ke-ontowns ashire e¶ ns in and (with High 26 Feb. Farriers ... 26 Feb. Farriers Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6½d.; doormen at Hull, 1s. 6½d.; doormen at other towns, 1s. 6d. Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change at Swan-sea: firemen, 1s. 6d.; doormen, 1s. 5d. ns in 26 Feb Farriers .... ansea, a n d 12 Feb. Farriers ... ... ... Decrease of 12d. per hour. Rates after change: fire-men, 1s. 6d.: doormen or drivers. 1s. 53d. Feb. Farriers ... ... ... ... rict.

war bonus).
† Except those whose wages are regulated by movements in some other industry and those employed in H.M. Dockyards, etc.
† Except those whose wages are regulated by movements in some other industry and those employed in H.M. Dockyards, etc.
† It was arranged that reductions, each of 1s. per week, were to be made on 1st December, 1922, 1st January, 1st February, 1st March and 1st April, 1923.
§ It was arranged that reductions, each of amounts similar to the above, were to take effect as from 1st January, 1st February, 1st March and 1st April. making a § It was arranged that reductions, each of amounts similar to the above, were to take effect as from 1st January, 1st February, 1st March and 1st April. making a § It was arranged that reductions, each of amounts of pieceworkers, and of time-workers whose wages, previous to 1st January, were 52s. 6d. per week or more.
It he reduction took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Optical Instrument Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee.
I Including Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Lancaster, Leigh, Middleton, Nelson and ¶ Including Accrington, Rochdale, Rossendale, Southport, Stockport, St. Helens, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan.
District, Oldham, Ormskirk, Preston, Rochdale, Rossendale, Southport, Stockport, St. Helens, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan.
\*\* Including Alsager, Bentham, Chester, Crewe, Furness District, Garstang, Kirkham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich, and Tarporley.
\*\* Including Barnsley, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Todmorden.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

ms, each of amounts similar to the above, were to take effect as from 1st January, 22nd January, 12th February and 5th March, March of 10s. per week in the case of workers whose wages previous to 1st January were 52s. 6d. per week or more (including 10s.

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### THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

March, 1923.

March, 1923.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Trade.	Locality
		-	OTHER METAL TRADES(con	tinued).		1
Farriery (contd.)	Edinburgh Paisley and Dis- trict Dundee, Arbroath	19 Feb. Feb. Dec., 1922	Farriers                Farriers                 Farriers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: fire. men, 1s. 6d.; doormen, 1s. 5½d. Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: fire. men, 1s. 6d.; doormen, 1s. 5½d. Decrease of 1d. per hour.	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100	
Spring Manufac-	and Montrose Belfast Sheffield	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} 1 \text{ Jan.} \\ 1 \text{ Feb.} \\ \end{array}\right\}$ 1st full pay after 18 Feb.	Farriers { Laminated spring fitters and vicemen, smiths and strikers	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Further decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: firemen, 65s.; doormen, 57s. 6d. Decrease, in flat rate bonus, of 1s. per week.	and a second s	Great Bri (contd.)
ture Safe Making	Birmingham, Dudley, Sedgley, West Bromwich and Wolverhamp- ton	Pay day in week ending 20 Jan.	Iron safe engineers TEXTILE TRADES.	Decrease of 5 per cent. on current rates.	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	al on this of
	form and late a	1.4 7600 0	Workpeople employed in the preparing, spinning, or weav- ing of (a) jute, or (b) jute and any other fibre except flax and hemp:	Decrease in the minimum rates, fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see also p. 75 of February GAZETTE) :	Ready- made and	e for timuda occere (tadad chare en-ci chare pr-ci se the hirt Natimation
	and the second second	23 Feb. (	Male workers (except loom tenters 21 years and over with recognised full charge) Female workers:-	Decrease varying from 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d. to 1s. 6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d. per week. Minimum rates after change: under 16 years, 15s. 3d.; 16 and under 18 years, 20s. 10d.; 18 and under 21 years, 35s. 2d.; 21 years and over, 39s. 1d.	Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade (contd.)	Surrasion, Salarta Gli a. Lioungeta 19. 60.
Jute Industry	Great Britain	10 100.	Spinners, other than orra (or spare) spinners	Decrease varying according to size of bobbin and number of spindles from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 11d. per week for single spinners, and from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d. per week for double spinners. Decrease of 1s. 2d. per week (30s. 10½d. to 29s. 8½d.).		Northern Ire
		Pay nyo	18 years and over Spinning shifting mistresses Other workers	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week (39s. to 37s. 6d.). Decrease of 8½d., 10½d. or 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: under 16 years, 15s. 3d.; 16 and under 18, 20s. 10d.; 18 and over, 25s.* "Cost of living" wage reduced under sliding scale from 68 per cent. to 65:45 per cent. on basis wages, the fact rate house of 10s per cent. on basis wages,		
Textile Printing	Lancashire, Che- shire, Derbyshire, Scotland and cer- tain firms in Yorkshire	Pay pre- ceding 1st pay day in Mar.	Machine calico printers	from 68 per cent. to 65:45 per cent. on basis wages, the flat rate bonus of 10s. per week for journeymen and 9s. per week for apprentices remaining un- changed.		
the second the	Total (2.50 Paris) and an all you have an approximations and a		CLOTHING TRADES.	D	in entry 11	1987 August
Oressmaking nd Women's Light Clothing Trade	Scotland	5 Feb.	Female workers 20 years of age and over with not less than 6 years' experience in the re- tail branch of the trade who make bodices, coats, skirts, gowns or blouses without	Decreasest in the minimum rates, fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, of 14d. per hour for Area At and 12d. per hour for Area B.t Minimum time and piecework basis time rates respectively after change: Area A,t 72d., 82d.; Area B,t 7d., 8d. (See also p. 75 of February GAZETTE.)	Dock, Riverside, etc., Labour	The Wear . Hull
A Constant and a constant			supervision Female workers employed in the linen and cotton handker- chief and household goods and linen piece goods trade:	Decreases in the minimum rates, fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the classes named respectively.		Newcastle-or
Linen and Cotton Handker- chief, etc., Trade	Northern Ireland	1 Feb. (	Timeworkers: Other than learners	Decrease of 4d. or 2d. per hour in time rates and 2d. per hour in piecework basis time rate (72d. to 7d.). Minimum time rates after change: 18 years and over, 62d.; under 18 years—varying from 2d. to 6d. per hour according to age of commencing and length of em-	Road Transport	Birmingham
The second	anten hint, the chi:		Learners Pieceworkers	ployment. Decrease of ½d. or ½d. per hour in time rates. Decrease of 10 per cent. on piece rates fixed from 6 Oct., 1921, making a total reduction of 20 per cent. since that date.	ndor ti stri 66 sert:	Swansea .
1 102 10 Million 100	And a characteritary	· · · · ·	Workpeople employed in the wholesale mantle and cos- tume trade:	Decreases in the minimum time and piecework basis time rates, fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the classes named respec- tivelus.	. oba.: Chase & ba. Grade 20 eral Tabor, a Give al.	Lancashire :- Northern
Wholesale Mantle and	Great Britain	1 Feb.	All classes of male workers 22 years of age and over, except warehousemen, packers and porters	Decrease of 2d. and 13d. per hour for special classes, such as cutters, knifemen, fitters-up, tailors, pressers, machinists, passers, with not less than 5 years' experience, and with not less than 3 but less than 5 years' experience after 19 years respec- tively, and of 12d. per hour for all other workers (time rate 1s. to 102d.).	Agriculture	Southern A Ashby, Bosy Hinckley Atherstone trict Shropshire
Costume Trade			Warehousemen, packers and porters (22 years and over) Male workers under 22 years Female workers, other than	Decrease of 12d. per hour. Decrease of 1d. to 11d. per hour in time rates and 12d. per hour in piecework basis time rate. Decrease of 1d. per hour. General minimum time rate after change for women other than cut-	Book Publishing	London
ine: Liona e: Coorne	The second se	1 2	learners Female learners	ters, trimmers and fitters-up, 62a. Decrease of 2d. to 3d. per hour in minimum time	Press	Great Britain
	An and a start of the	Í	Workpeople employed in the ready-made and wholesale be- spoke tailoring trade: Male workers: Outters, fitters up, tailors, pressers, machin is t s.	Decreases in the minimum time and piecework basis time rates, fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the classes named respec- tively :	Telegraphy	Las diguoria antituccher a. bl. 'o 33. f (ab. or 45. just blace ofter o
teady-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring	Great Britain	1 Feb.	bressers, machinists, passers, etc. Under pressers and plain machinists Warehousemen, packers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Decrease of 1½d. or 1¾d. per hour.	Furniture	Liverpool and trict North East L
Trade	Anter Clinics where		and porters Cther male workers	Decrease of 1d. to 11d. per hour in time rates and 11d. per hour in piecework basis time rate (1s. 11d. to 1s. 01d.). Minimum time rates after change: index 15 years. 2d. increasing to 51d. at 18 and	Manu- facture	shire¶ and morden Newry
	and the second second	(	for one period only of learnership not e	under 19. and to 109d. at 22 years and over.	Mill Sawing	Belfast

Female weaving learners are to receive lower rates for one period only of learnership not exceeding two months.
† The above decreases resulted from the abolition of the special rates previously paid to the workers specified, the new minimum rates being the same as paid to other classes of workers in the retail branch.
‡ Area A.-.(a) All Retail Parliamentary and Police Burghs which had, according to the most recent census, a population over 12,000; and (b) the following Special Lighting Districts, viz., Bellshill and Mossend, Blantyre, Cambuslang, Larkhall and Vale of Leven.
Area B.-. The whole of Scotland other than Area A.
§ See also p. 35 of January GAZETTE.
§ See also p. 75 of Fabruary CAZETTE.

|| See also p. 75 of February GAZETTE.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

ES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1923-(continued). Date from which change took effect. Particulars of change. Classes of Workpeople. (Decreases in italics.) CLOTHING TRADES—(continued). Workpeople employed in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring trade (contd.) Female workers (other than learners) :--Cutters, trimmers and fitters-up Decrease of 1d. per hour in time rates, and piecework basis time rates fixed at 7½d., 8d., and 8½d. per hour for those under 19 years, 19 and under 20, and 20 years and over respectively. Minimum time rates after change: under 19, 6½d.; 19 and under 20, 7d.; 20 and over, 7½d. Decrease of 1d. per hour. Minimum time and piece-work basis time rate respectively after change: 6½d., 7½d. tain 1 Feb. Other workers (including homeworkers) Decrease of 1d. to 1d. per hour in time rates. Learners ... Decreases in the minimum rates, fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. Workpeople employed in the ready-made and wholesale be-spoke tailoring trade:---Male workers (other than Decrease of 1%d. to 2%d. per hour. Minimum time and piecework basis time rates respectively after change: Measure cutters, 18. 4%d., 18. 5%d.; stock or knife cutters, fitters-up, tailors, pressers-off, machinists, passers, 1s. 2%d., 1s. 3%d.; under-pressers and plain machinists, 11%d., 1s. 0%d.; uraehousemen-24 years, 1s. 0%d., 1.s. 0%d., 1.s. 0%d., 1.s. 0%d., 1.%d.; 22 years, 10%d., 11%d.; packers-24 years, 1.s. 1%d.; 23 years, 11%d., 1.s. 0%d., 11%d.; 24 years, 1.1%d.; porters and all other male workers, 10%d., 11%d.
Decreases varying from %d. to 2%d. per hour. Minimum time rates after change: under 15 years, 2%d., increasing to 5%d. at 18 and under 19, and to %%d. at 21 and under 22 years.
Decreases varying from %d. to 2%d. per hour. learners) :--22 years and over land 15 Feb. Under 22 years of age ... Male learners Decreases varying from 1d. to 2d. per hour. Female workers:--Other than learners Decrease of 11d. per hour. Minimum time and piece-work basis time rates respectively after change, 51d., 63d. New scales of minimum weekly time rates fixed, start-ing at rates varying from 6s. to 10s. per week, accord-ing to commencing age, and increasing by varying amounts to 20s. per week. Learners ... TRANSPORT TRADES. Decrease of 7s 6d. per week. Rates after change: skippers, 75s. 9d.; engineers, 64s. 6d.; firemen and mates, 53s. 3d. per week. Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. 3 Feb. Skippers, engineers, firemen and mates employed on tug-.... boats 3 Jan. Riggers employed by fishing ... vessel owners **Tyne** 8 Feb. Decrease of 2s. per week. Rates after change: ne-horse drivers, 52s.; two-horse drivers, 55s.; petrol wagon drivers (heavy) and steam wagon drivers, 62s.; steerers, 56s. per week. Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week.\* - 1st pay in Jan. 1st pay Workpeople employed in the road transport industry Further decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: onc-horse drivers and stablemen, 45s.; two-horse drivers, 50s.; drivers of mechanical vehicles (2 tons and over), 55s.; (15 cwt. to 2 tons), 50s.; (under 15 cwt.), 45s. per week.\* Decrease of 3s. per week. Rate after change for one-horse drivers, 57s. per week. in Fel 12 Feb. ... AGRICULTURE. Rates adopted up to 30 April of 37s. 6d. per week for skilled teamsmen and stockmen, and of 35s. per week Area 1 Feb. Adult male labourers .... for other workers.† Rate of 35s. per week adopted.‡ Rate of 31s. adopted for a week of 54 hours.† 13 Feb. 23 Feb. Adult male labourers ... rea vorth, and Dis-Adult male labourers ... Rate of 30s. per week adopted for a week of 53 hours up to 31 October.§ 26 Feb. Adult male labourers ... PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIE D TRADES. Decrease of 2s. per week for men and of proportionate amounts for women and boys. Rates after change: packers, 66s. 6d.; porters, lookers-out, messengers and liftmen, 63s. 6d. Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: operators employed in offices fitted with high speed machines—London, 105s.; provinces, 95s.; morse operators—London, 95s.; provinces, 90s. lst pay day in Feb. Packers, porters, etc., employed by book publishers Press telegraphists employed Pay day by certain provincial news-paper proprietors leasing private wires from the Post Office in week ending 3 Mar. FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING TRADES. l Dis-1 Feb.

Upholsterers employed in the wholesale trade Cabinet makers, carvers, chairmakers, upholsterers, polishers and machinists Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 10d. to 1s. 9d.). Decrease of 1d. per hour for journeymen ( 1s. 81/2d.), and a proportionate decrease for tices and improvers. (See award on p. 7) Decrease of 1d. per hour for journeymen (1s. 9d. to 1s. 81d.), and a proportionate decrease for appren-tices and improvers. (See award on p. 74 of Febanca-Tod-1 Feb. ruary GAZETTE.) Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5d.). Cabinet makers, french polishers and upholsterers 5 Feb. Decrease of 3s. 11d. per week. Rate after change for sawyers, 64s. 4d. Sawyers and machinists 6 Jan.

These decreases took effect under an arrangement which was made by the Birmingham Horse and Vehicle Owners' Association and the Birmingham and Midland Counties Coal Merchants' Association without agreement by the Trade Union concerned.
† The rate was agreed upon by the local Conciliation Committee set up under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921.
‡ The rate was not agreed to by the workers' side of the local Conciliation Committee, but formed the subject of a recommendation by the Employers' Executive.
§ The rate was agreed upon between the Employers' representatives on the local Conciliation Committee and the Workers' Union, but it is understood that the agreement is not recognised by the National Union of Agricultural Workers.
¶ Including Accrington, Blackburn, Blackpool, Burnley, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Haslingden, Nelson, Padiham, and Preston.

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# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

March, 1923.

March, 1923.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	Trade.	Locality,	Date fro which change took effect.		Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
		FUPNI	FURE AND WOODWORKING TRA	DFS_(continued)			FO	OD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRAD	ES-(continued).
Packing ase Making	London	lst fuli pay in	Nailing machinists, dovetailing machinists, lock-cornermen, overhand jointers, tonguers and groovers, hand holers, branders, printers and borers Other fully qualified male adult workers	Decrease of 12d. per hour. Rates after change: nail- ing machinists—6 nails and under, 1s. 42d.; 7 nails and over, 1s. 5d.; dovetailing machinists and lock cornermen, 1s. 42d.; tonguers and groovers, 1s. 42d.; overhand jointers, 1s. 5d.; hand holers, branders, printers and borers, 1s. 32d.	Brewing	Sheffield	l- <b>P</b> ay day in week ending 17 Feb.	Brewery workers (including transport workers)	
in a start and balance and balance a start a	and the second s	Jan,	Labourers Apprentices and improvers Female workers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 23d. to 1s. 13d.). Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: 16 to 17 years, 52d., increasing to 94d. at 18 to 19, and to 1s. 14d. at 202 to 21 years. Decreases of 2d. to 1d. per hour. Rate after change: at 21 and over, 10d.	Wholesale Provision Trade	Lancashire and parts of Cheshire and Yorkshire	Pay day in week ending 3 Feb. 1 Ist pay day in Feb.	Brewery workers (except coopers) Warehousemen and porters em- ployed in the wholesale gro- cery and provision trade	Decrease of 4s. per week. Minimum rates aft change: men (inside), 60s.; carters and lorryme 62s.; assistants and stablemen, 60s.; women employ in the bottling department, 31s. Decrease of 5 per cent. for those 20 years of age a over and of 72 per cent. for those under 20 years
	Great Britain, also Belfast*	Pay after 1st full pay in Feb.	Coopers	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers and of 64 per cent. for pieceworkers (leaving piece rates generally 824 per cent. above pre-war rates). Rates after change: London, 1s. 8d.; Birmingham, Liver- pool, Northwich, Derby, Nottingham, Stoke-on-Trent, Leicester, Manchester, Swansea, Wolverhamp- ton, Dundee, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow, Greenock, Leith, Paisley, Stirling, Livingston and Belfast, 1s. 7d.; other districts, 1s. 6d.* Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5d.).				MISCELLANEOUS TRAD	creasing to 28s. 3d. at 18, 50s. 4d. at 21, and 57s. 11d. at 25 years and over; porters—16 years 18s. 6d., increasing to 27s. 9d. at 18, 46s. 1d. at 2 and to 52s. 3d. at 24 and over. ES.
oopering	North Stafford- shire†	26 Feb.	Dry coopers employed in the manufacture of hogsheads for pottery manufacture	ton, Dundee, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow, Greenop, Leith, Paisley, Stirling, Livingston and Belfast, 1s. 7d.; other districts, 1s. 6d.* Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5d.).				Workpeople employed in the general waste materials re- clamation trade:- Female workers in the woollen rag and/or woollen and worsted waste materials section	Decreases in the minimum rates, fixed under the Tra Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the class named respectively: Decrease of 1d. per hour in minimum time rat (except for those under 15 years, for whom there w no change), and 1d. per hour in piecework basis tin
Picture Frame Making	Belfast	lst pay in Feb.	Picture frame makers	Decrease of 5s. per week (75s. to 70s.).		Great Britain	· 1 Feb.	All other female workers	named respectively <sup>†</sup> : Decrease of <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. per hour in minimum time rat (except for those under 15 years, for whom there w no change), and <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. per hour in piecework basis tin rate (8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. to 8 <sup>d</sup> ). Minimum time rates after chang under 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> years, 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. increasing to 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>5</sub> d. at 16 an under 16 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> years and to 7 <sup>d</sup> . at 18 years and over. Decrease of <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. or <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. in minimum time rates and <sup>2</sup> / <sub>5</sub> per hour in piecework basis time rate (7 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub> d. to 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d Minimum time rates after change: under 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> years 3 <sup>d</sup> . increasing to 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. at 16 and under 16 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>2</sub> years an to 6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. at 18 and over.
Glass Working	Birmingham, Glas- gow, London, Manohester, Stourbridge, War- rington, and	2nd pay day in Feb.	CAL, GLASS, BRICK, POTTERY, Flint glass cutters, intaglio workers and engravers	ALCOME TO A DESCRIPTION OF A DESCRIPTION				over :	Minimum time rates after change: under 144 yea 3d. increasing to 44d. at 16 and under 164 years an to 64d. at 18 and over. Decrease of 2d. per hour in minimum time rate (1s. 114d.).
Brick inufacture	Tutbury Peterborough	lst pay day in Feb.	Pressed brickmakers	Decrease of 10 per cent. on present earnings. Rates after change: burners, 59s. per week; oilers, 112d. per hour; fitters, 1s. 12d. per hour; labourers, 10d.		Manchester	Oct., 1922	Other male workers	Decrease of <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. per hour in minimum time rate (11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> to 11d.). Decrease of from <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> d. to 12 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> per much f
Pottery nufacture	Glasgow, Mussel- burgh, Portobello and Rutherglen	2nd pay day after 14 Feb.	Workpeople employed in stone- ware pottery manufacture (pieceworkers only)	per hour. Percentage addition to basis piece rates reduced. from 25 to 22½.	Miscellaneous Trades		1 Jan., 1923		workers and of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for ma workers. Increased of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for fema workers and of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for ma workers and of from 3d. to 9d. per week for fema workers. Minimum rates after changes: male worke -14 years, 10s. 6d., increasing to 22s. 6d. at 1 38s. 6d. at 21 and to 51s. 6d. at 23 years: fema workers. 10s. 10s. 10s. 10s. 10s. 10s. 10s. 10
Flour	Great Britain§	Ist pay day in Feb.	FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO Workpeople employed in the flour milling industry (includ- ing motor lorry drivers, car- riers, and horse carmen where previously included with mill employees): Men and boys	Decreases for those 21 years and over of 2s. 6d. per week for those in Class A, AA, and B mills, and of 2s. per week for those in Class BB and C mills, with proportionate reductions for those under 21 years.	and Occupations	Lancashire (cer- tain towns)	1 Dec., 1922	Assistants Slaughtermen Pork butchers Butchers employed by co-opera- tive societies:	<ul> <li>Rate of 80s per week adopted for trade up to £50 per week, with an additional 1s. 6d. per week for each additional takings of £10 up to £200.</li> <li>New scale of minimum rates adopted as follows:—it to 17 years, 19s., increasing to 25s. at 18 to 19 and to 60s. at 21 and over (if skilled).</li> <li>Minimum rates adopted of 80s. per week for foreme and of 75s. per week for pork butchers.</li> </ul>
Milling.	and a state of a	100	Women, 18 years and over	rollermen, Grade I., Class A. 70s. 6d.; Class A. 68s.; Class B. 65s. 6d.; Class BB, 61s. 6d.; Class C. 58s. Grade II., Class A. 68s. 6d.; Class A. 66s.; Class B. 63s. 6d.; Class BB, 59s. 6d.; Class A. 66s.; Class B. 63s. 6d.; Class BB, 59s. 6d.; Class C. 56s. Grade III., Class BB, 57s. 6d.; Class C. 54s. General labourers, etc.: All grades, Class A, 54s. 6d.; Class AA, 52s.; Class B, 49s. 6d.; Class BB, 45s. 6d.; Class A, 52s.; Decrease of 1s. per week for those in Class A mills and of 6d. per week for those in Class A, the rates for those in Class B, BB, and C remaining unchanged.		Manchester Dis- trict South Wales and Monmouthshire	1st pay day in Feb.	Slaughtermen	Decrease of 5s. per week in minimum rate (81s. to 76s. Decrease of 3s. per week. Minimum rates after change 16 years, 18s., increasing to 24s. 3d. at 18 and to 63 at 21 and over.§ Decrease of 3s. per week (80s. to 77s.). Decrease of 3s. per week. Minimum rates after change first hands, 77s.; second hands, 74s. Decrease of 5 per cent. on scale of minimum rates.
	Certain towns in Yorkshire	Pay day in week ending	Adult male workers employed in the baking and confection- ery trades by private traders	Rates after change: Class A, 31s.; Class AA, 30s.; Class B, 29s.; Class BB, 28s.; Class C, 27s.§ Decrease of 3s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 70s.; doughmixers and ovensmen. 65s.; tablehands, 60s.		Certain towns in Scotland	1 Jan.		Decrease of 5s. per week. Minimum rate after change 60s. Scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, starting a 8s. during 1st year, and increasing to 20s. and 24 during 1st and 2nd six months respectively in fourt
	Chorley	10 Feb. 17 Feb.	Bakers and confectioners Adult workers (except labourers)	and for nightworkers, of 7s. per week for tablehands (83s, to 76s), and of 8s, per week for other classes.		Various districts	Pay pre- ceding	PUBLIC UTILITY SERVIC	ES
aking Confec- ionery rades	Preston and Dis- trict	12 Nov., 1922	Labourers Juniors and male apprentices	Decrease of 4s. per week for dayworkers (59s. to 55s.) and of 6s. per week for nightworkers (69s. to 55s.) Decreases varying from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per week for dayworkers, and of 3s. 6d. or 4s. per week for night- workers.	Electricity	North East	lst pay day after 7 Jan. lst full pay after	employed by Electricity Sup- ply Undertakings Workpeople employed by Elec-	(varying from 1d. to 11d. per hour). Rate afte change in London: 1s. 8d. per hour.
rades	Belfast	in which 12 Feb. falls	Bakers and confectioners	Decrease of 4s. per week. Rates after change: bakers- day, 76s., night, 82s.; doughmen, night, 87s.; ovenmen, day, 81s., night, 87s.	Supply Under- takings	Constant of the second se	1 Feb.	tricity Supply Undertakings	after change for general indoor and outdoor labourers respectively: Zone A, 7:25d, 7:75d.; Zone E 6:56d., 7:05d.; Zone C, 6:28d., 6:75d., plus in each cas. 21s. 9d. per week. plus 84 per cent **
	Newry	Pay week in which 26 Feb. falls 1 Feb.	Semi-skilled and unskilled workers Adult male workers	Decreases varying from 1s. to 3s. per week. Rates after change for labourers: day, 57s.; night, 63s. Decrease of 3s. per week (69s. to 66s.¶).		Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales**	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed by Elec- tricity Supply Undertak- ings (except electrical fitters and wiremen and engineers)	Decrease of 5 per cent. on total wages. Minimum hourly rates after change for general indoor and our door labourers, respectively: Zone A, 1s. 1.87d 1s. 2.42d.; Zone B, 1s. 1.2d., 1s. 1.80d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.91d 1s. 1.52d.**

The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Joint Industrial Council for the Cooperage Industry. At Burton-on-Trent the rate for those at block and on unions and pressure work is 1s 7d. per hour, and for vat-makers 1s 8d.
† The change took effect under an agreement made between the North Staffordshire Master Coopers' Association and the National Union of General Workers.
‡ The change took effect under an agreement made whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.
§ The decrease took effect under an agreement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Flour Milling Industry. In the case of men and boys, further decreases similar in amount to those shown above operate from the middle of March. A list of the districts comprised by each class was given on p. 555 of the GAZETTE for October, 1921.
# Including Bradford, Barnsley, Bridlington, Doncaster, Dewsbury, Hull, Halifax, Huddersfield, Harrogate, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield, and York.
¶ The rate quoted refers to tablehands.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

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First assistants where three, including manager, are employed, 3s. extra'; and 5s. extra where five or more, including manager, are employed.
 Including Aberdeen, Buckle, Fraserburgh, Lerwick, Peterhead, Stornoway and Wick.
 The decrease applied to undertakings which pay the rates of wages recognised by the District Joint Industrial Councils in the following areas: --London, York \*\* The undertakings at which this decrease in wages was put into operation were those which follow the decisions of the District Joint Industrial Council. At the majority of undertakings which do not follow the arrangements made by the District Joint Council, no reduction in wages was made in February, and different rates are paid.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1923-(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
		. Costo I	PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES-(co	
	West Midlands <sup>*</sup>	1st pay in Feb.	Workpeople employed by Elec- tricity Supply Undertakings	Decrease of 1s. 3d. per week. Minimum hourly rat after change for indoor general labourers: Zone 1s. 1.96d.; Zone B, 1s. 1.46d.; Zone C, 1s. 0.96d.*
	East Coast*	1 Feb.	Labourerst employed by Elec- tricity Supply Undertakings	Rates fixed at an amount 28. per week dove the ra paid to labourers in the local authority non-tradin services, subject to such amount not exceeding t rate already provided for in the District Counci Schedulet and not falling below:Grade A distric
gan on a solution of a solutio	South Coast <sup>*</sup>	lst full pay in Feb.	Workpeople employed by Elec- tricity Supply Undertakings	48s.; Grade B, 45s.; Grade C, 42s. Decrease of 2s. per week all round, and a new gradi scheme adopted dividing the area into four Zone instead of two as previously: Zone A rates to be less than before, Zone B 21 per cent. below Zone Zone C 5 per cent below Zone A, and Zone D 71 p
Electricity Supply Under- takings (contd.)	and the state of t		Electrical and mechanical fit-	cent. below Zone A. Minimum hourly rates aft change for indoor labourers: Zone A, 1s. 1:8d.; Zo B, 1s. 1:45d.; Zone C, 1s. 1.11d.; Zone D, 1s. 0:76d. Weekly rates adopted of 67s. 3d. for fitters a 25s. 112d. for casual labourer excavators.
	Devonshire and Cornwall*	1st pay day in Feb.	ters and excavators All other classes	Decrease of 2s. per week. Minimum rates after char for indoor and outdoor labourers: Zone A, 528. 112 for indoor and outdoor labourers: Zone A, 528. 112
and the second	South Wales and Monmouthshire*	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed by Elec- tricity Supply Undertakings	Decreases of 5s. per week (14d. per hour) for skil grades, of proportionate amounts for semi-skil grades, and of 3s. per week (3d. per hour) for skilled grades. Minimum hourly rate after char skilled grades.
A REAL PROPERTY AND	Scotland*	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed by Elec- tricity Supply Undertakings (except electrical fitters and wiremen and engineers)	Decrease of 5 per cent. on total wages. Minimum how rates after change for indoor general laboure Zone A, 1s. 168d.; Zone B, 1s. 138d.; Zone C, 1s. 07
	Glasgow	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed in Oor- poration Electricity Depart- ment	change for indoor and outdoor labourers, 54s. to
aterworks Under- takings	Plymouth	10 Jan.	Workpeople employed at Water- works Undertakings	per week.
as Under- takings	Glasgow	7 Feb.	Workpeople employed in Cor- poration gas works	achine stokers, 53s.; labourers (in works), labourers (outside), 54s. 6d. per week.
	Huddersfield	1 Feb.	Motormen, conductors, car- cleaners, and general labour- ers employed in Tramway De- partment	men, 1s. 24d. to 1s. 34d.; conductors (16 years over), 1s. 2d. to 1s. 34d.; car cleaners, 1s. 2dd.; gen
Tramways Under-	Sheffield	4 Feb.	Motormen, conductors. car- cleaners, and general labour- ers employed in Tramway De- partment	Decrease of 4d. per hour. Rates after change. In men, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 385d.; conductors (18 years over), 1s. 2:1d. to 1s. 2:75 d.; car cleaners (nig 1s. 2:71d.; (day), 1s. 2:89d.; and general labour
takings	Glasgow	lst full pay in Feb.	Motormen, conductors, car- cleaners, semi-skilled and un- skilled men and women em- ployed in Tramways Depart- ment	after change : motormen and conductors on enter service, 56s. per week; after 6 months, 57s.; aft year, 58s.; after 2 years, 60s.; after 3 years,
10 10 010 400	Certain Authori- ties in Glamor- ganshirell	1st full week in Feb.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in non- trading departments of Local Authorities	whereby wages are to factuate in other of r with the Ministry of Labour index number of r prices, etc. Rate after change for labourers, 1s
Local Authority Services	Glasgow	lst full pay week in Feb.	Corporation employees in non- trading departments whose wages are not regulated by agreements or trade union	Decrease in bonus of 2s. per week for unskilled semi-skilled employees, and of 1s. per week females, non-able-bodied males and boys under

# CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1923.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.
Food, Drink, etc.	Sheffield	3 Feb.	Brewery workers (except	Increase of 1 hour per week (carters and stablemen, 48 to 49; inside workers, lorrymen and assistants, 47 to 48).¶

The undertakings at which this decrease in wages was put into operation were those which follow the decisions of the District Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry. At some of the undertakings the rates actually paid to labourers are higher than the minimum rates quoted, which are those recognises by the District Joint Council. At the majority of undertakings which do not follow the arrangements made by the District Joint Council no reduction it wages was made in February, and different rates are paid.

 t It was agreed that reductions, where made, should apply proportionately to the following classes: — Engine cleaners or greasers, crane drivers, ash hoppers and the minimum rates fixed are subject to variations in accordance with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.
 t The schedule and the minimum rates fixed are subject to variations in accordance with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.
 t The schedule and the minimum rates following ramed under their respective Zones: A, Bournemouth, Brighton, Eastbourne, Portsmouth, Southampton: B

 Basingstoke, Bexhill, Weymouth and Worthing; C, Aldershot; D, Lymington.

 If the decrease took effect under an arrangement made by the Joint Wages Board for Local Authorities in Glamorganshire. The Authorities affected include the following :- Aberdare, Barry, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Glyncorrwg, Merthyr Tydvil, Neath, Penarth, Port Talbot, Pontypridd, Rhondda, and Neath R.D.C.

 See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

ST ANY CONT

# CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1923.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by reductions already reported as having been arranged to take effect in March:—Coal miners in Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire and the East Midland area, and Scotland; ship repairers on the Mersey electrical cable makers; heating and domestic engineers; workpeople in the retail bespoke tailoring trade (under Trade Board Order) flour millers; brewery workers at Burton; employees in the electricity supply industry on the North-East Coast and in Yorkshire; and workpeople employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in Lancashire and Cheshire, and the West Midlands.

#### March, 1923.

March, 1923.

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

THE number of persons relieved on one day in February, 1923, in the 31 selected areas named below, corresponded to a rate of 553 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of 7 per 10,000 on the previous month, and an increase of 19 per 10,000 n a year ago.

As compared with January, 1923, the total number relieved showed a decrease of 12,277 (or 1'3 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief was higher by 1,082 (or 0'9 per cent.), while the number of outdoor recipients decreased by 13,359 (or 1'6 per cent.). Twelve districts showed increases, and every other district showed a decrease. The greatest de-creases were in the Stockton and Tees district (156 per 10,000 of population), in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (102 per 10,000), and in the Paisley and Greenock district (100 per 10,000). (000).

As compared with February, 1922, the total number relieved showed an increase of 32,888 (or 3.5 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients increased by 726 (or 0.6 per cent.), and the number of outdoor recipients increased by 32,162 (or 4.0 per cent.). Seventeen districts showed decreases, and every other district showed an increase. The greatest increases were in the Glasgow district (361 per 10,000 of population), in the Paisley and Greenock district (329 per 10,000) and in the West Ham district (218 per 10,000).

Four districts showed increases ranging from 69 to 165, and even districts showed increases ranging from 9 to 55.

elederal ell'anera se min established il	Numb of po	or-law r	ersons in elief on uary, 192	one day	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of		
Selected Urban Areas.•	Indoor	Out- door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti- mated	Population : compared with a		
and the second	N.K.		a, []] (J) (J)	Popu- lation.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES.†	rglest	a da tardi	1	Generalians	14	Notice -	
West District North District Central District East District	9,550 10,462 2,648 10,179 19,998	12,197 29,831 3,319 56,507 94,678	21,747 40,293 5,967 66,686 114,676	267 401 450 1,052 604	$     \begin{array}{r}             - 8 \\             + 2 \\             - 5 \\             + 10 \\             - 5         \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 49 \\ + & 18 \\ - & 26 \\ + & 165 \\ + & 31 \end{array} $	
TOTAL, Metropolis	52,837	196,532	249,369	556	- 2	+ 31	
West Ham	4,209	69,973	74,182	1,007	- 20	+ 218	
Other Districts. Newcastle District	2,730	32,291	35,021	720	- 27	+ 134	
Stockton and Tees Dis- trict	1,234 3,986	24,329 6,692	25,563	972 137	-156 - 3	+ 134 - 164 + 9	
Wigan District Manchester District Liverpool District Bradford District Halifax and Hudders-	1,831 8,915 10,458 1,801	12,612 33,449 58,514 5,270	14,443 42,364 68,972 7,071	333 419 583 193	-1 -5 -24 -1	- 115 - 37 - 120 - 71	
field Leeds District Barnsley District Sheffield District Hull District North Staffordshire Nottingham District	1,252 2,568 919 2,682 1,834 2,129 2,145	3,485 11,367 8,998 50,574 14,423 6,412 10,582	4,737 13,935 9,917 53,256 16,257 8,541 12,727	125 290 317 1.058 525 211 279	+ 1 + 6 + 2 - 50 - 7 + 13	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	
Leicester District Wolverhampton Dis-	1,223	3,179	4,402	188	- 12	$+ 55 \\ - 23$	
trict Birmingham District Bristol District Cardiff and Swansea	3,274 7,310 2,625 2,442	30,609 59,188 14,221 14,925	33,883 66,498 16,846 17,367	483 723 416 376		-120 - 153 + 26 - 27	
OTAL "Other Districts"	<b>61,</b> 358	401,120	462,478	458	- 15	- 43	
SCOTLAND.† lasgow District aisley & Greenock Dist. dinburgh & Leith Dist. undee and Dunfermline berdeen batbridge and Airdrie	5,025 807 1,634 750 509 407	112,676 17,167 16,080 3,668 6,078 9,366	117,701 17,974 17,714 4,418 6,587 9,773	1,216 939 421 214 414 963	+72 -100 +5 +13 +7 -102	$ \begin{array}{r} + 381 \\ + 329 \\ + 73 \\ + 34 \\ + 31 \\ - 144 \end{array} $	
Scottish Districts	9,132	165,035	174,167	851	+ 22	+ 224	
TAL for above 31 Dis- tricts in Feb., 1923	127,536	832,660	960,196	553	- 7	+ 19	

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

<sup>†</sup> Exclusive of Casuals; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox <sup>Ospitals</sup> of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of Lunatics in Asylums, <sup>ggistered</sup> Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving <sup>lt-door</sup> medical relief only. The figures for Scotland include destitute lle-bodied unemployed in receipt of poor-law relief.

# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

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# **DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.\***

THE total number of cases<sup>†</sup> of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workship Act during February, 1923, was 20. Two deaths due to lead poisoning in the pottery industry were reported during the month. Six cases of lead poisoning (including one death) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during February, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISON	ING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS O	T
Among Operatives engaged		POISONING.	E
Smelting of Metals		Mercury Poisoning	
Plumbing and Soldering	•••	Phosphorus Poisoning	
	1	Argenia Poigoning	_
Printing	•••	Toxic Jaundice—	
File Cutting and Hardening	10.2.10	Arseniuretted Hydrogen	
Tinning of Metals		Gas	
Tinning of Metals		Other	
Other Contact with Molten Lead	Bin 1	Epitheliomatous Ulcera-	
White and Red Lead	•••	D m	1
Wonles	1	Pitch	1
and the second	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	Tar	
Pottery	8	Chrome Ulceration-	
Vitreous Enamelling		Manufacture of	
Electric Accumulator Works	0		1
Paint and Colour Works	2	Dyeing and Finishing .	
	1	Chrome Tanning	••
Indiarubber Works	1	The second secon	-
Coach and Car Painting	1	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF	
Shipbuilding		POISONING	2
		(a) CASTS OF ANTENNA	-
Paint used in other In- dustries		(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX- Wool	
Other Industrias	•••	Handling of Hamahain	••
Other Industries	1	Handling and Sorting	••
Tomas an in the second second		of Hides and Skins	
TOTAL OF ABOVE	16	(Tanners, Fellmongers,	
	-	&c.)	2
and the test is	1921	Uther Industries	-
HOUSE PAINTING AND		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-
PLUMBING	6	TOTAL ANTHRAX	2

# FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.§

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during February, 1923, was 224, as compared with 196 in the previous month and 175 a year ago. The dis-tribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows: follows :--

RAILWAY SERVICE. akesmen and Goods	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS
The share of the state of the s	(continued):
rino Duivona 1	Boiler Making & Con-
0	structional Engineering 1
anda (Dagan man)	Locomotives, Railway &
monont Won Man 6	Tramway Carriages,
tora	Motors, Aircraft 1
intora O	Other Metal Trades 2
chanica 1	Shipbuilding 4
OUTOTO	Wood 1
	Gas 4
two at and 1 March 1	Electric Generating Sta-
tractors Servants	tions 1 Clay, Stone, Glass, etc 3
OTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 23	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc 3
OTAL, RAILWAT SERVICE 25	Chemicals, etc 3
MINES.	Food and Drink 3
	Paper, Printing, etc 2
£	Tanning, Currying, etc
tace 13	Rubber Trades
OTAL, MINES 124	Other Non-Textile Indus-
OTAL, MINES 124	tries 3
ARRIES over 20 feet deep 10-	
ARRIES OVER 20 reet deep 10-	TOTAL FOR FACTORIES
	AND WORKSHOPS 49
CTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	Docks, Wharves, etc.,
ton 1	s. 104 9
ol, Worsted, & Shoddy 4	Buildings, s. 105 8
er Textiles 1	Warehouses, s. 104 and
er Textiles 1 tile Bleaching and	Railway Sidings, s. 106 1
yeing	_
tal Extracting and	TOTAL 67
efining 4	- The state of the second state of the
tal Conversion, inclu-	Accidents reported under
ing Rolling Mills and	Notice of Accidents Act.
ube Making 8	1894
al Founding	
ineering and Machine	Total (excluding Sea-
aking 3	men) 224
	the second s
Based on Returns from the Home Off	ice and from the Ministry of Labour for

Based on Returns from the noise once and from the month and Northern Ireland.
t Cases include all attacks 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.
t Of the 8 persons affected in the pottery industry 5 were females.
§ Based on Returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

# RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

#### I.-FOOD.

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

	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*						
Country.	July,	July,	July,	July,	Latest figures available.		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	Rise.	Date.	
UNITED KINGDOM	Per cent. 109	Per cent. 158	Per cent. 120	Per cent. 80	Per cent. 71	Mar. '23	
ForeEIGN COUNTRIES. Austria (Vienna) Belgiumt Czechoslovakiaš Denmark Finland France (Paris) § (other towns) § Germany Holland (The Hague) (Milan) Norway Poland (Warsaw) Sweden § Switzerland United States	 112 161 1884  110 106 210 189 210 86	359 153 882 273 288 143 143 143 143 143 288 143 288 219 197 115	9,320† 310 1,246 136 1,178 206 250   1,391 113 85 302 406 195 45,555 132 110 45	328,100 281 1,330 84 1,005 197 212 6,736 80 44 359 392 133 129,711 79 9 57 39	1078300 339 862 80 992 216 214 136,500 66 42 376 400 114 323,729 66 55 41	Feb. '23 Feb. '23 Dec. '22 Jan. '23 Nov. '22 Feb. '23 Nov. '22 Dec. '22 Feb. '23 Dec. '22 Feb. '23 Dec. '22 Jan. '23 Jan. '23 Jan. '23	
OVERSEAS DOMINIONS. Australia - · · · Canada · · · · India (Bombay) · · · · New Zealand · · - South Africa - · · ·	47 86 44 39	94 127 88 67 97	61 48 74 64 39	48 38 60 44 16	45 42 51 40 17	Jan. '23 Feb. '23 Jan. '23 Feb. '23 Jan. '23	

• Exceptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; Germany, average, 1913-14; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome, Milan, Florence, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Poland, January, 1914; Amsterdam, average, 1913; South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ The increases shown are for families of the lowest income class; in February the increase for all working-class families ranged from 339 to 347 per cent. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. || Figure for August.

#### II.-ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIRE-MENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.<sup>+</sup>

therease and the second	Items on	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†						
Country.	which Computa- tion is based.*	July,			July, 1922.	Latest figures available.		
	bused.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	Rise.	Date.	
UNITED KINGDOM	A, B, C, D, E	Per cent 105-	Per cent. 152	Per cenf. 119	Per cent. 84	Per cent. 76	Mar. '23	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES Austria (Vienna) Belgium – Bulgaria Denmark Finland France (Paris) –	A, B, C, D, E A, C, D, E A, D A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E	110  111 	353 162 811 263‡	9,700\$ 279 1,512 137 1,039 195‡	264400 266 2,331 99 1,018 189‡	960,000 297 2,398 98 1,039 200	Feb. '23 Feb. '23 Oct. '22 Jan. '23 Dec. '22 4th Qtr. 1922	
Germany Italy (Rome) (Milan) Luxemburg	A, B, D A, B, C, D A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E A, C, D	 105 180	213 341	1,024 287 394 284	4,890 5,282 329 388 259	103,300 111,927 339 397 299	Jan. '23 Jan. '23 Dec. '22 Feb. '23 Dec. '22	
Norway Poland Spain (Madrid) ", (Barcelona) Sweden	A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E A, D A, D A, B, C, D, E	180 74 81 157	202§ 90‡ 91‡ 170	202§ 25,609 84 78 136	155§ 78,698 79 73 90 59	142 230,876 80 71 83 58	Dec. '22 Jan. '23 Jan. '23 Jan. '23 Jan. '23 Jan. '23	
Switzerland United States VERSEAS DOMINIONS Australia	A, B, Č, D, E	77§ 331	117§ 67±	80U	67§		Dec. '22 3rd Qtr.	
Canada Egypt (Cairo) India (Bombay)	A, B, C, E A, B, D A, D A, B, C, D	56	90 89	52 93 77	46 72 65	42 50 74 56	1922 Aug. '22 Feb. '23 Dec. '22 Jan. '23 Nov. '22	
New Zealand	A, B, D	32 25	49 62	57 30‡	44 20	43 20	Jan. '23	

• A=Food; B=House-Rent; C=Clothing; D=Fuel and Light; E=Other or Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Rome, Milan, Luxemburg and New Zealand, January to June, 1914; Egypt and Germany, average, 1913-1914; Poland, January. 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Bulgaria, average, 1901-1910. ‡ Figure for 3rd quarter. § Figure for June. || Figure for May.

# EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

INPLOTIMENT OVERSEAS. [N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries, are, however, not the same as those of the United King-dom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 91-92 to compare the actual properly be used with those on pp. 91-92 to compare the bases of the unemployment in the United Kingdom with that in other level of employment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment" (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

#### FRANCE.\*

FRANCE.\* Unemployment in February.—The total number of unemployed remaining on the "live register" at the Employment Exchanges in the week ended 24th February was 11,922 (8,671 men and 3,251 women). The total number of vacancies remaining unfiled was 8,109 (3,900 for men and 4,209 for women). During the week under review the exchanges succeeded in placing 26,496 persons (21,358 men and 5,138 women) in situations, and, in addition, found employment for 2,093 foreign immigrants. *Out-of-work Benefit in February.*—According to the latest re-turns six departmental and thirty-six municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 1st March, the total number of persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit through their agency being 2,313 (2,541 men and 272 women). This total shows an increase of fifty-five when compared with the corre-sponding figure (2,758) for the preceding week. It is to be noted that these figures do not fully indicate the number of persons out of employment, since some localities are without unemploy-ment funds, and where they do exist their record of unemployed persons is not complete. The stability of the preceding week is 264.

ment funds, and where they do chart funds established is 264 The total number of unemployment funds established is 264 of which thirty-one are departmental and 233 municipal. Th maximum number of persons in receipt of donations (91,225) wa reached in March, 1921.

#### BELGIUM.+

BELGIUM.† Unemployment in December and January.—The most recent figures available are provisional in character and relate to January. Returns received by the Belgian Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,697 approved unemployment funds, with a total membership of 647,754, show that 25,514 of these were either wholly or partially unemployed at the end of the month. The aggregate days of unemployment in January numbered 390,590, as against 367,386 in December. The vised and final figures are given for December, in which month 1,745 funds, with an aggregate membership of 686,429, reported 11,743 (or 1.7 per cent.) wholly unemployed and 14,312 partially so on the last working day of the month. During January 15,950 applications for employment were re-ceived at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 14,646 in December. Vacancies notified by employers numbered 13,153 (11,773 in December). For every 100 situations registered as vacant there were thus 121 applications, as compared with 124 in December.

in December.

#### SWITZERLAND.‡

SWITZERLAND.‡ Unemployment in January.—According to figures compiled by the Central Employment Department of Switzerland, on the basis of returns from Employment Exchanges, the number of appli-cants for work remaining on the "live register" on the 31st January, 1923, was 56,275 (as compared with 53,463 at the end of the preceding month, and 79,091 at the end of January, 1922). Of these, 12,264 were employed on relief works, leaving 44,011 were 10,981 normally engaged in the building trades, 6,793 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, 6,332 in the watch, clock and jewellery trades, and 4,816 in the textile trades. In addition to the foregoing persons entirely without work, 19,868 were reported as only partially employed, including 8,584 in the textile trades, 4,851 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 2,007 in the watch, clock and jewellery trades. The vacancies offered by employers remaining unfilled at the end of January numbered 1,492. During the month of January, on an average, 624 applications

January numbered 1,492. During the month of January, on an average, 624 applicatio were made for each 100 vacancies for men and 196 for each 1 for women. In December the figures were 587 and 2 respectively.

#### HOLLAND.

Unemployment in February.—H.M. Commercial Secretary The Hague reports that, according to figures supplied by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance, in the weat ended 10th February, out of 327,563 members of unemployment funds making returns 120 per cent. were totally unemployed and 29 per cent. partially so. In the first week of the preceding month (ended 6th January) the corresponding percentages weil 14.0 and 3.5 respectively. 14.0 and 3.5 respectively.

Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 2nd March, 1923. Paris.
 Revue du Travail, February, 1923. Brussels.
 Der Schweizerische Arheitsmarkt, 15th February, 1932. Berne.

# March, 1923.

GERMANY.

Employment in January.—The issue of Reichs-Arbeitsblatt for 1st March, reporting on employment in January, states that, so far as can be gathered from the various statistical data, employfar as can be gathered from the various statistical data, employ-ment underwent a decline during that month, but hardly to the extent believed in some quarters. Certain industries, such as the Rhenish-Westphalian metal and engineering, the chemical and the electrical industries, even reported a slight increase in the membership of their factory sickness insurance funds (or, in other words, in the numbers employed). The events which dis-turbed the Western industrial area during January and the fre-quent and sudden fluctuations which occurred from time to time in the exchange value of the currency (which rendered the importation of raw materials from abroad extremely difficult), led in some instances to restricted working time and to dised in some instances to restricted working time and to dis-harges of staff. In agriculture alone was there an increased

charges of staff. In agriculture alone was there an increased demand for workers. The figures as to the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of out-of-work donation in January are incomplete, returns from several important areas not being received. So far as can be ascertained, the total for 1st February is 144,312, as compared with 85,301 for 1st January. Returns from trade unions show an increased number of organised workers out of employment. Out of 5,800,000 in-cluded in the returns 252,873, or 4.4 per cent. of the total, were out of work on 31st January, as compared with 2.8 per cent. in the preceding month and 3.3 per cent. at the end of January, 1922.

er scalico and side ai sum	ship reported		age Unen nd of Mor	
Unions.	at end of Jan.	Jan., 1923.	nd of Mo Dec., 1922. 2.8 6.6 6.5 9.7 0.8 0.3 2.9 2.2 2.6 3.5 1.9 8.0 2.7 1.9 0.2 2.7 1.9 0.2 2.25 2.4	Jan., 1922.
Il Unions making Returns	5,808,830	4.4	2.8	3.3
PRINCIPAL UNIONS : Building (Soc. Dem.) " (Christian) Metal (Soc. Dem.) " (Hirsch-Duncker) " (Hirsch-Duncker) " (Christian) " (Christian) Boot and shoe Transport (Soc. Dem.) Printing Bookbinding Glass (Soc. Dem.) Glass (Soc. Dem.) Baking and confectionery	550,619 56,196 53,998 1,349,357 120,782 702,368 130,981 62,640 97,717 496,866 62,403 96,773 424,231 61,128	12.4 666 12.7 1.3 0.5 3.3 2.0 3.3 2.0 3.29 2.7 8.4 4.5 2.4 0.6	6-5 9-7 0-8 2-2 2-6 3-5 2-9 2-6 3-5 1-9 8-7 1-9	19.0 8:5 13:4 0.6 0.2 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.7 1.7 1.7 4.9 1.3 1.1 0 0.6
(Soc. Dem.) Tobacco (Soc. Dem.)	77,894 83,546	96 23·8		5.6 11.8
of trade) Factory and transport work-	644,628	4.2	2.4	2.2
ers (Christian)	127,531 212,117	5·3 2·4	1.0 1.6	1·1 1·9

The above totals do not include persons only partially em-oyed, of whom in January there were 13 per cent. among the 000,000 trade union members covered by the returns—a con-derable increase when compared with the figure (8.7 per cent.) iderable increase when compared with the figure (8.7 per cent.) or the preceding month. The returns from public Employment Exchanges, which show the position on 16th February, indicate considerably larger number of applications for employment, as gainst a slight increase in the number of vacancies notified. At 15 of the larger Exchanges the applications numbered 426,967, as gainst 59,439 offers of situations. In the preceding month the otals were 386,037 and 55,793 respectively. Statistics of membership of sickness insurance societies show hat in 4,826 societles making returns the membership (*i.e.*, the number of persons under obligation to insure, and hence assumed be in work) fell from 10,835,422 on 1st January to 10,748,363 n 1st February, or by 0.8 per cent.

# 1st February, or by 0.8 per cent.

## NORWAY.

Unemployment in January.—According to information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statis-tics the percentage of members reported as unemployed at the end of January in certain trade unions making returns to the Bureau was as shown below, where comparative figures are also given for the preceding month and for January, 1922:—

Unions.	М	embersl	1ip.	Percentage Unemployed.			
Unions.	Jan. 31, 1923.	Dec. 31, 1922.	Jan. 31, 1922.	Jan. 31. 1923.	Dec. 31, 1922.	Jan. 31, 1922.	
ricklayers and masons (Christiania)	871 801 449 6,763 933 2,393 810 501 609	861 770 446 6,671 894 2,383 721 504 597	931 892 611 6,791 821 2,365 742 589 500	9 2 20·1 20·3 13·8 13·6 4·1 12·3 16·4 13·3	14.5 18.7 17.5 15.5 9.3 6.6 8.3 12.3 13.9	10·2 35·1 29·3 23·2 11·1 10·8 24·4 26·3 11·0	
Total	14,130	13,847	14,242	12.4	13.2	20.4	

#### SWEDEN'\*

Unemployment in December.—The percentage of unemployed members of trade unions on 31st December was 21.7, as com-pared with 17.2 at the end of the preceding month and 33.2 on 31st December, 1921. The following Table gives corresponding particulars for the principal unions covered by the returns :—

at the gas a first with the	Membership	Percentage Unemployed,				
Unions.	reporting on 31st Dec., 1922,	31st Dec., 1922.         30th Nov., 1922.           21.7         17.2           24.7         18.0           40.6         31.8           25.9         25.0           3.0         2.8           6.6         6.3           20.0         10.0           7.0         7.4           2.0         2.0           48.7         25.5	31st Dec., 1921.			
All Unions making Returns	128,168	21.7	17.2	33•2		
PRINCIPAL UNIONS : Iron and steel Moulders Textile Boot, shoe and leather Browery Tobacco Sawmill Woodworking Woodworking Paper General and factory workers (trades not specified)	8,562 2,287 27,803 4,973 5,610 3,610 3,106 2,992 9,444 6,056 8,234 6,536 6,106 13,939	40.6 25.9 3.0 6.6 20.0 7.0 2.0	31.8 25.0 2.8 6.3 10.0 7.4 2.0	41-5 44-8 33-8 6-5 13-1  7-9 63-0 42-1 34-7 4-8 12-3 45-3		

#### DENMARK.+

Unemployment in January.—Out of a total of 257,417 work-people covered by returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by the trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange, 21.5 per cent. were unemployed on 26th January, as compared with 20.3 per cent. on 29th December and 28.9 per cent. at the end of January, 1922.

	Number of Workpeople	Percent	tage Unen	ployed.
Groups of Trades.	included in Returns for 26th Jan., 1923.	26th Jan., 1923.	29th Dec., 1922. 24·9 22·0 11·8 17·9 20·4 34·0 16·4 7·4 21·1 20·2	27th Jan., 1922.
Copenhagen :-	E. C.		Star Star	1.10
Building trades	11,707	28.7		46.6
Other industries Commercial employment	58,901	18·3 11·0		28·4 9·1
General labourers (trades not specified)	30,382	18.7		23.0
Total	109,010	19.0	20.4	27:2
Provinces :	11111 2 18 19 1	RE TREPRES	Lean and and	CONTRACTOR OF
Building trades	19,399	42.6	34.0	58.4
Other industries	54,747	17.3		24.8
Commercial employment	9,231	7.9		6.3
General labourers (trades not specified)	65,030	24.7	21.1	30.1
Total	148,407	23.3	20.2	30.1
Grand total	257,417	21.5	20.3	28.9

#### CANADA.<sup>‡</sup>

Employment in February .-- For 1st February, 1923, returns were Employment in February.—For 1st February, 1925, returns were received by the Employment Service of Canada from 6,253 firms with an aggregate pay-roll of 733,063 workers. On the 1st January the same firms reported 707,859 workers. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index number of employment for 1st February is 895, as compared with 86.3 for 1st January, and 78.9 for 1st February, 1922.

### UNITED STATES.§

Employment in January.—According to a statement issued by the United States Department of Labour, industrial employment was accelerated owing to the adjustment of the coal mine and railway shop controversies, and labour shortages were apparent in every section of the country. The Federal Department of Labour Statistics at Washington

presents reports concerning the volume of employment in January, 1923, from 4,153 representative establishments, covering 1,839,678 workers in forty-three manufacturing industries. A comparison of the figures with those for identical establish-ments in December, 1922, shows that, on the whole, there was an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number of persons employed

- \* Sociala Meddelanden, No. 2, 1923. Stockholm.
  † Statistiske Efterretninger, 26th February, 1923. Copenhagen.
  ‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Employment Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.
  § Mainly from information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington.

in January. Increases are shown in twenty-four industries and decreases in eighteen, while one industry (sawmilling) shows no change. The largest increase (36.9 per cent.) appears in the pottery industry. Women's clothing and fertilisers show increases of 11.1 and 10.8 per cent. respectively. Decreases are shown in the brick (7.7 per cent.) and flour industries (7.0 per cent.). In respect of aggregate wages, twelve of the forty-three industries show increases in January over the preceding month and thirty-one decreases. The largest increase (54.5 per cent.) appears in the pottery industry; increases are also shown in women's clothing (24.9 per cent.) and fertilisers (9.3 per cent.). The net increase in the number of persons employed in the thirteen industries is 19.5 per cent. Ten industries show increases and three decreases. Automobiles, iron and steel, and car building and repairing show the largest increases (42.7 per cent., 40.2 per cent. and 35.8 per cent. respectively); a decrease of 9.8 per cent. appears in men's clothing. The regards aggregate earnings, eleven industries show increases and two decreases. Increases of 13.5.7 per cent. in the automobile industry and of 10.36 per cent. in the iron and steel industry are the largest reported. The following Table affords a comparison between returns from identical establishments in January, 1923, and January, 1922 :--

	Num- ber of		umber rkpeopl		Aggregate Weekly Earnings.			
Industr <b>y.</b>	Estab- lish- ments report- ing.	Jan., 1922.	Jan., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec.(-)	Jan., 1922.	Jan., 1923.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-	
				Per cent.	Dollars	Dollars	Per cent.	
Iron and steel	110	109,708	153,794	+ 40.2	2,054,756	4,182,879	+103	
Car building and repairing Automobiles	55 39	41,125 84,418	55,857 120,466	+ 35.8 + 42.7	990,899 1,475,644	1,467,718 3,478,815		
Cotton manufac- turing Cotton finishing	56	55,927 13,534	55,488 14,096	- 0.8 + 4.2	946,431 285,759			
Hosiery and knit goods Woollen	23	30,288 23.824 18,436	30,308 25.879 17,894	+ 0.1 + 8.6 - 2.9	490,704 521 069 374,397	607.389	+ 16	
Silk Men's clothing Boots and shoes	34	28,412 60,474 13,940	25,629 62,612 15,048	- 9.8 + 3.5	855,645	762,61	$\frac{1}{5} - \frac{10}{5}$	
Tobacco, etc Leather Paper	33	12,928 19,496	14,431 20,830	+ 11.6	275.80	321,60	3 + 16	

# LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, Etc.

#### LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

#### (1) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906.

Application of Act to Seamen—Crew of Fishing Vessel Remunerated by Shares—Trawler-Hand having Share in Vessel's Earnings Excluded.

VESEL'S EARNINGS EXCLUDED. Section 7 of the above Act provides as follows :--"1. This Act shall apply to masters, seamen, and appren-tices to the sea service and apprentices in the seafishing service, provided that such persons are workmen within the meaning of this Act, and are members of the crew of any ship registered in the United Kingdom, or of any other British ship or vessel of which the owner, or (if there is more than one owner) the managing owner, or manager resides or has his principal place of business in the United Kingdom.

Sub-section 2 of the same section creates an exception to this general application, and reads as follows :--"2. This Act shall not apply to any such members of the crew of a fishing vessel as are remunerated by shares in the profits or the gross earnings of the working of such vessel."

profits or the gross earnings of the working of such vessel." Upon this sub-section it has been decided that a fisherman is not excluded merely because he is the owner of one of the 64 shares in the vessel, but he is excluded if any part of his re-muneration consists of shares, even though the amount of shares is guaranteed to be equal to a fixed sum, or is only a small addition to a substantial weekly wage. This latter decision was confirmed by a majority of the House of Lords in 1913. A case bearing on this sub-section was heard in the Court of Appeal on the 19th February last, in which the owners of the Grimsby trawler "Angolea." appealed from a County Court Judge's decision awarding compensation to a trimmer employed on the "Angolea." at a wage of two guineas per week, all found, plus 2d. in each pound on net profits. Compensation was awarded to the trimmer on account of an injury to his left hand which occurred in the course of his employment. Their Lordships allowed the appeal, holding that the trimmer was ex-cluded from the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation 'Act because he was in part remunerated by a share in the earnings of the vessel — Court of Anneal 19th February 1923 because he was in part remunerated by a share in the earnings of the vessel.—Court of Appeal, 19th February, 1923.

#### (2) Accident to Miner-Suicide after Return to Work-Cause of Suicide.

Cause of Suicide. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, applies to "Personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the em-ployment." Deliberate self-maining and suicide are obviously not accidental injuries to which the Act can be applied, but suicide may in certain cases be consequential on an injury sus-tained by accident, and when the suicide results from insanity consequent on personal injury by accident it has been held to be death resulting from the injury. The onus of proof rests with the dependants of the deceased, who must show not only that death is due to insanity, but also that the insanity is the direct death is due to insanity, but also that the insanity is the direct

death is due to insanity, but also that the insanity is the direct result of the injury. In May of last year a miner suffered injuries resulting from the fall of the roof where he was working, when he was struck over his right eye and ear. The wound over the eye healed, but the ear remained septic. In June he returned to work, and in July he committed suicide. The application for compensa-tion was heard at the Abertillery County Court, when evidence was given that before the accident the miner had been of a cheerful disposition, but from the date of his accident until his death he had suffered from sleeplessness, considerable pain and melancholia. The learned County Court Judge found as a fact that when he committed suicide the miner was insane and that the insanity was the result of shock arising from the injury, and consequently made an award in favour of the widow. Against this decision the respondent company appealed on the ground that the evidence did not justify the finding of insanity. The

Court of Appeal held that if there was in this case evidence to show that the accident led to melancholia and suffering which might have caused insanity and subsequent suicide the finding of the County Court Judge could not be reversed. They accord-ingly dismissed the appeal.—Court of Appeal, 14th February, 1923.

# UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

# DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

[Mr. J. G. PEASE, C.B.E., was appointed by His Majesty to be Umpire as from the 1st February, 1923, under the Unemploy-ment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1922, in succession to Mr. W. B. Yates, who retired on reaching the age limit.]

VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire ap-pointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit are published by H.M. Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at, approximately, fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual subscription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office, or at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE. The following are recent decisions of general interest :--

The following are recent decisions of general interest :---

CASE NO. 4127, SECTION 7 (1) (iii).—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENI, REFUSAL OF—OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT ON LABOUR MARKET FOR WORK IN CASE OF ABSENCES OF REGULAR MEN—DOUBT WHETHER REGULAR WORK AVAILABLE AT ONCE—NO TRIAL GIVEN.

It was reported that the applicants, a number of colliers, ha It was reported that the applicants, a number of colliers, had on 1st November, 1922, refused offers of employment at a colliery about 8 miles away. The standard rate of 10s. per shift was offered, but it was pointed out that the men could have earned from 12s. to 15s. per day. All the men had been unemployed for some months, but they refused the offers because, *inter alia*, the colliery was too far away and there were over 200 men on the colliery company's books who should have been given the work. It was stated that the colliery company provided chars-à-bancs for the purpose of conveying their employees to and from the colliery, and for this each man was charged 3s. per week. On behalf of the men it was stated that the company kept a pool, or market of labour, from which they drew men to fill

On behalt of the men it was stated that the company kept a pool, or market of labour, from which they drew men to fil the places of absent regular men. The total number of men signed on by the colliery was 995, and the number of men actually working was 784, leaving 211 men unaccounted for and to whom regular work should be offered before further men were brought into the market

brought into the market. The colliery company stated that they had applied to the Employment Exchange for 100 men, and one of the reasons which necessitated this application was the fact that a number of the men already employed actually attended for work on only one or two days per week. The average percentage of absentes through sickness, accidents and voluntary absences was from 20 per cent. to 25 per cent., and a statement on behalf of the men, to the effect that about 50 men per week were on the market and were not engaged, was not correct. A further reason for the demand for extra men was the company's decision to fit up new working places so that a total of about 880 men could be employed; but the demand was subsequently withdrawn after pressure had been brought to bear by the men's Association. brought into the market.

#### March, 1923. March, 1923

The men contended that the percentage of absentees at the The men contended that the percentage of absentees at the colliery was only 12 per cent., and that the company wanted to flood their labour market. Assuming they accepted the offers they might report at the colliery for 6 days a week, but it was highly probable that they would get work for one shift only. Of about 200 men who had been sent by the Exchange, only 26 had been engaged and 17 had started work; the remainder had, in general, been rejected as unsuitable because, the company stated, they had made impossible demands.

The colliery company further stated that they could still employ the 100 men for whom they had applied to the Exchange, and that since they had cancelled that demand they had started all men who had applied for work. Their previous figures of 20 per cent. to 25 per cent, for absentees were correct. *Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be disallowed on the ground that the men had refused offers of suitable employment. In view of the reasons and statistics supplied by the company for their demand for the men the Court were unable to accept the men's contentions. The applicants' Association declined to accept the Court's recommendation and appealed to the Umpire. ndation and appealed to the Umpire.

At an oral hearing before the Umpire it was stated that this ine was very hot, the temperature being 95 deg., and, for his reason men could not work more than 4 to 5 shifts per reek. The percentage of absenteeism had been exaggerated, and, an any event, included absences due to sickness and accident. A ex. The percentage any event, included absences due to sickness and accident. A presentative of the employers agreed that the figures covered sence from all causes and stated that it was round about 20 per nt., of which 14 per cent. was due to voluntary abstention. was on this account that more men could be employed, and, different there were developments in progress. It was It was on this account that more men could be employed, and, n addition, there were developments in progress. It was in ther contended on behalf of the applicants that the question where the additional men were to work had been gone into with he under-manager, and it appeared that there were practically no definite places available yet. The demand for additional nen was made simply on the general impression that, owing o abstentions due to the heat, there appeared to be room for more men at work each day than were actually at work. There were, however, already on the books of the Company over 200 more men than were ordinarily at work. Surplus men were "on he market " and attended in case there might be vacancies from lay to day, and the applicants would be simply an addition to he numbers on the market. It was not fair that men should be expected to travel daily such distances as the present appli-cants would have to do for a chance of work which might occur only once a week.

cants would have to do for a chance of work which might occur only once a week. *Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claims for benefit should be disallowed. "The applicants should have made a reasonable trial of the employment offered. I am doubtful, however, in view of the explanations which have been made, whether the prospective employer was in a position to offer at once or in the near future anything but casual work contingent on the absence of regular men, which would be a serious disadvantage to men who had to incur the expense of a long journey to the mine. In view of this the Insurance Officer should be prepared to allow benefit after the lapse of two weeks from the date of refusal of the employment." aployment.

# CASE No. 4194, SECTION 7 (1) (ii).—NOT UNEMPLOYED—NOT AN Additional Occupation—Church Caretaker Relin-quished Caretaking, but Continued with Organ Blowing, Locking UP, etc.

The applicant was reported to be employed on odd jobs at a

BLOWING, LOCKING UP, ETC. The applicant was reported to be employed on odd jobs at a church, receiving 6s. 6d. per week in respect of this work. His claim for benefit, which he lodged on 6th November, 1922, was, therefore, disallowed under Section 7 (1) (ii). The applicant stated that he had previously been the care-taker of the church in question for twenty-six years at a wage of 19s. per week and breakfasts. When he was caretaker he had carried on, in addition to his caretaking, the duties which he now performed, viz., ringing the church bell, blowing the organ on each Thursday evening and Sunday morning and evening, and locking up the church each night at 9 p.m. In March, 1922, he was superseded by a younger man in his duties as caretaker, but he was allowed to continue with the odd jobs above mentioned. *Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. The Court held that the applicant's usual occupation was that of a caretaker, and as it was not usual to unite the two offices of caretaker, and organ blower the applicant had commonly carried on the work of organ blowing in addition to and outside the ordinary working hours of his occupation as caretaker; organ blowing was, therefore, an addi-tional occupation, from which the applicant's occupation as caretaker had included the work of blowing the organ and locking up the church, and that the applicant's occupation as caretaker had included the work of blowing the organ and locking up the church, and that the applicant to and outside the vering hours of his previous main work. The locking up of the church on each evening was also work from which the applicant derived remuneration. His present duties could not the regarded as having been carried on in addition to and outside the working hours of his usual employment, since a caretaker was obviously required to be available at all hours. *Decision*.—" On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. " I GAS WORKERS-CREWE.-Federation of Engineering and Ship-GAS WORKERS-UREWE.-Federation of Engineering and Ship-building Trades v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway Com-pany (London and North Western Section). Decision.-The men concerned are covered by Decision No. 728, and the claim of the Federation that they should be excluded from its opera-tion is, therefore, not established. Issued 15th February, 1923. (755.) WAGON REPAIRERS-WILLESDEN, CAMDEN AND BOW.-Federa-tion of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. London, Mid-land and Scottish Railway Company (London and North Western Section). Decision.-The nature of the work of the men concerned does not entitle them to be regarded as Grade II.

BLACKSMITH-LONDON DISTRICT.-Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. London, Midland and Scottish Rail-way Company (London and North Western Section). It was claimed that a blacksmith employed in the wagon repair depart-ment at Camden should be classified as Grade I., and should not "In my judgment the applicant is continuing a part of his usual employment and is not to be regarded as engaged in an occupation which he has ordinarily followed in addition to his usual employment." have been placed by the company when applying Decision No. 728 in Grade II. *Decision*.—The claim for a higher grading for the man concerned is not established. Issued 15th February, 1923. (757.)

# **RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS** ACT, 1919.

#### THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

METALLIC BEDSTEAD INDUSTRY.—Employers' and Workers' sides of the Conciliation Board for the Metallic Bed-stead Industry. *Decision.*—Reduction of the basis day and piece-work rates of male workers and of the basic piecework rates of women engaged in dipping bedsteads in black by 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per cent., to operate as regards 5 per cent. on 12th February, 1923, as regards a further 5 per cent. on 1st April, 1923, and as regards the remaining 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per cent. on 1st June, 1923. In the case of other workpeople, no alteration to be made in day or piece rates. Issued 9th February, 1923. (748.)

BOILERFIREMEN AND GASPRODUCERMEN.—Federation of Engineer-ing and Shipbuilding Trades v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company (London and North Western Section). Decision. —The men concerned are engaged not for night shift work only, but for day, intermediate and night shift work, and are not specifically engaged for night work within the meaning of Sche-dule F. of Decision No. 728. The Court, therefore, uphold the claim that the men are entitled to payment at rate and a third for all ordinary time worked between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m., whether on night shift or intermediate shift. Issued 14th February, 1923. (749.) BOILERFIREMEN AND GASPRODUCERMEN.-Federation of Engineeron night sh 1923. (749.)

ELECTRICAL WIREMEN AND FITTERS (LONDON DISTRICT) .-ELECTRICAL WIREMEN AND FITTERS (LONDON DISTRICT).— Electrical Trades Union v. Southern Railway Company (London and South Western Section). In applying Decision No. 728, the company classified two of their wiremen as Grade II. workmen, and the claim of the union is that they should have been placed in Grade I. *Decision*.—The Court decide that the two men con-cerned do not at present reach the standard set out in Decision No. 728 entiting them to be placed in Grade I. Lesued 14th No. 728, entitling them to be placed in Grade I. Issued 14th February, 1923. (750.)

EQUIPMENT EXAMINERS-LONDON DISTRICT.-Electrical Trades EQUIPMENT EXAMINERS—LONDON DISTRICT.—Electrical Trades Union v. Southern Railway Company (London and South Western Section). Decision.—The Court decide that the men concerned shall be regarded as staff men, and that accordingly the terms of Decision No. 728 do not apply to them. In these circumstances the general question raised by the Union as to the right of a company to compel men to contract out of the award does not arise. The Court note that the men's original claim was for a reconsideration of their basis rate and suggest that the company should give the matter some further considera-tion. Issued 14th February, 1923. (751.)

STAYERS-STRATFORD .- Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Ship STAVERS—STRATFORD.—Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Ship-builders' Society v. London and North Eastern Railway Com-pany (Great Eastern Section). In the absence of a specified rate and by comparison with other rates laid down in Decision No. 728, the company fixed a basis rate of 45s. a week for stayers at Stratford. The Society forthwith protested that the men should be paid as skilled riveters. *Decision.*—The basis rate paid previous to Decision No. 728 shall be continued up to the date of the present decision, and as from the first pay period following that date the basis rate shall be 45s. a week. Issued 14th February, 1923. (752.)

EMPLOYEES IN MARINE AND DOCKS ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENTS-SOUTHAMPTON.—National Union of Railwaymen v. Southern Railway Company (London and South Western Section). Decision.—The men in question are not covered by Decision No. 728. Issued 15th February, 1923. (753.)

WOODWORKERS IN MARINE AND DOCKS ENGINEER'S DEPART-MENTS-SOUTHAMPTON.—Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers v. Southern Railway Company (London and South Western Section). Decision.—The men concerned are not covered \* by Decision No. 728. Issued 15th February, 1923. (754.)

men concerned does not entitle them to be regarded as Grade 11. wagon repairers, but as Grade III. wagon repairers. In the case of the three men at Willesden who, previous to the operation of Decision No. 728, were in receipt of an extra 3s. a week, the Court decide that they are not performing work of a character other than the ordinary and customary duties of their class, and find that the claim for the continuance of the extra allow-mer bar net burger thicked Longed 15th Extra mer. 1923 ance has not been established. Issued 15th February, 1923. (756.)

WAGON REPAIRERS—GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY, LONDON DISTRICT.—Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. Great Western Railway Company. The Federation claimed that wagon repairers employed in London should be rated at 48s. a week, contending that Decision No. 728 recognises a differential of 4s. in rates between London and Class I. towns. Decision.—The Court decide that the claim has not been estab-lished, and in paying the men 44s. a week the company cor-rectly applied the decision. Issued 15th February, 1925. (758.)

rectly applied the decision. Issued 15th February, 1925. (158.) FITTERS' LABOURERS-WEST HAM.—National Union of Rail-waymen v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company (Midland Section). It was claimed that ten men employed at West Ham should have been graded as "assistants, mates or helpers" and not as labourers. At the hearing, which resulted in Decision No. 728, it appeared that a certain class of workmen were described as "assistants, mates or helpers," and in making special provision for these men it was the object of the Court to provide for a practice which already existed and not to bring within that class those who were not already in it. Decision.— It did not appear from what emerged at the hearing whether the men concerned do or do not come within the classification of "assistants, mates or helpers," and the Court, therefore, remit the matter to the parties for further consideration. Issued 16th February, 1923. (759.)

MILLWRIGHTS', SAWYERS' AND PLUMBERS' LABOURERS—HOR-WICH.—Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company (London and North Western, Section). Decision.—From the evidence pro-duced it does not appear that any of the men concerned are proceed on work provining any greater skill than that of a engaged on work requiring any greater skill than that of a Grade I. labourer, and the Court accordingly find that the claim to be regarded as "assistants, mates or helpers" is not estab-lished. Issued 16th February, 1923. (760.)

PAINTERS-SWINDON.—Federation of Engineering and Ship-building Trades v. Great Western Railway Company. The com-pany, in applying Decision No. 728, appear to have assumed that their painters must be graded by occupations, and that men in the same occupation must necessarily be assigned to the same grade. This is not required by the decision; and all painters, whatever particular painting they are engaged upon, are entitled to be placed in Grade I. if they are required to do work of the highest class finish and are capable of mixing and matching colours. Decision.—The explanation of the method of grading chould enable the narties to reach agreement as to the correct colours. Decision.—The explanation of the method of grading should enable the parties to reach agreement as to the correct application of the decision. With reference to the claim in the matter of grading of individual workmen, the Court will be prepared to give a further decision if, after conferring, the parties are unable to reach agreement. Issued 17th February, 1923. (751) (761.)

CARRIAGE FITTERS—SWINDON.—Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. Great Western Railway Company. The federation appealed against the rates paid by the company to carriage fitters employed at Swindon. *Decision*.—The rates paid are those laid down under Decision No. 728, and the Court can do no more than confirm that the company are paying the correct rates. Issued 17th February, 1923. (762.)

SAND MILL ATTENDANTS, BOILERMEN, ETC.—SWINDON.— Workers' Union v. Great Western Railway Company. Sand Mill Attendants.—It was claimed that men described as sand mill attendants should be paid a rate higher than that laid down in Decision No. 728 for sand mixers. Decision.—The Court de-cide that they are of the grade described in the decision as sand mixers, and that the claim for a higher rate has not been established.

Boilermen.—Before the application of the decision two grades of boilermen were recognised at Swindon, but as the decision laid down only one range of rates for the occupation—viz., 32s.36s. a week—the company, in consequence, reduced both grades to 36s. a week. The company were quite justified in doing this, but intimated that they had had no opportunity of examining with the Union, under paragraph 29 of the Decision, the case of individual workmen. It was agreed, with the consent of the Court, that the matter should stand over for discussion between the parties between the parties.

Lifters, Carriage and Wagon.—Previous to Decision No. 728 one man in each gang of three was rated higher than the other two, but under the decision the difference disappears. The com-pany intimated that they were prepared to discuss with the union the position of men who were previously in receipt of the higher rate. On this understanding the matter, with the consent of the Court stands over for discussion between the parties. Issued 17th February, 1923. (763.)

PAINTERS-SWINDON.-Workers' Union v. Great Western Rail-way Company. An appeal was made by the union against the grading, under Decision No. 728, of inside coach painters and men engaged upon preliminary work on coach bodies. It was stated that the appropriate grade for the last-mentioned class of workers was still under consideration by the management, and it was agreed, with the consent of the Court, that their case should be referred back to the parties for discussion. With re-grad to the other nainters concerned the company seem to have should be referred back to the parties for discussion. With re-gard to the other painters concerned, the company seem to have classified them according to occupation. For the decision of the Court see the summary of Decision No. 761, above. Issued 17th February, 1923. (764.)

PAINTERS—EARLESTOWN.—National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators v. London Midland and Scottish Railway Company. (London and North Western Section). In applying Decision No. 728, the company placed forty-four men in Grade II. and eight men in Grade III.; the society contended that the men concerned are entitled to a higher grading. Decision.—Under the definition in Decision No. 728, the allocation of a painter to the highest grade depends not only on the possession of the requisite skill, but also that the man may be required to do work of the highest class finish; and, bearing in mind the class of painting performed by the men concerned, the Court decide that the grading adopted by the company is not inconsistent with the decision. Issued 21st February, 1923. (765.)

March, 1923.

TOOLMAKER-WOLVERTON.-Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company (London and North Western Section). Previous to Decision No. 728, the man concerned was paid 1s. a week above the district rate for fitters, and was also in receipt of an addi-tional 7s. a week as chargeman, which has since been reduced to 4s. No rate is laid down in Decision No. 728 for toolmakers, and the company, in applying the decision, paid them the stan-dard rate laid down for fitters. Decision.-Without determin-ing the toolmakers' rate at Wolverton, the Court direct that the rate of 47s. a week of the man concerned shall be restored as from 1st October, 1922. The claim for a higher additional rate as chargeman is not, in the circumstances now prevailing, estab-lished. Issued 31st February, 1923. (766.)

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY.—Employers' side of the Dis-trict Council (No. 2) Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire, North Nottinghamshire and North Derbyshire for the Electricity Supply Industry v. Trade Union side of the Council. *Decision.*—(a) The following grades shall be rated in section "A" undertakings as follows, as from the beginning of the first full pay week in March, 1923: Electrical fitter, electrician or electricial wireman, telephone electrician or linesman full pay week in March, 1923: Intertitical inter, localitation or electrical wireman, telephone electrician or linesman mechanical fitter and armature winder, 1s. 6d. per hour. Th rates in section "B" undertakings and section "C" under takings will be respectively <sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. per hour and 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. per hour les than those in section "A" undertakings. The rates of wage now determined will be subject, in common with the rates for a section of meriphonene to the cost of livin now determined will be subject, in common with the rates for the other classes of workpeople concerned, to the cost of living sliding scale agreement of November, 1921. (b) The rates of wages of the other grades of workpeople concerned shall be reduced by 1d. per hour as from the beginning of the first full pay week in March, 1923 Issued 28th February, 1923. (767.

#### CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

BRICKLAYERS' LABOURERS IN STEEL WORKS : WEST OF SCOT LAND.—Iron and Steel Trades Confederation v. Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association. Difference—Claim by the Confederation that the employers, who were parties to what is kn as the Brown Booklet Agreement made on 22nd April, 1921, as the Brown Booklet Agreement made on 22nd April, 1921, were not, in so far as bricklayers' labourers employed in steel works in the West of Scotland were concerned, carrying out Clause 5 of the said agreement correctly. Arbitrator—Sir William Mac kenzie, K.B.E., K.C. Award—It was held that the claim had not been established. Issued 14th February, 1923. (I.R. 492/1923.)

### AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

BAKERS AND CONFECTIONERS : DUNDEE.-Scottish Union BAKERS AND CONFECTIONERS: DUNDEE.—Scottish Union of Bakers and Confectioners v. Messrs. Durkie (J. S. Anderson), Hilltown, Dundee. Difference—Dispute arising from the firm's employment of a non-union man. Agreement—It was agreed that the non-union man should be employed in a non-baking capacity only. Signed 19th February, 1923. (I.R. 371/1923.)

# TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

#### ORDERS.

ORDERS confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the following Trade Boards have been made under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918 :—

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain). Order (R.B. 22), dated 22nd February, 1923, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates as varied for male workers (other than certain classes of apprentices and learners), and specifying 1st March, 1923, as the date from which the rates as varied become effective effective.

- (i) less than one year's subsequent employment, 1s. 1d.
- (i) not less than one and less than three years' subsequent employment, 1s. 2d. per hour;
  (ii) not less than three years' subsequent employment, 1s. 2d. per hour;
- (iii) not less than three years' subsequent employment, Is. 3d. per hour;
  (iv.) who are employed in the making up of any one of : military dress uniforms (excluding khaki), naval frock and dress uniforms, hunt coats and riding breeches, frock and dress coats, and court and dip-lomatic garments, 1s. 5d. per hour.
  b) for other male workers, excluding (i) workers specified
  (a) above, (in learners, (ifi) apprentices, and (iv) cutters d trimmers, 1s. per hour.
  piece-work basis time-rates are : 1s. 2½d., 1s. 3½d., 1s. 4½d.
  s. 6½d. per hour respectively for the classes of workers ed above in (a), (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv).
  definitions, conditions and provisions governing the appli-of the minimum rates are set out in R.B. (23).

### Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).

ler (R. 32, 33 and 34), dated 17th February, 1923, confirm-general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, al minimum piece-rates and overtime rates as varied for

and female workers, and specifying 1st March, 1923, as the a from which the rates become effective.
be general minimum time-rates as varied are, according to ration in which worker is engaged.
(a) for workers other than certain specified classes employed in the NET SECTION of the trade : 10d., 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d., 11d. and 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. per hour for male workers of 21 years of age and over, and 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d., 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. and 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. per hour for female workers of 18 years of age and over, with correspondingly lower rates for male and female workers under those ages;
(b) for certain classes of workers in the NET SECTION of the trade : 10d., 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d., 11d. and 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. for male and female workers under those ages;
(b) for certain classes of workers in the NET SECTION of the trade : 10d., 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d., 11d. and 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. for male workers of 21 and over and 6d., 6d., 6d., and 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. for female workers of 18 and over, with correspondingly lower rates for younger workers.

e piece-work basis time-rates applicable to the classes of workers and  $7_{4}$  does a time factor applicable to the classes of kers referred to above are, respectively: (a) for male workers,  $11_{4}$ d., 1s. and 1s.  $0_{2}$ d. per hour; for female workers,  $6_{3}$ d., 7d. and  $7_{4}$ d. per hour; (b) 11d.,  $11_{2}$ d., 1s. and 1s. per hour male workers and  $6_{2}$ d.,  $6_{2}$ d.,  $6_{3}$ d. and 7d. per hour for hour for workers.

workers.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Northern Ireland). Order N.I.B.S. (10), dated 27th February, 1923, confirming beral minimum time-rates, general minimum piece-rates and ertime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, d specifying 5th March, 1923, as the date from which these are effective.

General minimum time-rates for certain classes of male in-nured apprentices of 19 years and over, 33s. to 57s. per week

General minimum piece-rates, formerly shown as basic rates, as percentage reductions, now shown as net rates.

#### NOTICES OF PROPOSAL

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL to fix and/or vary minimum rates of ages have been issued by the following Trade Boards :---

# Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Scotland).

roposal (H.M.S. 12), dated 1st March, 1923, to vary by iction the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates female learners in their 2nd, 3rd and 4th years of learner-in all branches of the trade other than the Wholesale Cloth and Cap Making Branch.

## Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).

oposals (R. 35 and R. 36), dated 5th March, 1923, (i) to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and time rates for female workers in the NET SECTION of the e; and (ii) to vary and fix general minimum piece-rates for homeworkers

#### Paper Box Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.B. (N. 4), dated 19th February, 1923, to vary reduction the general minimum time-rates and piece-work sis time-rates for female workers.

Particulars of the minimum rates of wages referred to above, regards Great Britain, may be obtained by reference to the NDON and EDINBURGH GAZETTES.

Particulars regarding minimum rates of wages proposed, fixed or varied by Trade Boards established in Northern Ireland, may be obtained from the Secretary, Office of Trade Boards (Northern Ireland), 14, Bridge Street, Belfast.

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

#### INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (GRANT) **REGULATIONS**, 1923.

The Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Grant) Regulations, 1923, dated January 24th, 1923, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1922 (a).

Whereas by virtue of the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1921, a Special Scheme (herein-after referred to as the Scheme) is, and has been since the fourth day of July, 1921, in force with respect to the Insurance Industry

And whereas a Joint Board of Management (hereinafter re-ferred to as the Joint Board) is the body charged with the

ferred to as the Joint Board) is the body charged with the administration of the Scheme; And whereas by sub-section (7) of Section 18 of the Unemploy-ment Insurance Act, 1920 (hereinafter referred to as the Act) the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as the Minister) is empowered by Regulations made by him, with the consent of the Treasury, to determine the sum to be paid to the Joint Board in every year out of monies provided by Parliament, and to pre-scribe the conditions upon which such payments may be made; Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers herein-before recited, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby, with the consent of the Treasury, makes the fol-lowing Regulations :--

1. While the Scheme is in force the sum to be paid under the said sub-section (7) of Section 18 of the Act out of monies provided by Parliament to the Joint Board shall in every insurance year be whichever of the two following amounts is in that insurance year the less, that is to say :--

- (a) An amount equal to one-fourth of the amount received by the Joint Board by way of contributions in respect of employed persons properly paid during the insurance year in question under the provisions of the Scheme: or
- (b) An amount equal to three-tenths of the amount which would, if the Scheme had not been in force and if the rates of contribution set out in the Third Sche-dule to the Act as originally enacted had been in operation, have been paid by way of contributions under the general provisions of the Act out of monies provided by Parliament in respect of the employed persons to whom the Scheme applies.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment In-surance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Grant) Regula-tions, 1923, and shall be deemed to have come into operation on the fourth day of July, 1921.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour this 24th day of January, 1923.

H. J. WILSON, Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

#### **INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (DETERMINA-TION OF PAYMENTS) REGULATIONS, 1923.**

The Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Determination of Payments) Regulations, 1923, dated January 24th, 1923, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1922 (a).

Whereas by virtue of the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1921, a Special Scheme (herein-after referred to as the Scheme) with respect to the Insurance Industry came into force on the fourth day of July, 1921; And whereas a Joint Board of Management (hereinafter re-

And whereas a Joint Board of Management (hereinafter re-ferred to as the Joint Board) is the body charged with the administration of the Scheme; And whereas the Minister has, with the consent of the Trea-sury, by the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Grant) Regulations, 1923, determined the sum which, under sub-section (7) of section 18 of the Act, is to be paid in each insurance year to the Joint Board out of monies pro-vided by Parliment.

paid in each insurance year to the Joint Board out of monies pro-vided by Parliament; And whereas by sub-section (10) of the said section 18 a pay-ment is to be made out of the unemployment fund to the Joint Board, and for the purpose of calculating the amount of such payment there are to be determined, in accordance with Regula-tions made by the Minister with the approval of the Treasury, the four sums hereinafter mentioned, that is to say :--

(a) A sum (hereinafter referred to as sum No. 1) approximately equivalent to the amount of the contributions paid by employers and employed persons during the period between the 7th day of November, 1920, and the 4th day of July, 1921, in respect of employed persons while employed in the Insurance Industry; and

(b) A sum (hereinafter referred to as sum No. 2) approxi-mately equivalent to the amount to which, having regard to the number of contributions aforesaid, the Joint Board

(a) These Regulations, although statutory, are provisional only. Permanent Regulations will be made later.

would, if the Scheme had been in force during the period aforesaid, have been entitled under the aforesaid sub-section (7); and

(c) A sum (hereinafter referred to as sum No. 3) approximately equivalent to the amount paid or payable out of the unemployment fund to employed persons in the Insurance Industry at any time before they cease to be entitled to benefit under the general provisions of the Act; and

(d) A sum (hereinafter referred to as sum No. 4) approxi-mately equivalent to the rateable part of the costs of ad-ministering the general provisions of the Act.

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers con-Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers con-ferred upon him by the sub-sections hereinbefore recited, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby, with the consent and approval of the Treasury, makes the following Regulations :

1. Sum No. 1 shall be determined by treating the approximate aggregate value of unemployment insurance stamps properly affixed to unemployment books under the general provisions of the Act and the Regulations made thereunder (but excluding stamps affixed in respect of contributions under section 41 of the Act) during the period between the 7th day of November, 1920, and the 4th day of July, 1921, in respect of employed persons who were either employed in the Insurance Industry on the 4th day of July, 1921, or, if unemployed at that date, had then last been employed in that industry as being the amount of the contributions paid by employers and employed persons during the period aforesaid in respect of employed persons while employed in the Insurance Industry. 2. Sum No. 2 shall be determined by treating the amount to

2. Sum No. 2 shall be determined by treating the amount to which the Joint Board would have been entitled under sub-section (7) of section 18 of the Act and the Regulations made thereunder, if the Scheme and the said Regulations had been in force during the period between the 7th day of November, 1920, and the 4th day of July, 1921, as being the amount to which the Joint Board would, if the Scheme had been in force during the period aforesaid, have been entitled under the said sub-section.

3. Sum No. 3 shall be determined by treating the aggregate value of the amounts which, on the 4th day of July, 1921, had been paid, or were payable, out of the unemployment fund to employed persons who were either employed in the Insurance Industry on that date, or, if unemployed at that date, had then last been employed in that industry in respect of the period between the 7th day of November, 1920, and the 4th day of July, 1921, as being the amount paid or payable out of the unem-ployment fund to employed persons in the Insurance Industry at any time before they ceased to be entitled to benefit under the general provisions of the Act.

4. Sum No. 4 shall be determined by treating a sum equivalent to one-tenth of the aggregate of sum No. 1 and sum No. 2 as being the rateable part of the costs of administering the general provisions of the Act.

5. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Determination of Payments) Regulations, 1923, and shall be deemed to have come into operation on the 4th day of July, 1921.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 24th day of January, 1923.

> H. J. WILSON, Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

## COAL MINES ACT, 1911.

MINING INDUSTRY ACT, 1920. BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

March, 1923

Examinations for Certificates as Managers and Under-Managers and for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines.

AN examination for first and second-class certificates of com tency as Managers and Under-Managers of Minea will be held on the 23rd and 24th May, 1923, at Edinburgh, Newcastle-upon Tyne, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff and Birmingham.

The written part of an examination for certificates of quali fication as Surveyors of Mines will be held at the same centr on the 24th May, 1923.

Applications for the necessary forms should be made no later than the 1st April, 1923. It is important that candidate should state whether they have already sat at one or more o the Board's examinations.

Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Board for Min Examinations, Mines Department, Dean Stanley Street ing Examinations, Millbank, S.W. 1.

#### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED **RELATING TO LABOUR.**

AGRICULTURE.—Report of the Committee on Agricultural Credit. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. (Cmd. 1810; price 9d.)

CENSUS.-(1) Census of England and Wales, 1921. County of London. Tables (Part II.). (S.O. publication; price 8s.) (2) Census of Scotland, 1921. Vol. I. Part 24. County of Moray. Part 25. County of Nairn. Part 26. County of Orkney. Part 27. County of Peebles. (S.O. publications; price 5s.,

3s., 4s., 3s. 6d. respectively.) EMICRATION.—Report of the Oversea Settlement Committee for the year ended 31st December, 1922. (Cmd. 1804; price

d.) (See also page 84 of this GAZETTE.) HEALTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(1) Third inter report of the Inter-departmental Committee on Health and U comployment Insurance. Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 1821; price 3d.) (See also page 82.) (2) U employment Insurance Bill, 1923. Memorandum regarding the financial clauses. Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 1824; price 2d (See also page 82.)

HOUSING .- Increase of Rent, etc. (Restrictions) Memorandum by Minister of Health. (H.C. 22; price 2d.) JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.— Report of an enquiry into juvenile delinquency. Scottish National Council of Juvenile Organisa

tions. (S.O. publication; price 9d.) MINING.—Output and employment at metalliferous mine nuarries, etc., during the quarters ended 31st March and 30t June, 1922. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publ cation; price 6d. and 4d.)

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.-Atmospheric con tions in cotton weaving. Report No. 21. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 2s.) (See also page 86.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—(1) Supplement to the 75th annual report of the Registrar-General for England and Wales. Part IV Mortality of men in certain occupations in the three years 191 1911 and 1912. (S.O. publication; price 13s. 6d.) (2) Regular trar-General's statistical review of England and Wales. Tables Part I. Medical. (New annual series No. 1.) (S.O. publica-tion; price 15c.) tion; price 15s.)

# GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

#### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, FEBRUARY, 1923. ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.) Air Compressor, Electrically Driven: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough (Sub-contractors for Motor, English Electric Co., Ltd., London).-Batteries, Plate Groups and Separators for: The Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Biscuit: P. Brown & Co., Ltd., N. Shields.—Brown Jean: John Booth & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Brushes: W. T. Clark & Co., Birmingham; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; C. H. Long & Sons, Birmingham; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans, Herts.—Cables, Boxes, etc., Supplying and Laying at R.N. Cordite Factory, Holton Heath: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Cables and Switchgear, etc., Underground, Supply and Installation of: Foote, Milne & Co., London, S.W.-Calico: G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.-Canvas, R.N. and M.N.: Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath; Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—Cells: Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath; Premier Accumulator Co. (1921), Ltd., Northampton; The D.P. Battery Co. Ltd. Bakewell, Doubyshing, Chain Bigging and Bitched. Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire.—Chain, Rigging and Pitched: W. Griffin & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath; Edge & Sons, Ltd., Shifnal; R. Sykes & Son, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—Cloth, Woollen, for Table Covers: J. Raistrick & Son, Itd., Cradley Heath.—Cloth, Woollen, Itd., Pudsey.—Coffee: S. Hanson & Co., London, E.C.—Con-densers: Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Fire-bricks: J. Dougall & Sons, Ltd., Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire;

Hill, Westlake & Co., Ltd., Gunnislake, Cornwall; Leeds Fin clay Co., Ltd., Leeds; J. T. Price & Co., Ltd., Stourbridge; B Foster & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Glenboig Union Fin clay Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Priestman Collieries, Ltd., Newcastle on-Tyne. — Firehearths, Conversion of: Manlove, Alliott & Co. on-Tyne.—Firehearths, Conversion of: Manlove, Alliott & Co. Ltd., Nottingham.—Flour: North Shore Mill Co., Ltd., Liver pool; W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Forgings an Castings: Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull.—Laces, Boot, Blee Cotton: W. Paton, Ltd., Johnstone —Lard: J. Henderson & Co. Ltd., London.—Lead, Red: Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., Liverpool-Leather, Cloth: Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Line Goods: William Ewart & Son, Belfast; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd. Belfast: John Gunning & Son, Belfast; York Street Flax Spir Belfast; John Gunning & Son, Belfast; Otster Weaving Co., La Belfast; John Gunning & Son, Belfast; York Street Flax Spining Co., Ltd., Belfast; R. Usher & Co., Ltd., Drogheda; A Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—Linoleum: Tayside Floorcloth Co. Ltd., Newburgh, Fife.—Locks and Gear: J. & E. Bates & Som Ltd., Wolverhampton; Lowe & Fletcher, Willenhall; Marston & Co., Ltd., Willenhall; E. Tonks & Sons, Ltd., Will hall; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Itd., Walsall; J. Parkes Sons, Ltd., Willenhall.—Lorries, Austin 30/40 cwt.: Aust Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Mahogany: Hoar & Brot London, E.—Mineral Jelly: Anglo-American Oil Co., Lt London, S.W.-Moter, 150 H.P., with Control Gear, Field Reg lators and Spares: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingha Paint, Oxide of Iron: Hemingway & Co., London, E.; Guardin, Oxide of Iron: Hemingway & Co., London, E.; Woug Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Padlocks, Wroug Iron: A. Marston & Co., Ltd., Willenhall; Walsall Locks & Ca. Gear, Ltd., Walsall.-Platinum Wire: Johnson, Matthey & Ltd., London, E.C.-Pyrometer and C.O. 2 Outfit Combined Accessories: Cambridge & Paul Instrument Co., Ltd., C bridge.-Rope, Steel Wire: Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.; B vant & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Edwin Ellis & Co.,

March, 1923.

ondon, E.; Webster & Co., Ltd., Sunderland; The Warrington Jondon, E., Works, Itd., Liverpool; R. Hood, Haggie & Son, Wire Rope Works, Itd., Liverpool; R. Hood, Haggie & Son, J.d., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Refiner, Conical, Motor-driven: Jasson, Scott & Co., Itd., London, S.W.—Reps and Damasks: Masson, Scott & Co., Ltd., London, S. W. — Heps and Damasks: Walsh & McCrea, Ltd., Halifax; J. Holdsworth & Co., Ltd., Halifax; Glover Bros (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds.— Screws: British Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds; Butler, Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birming-nam; Henry Cox Screw Co., Ltd., Birmingham; T. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; rton & Son, Ltd., Darlaston; London Screw Co., Smethwick Ltd., Birmingham; A. Stokes & Co., Ltd., Birming-Shirts, Soft White: Vernon, Booth & Co., Ltd., London, Steel, Bar: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Steel Co. of Scot Ltd., Glasgow.-Steel, Tool: A. Balfour & Co., Ltd., Shefeld; Marsh Bros. & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; W. Spencer & Co., td., Sheffield.—Steel Plating, Perforated: W. Barns & Son, ondon, N.; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E. Suet: Hugon & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Switchgear and Cables, pply of and Erection of Rotary Converters: British Thomson Supply of and Erection of Rotary Converters: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—Terry Towelling: William, R. Lee, Ltd., Heywood.—Tiles: Maw & Co., Ltd., Jackfield, Shropshire; Gibbons, Hinton & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs.—Vans and Trucks, Ford: Wallace Harmer Motors, Ltd., London, W.C.— Vinegar: Crosse & Blackwell (Mfg. Co.), Ltd., London, W.C.; Fardon's Vinegar Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Water Closets and ear: Doulton & Co., Ltd., Paisley; Shanks & Co., Ltd., Glas-; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. — Wood Goods (Manu-red): J. Brown & Sons (Thatcham), Ltd., Newbury, Berks.; Charnley & Sons, Ulverston, Lancs.; C. W. Clinch & Sons, rry, Berks.; E. & W. Coward, Ulverston, Lancs.; Dyne & London, E.; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamstead, Herts.; Latham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Nicholls & Sons, rerhampton; J. Reynolds, Chesham, Bucks.; Rudders & tes, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. Shepherd & Sons (Kendal), Kendal; Staveley Wood Turning Co., Staveley; C. White, Ion, S.E.; H. Workman, Ltd., Woodchester, Glos.

#### ADMIRALTY.

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