

THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR
GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. XXXIII.—No. 2.]

FEBRUARY, 1925.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.

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

EMPLOYMENT.

THE decline in employment which was recorded in the last week of December continued in the first week of January. There was a gradual improvement during the rest of the month, but at the end of January the total number registered as unemployed remained higher than in the early part of December.

Among the 11,500,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 26th January, 1925, was 11·5, compared with 10·9 at 22nd December, 1924. Among the members of those Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 9·0 at the end of January, 1925, compared with 9·2 at the end of December, 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 26th January, 1925, was approximately 1,287,000, of whom 969,000 were men and 243,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 29th December, 1924, it was 1,319,000, of whom 1,003,000 were men and 250,000 were women; and at 22nd December, 1924, it was 1,213,000, of whom men numbered 930,000, and women 226,000.

Employment was good on the whole in the jute industry, in some branches of the cotton trade, with millsawyers, with brick-makers, and with most of the skilled operatives in the building trades; it was fairly good in the silk and carpet trades, and in certain sections of the metal trades. In coal mining, in the wool textile industry, and in the section of the cotton industry spinning American cotton it was slack; in the iron and steel industry, in tinsplate manufacture, and in the marine engineering and shipbuilding trades it continued bad.

WAGES.

There was a further slight increase in rates of wages in January. In the industries for which statistics are available the changes in rates of wages reported resulted in an aggregate increase of £62,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 1,000,000 workpeople, and in an aggregate reduction of £7,400 in the weekly wages of 86,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased were coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, whose wages were increased by the equivalent of rather more than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; a considerable number of railway traffic workers, who received increases, mostly of 2s. per week, under a cost-of-living sliding scale; and gas workers, who obtained increases of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour or 4d. per shift. Other important bodies of workpeople who were granted increases in

wages included textile dyers, bleachers, finishers, etc., in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland, wool textile operatives in the West of England, building trade operatives in various towns in the East and South of England, house painters in Scotland, men employed by public works contractors in London, seed crushers and oil millers, men employed in the electricity supply industry in various districts, and night-shift men employed by tramways undertakings. Under the Trade Boards Acts there were increases in the minimum rates payable in the perambulator and invalid carriage, paper bag and paper box, and brush and broom trades.

The principal reduction in wages affected hosiery workers in the Midlands, whose bonus on earnings was reduced from 9d. to 8d. on each shilling earned. There were also reductions in the wages of ironstone miners in Cleveland, and in those of blast-furnace workers in various districts.

COST OF LIVING.

At 31st January the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 79 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 80 per cent. at 1st January, 1925, and with 79 per cent. at 1st February, 1924. For food alone the corresponding percentage at 31st January was 76, compared with 78 a month earlier. The decline was mainly due to marked reductions in the prices of butter and eggs, which more than counterbalanced increases in many districts, during January, in the prices of flour and bread.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. 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.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January, was 35. In addition, 23 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in January (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 12,400; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during January was about 67,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 16,000 workpeople involved and 92,000 days lost in the previous month. The number of days lost through disputes during January was smaller than in any month since February, 1917.

RELATIVE LEVELS OF RATES OF WAGES AT AUGUST, 1914, AND DECEMBER, 1924.

In previous issues* of this GAZETTE particulars have been given, from time to time, of the comparative levels of rates of wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at August, 1914, and at subsequent dates. In the following article a comparison is made, so far as is possible from the information in the possession of the Department, between the levels of rates of wages at August, 1914, and the end of December, 1924.

It should be observed that no comprehensive information has been collected by the Department as to the rates of wages actually paid by individual employers in the various industries in 1914 and at the end of 1924, and the information available for the purposes of such a comparison is, in nearly all cases, limited to the standard or minimum rates of wages, fixed by collective Agreements signed by the Employers' Associations and Trade Unions concerned (or embodied in Arbitration Awards, Statutory Orders under the Trade Boards Acts, etc.), or, in some industries in which no such Agreements, Awards, or Orders have been made, to the minimum rates recognised by the Trade Unions concerned. In some cases in which the actual rates of wages at both dates are not embodied in signed Agreements, information which is available as to the amounts of general changes in the existing level of time or piece rates of wages, agreed upon from time to time by the employers' and workers' organisations, has been utilised. It is important, however, to realise that the rates of wages actually paid to individual workpeople, or to particular sections of workpeople, may, in a considerable proportion of cases, have been altered since 1914, independently of the general changes jointly agreed upon by Employers' Associations and Trade Unions, or fixed by Awards, Orders, etc.; and that alterations in machinery, in methods of manufacture, in industrial organisation, and in systems of remuneration of workpeople, may also, over a period of 10 years, have resulted in appreciable changes in the general level of wages in some industries. As no general investigation into the rates of wages actually paid by individual employers has been undertaken since the year 1906, the data essential to the accurate measurement of the changes in wages resulting from the operation of such factors are not available. Moreover, no information exists as to the changes which have occurred in rates of wages in industries, or sections of industries, in which neither standard nor minimum rates, nor the general amounts of increase or decrease in rates of wages, have been fixed by collective Agreements, Arbitration Awards, Statutory Orders, etc. The particulars given below, therefore, while based on a careful examination of such material as is available to the Department, should be considered in the light of these qualifications and should not be regarded as furnishing more than an approximate indication of the general levels of wage rates at the two dates; and caution should especially be observed in drawing from them conclusions, the validity of which may depend upon small margins of difference between one figure and another.

Building Trades.—At the end of December, 1924, the hourly rates of wages in the larger towns showed increases, compared with the pre-war rates, ranging mostly from 9d. to 11½d. an hour in the case of skilled men and 7½d. to 9½d. an hour in the case of labourers. On the basis of the unweighted averages of the standard rates of wages of the principal classes of workmen, the average increases in hourly and weekly rates at the end of December, 1924, in towns with populations over 100,000, were as shown in the following Table. The weekly rates shown have been computed by multiplying the hourly rates of wages by the number of hours constituting a full ordinary week (averaging approximately 49½ in 1914 and 44½ at the end of 1924), both the summer and winter hours being taken into account for this purpose.

Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised Rates of Wages in large towns at		Average Percentage Increase over pre-war rates at 31st Dec., 1924.
	4th Aug., 1914.	31st Dec., 1924.	
HOURLY RATES.			
	d.	d.	Per cent.
Bricklayers	9-9	19-9	101
Masons†	9-8	19-9	104
Carpenters and Joiners	9-8	19-8	104
Plumbers	9-6	19-9	106
Plasterers	9-7	19-9	105
Painters	8-8	19-7	123
Labourers	6-6	15-0	128
WEEKLY RATES.			
	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.
Bricklayers	40 7	73 4	81
Masons†	39 7	73 7	86
Carpenters and Joiners	39 11	73 4	84
Plumbers	38 8	73 5	85
Plasterers	40 0	73 8	84
Painters	36 3	72 1	99
Labourers	27 0	55 5	105

* See the issues for May, 1919; April, 1920; February, 1921; March, 1922; October, 1922; April, 1923; and October, 1923.

† When different rates were paid to banker masons and fixers respectively the rates used are those for banker hands.

If the increases shown are combined in the proportions of the relative numbers of men employed in the different occupations, the resulting general average increase over pre-war rates was approximately 9½d. per hour (or about 115 per cent.) at the end of December. The increase in weekly full-time wages, allowing for the effect of the reductions which have been made since 1914 in the weekly working hours, was approximately 31s. 9d., or about 95 per cent. It should be observed that the percentages given are general averages for all the large towns combined, and that there is much variation in the percentage increases in different towns.

Coal Mining.—The information available as to the changes in wages in the coal-mining industry is insufficient to enable a trustworthy estimate to be made of the average increase in rates of wages in this industry since 1914. The general district percentage additions to standard basis rates of wages in the principal coalfields at the beginning of August, 1914, and at the end of December, 1924, were as shown below:—

District.	Date of Standard.	Percentage Additions* to the Standard Rates of the years specified at	
		4th August, 1914.	31st December, 1924.
Northumberland... ..	1879	50	100-00
Durham	1879	57½	110-00
Yorkshire and E. Midlands	1911	10	59-75
Lancs, N. Staffs and Cheshire	1911	10	46-66
S. Staffs and Salop	1911	10	46-66
S. Wales and Monmouthshire	1915†	6½	42-22
Scotland	1888	75	133-33

These figures do not provide a full measure of the increases in wage rates, since special advances or allowances have been granted in addition, in many districts, to particular grades of men. In some cases the basis rates of wages (to which the percentages are added) have been varied; the lower-paid grades of men in many districts have received special "subsistence" allowances; men on afternoon and night shifts in South Wales, whose working week is generally one of five shifts, have been paid, since 1915, as for an extra shift each week; and piece rates of wages were increased, in the case of workpeople whose normal working hours were reduced, in 1919, in order to maintain earnings at the previous level. The percentage increase in rates of wages resulting from the combined effect of all these changes is not known precisely.

As regards earnings, however, statistics compiled by the Mines Department indicate that the average earnings per man-shift worked in June, 1914, and December, 1924, were as shown in the following Table. The "subsistence" rates for lower-paid workers at December, 1924, are also given in the Table.

District.	Average Earnings per Shift.		Percentage Increase.	"Subsistence" Rates per shift for lower-paid adult workers at December, 1924.
	June, 1914.	December, 1924.		
Northumberland	6 2½	9 5	52	s. d. 7 7½
Durham	6 2½	10 0	61	7 6½
Yorks and E. Midlands Lancs, N. Staffs, and Cheshire	6 7½	11 8	76	See Note ‡
South Wales and Mon. mouthshire	6 0½	10 0½	67	See Note ‡
Scotland	6 9	10 8	61	8 0½
Other districts	6 6½	9 5	71	See Note ¶
All districts	6 5½	10 8½	66	...

It should be observed that the hours of labour were reduced in 1919 from 8 to 7 per shift for underground workers, and generally from 51 to 58 in 1914 to 46½ per week for surface workers. The percentage increases in hourly wages are thus greater than the percentage increases in earnings per man-shift shown above.

Other Mining and Quarrying.—For iron miners in Cleveland and limestone quarrymen in Durham, rates of wages at the end of December were about 37½ per cent. over the pre-war rates. In Cumberland the bargain price for iron-ore miners in December, 1924, was about 49½ per cent. above the pre-war level.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—In the engineering industry the general advance over pre-war rates for men on time work now amounts to 17s. a week, except in certain districts where the men are paid at hourly rates, in which it is 17s. 10½d. In the shipbuilding industry the general advance on time rates ranges from 14s. or 14s. 10½d. a week in the case of skilled men, to 15s. or 16s. a week in the case of lower-paid labourers. In some cases, however, further advances have been granted to particular classes of men, both in the engineering and in the shipbuilding industries.

The following Table shows the unweighted averages of the district time rates of wages of men in certain representative occupations in 16 of the principal engineering centres and 9 of the principal ship-

* As the standard basis rates to which the percentages apply vary in different districts, the percentages quoted should not be taken as indicating the relative level of wages in different districts.

† For the purpose of comparison the level of wages at August, 1914, when the percentage addition was computed in terms of the old standard of 1879, has been expressed in terms of the new standard of 1915 now in operation.

‡ Warwickshire, 8s. (underground workers), 7s. 6d. (surface workers); S. Derbyshire, 7s. 9d. (underground workers), 7s. 5d. (surface workers); none fixed in other parts of this area.

§ Is. 1½d. per shift in excess of earnings, subject to a maximum of 8s. 9d. (inclusive).

¶ The rate applies to surface workers only.

¶ Cumberland, 7s. 5½d.; S. Staffs and Salop, 6s. 2d. (surface workers only); Bristol—Glos. side, additional 6½d. per shift, subject to maximum of 7s. 3½d. (underground), and 10d., with maximum of 6s. 9d. (surface).

building centres at 4th August, 1914, and at 31st December, 1924, with the corresponding percentage increase over pre-war rates.

Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised Weekly Time Rates in the principal centres at		Average Percentage Increase over pre-war rates at 31st Dec., 1924.
	4th August, 1914.	31st December, 1924.	
	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.
Engineering:—			
Fitters and Turners	38 11	56 6	45
Ironmoulders	41 8	60 0	44
Patternmakers	42 1	60 11	45
Labourers	22 10	40 2	76
Shipbuilding:—			
Shipwrights	41 4	55 7	35
Ship Joiners	40 0	57 9	44
Labourers	22 10	38 5	68

For semi-skilled classes the percentages range between those shown for skilled men and those for labourers.

The above figures relate to a full ordinary week (of 53 hours in some districts and 54 in others in 1914, and of 47 hours generally at December, 1924). The percentage increase in hourly rates thus ranges from about 65 per cent. for skilled workers to a little under 100 per cent. for labourers in the engineering trade, and from about 55 to 65 per cent. for skilled men to 90 per cent. for labourers in the shipbuilding trade.

In the case of pieceworkers the general advance over pre-war rates in the engineering industry amounts to 10 per cent. on basis piece rates, plus a flat rate advance of 10s. a week. In the shipbuilding industry the general advance is 10 per cent. on basis piece rates, plus a flat rate advance of 7s. a week; in addition, a portion of certain special advances, granted under the "Standard Ship Cycle" of awards and consequential extensions, is still paid to some classes of men. The information at the disposal of the Department is not sufficient to enable a reliable calculation to be made of the average percentage increase in the wages of pieceworkers in these industries.

Electrical Installation.—The average of the recognised time rates of wages of wiremen employed by electrical contractors in 12 of the largest towns at the end of December, 1924, was 75s. 10d. a week, compared with 39s. 4d. a week at August, 1914, showing an average increase of 93 per cent. As the normal weekly hours of labour were reduced from 53 or 54 to 47 in 1919, without any reduction in weekly wages, the increase in hourly rates since 1914 is greater, being about 114 per cent., on the average, in these towns.

Other Metal Trades.—In the heavy iron and steel trades (smelting, puddling, rolling, forging, etc.), in which wages fluctuate in correspondence with the selling price of the finished products, the increases over pre-war rates vary very widely, being, in some cases (e.g., with certain blast-furnace labourers) equivalent to nearly 100 per cent. over the pre-war weekly rates, while at the other extreme the rates for iron and steel workers in South Wales show increases of less than 30 per cent. on pre-war weekly wages. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade in South Wales the increase over pre-war rates amounts to about 45½ per cent. Among other metal-working industries the general increases over pre-war rates of wages at the end of December (for male timeworkers) were 17s. a week in the sheet-metal working trade, 17s. 6d. a week in the nut and bolt industry in the Midlands, 17s. 6d. a week for unskilled and semi-skilled men in the spring, tube and various other industries in the Midlands, and 18s. 6d. a week in the light castings industry; in all these industries the weekly hours of labour have been reduced since 1914.

Cotton Industry.—In August, 1914, piece rates of wages in this industry stood generally at 5 per cent. above the standard list prices. At the end of December, 1924, they were 95 per cent. above the standard. Part of this increase, however, was granted in 1919, concurrently with a reduction in weekly working hours from 55½ to 48, in order to maintain weekly wages at the same level as before. If proportionate allowance is made for this reduction in working hours, weekly full-time wages would appear to be generally about 61 per cent. above the pre-war level, the equivalent increase in hourly wages being about 86 per cent. If, however, the average hourly output of pieceworkers has increased as a result of the reduction in hours, the percentage increase in wages will be correspondingly higher. In addition, special increases or allowances have been granted to certain classes of operatives, the effect of which would be to augment the percentages quoted.

Wool Textile Industry.—The rates of wages of woollen and worsted operatives in Yorkshire are calculated by the addition of a "cost-of-living wage" to basic rates. At the end of December, 1924, the pre-war basic rates had been increased generally by 10 per cent., and to the basic rates so increased was added a "cost-of-living wage" of 72½ per cent. for timeworkers and 63½ per cent. for pieceworkers,* making total increases over pre-war rates of approximately 80 to 90 per cent. for a full working week. In addition special increases of varying amounts have been made in the rates of wages of particular sections of workpeople, which would tend to augment the percentages quoted. A general advance of over 15 per cent. on hourly and piece rates was also granted in March, 1919, concurrently with a reduction in weekly hours from 55½ to 48, in order to maintain weekly wages at the same level as before. The average percentage increase in hourly rates, therefore, is correspondingly greater than that in weekly rates quoted above.

* The full percentage is paid on basic rates up to 33s. a week; on basic rates up to 51s. it is paid on 33s., or at the equivalent of 80 per cent. of the time-workers' cost-of-living percentage, whichever is the greater; on basic rates over 51s., 20 per cent. of the time-workers' percentage is paid on the first 13s. above that amount, and 8 per cent. of that percentage on the remainder.

Other Textile Industries.—In some other important sections of the textile trades the increases over pre-war rates at the end of December, 1924, were as follows:—

Trade and Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised Weekly Time Rates of Wages in certain large towns† at		Average Percentage Increase over pre-war rates at 31st Dec., 1924.
	4th Aug., 1914.	31st Dec., 1924.	
	s. d.	s. d.	Per Cent.
Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing and Finishing:—			
Lancs, Cheshire and Derbyshire—			
Men ... ..	...	...	26 1*
Women ... ..	...	...	15 7*
Scotland:—			
Men ... ..	...	...	24 2*
Women ... ..	...	...	14 4*
Yorkshire:—			
Timeworkers	94	Plus 2s. per week for men	
Pieceworkers	72	and 1s. 3d. for women.	
Hosiery Manufacture (Midlands)			75
Carpet Manufacture:—			
Timeworkers			70
Pieceworkers			65

Apart from these increases in weekly wages, the weekly working hours, which generally varied from 54 to 56, were reduced in 1919 to 48, the weekly rates of timeworkers remaining unchanged, and the rates for pieceworkers being enhanced so as to yield the same weekly earnings as before the change in hours.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—In the manufacture of boots and shoes the minimum time rate of wages for the principal classes of skilled workmen at the end of December, 1924, was 60s. a week. Before the war it was 30s. a week for the majority of the workers in most districts, though in a few districts it was 28s. or 29s. For men in the heel-building department and in the stock and shoe rooms, the minimum rate at December, 1924, was 57s. a week compared with a rate of 27s. a week adopted in 1914, with effect from the beginning of 1915. For women of 20 years or over, employed in certain operations in the closing and heel-building departments and the stock and shoe rooms, the minimum rate was 36s. a week in December, 1924, compared with 17s. or 18s. adopted in 1914, with effect from January, 1915. The hours of labour have been reduced from 52½ per week in 1914 to 48 per week.

Railway Service.—For the principal grades of adult workmen in the traffic sections of the railway service, the rates of wages in operation at the end of December, 1924, showed increases ranging mostly from 27s. to 36s. a week above the pre-war averages for the corresponding grades. Owing to the wide variation in the pre-war rates of wages, the percentage increases varied considerably. For some of the porters on pre-war rates of about 18s. a week, the increase was as much as 150 per cent.; on the other hand, for certain classes of higher-paid men, it amounted to less than 80 per cent. The hours of labour in the railway service were reduced to 48 a week in 1919, without any reduction in weekly rates of wages, and the increases in hourly rates are, therefore, higher than the percentage increases in weekly rates. Further increases in wages, mostly of 2s. a week, were received by many workers in the railway service in January, 1925.

Other Transport Services.—For dock labourers, the rates generally paid in December, 1924, were 11s. to 13s. 6d., a day of eight hours, compared with about 4s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. for a day averaging approximately ten hours in 1914. In the case of seamen, the standard rates in December were £10 a month for able seamen and £10 10s. for firemen, compared with £5 to £5 10s. and £5 10s. to £6, respectively in August, 1914. In the road transport industry, the average of the weekly rates of wages for one-horse drivers in twelve of the principal towns was 53s. 2d. a week at the end of 1924, compared with 25s. 7d. in 1914. In the tramway services it is estimated that the average weekly rates of wages at December, 1924, in over 50 large towns, were 59s. 1d. for drivers and 54s. 8d. for conductors, compared with 30s. 6d. and 26s. 7d., respectively, at August, 1914. The daily and weekly hours of dock labourers, carters and tramway-men were reduced in 1919, without any reduction in weekly wages.

Other Industries.—In the following Table particulars are given of the rates of wages at 4th August, 1914, and at the end of December, 1924, of some of the principal classes of workpeople in the printing and bookbinding, furniture making, and baking trades in a number of large towns:—

Trade and Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised Weekly Time Rates of Wages in certain large towns† at		Average Percentage Increase over pre-war rates at 31st Dec., 1924.
	4th Aug., 1914.	31st Dec., 1924.	
	s. d.	s. d.	Per Cent.
Printing and Bookbinding:—			
Hand Compositors on Book and Jobbing Work	35 8	73 9	107
Bookbinders and Machinists	33 11	73 4	117
Furniture Making:—			
Cabinet Makers	39 9	74 8	88
Upholsterers	38 9	74 6	92
French Polishers	37 1	74 5	101
Baking:—			
Table Hands	30 1	64 8	115

* These amounts are exclusive of increases in basic rates, varying for different classes of workpeople, granted in 1919.

† The averages are based on the rates current in 26 towns in the printing and bookbinding and baking trades, and in 17 towns in the furniture trade.

The hours of labour in a normal full week at December, 1924, were generally 48 in the printing and baking trades, and 44 to 47, in the furniture trade, compared with 50 or 51 in the printing trades 48 to 60 for bakers, and 49½ to 54 in the furniture trade at August, 1914. The percentage increases in hourly rates are thus greater than those in weekly rates shown in the Table, averaging (in the towns to which the Table relates) about 118 per cent. for compositors, 128 per cent. for bookbinders, 111 per cent. for cabinet makers, 116 per cent. for upholsterers, 125 per cent. for french polishers, and 139 per cent. for table hand in the baking trade.

In the pottery industry, the general level of rates of wages is 50 to 61½ per cent. (in different sections) above the pre-war level, but increases in basic rates have been granted in addition to certain classes of workpeople. In 1919 the hours of labour were reduced from 52 to 47 per week, without any reduction in weekly rates of wages.

For unskilled labourers in the non-trading departments of Local Authorities in 28 towns, the average weekly rate of wages shows an increase of about 99 per cent. over that for August, 1914, from 26s. 9d. to 53s. 3d. In this case also the hours of labour have been reduced without any reduction in weekly rates of wages and the increase in hourly rates is about 120 per cent.

For unskilled labourers in gas works, the average of the rates of wages at the end of December, 1924, in over 40 large towns was 53s. 9d. a week, compared with 25s. 8d. a week at August, 1914, an increase of 98 per cent. As the hours of labour were reduced between the two dates without any reduction in weekly wages, the increase in hourly rates is greater, being about 124 per cent. The average rate for unskilled labourers in the electricity supply industry in over 50 large towns at December, 1924, was 53s. 11d. a week compared with 26s. 6d. a week at August, 1914, showing an increase of 103 per cent. In this case also the hours of labour had been reduced and the increase in hourly rates amounted to 132 per cent.

Agriculture.—The rates of wages of ordinary agricultural labourers in England and Wales at December, 1924, in those districts for which particulars are available, ranged from 25s. to 35s. a week, including the value of certain allowances. In the same districts in 1914 the cash rates of wages (which were subject to the addition of certain allowances) ranged from 13s. to 21s. a week. It is estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture that the average of the rates of wages prevailing for ordinary labourers in England and Wales at December, 1924, represented an increase of about 56 per cent. over the average of 1914. An article which appears in the next column gives particulars of the rates of wages which have recently been fixed for agricultural workers under the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act.

SUMMARY.

Both the amounts and the corresponding percentages of increase over pre-war rates show a wide diversity among different classes of workpeople. In some cases the increases in full-time weekly rates at the end of December, 1924, were equivalent to less than 30 per cent. on the pre-war rates. On the other hand, they were equivalent in some cases to over 100 per cent. on the pre-war rates. The information at the disposal of the Department is insufficient to enable the average percentage increase for all industries and occupations to be calculated exactly, but it is estimated that at the end of December, 1924, weekly full-time rates of wages of adult workpeople, in the industries for which information is available, averaged between 70 and 75 per cent. above the level of August, 1914, as compared with 170 to 180 per cent. at the end of December, 1920, when wages generally were at their highest level. As considerable reductions in normal weekly working hours were made in nearly all industries in 1919 and 1920, the percentage increase in hourly rates of wages, since 1914, is substantially greater; while it is not practicable on the basis of available information to make any precise calculation, it seems probable that at the end of December, 1924, the average level of hourly rates of wages was about 90 to 100 per cent. above that of August, 1914.

The average percentage increase in weekly full-time wages at the end of each quarter during the past five years, as compared with the beginning of August, 1914, is estimated, on the basis of such information as is available, to have been approximately as shown below:—

Year.	Estimated Average Percentage Increase in Weekly Full-Time Wages at end of			
	March.	June.	September.	December.
1920 ...	130-135	150-155	160-165	170-180
1921 ...	160-170	145-155	130-135	110-115
1922 ...	100-105	85-90	75-80	70-75
1923 ...	70	65-70	70 (nearly)	65-70
1924 ...	70 (nearly)	70	70-75	70-75

It should be observed that the foregoing particulars relate to rates of wages for full-time working, and that no account is taken of the loss of actual earnings resulting from unemployment and short-time working, or of the effects of increased or reduced exertion on the earnings of workpeople paid at piece-rates of wages, as to which comprehensive statistics are not available.

WAGES IN AGRICULTURE.

The Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act of 1924 provided that minimum rates of wages should be fixed, for workers in agriculture, by Agricultural Wages Committees to be established by the Minister of Agriculture in each county (or group of combined counties) in England and Wales. Before fixing the rates the Committees are required to give at least 14 days' notice of their proposals, during which time objections may be lodged. After the expiration of the period of notice the decisions of the Committees are reported to the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales, which is required to issue Orders giving effect to the decisions.

In the majority of the areas for which Committees have been established, notices of proposals to fix minimum rates and other conditions have now been issued, and in many cases the period of notice has expired and the conditions have been embodied in Orders issued by the Agricultural Wages Board. A summary of the minimum rates fixed for ordinary labourers and for women, in the areas for which Orders have been issued, is given in the following Table, together with the hours of labour on which the weekly minimum wage is based and the dates from which the rates operate.

Area.	Minimum Rates for		Hours in respect of which the weekly minimum rate for male workers is payable.		Date from which Rates Operate.
	Ordinary Labourers (Adult).	Adult Women.	Summer.	Winter.	
<i>England.</i>	<i>Per Week.</i>	<i>Per Hour.</i>			
Bedford & Hunts	29s.	5d.	50	48	26th Jan.
Berkshire	29s. 2d.	5d.	50	50	29th Dec.
Buckinghamshire	30s.	6d.	50	48	9th Feb.
Cambridge & Isle of Ely	30s.	...	51	48	26th Jan.
Cheshire	35s.	...	54	54	23rd Feb.
Cumberland and Westmorland	30s.	5½d.	54	48	26th Jan.
Derbyshire	8d. per hr.	...	54	54	16th Feb.
Dorset	30s.	...	51	51	26th Jan.
Durham	32s.	2s. per day	50	50	9th Feb.
Essex	30s.	5d.	50	48	29th Dec.
Gloucestershire	30s.	5d.	50	50	9th Feb.
Hampshire & Isle of Wight	30s.	5d.	51	48	9th Feb. (Men) 16th Feb. (W. men)
Herefordshire	31s.	...	52	48	26th Jan.
Hertfordshire	31s.	24s. p. wk.	48	48	9th Feb.
Holland (Lincs.)	36s.	6d.	...	48	16th Feb.
Kesteven & Lindsey (Lincs.)	32s.	5½d.	52	48	16th Feb.
Leicestershire	34s.	5d.	54	54	16th Feb.
	35s.	...	...	...	...
Middlesex	(Winter) 34s. 4½d. (Summer) 28s.	6d.	50	48	26th Jan.
Norfolk	(Winter) 29s. (Summer) 32s.	5d.	50	48	29th Dec.
Nottinghamshire	32s.	5d.	50	50	21st Feb.
Oxfordshire	30s.	6d.	50	48	16th Feb.
Rutland	32s. 6d.	5d.	54	54	16th Feb.
Shropshire	31s. 6d.	5d.	54	54	9th Feb.
Staffordshire	31s. 6d.	...	54	54	9th Feb.
Suffolk	7d. per hr.	...	50	48	26th Jan.
Surrey	32s. 3d.	5½d.	50	50	9th Feb.
Warwickshire	30s.	5½d.	50	48	9th Feb.
Wiltshire	30s.	5d.	50	50	9th Feb.
Worcestershire	30s.	4½d.	53	48	26th Jan.
Yorkshire (North Riding)	35s.	6d.	52½	48	16th Feb.
<i>Wales.</i>					
Anglesey & Carnarvonshire	30s.	6d.	50	50	29th Dec. (Men) 9th Feb. (Women)
Denbighshire & Flintshire	30s. 6d.	...	50	50	16th Feb.
Merionethshire & Montgomeryshire	31s.	...	54	54	16th Feb.
Radnorshire & Brecknockshire	31s.	...	52	50	9th Feb.

In addition to fixing the rates and hours shown in the above Table the Committees have also fixed minimum rates of wages for juvenile workers, overtime rates, and special rates for horsemen, cattlemen and shepherds, and, in some cases, have specified the allowances in kind which may be granted in lieu of payment in cash, together with the value at which such allowances may be reckoned.

Copies of the Orders in full are obtainable on application to the Secretary of the Agricultural Wages Board, Gwydyr House Annexe, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

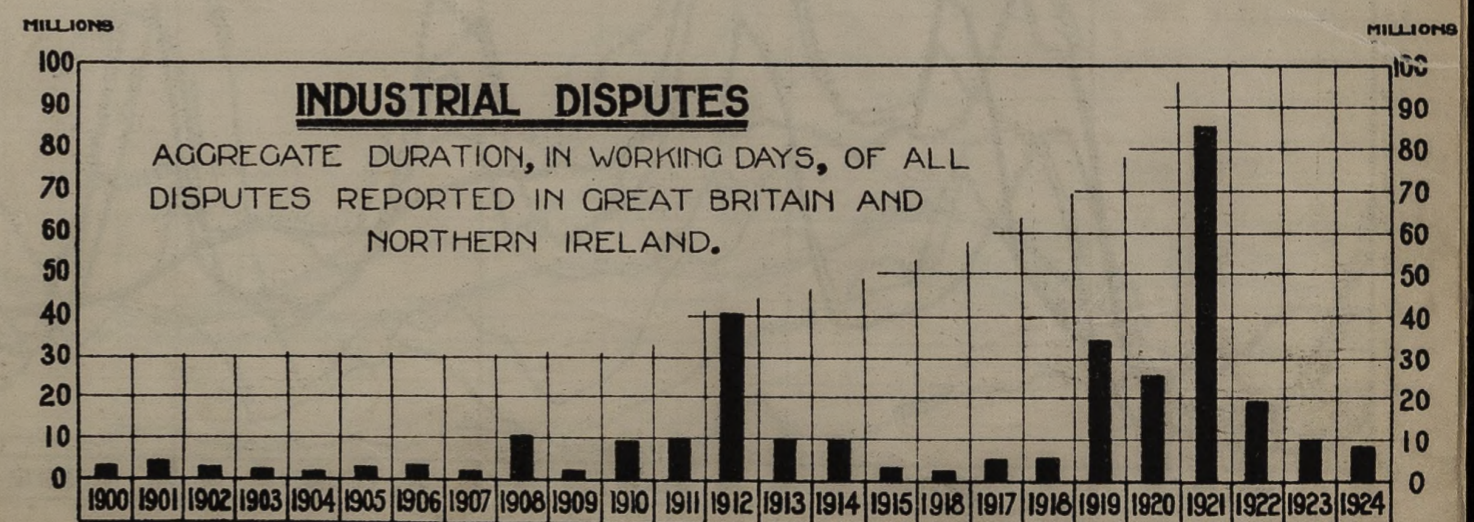
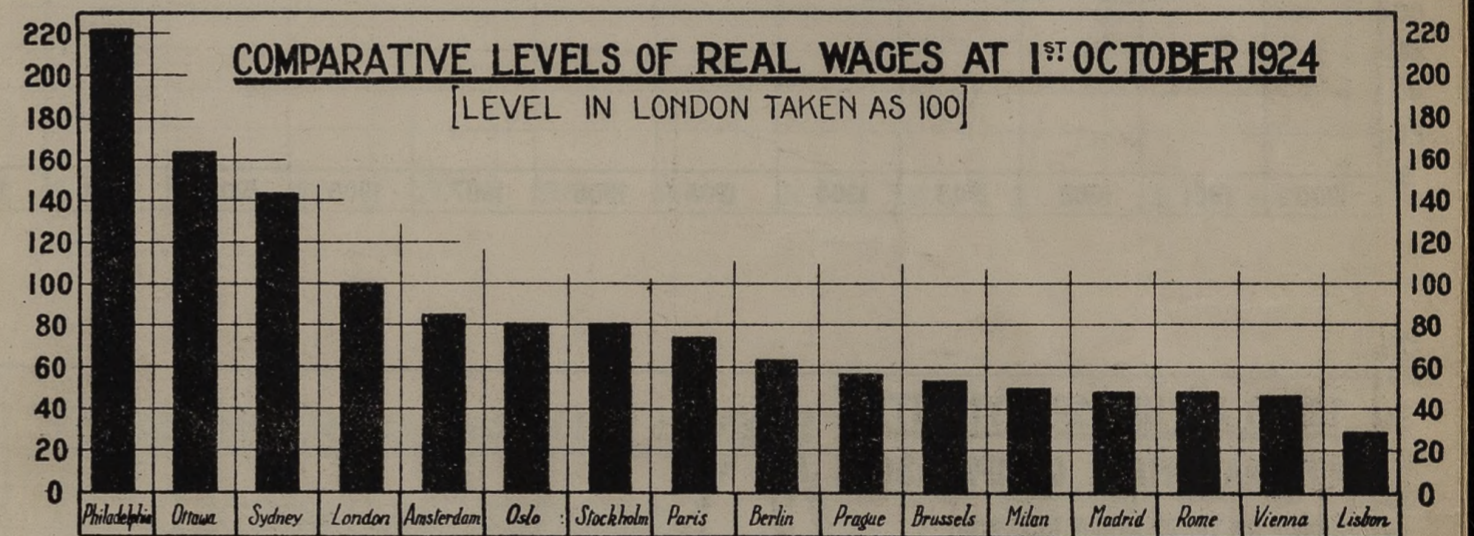
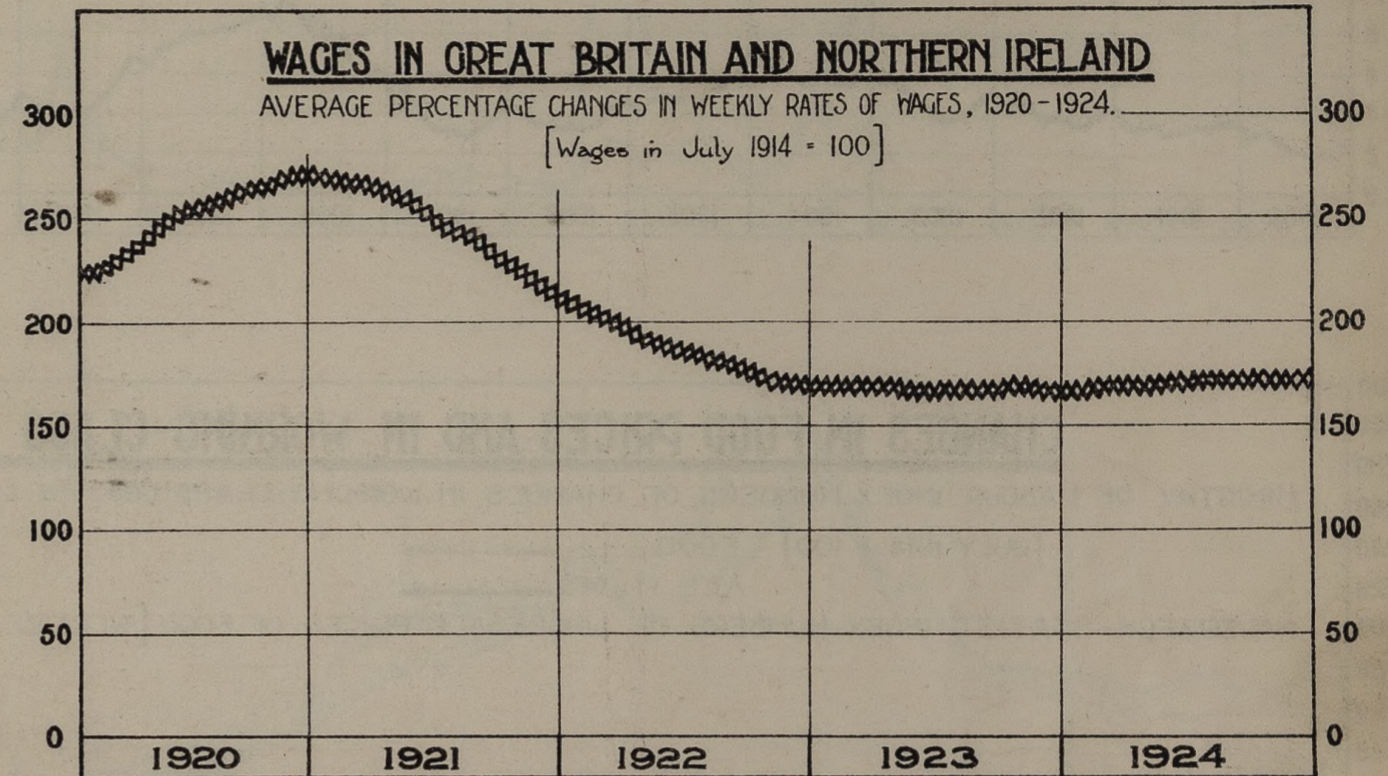
At 27th January, 1925, the number of men in training was 6,579, and the number awaiting training, 1,975. Since 1st August, 1919, 89,364 men have terminated training.

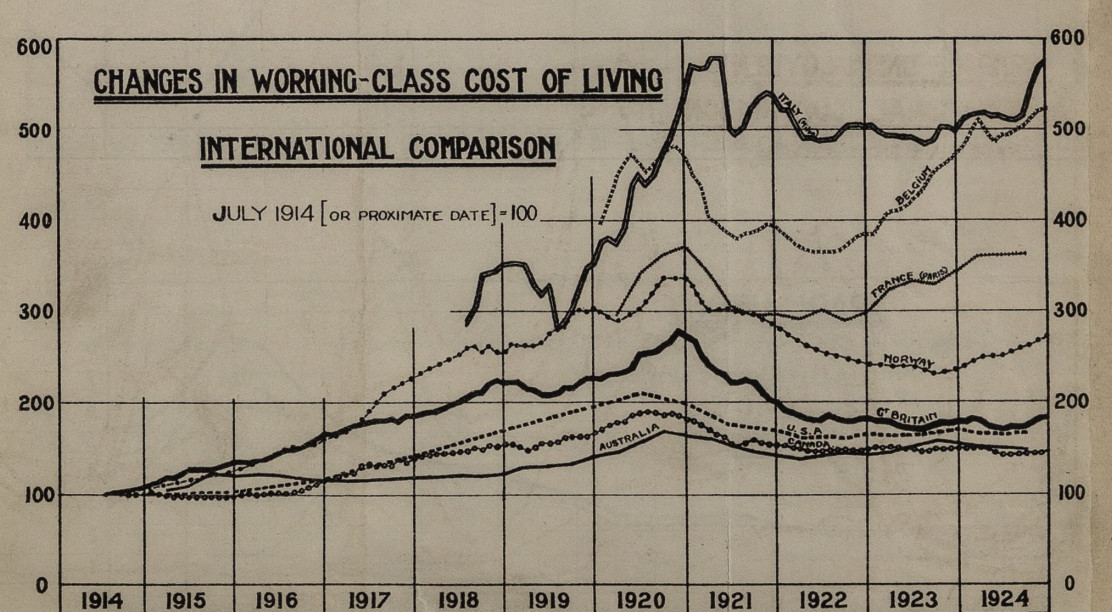
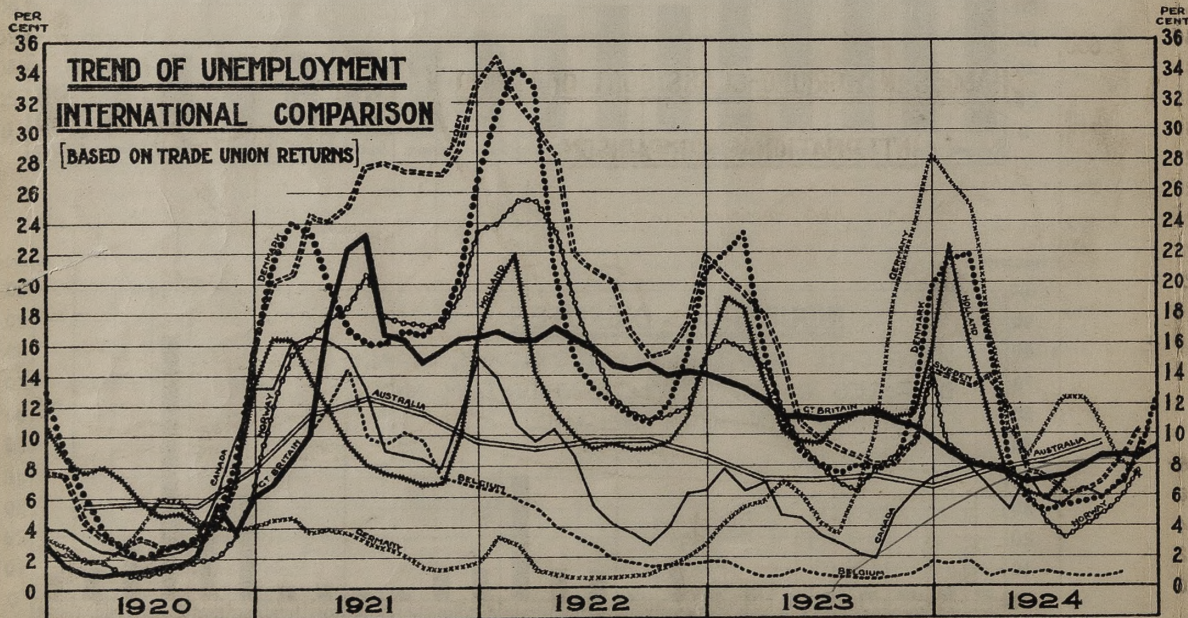
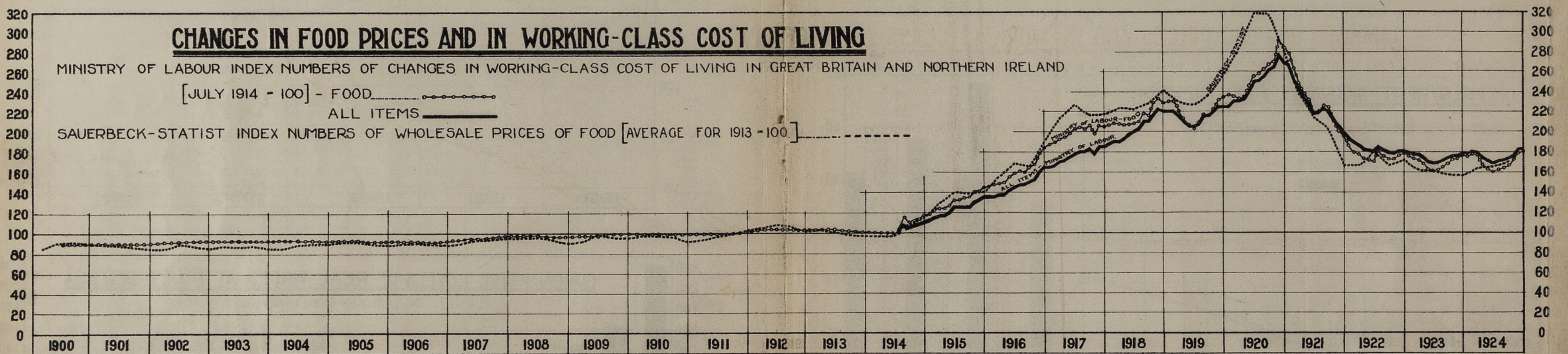
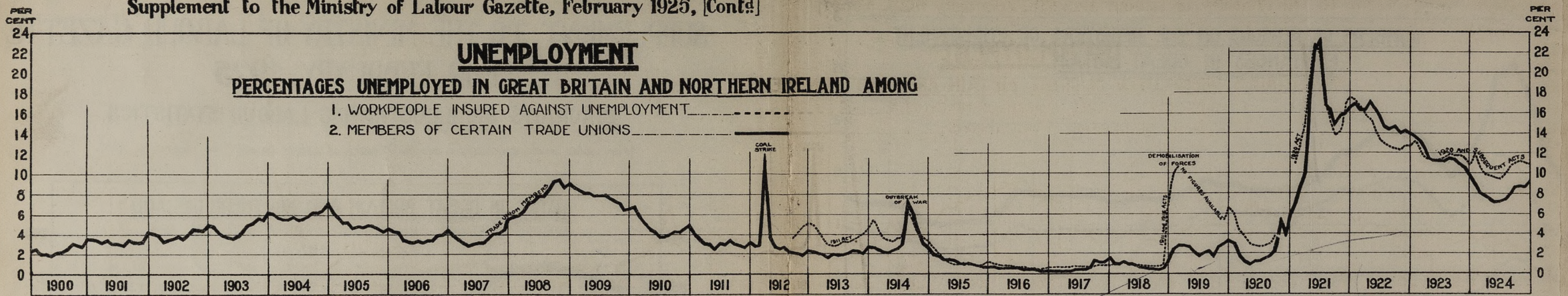
The latest returns show that there are approximately 28,200 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms is approximately 350,000.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE FOR FEBRUARY, 1925

DIAGRAMS &c. ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS.

(For notes and explanations see the "Ministry of Labour Gazette" for February, 1925.)





DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS.

A SPECIAL Supplement, which is included with the present issue of this GAZETTE, contains a selection of diagrams, etc., illustrating some of the principal official statistics relating to labour conditions. Explanatory notes with regard to each of these diagrams are given below:—

Wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The first diagram shows the average movement of weekly rates of wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past four years, the average level of rates of wages at the end of each month in the years 1920-1924 being expressed as percentages of the average level at the beginning of August, 1914 (taken as 100).

For reasons which are stated in the article on pages 36 to 38, relating to the "Relative Levels of Rates of Wages at August, 1914, and December, 1924" (see especially the second paragraph, on page 36, and the first paragraph of the "Summary" on page 38), it is not possible to calculate exactly the average percentage increase in rates of wages generally since 1914, and the position of the curve should be regarded as furnishing only an approximate indication of this percentage increase at any one date, so far as suggested by the incomplete information in the possession of the Department. The curve is believed, however, to represent with a close approach to accuracy the average changes in wage rates which took place in the period from the beginning of 1920 to the end of 1924.

The figures used in the construction of the diagram are given for the end of each quarter during 1920-1924 in a Table on page 38, and the details contained in the article in which that Table is included will show the nature of the information utilised in arriving at these figures.

It should be noted (a) that as the weekly working hours have been reduced, since 1914, in nearly all industries, the percentage increases in hourly rates of wages would be greater than the increases indicated by the diagram, which deals with weekly rates of wages; and (b) that the diagram relates to rates of wages for a full ordinary week, and not to actual earnings (inclusive of the effect of short time, overtime, variations in the amount of work done by piece-workers, etc.) as to which statistics are not available.

Relative Levels of Real Wages: International Comparison.

This graph is constructed from the figures in column 7 of the Table in the article "Comparison of the Levels of Real Wages, etc.," on page 66 of the present issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. For further information on this subject, and for particulars as to the sources of information and methods employed in computing the figures referred to, reference should be made to the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1923, et seq. (particularly to the articles published in that month on pp. 236 and 237, and in November, 1924, on page 392), and to the *International Labour Review* (published by the International Labour Office, Geneva) for October, 1924.

Points to be observed in comparing the levels indicated by the diagram are:—

- (1) The "wage" measured is the average of the hourly rates of "wages" in a number of typical urban male occupations in the cities represented;
- (2) The measure used to calculate the purchasing power of this average "wage" may be assumed to be the cost in each capital city of a basket of foodstuffs in which the quantity of each article is as near as possible an average of the quantities of that article in the working-class household budgets taken by the International Labour Office as typical of the countries represented.

Industrial Disputes.

Statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, based on returns obtained from the employers, or their associations, and from the trade unions concerned, as to the numbers of workpeople involved in industrial disputes causing stoppages of work, and as to the numbers of working days lost owing to disputes, at establishments where the disputes occur. Statistics for January, 1925, will be found on page 63 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

The graph contained in the Supplement, showing the aggregate duration, in working days, of the disputes reported in the years 1900-1924, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, is based on the statistics so compiled: the actual figures for the years 1910-1924 were published, together with other statistics on this subject, on page 5 of the January, 1925, issue of this GAZETTE. The figures are exclusive of disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, or lasting less than one day, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople involved multiplied by the number of working days) exceeds 100 days. The inclusion of such small disputes, however, would not materially affect the figures relating to aggregate duration.

Unemployment.

A diagram is given showing the fluctuations in the percentages unemployed (a) in the period 1912-1924 among workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and (b) in the period 1900-1924 among certain trade unions (mainly of skilled workers) which pay out-of-work benefit to their members and make regular returns to the Department. Monthly statistics under each of these headings are published regularly in this GAZETTE (see pages 45 and 52 of this issue), and figures for 1924 and previous years were published on page 2 of the January, 1925, issue. As regards insured workpeople, a summary of the monthly percentages since the beginning of 1921 was given on page 354 of the

October, 1924, issue, and an account of the data employed and the methods used in compiling the statistics appeared on page 397 of the GAZETTE for November, 1925.

Under the original National Insurance Act, which came into operation in 1912, unemployment insurance applied only to certain industries, and to about 2½ million workpeople. In July, 1916, the scope of unemployment insurance was extended to include workpeople employed on munitions work, and this extension brought the total number insured up to about 3½ millions at the end of 1916. In 1920 unemployment insurance was extended, by a new Act, to substantially all industries except private domestic service and agriculture, and the number of workpeople now covered is about 11½ millions.

Changes in Food Prices and in Working-Class Cost of Living.

The curves in this diagram relating to the changes in retail food prices and in working-class cost of living generally since July, 1914, are constructed from the statistics compiled by the Department, and published regularly in this GAZETTE, relating to the changes in the cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (see page 43 of the present issue—particularly the Table at the foot of the second column of that page). A detailed explanation of the methods by which these statistics are compiled was given in the February, 1921, issue of the GAZETTE, and a summarised account in the July, 1923, issue.

The curve relating to retail food prices from 1900 to July, 1914, is based on index numbers which were regularly compiled, before the war, by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, representing the average percentage changes in the retail prices, in London, of 23 of the principal articles of food consumed by working-class families, combined in proportions corresponding with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure. The figures, which are published in the "Seventeenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom" (Cd. 7733 of 1915), are annual averages, whereas those given for dates since July, 1914 (referred to above) relate to the beginning of each month.

The curve relating to wholesale food prices is constructed from the index numbers regularly computed by Mr. Augustus Sauerbeck up to the end of 1912, and subsequently continued by the "Statist," relating to the changes in the prices of 19 articles of food. The original index numbers, which are computed monthly on the basis of the average prices of the 11 years 1867-77 (taken as 100), have been converted, for the purpose of the diagram, into percentages of the figures for 1913 (taken as 100) and have been averaged for quarterly periods.

In any comparison of the curves for wholesale and retail food prices it should be noted that the articles included in the Sauerbeck-"Statist" index number are not identical with those in the Ministry of Labour index number, and that there are other important differences in the construction and, consequently, in the significance, of the two sets of figures. For these reasons caution is necessary in drawing inferences from relatively small divergences in the courses of the respective curves.

Trend of Unemployment—International Comparison.

This diagram is intended to show for a number of the principal industrial States abroad, as well as for this country, the extent to which unemployment has increased or declined from month to month during the period commencing 1st January, 1920, and ending 31st December, 1924.

For each country the extent of the rise or fall between any two months is measured by the change in the percentage of members of Trade Unions or other similar workers' organisations returned as being totally unemployed in that country at a given date in the respective months. These percentages have been published regularly in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE throughout the period covered by the diagram (see, for example, page 65 of this issue).

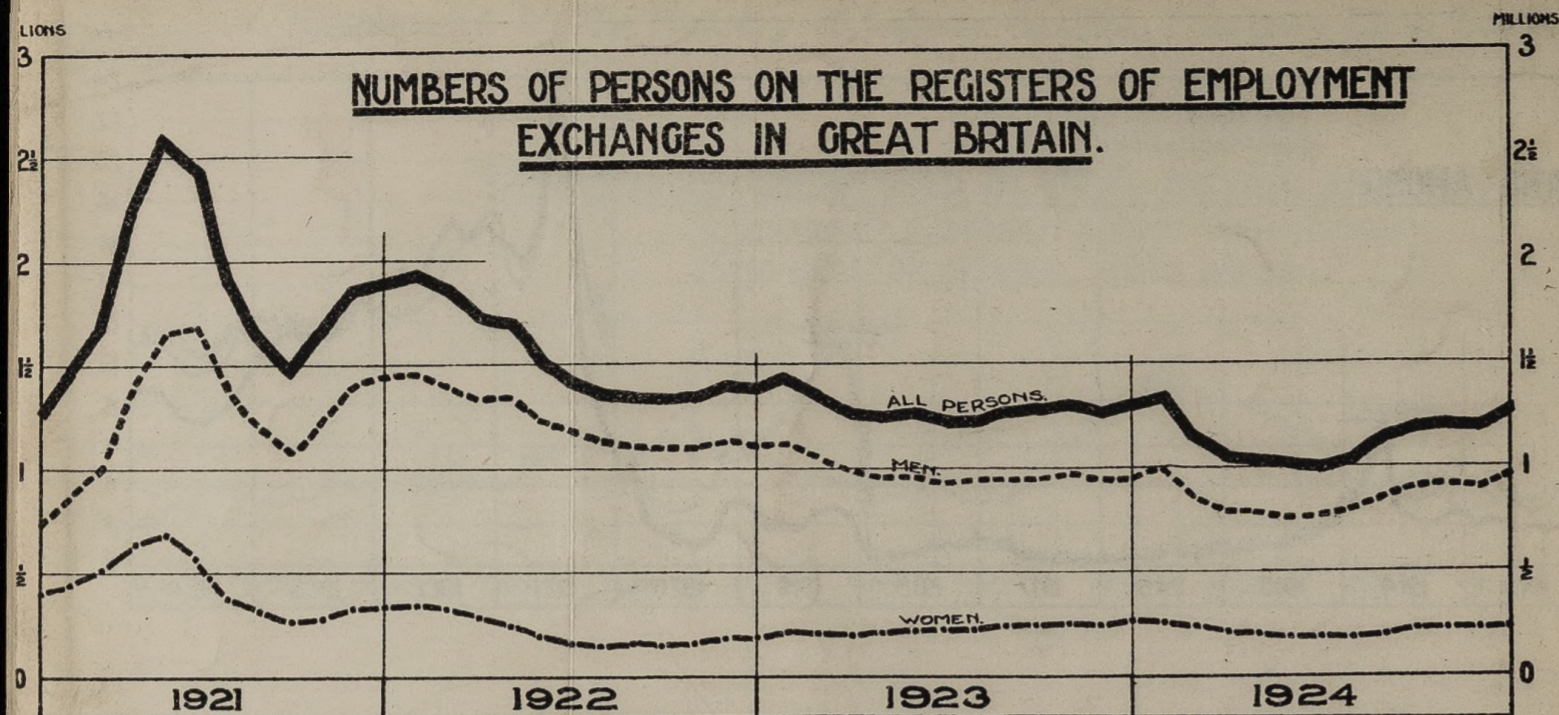
It may help to prevent an erroneous interpretation of this diagram if attention is drawn to the cautionary note by which these percentages are preceded in each issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. The point there emphasised is that the percentages of unemployment reported for two or more countries at a given date do not constitute an accurate measure of the relative levels of unemployment prevailing in those countries at that date. One of the chief reasons for this is that in no two countries are the workpeople who are organised in Trade Unions equally representative of the general body of industrial wage earners. Other reasons, together with a detailed description of the differences in the bases of the official statistics of unemployment amongst Trade Unionists, published in various countries, will be found in the publication entitled "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment," forming No. 7 of series "C" of the "Studies and Reports" issued by the International Labour Office in Geneva.

Changes in Cost of Living—International Comparison.

This diagram is based on the figures of percentage changes in the cost of living in this country and in various countries abroad, published month by month in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE (see, for example, page 65 of the present issue).

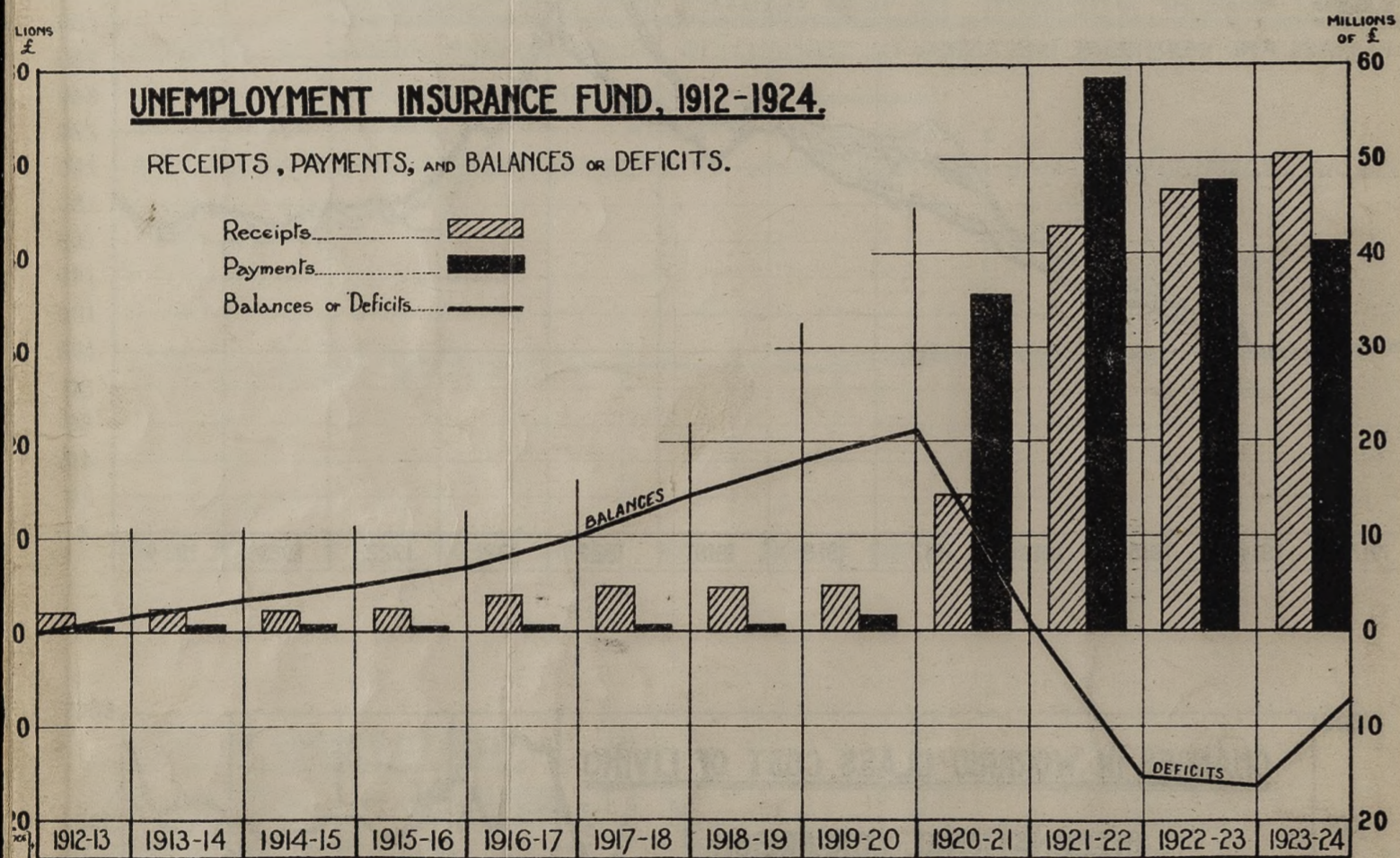
It is to be noted that, while these percentages are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, neither they nor the curves constructed from them can be accepted as offering an exact comparative measure of the changes in the cost of living in the countries represented, for the reason that in no two countries are the nature and scope of the statistical data used alike, nor are the methods of combining such data and the periods for which the change in the cost of living is measured identical. In every case, however, the calculation of the fluctuations in the cost of living is based on the assumption that the standard of living was identical at the various periods compared.

NUMBERS OF PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN.



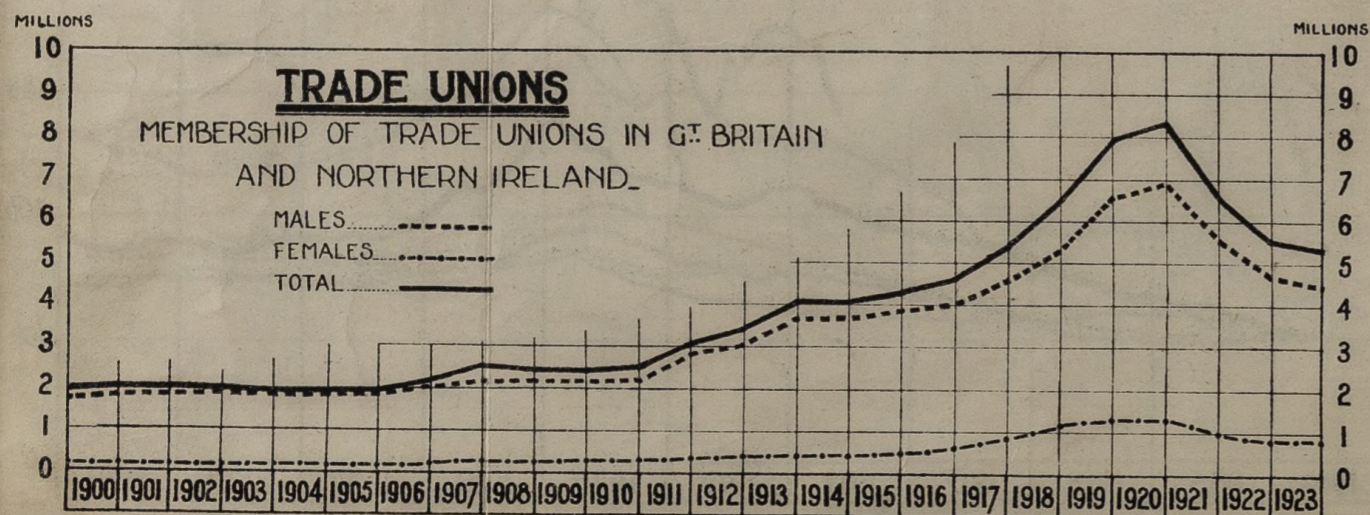
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND, 1912-1924.

RECEIPTS, PAYMENTS, AND BALANCES OR DEFICITS.



TRADE UNIONS

MEMBERSHIP OF TRADE UNIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.



Numbers of Persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain.

The figures on which this diagram is based relate to the total number of persons (whether insured against unemployment or not, and including part-time workers not actually employed on the dates to which the returns relate) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month in the period 1921-4. The figures are communicated regularly to the Press, and published monthly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, the article on page 54). The weekly totals from 7th January, 1921, to 6th October, 1924, were published, with some explanatory notes, in the October, 1924, issue of the GAZETTE (page 353).

Unemployment Insurance Fund.

This chart shows the annual amount of receipts into, and payments from, the Unemployment Insurance Fund in each Insurance Year (July to July), and the credit or debit balance at the end of each of such years. "Receipts" include contributions (from employers, from insured workers, and from the State), interest, and other receipts. "Payments" include benefit, appropriations for administration, refunds, and other payments. Detailed particulars up to July, 1923, with explanatory notes, will be found in the "Report on National Unemployment Insurance to July, 1923," (H.M. Stationery Office, price 3s.).

Trade Unions.

The diagram illustrating the changes in the membership of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is based on the statistics given in an article in the October, 1924, issue of this GAZETTE (page 352). The figures relate to the total membership of all employees' societies—including those of salaried and professional workers, as well as those of manual wage-earners—known to include among their functions that of negotiating with employers with the object of regulating conditions of employment. All such societies with headquarters in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whether registered under the Trade Union Acts or not, are included.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS: REQUIREMENT AS TO CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE Minister of Labour, on the 11th February, gave the following reply in the House of Commons to a Member of Parliament who had asked whether he was enforcing the requirement laid down in the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act of last year that applicants for unemployment benefit must have paid at least 30 contributions since the beginning of the last insurance year but one:—

"Under the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, this requirement is to come fully into force on 1st October next. Up to that date the Minister is given power to waive the requirement in particular cases. At present the requirement is waived in the case of applicants who, although they have not paid 30 contributions within the time prescribed, which is from two to three or even four years, have paid 12 contributions since entry into insurance, and also for others in whose favour the Local Employment Committee so recommends. I have not thought it right to make any change in this rule up to now, but I think the time has now arrived when some preliminary steps can properly be taken in anticipation of the general application of the statutory requirement which comes into full force on 1st October. I propose, therefore, that as from Thursday, 19th February, the requirement shall only be waived if the applicant for benefit can show either that eight contributions have been paid during the prescribed period or, alternatively, that a total of 30 contributions have been paid at any time since entry into insurance. In the case of disabled ex-service men not satisfying either of these conditions, the requirement will be waived if it appears on the recommendation of the Local Employment Committee that the failure to pay the requisite number of contributions is due to the man's disability."

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH BOARD: EFFECTS OF POSTURE AND REST IN MUSCULAR WORK.

THE Industrial Fatigue Research Board have issued a Report* containing the results of investigations relating to (a) a comparison of the energy expenditure of a woman carrying loads in different positions, and (b) the influence of rest pauses and changes of posture on the capacity for muscular work.

In the first of these, eight common methods of carrying a load are compared, and are found to demand different physiological "costs," which are related to physical causes, particularly to the different degrees to which the body's normal centre of gravity is displaced. The use of a shoulder yoke, with the weight carried in two pails hanging from the ends of the yoke, was found to be physiologically the most advantageous of these eight methods.

The second investigation deals with the effects of effort in lifting and pulling. The principal points that emerge are, first the existence of an optimum height from the ground at which the greatest effort can be exerted, and of a "weak spot" nearer the ground; secondly, the beneficial influence of changes in posture on the maintenance of pulling capacity; and lastly, the beneficial influence of rest pauses interpolated between the pulls.

* Industrial Fatigue Research Board, Report No. 29. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. 6d. net.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY.

THE Building Industry Committee set up by the then Minister of Health on the 11th October last,* have now issued a Memorandum of Instructions for the guidance of the Local Building Industry Committees which have been or are to be set up "to encourage and give effect to the Building Trade apprenticeship policy of the Building Industry Committee."

The National House Building Committee, in their Report dated the 10th April, 1924,† recommended that various relaxations should be made in the apprenticeship rules appearing in building trades working agreements. The present memorandum states that relaxation has already taken place in some cases in regard to the maximum number of apprentices to be allowed to any individual employer; and the Committee express the hope that ordinary apprenticeship will in the future be the successful method of recruiting the trades and maintaining the balance in the personnel of craft as compared with craft.

The Committee give, in an appendix to the memorandum, the draft recitals and conditions which they recommend should be included in all contracts placed by Local Authorities for the erection of houses. The draft conditions contain, *inter alia*, the following clause:—

"During the continuance of the work under this contract the Contractor shall employ under indentures of apprenticeship or other written agreements, in a form to be approved by the Local Building Industry Committee, a number of apprentices in the building trades . . . not less than one-third of the number of building trade craftsmen employed by him on or in connection with this contract. . . ."

This clause is subject to an overriding maximum of one apprentice to three craftsmen in the area of the Local Building Industry Committee.

The Committee suggest that in some places it may be thought desirable to secure the co-operation of the Local Education Authorities, who may be able to help in selecting youths likely to develop into capable craftsmen.

The memorandum also contains, in another appendix, a draft special form of indenture which it is suggested should be used for "augmented" apprentices, *i.e.*, apprentices taken on under the new scheme above the normal age for entering apprenticeship. (Forms already exist for those entering apprenticeship within the normal age.) It is suggested, however, that such youths shall be employed for a probationary period of at least one month before being indentured.

The Committee call special attention to the recommendations regarding the apprenticeship of building trade labourers and others having previous knowledge of the trade. These are described in the memorandum as "adult" apprentices, as they may be apprenticed at an age even beyond the extended age (20 years) permitted under the scheme for fresh entrants into the building trades. In another appendix the memorandum contains a suggested form of apprenticeship for such "adult" apprentices, which provides, *inter alia*, that the rate of wages for these apprentices shall be the agreed labourer's rate for the first year of the term of apprenticeship, and thereafter successively 80, 90, and 95 per cent. of the current standard rate of craftsmen, until the end of the third year, when the full standard rate of craftsmen becomes payable.

The memorandum contains suggestions for supplementing the craft training of apprentices by training in technical classes, either in the day time or in the evening.

Appendices to the memorandum (in addition to those already mentioned) contain suggested draft rules for local Building Industry Committees; an apprentice registration form; and a form of quarterly return relating to apprentices in the building industry in the various districts.

The Minister of Health has now issued a Circular‡ to Housing Authorities and County Councils in England and Wales on the subject of the augmentation of the skilled building trade crafts by means of the revision of the apprenticeship system, on the lines of the memorandum summarised above. The Circular contains the following clause:—

"(b) The Minister considers it essential that all possible steps should be taken to increase the number of skilled craftsmen in the industry, and with this object in view he proposes to make it a condition of approval of housing schemes of Local Authorities in localities where Local Building Industry Committees are in existence that all future contracts for the erection of houses shall contain provisions for the employment by the contractor of apprentices in the ratio of not less than one apprentice for every three building trade craftsmen employed by him on or in connection with the housing contract, subject to an overriding maximum for the area of the Local Building Industry Committee. . . . Similar arrangements as regards apprentices would be necessary in the case of houses erected by a Local Authority by direct labour."

Appended to the Circular are three appendices, containing (i) draft "recitals," which should be included in all contracts placed by Local Authorities for the erection of houses; (ii) a draft form of indenture for "augmented" apprentices; (iii) a draft form of indenture for "adult" apprentices. These are identical with the corresponding documents appended to the memorandum of the Building Industry Committee.

* See the November, 1924, issue of this GAZETTE (page 395).
† Cmd. 2104. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net. A summary of this Report appeared in the April, 1924, issue of this GAZETTE, pages 120-1.
‡ Circular 520A.—H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES IN JANUARY, 1925.

DURING the five weeks ended 31st January, 1925, 14 meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour.

At the annual meeting of the Joint Industrial Council for the *British Coir Mat and Matting Industry*, consideration of an application by the Workers' side for an increase of wages was adjourned.

The National Joint Industrial Council for the *Electricity (Supply) Industry* confirmed a number of wage agreements made by District Councils and, at a special meeting, considered two cases where District Councils had failed to arrive at an agreement with regard to wages. No decision was recorded in one case, but in the other a settlement was reached.

At a meeting of the *Hosiery Trade* Joint Industrial Council questions of late fines and waiting time were further considered.

A Conference of members of the National Joint Industrial Council for *Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers)* and members of the several Provincial Councils, together with representatives from areas not covered by Provincial Councils, was held on 29th January. The conference was called as the result of the work of a Committee of the National Council which had been considering the relations of the National and Provincial Councils. Resolutions were passed dealing with measures to secure greater cohesion and agreement between the constituent bodies of the National and Provincial Councils, and with publicity and organisation; and a number of matters were remitted to the National Council for consideration. At the annual meeting of the National Council on 30th January, various matters arising from the conference were referred to the appropriate committee.

At the meeting of the *Painters' and Decorators' Industrial* Joint Council the Geneva Convention, in regard to the prohibition of the use of white lead in internal painting, was discussed, together with the question of apprenticeship.

The question of wages was considered by the *Artificial Stone Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee*; a further meeting will be held in April.

The Joint Industrial Council for the *Match Manufacturing Industry* considered a proposal by the Workers' side in regard to the application of holiday privileges granted by the Council.

The question of the employment of boys and youths was considered by the *Lock, Latch and Key Joint Industrial Council*.

At a meeting of the *Pottery Joint Industrial Council*, minutes of the Executive, the Research, Inventions and Designs, and the Organisation Committees were received. Among the more important matters dealt with was a third Interim Report of the Research, etc., Committee on the construction and ventilation of potters' drying stoves. In connection with a review of the position as to Works Committees, the Organisation Committee reported that, with a view to making known the achievements of the most successful Works Committees, it was arranging to invite representatives of these Committees to meet with it on a date to be arranged. Resolutions were brought forward by the Executive Committee urging the Government to make inquiry into the question of the effect of foreign competition on the industry, and into the cost of production of pottery in this and competitive countries.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN QUEENSLAND.

REPORT ON WORKING OF ACT.*

A SUMMARY of the chief provisions of the original Act (which was passed in October, 1922) was given in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for January, 1923, and further details of administrative regulations were published in the May issue of the same year.

Unemployment Council.—The first meeting of the Unemployment Council, the body which assists the Minister in the administration of the Act, was held in January, 1923, and 25 further meetings in all were held between that date and 30th June, 1924. The Council has kept in touch with all matters relating to unemployment, and has been closely engaged in considering the most effective measures for carrying out the objects of the Act. Special attention has been paid to the best methods of dealing with various classes of casual and intermittent employment.

Contributions to Fund.—The Unemployment Insurance Fund is made up of equal contributions from workers, employers and the State. The amount contributed by the State for the period up to 30th June, 1923,† was £15,000. The total amount contributed from the other two sources for the same period, as shown by the sale of stamps, was £41,952, bringing the total payments to the Insurance Fund up to £56,952. For the year ended 30th June, 1924, the value of stamps sold was £149,375, excluding £6,003 in respect of permanent State employees. The State contribution for the eleven months ended 31st May, 1924, was £70,683, making a total revenue to the Fund for the year of £226,061.

Payment of Benefits.—Payment of benefits began in September 1923, and at first was made only from those centres in which there

* First Annual Report on operations under the Unemployed Workers' Insurance Act of 1922. A. 44—1924. Department of Labour, Brisbane.
† *i.e.*, for a period of four months only, as the Act did not come into force till 1st March, 1923.

was a staff officer of the Department of Labour. As the provisions of the Act became more widely known, the business increased so much that it was found necessary to distribute benefits from all the larger centres in the State. For that purpose all Clerks of Petty Sessions who are civil officers (other than those located in the same town as staff officers) have been made benefit-distributing agents. The total amount of benefits paid throughout the State up to 30th June, 1924, was £149,109.

Casual and Intermittent Work.—As Queensland is largely dependent on seasonal industries—chiefly pastoral, sugar and meat—thousands of workers have no choice but work of a casual or intermittent nature. The relief of these workers constitutes the heaviest claim on the Fund. In regard to purely casual work, it soon became obvious that special provisions were necessary as to payment of benefits to waterside workers. These workers, though seldom unemployed for fourteen consecutive days (the "waiting period" provided for in the Act), nevertheless suffer greatly from unemployment. The scheme adopted provides for payment based on the number of days of unemployment in each month, but no worker may receive more than the equivalent of the annual fifteen weeks' benefit allowed for by the Act.

Somewhat similar methods have been adopted for casual warehousemen and packers, workers on intermittent work in coal mines and casual employees at railway goods sheds.

Organisation.—The organisation has necessarily been on an extensive scale. The number of agencies for the sale of stamps is 193, and the number of relief-distributing agencies 71. The organisation, which was at first of an experimental nature, as no accurate estimate could be made of the amount of work necessary, was gradually extended. It is now stated to be working efficiently.

Breaches of Act.—Steps have been taken at various times with a view to reminding employers generally of their obligations, particularly with regard to the keeping and stamping of workers' unemployment cards and wages rolls. Periodic inspections, particularly in centres outside Brisbane, disclosed considerable laxity in this matter. As cautions failed in many instances to have the desired effect, proceedings were taken wherever negligence was evident. The number of successful prosecutions during the year was 241. In addition, proceedings were instituted against workers in 8 cases for imposition on the Fund.

HOURS OF WORK IN GERMANY.*

THE new Order regulating working hours, which came into force on 1st January, 1924 (see this GAZETTE for January, 1924, p. 11), permitted, for most industries, extension of the 8-hour day by means of collective agreements. The majority of collective agreements provide for extra time up to a certain limit, such extra time worked being paid for at the rate for normal hours. Only work done beyond this extra time has to be paid for at overtime rates.

In May, 1924, the General Federation of German Trade Unions undertook an inquiry, intended to show how far the hours actually being worked exceeded 48 a week. The inquiry covered seven of the most important trades, comprising 46,122 undertakings, employing 2,453,523 workers. The inquiry showed that in May, 1924, 54.7 per cent. of the workers in Germany worked over 48 hours a week. A similar inquiry on the same basis, embracing 51,166 factories, employing 2,362,820 workpeople, was carried out by the Federation in November, 1924, as the result of which it was ascertained that the percentage of workers who worked more than 48 hours a week had been reduced to 45.4.

The following Table gives the percentage of workers in each of the industries covered who were employed more than 48 hours a week at the time of each inquiry:—

Industry.	Percentage of workpeople working more than 48 hours a week.		Percentage of workpeople working more than 54 hours.	
	May, 1924.	November, 1924.	May, 1924.	November, 1924.
Building	(1) 11.0	(2) 10.5	(3) 2.9	(4) 3.4
Printing	49.4	26.5	1.7	0.3
Chemical	44.0	38.8	7.8	5.9
Woodworking	21.4	15.6	4.6	2.0
Metal & Engineering	63.5	53.1	21.1	16.6
Boots and Shoes	14.5	8.1	0.3	0.2
Textile	82.4	66.0	4.3	3.3
General Average	54.7	45.4	13.0	10.7

The following Table shows the working hours of coal miners in the various districts of Germany in 1913, 1920-23, and 1924:—

Year.	Working Hours per Shift, including pause, in the following Districts:—					
	Upper Silesia.	Lower Silesia.	Dortmund.	Ruhr.	Aix-la-Chapelle.	Saxony.
1913	9 to 10	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8 to 9
1920-1923	7.5	7	7	7	7	7
1924	8.5	8	8	8	8	8

* Based on a despatch from the Acting British Consul at Leipzig, dated 13th January, 1925; Trade Notes furnished by the Commercial Secretary at Berlin for week ending 17th January, 1925; and *Industrial and Labour Information*, 4th August, 1924, published by the International Labour Office, Geneva.

GERMAN BLASTFURNACES AND COKE WORKS: STATUTORY HOURS OF LABOUR.

AN Order of 20th January, 1925, brings certain workers in blast-furnaces and coke works under Section 7 of the Order on Working Hours of 21st December, 1923. The Section in question provides that extension of hours beyond 8 a day, by collective agreements or by sanction of a public authority, shall not be permissible for branches of industry involving special danger to life or health, or for classes of workers engaged in such work, in particular for underground workers in coal mines and for workers who are exposed in an unusual degree to the action of heat, poisonous substances, dust and the like, or to danger from explosives, unless such extension of working hours is urgently necessary in the public interest, or has been proved in practice by many years' experience to have no ill-effects, and in such cases the extension shall not exceed half an hour.

The new order brings the following workers within the scope of this protective clause:—

- (1) Workers in coke works who are employed on work at coke ovens, including the direct conveyance of coal to the ovens and of the coke from the ovens.
- (2) Workers at blastfurnaces, including those engaged in the direct conveyance of coke, ore, etc., to the furnaces, and of the molten iron from the furnaces; also those engaged in the removal of the pig iron from the casting house.

* Since November, 1923, such works have had two 12-hour shifts and a 7-day week as "continuous trades."

The Order is to come into force on 1st April, 1925, unless special circumstances make postponement necessary in any part of the country; in which case the date may be postponed by the Government of the particular State after consultation with the Federal Minister of Labour.

NEW ZEALAND STATE RAILWAYS: WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

THE Board of Inquiry appointed in June, 1924, to inquire into the rates of pay and conditions of work of railway employees in New Zealand made in its report* some interesting pronouncements on wages and hours of labour. In reply to a claim that the 44-hour week previously in force in the railway service be restored without any reduction in the existing weekly rates of pay, the Board were of opinion that a 48-hour week is necessary to ensure efficiency in the branches of the service coming within the scope of the inquiry with the possible exception of the workshops and works staffs. The Court of Arbitration for several years past has prescribed a 44-hour week in trades in which the work is of a continuously strenuous nature, more particularly for the skilled trades, and a 48-hour week for other workshops. Outside the workshop and works staffs, the railway workers with whom the inquiry was concerned come within the latter category.

The Board further laid down that payment of overtime rates for all time on duty in excess of eight hours in any day is unwarranted. In industries in which the work is continuous, and in which the nature of the business necessitates the shifts being of unequal duration, it is customary to fix a limit (usually 10 hours) to the daily number of hours that may be worked, or to fix a range of hours (from 11 to 15) within which the daily number of hours must be worked, or to fix both a limit and a range. Overtime rates are payable only in respect of time worked in excess of the number of hours so fixed as the daily limit, or outside the range of hours during which the day's work must be performed. The provision of a 48-hour week with overtime rates for all time worked in excess of 10 hours in any day, or 48 in any week, safeguards the worker against being required to work longer than an average of 8 hours daily, and tends to restrict the maximum daily hours to a number approximating to that average. An exact 8-hour day is unworkable in a transport service like the railways, and necessarily involves a largely increased wages-bill disguised as overtime. The Board also recommended the discontinuance of payment of a special night rate.

With regard to wages, a majority of the Board report that money wages of railway workers have been brought into conformity with the increased cost of living†. The present minimum rate of 1s. 9½d. an hour represents an increase of 61.2 per cent. over the minimum rate payable in 1914, and the value of improved conditions and other concessions granted since 1914 places the worker on a better standard than in pre-war days. The weekly wage rates show a similar increase, for the present weekly hours are in no case longer than in 1914. It is objected that the rates fixed by the Court of Arbitration were minimum rates, and that workers often received substantially higher rates, whereas the classified rates of railway workers were standard rates. This is true, but an examination of the railway rates shows that they are higher than the corresponding minimum rates of the Court and are probably as high as, if not higher than, the general level of wages prevailing in industries covered by awards of the Court. The railway rates are fixed without regard to boom or slump conditions prevailing outside the service. For these reasons, and having regard to improved conditions granted since 1914, the majority of the Board were unable to recommend the granting of an increase in hourly rates.

* 1924. *New Zealand. Rates of Pay and Conditions of Work of Railway Employees (Reports of Board of Inquiry into)*.
† For the September quarter of 1924, the official figure for the rise in cost of living was 58 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The Board reported in August.

INSTITUTION OF A NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL IN FRANCE.

THE French *Journal Officiel* for 17th January, 1925, publishes the text of a Decree dated 16th January, 1925, authorising the institution of a National Economic Council, for the purpose of investigating national economic problems and the submission to the Government of proposals for their solution. The Council will consist of 47 members representing various social and economic interests, together with a certain number of expert delegates from the different ministries, and two members of the Higher Council of National Defence and the French Government representative on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. The 47 members referred to above will be nominated by the most representative organisations, as follows:—

Organisations representing municipal bodies, co-operative societies, the users of public services, mutual benefit societies, and fathers and mothers of families	9
Organisations representing the whole field of wage-earning and salaried workers	28
Organisations representing independent handicraftsmen	2
Organisations representing capital	8
	47

The members will hold office for two years. The Prime Minister is, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Council, which will hold four ordinary sessions annually of ten days each, and will have a Standing Committee of ten to deal with current business and to carry out the Council's decisions, etc. Additional members may be co-opted, when necessary, to represent interests not represented on the Council, which will also draw up a list of experts to be permanently associated with its labours. The Council is entitled to be heard by the various Ministers, etc., and the Committees of the Chamber and the Senate, or to request Ministers or Committees to send representatives to attend its own meetings. Both Ministers and Committees, as well as other high officials, have the right to be represented on the Council.

The Council will submit the results of its deliberations, in the form either of reports or of recommendations, to the Prime Minister, who will either inform the Council, within two months, of the action taken, or will request that the question be examined anew. The Government will forward to the Council for consideration all Bills of an economic character, as well as draft administrative regulations of a similar kind.

The Prime Minister, in his report to the President on this Decree, points out that the proposed organisation is experimental, and that it is not intended to be in the nature of a parliament or even of an industrial chamber. It is to act in a purely advisory capacity, and to serve as a centre of information on economic questions, which will be accessible to Government Departments and the two Chambers of the Legislature as well as to persons who may be interested.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY ON FRENCH RAILWAYS: NEW DECREE.

A DECREE dated 16th January, 1925,* introduces important modifications in the regulations applying the Eight Hour Day Act of 23rd April, 1919, to the principal French railway lines. The new regulations, which are applicable to railway servants other than engine-drivers, firemen and guards, supersede those contained in the Decree of 14th September, 1922.† The most important alterations are as follows:—

The maximum normal hours of labour have been reduced from 2,504 to 2,384 per annum (for a working year of 298 days, after allowing for the 15 days' paid annual holiday to which French railwaymen are entitled). The allowance of 450 hours' overtime for exceptional pressure of work has been cut down to 75 hours. A further 100 hours may, however, be granted under the prior authority of the Minister of Public Works. The net reduction in the normal permissible number of annual working hours of French railwaymen is thus approximately 400.

Under the 1922 Decree, the eight-hour principle was applied by averaging the number of hours worked over the whole year, with a maximum of ten hours on any one day. Under the present Decree, the period over which working hours may be averaged is reduced to ten days. This period may be raised to 45 days in special circumstances, such as at times of heavy seasonal traffic, and to 90 days for railwaymen employed on permanent-way repair work, the maintenance of electric plant, signals, etc. In the case of the last-named classes of railway servants, the daily working hours may be increased to a maximum of nine over a period of three months, provided that compensation for this extra time is made by a reduction in working hours during a subsequent period of three months.

The new regulations also discriminate, in a manner more favourable to the railwaymen, between hours of attendance and hours of actual work. Altogether, it may be said that these regulations are stricter and less elastic than those laid down by the Decree of 14th September, 1922.

* *Journal Officiel*, 20th January, 1925.

† See this GAZETTE, October, 1922, p. 402.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	79%
Food only	76%

FOOD.

During January there was a marked fall in the retail prices of butter and eggs, and sugar and fish were also cheaper at the end than at the beginning of the month. These reductions in prices, however, were largely counteracted by the increases in the prices of flour and bread, which occurred in many places during January.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 76 per cent. at 31st January,* as compared with about 78 per cent. at 1st January.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st and 31st January, 1925:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 31st Jan., 1925, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1925.	31st Jan., 1925.	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1925.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs	0 10	1 6	1 6	+ 0 8	...
Thin Flank	0 6½	1 0	0 10	+ 0 3½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	...
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 1	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	1 8½	1 8½	+ 0 9½	...
Breast	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 4½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	1 0½	1 0½	+ 0 6	...
Breast	0 4	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 1½	...
Bacon (streaky)†	0 11½	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 6½	...
Flour per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 6½	1 7½	+ 0 8½	+ 0 0½
Bread per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 4½	+ 0 0½
Tea	1 6½	2 5½	2 5½	+ 0 11½	+ 0 0½
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 4	0 3½	+ 0 1½	- 0 0½
Milk per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 3½	...
Butter—					
Fresh	1 2½	2 3½	2 1½	+ 0 10½	- 0 2
Salt	0 2½	2 2	1 11½	+ 0 9½	- 0 2½
Cheese	0 8½	1 2	1 2	+ 0 5½	+ 0 0½
Margarine	0 7	0 6½	0 7½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½
Eggs (fresh) each	0 1½	0 3	0 2½	+ 0 1½	+ 0 0½
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 5½	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 31st Jan., 1925, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding figure for 1st Jan., 1925.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	83	76	80	80
Thin Flank	51	52	51	50
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	51	44	48	47
Thin Flank	18	20	19	17
Mutton, British—				
Legs	93	93	93	93
Breast	78	71	75	75
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	94	83	89	87
Breast	39	38	39	37
Bacon (streaky)†	59	58	58	60
Fish	138	113	125	141
Flour	79	85	82	74
Bread	84	81	83	76
Tea	61	65	63	61
Sugar (granulated) ...	89	83	86	96
Milk	90	97	93	94
Butter—				
Fresh	67	81	74	88
Salt	62	66	64	82
Cheese	63	63	63	62
Margarine	5	2½	1	5½
Eggs (fresh)	135	128	132	151
Potatoes	134	98	116	114
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase).	78	75	76	78

* As 1st February fell on Sunday, the statistics relate to 31st January, in accordance with the usual practice.

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

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

§ The increase during January was very small, but sufficient to raise the average as expressed to the nearest farthing.

|| Decrease.

RENT, CLOTHING FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 31st January, 1925, was approximately 47 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards *clothing*, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 31st January the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged about 130 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the average retail price of coal was about the same as a month earlier, and approximately 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For lamp oil the average price fell from about 55 to 50 per cent. above the pre-war level, but the prices of candles and matches showed no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 31st January, as compared with July, 1914, was about 85 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st January is approximately 79 per cent.† over the pre-war level, as compared with 80 per cent. a month earlier.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1925 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 1925.

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:—

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

Month (beginning of)	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
January ...	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80
February ...	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79*
March ...	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76	73	...
April ...	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	...
May ...	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	...
June ...	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	...
July ...	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	...
August ...	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	...
September ...	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	...
October ...	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	...
November ...	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	...
December ...	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	...

NOTE.

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

* See note * in previous column.

† If allowance is made for the changes in taxation on commodities since July, 1914, the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The decline in employment which was recorded in the last week of December continued in the first week of January. There was a gradual improvement during the rest of the month, but at the beginning of February the total number registered as unemployed was higher than in the early part of December. Employment was good on the whole in the jute industry, in some branches of the cotton trade, with millers, with brickmakers, and with most of the skilled operatives in the building trades; it was fairly good in the silk and carpet trades, and in certain sections of the metal trades. In coal mining, in the section of the cotton industry spinning American cotton, and in the wool textile industry it was slack; in the iron and steel industry, in tinplate manufacture, and in the marine engineering and shipbuilding trades, it continued bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 26th January, 1925, was 11.5, compared with 10.9 at 22nd December, 1924. For males alone the percentage at 26th January was 12.1, as compared with 11.7 at 22nd December; for females the figure at 26th January was 9.6 as compared with 9.0 at 22nd December. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage of unemployed was 9.0 at the end of January, 1925, compared with 9.2 at the end of December, 1924, and with 8.9 at the end of January, 1924. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered* at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 26th January, 1925, was approximately 1,287,000, of whom 969,000 were men, and 243,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 29th December, 1924, it was 1,319,000, of whom 1,003,000 were men, and 250,000 were women; and at 22nd December, 1924, it was 1,213,000, of whom men numbered 930,000, and women 226,000.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at coal mines continued slack on the whole and showed little change as compared with the previous month. In South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottingham it was reported as good. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 24th January, 1925, was 1,139,066, a decrease of 4 per cent. as compared with January, 1924. The average number of days worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 24th January, 1925, was 5.39 as compared with 5.36 in December, 1924, and 5.17 in January, 1924.

At iron mines employment remained bad in the Cleveland district, where, however, a slight improvement was reported; it was fair in the Cumberland and Lancashire district, and moderate in other districts. At the mines covered by the returns there was an increase of 2.8 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with the previous month, and of 0.3 per cent. compared with January, 1924. The average number of days worked by the mines that were working was 5.63, compared with 5.58 in December, 1924, and 4.86 in January, 1924. At shale mines employment continued fair. At limestone quarries it was reported as fairly good in Derbyshire, but continued moderate in the Clitheroe and Weardale districts. At the North Wales slate quarries employment showed a decline and was only fair. At the whinstone quarries in the east of Scotland it showed a decline and was slack. At china-clay quarries employment remained fairly good on the whole; at tin mines it was reported as good.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment continued bad, but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. Of a total of 482 furnaces the number in blast at the end of January was 172, compared with 167 in December, and with 190 in January, 1924. At iron and steel works employment continued bad, but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. Employment in the tinplate and steel-sheet trades continued bad; many mills were closed and much short time was worked. The number of mills in operation at the end of January was 444, as compared with 442 at the end of December and 537 at the end of January, 1924.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and other Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering trades continued bad on the whole, and very bad in marine engineering. At textile machinery works short time was still in operation. At railway, motor and cycle works, however, employment continued fair, while in electrical engineering it continued fairly good. Employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades continued very bad. Employment in the other metal trades was moderate on the whole. It was fairly good in the brasswork and hollow-ware trades; fair in the metallic bedstead, nut and bolt, cutlery and file, stove and grate, tube, needle and fishing tackle, sheet metal, and saddlery and harness furniture trades; moderate in the wire, and lock and latch trades; and slack or bad in the copper, jewellery and plated ware, chain and anchor, anvil and vice, and nail trades.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade showed little change as compared with the previous month. In the American spinning section a working week of 39½ hours was generally observed; in the Egyptian spinning section full time continued to be generally worked; in the weaving section employment continued good, but was affected by influenza. In the woollen and worsted trades employ-

ment was very slack and showed a decline as compared with the previous month.

Employment in the hosiery trade was bad, and showed a decline in some districts; in the lace trade it was also bad. In the silk and carpet trades employment was fairly good on the whole; in the jute trade it was good, and in the linen trade moderate. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades, employment was slack generally; with silk dyers at Macclesfield, Congleton and Leek it was fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—In the retail bespoke branch of the tailoring trade employment was generally slack; in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branch of the trade it was moderate to fair. In the dressmaking, millinery and corset trades employment remained slack generally; in the shirt and collar trade it was moderate. In the felt hat trade there was a slight seasonal improvement, but employment was still slack. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued moderate on the whole, and short time was worked in most centres.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning and currying section was fair, but a decline was reported at some centres; in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section it showed little change, though a seasonal decline was reported at Birmingham; with saddlery and harness makers it was very bad.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trade showed a further slight decline, but was good with skilled operatives (except painters) in most districts, and generally slack with unskilled workers. It was very good in most districts with bricklayers and plasterers; good with carpenters and joiners, and fairly good on the whole with plumbers, masons and slaters. With painters the seasonal decline continued, and employment was bad in many districts; with builders' labourers it continued slack on the whole. In the brick trade employment continued good generally.

In the furnishing trades employment showed a decline and was fair on the whole; at London, High Wycombe, Glasgow and Leeds it was reported as good. With millers' employment was good on the whole; with brushmakers it continued fairly good; with coopers and coachbuilders it was fair; with packing case makers it declined and was slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing, and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade showed an improvement, but was still moderate on the whole. With letterpress printers employment, generally, continued fairly good; in some centres, however, including Leeds, Edinburgh and Glasgow, it showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good. With lithographic printers it was generally fair, but showed a decline at Manchester and Edinburgh. Employment with lithographic artists was fair in London and moderate at Manchester. With bookbinders employment declined, and was moderate on the whole.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade showed some improvement in January, but there was still much unemployment and short-time working. In the glass trades employment continued moderate on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture there was little unemployment; the supply of labour was, on the whole, sufficient for requirements, although skilled hedgers and ditchers were scarce in some parts. In the fishing industry employment continued fairly good on the whole.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers and seamen continued slack on the whole.

The following Table shows month by month since January, 1924, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) registered as unemployed at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Date. (End of Month.)	Percentage Unemployed among			Number of Unemployed Registered at Exchanges.*†
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.*		
		Males.	Females.		Total.
1924.				
January ...	8.9	12.5	10.2	11.9
February ...	8.1	11.1	9.5	10.7
March ...	7.8	10.3	8.8	9.9
April ...	7.5	10.2	8.4	9.7
May ...	7.0	9.9	8.1	9.5
June ...	7.2	10.0	7.8	9.4
July ...	7.4	10.5	8.1	9.9
August ...	7.9	11.3	8.8	10.6
September ...	8.6	11.5	8.8	10.8
October ...	8.7	11.9	9.0	11.1
November ...	8.6	11.8	8.9	11.0
December‡ ...	9.2	11.7	9.0	10.9
1925.				
January ...	9.0	12.1	9.6	11.5

* For reasons connected with the administration of unemployed insurance, these figures somewhat under-emphasize the improvement in employment during the first half of 1924 and over-emphasize the decline in the latter half of the year.

† See note * to previous column.
‡ Figures inflated owing to effects of railway dispute.
§ In cases of insured workers the percentages for December relate to 22nd December, 1924.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 965,995 in branches covered by the returns received reported 86,643 (or 9.0 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of January, 1925, compared with 9.2 per cent. at the end of December, 1924.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting at end of January, 1925.	Unemployed at end of January, 1925.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining ...	143,910	19,670	13.7	+ 0.9	+ 12.8
Engineering and Ship-building ...	339,297	46,529	13.7	- 0.7	- 3.5
Miscellaneous Metal ...	47,357	3,230	6.8	+ 0.3	- 1.9
Textiles :-					
Cotton ...	59,042	2,727†	4.6	- 1.2	- 2.4
Woolen and Worsted ...	12,153	298	2.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.5
Other ...	57,691	1,286	2.2	...	- 1.2
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper ...	99,205	3,896	3.9	+ 0.2	- 1.1
Furnishing ...	27,767	1,454	5.2	+ 1.2	- 3.1
Woodworking ...	41,274	1,623	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.6
Clothing :-					
Boot and Shoe ...	79,490	3,878	4.9	- 0.9	+ 0.7
Other Clothing ...	46,995	702	1.5	- 0.4	- 0.8
Leather ...	5,929	467	7.9	+ 0.7	- 1.6
Glass ...	1,181	32	2.7	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Tobacco‡ ...	4,704	851	18.1	+ 0.5	- 7.3
Total ...	965,995§	86,643§	9.0§	- 0.2§	+ 0.1§

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.5 per cent. (males 12.1 per cent., females 9.6 per cent.) at 26th January, 1925, as compared with 10.9 per cent. (males 11.7 per cent., females 9.0 per cent.) at 22nd December, 1924, and 11.9 per cent. (males 12.5 per cent., females 10.2 per cent.) at 28th January, 1924. Tables showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 52 and 53.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Information as to the state of employment in certain industries in January, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 46 to 51.

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for January, 1925.	January, 1925.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining ...	1,139,066	Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.	
Iron ..	9,294	5.39	+ 0.03	+ 0.22	
Shale ..	4,049	5.63	+ 0.05	+ 0.77	
		5.97	...	+ 0.02	
Pig Iron ...		Furnaces in Blast	Number.	Number.	
		172	+ 5	- 18	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...		Mills Working	+ 2	- 93	
		444			
Iron and Steel ...	74,773	Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.	
		403,799	+ 1.3	+ 3.2	

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.¶
Textiles :-			£	Per cent.
Cotton ...	85,599	- 0.1	156,894	- 1.0
Woolen... ..	15,534	- 1.1	31,545	- 2.7
Worsted... ..	29,768	- 1.2	54,181	- 4.9
Boot and Shoe ...	51,982	+ 0.8	118,546	- 0.6
Pottery ...	11,508	- 1.2	20,985	- 5.2
Brick ...	8,348	- 0.2	21,834	+ 3.4
Total ...	202,739	- 0.2	404,985	- 1.6

* 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.

† In addition to those shown, who were 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.
§ The figures for January, 1925, and December, 1924, exclude building and pottery trade operatives, who were included in January, 1924. The percentage for January, 1924, excluding these returns, would be 9.0.
¶ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

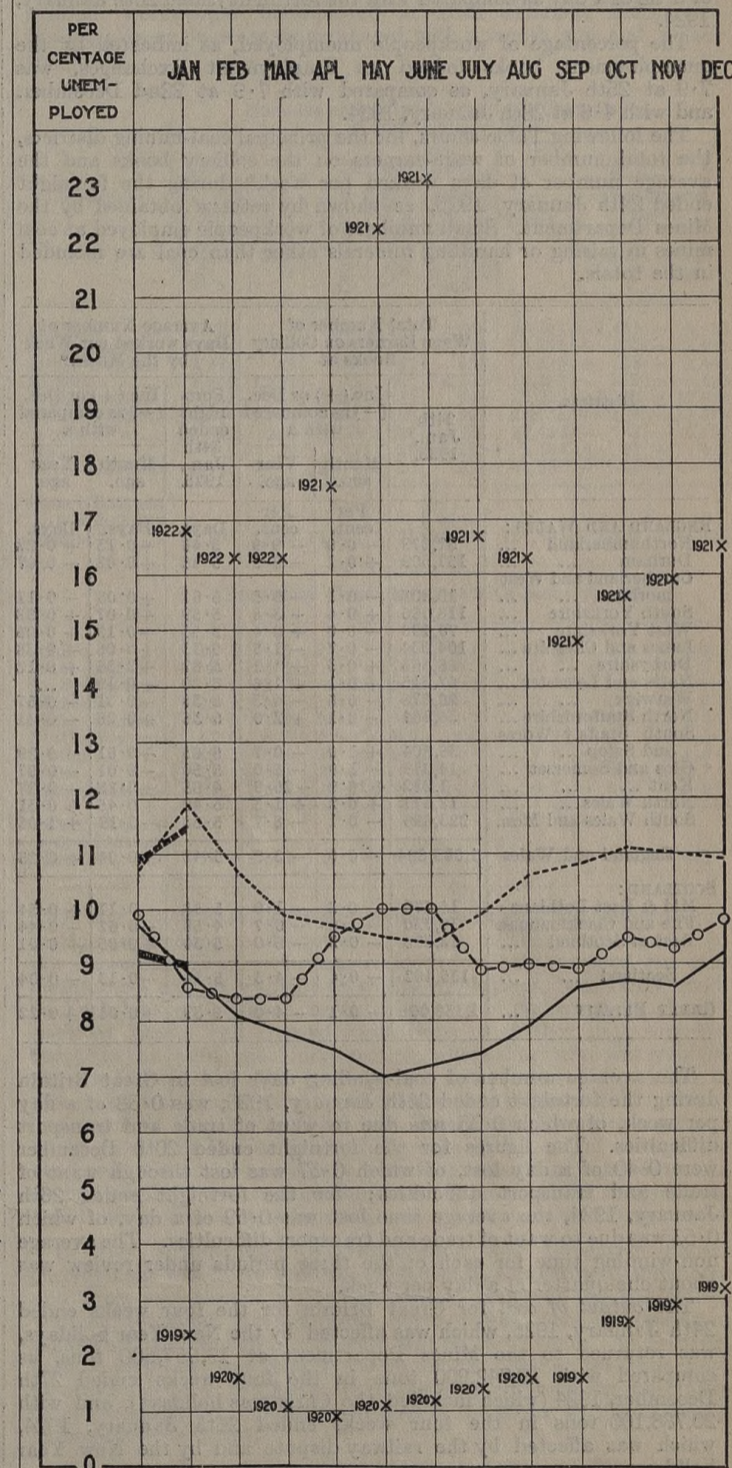
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS :-

Thick Curve ————— = 1925.
Thin Curve ————— = 1924.
Chain Curve —o—o—o—o—o = Mean of 1919-24.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1919-1924.

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

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1925.
Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1924.



NOTE.

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Trade Union Returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the previous column. The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail on pages 52 and 53.

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 to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT in the coal-mining industry during January continued slack generally, and showed little change on the whole compared with the previous month. In South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottingham, however, employment was reported to be good.

The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 24th January showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with that at 20th December, and a decrease of 4.0 per cent. as compared with that at 26th January, 1924.

The average number of days worked per week for the fortnight ended 24th January was 5.39, an increase of 0.03 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 20th December, and an increase of 0.22 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th January, 1924.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.9 at 26th January, as compared with 7.9 at 22nd December, and with 4.6 at 28th January, 1924.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 24th January, 1925, as shown by 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.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Fort-night ended 24th Jan., 1925.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	24th Jan., 1925.	Month ago.	24th Jan., 1925.	Month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:										
Northumberland ...	57,879	+ 0.6	5,46	+ 0.13	+ 0.22					
Durham ...	157,509	+ 0.1	9.9	+ 0.02	- 0.07					
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	10,825	- 0.1	9.5	5.61	+ 0.05	- 0.11				
South Yorkshire ...	118,066	+ 0.4	+ 3.8	5.59	+ 0.07	+ 0.58				
West Yorkshire ...	70,196	- 0.0	+ 0.4	5.53	+ 0.19	+ 0.05				
Lancs and Cheshire ...	104,034	- 0.7	- 1.5	5.13	+ 0.06	- 0.38				
Derbyshire ...	66,566	+ 0.5	+ 1.1	5.62	+ 0.36	+ 0.12				
Notts and Leicester ...	67,315	+ 0.1	+ 1.6	5.20	+ 0.19	- 0.57				
Warwick ...	20,878	- 0.6	- 4.3	5.38	- 0.01	- 0.31				
North Staffordshire ...	35,864	- 0.1	+ 2.0	5.36	+ 0.06	- 0.31				
South Staffs,† Worcs and Salop ...	36,604	+ 1.0	+ 0.7	5.65	+ 0.01	- 0.29				
Glos and Somerset ...	14,279	- 3.0	- 5.0	5.50	- 0.01	- 0.07				
Kent ...	1,282	+ 16.9	- 26.9	4.65	+ 0.82	- 0.97				
North Wales ...	18,571	+ 0.2	+ 1.3	5.49	+ 0.45	+ 0.31				
South Wales and Mon.	223,696	- 0.1	- 8.2	5.58	- 0.19	+ 1.05				
England and Wales	1,003,664	- 0.0	- 3.9	5.42	+ 0.04	+ 0.25				
SCOTLAND:										
Mid & East Lothians ...	15,776	- 0.3	- 1.0	5.38	- 0.11	+ 0.54				
Fife and Clackmannan ...	30,730	- 1.0	- 0.7	4.58	- 0.62	- 0.44				
Rest of Scotland ...	88,896	- 0.2	- 6.0	5.30	+ 0.05	+ 0.01				
Scotland ...	135,402	- 0.4	- 4.3	5.14	- 0.13	- 0.04				
GREAT BRITAIN ...	1,139,066	- 0.1	- 4.0	5.39	+ 0.03	+ 0.22				

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 24th January, 1925, was 0.38 of a day per week, of which 0.35 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 20th December were 0.40 of a day lost, of which 0.37 was lost through want of trade and transport difficulties; for the fortnight ended 26th January, 1924, the average time lost was 0.59 of a day, of which 0.53 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one-quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal for Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th January, 1925, which was affected by the New Year holidays, was returned to the Mines Department at 19,957,500 tons, as compared with 19,742,900 tons in the four weeks ended 27th December, 1924 (which included the Christmas holidays), and with 20,788,100 tons in the four weeks ended 26th January, 1924, which was affected by the railway dispute and by the New Year holidays.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,193,131 tons in January, compared with 7,109,323 tons in December, 1924.

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

† Including Cannock Chase.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron Mining.

THERE was a further slight improvement in the Cleveland district, but employment remained bad and a very considerable amount of short time was worked. In the Cumberland and Lancashire district it was again fair. In other districts it remained moderate. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in iron ore and ironstone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at the Employment Exchanges, was 18.4 at 26th January, 1925, as compared with 18.6 at 22nd December, 1924, and 32.7 at 28th January, 1924.

The following Table summarizes the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Fort-night ended 24th Jan., 1925.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	Fort-night ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland... ..	4,001	+ 5.2	- 5.1	5.42	+ 0.09	+ 0.41				
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	3,533	+ 1.1	+ 6.8	5.71	- 0.10	+ 1.23				
Other Districts ...	1,760	+ 0.8	+ 1.3	5.96	+ 0.31	+ 0.74				
ALL DISTRICTS	9,294	+ 2.8	+ 0.3	5.63	+ 0.05	+ 0.77				

Shale Mining.

At shale mines employment was again fair. At mines employing 4,049 workpeople during the fortnight ended 24th January, 1925, there was a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with the previous month and of 2.9 per cent. compared with January, 1924. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was 5.97 in January, 1925, and December, 1924, and 5.95 in January, 1924.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued bad, but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 17.6 at 26th January, 1925, compared with 18.0 at 22nd December, 1924, and with 13.6 at 28th January, 1924.

Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from 83 firms employing 20,915 workpeople at the end of January, showed an increase of 3 per cent. on the number employed, compared with December, 1924, but a decrease of 7.2 per cent. compared with January, 1924.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of January as shown by the returns collected by the Federation, was 172, compared with 167 at the end of December, and 190 at the end of January, 1924.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast at the end of January, 1925, December, 1924, and January, 1924:—

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., on a	
		Jan., 1925.	Dec., 1924.	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
Durham and Cleveland	111	45	41	48	+ 4	- 3
Cumberland and W. Lancs... ..	47	13	14	12	- 1	+ 1
Other parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ...	35	18	13	16	+ 5	+ 2
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	73	41	41	39	...	+ 2
Lincolnshire ...	23	10	10	9	...	+ 1
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ...	60	10	10	17	...	- 7
South Wales ...	32	7	6	5	+ 1	+ 2
Total, England and Wales	381	144	135	146	+ 9	- 2
SCOTLAND ...	101	28	32	44	- 4	- 16
Total ...	482	172	167	190	+ 5	- 18

The production of Pig Iron in January amounted to 569,400 tons as compared with 580,300 tons in December, and 636,600 tons in January, 1924.

* See note * in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued bad on the whole during January, but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. A marked improvement was noticed in Scotland, chiefly due to the re-opening of works which were closed in December. The depression in the tinplate trade continued to affect adversely employment in South Wales.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23.7 on 26th January, 1925, as compared with 27.6 on 22nd December, 1924, and 23.2 on 28th January, 1924.

According to returns received from firms employing 74,773 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 24th January, 1925 (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department), increased by 1.3 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and by 3.2 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.4 in all three periods.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate Number of Shifts.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	8,367	+ 6.5	- 10.7	48,886	+ 8.4	- 5.3				
Puddling Forges ...	3,638	- 1.3	+ 41.9	16,199	+ 0.1	+ 38.8				
Rolling Mills ...	27,631	+ 0.3	+ 11.7	140,607	+ 1.4	+ 10.8				
Forging and Pressing... ..	3,090	+ 0.5	- 0.3	15,823	+ 0.2	+ 4.0				
Founding ...	8,056	- 2.1	- 0.7	46,373	- 2.3	+ 1.7				
Other Departments ...	7,634	+ 1.2	- 6.1	42,100	+ 1.3	- 5.5				
Mechanics, Labourers... ..	16,357	- 0.7	- 1.8	93,811	+ 0.0	+ 1.7				
TOTAL ...	74,773	+ 0.5	+ 2.9	403,799	+ 1.3	+ 3.2				
DISTRICTS.										
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland... ..	14,234	- 2.2	- 8.2	79,616	- 1.4	- 7.4				
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	19,320	+ 1.5	+ 4.9	102,964	+ 1.7	+ 5.7				
Leeds, Bradford, etc., and Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	1,800	- 2.7	- 18.7	9,504	+ 0.2	- 22.5				
Staffordshire ...	7,714	+ 2.1	+ 17.3	40,976	+ 3.9	+ 22.0				
Other Midland Counties	7,986	- 2.4	+ 0.2	41,497	- 2.7	- 3.3				
Wales and Monmouth	3,813	- 2.3	+ 2.3	20,524	- 2.8	+ 2.3				
Wales and Monmouth	8,445	- 3.2	+ 26.6	47,060	- 2.7	+ 25.4				
Total, England and Wales ...	63,312	- 0.8	+ 3.7	342,141	- 0.3	+ 3.8				
Scotland ...	11,461	+ 8.3	- 1.1	61,658	+ 10.8	+ 5.5				
TOTAL ...	74,773	+ 0.5	+ 2.9	403,799	+ 1.3	+ 3.2				

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 605,100 tons in January, as compared with 551,000 tons in December, 1924, and 694,300 tons in January, 1924.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued bad during January; some works were closed and much short time was worked. At the end of January 444 tinplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 442 at the end of December, 1924, and with 537 a year ago. Many of the mills in operation, however, were working considerably less than the full number of shifts per week.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of January, 1925, at the works covered by the returns received, together with the increase or decrease compared with December, 1924, and January, 1924:—

Works.	Number of Works Open		Number of Mills in Operation		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	At end of Jan., 1925.	Month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate ...	67	+ 3†	- 12	336	+ 7	- 72
Steel Sheet	11	...	- 4	108	- 5	- 21
TOTAL ...	78	+ 3†	- 16	444	+ 2	- 93

* 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 were actually worked by all the men employed.

† Revised figures.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed on 26th January, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 44.0, as compared with 45.0 on 22nd December, 1924, and with 8.1 on 28th January, 1924. These percentages include persons working part-time and not actually employed on the dates referred to.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in January, 1925, amounted to 100,763 tons, or 15,735 tons more than in December, 1924, and 5,750 tons less than in January, 1924.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during January continued bad on the whole, and very bad in marine engineering. At textile machinery works short time was still in operation. At railway, motor and cycle works, however, employment continued fair, while in electrical engineering it continued fairly good. Compared with a year ago an improvement was shown in nearly all the principal districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 26th January, 1925, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

Divisions.	Numbers of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th January, 1925.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineers, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Works, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	9,116	378	118	123	2,646	12,381	+ 1,485	- 3,583
South-Eastern ...	3,764	351	115	69	1,072	5,371	+ 70	- 2,481
South-Western ...	2,298	66	339	57	858	3,618	+ 18	- 1,444
Midlands ...	9,703	1,252	33	697	6,505	18,190	+ 239	- 8,423
North-Eastern ...	18,958	538	6,299	1,231	896	27,922	+ 1,167	- 12,036
North-Western ...	25,094	1,169	332	180	1,951	28,736	- 103	- 13,878
Scotland ...	16,430	225	2,603	1,228	936	21,422	- 72	- 5,937
Wales... ..	917	32	42	38	155	1,184	- 91	+ 119
Northern Ireland	1,683	7	1,074	13	222	2,999	- 26	+ 701
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	87,963	4,018	10,955	3,636	15,251	121,823		

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries remained very bad during January, and showed little general change compared with the previous month.

On the North East Coast employment continued very bad in most branches; with joiners on the Tyne, however, it continued fair, and at North and South Shields an improvement was reported in ship-repairing. On the East Coast employment continued fair. On the Thames it was still bad, and showed a decline compared with the previous month. On the South Coast it continued fair on the whole, and was better than a year ago. At the Bristol Channel Ports employment on repair work improved during the first part of the month, but declined subsequently. On the Mersey employment was still bad, but showed an improvement.

In Scotland employment continued bad, though better than a year ago; it showed a further decline at Dundee and Aberdeen. With joiners on the Clyde it was reported as good. At Belfast employment was still bad, and worse than a year ago.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 26th January, 1925, and the increase or decrease as compared with 22nd December 1924, and with a year ago:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th Jan., 1925.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Percentage of Unemployed at 26th Jan., 1925.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
London...	3,814	+ 592	- 732	26.7	+ 4.2	- 5.4
South Eastern...	1,032	- 80	- 199	10.8	- 0.9	- 2.3
South Western...	3,643	- 65	- 1,447	12.9	- 0.3	- 3.5
Midlands...	155	+ 50	+ 4	30.4	+ 9.8	+ 0.2
North Eastern...	30,222	+ 271	+ 1,222	43.0	+ 0.4	+ 3.0
North Western...	9,894	- 916	- 1,052	29.1	- 2.7	- 1.4
Scotland...	20,342	+ 369	- 4,687	31.0	+ 0.5	- 3.9
Wales...	4,261	- 10	+ 183	37.7	- 0.1	+ 5.7
Northern Ireland	7,576	+ 17	+ 681	35.3	+ 0.1	+ 7.1
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	80,939	- 314	- 6,027	31.7	- 0.2	- 0.2

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

In these trades employment during January was very slack, and worse than a month earlier in all the principal districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.0 on 26th January, 1925, as compared with 9.2 on 22nd December, 1924, and also on 28th January, 1924.

Employment in the woolcombing department continued bad, with much short time; with wool-sorters it was slightly worse than in the previous month; about one-fourth of the trade union members were on short time.

In the Bradford district employment showed a decline as compared with December in all sections of the trade; in the Keighley district there was an increase in unemployment, and conditions were stated to be worse than for some months past. In the Halifax district there was some improvement in the worsted trade at the beginning of January, but employment in the fine botany yarn section was still very bad, while operatives engaged on low and medium crossbreds were in a better position. In the Huddersfield district employment in the woollen trade was not so good as a month earlier, but a number of firms were still running overtime in the preparing and spinning departments, and one or two had night shifts employed; in the worsted trade employment declined in the spinning section, and in the weaving section a number of firms worked three or four days a week. In the Leeds district there was no improvement. In the Dewsbury and Batley district employment was still slack, and prospects were reported to be very poor, especially with firms engaged in the manufacture of blankets and heavy woollens.

In the flannel trade workers in the Rochdale district were fairly well employed; in the Stockport district employment continued poor.

Systematic short time was reported at blanket mills in the Witney area, but at Trowbridge employment was described as good.

In Wales generally employment was bad; most of the factories in South Cardigan were stated to be closed, and at Llanidloes there was much short time.

In Scotland employment at Galashiels was reported as fair, and better than a year ago, but certain classes of operatives (e.g., weavers and darners) were not fully employed. At Ayr employment was described as good; but at Alloa, Dumfries, Kilmarnock and Greenock much short time was reported.

The following Table summarises the information received from

those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers of workpeople employed and the total amount of wages paid in the three periods under review.

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.

Departments.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Wool sorting ...	496	- 2.0	+ 3.5	974	- 2.9	- 3.3
Spinning ...	3,758	- 1.0	+ 4.8	7,331	- 3.1	+ 2.4
Weaving ...	5,702	- 1.0	+ 1.3	10,587	- 3.7	+ 2.3
Other Departments	4,519	- 1.1	+ 2.6	10,219	- 1.8	+ 4.9
Not Specified ...	1,059	- 1.8	+ 2.1	2,434	- 0.5	+ 0.9
TOTAL ...	15,534	- 1.1	+ 2.3	31,545	- 2.7	+ 2.8

Districts.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Huddersfield District	1,581	- 3.0	+ 0.7	3,332	- 6.2	+ 2.5
Leeds District	1,535	- 3.7	+ 6.6	3,704	- 2.1	+ 13.2
Dewsbury and Batley District	1,312	- 0.3	+ 1.3	2,602	- 0.3	- 2.9
Other Parts of West Riding ...	1,957	- 0.3	- 1.0	4,606	+ 3.6	+ 1.3
Total, West Riding	6,385	- 1.8	+ 1.3	14,844	- 1.3	+ 3.6
Scotland ...	3,795	- 0.6	+ 5.8	7,463	- 0.6	+ 10.6
Other Districts ...	5,354	- 0.6	+ 1.2	9,238	- 6.4	- 3.7
TOTAL ...	15,534	- 1.1	+ 2.3	31,545	- 2.7	+ 2.8

WORSTED INDUSTRY.

Departments.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Wool sorting and combing ...	4,300	- 2.2	- 0.5	10,205	- 6.5	- 1.0
Spinning ...	15,200	- 0.8	- 2.5	22,471	- 5.8	- 5.0
Weaving ...	5,169	- 1.7	+ 1.5	10,742	- 0.4	+ 2.9
Other Departments	3,305	- 1.2	- 1.5	7,758	- 6.7	- 5.7
Not specified ...	1,794	- 1.5	- 1.2	3,005	- 3.2	+ 8.7
TOTAL ...	29,768	- 1.2	- 1.3	54,181	- 4.9	- 2.2

Districts.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Bradford District	14,734	- 1.3	- 2.6	28,525	- 4.0	- 3.2
Keighley District	5,099	- 1.1	+ 0.4	8,795	- 8.5	- 7.8
Halifax District ...	2,668	- 1.0	+ 1.1	4,477	- 2.2	+ 11.4
Huddersfield District	2,165	- 3.5	+ 0.9	4,272	- 3.4	+ 21.5
Other Parts of West Riding ...	3,186	- 0.0	- 1.7	4,988	- 8.7	- 9.5
Total, West Riding	27,852	- 1.3	- 1.4	51,057	- 5.1	- 1.9
Other Districts ...	1,916	- 0.9	- 1.2	3,124	- 1.7	- 6.6
TOTAL ...	29,768	- 1.2	- 1.3	54,181	- 4.9	- 2.2

Returns from firms in the woollen section, employing 14,452 workpeople, showed that about 27 per cent of these workpeople were on short time in the week ended 24th January, to the extent on the average of 10 hours. In the worsted section returns from firms employing 27,263 workpeople in the same week showed that about 25 per cent of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of about 12 hours on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 5th January, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 71 per cent of the total number of applicants for employment in the woollen and worsted industries were registered:—

Departments.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 5th January, 1925.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1st December, 1924.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool sorting ...	425	4	429	+ 228	+ 1	+ 229
Wool washing and preparing ...	863	133	996	+ 93	+ 5	+ 98
Wool combing ...	1,156	1,016	2,172	+ 159	+ 306	+ 465
Wool carding ...	1,362	214	1,576	+ 213	+ 66	+ 279
Woolen spinning ...	617	247	864	+ 139	+ 25	+ 164
Worsted drawing and spinning ...	431	2,413	2,844	+ 166	+ 524	+ 690
Wool winding and warping ...	196	123	319	+ 50	- 19	+ 31
Worsted winding and warping ...	44	536	580	+ 14	+ 80	+ 94
Woolen weaving ...	228	2,121	2,349	+ 50	+ 177	+ 227
Worsted weaving ...	87	19	106	+ 2	+ 191	+ 193
Other processes ...	1,455	190	1,645	+ 225	+ 45	+ 270
TOTAL ...	6,864	7,816	14,680	+ 1,339	+ 1,401	+ 2,740

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages in some districts.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 45,792,700 lb. in January, 1925, compared with 38,985,000 lb. in December, 1924, and with 16,064,900 lb. in January, 1924.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 5,149,000 lb. compared with 4,955,800 lb. in December, 1924, and with 4,276,000 lb. in January, 1924.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 19,763,500 square yards, compared with 19,726,600 square yards in December, 1924, and with 22,389,500 square yards in January, 1924.

The exports of blankets were 177,325 pairs, 160,280 pairs and 193,941 pairs in January, 1925, December, 1924, and January, 1924, respectively.

COTTON TRADE.

In this trade employment showed little change as compared with the previous month, but was considerably better than a year ago. In the American spinning section the working week of 39½ hours continued during the month; but a proposal to reduce the hours to 35 per week has been under consideration, and a ballot of members of the Federation concerned in the proposal, declared on 10th February, resulted in the proposal being adopted, with effect from 16th February. In the Egyptian section full time was maintained. Employment in the weaving section continued good but was affected by influenza, which spread throughout the cotton manufacturing districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 6.2 on the 26th January, 1925, as compared with 7.0 on the 22nd December, 1924, and 15.7 on the 28th January, 1924.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment in the spinning section showed little change as compared with the previous month, but was better than a year ago; the 39½-hour week continued in the American branch. In the manufacturing section in the Oldham district employment continued slack, but showed signs of improvement. In the Bolton, Chorley and Leigh districts employment continued good with spinners and showed little change with card-room workers and weavers in the Bolton district. At Bury employment was reported as fair in the spinning department and as slightly better than a month earlier; a shortage of juvenile labour was reported. At Rochdale employment was reported as slack.

In the principal weaving districts employment showed no marked change, apart from the effect of illness. At Burnley employment was reported as fair. At Blackburn the position was not so satisfactory as during the past two months. At Accrington full time was maintained; an increased demand for fine cotton piece goods for the home trade was reported. At Todmorden and Darwen there were marked signs of continued improvement.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing ...	11,990	- 0.2	+ 7.0	20,707	+ 0.5	+ 15.1
Spinning...	22,615	- 0.8	+ 5.8	40,709	- 0.6	+ 14.6
Weaving...	35,147	- 0.2	+ 2.2	62,505	- 2.0	+ 13.8
Other ...	8,452	+ 1.7	+ 1.0	20,052	+ 0.3	+ 5.1
Not Specified ...	7,395	+ 0.1	+ 1.6	12,921	- 1.6	+ 10.1
Total ...	85,599	- 0.1	+ 3.6	156,894	- 1.0	+ 12.7
DISTRICTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
Ashton ...	4,043	- 1.5	+ 4.7	7,214	- 0.6	+ 13.9
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	7,535	- 1.7	+ 10.0	13,446	- 1.5	+ 14.4
Oldham ...	10,007	- 1.1	+ 0.5	16,982	- 1.9	+ 5.7
Bolton and Leigh ...	13,918	+ 0.4	- 0.2	24,717	- 0.1	+ 4.9
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	8,256	- 0.6	+ 6.4	14,389	- 0.7	+ 28.1
Manchester ...	5,594	- 0.0	+ 5.0	9,530	- 0.7	+ 12.8
Preston and Chorley ...	5,607	- 1.5	+ 6.4	9,920	- 4.3	+ 9.0
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	10,586	+ 3.1	+ 8.1	20,685	+ 1.0	+ 17.0
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	10,535	- 0.7	+ 1.3	23,218	- 0.7	+ 19.0
Other Lancashire Towns	2,805	+ 0.3	- 3.1	5,088	- 2.0	+ 6.4
Yorkshire Towns	4,036	+ 0.9	- 0.5	7,256	- 2.1	+ 4.3
Other Districts ...	2,677	- 0.0	+ 7.5	4,449	- 2.5	+ 16.8
Total ...	85,599	- 0.1	+ 3.6	156,894	- 1.0	+ 12.7

Returns from firms employing 77,774 workpeople showed that 16 per cent of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of 11 hours on the average, in the week ended 24th January.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 5th January, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 83 per cent of the total number of applicants for employment in the cotton trade were registered.

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 5th January, 1925.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1st December, 1924.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Card and Blowing Room ...	799	3,669	4,468	- 198	- 1,147	- 1,345
Spinning ...	3,213	4,062	7,275	- 1,456	- 815	- 2,271
Beaming, Warping and Winding ...	1,173	5,483	6,656	- 28	- 1,031	- 1,059
Weaving ...	1,394	3,332	4,726	- 117	- 1,096	- 1,213
Other Processes ...	650	461	1,111	+ 8	+ 11	+ 19
Total ...	7,229	17,007	24,236	- 1,791	- 4,078	- 5,869

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 287,817,400 lb. in January, 1925, compared with 271,269,500 lb. in December, 1924, and with 212,003,000 in January, 1924.

The exports of cotton yarn were 15,904,900 lb. in January, 1925, compared with 13,525,700 lb. in December, 1924, and with 10,991,500 lb. in January, 1924.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 402,808,400 square yards as compared with 409,566,400 square yards in the previous month and with 353,965,900 square yards in January, 1924.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January remained moderate, on the whole, and there was no material change compared with the previous month. Short time was worked in most centres.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.0 on 26th January, 1925, as compared with 11.8 on 22nd December, 1924, and 9.5 on 28th January, 1924.

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

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.*		Month ago.	Year ago.*
England and Wales:						
London ...	2,106	+ 3.3	+ 6.4	4,837	+ 1.0	+ 7.2
Leicester ...	8,560	+ 2.1	- 7.5	23,166	+ 3.8	+ 2.8
Leicester Country District ...	2,313	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	5,438	- 0.8	+ 3.7
Northampton... ..	6,739	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	16,687	+ 1.9	+ 3.1
Northampton Country District ...	8,139	+ 0.5	+ 2.7	18,805	- 1.8	+ 3.1
Kettering ...	5,414	+ 0.6	+ 3.5	8,666	- 4.1	+ 4.9
Stafford and District ...	2,668	+ 1.3	+ 2.7	5,275	- 14.9	- 5.8

Employment was fair at Aberdeen, and fairly good, and better than in December, at Kilmarnock. Elsewhere in Scotland employment was poor on the whole, and in some centres was worse than in the previous month.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 5th January, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 77 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the boot and shoe industry were registered:—

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 5th January, 1925.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1st December, 1924.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:						
Preparing Department	176	55	231	+ 26	+ 35	+ 61
Rough Stuff Department	438	25	463	+ 55	+ 6	+ 61
Cleaving Department	1,268	87	1,355	+ 444	+ 37	+ 481
Closing Department	19	1,627	1,646	+ 2	+ 688	+ 690
Making Department	3,380	72	3,452	+ 1,118	+ 24	+ 1,142
Finishing Department	1,951	569	2,520	+ 517	+ 59	+ 576
Slipper Making	970	337	1,307	+ 160	+ 117	+ 277
Clog Making	37	2	39	+ 5	+ 1	+ 6
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work	759	10	769	+ 19	+ 6	+ 25
Total	8,998	2,784	11,782	+ 2,346	+ 973	+ 3,319

The exports of boots and shoes in January, 1925, amounted to 108,388 dozen pairs or 15,955 dozen pairs more than in December, 1924, and 13,233 dozen pairs more than in January, 1924.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade, while moderate on the whole, showed a slight improvement on the previous month. Employment was intermittent or accompanied by short time in some districts, particularly in the brown and wrapping paper sections; in other districts a resumption of full time was reported.

With letterpress printers employment, generally, continued fairly good; in some centres, however, including Leeds, Edinburgh and Glasgow, it was slightly worse than in December. Employment continued good with electrotypers and stereotypers, and an improvement was reported in London.

With lithographic printers employment, generally, was fair; it showed a decline as compared with the previous month at Manchester and Edinburgh. Employment with lithographic artists in London and Manchester was fair and moderate respectively, the latter town showing a decline.

In the bookbinding trade employment, on the whole, was moderate and worse than during December; short time was prevalent in London and Edinburgh.

The percentage of unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding trades was 5.9 at 26th January, compared with 5.0 at 22nd December, 1924, and 6.4 at 28th January, 1924. In the paper and paper-board making industry the percentage was 7.5 at 26th January, compared with 7.7 at 22nd December, 1924, and 13.6 at 28th January, 1924. In the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery trades the percentage was 7.9 at 26th January, compared with 6.4 at 22nd December, 1924, and 7.9 at 28th January, 1924.

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

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Jan., 1925.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Jan., 1925.	Dec., 1924.	Jan., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	34,664	3.9	4.0	4.6	- 0.1	- 0.7
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	13,244	3.7	3.1	4.4	+ 0.6	- 0.7
Midlands and Eastern Counties	7,586	2.5	2.5	3.3	...	- 0.8
Scotland	5,718	3.8	2.9	5.2	+ 0.9	+ 1.4
Other Districts	6,507	3.2	3.0	3.8	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Total	67,719	3.6	3.5	4.4	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Lithographic Printing	9,739	3.1	2.8	4.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.5
Bookbinding	14,972	4.3	2.6	5.6	+ 1.7	+ 1.3

It will be seen from the above figures that the percentage unemployed among letterpress printers showed a slight increase in all districts except London. The figures also show a slight increase for lithographic printers, while there was a more marked increase in the percentage for bookbinders.

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade during January showed a further slight decline on the whole, but it continued good with skilled operatives (except painters) in most districts and generally slack with unskilled workers; it was better, on the whole, than in January, 1924. There was a seasonal increase in the number unemployed as compared with the previous month, which was mainly attributable, however, to the increasing slackness in the painting and decorating section of the trade. Bad weather occasioned some irregular time on outside work; but, on the other hand, in a few cases, a little overtime was worked by certain classes of skilled operatives.

As regards individual occupations, employment in most districts continued very good with bricklayers and with plasterers, and good with carpenters and joiners; there was a slight decline with plumbers and masons, but employment with these classes, as with slaters, was fairly good at most centres. In a considerable number of districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives, especially of bricklayers and plasterers, was again reported. The seasonal decline continued with painters, and employment was bad in many districts; it continued slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and approximate percentages* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 26th January, and the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with December, 1924, and January, 1924. The figures are analysed according to the principal occupations and also by districts:—

Occupations.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th Jan., 1925.	Approximate Percentage* Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters	3,924	3.1	+ 0.5	- 1.7
Bricklayers	1,148	2.0	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Masons	973	4.4	+ 0.7	+ 0.3
Slaters	222	4.3	- 0.5	- 2.3
Plasterers	366	2.3	+ 0.4	- 2.2
Painters	29,747	27.7	+ 4.0	- 3.4
Plumbers	1,926	5.6	+ 0.8	- 1.6
Labourers of above	30,667	12.1	+ 1.0	- 2.6
All other occupations	26,482	26.7	+ 1.4	- 0.5
Total	95,455	13.2	+ 1.3	- 1.9
DIVISIONS.				
London	25,993	16.7	+ 2.1	- 0.1
South-Eastern	10,483	9.4	+ 0.8	- 2.6
South-Western	9,294	10.4	+ 0.9	- 2.1
Midlands	9,418	11.9	+ 1.0	- 3.7
North-Eastern	11,607	13.2	+ 1.8	- 2.3
North-Western	12,967	14.0	+ 1.1	- 2.7
Scotland	8,586	12.9	+ 1.1	- 3.0
Wales	3,470	13.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
Northern Ireland	3,637	28.5	+ 1.4	+ 5.0
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	95,455	13.2	+ 1.3	- 1.9

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns received from Local Authorities in 141 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,077,000, show that in January, 1925, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,420,700, as compared with £4,613,500 in December, 1924, and £4,522,300 in January, 1924. Of the total for January, 1925, dwelling houses accounted for £2,724,800; factories and workshops for £266,400; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £460,400; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £969,100.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during January continued good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. Some short time was reported owing to bad weather.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th January, 1925, was 7.9, as compared with 7.8 at 22nd December and with 10.0 at 28th January, 1924.

The following Table summarises the information received as to the number of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid by those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under consideration:—

* Figures are not available as to the exact numbers of insured workpeople in each of the occupations shown in the first column of the Table in the building industry. For the purpose of computing the percentages given in the third column, the total numbers insured, in each occupation, have been roughly estimated by applying ratios derived from the exchange of unemployment books which took place in 1922 to the total number of insured workers engaged in the building industry as shown by the 1924 exchange of books. In view of the probability that changes have taken place, since 1922, in the ratios referred to, the percentages of unemployed, as given in the third column, should not be regarded as more than approximate indications of the actual proportions unemployed in the different occupations.

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.*	Year ago.*
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire.	1,895	+ 1.8	+ 19.3	£ 4,866	+ 4.2	+ 33.1
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	4,738	- 1.2	+ 15.7	12,601	+ 4.7	+ 45.9
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,541	+ 0.5	+ 11.8	3,890	- 1.5	+ 33.1
Scotland	174	+ 1.2	- 4.9	477	+ 3.2	+ 9.2
TOTAL	8,348	- 0.2	+ 15.2	21,834	+ 3.4	+ 39.5

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire, which suffered a seasonal decline in December after the completion of the Christmas trade work, showed some improvement during January, but there was still much unemployment and short-time working. At Worcester employment was fairly good; at Derby and Bristol a decline was reported and short-time working increased; at Glasgow employment continued bad.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.9 at 26th January, 1925, as compared with 19.4 at 22nd December, and 15.1 at 28th January, 1924.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 24th Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.*
China Manufacture	1,478	+ 2.0	+ 0.5	£ 2,782	+ 0.7	- 8.6
Earthenware Manufacture	8,208	- 2.1	+ 4.8	14,701	- 6.8	+ 8.4
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,822	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	3,502	- 2.6	+ 11.6
TOTAL	11,508	- 1.2	+ 3.5	20,985	- 5.2	+ 6.3
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire	8,539	- 0.7	+ 1.8	14,749	- 2.4	+ 4.4
Other Districts	2,969	- 2.7	+ 9.0	6,236	+ 11.2	+ 11.0
TOTAL	11,508	- 1.2	+ 3.5	20,985	+ 5.2	+ 6.3

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,858 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 3,489, or 32 per cent., were working on an average 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 24th January, 1925.

SEAMEN.

DURING January employment with seamen continued slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 26th January, 1925, was 23.2, compared with 23.1 at 22nd December, 1924, and 21.8 at 28th January, 1924.

On the Thames the demand for men was generally fair, but declined in the last week of the month. It was moderate to fair on the Tyne, and moderate on the Wear. On the Tees the demand showed a slight improvement, and was fairly active at the end of the month. Employment at Hull was fair, apart from a falling-off in the third week of January. At Southampton it was moderate at the beginning of the month, and showed a substantial decline later. At Bristol the demand remained quiet to moderate, and at Avonmouth it was fair, except in the third week of January, when a decline occurred. At Swansea it continued fairly good during the first half of the month, and became quiet afterwards. Employment at Newport was again good on the whole, but declined during the last week of January. It was fair at Cardiff until the close of the month, when a decline set in. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand was moderate in the first half of the month, and fair afterwards. At Manchester it was moderate to quiet on the whole.

The demand on the Clyde was moderate in the first week of January, and poor subsequently. At Leith and at Belfast it was generally quiet.

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

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in		
	Jan., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES:			
Liverpool	12,099	+ 1,835	+ 972
Manchester	1,020	+ 37	+ 147
London	8,134	- 332	+ 273
Southampton	7,385	+ 639	+ 1,620
Tyne Ports	2,036	- 84	+ 339
Sunderland	305	- 13	+ 199
Middlesbrough	558	+ 265	+ 150
Hull	1,864	- 81	+ 37
Grimsby	...	- 23	- 2
Bristol	1,046	+ 115	+ 171
Newport, Mon.	1,188	+ 376	+ 161
Cardiff	2,698	- 282	- 157
Swansea	780	- 184	- 201
SCOTLAND:			
Leith	363	+ 31	+ 42
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grange-mouth	346	+ 21	+ 145
Glasgow	2,688	+ 573	+ 527
NORTHERN IRELAND:			
Belfast	293	+ 109	+ 188
TOTAL	42,803	+ 3,002	+ 5,111

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during January continued slack on the average, although conditions varied at different ports. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour, and dock service, 27.5 per cent. were unemployed at 26th January, compared with 25.1 per cent. at 22nd December, 1924, and with 26.3 per cent. at 28th January, 1924.

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

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
Week ended—					
3rd Jan., 1925	4,780	2,547	7,327	8,070	15,397
10th "	4,694	2,224	6,918	8,244	15,162
17th "	4,396	2,618	7,014	7,970	14,984
24th "	5,085	2,594	7,680	8,670	16,350
31st "	4,972	2,475	7,447	8,558	16,005
Average for 5 weeks ended 31st Jan., 1925	4,786	2,491	7,277	8,302	15,579
Average for Dec., 1924	5,493	2,182	7,675	8,473	16,148
Average for Jan., 1924	5,302	1,884	7,186	7,339	15,025

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in January was 1,059, as compared with 1,036 in the previous month and with 971 in January, 1924.

East Coast.—Employment with coal trimmers on the Tyne and Wear was slack, and worse than in December on the Tyne. With other classes of workers on these rivers and at Blyth it was generally slack or bad, and showed a decline on the previous month. Employment was moderate at Middlesbrough and slack at Hull and at most of the other East Coast ports.

Western and Southern Ports.—At Liverpool employment was very fair and showed an improvement on the previous month. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 26th January was 16,056, compared with 15,534 in the five weeks ended 29th December, and with 15,211 in the five weeks ended 28th January, 1924. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £47,307 in the four weeks ended 26th January, compared with £42,687 in the five weeks ended 29th December, and with £34,415 in the five weeks ended 28th January, 1924. At Manchester employment continued to be brisk. Employment remained slack at the South Wales ports. It continued good at Bristol, fair at Southampton, and moderate at Plymouth and other South Western ports.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Glasgow was moderate and worse than in December. It was fairly good at Leith and good at Dundee, where an improvement on the previous month was reported. At Belfast it continued good.

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

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL OF UNEMPLOYED.

DURING the four weeks ended 26th January, 1925, 744,000 fresh claims were added to the register, while 792,000 claims were removed from the register. As the number of fresh claims may include those of a number of claimants who make a further claim after a short period of employment, it cannot be assumed that the change-over during the month is as great as the statistics below appear to show at first glance, but the figures indicate a substantial fluctuation in the personnel of the unemployed.

Insurance Claims current at 29th December, 1924 ... 1,213,579
Fresh Claims made between 29th Dec. and 26th Jan., 1925 ... 743,948

Claims removed from register between 29th Dec. and 26th Jan. ... 1,957,527
... 791,637

Insurance Claims current at 26th January, 1925 ... 1,165,890

EXPENDITURE ON UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

The following Table shows approximately the amounts which have been paid during the five weeks ended 30th January, 1925, by Employment Exchanges and through Trade Unions and other Associations having arrangements under Section 17 of the Act:—

Week ending	Amount paid in benefit		
	By Exchanges, etc.	Through Trade Unions.	Total.
1925.	£	£	£
January 2nd ...	876,000	37,000	913,000
" 9th ...	960,000	55,000	1,015,000
" 16th ...	934,000	62,000	996,000
" 23rd ...	904,000	65,000	969,000
" 30th ...	890,000	60,000	950,000
	4,564,000	279,000	4,843,000

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted for decision to the Local Employment Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople. The following Table shows the number of claims dealt with by these Committees in Great Britain during the period 9th December, 1924, to 12th January, 1925:—

Applications referred to Committees during period ...	294,829
Applications admitted by Committees during period:—	
(a) For 12 weeks ...	112,028
(b) For less than 12 weeks ...	145,114
Applications rejected during period ...	37,687

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

THE number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 26th January, 1925, was 1,287,351. Of this number, 968,785 were men, 38,603 boys, 243,483 women, and 36,480 girls. Compared with 29th December, 1924, there was a decrease of 31,920. In the men's and the women's departments there were decreases of 34,439 and 6,035 respectively; while in the case of juveniles there was an increase of 8,554. During the four weeks ended 26th January, the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 101,976, of which 57,415 were for men, 25,896 for women, and 18,665 for juveniles.

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†	Number of Workpeople Registered as Unemployed.
	During Week.	Outstanding at end of Week.		
29th December, 1924 ...	14,938†	20,896†	12,885	1,319,271
5th January, 1925 ...	25,973	20,675	22,247	1,352,857
12th " ...	31,795	21,868	27,062	1,326,143
19th " ...	30,052	21,272	26,769	1,316,000
26th " ...	29,978	21,375	25,898	1,287,351
Total (4 weeks) ...	117,798	...	101,976†	...

* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and refer to all workpeople on the "Registers" of Exchanges, including persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, although employed on a basis of systematic short time, were not actually at work on the date in question. For Great Britain alone, the corresponding figures, as published in the Press, show that on 26th January, 1925, the numbers registered as unemployed were 935,500 men, 231,700 women, and 73,700 juveniles, as compared with 970,000 men, 239,000 women, and 65,000 juveniles at 29th December, 1924.

† This figure includes a weekly average of about 600 placings of casual workpeople, such as dock labourers and coal porters.
‡ The figures for the week ended 29th December are in respect of 3 days only.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 26th January, 1925. In certain cases—e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.—the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons registered as Unemployed on 26th January, 1925.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 29th Dec., 1924.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division ...	142,147	38,673	11,537	192,357	+ 14,720
South Eastern Division ...	50,065	9,145	5,448	64,658	+ 1,537
Brighton ...	2,522	748	372	3,642	+ 701
Chatham ...	2,937	339	642	3,918	+ 176
Ipswich ...	2,485	500	355	3,340	+ 531
Norwich ...	3,301	653	104	4,058	+ 30
Rest of South Eastern ...	38,820	6,905	3,975	49,700	+ 159
South Western Division ...	58,920	11,709	5,501	76,130	+ 1,027
Bristol ...	11,332	2,937	1,088	15,357	+ 2,006
Plymouth ...	5,271	847	572	6,690	+ 135
Portsmouth ...	6,090	1,029	623	7,742	+ 212
Reading ...	1,651	226	401	2,278	+ 440
Southampton ...	5,522	502	588	6,612	+ 249
Swindon ...	426	82	130	638	+ 76
Rest of South Western ...	28,628	6,086	2,999	36,813	+ 133
Midlands Division ...	105,573	44,024	8,360	157,957	+ 11,564
Birmingham ...	20,876	9,614	2,487	32,977	+ 2,100
Coventry ...	1,501	305	26	1,832	+ 95
Cradley Heath ...	4,711	1,025	232	5,968	+ 1,165
Derby ...	1,431	521	218	2,170	+ 142
Leicester ...	3,104	1,965	95	5,164	+ 326
Northampton ...	1,531	648	97	2,276	+ 60
Nottingham ...	7,109	3,640	596	11,345	+ 827
Smethwick ...	3,185	1,593	190	4,968	+ 32
Stoke-on-Trent ...	8,239	6,153	607	14,999	+ 4,266
Walsall ...	5,524	1,195	374	7,093	+ 454
West Bromwich ...	3,354	762	181	4,297	+ 478
Wolverhampton ...	3,802	1,653	154	5,609	+ 270
Rest of Midlands ...	41,206	14,950	3,103	59,259	+ 4,753
North Eastern Division ...	201,464	36,039	15,125	252,628	+ 8,514
Barnsley ...	1,101	169	51	1,321	+ 129
Bradford ...	7,088	3,965	482	11,535	+ 1,618
Darlington ...	2,334	216	165	2,715	+ 55
Dewsbury ...	1,302	889	117	2,308	+ 12
Doncaster ...	367	255	205	827	+ 259
Gateshead ...	8,297	934	1,051	10,282	+ 110
Grimsby ...	3,044	286	398	3,728	+ 247
Halifax ...	1,954	1,639	139	3,732	+ 63
Hartlepool ...	6,797	243	430	7,470	+ 260
Huddersfield ...	3,461	1,885	213	5,559	+ 1,141
Hull ...	7,932	936	829	9,697	+ 720
Leeds ...	13,255	4,317	472	18,044	+ 1,224
Lincoln ...	2,562	311	190	3,063	+ 205
Middlesbrough ...	10,220	575	1,007	11,802	+ 2,370
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	12,882	1,812	1,046	15,740	+ 258
Rotherham ...	1,735	326	290	2,351	+ 97
Sheffield ...	19,620	3,982	1,299	24,901	+ 2,301
South Shields ...	6,074	549	668	7,291	+ 215
Stockton-on-Tees ...	6,729	242	331	7,302	+ 558
Sunderland ...	14,670	996	839	16,505	+ 189
York ...	1,933	501	435	2,869	+ 362
Rest of North Eastern ...	68,107	11,011	4,468	83,586	+ 5,757
North Western Division ...	158,422	51,144	13,501	223,067	+ 28,464
Accrington ...	1,282	269	63	1,614	+ 124
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	2,071	870	102	3,043	+ 1,604
Barrow ...	4,044	508	219	4,771	+ 681
Birkenhead ...	4,610	560	354	5,524	+ 997
Blackburn ...	2,236	801	204	3,241	+ 760
Blackpool ...	1,330	918	161	2,409	+ 148
Bolton ...	5,160	1,741	372	7,273	+ 1,251
Burnley ...	2,264	761	109	3,134	+ 1,270
Bury ...	1,404	792	80	2,276	+ 423
Chorley ...	780	462	57	1,299	+ 477
Liverpool ...	43,036	8,509	4,784	56,329	+ 1,984
Manchester ...	20,760	8,937	1,419	31,116	+ 2,671
Nelson ...	595	168	3	766	+ 210
Oldham ...	7,971	2,372	346	10,689	+ 4,738
Preston ...	2,981	969	92	4,042	+ 258
Rochdale ...	2,971	1,078	154	4,203	+ 3,268
St. Helens ...	2,385	396	253	3,034	+ 537
Salford ...	6,654	4,367	906	11,927	+ 774
Stockport ...	2,639	951	130	3,720	+ 536
Warrington ...	2,718	349	140	3,207	+ 1,192
Wigan ...	2,866	2,029	377	5,272	+ 1,318
Rest of North Western ...	37,665	13,337	3,176	54,178	+ 8,581
Scotland Division ...	139,066	36,078	9,361	184,505	+ 256
Aberdeen ...	5,458	1,431	281	7,170	+ 303
Clydebank ...	1,965	325	97	2,387	+ 101
Dundee ...	6,017	2,091	133	8,241	+ 190
Edinburgh ...	10,499	2,618	889	14,006	+ 1,228
Glasgow ...	57,364	14,942	4,223	76,529	+ 796
Greenock ...	6,373	1,117	388	7,878	+ 253
Motherwell ...	3,132	308	84	3,524	+ 831
Paisley ...	4,135	1,175	203	5,513	+ 250
Rest of Scotland ...	44,123	12,071	3,063	59,257	+ 648
Wales Division ...	79,838	4,866	4,916	89,620	+ 93
Cardiff ...	6,562	720	609	7,891	+ 193
Llanelli ...	4,279	334	308	4,921	+ 395
Newport ...	3,223	244	249	3,716	+ 4,718
Swansea ...	6,657	412	593	7,662	+ 1,183
Rest of Wales ...	59,117	3,156	3,157	65,430	+ 3,830
Northern Ireland ...	33,290	11,805	1,334	46,429	+ 1,043
Belfast ...	22,219	7,607	808	30,634	+ 1,462
Londonderry ...	2,560	662	97	3,319	+ 95
Lurgan ...	397	584	30	1,011	+ 256
Lisburn ...	549	240	44	833	+ 464
Newry ...	940	136	18	1,094	+ 130
Rest of Northern Ireland ...	6,625	2,576	337	9,538	+ 14
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	968,785	243,483	75,083	1,287,351	+ 31,920

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of £62,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 1,000,000 workpeople and in a reduction of £7,400 in the weekly wages of 86,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	374,000	6,000	£ 7,100	£ 600
Textile ...	90,000	57,000	3,900	4,000
Building etc. ...	46,000	...	5,000	...
Transport ...	211,000	...	29,600	...
Public Utility Services ...	137,000	...	14,900	...
Other ...	122,000	23,000	10,500	2,800
Total ...	980,000	86,000	62,000	7,400

The principal increases in the mining group affected coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midlands and in Radstock, the percentage addition to basis rates being increased by rather over 1/2 per cent. in the former district and 4 per cent. in the latter district. There was a reduction of about 4 1/2 per cent. in the current rates of iron miners in Cleveland. In Cumberland iron miners, whose wages were reduced by 1d. to 2d. per shift under the sliding scale, were granted in most cases a bonus of 1s. per week.

In the textile group there were increases in the cost-of-living wage of textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., operatives amounting to nearly 2 per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 1s. 1d. per week for men and 8d. per week for women in Lancashire and Scotland. The wages of woollen and worsted workers in the West of England were increased by 1s. or 1s. 6d. per week in the case of men and by 6d. or 1s. per week in the case of women. At Leicester similar classes of workpeople had a bonus of 3 1/2d. on each shilling earned increased to 4 1/2d. Hosiery workers in the Midlands sustained a reduction in bonus from 9d. to 8d. on each shilling earned. The wages of hosiery bleachers, dyers, etc., were reduced by 1/2d. or 3/4d. per hour in the case of adult timeworkers and by corresponding amounts for other classes.

There were increases, generally of 1/2d. per hour, in the wages of building trade operatives in certain towns in the Eastern and Southern Counties, while painters in most towns in Scotland had

their wages increased by 1d. per hour. Men employed by public works contractors in the London district received an increase of 1/2d. per hour.

In the transport group there was an increase, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, usually amounting to 2s. per week, in the wages of a considerable number of railway traffic workers. Coal tipplers at the principal English and Scottish ports received an increase of 5 per cent. on the pre-war tariffs.

In the public utility services the wages of gas workers were increased in most districts by 1/2d. per hour or 4d. per shift (generally plus 1 1/2 per cent.). Men employed in the electricity supply industry also had their wages increased in a large number of districts, the increase usually amounting to 1/2d. or 1d. per hour. In the water-works industry wages were increased by 1/2d. per hour in London and in various districts in the North of England, Yorkshire and the Midlands. There were also increases in many districts in the wages paid to night-shift men by tramways undertakings, and in the wages of men employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in the Midland and South-Western Counties.

In trades other than the above the principal increases affected lower rated men employed in Siemens steel manufacture in South-West Wales, bobbin makers in England, seed crushers and oil millers, dyers and dry cleaners, felt-hat makers, and printers in certain towns in Scotland, while there were increases, under cost-of-living sliding scales, in the Trade Board minimum rates of workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage, paper-bag and paper-box, and brush and broom trades. Blastfurnace workers sustained reductions in various districts in England and Wales, and there was also a reduction in the wages of iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Of the total increase of £62,000 per week in January, £45,800 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; £20,250 took effect under arrangements made by standing joint bodies of employers and workpeople (of which £13,700 was under cost-of-living scales and is included thereunder); over £6,100 took effect under sliding scales based on the proceeds of the industry or selling prices; over £2,100 took effect under Trade Board Orders (mainly as the result of cost-of-living scales and included thereunder); £350 took effect under arbitration awards; and the remainder by direct negotiation between the parties. Of the total decrease of £7,400 per week, £4,300 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, £2,900 under sliding scales based on selling prices, and the remainder by direct negotiation. Changes preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work amounted to less than £20.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in January.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
AGRICULTURE.				

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Middlesex, and those parts of the City and County of London (except Woolwich) which lie north of the River Thames.	26 Jan.	AGRICULTURE (continued). Workers employed wholly or mainly as stockmen.	Rates fixed up to 26 January, 1926, for a week of 60 hours, varying from 22s. 6d. at 16 and under 17 years to 41s. 3d. at 21 and over for male workers, and to 30s. at 18 and over for female workers.*
			Workers employed wholly or mainly as carters.	Rates fixed up to 26 January, 1926, for a week of 56 hours, varying from 21s. at 16 and under 17 years, to 38s. 6d. at 21 years and over for male workers and to 28s. at 18 and over for female workers.*
			Other workers	Rates fixed up to 26 January, 1926, for a week of 50 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, varying from 14s. 7d. in summer and 14s. in winter at 14 and under 15 years, to 34s. 4d. and 35s. respectively for male workers 21 and over, and to 25s. and 24s. respectively for female workers 18 and over; casual workers to receive rates varying from 3d. per hour at 14 and under 15 to 8d. per hour for male workers 21 and over, and to 6d. per hour for female workers 18 years and over.*
	Suffolk	26 Jan.	Male workers	Rates fixed, for a week of 50 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, at 7d. per hour for those 21 years and over, and for those under 21 varying from 10s. per week at 14 and under 15 to 27s. at 20 and under 21 years; horsemen, stockmen and shepherds to receive 6s. per week more.*
	Worcestershire† ...	26 Jan.	Male workers	Rates fixed, for a week of 53 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, varying from 10s. at 15 years to 24s. at 18 and under 19, and to 30s. at 21 years and over.*
			Female workers	Rates fixed at 2d. per hour for those under 15 years, 3d. at 16 and under 18, and 4d. at 18 years and over.*
Coal Mining	Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire.	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of 1.01 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1911 making wages 60.76 per cent.‡ above the standard of 1911.§
	Radstock	1 Jan.		Increase of 6.18 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1918, making wages 58.84 per cent. above the standard of 1918.
Coke and By-Products Manufacture	South Yorkshire ...	1 Jan.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase of 1.01 per cent. on the standard base rates, making wages 60.76 per cent. above the standard.
Iron Mining	Cumberland... ..	12 Jan.		Decrease|| of 2d. per shift in the bargain price for iron-ore miners (3s. 4d. to 9s. 2d.), of 2d. per shift in the minimum wage (6s. 8d. to 6s. 6d.); of 1d. per shift for winding enginemen (8s. 2d. to 8s. 1d.); of 1d. per shift for other underground and surface workers and of 4d. per shift for boys under 16.
		19 Jan.	Workpeople employed at iron-ore mines.	Bonus granted under a "cost-of-living" sliding scale involving an increase of 1s. per shift for underground shiftmen, underground day-work labourers over 18 years of age and also surface workers over 18 whose present shift rate is less than 6s. Rate after change for underground 1st class or leading labourers, 5s. 11d. per shift plus a bonus of 1s. per shift.
	Cleveland	26 Jan.	Ironstone miners	Decrease of 8 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 70 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change for labourers—underground, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift; surface, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; plus in each case 70 per cent.
Quarrying	West Cumberland ...	12 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease|| of 1d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 1d. per shift for other men, and of 3d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Bonuses granted under a cost-of-living sliding scale involving increases of 9d. per shift for those over 16 years of age and of not less than 4d. per shift for those under 16 years of age. Rates after change: knobblers, 8s. per shift; day borers, 1st class, 7s. 6d.; day labourers, 6s. 10d.; plus in each case a bonus of 9d. per shift.
	South and West Durham.	26 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease of 8 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 70 per cent. above the standard.
Brickmaking	Peterborough and District.	1st full pay week in Jan.	Brickmakers	Bonus of 5 per cent. on weekly earnings.
		1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture and wholesale distribution of chemicals, drugs, druggists' sundries, proprietary medicines and essences:— Timeworkers:— Men 21 years and over ... Women 21 years and over... Male juniors Female juniors Pieceworkers	Minimum weekly rates adopted of 53s., 58s., and 53s. for Class I, II, and III** workers respectively; mercantile workers and their assistants to receive 1d. per hour above class rates. Minimum weekly rates adopted of 34s., and 28s. 6d. for Class I and II** workers respectively; workers employed on heavy stoneware and drum washing to receive 2s. per week above class rates. Scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, starting at 12s. at 14 years, increasing to 28s. at 18 years and to 36s. at 20 years. Scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, starting at 11s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 21s. at 18 years and to 26s. at 20 years. Schedule of piecework prices to be arranged which will yield to a worker of average ability at least 25 per cent. above time rates.
* Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacture	Great Britain¶ ...	1 Jan.		

* The new rates referred to took effect under Orders issued by the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

† Excluding the parishes of Alderminster, Shipston-on-Stour, Tidmington, Tredington, Blockley, Cutsdean, Daylesford, and Evenlode.

‡ In the case of West Yorkshire the surface workers' percentage addition to the 1911 standard from 1 January was 59.10 for the Eastern Area and 55.76 for the Western Area.

§ In accordance with the terms of the National Agreement of June, 1924, the above change was subject to the condition that the wages of an adult day-wage workman should not fall below a sum represented by adding 40 per cent. to the standard wages of the lowest paid class of day-wage workmen in the district. In Warwickshire it was agreed that the wages of lower-paid men are not to fall below a total minimum of 7s. 6d. per shift for surface workers and 8s. per shift for underground workers, whilst in South Derbyshire wages were not to fall below a total minimum of 7s. 5d. per day for adult able-bodied surface workers and 7s. 9d. per day for adult able-bodied underground workers.

¶ The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.

|| The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association and the National Drug and Chemical Union.

** Men, Class I.—Chemical process workers, galvanical process workers, drug grinders, chemical grinders, pill, tablet, lozenge, pastille, capsule and suppository makers, first-class countermen, mercantile workers, timekeepers (whole time), sundriesmen, stock-keepers, order assemblers and checkers, compounders, goods receivers and stillmen. Class II.—Packers for transport, second-class countermen, all assistants to men in Class I except those in Class III, lift and hoist attendants, empties and returns receivers. Class III.—Bottle washers, labourers, porters, loaders and unloaders. Women, Class I.—Fillers of scheduled poisons, or workers dealing with scheduled poisons or with substances in a department or at a counter set apart for scheduled poisons, and process workers. Class II.—Fillers, other than those in Class I, finishers, bottle washers and general workers. It was agreed that, in the case of women pill, tablet, lozenge, pastille, capsule and suppository makers' assistants favourable consideration should be given to claims by them upon special grounds to rates varying between those of Classes I and II.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	
IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Jan.	Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Decrease* of 3½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 26½ per cent. above the standard, plus in some cases an output bonus. Bonuses granted, under a "cost of living" sliding scale, varying according to base rates, from 3s. 6d. to 7s. per week, and to 9s. per week in the case of chargers and fillers, on a "cost of living" figure of 81 per cent. Rates after change for labourers—general, 4s. 10d. per shift, plus 26 per cent., plus 7s. per week; shiftmen, 5s. per shift, plus 26 per cent., plus 7s. per week.	
		4 Jan.	Blastfurnacemen (scale workers)	Decrease* of 6½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 12½ per cent. above the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers at blastfurnaces, 6s. per shift, plus 12½ per cent.	
	Pig Iron Manufacture	Cleveland and Durham.	4 Jan.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase of 3s. per week (39s. to 42s.).
			5 Jan.	Net rate workers (chiefly yard labourers) employed at blastfurnaces.	
	Iron and Steel Manufacture	North Staffordshire	1st making-up day in Jan.	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease* of 4½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 65½ per cent. above the standard. Rate after change for yard labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 65½ per cent.
		South Staffordshire	1st full pay after 12 Jan.	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease* of 8 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 21 per cent. above the standard of 1922. Rates after change: general labourers, 5s. 1d. per shift, plus 21 per cent.; by-turn labourers, 5s. 3d. per shift, plus 21 per cent.
	Iron and Steel Manufacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 Jan.	Men employed in steel melting shops and in iron and steel rolling mills.	Decrease* of 6½ per cent., leaving wages 55½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 55½ per cent.
		South-West Wales ...	19 Jan.	Lower-paid workpeople (excluding maintenance men) engaged in Siemens' steel manufacture.	Ex gratia payment of 20 per cent., previously paid to those with base earnings of not more than 30s. per week, increased to 30 per cent. Minimum rate for labourers, 30s. per week, plus 63½ per cent.
	ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.	England (Southern Railway).	1st full pay after 20 Nov. 1924.	London, Brighton and South Coast section of Southern Railway; also Feltham (Middlesex) and Newport (I.O.W.).	New classification scheme adopted for the various workshops, running sheds and depôts concerned, repeating in most instances the classification previously in force under the terms of the national grading scheme applicable to railway workshops, but raising Lewes from Class III to Class II, and Three Bridges from Class IV to Class III; also schedule of rates defined for labourers at all centres. (See I.C. Decisions 1004 and 1005 on page 68.)
OTHER METAL TRADES.	England and Wales	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the bobbin making industry; also shuttle-makers employed by certain firms at Blackburn and Garston.	Increase† of 2s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, of amounts varying from 4d. to 9d. per week for boys and youths, and of 4d. or 5d. per week for girls. Rates after change: higher skilled men, 65s. 6d.; lesser skilled men, 56s.; labourers, 46s.; women, 26s. 6d.	
		Yorkshire ...		Addition to basis rate of 55 per cent. previously paid, increased to 61 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change: 10½d. per hour, plus 61 per cent. (or 1s. 4.905d.).	
Bobbin and Shuttle Manufacture	Lancashire (excluding certain workpeople at Blackburn and Garston).	1st pay day in Jan.	Shuttle-makers	Addition to basis rate of 55 per cent. previously paid, increased to 61 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change: 1s. per hour, plus 61 per cent. (or 1s. 7.32d.).	
	Various areas in Great Britain§	27th Nov. 1924 to 20 Jan. 1925.	Plumber-jointers, jointers and joiners' mates employed in the electrical cable making industry.	Increase of amounts varying in different districts from 1s. 11½d. per week to 5s. 11½d. per week.§	
Electrical Cable Making	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1 Jan.	Apprentices to bricklayers employed by outside contractors on fire-brick work in connection with retorts in gasworks.	Scale of wages adopted for apprentices at certain percentages of retort setters' rates, based on Grade A rates, varying according to age of entry, from 20 per cent. for first half-year for those starting at 16 to 16½ years of age to 35 per cent. for first half-year for those starting at 17½ to 18 years, and increasing half-yearly to 60 and 75 per cent. respectively.	
Gas Retorts	London	19 Jan.	Casters, dressers, machinists, mixers, etc., employed in type foundries.	Decrease† of 5s. per week (75s. to 70s.) for journeymen, and of 1s. to 4s. per week for learners.	
TEXTILE TRADES.	Leicester	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding workpeople such as engineers belonging to Unions other than the Workers' Union).	Bonus increased‡ from 3½d. to 4½d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers—men, 42s. 6d., plus 4½d. in the shilling; women, 25s. 6d., plus 4½d. in the shilling; pieceworkers—25 per cent. above time rates.	
		1st full pay week after 29 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry.	Increase‡ in the minimum time and piecework basis time rates of 1s. or 1s. 6d. per week for men and 6d. or 1s. per week for women, with corresponding increases for pieceworkers and juniors. Minimum time rates after change: Male workers, 21 years and over—Class A, 54s.; Class B, 51s.; Class C, 45s.; Class D, 41s. Female workers, 18 years and over—Class A, 28s.; Class B, 26s. 6d.; Class C, 25s.	
Woollen and Worsted Industry	West of England|| ...				
	Various towns in the Midlands Counties.¶	Pay day in week beginning 26 Jan.	All classes of workpeople employed in the manufacture of hosiery (except dyers, trimmers, finishers, etc.).	Bonus of 9d. in the shilling on earnings reduced‡ to 8d. in the shilling.	
Hosiery Manufacture	Clyde District ...	1 Jan.	Sailmakers	"Dirty money" of ½d. per hour granted to sailmakers engaged on pipe-covering repair work in stokehold and engine room.	
Sailmaking					

* This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.

† The scale percentage on bonus earnings paid to keepers, slagers, fillers, enginemen, etc., is 63½ in the Workington Area and 58½ in the Furness Area.

‡ The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

§ The increases in the various areas were as follows—Yorkshire, 3s. 11d.; North Western, 3s. 11d.; South Wales and Monmouthshire, 1s. 11½d.; West Midlands, 4s. 5½d.; West of England, 1s. 11½d.; East Midlands, 1s. 11½d.; East Coast, 3s. 11d.; Home Counties, 1s. 11½d.; London, jointers and joiners' mates, 1s. 11½d.; South Coast, 1s. 11½d.; Devon and Cornwall, 3s. 11d.; Scotland, 5s. 11½d. In each of these areas (excluding North Western, where the 3s. 11d. took effect by agreement) an amount of 1s. 11½d. per week took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, and the remaining amounts under arrangements made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Electrical Cable Making Industry.

|| Including Stroud, Trowbridge, Frome, Westbury, Chippenham, Bath, Chipping Norton, Wellington, Witney, South Devon and North Tawton.

¶ Viz., Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley, and Coventry Districts.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Yorkshire (mainly) and certain firms in Lancashire.*	1st pay day in Feb.†	TEXTILE TRADES (continued). Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 79¼ per cent. to 83¼ per cent. for timeworkers, from 65¼ per cent. to 66¼ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers), and from 47¼ per cent. to 50 per cent. for pressers.
	Lancashire (mainly), Cheshire and Derbyshire and certain firms in Yorkshire; also Scotland.	1st pay day in Feb.†	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing industry (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers and mechanics, etc., in certain districts, employed on repair and maintenance of plant).	<i>Males:</i> Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 24s. 1d. to 25s. 2d. per week in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, and from 24s. 2d. to 25s. 2d. per week in Scotland for workers 21 years and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. <i>Females:</i> Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 14s. 4d. to 15s. per week for workers 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, and for workers 21 years and over in Scotland, and by smaller amounts for workers under these age limits in the respective districts.
	Middleton ...	1st pay day in Feb.†	Male workers ...	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 24s. 3d. to 25s. 4d. for those 21 and over, from 19s. 2d. to 19s. 11d. for those 18 and under 21, from 13s. 7d. to 14s. 2d. for those 16 and under 18, and from 10s. 4d. to 10s. 10d. for those under 16.
			Female workers ...	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 14s. 11d. to 15s. 7d. for those 18 and over, from 11s. 2d. to 11s. 8d. for those 16 and under 18, and from 8s. 9d. to 9s. 2d. for those under 16.
			Reelers and winders ...	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 65 per cent. to 70 per cent. on basic rates.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Feb.†	Mechanics employed in dyeworks...	Increase‡ of 1s. 1d. per week. Rates after change: Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, 67s. 5d.; other towns, 66s. 5d.
	Bolton and Bury Districts.	15 Nov. 1924. 1st pay day in Feb.†	Mechanics employed in textile dyeing, bleaching, etc., industry.	Increase of 2s. per week.
	Various towns in Lancashire.¶	15 Nov. 1924. 1st pay day in Feb.†	Mechanics employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 24s. 1d. to 25s. 2d. per week. Total rate after change, 65s. 2d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	9 Jan. 1st pay day in Feb.†	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Increase of 2s. per week.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in Feb.†	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 32s. 10d. to 34s. per week for engravers, and from 24s. 1d. to 25s. 2d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.
Shirt Manufacture	Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Derby and Hinckley	Pay day in week ending 31 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the hosiery bleaching, dyeing, and finishing trades:— Timeworkers ...	Increase of 2s. per week for men 21 years and over, and of 1s. 3d. per week for women 18 years and over; and cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 29s. 10d. to 31s. per week for men, from 17s. 6d. to 18s. 1d. per week for women, from 19s. 2d. to 19s. 11d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and from 13s. 7d. to 14s. 2d. per week for youths 16 to 18 years.
			Pieceworkers:— Trimmers (other than web trimmers and jersey trimmers). Web trimmers and jersey trimmers. Dyers, scourers, menders, and other pieceworkers.	Decrease‡ of ¼d. per hour for dyers, scourers and trimmers, ¼d. per hour for menders and for male and female auxiliary workers 18 and over, and proportionate decreases for auxiliary workers under 18. Bonus of 70 per cent. on list prices previously paid reduced‡ to 60 per cent. Bonus of 47½ per cent. on list prices previously paid reduced‡ to 40 per cent. Decrease‡ of 1s. in the £.
			Lace dyers ...	Decrease‡ of ¼d. per hour (1s. 3¼d. to 1s. 3d.). Decrease‡ for timeworkers of ¼d. per hour for men and ¼d. per hour for boys, women and girls, and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers. Rates after change: men 21 and over, 1s.; women 18 and over, 7¼d.; women takers-off and takers-down, ¼d. Decrease‡ of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 62s. Decrease‡ of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: dollymen, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s. 3d.
	Nottingham ...	Pay day in week beginning 26 Jan.	Lace dippers and stainers ... Lace bleachers' dollymen and labourers.	
	Northern Ireland ...	1 Jan.	Male workers employed in the shirt-making trade.	Minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts extended to cover certain operations not previously affected,† also overtime rates fixed for all male workers for hours worked in excess of 48 per week. (See also p. 31 of January GAZETTE.)
	England and Scotland.**	1st pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and dry cleaning trade.	Increase‡ of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, and of 6d. or 1s. per week for youths under 21 and for women and girls. Rates after change: Men—skilled dyers, 70s. or 75s.; dyers (one colour), 65s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers, and other skilled workers, 60s.; labourers, 55s. Boys—11s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 30s. at 18 and to 44s. at 20 years. Women and girls—11s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 23s. at 18 and to 30s. at 21 years.
	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Failsforth, and Romiley Districts; also Carlisle.	1st pay day in Jan.	Timeworkers ... Pieceworkers ...	Bonus increased‡ from 50 per cent. to 55 per cent. Minimum rate after change, 10¼d., plus 55 per cent.†† Bonus increased‡ from 55 per cent. to 60 per cent.
	Great Britain ...	12 Jan.	Male and female workers employed on work preparatory to rounding and channelling machines.	Scale of minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for soiling only, for stripping, levelling, fixing sole and riveting across waist, such rates to be subject to a deduction of 7½ per cent. (See also p. 30 of January GAZETTE.)

* The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet, and Colour Dyers, Ltd., the Leeds and District Worst Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd., the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation, the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association, the Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms).
† In respect of the preceding pay period.
‡ The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
§ The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for time-workers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above). For pieceworkers the "cost-of-living" wage was increased from 68 per cent. to 71 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 62 per cent. to 65 per cent. for handcutters, from 52 per cent. to 54 per cent. for menders, and from 59 per cent. to 61 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.
¶ *Viz.*, Tottington, Whitefield, Radcliffe, Walmersley, Entwistle, Ramsbottom, Accrington, and Westhoughton.
‡ Including the making of women's collars and cuffs and of nurses' washing belts where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making of the before-mentioned articles; the making of neckties worn by male persons, and of neckties worn by female persons where made in association with or in conjunction with the making of neckties worn by male persons; laundering, smoothing, folding, ornamenting, boxing, packing, warehousing, and all other operations incidental to or appertaining to the making of any of the above-mentioned articles.
** The increases took effect under a sliding-scale agreement to which the National Federation of Dyers and Cleaners and the Amalgamated Society of Dyers, Bleachers, Finishers, and Kindred Trades were parties.
†† This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc., whose wages are governed by Orders under the Trade Boards Acts.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)							
Baking and Confectionery	Various towns in Yorkshire.*	Pay day in week ending 31 Jan.	FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES. Adult male workers employed in the baking and confectionery trades by private traders.	Decrease‡ of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 70s.; doughmakers and ovenmen, 65s.; table-hands, 60s.							
	South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire.†	9 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the baking and confectionery trades by Co-operative societies.	Increase‡ of 1s. 6d. per week for adult male workers, and of 9d. per week for female workers and for juniors.							
	Leicester ...	1st pay day after 26 Jan.	Adult workers ...	Decrease‡ of 3s. per week. Rates after change: ordinary bakeries—forehands, 68s.; singlehands and secondhands, 66s.; table-hands, 64s.; factories—5s. per week more in each case. Decreases‡ of from 1s. 9d. to 2s. 7d. per week.							
	Ayrshire‡ ...	3 Jan.	Youths and deliverers, 18 to 20 years.	Increase‡ of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 73s.							
	Coatbridge ...	1st pay day in Dec. 1924.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Increase‡ of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d.							
	Glasgow (certain firms) (non-associated).	1st pay day in Dec. 1924.		Increase‡ of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d.							
	Wishaw ...	6 Dec. 1924.									
	Great Britain¶	1st full pay week in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the seed-crushing and oil-milling industry (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in the engineering and other trades).	Increase‡ of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, and of 1s. per week for youths and women. Minimum rates after change: Liverpool—Men—Grade I, 59s. 6d.; Grade II, 57s.; Grade III, 52s. 6d. Women—20 years, 37s. Hull—Labourers, 52s.							
	Seed Crushing and Oil Milling	Great Britain¶	1st full pay week in Jan.	WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE TRADES. Workpeople employed in sawmills (pit-prop):— Male workers 19 years and over.	Increase of 1s. per week. Rates after change: Single bench sawyers, 65s. 6d.; double bench sawyers and saw sharpeners, 62s. 6d.; drawers-off, 58s.; mill loaders, mill and motor cross cutters and tallymen, 57s.; labourers, 56s. Increase of 6d. per week. Increase of 1s. per week for those 19 years and over (26s. to 27s.) and of 6d. per week for those under 19 years.						
				Bo'ness and South Alloa.	30 Jan.	Male workers under 19 years... Female workers ...	Increase of ¼d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 11¼d. per hour.				
Glasgow and District.				9 Jan.	Labourers employed in saw-mills...	Scale of weekly rates adopted starting at 11s. at 14 years, and increasing to 25s. at 18, and to 50s. at 21 years.					
Birmingham and District.				1st full pay in Jan.	Apprentices employed by packing case makers.	Increase‡ of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: French polishers and upholsterers, 1s. 7¼d.; other male workers, 1s. 7¼d., plus ¼d. per hour "tool" money.					
North East Coast¶...				1st full pay in Jan.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, french polishers and upholsterers.	Increase‡ of ¼d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for boys and youths. Standard rate after change for skilled adults, 1s. 7d.					
Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.				Pay preceding 1st pay day in Feb.	Furniture trade operatives— Timeworkers—cabinet makers, chairmakers, woodcutting machinists, upholsterers, and french polishers. Female french polishers and upholsteresses.	Increase‡ of ¼d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for girls. Standard rate after change for adults, 9¼d.					
Birmingham and West Bromwich.				...	Pieceworkers ...	Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices increased‡ from 70 per cent. to 72½ per cent.					
Glasgow ...				1st full pay in Jan.	Carpet and blind fitters ...	Increase‡ of ¼d. per hour (1s. 5¼d. to 1s. 6d.)					
Rocking and baby-chair makers ...				1st full pay in Jan.		Increase of ¼d. per hour for timeworkers and of 2½ per cent. for pieceworkers.					
Furniture Manufacture				Great Britain ...	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade:— Timeworkers 21 and over:— Male workers ... Female workers ... Timeworkers under 21:— Male workers†† ... Female workers†† ... Pieceworkers ...	Increase‡ in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see also p. 31 of January GAZETTE):— Increases‡ of from ¼d. to ¾d. per hour. Increase‡ of ¼d. or ½d. per hour.** Increases‡ of from 1s. to 3s. per week. Increases‡ of from 6d. to 1s. 9d. per week. Piecework basis time rates fixed at 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates.				
	Perambulator and Invalid Carriage										
	Paper-Box Making	Great Britain ...	1 Jan.			Workpeople employed in the paper-box making trade:— Male timeworkers:— Other than learners... Learners ... Other than learners... Learners ... Pieceworkers ...	Increase‡ in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see also p. 31 of January GAZETTE):— Increases‡ of from 1s. 6d. to 3s. per week. General minimum time rate after change, 53s. 6d. Increases‡ of from 6d. to 2s. per week. Increases‡ of 1s. 6d. per week (30s. 6d. to 32s.). Increases‡ of 6d. or 1s. per week. Increase‡ in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 2s. 6d. per week (57s. 6d. to 60s.) for men, and 1s. 6d. per week (32s. 6d. to 34s.) for women.				
						Paper-Box Making					
						Paper-Bag Making	Great Britain ...	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the paper-bag trade:— Male timeworkers:— Other than learners... Learners ... Other than learners... Learners ... Female timeworkers:— Other than learners... Learners ... Female pieceworkers ...	Increase‡ in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see also p. 31 of January GAZETTE):— Increases‡ of from 1s. to 3s. per week. General minimum time rate after change, 58s. Increases‡ of from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week. Increases‡ of 1s. 6d. per week (30s. 6d. to 32s.). Increase‡ of 6d. or 1s. per week. Increase‡ in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 1s. 6d. per week (32s. to 33s. 6d.).	
									Paper-Bag Making		

* *Viz.*, Barnsley, Bradford, Bridlington, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield and York.
† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
‡ Including Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield, Chesterfield, Pontefract, also Grimsby.
§ Including Auchinleck, Dalmellington, Irvine, Kilbirnie, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Maybole, Stevenston and Troon.
¶ The increase took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Joint Industrial Council for the Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Industry.
‡ Including Newcastle, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Stockton, West Hartlepool and Darlington.
** Except those employed on all the operations of assembling, mounting, and finishing the same perambulator throughout, for whom there was no change.
†† Except those of 15 and under 16 years of age, whose wages remain unchanged.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Printing	Scotland* ...	Pay day in week beginning 5 Jan.	PA PER, PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES (continued). Compositors, machine-men, and linotype and monotype operators (jobbing).	New scheme of grading adopted whereby there are four grades of towns in lieu of five, and resulting in increases of from 1s. to 6s. (usually 3s.) in certain towns. Minimum rates after change for male compositors and machine-men:—Group I towns, 77s. 6d.; Group II, 75s. 6d.; Group III, 74s. 6d.; Group IV, 68s. 6d.; monotype operators, 5s. per week more in each case; linotype operators, 7s. 6d. per week more in each case.
			BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES.	
	New Mills and Whaley Bridge ...	1 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2d.
	Bedford, Cambridge, Ipswich, Luton and Norwich ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 1d.†
	Brentwood ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.)†
	Felixstowe ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1d. to 1s. 1½d.)†
	King's Lynn ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 1d.†
	Lowestoft, Yarmouth and Gorleston ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5d. to 1s. 5½d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1d. to 1s. 1½d.)†
	Addlestone and Ashford (Middlesex) ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.)†
	Chertsey ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Rates adopted of 1s. 6½d. per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 2d. per hour for labourers.†
Building	Gravesend and Northfleet ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d.†
	Sevenoaks ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5d. to 1s. 5½d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1d. to 1s. 1½d.)†
	Westerham ...	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Rates adopted of 1s. 5d. per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 1d. per hour for labourers.†
	Certain other towns in the Southern Counties,†	2 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.†
	Various towns in Scotland,‡	1 Jan.	Painters ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: Grade A towns, 1s. 8d.; Grade B, 1s. 7d.; Grade C, 1s. 6d.‡
	Brechin, Forfar and Montrose ...	1 Jan.	Painters ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5½d.).
	Dumfries and Maxwelltown ...	1 Jan.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d.).
	Galashiels, Hawick, Jedburgh, Kelso, and Selkirk ...	1 Jan.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, wood-cutting machinists, slaters, plumbers and labourers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d.) and 1d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d.).
Glazing	Inverness ...	1 Jan.	Joiners ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5d.).
	London ...	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Feb.	Glaziers and assistants ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: glaziers, 1s. 8½d.; assistants, 1s. 6d.
Public Works Contracting	London (Metropolitan Police Area).	1st pay day in Jan.	Men employed by public works contractors.	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: City and County of London—granite masons, 1s. 9d.; blacksmiths, fitters, granite sett dressers, kerb fixers, paviors, street masons and flag dressers, 1s. 8½d.; steam roller drivers, 1s. 8d.; scaffolders, 1s. 7d.; platelayers and pipe jointers, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.; petrol locomotive, roller and air-compressor plant drivers, 1s. 6d.; duct or earthenware drain layers, joiners, pneumatic pick operators, rammers, screeders, timbermen and wood block layers, 1s. 5d.; concrete levellers, tarpot men and labourers, 1s. 4d.; Rest of District—not more than 1d. per hour less than the above rates.
Asphalting	London ...	1 Jan.	Asphalte workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: spreaders, 1s. 6d.; potmen and labourers, 1s. 3d.; apprentices (starting rate), 7d.
			TRANSPORT TRADES.	
			Certain classes of railway servants in traffic grades:—	
			Male workers 20 years of age and over.¶	Increase of 2s. per week.¶
			Female workers ...	Increase of 2s. per week to women in receipt of a war wage of 15s. per week, and of 1s. per week to girls in receipt of a war wage of 7s. 6d. per week.
Railway Service	Great Britain ...	1 Jan.	Certain other classes of workers employed by Railway Companies:—	Increase of 2s. per week.
			Men in receipt of a war wage of 27s. per week (anal workers, etc.).	
			Female part-timers (charwomen, cleaners, etc.).	Bonuses previously paid increased by 1s. per week on base rates up to 9s. 11d., and by 1s. 6d. per week on base rates of 10s. and over, subject to maximum bonuses varying with base rates from 3s. 6d. to 12s. per week.

* Group I.—Airdrie, Dumfries, Dundee, Edinburgh (see below), Glasgow, Greenock, Hamilton, Paisley, Barrhead, Beith, Bellshill, Coatbridge, Dalkeith, Helensburgh, Johnstone, Kilsyth, Kirkintilloch, Motherwell, Rutherglen, and Wishaw.

Group II.—Aberdeen.

Group III.—Ardrossan, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Loudoun, Perth, Cumnock, Dalry, Girvan, Irvine, Lanark, Largs, Maybole, Saltcoats, Stevenston, and Troon.

Group IV.—Alloa, Arbroath, Bathgate, Dingwall, Dumfries, Dumfermline, Falkirk, Haddington, Inverness, Kirkcaldy, Oban, Stirling, Alva, Annan, Bo'ness, Castle Douglas, Cowdenbeath, Cupar, Forres, Grangemouth, Leven, Linlithgow, Lochgelly, Markinch, Methil, and St. Andrews.

Group V.—Banff, Berwick, Elgin, Forfar, Galashiels, Hawick, Rothsay, Stranraer, Wick, Alyth, Blairgowrie, Brechin, Buckie, Coupar-Angus, Huntly, Jedburgh, Keith, Kelso, Kirkwall, Kirriemuir, Laurencekirk, Lerwick, Lossiemouth, Montrose, Nairn, Newton Stewart, Peebles, Peterhead, Selkirk, Stonehaven, Stow and Thurso.

† The increase at the principal towns affected were as follows:—1s. at Aberdeen; 2s. at Edinburgh (N.B. in the case of Edinburgh the increase takes effect from the pay day in week beginning 6th April); 3s. at Airdrie, Hamilton, Loudoun, Alloa, Arbroath, Bathgate, Inverness, Oban, Banff, Berwick, Elgin, Forfar, Rothsay, Stranraer and Wick; 6s. at Dingwall.

‡ The change took effect as the result of a re-grading under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry.

§ Including Amersham, Bournemouth, Brighton, Chalfonts, Christchurch, Eastbourne, Eastleigh, Egham, Englefield Green, Eton, Gerrards Cross, Gosport, Hove, Poole, Slough, Southampton, Staines, Windsor, Wokingham, and Wycombe.

¶ The increase applied to the principal coal-exporting centres, including those on the North-East Coast, and at Hull, Grimsby, Immingham, Leith, Methil, Burntisland, and Bo'ness. The increase did not apply to the Bristol Channel Ports.

** The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Gas Industry; such Undertakings include the great majority of the larger Undertakings in England and Wales. In Scotland separate arrangements are made by the Glasgow and Dundee Corporation Undertakings, and these were not affected by the above increase.

†† Excluding engineering and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their own trades.

‡‡ The amounts quoted are subject to the addition of a bonus of 12½ or 7½ per cent. in the case of timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively, 21 years of age and over, where such bonuses are in force.

§§ The increase affected those Undertakings in the areas mentioned which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Council for the Waterworks Industry, and also applied at Lincoln.

¶¶ The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry.

§§§ The Undertakings affected are those which follow the Schedule A and D rates of the Home Counties Joint Industrial Council for Waterworks Undertakings. The scheduled minimum rates for Areas B and C remain unchanged at 48s. and 52s. 3d. respectively.

¶¶¶ The increase is inclusive of 1d. per hour under the "cost of living" sliding scale of the National Council. When wages were reviewed under this scale in August, 1924, it was agreed to postpone a reduction of 1d. per hour which was then due. An increase of 1d. per hour would otherwise have operated under the scale in January.

¶¶¶¶ This increase took effect under an arrangement made by the North Western Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			TRANSPORT TRADES (continued).	
			Gatekeepers (wives of companies' servants)	War wage increased from 3s. to 4s. per week.
			Certain classes of workpeople employed by Railway Companies at docks (including men on hydraulic and steam pumping plant), on dredgers and hopper barges, tugboats, small passenger and lake steamers, tenders and ferry boats.*	Increase† amounting in most cases to 2s. per week.*
Railway Service (contd.)	Great Britain ...	1 Jan.	Railway police (except uniform or detective inspectors).	Increase† of 2s. per week. Rates after change: Constables, 63s. per week in the first year, increasing to 73s. after 10 years' service (plus 3s. if working in London).
			Stationmasters, goods agents, supervising and technical staffs, and clerks employed by Railway Companies.	Residuary bonuses, where still applicable, increased† by £10 per annum or 4s. per week for adult males 18 years of age and over, by £5 per annum or 2s. per week for male juniors under 18, by 3s. per week for women clerks, and by 1s. 6d. per week for girl clerks.
Canal Service	Midlands‡ ...	1st pay day in Jan.	Canal boatmen employed in the transport of coal, iron, glass, chemicals, etc.	Increase† of 2½ per cent.
Dock, Wharf, and Riverside etc., Labour	Various ports in England and Scotland.§	1st full pay week in Jan.	Coal tippers, teamers, weighers, holstmen, and boxmen.	Increase† of 5 per cent. making wages 105 per cent. above pre-war tariffs, and payments for incidentals, subject to the minimum wage of 60s. per week previously paid.
	Nottingham... †	1st pay day after 19 Jan.	Road transport workers ...	Increase† of 1s. per week for those 18 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for those under 18 years. Rates after change for men 21 years of age and over: one horse drivers, 54s. per week; two horse drivers, 59s.; petrol wagon drivers—2 tons and over, 64s.; 15 cwt. to 2 tons, 59s.; under 15 cwt., 54s.
Road Transport	Principal towns in Scotland.	1 Jan.	Carters employed by railway contractors.	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: one horse carters, 53s. per week; two horse carters, 55s.
	Isle of Man ...	1st pay day in Jan.	Carters and labourers ...	Increase† of 1s. per week for men in the Northern, Southern and Western Areas and of 2s. per week for men in the Eastern Area. Rates after change: Eastern Area, 44s. per week; other Areas, 40s.
			PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.	
Gas Undertakings	Great Britain||	1 Jan.	Men, 18 years of age and over¶	Increase† of 1d. per hour or 4d. per shift.**
	London ...	3 Jan.	Able-bodied male manual workers (excluding fitters, turners, smiths and boilermakers).	Increase† of 1s. 11½d. per week, making the bonus 25s. 5½d. per week for men over 21 years of age, 19s. 5½d. for boys 18 to 21 years doing full men's work, and 13s. 8½d. for other youths 18 to 21 years. Rates after change: stokers, 36s. 6d. per week; labourers, 31s. 6d., plus in each case bonuses as above.
	Certain Undertakings in the Northern, Yorkshire and Midlands Areas.††	1st full pay in Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase† of 1d. per hour. Rates after change for labourers: Northern Counties, majority rate, 1s. 2½d.; Yorkshire Area, majority rates, 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3½d.; Midlands, minimum rates, Zone A, 1s. 1½d.; Zone B, 1s. 0½d.; Zone C, 11d.; Zone D, 10d.
Waterworks Undertakings	Certain Undertakings in the South Midlands Area.††	1st full pay in Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase† of 1s. 9d. per week for Grade D and C districts, of 1s. 8d. per week for Grade B, and of 1s. 5d. per week for Grade A. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade D areas, 52s. 3d.; Grade C, 51s. 4d.; Grade B, 49s. 8d.; Grade A, 43s.
	Certain Undertakings in the Home Counties Area.‡‡	1st pay in Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase† of 1s. per week in Areas A and D. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Area A, 43s. 9d.; Area D, 55s. 6d.
	Great Britain ...	1 Jan.	Adult male workers, (excluding electrical fitters, etc., engaged in installation work and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their own trades) employed in electricity generating stations and substations of railway companies.	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change in London: switchboard attendants (up to 5,000 k.w.), 1s. 7½d.; (5,000 k.w. and over), 1s. 11½d.; turbine mechanics, 1s. 8d.; drivers, 1s. 6½d.; stokers (leading), 1s. 7½d.; (other), 1s. 6d.; trimmers, 1s. 4½d.; plus, in each case, 1d. per hour for shift workers.
	London ...	1 Jan.	Adult male workers (excluding electrical wiremen and fitters).	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for undertakings within a radius of 12 miles of Charing Cross: labourers—(indoor), 1s. 3-79d.; (outdoor), 1s. 4-53d.; stokers, 1s. 6-56d. Rates for undertakings outside such radius, 2½ or 5 per cent. less.
	Certain Undertakings in Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire, North Nottinghamshire, and North Derbyshire.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Zone A areas (indoor), 1s. 2½d.; (outdoor), 1s. 2½d.; Zone B (indoor), 1s. 1½d.; (outdoor), 1s. 2d.; Zone C (indoor), 1s. 0½d.; (outdoor), 1s. 1d.
Electricity Supply Undertakings	Certain Undertakings in the North Western Area.	20 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Zone A areas (in works), 1s. 2-14d.; (outdoor), 1s. 2-66d.; Zone B (in works), 1s. 1-51d.; (outdoor), 1s. 2-08d.; Zone C (in works), 1s. 1-23d.; (outdoor), 1s. 1-81d.
	Certain Undertakings in the West Midlands Area.	1st pay after 1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Zone A areas, 1s. 2-28d.; Zone B, 1s. 1-78d.; Zone C, 1s. 1-28d.
	Certain Undertakings in the East Midlands Area.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Grade I, 1s. 3½d.; Grade II, 1s. 2½d.
	Certain Undertakings in the East Coast Area.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Grade A areas, 1s. 0-75d. to 1s. 1-90d.; Grade B, 11-99d. to 1s. 1-14d.; Grade C, 11-23d. to 1s. 0-39d.
	Certain Undertakings in the Home Counties.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rate after change for labourers: 1s. 2d.

* The full increase of 2s. per week applied in the great majority of cases. In a few cases the increase amounted to only 1s. or 1s. 6d. per week, while there was no increase in the case of the following classes (among others):—mooring men at docks, engineers on small tugs, and the majority of engineers, enginemen, boatswains, and leading seamen on small passenger steamers, etc.

† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour Index number of retail prices.

‡ Including Aston, Birmingham, Bradley, Kidderminster, Oldbury, Old Hill, Smethwick, Tamworth, Tipton, Walsall, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton.

§ The increase applied to the principal coal-exporting centres, including those on the North-East Coast, and at Hull, Grimsby, Immingham, Leith, Methil, Burntisland, and Bo'ness. The increase did not apply to the Bristol Channel Ports.

¶ The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Gas Industry; such Undertakings include the great majority of the larger Undertakings in England and Wales. In Scotland separate arrangements are made by the Glasgow and Dundee Corporation Undertakings, and these were not affected by the above increase.

†† Excluding engineering and other craftsmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their own trades.

‡‡ The amounts quoted are subject to the addition of a bonus of 12½ or 7½ per cent. in the case of timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively, 21 years of age and over, where such bonuses are in force.

§§ The increase affected those Undertakings in the areas mentioned which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Council for the Waterworks Industry, and also applied at Lincoln.

¶¶ The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry.

§§§ The Undertakings affected are those which follow the Schedule A and D rates of the Home Counties Joint Industrial Council for Waterworks Undertakings. The scheduled minimum rates for Areas B and C remain unchanged at 48s. and 52s. 3d. respectively.

¶¶¶ The increase is inclusive of 1d. per hour under the "cost of living" sliding scale of the National Council. When wages were reviewed under this scale in August, 1924, it was agreed to postpone a reduction of 1d. per hour which was then due. An increase of 1d. per hour would otherwise have operated under the scale in January.

¶¶¶¶ This increase took effect under an arrangement made by the North Western Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES (continued).				
Electricity Supply Undertakings (contd.)	Certain Undertakings in the South Coast Area.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1/4d. per hour.* Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Zone A, 1s. 1-8d.; Zone B, 1s. 1-5d.; Zone C, 1s. 1-2d.; Zone D, 1s. 0-8d.
	Certain Undertakings in the West of England Area.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1/4d. per hour.* Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Zone A, 1s. 3-46d.; Zone C, 1s. 1-88d.; Zone D, 1s. 2-8d.
	Certain Undertakings in Devonshire and Cornwall.	19 Dec., 1924.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1/4d. per hour.† Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Zone A, 54s. 11d.; Zone B, 50s. 11d.; Zone C, 46s. 11d.
	Certain Undertakings in South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers ...	Increase of 1/4d. per hour.* Scheduled minimum rates after change: labourers, 1s. 2½d.; stokers: Zone A, 1s. 4½d.; Zone B, 1s. 3-6d.; Zone C, 1s. 3-27d.
Tramways Undertakings	Certain Undertakings in Scotland.	1 Jan.	Skilled workers ...	Increase of 1/4d. per hour.† Scheduled minimum rates after change: electricians, etc.—Group A districts, 1s. 6½d.; Group B, 1s. 6d.; Group C, 1s. 5½d.; plumber joiners—Group A, 1s. 6-7½d.; Group B, 1s. 5-16d.; Group C, 1s. 5-60d.
	Glasgow ...	1 Jan.	Semi-skilled and unskilled workers	Increase of 1d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers: Group A, 1s. 1-7½d.; Group B, 1s. 1-43d.; Group C, 1s. 0-87d.
	Various towns in Great Britain.	1 Jan.	Adult male workers employed on night-shift work.	Increase of 1/4d. per hour. An extra rate to be paid over the corresponding weekly wage for day-shift work amounting to 4s. per normal week in undertakings outside the Metropolitan area and to 6s. per normal week in undertakings inside the Metropolitan area, subject to any extras already paid merging into the above sums if less than these and remaining unchanged if larger.‡
Omnibus Undertaking	Leeds ...	8 Jan.	Labourers ...	Increase of 5s. 1d. per week (50s. 11d. to 56s.).
	London ...	1 Jan.	Official and control staffs, drivers and conductors.	War bonus previously granted increased by 1s. per week for official grades and by 1/4d. per hour for drivers and conductors. Rates after change: drivers, first 6 months, 1s. 0½d. per hour; after 6 months, 1s. 2d., plus 7½d. bonus; conductors, first 6 months, 9½d. per hour; after 6 months, 11d., plus 9½d. bonus.
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities	Cumberland ...	1 Jan.	Workpeople (excluding masons) employed in Highways and Bridges Department.	Increase of 3s. per week for workpeople over 18 years of age, and 1s. 6d. per week for those under 18. Minimum weekly rate after change for labourers, 46s.
	Carlisle ...	1 Jan.	Manual workers, excluding tradesmen.	Increase of 2s. 3d. per week for labourers, and of smaller amounts for other classes. Rates after change: labourers, 1s. 1-42d. per hour; scavengers, 9-49d.; refuse collectors, 1s. 1-93d.
	Birkenhead ...	20 Nov., 1924.	Manual workers (excluding those whose wages are regulated by other trades).	Increase of amounts varying from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d. per week. Rates after change: road sweepers, 45s. per week; refuse collectors, general road and sewer labourers, 50s. 5d.
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities	Certain Authorities in the West Midlands.†	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Jan.	Able-bodied male workers (excluding those whose wages are regulated by other trades).	Increase of 1s. 3½d. per week for Zone A1 areas, of 1s. 3d. for Zone A2, of 1s. 2d. for Zone B1, of 1s. 1d. for Zone B2, of 1s. for Zone B3, of 11d. for Zone C1, of 10d. for Zone C2. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change for general labourers and scavengers: Zone A1 areas, 51s. 10½d.; Zone A2, 50s. 5½d.; Zone B1, 47s. 8d.; Zone B2, 44s. 10½d.; Zone B3, 42s. 1½d.; Zone C1, 38s. 4½d.; Zone C2, 34s. 7½d.‡
	Ipswich ...	1 Jan.	General labourers, horse drivers and roadmen.	Increase of 2s. 8d. per week. Rate after change, 49s. 4d. per week.
	East Suffolk ...	26 Jan.	Manual workers employed in Roads and Bridges Department of County Council.	Minimum rate for adult able-bodied roadmen increased to 28s. per week for winter months, and 29s. 2d. for summer months, and an increase of 3s. per week for other classes.
	Certain Authorities in the South Midlands Area.**	1st pay in Jan.	Manual workers ...	Increase of 1/3rd of the minimum basic rates recommended by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council in November, 1924, making the reduction now applicable to such rates 1/8ths. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A1 areas, 47s. 3d., Grade A2, 45s. 7d., Grade B1, 44s., Grade B2, 40s., Grade C1, 38s. 5d., Grade C2, 36s. 10d.**
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities	Certain authorities in Kent, Surrey and Sussex.	1st pay following 1 Jan.	Able-bodied male manual workers in Grade 1 Area.	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week for skilled men (51s. 11d. to 54s. 5d.) and of 2s. per week for semi-skilled and unskilled (38s. 11d. to 40s. 11d.).
	Certain Authorities in Cornwall, Devonshire and Dorset.††	1st full pay in Jan.	Able-bodied male manual workers	Increase of 3s. per week. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A areas, 55s.; Grade B, 47s.; Torquay and Paignton, 49s. 6d.; Grade C, 40s. Seaton, 38s.; Grade D, 35s.††
	Edinburgh ...	1st full pay in Nov. 1 Jan.	Unskilled and semi-skilled manual workers in non-trading and water departments.	Minimum rate of 53s. per week adopted.
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES				
India-Rubber Manufacture	Lancashire ...	1st full pay week in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of india-rubber.	Increase of 2s. per week for men, and 1s. per week for women and young persons. Minimum rates after change: men, 42s.; women, 22s.
Brush and Broom Manufacture	Great Britain ...	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade—	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see also p. 31 of January GAZETTE):—
			Male timeworkers‡‡ ...	Increase of 1/4d. or 1/2d. per hour. General minimum time rate after change for men 21 and over, 11½d. per hour.
Warehousing	Manchester ...	1st pay day in Jan.	Male and female pieceworkers	Increase in the minimum piece rates of 2½ per cent., leaving wages 1½ per cent. below the list.
			Female pan hands ...	Increase of 1/4d. or 1/2d. per hour.
Boiler Covering	Tyne district ...	1 Jan.	Other female workers‡‡ ...	Increase of 1/4d. per hour. General minimum time rate after change for women 21 and over, 6½d. per hour.
			Workpeople employed in wholesale warehouses (clothing, millinery, cotton, etc.).	Increase of from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week for male workers, and of 6d. to 1s. 3d. per week for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers—14 years, 11s., increasing to 54s. at 23 years; female workers—14 years, 10s. 6d., increasing to 30s. at 21 years.
Boiler Covering	Tyne district ...	1 Jan.	Boiler coverers and labourers ...	Increase to rates of 1s. 3½d. per hour for coverers and 1s. 0½d. per hour for labourers.

* See note III on page 61.
 † This increase took effect under an agreement of the District Council for the Electricity Supply Industry for Devonshire and Cornwall. It was agreed that a further increase of 1/4d. per hour was due from 1 January under the "cost of living" sliding scale; but that the special increase of 1/4d. per hour given in August, 1924, should be merged into this increase, leaving wages as at 19 December, 1924.
 ‡ This increase is inclusive of 1d. per hour due under the "cost of living" sliding scale of the National Council; the scale reduction of 1/4d. per hour postponed in August, 1924 (see note *), was merged with a special increase of a similar amount, with effect from 27th November, 1924.
 § The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 ¶ The above extras are in accordance with an agreement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Tramways Industry, following the recommendations of a Special Tribunal in November, 1924. It was stipulated that night-shift work should not include work done at night by men engaged on day work.
 ¶¶ The Authorities affected are those which follow the recommendations of the West Midlands Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include: Zone A 1, Birmingham; Zone A 2, Burton-on-Trent, Coventry (certain classes, but excluding labourers), Stoke-on-Trent, Walsall, Wolverhampton, West Bromwich; Zone B 1, Kenilworth, Leamington, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Nuneaton, Oldbury, Rugby, Rowley Regis, Willenhall; Zone B 2, Brierley Hill, Leek (pays higher rates), Lichfield, Sedgley, Shrewsbury, Stone, Warwick; Zone B 3, Amblecote, Tettenhall.
 ¶¶¶ The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Council for the South Midland Division for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include: Grade A 1, Bourne, Oxford (pays higher rates), Southampton; Grade B 1, Winchester, Farnborough (pays higher rates); Grade B 2, Marlow (pays higher rates); Grade C 1, Southampton County Council; Grade C 2, Easthampstead R.D.C.
 ¶¶¶¶ The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Cornwall, Devon and Dorset Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include: Grade B, Bideford, Exeter, Ilfracombe, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Torquay, Weymouth; Grade C, Tiverton (pays higher rates), Launceston, Seaton.
 ¶¶¶¶¶ Excluding those aged 15½-16, 16½-17, 17½-18, for whom there was no change. In the case of female learners, the increase was confined to those starting at 16 and under 21 in their 2nd six months, and those at 21 and over in their 3rd three months. Apprentices and female pan-setting learners received proportionate increases.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

In certain sections of the iron and steel industry rates of wages are adjusted from time to time under "sliding-scale" agreements under which the rates of wages of different classes of workpeople are varied in accordance with changes in the selling prices of specified iron and steel products, as indicated by the results of periodical "ascertainties." The results of recent ascertainment of selling prices of pig iron, manufactured iron, and steel in certain districts are given in the Table in the next column.

These ascertainment have resulted in the following reductions in rates of wages: iron-ore miners in Cumberland, 1d. per shift in October, 3d. per shift in November, and 2d. per shift in January (there was no change as a result of the November ascertainment); iron-ore miners in the Furness district, 3d. per shift in November; limestone quarrymen in West Cumberland, 1/4d. or 3/4d. per shift in October, 1 1/4d. or 2 1/4d. per shift in November, 1d. or 1 1/4d. per shift in January (there was no change as a result of the November ascertainment); blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, 6 1/2 per cent. on standard rates; blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire, 4 1/2 per cent. on standard rates in November, and 3 1/2 per cent. in January; blastfurnacemen in North Staffordshire, 4 1/2 per cent. on standard rates; blastfurnacemen in South Wales and Monmouthshire, 6 1/2 per cent. on standard rates; blastfurnacemen in the West of Scotland, 4 per cent. on standard rates; iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England, 2 1/2 per cent. on standard rates in December (there was no change as a result of the November-December ascertainment); iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland, 2 1/2 per cent. on standard rates in February (there was no change as a result of the September-October ascertainment); Siemens' steel workers in South-West Wales, 2 1/2 per cent. on standard rates; workpeople in steel-melting shops and iron and steel-rolling mills in South Wales and Monmouthshire, 6 1/2 per cent. on standard rates.

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on.	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.
Pig Iron : Cleveland (No. 3) ...	1924.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	Oct.-Dec.	79 11 1/2	(-) 6 4	(-) 15 1 1/2
	Sept.-Oct.	93 5 1/2	(-) 3 6 1/2	(-) 8 4 1/2
	Sept.	95 0 1/2	(-) 2 2 1/2	(-) 8 10 1/2
Cumberland ... (Hematite mixed numbers.)	Oct.	92 2 1/2	(-) 2 9 1/2	(-) 7 11 1/2
	Nov.-Dec.	90 10 1/2	(-) 2 6 1/2	(-) 9 0 1/2
	Nov.	92 2	(-) 0 0 1/2	(-) 7 4 1/2
	Dec.	89 7 1/2	(-) 2 6 1/2	(-) 10 6 1/2
North Staffordshire...	Oct.-Dec.	84 7 1/2	(-) 3 10 1/2	(-) 11 3 1/2
	Oct.-Dec.	82 5 1/2	(-) 6 7	(-) 6 2
Northamptonshire ...	Oct.-Dec.	75 2 1/2	(-) 7 7 1/2	(-) 10 1/2
	Oct.-Dec.	92 11	(-) 3 9	(-) 6 6
Manufactured Iron : North of England ... (Bars and angles):	Sept.-Oct.	244 10	(-) 5 2 1/2	(+) 22 9
	Nov.-Dec.	245 11	(+) 1 1	(+) 14 5 1/2
	Sept.-Oct.	251 10 1/2	(+) 0 11	(+) 9 9 1/2
	Nov.-Dec.	245 9	(-) 6 1 1/2	(+) 4 8 1/2
West of Scotland ... (Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods).	Sept.-Oct.	244 10	(-) 5 2 1/2	(+) 22 9
	Nov.-Dec.	245 11	(+) 1 1	(+) 14 5 1/2
Steel : South-West Wales ... (Steel tin bars).	July-Sept.	168 0	(-) 4 10 1/2	†
	Sept.-Nov.	151 9 1/2	(-) 12 9 1/2	†

* Stated to the nearest farthing. † No figures available.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 35, as compared with 41 in the previous month and 37 in January, 1924. In these new disputes about 7,100 workpeople were directly involved, and 3,300 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition about 2,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 23 disputes which began before January and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 53, involving about 12,400 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during January of about 67,000 working days.

Causes.—Of the 35 disputes beginning in January, 12, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages or other wages questions; 13, directly involving 2,900 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 6, directly involving 1,600 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 4, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 21 new disputes, directly involving 3,600 workpeople, and 9 old disputes, directly involving 700 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 11, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, were settled in favour of the

workpeople; 9, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 10, directly involving 1,800 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 5 disputes, directly involving 700 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Groups of Industries.	Number of Disputes in progress in January.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Jan.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Jan.
	Started before 1st Jan.	Started in Jan.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying...	4	7	11	4,300	25,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	10	8	18	2,900	21,000
Textile ...	2	3	5	500	7,000
Transport ...	...	4	4	1,600	2,000
Other ...	7	13	20	3,100	12,000
Total, Jan., 1925 ...	23	35	58	12,400	67,000
Total, Dec., 1924 ...	24	41	65	16,000	92,000
Total, Jan., 1924 ...	11	37	48	83,000†	629,000†

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING JANUARY, 1925.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
MINING AND QUARRYING:— Winding engine-men, coal miners, etc.—Wigan (near).	18	2,441	1925. 14 Jan.	1925. 17 Jan.	Against removal of three men from their positions while other men of shorter service were retained.	One of the men in question to be reinstated at once and the other two within three weeks.
METAL, ENGINEERING, ETC.:— Riveters, holders-up, platers, caulkers, etc., platers' helpers, heaters, catchers, etc.—Teesside.	198	150	7 Jan.	13 Jan.	Dispute respecting the number of apprentices to be employed.	Agreement effected.
Moulders, elevator men, and bogie men.—Wellington, Salop (near).	303	49	2 Jan.	13 Jan.	Dispute respecting bad time-keeping, etc.	Work resumed on employers' terms.
TRANSPORT INDUSTRIES:— Omnibus drivers and conductors.—Seven Kings, Ilford.	477	...	10 Jan.	10 Jan.	Dissatisfaction with duration of meal reliefs under new time schedules.	Relief periods amended pending issue of revised schedules.
Omnibus drivers and conductors.—Plumstead and Sidcup.	595	...	21 Jan.	22 Jan.	Dissatisfaction with arrangements for the transfer of men to other garages.	Transfers to be investigated and agreed upon by local joint committees.
OTHER INDUSTRIES:— Storemen and engine-room labourers employed in cold air stores.—London.	230	...	23 Jan.	3 Feb.	Against dismissal of certain men upon reduction of staff, workpeople alleging victimisation.	Men in question to be dismissed, but at a slightly later date.
Electricians, engineers, stokers, liftmen, etc., in the employment of H.M. Office of Works.—London.	1,035	...	27 Jan.	2 Feb.	Refusal to work with a man whose Trade Union membership had lapsed and whom the Trade Union would not readmit to membership.	Man in question to be allowed to rejoin the Trade Union and to pay up his arrears of contributions by instalments.

* 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.
 † A dispute involving about 69,000 locomotive engine drivers, firemen and cleaners in Great Britain accounted for most of the loss of time in January, 1924.
 ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.*

The total number of cases† of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during January, 1925, was 51. Five deaths‡ were reported during the month, three due to epitheliomatous ulceration, one due to lead poisoning, and one due to anthrax. In addition, 12 cases of lead poisoning (including one death) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during January, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.		(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.	
Among Operatives engaged in—			
Smelting of Metals	1	Mercury Poisoning	...
Plumbing and Soldering	1	Phosphorus Poisoning	...
Shipbreaking	2	Arsenic Poisoning—	...
Printing	1	Paints, Colours and	...
Tinning of Metals	...	Extraction of Arsenic	2
Other Contact with Molten Lead	1	Other Industries...	...
White and Red Lead Works	1	Toxic Jaundice—	...
Pottery†	4	Arseniuretted Hydrogen	...
Vitreous Enamelling	2	Gas	...
Electric Accumulator Works	5	Benzine, etc., derivatives	...
Paint and Colour Works	...	Epitheliomatous Ulceration—	...
Indiarubber Works	...	Paraffin	1
Coach and Car Painting	2	Pitch	...
Shipbuilding	1	Tar	2
Paint used in Other Industries	...	Oil	10
Other Industries	2	Chromic Ulceration—	...
TOTAL OF ABOVE	23	Manufacture of Bichromates	1
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING...	12	Dyeing and Finishing	2
		Chrome Tanning...	1
		Other Industries...	2
		TOTAL, OTHER FORMS OF POISONING	21
		(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.	...
		Wool	5
		Handling of Horsehair	1
		Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins	1
		Other Industries...	1
		TOTAL, ANTHRAX	7

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 January, 1925, was 210, as compared with 226 in the previous month and with 232 a year ago.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued):	
Brakesmen and Goods		Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering...	
Guards	2	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages,	...
Engine Drivers	1	Motors, Aircraft	4
Firemen	1	Other Metal Trades	...
Guards (Passenger)	...	Shipbuilding	8
Permanent-Way Men	4	Wood	9
Porters	1	Gas	2
Shunters	3	Electric Generating Stations	2
Mechanics	2	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc.	6
Labourers	2	Chemicals, etc.	4
Miscellaneous	5	Food and Drink	1
Contractors' Servants	...	Paper, Printing, etc.	2
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	21	Tanning, Currying, etc.	...
		Rubber Trades	...
		Other Non-Textile Industries	6
		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	...
		Docks, Wharves, etc.	9
		Buildings	4
		Warehouses and Railway Sidings	1
		TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106	87
		Use or Working:	...
		Of Tramways	2
		Of Canals	1
		TOTAL (excluding Seamen)	210

* Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.
 † Cases include all attacks reported 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.
 ‡ Of the four persons affected in the pottery industry, three were females.
 § Based on returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.
 ¶ The figures for December, 1924, have been revised.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

The number of persons* relieved on one day† in January, 1925, in the thirty-one selected areas named below, was 719,145, or 4.0 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 20.9 per cent. less than in January, 1924. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 404, 389, and 514 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.‡	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day in January, 1925.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Metropolis.						
West District...	9,445	7,393	16,838	204	+ 13	- 25
North District...	10,733	19,607	30,340	297	+ 24	- 60
Central District...	2,459	2,809	5,268	392	+ 34	- 53
East District...	10,370	49,336	59,706	925	+ 60	- 112
South District...	19,777	68,942	88,719	457	+ 29	- 87
TOTAL, Metropolis	52,784	148,087	200,871	440	+ 30	- 72
West Ham	4,525	69,772	74,297	977	+ 22	- 95
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,585	23,335	25,920	519	+ 13	- 225
Stockton and Tees District	1,161	12,588	13,749	503	+ 20	- 348
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,149	7,772	11,921	150	+ 6	- 3
Wigan District	1,803	9,816	11,619	259	+ 10	- 57
Manchester District	9,022	25,125	34,147	328	+ 22	- 97
Liverpool District	9,978	43,894	53,872	439	+ 4	- 128
Bradford District	1,792	3,540	5,332	143	+ 1	- 26
Halifax and Huddersfield	1,336	2,915	4,251	111	+ 2	- 13
Leeds District	2,620	8,587	11,207	228	+ 8	- 37
Barnsley District	915	7,615	8,530	262	- 4	-
Sheffield District	2,661	24,717	27,378	531	- 4	- 378
Hull District	1,730	10,522	12,252	383	+ 21	- 137
North Staffordshire	2,223	5,205	7,428	178	+ 3	- 17
Nottingham District	2,175	9,673	11,848	253	+ 3	- 14
Leicester District	1,260	2,600	3,860	161	- 3	- 6
Wolverhampton District	3,348	15,687	19,035	259	+ 11	- 167
Sheffield District	7,206	23,898	31,104	328	+ 9	- 237
Bristol District	2,429	11,960	14,389	348	- 4	- 75
Cardiff and Swansea	2,523	13,448	15,971	336	+ 17	- 3
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	60,916	262,897	323,813	312	+ 8	- 111
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales	118,225	480,756	598,981	381	+ 15	- 99
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District	5,009	72,174	77,183	793	+ 26	- 290
Paisley and Greenock District	853	11,966	12,819	664	+ 24	- 295
Edinburgh	1,535	15,184	16,719	393	+ 9	- 53
Dundee and Dunfermline	730	2,888	3,618	164	+ 7	- 28
Aberdeen	536	3,011	3,547	222	- 3	- 126
Coatbridge and Airdrie	358	5,920	6,278	615	+ 45	- 39
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	9,021	111,143	120,164	579	+ 19	- 189
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Jan., 1925	127,246	591,899	719,145	404	+ 15	- 110

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

The number of assisted passages granted during January, 1925, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures.	
	January, 1925.	1922 to 1924.	January, 1925.	1922 to 1924.
To Australia	1,819	56,135§	2,423	55,281
„ New Zealand	596	16,538§	1,522	14,575
„ Canada:—				
Dominion of Canada	1,130	12,169§	55	11,623
Province of Ontario	...	1,367	...	1,356
Minor Schemes	84	3,308§	56	3,105
Total	3,629	89,517§	4,056	85,940

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

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

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.	
	July, 1921.	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	Per cent.	Date.	
UNITED KINGDOM	120	80	62	62	76	31 Jan. '25	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Austria (Vienna)	9,700†	328,600	1,291,000	1,436,100	1,644,500	Jan. '25	
Czechoslovakia†	1,246	1,330	821	809	* 828	Dec. '24	
Denmark	136	84	88	100	115	Jan. '25	
Finland	1,178	1,005	868	916	1,029	Dec. '24	
France (Paris)†	206	197	221	260	308	Jan. '25	
(other towns)†	250§	212§	249§	300§	300	Aug. '24	
Holland (The Hague)	113	80	60	62	73	Nov. '24	
(Amsterdam)	80	40	36	42	50	Nov. '24	
Italy (Milan)	406	392	396	408	479	Dec. '24	
Norway	195	133	118	148	177	Jan. '25	
Sweden†	132	79	60	59	70	Jan. '25	
Switzerland	110	57	64	68	70	Nov. '24	
United States	45	39	44	40	49	Dec. '24	
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.							
Australia	61	48	64	49†	48	Dec. '24	
Canada	48	38	37	34	45	Jan. '25	
India (Bombay)	74	60	48	61	52	Jan. '25	
Irish Free State	...	85†	82	85	100	Oct. '24	
New Zealand	64	44	42	49	50	Dec. '24	
South Africa	39	16	16	17	21	Dec. '24	

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.‡	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†					Latest figures available.	
		July, 1921.	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	Per cent.	Date.	
UNITED KINGDOM	A,B,C,D,E	119	84	69	70	79	31 Jan. '25	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.								
Austria (Vienna)	A,B,C,D	9,872	263,600	1,090,200	1,239,000	1,376,100	Jan. '25	
Belgium	A,C,D,E	279	266	329	393	421	Jan. '25	
Denmark	A,B,C,D,E	137	99	104	114	121	Jan. '25	
Egypt (Cairo)	A,D	93	72	52	48	73	Nov. '24	
Finland	A,B,C,D,E	1,039	1,018	990	1,032	1,099	Dec. '24	
France (Paris)	A,B,C,D,E	195**	189**	231**	267**	267	3rd Qr. Jan. '25	
Germany	A,B,C,D	...	...	...	168§	248§	Jan. '25
Greece (Athens)	A,B,C,D,E	...	516	93	1,225	1,250	Sep. '24	
Hungary	A,B,C,D,E	3,661	15,379	225,167	163,590	163,584	Sep. '24	
Italy (Milan)	A,B,C,D,E	394	388	387	412	473	Dec. '24	
Luxemburg	A,C,D	284	259	340	381	450	Dec. '24	
Norway	A,B,C,D,E	202††	155††	139††	151††	169	Dec. '24	
Poland (Warsaw)	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	27§§	53§§	Dec. '24
Spain (Madrid)	A,D	84	79	72	82	90	Dec. '24	
(Barcelona)	A,D	78	73	65	72	74	Dec. '24	
Sweden	A,B,C,D,E	136	90	74	71	78	Jan. '25	
Switzerland	A,D	...	59	66	69	70	Dec. '24	
United States	A,B,C,D,E	80††	67††	70††	69††	71	Sep. '24	
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.								
Australia	A,B	46**	43**	56**	48**	48	3rd Qr. Jan. '25	
Canada	A,B,D	52	46	46	44	49	Jan. '25	
India (Bombay)	A,B,C,D	77	65	53	56	57	Jan. '25	
Irish Free State	A,B,C,D,E	...	85**	80	83	93	Oct. '24	
South Africa	A,B,D,E	...	35	30	32	35	Dec. '24	

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to July, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Amsterdam, South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, Hungary, average, 1913-1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Poland, January, 1914. ** Figure for 3rd Quarter. †† Figure for June. ‡‡ Figure for May. §§ Based on prices calculated on a gold standard.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 44-45 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details as to the bases of the unemployment 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.*

Unemployment in January.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges on 31st January was 12,413 (8,439 men and 3,974 women). At the end of December the corresponding total was 8,976; in January, 1924, it was 12,357. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 6,876 (3,388 for men and 3,488 for women), as compared with 5,603 at the end of December and 8,4

BELGIUM.*

Unemployment in December.—The latest figures available relate to December, but are provisional only. Returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,434 approved unemployed insurance societies, with a total membership of 642,241, show that 32,734 of these were either totally or partially unemployed at the end of the month. The total days lost through unemployment in December numbered 315,952, or 1.64 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 1.68, and in December, 1923, 1.35.

During December 16,006 applications for employment were received at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 14,716 in the preceding month. Vacancies notified by employers in December numbered 7,220, as against 7,999 in November. There were thus on an average 222 applicants for each 100 situations registered as vacant, as compared with 184 in November.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in November.—According to information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, the percentage of members of Trade Unions unemployed at the end of November was as shown below, where comparative figures are also given for the previous month and for November, 1923.

Unions.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Nov 30, 1924.	Oct. 31, 1924.	Nov 30, 1923.	Nov 30, 1924.	Oct. 31, 1924.	Nov 30, 1923.
Bricklayers and masons (Oslo) ...	760	747	911	18.6†	18.1	11.4
Carpenters ...	703	715	803	18.1	12.9	6.5
Painters (Oslo) ...	404	398	529	14.9	8.8	4.0
Metal workers ...	7,369	7,353	5,928	6.6	4.5	11.1
Boot and shoe makers ...	1,089	1,063	940	1.2	1.4	13.6
Printers ...	2,564	2,558	2,461	9.1	7.0	3.5
Bookbinders (Oslo) ...	1,114†	1,114	922	2.7†	2.7	3.7
Cabinet makers ...	580	580	552	3.1	2.2	2.7
Bakers (Oslo) ...	618	594	501	9.4	7.9	8.2
TOTAL ...	15,207	15,122	13,547	7.6	5.8	8.4

SWEDEN.

Unemployment in November and December.—The Department of Social Affairs reports that 15.6 per cent. of the members of trade unions making returns were out of work on 31st December. Fuller details are not available and the following Table† relates to the last day of the preceding month.

Unions.	Membership of Unions reporting on 30th Nov., 1924.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		30th Nov., 1924.	31st Oct., 1924.	30th Nov., 1923.
All Unions making Returns ...	202,354	10.3	8.4	9.3
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Carpenters and joiners ...	4,761	27.1	12.6	6.1
Iron and steel ...	14,062	11.7	12.7	6.1
Foundry workers ...	3,581	10.2	12.2	11.0
Engineering ...	45,579	9.0	8.2	10.7
Textile ...	9,304	1.9	2.2	2.0
Clothing ...	3,869	4.4	3.9	7.5
Boot, shoe and leather ...	7,421	5.6	4.9	3.6
Food preparation ...	6,148	7.3	9.2	8.8
Sawmilling ...	16,824	26.4	19.6	19.4
Woodworking ...	5,302	7.8	6.2	15.6
Paper and pulp ...	16,087	4.2	2.6	3.4
Municipal workers ...	9,648	4.2	2.3	2.9
Commercial employees ...	7,240	5.3	5.0	6.8
General and factory workers (trades not specified) ...	19,423	17.1	14.2	14.5

CANADA.

Employment in January.—For 1st January, 1925, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,813 firms, with an aggregate of 690,538 upon their pay rolls. On 1st December the same firms reported 747,765 employed and the total for 1st January thus shows a decrease of 57,227 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st January, 1925, is 83.9, as compared with 90.8 at the beginning of the preceding month and 88.7 on 1st January, 1924.

Trade Union Unemployment in December.—On 31st December, 11.6 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 9.7 per cent. at the end of November and 7.2 per cent. in December, 1923.

AUSTRALIA.†

Unemployment in Fourth Quarter, 1924.—The percentage of members of trade unions unemployed in the fourth quarter of 1924 was 10.3, as compared with 9.5 in the preceding quarter and 6.2 in the fourth quarter of 1923.

* *Revue du Travail*, 31st January, 1925. Brussels.
† Abnormal unemployment due to strike situation.
‡ *Sociala Meddelanden*, No. 1, 1925. Stockholm.
§ *The January Employment Situation*, 1925. Ottawa.
¶ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour.
‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Commonwealth High Commissioner in London.

UNITED STATES.*

Employment in December.—Provisional figures relating to the volume of employment in December, based on returns from 8,470 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries, covering 2,590,078 workpeople, are published by the United States Department of Labour through the Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments in November reported 2,538,471 persons employed, and the December figures consequently indicate a net increase of 2 per cent. The aggregate earnings show for the same period an increase of 4.8 per cent. and the average weekly earnings an increase of 2.7 per cent. These increases are held to indicate that the upward trend of August, September and October was genuine, despite the slight set-back shown in November. Only three times before, in the eleven years during which the Bureau of Labour Statistics has published employment statistics, have the increases in employment in December equalled the 2 per cent. now reported. Thirty-three of the 52 industries record increases in the number of workpeople employed in December; the largest increases were shown in agricultural implements (7.5 per cent.), cotton goods (6.9 per cent.), slaughtering (5.8 per cent.), and in the iron and steel industry (5.7 per cent.). Cane sugar refining underwent a decline in employment of 6.8 per cent. As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1923, returns from 6,535 establishments in the 52 industries show a decrease of 6.7 in the number of persons employed.

Index of Employment in December.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding number for December is 89.4, as compared with 87.8 in November and 96.9 in December, 1923.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND OTHER CAPITAL CITIES.

The series of computations of comparative "real wages" in London and certain other capital (or quasi-capital) cities made by the International Labour Office on the basis of returns supplied by official statistical departments in the various cities is carried down to the date of 1st October, 1924, in the current (January) issue of the monthly journal of the office in question.† The corresponding index numbers for 1st July, 1924, were reproduced in the November issue of this GAZETTE, to which reference should be made for certain particulars as to their origin, method of compilation, significance, and limitations. The figures have for their object a comparison of working-class standards of comfort, so far as these can be gauged by the purchasing power (in terms of food) of the wage paid for an hour's work at the ordinary time-rate (i.e., apart from extra payment for overtime) in certain typical male occupations common to large cities.

The final results, as computed by the International Labour Office on the basis of the wage rates and retail prices current on or about 1st October, 1924, are reproduced below:—

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Money-Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad at 1st October, 1924.

Average for all Occupations covered by the Inquiry. (London = 100.†)

City.	Index Numbers based on Quantities of each kind of Food consumed in Working-Class Households.						General Average Index Nos. (based on food only).	General Average Index Nos. (with allowance for rent).
	Belgium and France.	Central European Countries.	Great Britain.	Southern European Countries.	Scandinavian Countries and Netherlands.	Overseas Countries (Canada and U.S.A.).		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London ...	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Amsterdam ...	85	89	79	83	90	83	85	85
Berlin ...	62	68	60	60	64	61	63	65
Brussels ...	53	55	52	52	58	53	54	58
Lisbon§ ...	29	28	28	28	31	30	29	...
Madrid ...	48	50	43	48	49	47	48	...
Milan§ ...	49	48	45	51	55	49	50	53
Oslo (Christiania) ...	79	81	77	79	87	78	80	82
Ottawa ...	157	151	163	158	176	176	164	146
Paris ...	74	74	70	71	83	71	74	75
Philadelphia ...	210	205	221	212	245	232	221	220
Prague ...	57	61	54	54	60	56	57	62
Rome§ ...	49	45	45	50	50	48	48	52
Stockholm...§	74	76	78	78	91	83	80	78
Sydney ...	141	131	155	149	138	152	144	...
Vienna ...	45	45	45	47	49	47	46	...

* *Employment in Selected Industries, December, 1924.* U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington.
† *International Labour Review*, January, 1925. International Labour Office, Geneva.

‡ Although London is taken arbitrarily as base (= 100), the ratios would be the same whatever city were chosen as base.
§ The figures for Lisbon, as well as those for Rome and Milan, are relatively low. This may be accounted for in part by the differences in the items of food consumption in the Southern countries from those ordinarily consumed in most of the other countries included in the table. The budgets used in the comparisons do not make adequate allowance for the consumption of vegetable foods in the Southern European countries.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1906 to 1923.

WORKMAN CLAIMS COMPENSATION BASED ON PRESENT EARNINGS FOR INCAPACITATION CAUSED BY ACCIDENT WHEN AN APPRENTICE.

In this case an apprentice turner injured his right hand at a foundry in Preston in April, 1918, and had the first finger amputated below the second joint. He was totally incapacitated until the middle of September of the same year, and was paid compensation at the rate of 10s., plus 2s. 6d. war addition, per week, his average earnings at the time being 12s. 10d. per week. He returned to work at the foundry, and in September, 1924, the amputated finger again gave him trouble, with the result that the stump had to be removed, thus incapacitating him up to the present time. During this incapacitation, the respondent had paid him compensation at the rate of 17s. 6d. per week, based upon the original award plus later war additions.

The question for decision by the County Court Judge was whether the workman was now entitled to compensation based on his earnings as a man, or only on his earnings at the time of the accident.

For the applicant, it was submitted that he was entitled to the maximum of 35s. per week, based upon his present average earnings of £2 per week. His Honour held that the applicant was entitled to compensation based on his earnings as a man, and awarded compensation at the rate of 35s. per week with costs.—*Preston County Court.—Briggs v. Drysdale.*—January 27th, 1925.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-24.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Umpire is a judicial authority, independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final and conclusive. Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 8766, Section 7 (1) (iii).—Suitable Employment, not unable to obtain—Shop Assistant offered work in Canteen at Military Camp—Canteen Work not unsuitable for respectable Girl.

The applicant, whose usual occupation was that of a draper's assistant, became unemployed on the 22nd March, 1924, and on the 18th July, 1924, she was offered employment as a resident counter-hand at the canteen of a military camp situated at about 40 miles from her home. The wages, which would have been 15s. to 17s. 6d. per week, together with board and lodging, compared very favourably with those paid by good employers in the district for similar work, and uniform would have been provided for use whilst on duty in the canteen. The applicant's railway fare to the work, which was expected to be permanent, would have been paid by the prospective employer. Her previous earnings had been 30s. per week without board or lodging.

The applicant refused the offer on the ground that her parents objected to her leaving home to take up canteen work, which she regarded as unsuitable, and that as she had had ten years' experience in the drapery trade she did not wish to take up another class of work. She alleged also that, as canteens at military camps were not desirable places for girls who had not been accustomed to the work, the employment offered was unsuitable, particularly in view of the long hours of work which were usually required at the canteens.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed on the ground that the applicant was not unable to obtain suitable employment. The Court, however, granted the applicant leave to appeal to the Umpire.

The applicant's Association appealed on her behalf, and submitted that canteen work was suitable only for a certain type of girl, and that such work was not suitable for the applicant in view of her long experience in the drapery and dressmaking trade.

A report was called for by the Umpire as to the wages and conditions of employment and life at military canteens. It appeared that no married women and no girls under eighteen years of age were employed in canteens and that each employee had to produce two good references. The work was of a domestic character, and a certain amount of business experience was necessary as the canteen staff were often called upon to handle cash and arrange and check stocks. The hours of work were very long, as most of the staff were on duty from 7 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. There were, however, breaks during the day, and each girl was supposed to have

* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2,000 are not 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 His Majesty's Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

two hours' rest each afternoon. Their leisure consisted of alternate Sundays and 1½ days a week, and they received two weeks' holiday a year, with pay. As to the lodging accommodation, all girls lived together in the canteen in the camp. Each girl had a separate bed, but usually shared a room with another girl. Overalls and uniform were provided, and in addition to the monetary wage of 15s. to 17s. 6d. per week, the girls received free board, lodging, and washing of their overalls. The welfare and supervision of the staff were good, and arrangements were made in the case of illness.

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

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees. I have before me a report as to the conditions of service in military canteens, and I am satisfied that they are such that no respectable girl need fear to take employment in such canteens."

Case No. 8817, Section 1 (4) of No. 2 Act, 1924.—Charwoman dismissed and given One Week's Pay in lieu of Notice—Payment made not substantially equivalent to Weekly Remuneration, which had included Payments in Kind.

The applicant, who had last been employed as a charwoman for about 13 months, was discharged, without notice, from her employment on the 23rd August, 1924, because, it was alleged, she answered her employers in an insolent manner when spoken to about her work. She denied that she had been insolent to the employer. In support of her denial she stated that she had been given notice on two previous occasions when an altercation had taken place with the employer, but those notices had been cancelled. In these circumstances she would not have been retained in the employer's service so long had she been insolent.

It appeared that her wages whilst in the employment were 12s. 6d. per week, plus breakfast and dinner each day, and that when she was summarily dismissed she was given 12s. 6d. in lieu of one week's notice.

The claim was accordingly disallowed under Section 8 (2) on the ground that the applicant had lost her employment through misconduct, viz., insolence, and that as regards the week immediately following her dismissal, i.e., the period from 25th to 30th August, 1924, she could not be deemed to be unemployed in view of the payment of one week's wages in lieu of notice.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. The Court were of opinion that misconduct within the meaning of Section 8 (2) had not been proved in this case and that, as regards the payment in lieu of notice, the applicant could not be regarded as in employment during the week in respect of which it was paid.

The Insurance Officer was not prepared to differ from the finding of the Court of Referees on the question of misconduct in this case, but declined to accept the recommendation of the Court as regards the payment made to the applicant in lieu of notice, as he was of opinion that the applicant was clearly disqualified under the provisions of Section 1 (4) of No. 2 Act, 1924.

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

"The applicant had been employed as a domestic servant, and whilst so employed she received as remuneration 12s. 6d. a week wages and two free meals a day. She was discharged on the 23rd August without notice, and was paid by her late employer a sum of 12s. 6d., which was no doubt intended as satisfaction of any claim she may have had for damages for wrongful dismissal.

"After the 23rd August, she did not continue to receive wages, and the payment she received by way of compensation for the loss of remuneration which she would have received if the employment had not terminated was not substantially equivalent to that remuneration, as it included nothing in respect of the meals which she would have received."

Case No. 8820, Section 1 (4) of No. 2 Act of 1924.—Compositors received, on termination of Employment, three days' wages in lieu of Holidays earned during Service, but not taken owing to Pressure of Work—Claims disallowed for three days in question.

The applicants had been employed as compositors for about three months on the holiday relief staff of a firm of printers, and on the 6th and 13th September, 1924, respectively, they were discharged, as their services were no longer required. One of the conditions of their employment had been that they were entitled to one day's holiday with pay for every calendar month of their service. Owing to pressure of work during their employment they had not been able to take the holidays due to them, and on the termination of their employment they were therefore entitled to three days' holiday with pay; when they received their final week's wages the employers, accordingly, paid them, in addition to the wages, three days' pay in lieu of the holidays which they had earned but which they had not taken. Their claims for benefit were therefore disallowed under the provisions of Section 1 (4) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, on the ground that they were not unemployed on the three days in question.

It was submitted by their Association that they were available for work on the three days in question, payment in respect of which represented only deferred wages which had accrued due. In these circumstances, they were entitled to benefit in respect of the three days.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be disallowed under the provisions of Section 1 (4) for three days immediately following the termination of their employment.

The applicants' Association, however, appealed to the Umpire on their behalf against the disallowance of the claims. It was submitted on appeal that the payments in question were not in respect of the three days immediately following the termination of their employment, but payment in lieu of three single holidays, during their respective terms of employment, which they had not taken; this payment was really deferred pay which had been earned during the period of employment.

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

“I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees.

“These applicants continued to receive wages in respect of the three days immediately following the termination of their employment, and by Section 1 (4) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act of 1924, are not deemed to be unemployed during that period.”

Case No. 9058, Section 4 (1) of No. 2 Act, 1924.—Trade Dispute—Alleged Breach of Local Agreement—Employers had since withdrawn from the Federation through which they were Parties to Agreement—Not therefore bound by that Agreement at Date when Dispute arose, although Men had not been apprised of Employers' Resignation from the Federation.

The applicants had been employed as forge hands on short time work at a rolling mill in Sheffield, and they lost employment on 22nd November, 1924, in consequence of a trade dispute. Their claims for benefit were, therefore, disallowed under Section 8 (1). The dispute had arisen over certain revised rates of wages which had been offered by the employers, but the applicants contended that the disqualification imposed on their claims for benefit should be removed, in accordance with Section 4 (1) of the No. 2 Act, 1924, in that the dispute was caused by the employers acting so as to contravene the terms or provisions of an agreement between a group of employers to which the firm and the applicants' association were parties. The case was argued fully before the Court of Referees and the essential facts are shown in the Umpire's decision below.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be allowed. The Court held that the agreement entered into on the 12th February 1919 (to which the applicants' employers were parties) was still in existence and that the new offer made by the firm contravened the terms of this agreement.

The Insurance Officer disagreed with the Court. In view of the fact that the employers had resigned their membership of the Employers' Federation shortly after the agreements in question had been made, he was of opinion that it could not be held that there was any contravention of an agreement to which the firm were parties at the date of the dispute.

The case was referred to the Umpire before whom it was argued by representatives of the applicants' association and the employers.

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

“In January and February 1919 agreements regulating wages in rolling mills in the Sheffield district were made between an employers' association and certain trade unions of employees. These agreements were of indefinite duration; that is to say, they contained no express provision as to the time for which they were to remain in force or as to the notice required for determining them.

“At that time the applicants' late employers were members of the association of employers, but in November, 1919, they gave three months' notice (as required by the rules of the association) of their intention to resign, and in February, 1920, they ceased to be members of that association.

“The applicants' late employers did not at any time give notice to their employees or to the trade unions of their having resigned their membership, and they continued until the 15th of November, 1924, to pay wages in accordance with the agreements of January and February, 1919.

“On the 15th November, 1924, the applicants' late employers gave to certain of their employees a week's notice of determination of their contracts of service, but offered them re-employment on terms which it is not disputed were not in accordance with the agreements of January and February, 1919. In consequence of that notice there was a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute by reason whereof the applicants lost employment. But the applicants contend that they are entitled to unemployment benefit on the ground that their late employers were acting in a manner so as to contravene the terms or provisions of the agreements of January and February, 1919. I think that there can be no doubt that they were so acting; but applicants who have lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which is due to a trade dispute are not entitled to relief under Section 4 (1) of the Act of 1924 unless the employers who are acting in a manner so as to contravene the terms or provisions of an agreement are at the time of their so acting contracting parties to such agreement. That is the meaning I attach to the concluding words of the subsection.

“The employers in question were no doubt, by reason of their being members of the contracting association, themselves contracting parties to the agreements of 1919 at the time when those agreements were entered into, but I think they ceased to be contracting parties when they ceased to be members of the contracting association. In my opinion agreements of this kind which are of indefinite duration and contain no proviso for determination by notice are intended to be binding on the members of the contracting association for so long only as they continue to be members of that association.

“The failure to give notice of their resignation does not create any estoppel as against the Insurance Officer.”

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

RECENT PROCEEDINGS.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—The Amalgamated Engineering Union v. The Southern Railway. *Difference.*—Classification of places for the purposes of Schedule “A” to Decision No. 728. *Decision.*—The Court fixed the appropriate classification of the towns in question. Any alterations of rates resulting from the Decision are to be deemed to operate as from the beginning of the first full pay period following 20th November, 1924. Issued 2nd January, 1925. (1004.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—The Trade Unions parties to Decision No. 728 v. The Southern Railway. *Difference.*—Classification for Schedule “A” purposes of all places where shopmen are employed by the Southern Railway which are not named in Decision No. 728. The rates of pay for labourers, Grades I and II, for Schedule “E” purposes at all such places. *Decision.*—The Court fixed the classification of the places concerned for Schedule “A” purposes and the rates of pay for labourers for Schedule “E” purposes at those places. Any alterations of rates resulting from the Decision are to be deemed to operate as from the beginning of the first full pay period following 20th November, 1924. Issued 2nd January, 1925. (1005.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—The Amalgamated Engineering Union, Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, National Union of Foundry Workers v. The London and North Eastern Railway. *Difference.*—Classification of railway workshops, running sheds and depots on the Great Northern Section of the London and North Eastern Railway.—Decision No. 728: Schedule “A.” *Decision.*—The Court fixed the classification of towns or places for the purposes of Schedule “A” of Decision No. 728. Issued 8th January, 1925. (1006.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—The Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, National Union of Railwaymen, Workers' Union v. The London and North Eastern Railway Co. *Difference.*—As above (1006). *Decision.*—The Court fixed the classification of towns and places for Schedule “A” purposes and the rates of pay for labourers for the purposes of Schedule “E” to Decision No. 728. Issued 8th January, 1925. (1007.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—PAINTER, MARINE DEPARTMENT, DOVER.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The Southern Railway. *Difference.*—Grading. This painter suffers from a physical disability which will not permit of his being employed on work involving risk. *Decision.*—In these circumstances no case has been made out for disturbing the present rating (Grade III). Issued 16th January, 1925. (1008.)

LONDON FIRE BRIGADE—FREE MEDICAL ADVICE AND TREATMENT—ACCIDENT WHILST ON HOLIDAY.—The Representative Body of the London Fire Brigade v. The London County Council. *Difference.*—The question of the reimbursement to a fireman of a sum paid by him for medical attendance consequent upon an accident sustained whilst on annual leave. *Decision.*—This member of the uniformed staff of the Fire Brigade is not entitled to the benefits resulting from the operation of the terms of Regulation 245 (b), whereby “the Council shall pay the reasonable charges of his private doctor when the illness or injury is not due to service,” he having left the county temporarily for holiday purposes. Issued 21st January, 1925. (1009.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—PLUMBERS, SHIPWRIGHTS, COPPERSMITHS AND ELECTRICIANS, MARINE DEPARTMENT, HARWICH, PARKESTON QUAY.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The London and North Eastern Railway. *Difference.*—Payment of a differential to the above craftsmen when employed on board ship on exceptionally dirty or dangerous work. There is not that amount of frequency in the dirty or dangerous jobs on board which would justify the assessing of a daily or weekly sum to the workers concerned. *Decision.*—Each job of an exceptionally dirty and/or dangerous character should be considered on its merits, with a view to an extra payment being made. Issued 21st January, 1925. (1010.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—RIVETERS AND HOLDERS-UP—SPECIAL WORK 12 MIDNIGHT TO 4 A.M. SUNDAY.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The Southern Railway. *Difference.*—Rates to be paid in respect of a special job at Maidstone, when men had to wait from midnight until 4 a.m. before commencing work. *Decision.*—Ordinary day rate and a half is a fair and reasonable rate in the special circumstances. Issued 21st January, 1925. (1011.)

H.M. DOCKYARDS AND ADMIRALTY ESTABLISHMENTS.—The Trade Union Side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments v. The Official Side. *Difference.*—Pay of mechanics. Application for an increase in wages of 6s. 6d. p.w. *Decision.*—The claim is not one that should be conceded. Issued 22nd January, 1925. (1012.)

MESSRS. JOHN PEAK & CO., LTD., WIGAN.—BASIS OF PAYMENT—FERTILISERS, SHEEP DIP, ETC.—IS PROCESS CHEMICAL?—FAIR WAGES APPLICATION.—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers v. Messrs. John Peak & Co., Ltd. *Difference.*—Rate of wages to be paid to the workpeople engaged at the Firm's works. *Decision.*—There is no requirement on the part of the Firm to adopt and pay the general wages or follow the movements of the general wages payable from time to time in the chemical trade. However, the rates now being paid to adult male and female employees shall be advanced by one halfpenny per hour where they are paid by the hour, and two shillings per week where they are paid by the week. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay following the date of the Decision. Issued 30th January, 1925. (1013.)

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

[There were no cases under this heading during January.]

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES: LONDON.—National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives v. Messrs. Jackson and Joseph, Spitalfields, London. *Difference.*—Non-observance of the wages and conditions of the London Agreement. *Agreement.*—Firm agreed to observe the conditions laid down in the National Agreement and to re-instate the men involved. Agreed 26th January, 1925.

PAINT AND VARNISH WORKERS: LONDON.—National Union of General and Municipal Workers v. Messrs. Griffiths Brothers, Bernonsey, London. *Difference.*—Claim for payment to women workers of wages recommended by the Joint Industrial Council. *Settlement.*—National Joint Industrial Council for the Paint, Colour and Varnish Industry to be requested to consider the advisability of fixing a differentiation in wages between light and heavy work for all female labour employed in the Industry. Signed 27th January, 1925.

MOULDERS: OAKENGATES.—Workers' Union, Moulders' Union and Friendly Society of Ironfounders (and Non-Unionist Workpeople) v. The Sinclair Ironworks, Limited, Ketley, Near Oakengates, Salop. *Difference.*—Objection to notice regarding “lost time” displayed by the firm. *Settlement.*—Resumption of work secured.

ENGINEERS: LONDON.—Workers' Union v. Messrs. Baldwins (Blackwall), Limited, London. *Difference.*—Claim for increase of 10s. per week. *Agreement.*—Increase of ½d. per hour conceded as from 19th January, 1925, to be merged in any advance granted as a result of present negotiations for a national advance. Signed 15th January, 1925.

ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION: HERSHAM, SURREY.—Electrical Trades Union v. The Hackbridge Electrical Construction Company, Hershams, Surrey. *Difference.*—Claim for travelling allowances on opening of new factory at Hershams. *Agreement.*—Allowances granted towards travelling expenses over a limited period. Agreed 7th January, 1925.

NATIONAL WAGES BOARD (RAILWAYS ACT, 1921).

RECENT DECISIONS.

The National Wages Board, under the chairmanship of Sir William Mackenzie, K.C., has recently issued a series of decisions, dated 22nd December, 1924, and 15th and 20th January, 1925, on cases submitted to them by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and by the National Union of Railwaymen, viz. :—

Extended Rosters: Enginemmen.—The Associated Society requested a ruling on the matter of the Companies' right to retain rosters of enginemmen in excess of nine hours per day. The Board's ruling is that the hours of duty of enginemmen should ordinarily be eight per day. In cases where economy will accrue, they may be rostered up to nine hours per day under the terms of the Board's Findings of 24th January, 1922, and 18th December, 1923. Rosters in excess of nine per day should exist only in exceptional circumstances where the exigencies of the service require such rosters, and should be fixed in any particular case by the Company, subject to consultation with the Local Departmental Committee. Any extension of the rosters in excess of nine hours may be the matter of an appeal to the Sectional Council of the Railway concerned. (The representatives of the Associated Society on the Board appended a dissenting note.)

Spread-over Turns of Duty.—The question submitted by the National Union of Railwaymen was whether certain spread-over turns of duty were permissible under the terms of the Board's Finding of 24th January, 1922. As regards signalmen at various specified cabins on the Southern Railway, and platform staff at Southampton West, the Board found that these were not places at which it was intended that the spread-over of 12 hours would apply. As regards Blane Valley Signal Box, where the London and North Eastern Railway put into operation a spread-over of 10 hours and kept the box open during the break of duty, and which was raised as a question of principle, the Board expressed the opinion that it is not in accord with the intention of their Finding of 24th January, 1922, that men should be brought in from another post to cover the period when the regular occupant is booked off.

Locomotive Men: Failing Eyesight, etc.—The National Union of Railwaymen claimed that drivers rated at 15s. per day were entitled to retain that rate if transferred from main line to shunting work on account of failing eyesight or at their own request, and ought not, upon such transfer, to be reduced to the rate of 14s. per day. The Board's conclusions are: (a) That the action taken by the Companies in reference to drivers put back on account of failing eyesight or at their own request, is not a violation of the Board's Finding of 18th December, 1923; (b) That drivers put back to shunting work on account of failing eyesight should not be reduced; and (c) That drivers put back to shunting work at their own request should receive the pay appropriate to shunting drivers.

The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen also submitted certain cases involving the rates of pay of enginemmen.

The Board's decision on the eyesight cases was as in (a) and (b) above. The other items raised were left over pending inquiries into the facts by representatives of the Society and the Company concerned.

Enginemmen's Classification: Claim for Abolition.—The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen put forward a claim for the abolition of the “classification” of enginemmen. The Board point out that by certain findings of the same date they have dealt with matters relative to the rates of pay of men on mileage, main line trains and shunting engines and have made certain modifications in the application of the existing scheme relating to the rates of pay of enginemmen on main lines and on shunting engines. Having regard to all the circumstances, the Board (the representatives of the Associated Society dissenting) do not feel called upon in the present case to depart from their Finding of 18th December, 1923.

Enginemmen: Mileage Working.—The question of the basis of payment for mileage working by enginemmen was raised by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and by the National Union of Railwaymen. The evidence submitted showed that under agreements between parties the present basis of working was 140 miles per day and one hour's pay for every 15 miles in excess. The agreements also provided *inter alia* that, from the beginning of the first pay week in January, 1925, 150 miles should equal one day's pay, with one hour's pay for every 15 miles in excess, unless in the interval it is agreed otherwise at a meeting to be convened for the purpose. The Board came to the conclusion that, having regard to all the circumstances, it would not be desirable to make any alteration in the mileage payment at present in operation, i.e., 140 miles per day.

Firemen Gaskin and Hardy: Seniority.—These two men were taken into the service of the former Midland Railway Company in 1907-8 as “passed cleaners,” and have been placed in the seniority list above men who were at that time in the Company's service as cleaners. The question was submitted by the National Union of Railwaymen for a ruling. The Board express themselves as satisfied that the circumstances of Firemen Gaskin and Hardy are of an altogether exceptional character, and should be met by leaving them in their present position of seniority; this, however, is to be entirely without prejudice to the principles of seniority and promotion laid down in the Memoranda of Agreement of 28th July, 1920, and 24th March, 1921.

Drivers and Firemen put back and subsequently reinstated.—This matter, which relates to the rates of pay of drivers and firemen temporarily put back for such causes as a slump in trade to firing and cleaning duties respectively, was submitted both by the Associated Society and the National Union of Railwaymen. The Board came to the conclusion that the circumstances of the case would be met by a provision that, if a driver or fireman temporarily acting in a lower grade is re-instated within a period of six months, he shall be allowed credit for future pay and seniority as though his service had been continuous in his appointed grade.

Conciliation Grades: regular Duty in Higher Grades.—This question was raised by the National Union of Railwaymen. The Board's finding is that in cases where men are regularly rostered on week-days for a definite and continuous period of not less than two hours in a post in a higher grade or higher class of a grade, they shall be paid for such rostered period on the basis of Clause 6 (Higher Duty Pay) of the Railway Executive Committee's Circular dated 19th June, 1919. It is agreed that the foregoing arrangement shall not apply to men whose ordinary turn comprises mixed duties, as is customary at the smaller stations.

Sub-Gangers.—The National Union of Railwaymen complained that the Companies were not appointing sub-gangers to gangs consisting of not more than three undermen and a ganger, and when the post of sub-ganger occurred in such a gang. The Union put forward the view that the Companies' action was at variance with a Memorandum of Agreement between the parties dated 21st December, 1920. The Board decided that when the post of sub-ganger in such a gang falls vacant after 21st December, 1920, there is no obligation under the Memorandum to appoint a new sub-ganger.

Enginemmen's Tickets.—In their Finding of 18th December, 1923, the Board accepted a proposal which was, in effect, that the then existing allowance of 15 minutes for booking off duty and making out the journal should include certain specified duties; and that when the men are not required to lock up tools and carry lamps to stores, the allowance should be reduced to 10 minutes in the case of the driver, and no allowance made to the fireman. Since the date of these proceedings, the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, the Southern Railway and the Great Western Railway have introduced simplified forms of journal, the estimated time for completing which ranges from four to ten minutes. The London and North Eastern Railway has not yet found it practicable to introduce a simplified form of journal, but it was reported to the Board that the Company anticipate introducing a simplified form of journal on their Southern Section in the immediate future and that they are considering the possibility of introducing a simplified form in their North Eastern Area. Under these circumstances, the Board did not accede to the claim of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen that they should vary their previous finding.

Enginemmen's Guaranteed Day for Sunday: Claim for Restoration.—The Board's Finding of 18th December, 1923, revised the minimum payments for Sunday Duty for Conciliation Grades other than trainmen, for trainmen, and for Staff other than Conciliation Grades. In the case of trainmen, it provided that a man required to come on duty for a turn or turns on Sunday should be paid at the Sunday rate of time-and-a-half for the actual time he is on duty, with a minimum

payment as for four hours at the Sunday rate for each time he signs on. This Finding, whilst still leaving trainmen in a better position than other Conciliation Grades and Staff as to the minimum payment for Sunday turns of duty, constituted a reduction in the then existing payment to trainmen of a standard day's pay for each time of signing on duty. The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen claimed the restoration of the guaranteed day for Sundays. The Board (the representatives of the Associated Society dissenting) found that no sufficient reason had been advanced for varying their Finding of December, 1923.

London Rent Allowance.—In respect to a claim put forward by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the Board decided that cleaners who are stationed at Depôts where the London Allowance is payable to Drivers and Firemen, and who have already performed 313 turns of firing duties, shall thereafter be paid London Allowances at the rate of 6d. for each firing turn actually performed with a maximum of 3s. per week.

Sunday Duty: Crossing Keepers.—This claim, put forward by the National Union of Railwaymen, relates to Crossing Keepers who are responsible for the gates during the whole of the 24 hours. The Board's decision on the point at issue is that, when such men are relieved on Sunday for twelve hours, they should be paid a sum of 3s. (three shillings) in respect of the twelve hours of the day that they are on call. If a man is only required to be on call on Sunday morning before relief or on Sunday evening after relief, he shall be paid a minimum of 1s. 6d. for either such period. When the relief is for a less period than 12 hours, the additional hours the men concerned are on call should be remunerated at the Sunday rate of time-and-a-half. Thus, for example, if the relief were for a period of 8 hours, the man would be paid a sum of 3s. for 12 hours on call, and time-and-a-half of his ordinary rate for each of the additional four hours he is on call. The sum of 3s. is fixed on the understanding that the relief is during the day period.

In the event of the Company making arrangements that the men shall not be called on for duty on Sunday, no payment would be made.

Payment for Sunday-Monday Turns of Duty.—The National Union of Railwaymen requested a ruling as to the appropriate rate of payment for such turns of duty. The Board decided that the proper basis of payment is—Sunday rate, up to midnight; night rate, midnight to 4 a.m.; ordinary rate, 4 a.m. to completion of turn.

Cleaners working in Adult Positions.—The Board's ruling in this matter is in favour of the claim of the National Union of Railwaymen, that all cleaners, irrespective of age, should be paid in accordance with Clause 6 (i.e., the clause relating to Higher Duty Pay) of the Railway Executive Committee's Circular Letter of 29th August, 1919.

Engines in Steam: Movement by other than Qualified Drivers.—The National Union of Railwaymen asked that the person authorised to move engines in steam, where no qualified engineman was available and the exigencies and immediate interests of the work of the Depôt necessitated an engine movement being made, should in all cases be in receipt of not less than the minimum driving rate, when engaged in moving engines. The Board came to the conclusion that the arrangements recently made at the Central Wages Board are fair and reasonable.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

ORDERS, NOTICES, ETC., ISSUED DURING JANUARY.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.E. (20), dated 30th January, 1925, confirming piece-work basis time-rates and general minimum piece-rates as fixed and as varied for female workers, and specifying the 23rd February, 1925, as the date from which these rates become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Brush and Broom (Great Britain).

Proposal M. (38), dated 16th January, 1925, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, guaranteed time-rates, general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers and to fix an additional general minimum piece-rate, in both cases for periods dependent upon the cost-of-living Index Figure.

III.—CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE "COST OF LIVING" FIGURE.

Lower wage rates have become operative as from 1st February, 1925, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates of wages now applicable are those appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 80, and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below, which may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. each.

Brush and Broom (Great Britain).—M. (35), (36) and (37), Col. 9. Paper Bag (Great Britain).—P. (10), Col. 8. Paper Box (Great Britain).—B. (11), Col. 3. Perambulator and Invalid Carriage (Great Britain).—I. (14) and (15), Col. 5.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

(1) Regulations for the Manufacture or Repair of Electric Accumulators.

The "Ministry of Labour Gazette" for November, 1924 (page 422), contained a notice of draft Regulations proposed to be made under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, for the manufacture or repair of electric accumulators or parts thereof. These Regulations were duly made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the 19th January, 1925,* and are to come into force on the 1st March, 1925. The new Regulations supersede those made on the 21st November, 1903.

(2) Regulations for the Prevention of Accidents at Docks.

The Home Secretary issued a draft of a revised code of regulations for the prevention of accidents at docks on the 6th May, 1924. After consideration of objections and suggestions that have been submitted to him with regard to these draft Regulations, the Home Secretary has now issued revised draft Regulations, embodying certain modifications which, it is stated, have been accepted by all parties interested. He has also issued a notice, dated 10th February, 1925, that he proposes to make Regulations in accordance with the revised draft, and that any objection with respect to the proposed Regulations by or on behalf of any person affected thereby must be sent to him within 21 days of the date of the notice. Copies of the draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, London, S.W. 1.

(3) Order, Notification of Diseases.

The Home Secretary has issued an Order, which came into force on the 1st February, 1925, extending the provisions of Section 73 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, to all cases of poisoning by carbon bisulphide, aniline poisoning, and chronic benzene poisoning, occurring in a factory or workshop.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS, 1906 TO 1923.

Workmen's Compensation (Aircraft) Order.

The Home Secretary has made an Order extending the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Acts to employment on aircraft when employed outside Great Britain.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

FOOD PRICES.—Minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on food prices, fifth to eleventh days. (S.O. publications; price 1s. 6d. each.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—(1) Registered provident societies in Great Britain. General summary, 1921-1922. (S.O. publication; price 3d.) (2) Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1922. Part A, Appendix (A). Statistical and other information relating principally to friendly societies, orders and branches, workmen's compensation schemes, loan societies and railway savings banks. (S.O. publication; price 3s.)

HOUSING.—(1) Second and third interim reports of Committee on new methods of house construction. Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 2510 and 2534; price 3d. and 2d. respectively.) (2) Circular to Local Authorities on the augmentation of skilled labour in building trades. Circular 520A. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 1d.) (See page 40.)

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—The effects of posture and rest in muscular work. Report No. 29. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 2s. 6d.) (See page 40.)

MINING.—(1) Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 30th September, 1924. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (2) The support of underground workings in the South Wales Coalfield. Safety in Mines Research Board. Paper No. 6, Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 2d.)

POLICE SERVICE.—Report of the Sub-Committee of the Police Council appointed to inquire and report whether any modification should be made in the existing scale of pay of constables in their initial years of service. Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 2d.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—The Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1922. Text. (New Annual Series, No. 2.) (S.O. publication; price 5s.)

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.—Statistics of compensation and of proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1923. Home Office. (Cmd. 2306; price 6d.)

* Electric Accumulator Regulations, 1925. Statutory Rules and Orders, 1925, No. 28. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.
† See the May, 1924, issue of this GAZETTE, pages 158 and 189.
‡ Factory and Workshop (Notification of Diseases) Order, 1924. Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924, No. 1505. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.
§ Workmen's Compensation (Aircraft) Order, 1924. Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924, No. 1499. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JANUARY, 1925.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Burntisland: Bathrooms, Sculleries and W.C.'s: Wm. Crow, Burntisland, Scotland.—**Devonport: Steel Fencing:** W. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge, Scotland.—**Pembroke: Limestone:** Colley & Sons, Pembroke.—**Portsmouth and Gosport Districts: Portland Cement:** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Portsmouth: R.N. Barracks—Warrant Officers' Mess—Heating:** Deane & Beale, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel Rails:** Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Middlesbrough.—**Glazed Bricks:** The Stourbridge Glazed Brick Co., Ltd., Dudley.—**Shoeburyness: Improvements, Baths, etc. (Coast Guard Station):** Thorby & Matthews, Ltd., Leigh-on-Sea.—**H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Railway Crane Track:** The Darlington Railway Plant & Foundry Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Portland Cement:** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cast Iron Pipes, etc.:** Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Langley Green, nr. Birmingham.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Accumulators, Batteries and Cells: London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire; Batteries, Ltd., Redditch; Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath.—**Anchors:** J. Rogerson & Co., Ltd., Wolsingham.—**Bedsteads:** Peyton & Peyton, Ltd., Birmingham; J. & J. Taunton, Ltd., Birmingham; Evered & Co., Ltd., Smethwick.—**Blocks, M.C.I.:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Grantham; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine.—**Boiler Return Tube Cylindrical:** Abbott & Co. (Newark), Ltd., Newark-on-Trent.—**Boilers, Vertical Cross Tube:** Abbott & Co. (Newark), Ltd., Newark-on-Trent.—**Bolts, Nuts and Studs, Brass:** Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; E. H. Bentall & Co., Ltd., Heybridge, Maldon.—**Boots, Half:** Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; John Horrell & Son, Raunds.—**Boots, Shooting:** W. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Kettering; S. Walker, Walgrave.—**Branch Breakers:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Bridge Meggers:** Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Brooms and Brushes:** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; W. H. Vowles & Son, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; W. T. Clark & Co., Birmingham; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Newton & Cook, London, S.W.; F. Smith & Co., London, S.E.; J. T. Millwood & Sons, London, S.E.; S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Root & Son, London, N.; Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans.—**Bunting:** C. B. Brook & Co., Ltd., Bradford; J. Clough & Son, Shipley.—**Cabinets, Ice:** F. R. Martin & Co., London, S.W.—**Cloth, Blue:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley; J. Halliday & Co., Ltd., Pudsey; W. Lupton & Co., Leeds.—**Cloth, Cotton, Cleaning:** The Fairlea Mill Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Cloth, Woollen:** J. Raistrick & Sons, Bradford.—**Compressing, etc., Plant:** G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Cathcart, Glasgow; P. Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Conduit Tubing and Fittings:** Barton & Son, Ltd., Walsall; The Eureka Conduits & Fittings Co., Walsall; The Electrical Conduits, Ltd., Walsall; The General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton, Birmingham.—**Coolers, Oil:** Serck Radiators, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cooling Plant, Water:** Heenan & Froude, Ltd., Worcester.—**Copper Articles (Stove Gear):** S. Gregson & Sons, Bury; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., Deptford.—**Copper Nails, Rivets, etc.:** Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Combination Metallic Packing Co. (1921), Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., Deptford; Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Crane, 5 tons, Electrically-driven, Gantry:** Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd. Parkhead, Glasgow.—**Earthenware:** Pountney & Co., Ltd., Bristol; Myott, Son & Co., Cobridge; Adderleys, Ltd., Longton; W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; Bishop & Stonier, Ltd., Hanley; W. Adams & Sons, Tunstall.—**Flannel:** John Sandiford & Sons, Rochdale.—**Floors:** Fraser & Fraser, Ltd., London, E.—**Flour:** W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Bristol; North Shore Mill Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Wingent & Kimmins, Ltd., Chatham.—**Gear, Variable Speed:** MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Gloves, Cotton:** Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade.—**Glycerine:** C. Thomas & Bros., Ltd., Bristol.—**Hooping, Mild Steel:** The Wigan Rolling Mills Co., Ltd., Wigan; The Whitehead Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Tredegar, Mons.—**Hoses:** The Interlock Metal Hose Co., Ltd., London, N.; The United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Jerseys, Blue:** I. & R. Morley, Leicester.—**Lard:** C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Wiltshire.—**Lavatories, Fold Up:** Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lime Juice:** L. Rose & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Linen Goods:** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; N. Lockhart & Sons, Kirkcaldy; Thos. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; R. Stocks & Co., Kirkcaldy; The Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Lockers:** G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Machining of Turbine Blading:** Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wallsend-on-Tyne.—**Macintosh Coats:** Chas. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Marmalade:** Barnes & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Keiller & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. Southwell & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Moorings Screws:** Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd.—**Mopheads:** T. M. Clewes & Son, Cradley, Worcester.—**Motor Alternators and Spares:** Newton

Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Netting, Mosquito:** A. Topham, Nottingham.—**Panels, Telemotor Operating:** MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Platinum Wire:** Johnson, Matthey & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Propeller Shafts, Forged Steel:** The Ince Forge Co., Ltd., Wigan.—**Pumping Units:** Worthington, Simpson, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Pumps, Water Circulating:** P. Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Resistance Testing Sets:** Everett, Edgecumbe & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Serge, Blue:** Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Buckfastleigh; J. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Huddersfield.—**Serge, Blue Diagonal:** J. J. L. & C. Peate, Ltd., Guiseley.—**Serge, White:** Elworthy Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset.—**Smiths' Work:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton; Carron Co., Falkirk; Douglas Bros., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne; R. Heath & Low Moor, Ltd., Bradford; Horseley Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Tipton; Hughes Johnson Stampings, Ltd., Birmingham; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; Old Hill Co., Dudley; Nixon & Whitfield, Blaydon-on-Tyne; W. Renwick, Blaydon-on-Tyne; Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Grantham; Vaughan Bros., Willenhall; T. B. Wellings & Co., Ltd., Old Hill.—**Steel Tubes:** Tubes, Ltd., Aston, Birmingham; J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Stoneware:** Hathern Station Brick & Terra Cotta Co., Loughborough; Doulton & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Thermometers, Hydrometers, etc.:** A. C. Cossor & Son, London, N.; Heath & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; T. A. Reynolds, Son & Co., London, E.C.; Short & Mason, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Threads:** Henry Campbell & Co., Ltd., Belfast; William Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Lisburn; Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd., Johnstone; F. W. Hayes & Co., Ltd., Banbridge.—**Tools:** C. Whitehouse & Sons, Ltd., Cannock, Staffs.; W. Ridgway & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; W. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Birmingham; F. G. Pearson & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; W. Gilpin, Senr., & Co. (Tools), Ltd., Cannock, Staff.—**Water Closets and Fittings:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.

WAR OFFICE.

Acid, Sulphuric: Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., London, E.—**Alcohol:** Hammersmith Distillery Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Basins, Washing, and Soup Cans, Steel-tinned:** M. G. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Batteries:** Pritchett & Gold and E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bedford Cord:** Whiteley & Green, Ltd., Holmbridge, Yorks.—**Bedsteads:** J. & G. Taunton, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Belts, Waist, Leather:** Fleming, Birky & Goodall, Ltd., Halifax; C. J. Pearson & Sons, London, E.C.—**Boots and Shoes:** Adams Bros., Raunds; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; G. Knight, Finedon; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Raunds.—**Boxes, Soldiers, Wood:** The Falcon Aircraft Co., London, N.; Lawson & Co., Glasgow.—**Braid, Shalloon:** Hattersley & Sons, Keighley, Yorks.—**Brass, Sheet:** The British Copper Mfgs., Ltd., London and Swansea.—**Brushes, Hair:** G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; S. D. Warren & Co., London, N.W.—**Cable, Electric:** W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Calcium Hydrate and Soda Ash Mixture:** Sofnol, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Caps, Forage:** E. Altman, Ltd., Aldershot; L. Silberston, London, E.—**Cement, Portland:** Beynon & Co., Ltd., Glamorgan; J. Board & Co., Ltd., Bridgwater; British Standard Cement Co., Rainham, Kent; C. Burley, Ltd., Sittingbourne, Kent; Casebourne & Co., Ltd., Heverton Hill-on-Tees; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; East Anglian Cement Co., Ltd., Walsall; Gillingham Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Gillingham, Kent; J. & W. Henderson, Ltd., London; Oxford Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Oxford; S. Stephenson & Son, Ltd., Burwell; Thames Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Cliffe Kent.—**Chassis, Lorry:** W. A. Stevens, Maidstone, Kent; Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Cisterns, Mild Steel, Galvanized:** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Thos. Marshall & Son, Leeds.—**Cloth, D.M., Waterproofed:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Yorks.—**Cloth, Lasting:** H. Farrar & Co., Ltd., Halifax; J. Murgatroyd & Son, Ltd., Halifax.—**Cloth, Vulcanizing:** Miller & Ferguson, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Crane, Electrification of:** J. Carrick & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Crane, Electric:** Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Cylinders, Hot Water:** W. B. Butterfield & Co., Ltd., Shipley, Yorks.—**Drawers, Cotton:** I. & R. Morley, Nottingham; Nottingham Mfg. Co., Nottingham.—**Drill, Brown and Drab:** T. Barnes & Co., Ltd., Farnworth, Lancs; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough, Lancs.—**Drying and Washing Apparatus, etc.:** Thomas Bradford & Co., Manchester; Manlove, Alliott & Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Matthews & Yates, Ltd., Manchester.—**Felt, Sheet, White:** R. Ashworth, Waterfoot, Nr. Manchester.—**Films and Apparatus, X-Ray:** Kodak, Ltd., London, W.C. and Wealdstone.—**Filters, Oil:** A. Kenyon & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Flannel, Silver Grey:** J. Bradbury & Co. (Saddleworth), Ltd., Upper Mill and/or Meltham.—**Fuel Economiser, Renewal of:** E. Green & Sons, Ltd., Wakefield.—**Glass Window (Sheet and Plate):** Pilkington Bros., St. Helens (Lancs).—**Helmet, Khaki:** E. Altman, Ltd., Aldershot; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Kettles and Saucapans, Cast Iron:** Beech, Hill & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Kit Bags, Duck, Black Cotton:** Holdsworth & Gibb, Ltd., Swinton, Lancs.—**Lead Alloy:** Cookson Lead and Antimony Co., Ltd., Newcastle; H. C. Cuthoven & Sons, Ltd., London.—**Linoleum, Brown:** M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Barry Oslere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Liquor Cressli:** Jeyes Sanitary Compound Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Lorries, Reconditioned:** The Four Wheel Drive Lorry Co., Ltd., Slough, Bucks.—**Metal, Expanded:** The Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Oil, Linseed, Boiled:** Younghusband, Barnes & Co., Rotherhithe.—**Oils, Lubricating, and Rangoon:** Frank How

& Co., London, E.; Prices Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pneumatic Covers:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Presses, Power:** Arnold & Large, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Puttees:** Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot, Yorks.—**Rags, Cotton:** E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; S. & M. Myers, Ltd., London, E.—**Railway Inspection Car:** The Drewry Car Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent.—**Saddlery, Flaps, Universal and Seats, Steel Arch:** D. Mason & Sons, Birmingham.—**Shirts, Flannel:** Thorpe & Co., Ltd., London.—**Soap, Carbohc:** J. Kay & Sons, Ramsbottom.—**Stable Fittings:** Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Steel Billets:** The Darlington Forge, Ltd., Darlington.—**Steel, Round, Various Sizes:** Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Stoves, Soyers:** S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Tin:** Capper, Pass & Son, Ltd., Bristol.—**Tubs, Washing (Galvanized Iron):** S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Tweed, Blue:** H. Booth & Sons, Gildersome, Yorks.—**Works Services: Maintenance Works:** Edinburgh, Piershill Barracks: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., Shipley, Yorks. Maidstone: T. Carr, London, W.C. London District: E. J. Logan, London, W.C. Gravesend: Geo. Peacock, Gravesend. **Building Works:** Didcot: T. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Colchester: W. Chambers & Son, Colchester. Dover, Connaught Barracks: T. T. Denne, Upper Walmer, Kent. Lydd, Married Officers' Quarters: Ellis Bros., New Romney, Kent. Chatham, Erection of Married Officers' Quarters: G. Gates & Sons, Frindsbury, Rochester, Kent. Pirbright Camp, Brookwood, Surrey: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham, Berks. **Installations:** Hounslow Barracks—Electric Light: The Alpha Electric & Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Chatham, Southill Barracks—Electric Light: Buchanan & Curwen, Beckenham, Kent. Sheerness Barracks—Electric Light: Buchanan & Curwen, Beckenham, Kent. Warwick, Budbrook Barracks—Electric Light: The Electric Trades Supply, Ltd., Birmingham. Aldershot—Heating: G. N. Hayden & Sons, Ltd., Trowbridge, Wilts. Aldershot—Heating: C. P. Kinnell & Co., Ltd., London S.E.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft, Examination and Test of:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft, Fitting Engines:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft, Installation of Engine:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft, Modifications to:** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Aircraft, Raising Main Planes on:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning of:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Aircraft, Repairs to:** Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aircraft, Spares:** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Bristol Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Bristol; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton; Short Bros. (Rochester and Bedford), Ltd., Rochester, Kent; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft, Variable Camber Gear:** De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware, Middlesex.—**Ash, Aircraft:** Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bombs, Practice:** Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Aerial Lighthouse (Miscellaneous Stations): Gas Accumulator Co. (U.K.), Ltd., Brentford. Alterations, Additions to Buildings (Aldergrave): Laverty & Sons, Belfast. Alterations and Additions to Buildings (Turmhouse): W. & J. R. Watson, Ltd., Edinburgh. Alterations and Additions to Buildings (Renfrew): Leslie Kirk, Ltd., Clydebank. Ammunition Sheds, &c. (Altrincham): Pennington & Co. and Inchley & Co., Bowden, Cheshire. Battery Booster (Martlesham Heath): Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Bricks, Facing (Heyford): Francome & Co., Tuffley. Cables, Underground (Northolt): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Central Heating Plant, &c. (Altrincham): Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Compressor Plant (Malta): G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow. Distilling Plant (Aboukir): G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow. Drainage (Northolt): E. Doe & Sons, Maldon, Essex. Extension of No. 3 Slipway (Calshot): L. J. Speight, Ltd., London, W.C. Fencing and Gates (Halton): J. Ellwell, Ltd., Birmingham. General Hospital (Halton): Wilson Lovatt & Sons, Wolverhampton. Glazing Bars, Renewal of (Halton): Pennycook Pat. Glazing & Engineering Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Heating and Hot Water Supply (Kenley): Brightside Foundry Co., Birmingham. Lockers (Tangmere): Waddell & Wilson, London, E. Locomotive, Repairs (Halton): Peckett & Son, Ltd., Bristol. Mooring Masts (Cardington): Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington. Pig Lead (Iraq): Walker, Parker & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Pipes, C.I. (Iraq): Cochran & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Pumps (Iraq): Rees Roturbo Manufacturing Co., Wolverhampton. Railway Sleepers (Manston): W. Christie & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Switchboard (Sarafand): Erskine, Heap & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. W.O.s Quarters (Lee-on-Solent): J. Hunt, Ltd., Gosport.—**Carburetors and Spares:** De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; H. M. Hobson, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Carriers, Bomb:** Monarch Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cloths, Table, Damask:** York Street Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Coke, Gas:** C. Franklin, Bedford.—**Crate, Bomb:** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Crossley Spares:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—**Desks, School:** Educational Supply Association, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reduction to Spares:** Gillett Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham.—**Engines, Aircraft Spares:** Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Gillett Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham; Motor Pistons, Ltd., London, N.W.; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Peter Hooker & Co., Ltd., London, E.;

Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Type Test on:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Ferro-Silicon:** Stainless Iron & Alloys Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Gears, Bomb:** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Guns, Vickers, Modifications to:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Indicators, Speed, Electric:** Record Electrical Co., Ltd., Altrincham.—**Mahogany (Aero.):** Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Gliksten & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Mahogany (Aircraft):** Louis Bamberger & Son, London, E.C.—**Methylated Spirit:** H. Green & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Microphones:** Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Oil, Mineral, Lubricating, for Engines, Aircraft:** A. Duckham & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; F. How & Co., London, E.; Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.; W. B. Dick & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Parachutes:** Irving Parachute Co., New York.—**Parachutes, Stores and Ammunition, Dropping:** E. R. Calthorp's Ariel Patents, Ltd., London, W.—**Pumps, Petrol:** De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware.—**Receivers, W/T:** H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Spares, Rolls Royce:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Spruce (Aircraft):** Wm. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Track Attachments, Kegresse:** Citroen Kegresse, Ltd., London, W.—**Transmitters:** Gambrell Bros., London, S.W.—**Transverse Rings:** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Trousers, Blue:** John Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Tyres:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham.—**Valves, W/T:** British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Wheels, Disc, Straight-Sided:** J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Wellington, Salop.

POST OFFICE.

Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing: Manchester-Sheffield: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Brixton-Holborn and Central-Streatham Junction: Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Lancaster-Kendall: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Kendal-Windermere: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Conduits—Laying:** Baldock (Herts): J. Moffat, Osterley, Middlesex. Hurst Green and Hampden Park (Sussex) and Kemp Town (Brighton): J. Moffat, Osterley, Middlesex. Oxford-Birmingham (Oxford Section): J. Moffat, Osterley, Middlesex. Oxford: J. Moffat, Osterley, Middlesex. Fordcombe (Kent): J. Moffat, Osterley, Middlesex. Holborn-Kingston Junction: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. East-Wanstead-Woodford Junction (Section I.): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. City of London: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Chelsea (Mallord Road): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Romford Road (Holborn-Ilford Junction): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. East-East Ham-Woolwich Junction: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Kennington Park Road, S.E. (Holborn Streatham Junction): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Langley (Bucks): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Richmond (Scheme No. 1): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Lingfield (Sussex): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Hook and Turgis Green (Hants): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Exeter-Torquay (Section I.): E. P. Bovey & Son, Torquay. Exeter-Torquay (Section II.): J. Joiner & Sons, Ltd., Newnham, Glos. Exeter-Torquay (Section III.): J. Joiner & Sons, Ltd., Newnham, Glos. Bristol-Yatton-Weston-super-Mare (Section III.): J. Joiner & Sons, Ltd., Newnham, Glos. Exeter-Torquay (Section IV.): H. Mills & Son, Newton Abbot. Marple (Cheshire): W. Turner (Ardwick), Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester. Oldham (Ashton Road and Werneth): W. Turner (Ardwick), Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester. Blackburn and Pleasington (Blackburn): W. Turner (Ardwick), Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester. Whitley Bay and Tyne-mouth: McLaren & Co., Belford, Northumberland. Beauchief (Sheffield): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Boars Hill (Berks): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Crockham Hill and Brasted: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Portslade (Sussex): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Newcastle-under-Lyme and Chesterton (Staffs): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Purley-Coulsdon: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Goring-by-Sea (Sussex): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Aylesford (Kent): H. Collingridge, Romford (Essex). Wimbledon-Malden Junction and Kingston-Esher Junction: H. Collingridge, Romford (Essex). Upton (Cheshire): The Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Wigan. Hendon-Edgware Junction: G. J. Anderson, London, E. East-Wanstead-Woodford Junction (Section II.): G. J. Anderson, London, E. Anerley-Beckenham: G. J. Anderson, London, E. Hounslow: F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. Lavant and Rudgwick (Sussex): F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. Paddington (Spring St.) (Section II.): F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. White-stable (Kent): F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. Belfast (City and East Central): W. Dobson, Edinburgh. Bristol-Yatton-Weston-super-Mare (Section I.): G. F. Leadbeter, Newport, Mon. Bristol-Yatton-Weston-super-Mare (Section II.): G. F. Leadbeter, Newport, Mon. Kentish Town Road (Holborn-Finchley): O. C. Summers, London, N. Stepany, etc.: O. C. Summers, London, N. Holborn-Finchley Junction: O. C. Summers, London, N. Redditch and Redditch-Studley: A. Blair Lyell & Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Sandall (Wakefield): J. W. Thornley & Sons, Farnworth, nr. Bolton. Llanishen (Cardiff): H. Smith, Newport, Mon. Pontypridd: H. Smith, Newport, Mon. Arnold (Notts): E. Somerfield & Sons, West Bridgford, Notts. Rochford (Essex): J. J. Howes & Son, Norwich. Loddon and Diss: Taylor & Son, Dereham, Norfolk. Thornbury and Keynsham: S. Ambrose, Ltd., Bath. Annan: A. Duncan, Glasgow. Kilmacollm: A. Duncan, Glasgow. Cults: J. McAdam & Sons, Ltd., Aberdeen. Beckenham: O. C. Summers, London, N. Leathwaite Road-Nightingale Lane: Mears Bros., London, S.E. Woodbourne Ave., Streatham: Mears Bros., London,

S.E. Vale Avenue, Chelsea: J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Paddington-Willesden, Grange Road and Harlesden Road: J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Electric Lighting:** Bishopsgate Telephone Exchange: Electric Power Installations Co., London, N. Sloane Telephone Exchange: A. Hawkins & Sons, London, S.E.—**Electric Passenger Lift:** Birmingham H.P.O.: J. Bennie, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Manholes—Constructing:** Swansea-Kingsbridge: G. F. Leadbeter, Newport, Mon.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Coatbridge: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., Stratford, E., for Batteries; English Electric Co., Ltd., Queen's House, Kingsway, W.C., for Charging Machine; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines. Shipley: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Chloride E.S. Co., Ltd., 57 Victoria Street, S.W., for Batteries. English Electric Co., Ltd., Queen's House, Kingsway, W.C., for Charging Machine; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machine. Toll: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. G.P.O. (South) Trunk: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Battersea: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: The D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines. St. Annes-on-Sea: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Huddersfield: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Kensington: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Park: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Regent: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Paddington: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Victoria: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Gerrard: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Riverside: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Avenue: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. The Scottish Automobile and General Assurance Co., Ltd.: The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd. (London): The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Bury Co-operative Society, Ltd.: The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Morris Motors, Ltd. (Cowley, Oxon): The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Cardiff Union: The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Telephone Repeater Station—Repeater Equipment:** Birmingham: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry.—**Ventilating Plant:** Holborn Auto. Tel. Exchange: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Apparatus, Telephonic: British L. M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Phœnix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., Kew; Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E. or New Southgate.—**Apparatus, Testing and Protective:** Stuart Turner, Ltd., Henley-on-Thames.—**Bags, Leather:** M. & A. Hess, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bicycles, Maintenance parts for:** B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bolts, Arm:** Guest, Keen & Nettledolds, Ltd., Smethwick; Chas. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlington.—**Brackets:** Bert Birks & Co., Cradley Heath; David Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Cabinets, Telephone:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Various:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Belvedere; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Gravesend; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Receiver of H. W. Smith, Ltd., Lydbrook, Glos.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cells, Secondary:** D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell.—**Coils, Loading:** Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Compound:** W. H. Keys, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Conveyance of Cable:** G. Baker & Sons, Ltd., Southampton.—**Covers, Tyre:** D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Crossotting:** Armstrong, Addison & Co., North Shields; Alex. Bruce & Co., Ltd., Grays, Essex, and Leven, Fifeshire; Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Newport, Mon. and Eling, Southampton; Wm. Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. and Grangemouth; Jas. P. Corry & Co., Ltd., Belfast; Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd., Ellesmere Port.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville; Donington Sanitary Pipe & Fire Brick Co., Ltd., Moira; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Dudley; Hepworth Iron Co., Ltd., Hazlehead; Key Engineering Co., Ltd., Trafford Park; Jas. Oakes & Co. (Riddings Collieries), Ltd., Jacksdale, Notts.; Oates & Green, Ltd., Horley Green; Standard Brick & Terra Cotta Co., Ltd., Buckley; Stanley Bros., Ltd., Nuneaton.—**Extinguishers, Fire:** Pyrene Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Handcarts, Jintars:** W. Goodyear & Sons, Ltd., Dudley.—**Insulators:** Thos. de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Jelly, Petroleum:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Manchester and London, E.—**Kiosks, Concrete:** Croft Granite Brick & Concrete Co., Ltd., Croft, Leicester.—**Labour Services in connection with Telegraph Poles:** Armstrong, Addison & Co., North Shields; Alex. Bruce & Co., Grays, Essex, and Leven, Fifeshire; Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Newport, Mon. and Eling, Southampton; Wm. Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. and Grangemouth; Jas. P. Corry & Co., Ltd., Belfast; Gabriel, Wade & English, Ltd., Staddlethorpe, Yorks and Ellesmere Port.—**Odometers:** Speedometer Supply and Repairing Co., London, W.C.—**Pipes, Steel:** Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Coatbridge; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Halesowen.—**Pipe, W.I.:** Russell Bros. (Walsall), Ltd., Walsall.—**Solder:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Tyne Solder Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Spirit, Methylated:** W. H. Palmer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tap, Linen:** G. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley.—**Tubes, Motor Car and Motor Cycle:** International Rubber Mfg. Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Vans, delivery:** Leyland Motors, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; W. H. Perry, London, N.—**Wire, Bronze:** T. Bolton &

Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Beswick; Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Manchester; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley; F. Smith & Co., Manchester; John Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Copper:** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Beswick; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley Salop; F. Smith & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Wire, Enamelled:** Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Binders: C. Cakebread, Ltd., London, E.C.; Lamson Paragon Supply, Ltd., London, E.; G. Wells & Co., London, E.C.; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cabinets:** Addressograph, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Chalk:** Cosmic Crayon Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Cloth:** T. Williamson & Co., Manchester.—**Copier Composition:** Gyp Commodity Co., London, E.—**Cord:** Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast; J. Holmes & Son, East Ardsley; W. Waites, Sons & Atkinson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Envelopes:** J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead; McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton.—**Erasers:** Hall & Hamlyn, Ltd., Hull.—**Knives:** Harrison Bros. & Howson, Sheffield.—**Paper of various descriptions:** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik; W. Burt, Witthampton Mills, Nr. Wimborne; Caldwell's Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing; Caribonum, Ltd., London, E.; A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie and Caldercruix; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead; Ellams Duplicator Co., Ltd., Bushey; P. Garnett & Sons, Ltd., Otley; D. Gestetner, Ltd., London, N.; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Bittou; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend; W. Joynson & Son, St. Mary Cray; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Olive & Partington, Ltd., Glossop; Packing Materials Association, Ltd., Manchester; Ramsbottom Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ramsbottom; Read Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Hounslow; Silkate, Ltd., London, S.E.; Spicers, Ltd., London, E.C.; Waterside Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Darwen; Wiggins, Teape & A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Bucksburn and Hele; E. Towgood & Sons, Ltd., Sawston.—**Parchments:** H. Gibbs & Sons, Mitcham.—**Pins:** D. F. Tayler & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Portfolios:** Letter Filing Appliances Co., Birmingham; T. Shackleton & Co., Manchester.—**Printing, Rulfrg and Binding, etc.:** 15,000 Books Certificates of posting Registered Packets: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton. Bdg. 230 "Notes on the Interpretation of Air Photographs": Kelly & Sons, London, W.C. Bdg. 2,500 Public General Acts, 1924: Dow & Lester, London, E.C. 200,000 Registry Jackets: Willmott & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 7,500 D. 491; 2,000 Books S. 322: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 25,000 Regional File Jackets: Morrison & Gibb, Ltd., Tanfield. Bdg. 5,000 Sailors' Bibles: Dow & Lester, London, E.C. 7,500 Money Order Cash Books; 900 Head Office Cash Books: Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., London, E.C. Bdg. 375 each Chronological Table and Index to Statutes Vol. 1 and 2: Fisher Bookbinding Co. (1912), Ltd., London, S.E. 167,325 Form No. 11—1: H. Howarth & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Bdg. 3,000 Text Book of Gun Carriages and Mountings: G. & J. Kitcat, Ltd., London, E.C. 4,000 Provincial Sub-office Cash Books: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton. 283,350 Forms 12A and 12 Ins; 201,650 Forms 11A and 11—1: Metcalfe & Cooper, Ltd., London, E.C. 2,000 Books, S. 353: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Bdg. 1,098 Technical Report of the Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, 1921-2: Fisher Bookbinding Co., Ltd., London, S.E. 4,320,000 N.H.I. Cards, Class A; 2,335,000 N.H.I. Cards, Class E: Mackie & Co., Ltd., Warrington. 526,720 Form 11 E; 110,175 Form 11 E—1: W. P. Griffith & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rulers:** Educational Supply Association, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sealing Wax:** Lyons Ink, Ltd., Manchester.—**Skewer Metals:** Turner Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Straps, Web:** Dubock, Jones & Co., Ltd., Coventry; M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Quorn Mills, Nr. Loughborough.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Alexandria Housing Scheme—Damp-proof Coursing: A. & W. Thompson, Alexandria. Bath New Post Office, etc.—Erection: Jacob Long & Sons, Ltd., Bath. Battersea Telephone Exchange—Granolithic Work and Reinforced Concrete Steps and Landings: Veronese (Concrete Stone Co., Ltd.), London, S.W. Bodmin Post Office—Painting and Decorating: E. J. Goodfellow & Sons, Bodmin. Broadmoor Asylum—Erection of Cottages: Spear & King, Crowthorne. Burnley Employment Exchange—Painting: Lord & Sons, Burnley. Plumbing and Glazing: J. Shoemith, Burnley. Tiling: Whitaker & Clegg, Ltd., Burnley. Burnley Telephone Exchange—Asphalt: The Limmer & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd., Manchester. Carpenters' and Joiners' Work: J. H. Naylor & Son, Burnley. Plastering and Painting: R. Rawlinson & Sons, Burnley. Plumbing and Glazing: Hartley Bros., Burnley. Steelwork: Joseph Webb & Sons, Ltd., Burnley. Chelsea, Ministry of Pensions Buildings—Demolition Work: F. H. Clark, London, S.W. Donna Nook, Lincs.—Erection of Cottages: E. Scarborough, Lincoln. Duns New Post Office—Erection: W. C. McLaren, Duns. Glazing: Dickson & Walker, Ltd., Edinburgh. Masons' Work: John Spiers & Sons, Duns. Painting: Andrew Tindal, Duns. Plastering and Slating: Edward Spiers, Duns. Plumbing: W. C. Thomson, Duns. Structural Steelwork: A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Edinburgh—Engineering Labour: Walter Bennett, Ltd., Glasgow. Evesham Post Office, etc.—Alterations, etc.: W. J. B. Halls, Ltd., Gloucester. Farnworth Telephone Exchange—Asphalt (except Roofs): Thomas Faldo & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Excavating, Draining, Concreting and

Bricklaying: The Moston Brick & Building Co., Ltd., Manchester. Masons' Work: J. Dickinson & Co. (Bolton), Ltd., Bolton. Plastering and Painting: J. & S. Howarth, Manchester. Plumbing and Glazing: Henry Tattersall, Ltd., Rochdale. Steelwork: Joseph Webb & Sons, Ltd., Bury. Foleshill New Telephone Exchange—Erection: Kelley & Son, Coventry. Glasgow—Engineering Labour: Walter Bennett, Ltd., Glasgow. G.P.O. (South) E.C., Erection of Lift—Steelwork: Peirson & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. G.P.O. (South), E.C., Extension—Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Gravesend Post Office, etc.—Alterations, etc.: A. E. Tong, Gravesend. Greenwich, H.M. Fuel Research Station—Extension of Laboratory: John Garlick (1910), Ltd., London, S.W. Horncastle, Lincs, Post Office, etc.—Erection: Thornhill Bros., Ltd., Lincoln. Hove Telephone Exchange—Erection: R. Cook & Sons, Ltd., Crawley. Liverpool, Leece Street Employment Exchange—Composition Flooring: "Litosilo" Decking & Flooring Co., Liverpool. Glazing: Williams & Watson, Ltd., Liverpool. Ironfounders' Work: McIntyre & Sons, Liverpool. Plastering: J. Tanner & Son, Liverpool. London Maintenance Work—Plastering: C. Peppiatt, London, W.; George Rome & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.W. Scaffolding: Nicoll, Dawson & Humphries, Ltd., London, E.C.; Scaffolding (Great Britain), Ltd., London, S.W. Slaters' and Tilers' Work: Bingley, Son & Follit, Ltd., London, S.W.; Roberts, Adlard & Co., London, S.E. Middlesbrough Grange Road Post Office—Painting: E. Turner, Ltd., Middlesbrough. Plastering: Crabtree & Pearson, Middlesbrough. Plumbing: T. B. Watson & Son, Ltd., Middlesbrough. Slating: A. Tyerman, Middlesbrough. Morriston Post Office, etc.—Slating: Roberts, Adlard & Co., London, S.E. Newcastle-on-Tyne Telephone Repeater Station—Painting and Glazing: James Burdon, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Plumbing: M. Aynsley & Sons, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Orpington, Ministry of Pensions Hospital—Treatment of Roofs: The Ruberoid Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Plymouth—Adaptation Work: A. N. Coles & Son, Ltd., Plymouth. Rochford Post Office—Alterations, etc.: G. E. Wallis & Sons, Ltd., Gravesend. Royal Mint, New Stores—Asphalte: Neuchatel Asphalte Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Asphalte Roofing "Combinite": F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Granolithic Steps and Paving: Malcolm Macleod & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Joinery: Hibberd Bros., Ltd., London, S.E. Patent Glazing: W. H. Heywood & Co., London, S.W. Patent Stair Treads: The Safety Tread Syndicate, Ltd., London, E. Plumbing and Iron Drains: W. G. Gascoigne & Co., London, S.W. Portland Stonework: Geo. F. Simmons, Hounslow. Steelwork: A. D. Dawney & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Rugby—Maintenance Work: Frank Hollowell, Rugby. Shipley Post Office—Painting: Chas. Fenton & Sons, Leeds. Plastering: Cowling & Hobson, Leeds. Slating: J. Season, Leeds. Shoreditch Housing Scheme—Hollow Floors: Horace W. Cullum & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. South Kensington, Natural History Museum—Reconstruction of Sand Pits: A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, W. Todmorden—Adaptation Work: Mullen & Durkin, Ltd., Burnley. Tollcross Employment Exchange—Glazing: A. Cunningham & Co., Edinburgh. Plastering: D. & J. Borthwick, Edinburgh. Plumbing: Patrick Knox & Son, Edinburgh. Slating: W. & S. Christie, Leith. Steelwork: Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh. Walworth Telephone Exchange—Plastering: J. & P. Wright, London, S.E.—Engineering Services: Cornwall House, S.E.—Rewiring: Electrical Installations, Ltd., London, E.C. Coventry Head Post Office—Heating: The Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Somerset House, W.C.—Rewiring: R. Langston Jones & Co., London, S.W. Victoria Embankment, Exchequer and Audit Office—Rewiring: Tredegars (1923), Ltd., London, W.—Painting: Campbell, Smith & Co., Ltd., London, W.; J. Scott Fenn, London, S.E.; Wm. Fleming & Co., Birkenhead; M. Greenwood & Son, Ltd., London, N.W.; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.; S. Hodgson, Ltd., Liverpool; T. McHugh, Liverpool; Adam Robertson & Son, Newcastle-on-Tyne; W. J. Sims, Sons & Cooke, Nottingham; George Smellie, Glasgow.—Miscellaneous: Boarding (Oak): James Latham, Ltd., London, E.C. Bookcases: Kingfisher, Ltd., West Bromwich. Card Index Cabinets (Steel): Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C. Carpet: Brintons, Ltd., Kidderminster; The Childema Carpet Co., Ltd., Kidderminster. Chimney Sweeping: The Westminster Chimney Sweeping Co., London, S.W. Cloths (Sponge): C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester. Cupboards: Robert Young's Construction Co., Ltd., London, N. Fencing Roads, Footpaths, etc.: Tarmac, Ltd., Wolverhampton. Flannels (House): W. Sugden & Sons, Ltd., Cleckheaton. Flooring (Wood Block): Stevens & Adams, Ltd., London, S.W. Lorries (Hire of): T. W. Davies & Son, London, S.W. Presses (Metal): Roneo, Ltd., London, E.C. Presses (Plan): H. B. Tarleton, Redditch. Rugs: Brintons, Ltd., Kidderminster; James Templeton & Co., London, E.C. Tables (Drawing): Robert Young's Construction Co., Ltd., London, N. Tables (Writing): Wake & Dean, Ltd., Yatton. Washstands: H. Hermann, Ltd., London, E.; W. & T. Lock, Bath. Window Cleaning: The City Window Cleaning Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; The Great Metropolitan Window Cleaning Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; The London & Westminster Window Cleaning Association, Ltd., London, W.C. Wirework: The Albion Iron & Wirework Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Ammunition: Kynoch, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Beds:** Whitfield Bedsteads, Ltd., London, W.—**Bedcovers:** H. Bond & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Blankets:** T. & D. Lee, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.—**Bogies, diamond framed:** Gloucester Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Boilers:** Cochran & Co. (Annan), Ltd., Annan, Scotland.—**Boiler Engine:** Hunslet Engine Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Bolts and Nuts, etc.:** C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Cables and Boxes, etc.:** W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd.,

London, E.C.—**Cable, Electric, etc.:** W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cement:** T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Cement Marketing Co., London, S.W.—**Coal:** Watts, Watts & Co., London, E.C.—**Composition:** Zocus Paint Co., London, E.C.—**Cotton Waste:** J. White, Ltd., Wigan; W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Crane, Steam Locomotive:** Grafton & Co., Bedford.—**Dredger, Hopper:** Wm. Simons & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, N.B.—**Dredger, Spares for:** Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, N.B.—**Drill:** Fothergill & Harvey, Manchester.—**Electric Light Fittings, etc.:** Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Equipment:** Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Facias and Mouldings, etc.:** Cravens Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Ltd., Darnall, Sheffield.—**Flags:** Porter Bros., Ltd., Wapping, Liverpool.—**Flannel:** J. Haxby, London, N.—**Furniture:** Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Road, W.—**Glasses, White:** Pilkington Bros, Ltd., St. Helens, Lancashire.—**Insulators, Porcelain:** Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.—**Iron, etc.:** P. & W. Mclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Machinery, Laundry:** Manlove, Alliott & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Matches, etc.:** V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Metal, Monotype:** Phosphor Bronze Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Motor Cars:** Wolseley Motors, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Chassis, etc.:** Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil:** C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paint:** Torbay Paint Co., London, E.C.—**Paper:** North of Ireland Paper Mills, Ltd., Ballyclare, Co. Antrim; C. Baker, London, E.C.; Team Valley Paper Mills, Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.—**Petrol:** F. & A. Swanzy, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Pipes, C.I., etc.:** The Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Nr. Chesterfield.—**Pipes, etc.:** J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse, Yorks.—**Piping, Water, Galvanized:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pistols:** Webley & Scott, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Plant, Dredging and Reclamation:** Fleming & Ferguson, Ltd., Paisley, N.B.—**Plant and Material for Power Station:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Plant, Oil Gas:** Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Plant, Road Metal Crusher and Screening:** Robey & Co., Ltd., Lincoln.—**Plates, Mild Steel:** D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Quinine:** Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, Essex.—**Rails, etc.:** The Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Barrow Haematite Steel Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; United Steel Co. (Workington), Ltd., Moss Bay, Workington.—**Rifles, etc.:** Ogden Smiths & Hussey, London, S.W.—**Roller, Motor, etc.:** Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Roller, Steam, Road:** Marshall, Sons & Co., Ltd., Gainsborough.—**Sandbags:** J. W. Carr & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Serge:** J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Shed, Engine:** E. Wood & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Shirts:** T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Signalling Apparatus, Train:** Tyer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Sleepers, etc.:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Slipway:** J. Crichton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Stationery:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel, etc.:** Wolverhampton C.I. Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Pt., Birkenhead.—**Steelwork, Building:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Surgical Dressings:** Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Surgical Instruments:** Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tar:** The Gas Light & Coke Co., London Place, E.C.—**Telegraph Ironwork, etc.:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Telephone Cables, etc.:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Telephone Switchboards, etc.:** The British L.M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Tents:** Silver & Edginton, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Typewriters:** The Remington Typewriter Co., London, E.C.—**Vehicle Plates:** The Imperial Enamel Co., Birmingham.—**Vessel, Whale Marking:** Cook, Welton & Gemmell, Beverley, E. Yorks.—**Wheels and Axles:** The Newlay Wheel Co., Ltd., Newlay, Cramley, Leeds.—**Wire, Copper and Bronze:** The Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Nr. Wellington, Salop.—**Wire, Overhead Line:** Fred. Smith & Co., Ltd., Salford, Manchester.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

Supplies of Cloth for Uniform Clothing: G. H. Hirst & Co., Ltd., Batley; Greengates Worsted Co., Apperley Bridge, Yorks; Wm. Lupton & Co., Leeds; T. H. Harper, Ltd., Apperley Bridge, Yorks; J. Baxter & Sons, Apperley Bridge, Yorks; E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Marsh, Huddersfield; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Leeds.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Badges and Plates: Wildman & Meguyer, Birmingham.—**Bedding:** W. & C. Nightingale, London, W.—**Helmets, Caps:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Everitt, Vero & Co., London, S.E.; R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Window Cleaning (N.S. Yd. and Police Courts):** City Window Cleaning Co., London, E.C.

NOTICE.

The "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" is published on or about the 18th of each month, price 6d. net. The annual subscription (post free) is 7s.

The Publishers (to whom should be addressed all communications concerning subscriptions and sales) are H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches (see Cover).

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, LTD., HIS MAJESTY'S PRINTERS, EAST HARDING STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.