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January

1939

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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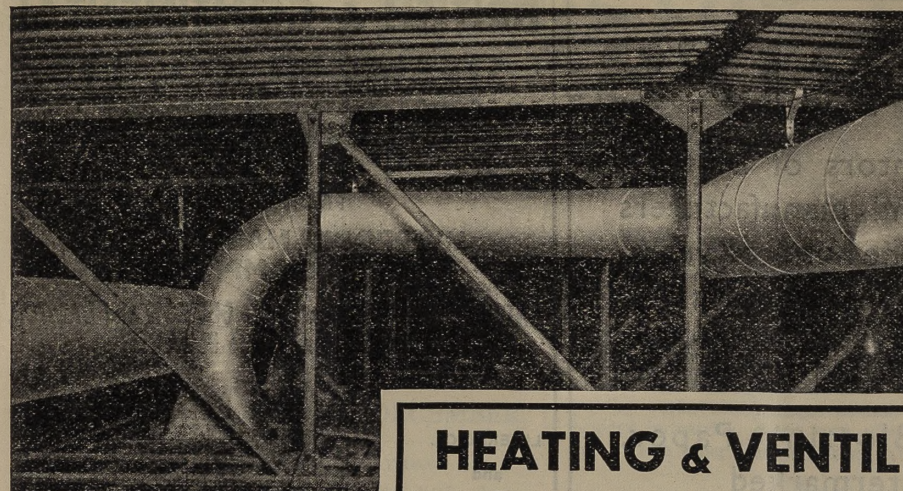
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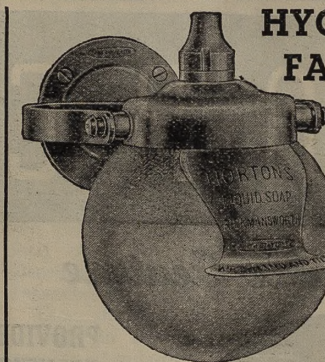
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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT at 12th December showed little change, on the whole, as compared with 14th November.

Insured Persons in Work.—It is provisionally estimated that at 12th December, 1938, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain was approximately 12,263,000. This was 5,000 more than at 14th November, 1938, and, on a comparable basis, about 10,000 more than at 13th December, 1937*, when, however, outdoor employment was adversely affected by bad weather.

Numbers unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 12th December, 1938, there were 1,474,019 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 18,351 more than at 14th November, 1938, and 190,415 more than at 13th December, 1937.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 12th December, 1938, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 294,708 persons who were on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work. This was 10,788 less than at 14th November, 1938, and 30,071 less than at 13th December, 1937.

Numbers unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 12th December, 1938, there were on the registers in Great Britain 62,645 unemployed persons who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration. This was 4,294 less than at 14th November, 1938, but 5,621 more than at 13th December, 1937.

Applicants for Benefit or Allowances.—The total of 1,831,372 persons on the registers at 12th December, 1938, included 1,076,387 persons with claims admitted for insurance benefit, 553,596 persons with applications authorised for unemployment allowances, 42,169 persons with applications for benefit or allowances under consideration and 159,220 other persons, of whom 33,638 were under 16 years of age.

Percentages Unemployed.—Among insured persons, aged 16-64, the percentage unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 12th December, 1938, was 12·7, the same as at 14th November. For 13th December, 1937, the percentage (which excludes the classes brought into insurance in April, 1938) was 11·9. For persons insured under the general scheme the corresponding percentages were 12·9 at 12th December, 1938, 13·0 at 14th November, 1938, and 12·1 at 13th December, 1937. For persons within the agricultural scheme the percentages were 8·9, 5·7 and 8·2 respectively.

Industries in which the Principal Variations occurred.—There was an improvement in employment, between 14th November and 12th December, in coal mining, the motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft industry, metal goods manufacture, engineering, the cotton and linen industries, the silk and artificial silk industry, port transport service, the distributive trades, and hotel and

* See footnote * on page 12.

boarding house service. On the other hand, employment declined in agriculture and horticulture, building, public works contracting, fishing, the pottery and hosiery industries, cocoa and chocolate manufacture, and certain other food preparing industries.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in December are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £21,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 297,000 workpeople. No decreases were reported during the month.

The principal groups of workpeople whose wages were increased were coal miners in Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, North Derbyshire, Cannock Chase, Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Scotland; workpeople employed in steel sheet rolling mills in various districts; galvanisers in England and Wales; skilled workers in the wrought hollow-ware industry in the Midlands; and tram and trolley-bus drivers and conductors in London.

The changes reported to have come into operation during 1938 have resulted in an increase estimated at about £260,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 2,360,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of about £19,000 in those of over 320,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 31st December the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 55 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 56 per cent. at 1st December, 1938, and 59 per cent. at 1st January, 1938. For food only the corresponding percentage at 31st December, 1938, was 38, as compared with 39 at 1st December and 45 at 1st January, 1938.

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, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined proportionately to 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 December was 30. In addition, 11 disputes which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 41 disputes, including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, was 9,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in December was about 29,000 working days.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress during 1938 was about 1,335,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was about 276,000.

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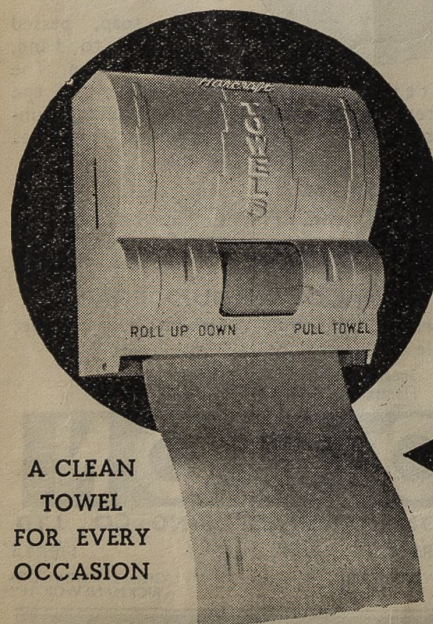
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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, HOURS OF LABOUR, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN 1938.

EMPLOYMENT.

The general level of employment in 1938 was lower than in 1937, when the average numbers in employment were the highest ever recorded. The sharp setback which occurred during the last four months of 1937 was followed by the usual seasonal decline in January, 1938, and although there was some recovery in the next two months, the improvement was much less substantial, and of considerably shorter duration, than that which normally occurs in the first half of each year. In May and June there was a renewed decline, and the rate of unemployment among all insured persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at 13th June (12.8 per cent.) was little below that for 17th January (13.0 per cent.). There is usually a much more substantial reduction in the rate of unemployment between January and June. On the other hand, whilst a seasonal increase in unemployment normally occurs during the second half of each year, there was relatively little general change between June and mid-December, 1938, the rate of unemployment among insured workers, aged 16-64, at 12th December (12.7 per cent.) having been almost the same as at 13th June.

Although the general level of employment in 1938 showed much less than the normal variation from month to month, this apparent uniformity concealed important changes in individual industries. In the first half of the year, the improvement in those industries which are most subject to seasonal variation was rather less marked than usual, particularly in the building and contracting industries, brick manufacture, the distributive trades, and certain of the food manufacturing industries. On the other hand, such seasonal improvement as did occur was almost entirely offset by a marked decline in metal and metal goods manufacture, and the engineering, vehicle, and the main textile industries, and by the normal decline in coal mining. The decline in the cotton industry was particularly severe. In the second half of the year the seasonal decline in such industries as building, contracting, transport, distribution, and hotel and boarding house service, was counterbalanced by a marked improvement in the textile industries, in metal goods manufacture, and the vehicle and mining industries. By mid-December employment in the textile industries, taken as a whole, was rather better than it had been at the beginning of the year. In the manufacture of metal goods and in the vehicle industries the ground lost in the first half of the year was completely recovered in the second half, but there was little change in the manufacture of metals. On the other hand, the mining industries were in a slightly worse position at the end of the year than at the beginning, and certain branches of the engineering trades showed a further slight decline between June and December.

The Table below shows the estimated numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain on one date in each month from December, 1937, to December, 1938. The figures headed "Old Series" exclude persons insured under the agricultural scheme and persons in the classes of domestic employments which were brought into insurance at 4th April, 1938. The figures headed "New Series" include these classes.

1937.	Old Series.	1938—cont.	Old Series.	New Series.*
13th Dec. ...	11,444,000	13th June ...	11,359,000	12,256,000
1938.		18th July ...	11,413,000	12,290,000
17th Jan. ...	11,319,000	15th Aug. ...	11,447,000	12,271,000
14th Feb. ...	11,338,000	12th Sep. ...	11,429,000	12,294,000
14th Mar. ...	11,399,000	17th Oct. ...	11,455,000	12,258,000
4th Apr. ...	11,412,000	14th Nov. ...	11,428,000	12,265,000
16th May ...	11,406,000	12th Dec. ...	11,452,000	12,263,000

The average numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain in each year since 1924 were as shown below. The figures given are those of the "Old Series," which exclude persons within the agricultural scheme and persons in the classes of domestic employments brought into insurance at 4th April, 1938.

1924 ...	9,526,000	1932 ...	9,348,000
1925 ...	9,611,000	1933 ...	9,681,000
1926 ...	9,062,000	1934 ...	10,139,000
1927 ...	10,015,000	1935 ...	10,377,000
1928 ...	10,019,000	1936 ...	10,912,000
1929 ...	10,220,000	1937 ...	11,497,000†
1930 ...	9,797,000	1938 ...	11,406,000‡
1931 ...	9,421,000		

The figure for 1938, though substantially less than that for 1937, was nevertheless well above the total for any earlier year for which figures are available.

The average percentage unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain in 1938 (including persons within the general and agricultural schemes and the special schemes for the banking

* Figures in the New Series can be given only from July, 1938, as information regarding the numbers in the classes of domestic employments which first became insurable in April, 1938, is not available for any earlier date.
† Comparability of the figures for 1937 and 1938 with those for earlier years is affected by the introduction in September, 1937, of a revised procedure for counting the unemployed (see the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE, page 379). The figure of 11,497,000 given in the Table is the average of figures (a) for January to August, 1937, compiled on the basis of the old procedure for counting the unemployed, and (b) for September to December on the new basis. It is estimated that if the old procedure had been in force throughout the year the average for 1937 would have been about 11,480,000. If the new procedure had been in operation throughout that year, the average would have been about 11,530,000 and this figure is comparable with the average of 11,406,000 for 1938.

‡ The monthly figures since July, 1938, of the numbers of insured persons in employment, including persons within the agricultural scheme and in the newly insured classes of domestic employments, are given above. It may be assumed that if the latter extension of insurance had been in operation throughout the year the numbers of insured persons in employment in the newly insured domestic classes during the first half of 1938 would have been approximately the same as in the second half of the year, and, on that basis, it is estimated that the average total number of insured persons, aged 16-64 (including those in agriculture and the newly insured domestic classes) in employment in Great Britain during 1938 would have been about 12,235,000.

and insurance industries) was 12.2 per cent., as compared with 10.3 per cent. in 1937. For the general scheme (including the special schemes) alone the percentages were 12.6 and 10.6, and for the agricultural scheme they were 5.5 and 4.1 respectively.*

The agricultural scheme of unemployment insurance did not come into operation until May, 1936, and percentages of unemployment for that scheme are accordingly not available for any year prior to 1937. The following Table gives for each of the years from 1921 to 1938 the average percentages unemployed among insured persons, aged 16-64, exclusive of agricultural workers, (a) in Great Britain and (b) in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Year.	Percentage Unemployed.		Year.	Percentage Unemployed.	
	Great Britain.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.		Great Britain.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
1921	16.6	17.0	1930	15.8	16.1
1922	14.1	14.3	1931	21.1	21.3
1923	11.6	11.7	1932	21.9	22.1
1924	10.2	10.3	1933	19.8	19.9
1925	11.0	11.3	1934	16.6	16.7
1926	12.3	12.5	1935	15.3	15.5
1927	9.6	9.7	1936	12.9	13.1
1928	10.7	10.8	1937	10.6*	10.8*
1929	10.3	10.4	1938	12.6*	12.9*

The percentages unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at a date in each month of 1938 are given in Tables on page 13. At 12th December, 1938, the percentage unemployed* among all insured persons, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 12.7 as compared with 11.9 at 13th December, 1937. For the general scheme alone the corresponding figures were 12.9 per cent. and 12.1 per cent. and for the agricultural scheme, 8.9 per cent. and 8.2 per cent.

The total number of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 12th December, 1938, was 1,918,583, of whom 1,618,637 were wholly unemployed (including persons normally in casual employment) and 299,946 temporarily stopped. The corresponding total for 13th December, 1937, was 1,755,491, of whom 1,424,960 were wholly unemployed (including persons normally in casual employment), and 330,531 were temporarily stopped.

After a seasonal increase in January, 1938, the numbers wholly unemployed declined steadily until July, when the figure was 1,393,089. After that month, however, the numbers showed a continuous increase, and the figure for December, 1938, was 1,937,677 more than that for December, 1937.

The numbers temporarily stopped, which had increased considerably by the end of 1937, showed some further increase in January, 1938, but declined slightly in February and March. Between the latter month and July there was a considerable increase (due, to some extent, to holiday stoppages), but thereafter the numbers declined continuously, and, in December, 1938, were over 30,000 less than in December, 1937, when the figures were affected, however, by severe weather at the date of the count.

At 12th December, 1938, the number of unemployed men and boys on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 1,492,623, an increase of 115,130, or 8.4 per cent., compared with 13th December, 1937. The corresponding total for women and girls at 12th December, 1938, was 425,960, an increase of 47,962, or 12.7 per cent., over a year earlier.

The Table below shows the average percentage rates of unemployment among persons, aged 16-64, insured under the general scheme and under the agricultural scheme respectively during the years 1937 and 1938,* in each Administrative Division.

Division.	Average percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons, aged 16-64.			
	General Scheme.†		Agricultural Scheme.	
	1937.	1938.	1937.	1938.
London ...	6.3	8.0	3.9	5.4
South-Eastern ...	6.7	8.0	3.1	4.4
South-Western ...	7.8	8.1	2.4	3.0
Midlands ...	7.2	10.2	3.6	4.9
North-Eastern ...	11.0	13.5	5.5	7.1
North-Western ...	14.0	17.8	5.8	8.0
Northern ...	17.9	18.3	6.7	8.5
Scotland ...	15.9	16.3	5.3	6.9
Wales ...	22.3	24.7	7.4	10.6
Special Schemes ...	1.5	1.7	—	—
Great Britain ...	10.6	12.6	4.1	5.5
NORTHERN IRELAND ...	23.3	28.3	12.2	19.2
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	10.8	12.9	4.4	6.1

* Comparison of the percentages for 1937 and 1938 with each other and with those for earlier years is affected by the introduction in September, 1937, of the revised procedure for counting the unemployed, and by the extension of unemployment insurance in April, 1938, to certain classes of domestic employments. The effect of these changes on the figures at the time of their introduction was, however, relatively slight (see diagram on page 13).

† The special schemes for the banking and insurance industries, for which divisional figures are not available, are shown separately in the Table.

The greatest relative increases in unemployment between 1937 and 1938 occurred in the North-Western and Midlands Divisions, and the smallest in the South-Western and Northern Divisions and in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

A summary of the course of employment in some of the principal industries is given below. It should be noted that comparison of the average percentages of unemployment for 1938 with those for 1937 is affected by the introduction, in September, 1937, of the revised procedure for counting the unemployed.* The extent to which comparability is impaired by the change is, however, generally small.

Mining.—In the coal mining industry employment was good in the first quarter of 1938, but a sharp decline began in April. There was some improvement towards the end of the year, but employment then was below the level of the corresponding period of 1937. The average rate of unemployment among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was about 15½ per cent. in 1938, compared with about 15 in 1937. The average number of wage-earners on the colliery books in 1938 was 782,000, compared with 777,000 in 1937 and 756,000 in 1936. The average number of days per week on which the pits wound coal declined from 5.13 in 1937 to 4.81 in 1938; the corresponding average for 1936 was 4.86.

Employment in the iron mining industry declined almost continuously from the beginning of the year until September; although there was an improvement in the last three months of 1938, employment at the end of the year was still slack. The numbers employed at shale mines varied little during the year, and employment remained fair. At tin mines employment continued slack, but it was fairly good at chalk quarries and good at slate quarries.

Metal Trades.—Employment in pig iron manufacture showed an almost continuous decline during the greater part of 1938 but recovered slightly after October. The average percentage unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was over 16, compared with about 10 in 1937. The number of furnaces in blast decreased from 133 in December, 1937, to 78 in December, 1938.

Employment in iron and steel manufacture, in which a recession began towards the end of 1937, showed a decline until September 1938, but there was some improvement later in the year. The average percentage unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was about 21 in 1938, compared with 11 in 1937.

The decline in the tinplate industry which began in November, 1937, continued with increasing severity until June, 1938, when more than half of the insured persons attached to the industry were recorded as unemployed; there was some improvement later in the year, but employment was still bad. The average percentage unemployed among insured workpeople in 1938 was nearly 40, compared with about 13 in 1937. Employment was also bad in steel sheet manufacture during 1938.

There was an increase in the rate of recorded unemployment in certain branches of the engineering industries in 1938, but employment, on the whole, was still fair. The average percentage of unemployment in the engineering and motor vehicle, etc. industries, taken as a whole, was about 7 in 1938, compared with about 5 in 1937. The corresponding approximate percentages for the various sections of the industry were, respectively: general engineering, 7½ and 5½; electrical, 5 and 3; marine, 8 and 9; constructional, 11 and 10; motor vehicles, cycles and aircraft, 7 and 5.

Employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry was better in the early part of 1938 than a year before, but showed a tendency to decline towards the end of the year. The average percentage of unemployment for the year was about 21, compared with approximately 24 in 1937.

In most of the other metal trades employment declined during the first part of 1938, but there was some recovery towards the end of the year.

Textile Industries.—Employment in the cotton industry declined almost continuously from November, 1937, until May, 1938, and unemployment continued at a high level until September; in the last three months of 1938, however, there was a considerable improvement, partly due to seasonal causes, but employment was still very slack in most districts. For the industry as a whole the average percentage rate of unemployment rose from about 11½ in 1937 to about 26 in 1938.

The decline in the wool textile industry which began in 1937 continued with increased severity during the greater part of 1938, but the position improved considerably in the last four months of the year; employment, however, was still slack (especially in the worsted section), though better in December, 1938, than at the end of the previous year. The average percentage of unemployment was about 19½ in 1938 compared with about 10 in 1937.

In the carpet and hosiery industries a decline in the early part of 1938 was followed by a considerable improvement later in the year; employment in the lace trade, however, was slack throughout the year. Employment declined in the silk and artificial silk industry during the greater part of the year, but there was some recovery in the last three months in artificial silk yarn manufacture; in December the silk and artificial silk weaving industry also showed an improvement. Employment in the linen and jute trades remained bad, but improved in the last quarter of the year. In the textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. industry employment was bad, with much short-time working.

Clothing Trades.—The course of employment in the tailoring and dressmaking trades followed the usual seasonal trend in 1938, but the percentage rate of unemployment was higher in almost every month than in the corresponding month of 1937; the average percentage in tailoring was about 13 in 1938, compared with less than 11 in 1937;

* See the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE, page 379.

the corresponding percentages for dressmaking were about 7 and 5½, respectively. In the shirt and collar trade employment was moderate, on the whole, during 1938, while in the corset trade it was fair to fairly good. In the glove trade employment declined, and there was much short-time working. In the hat and cap industry employment again showed marked seasonal fluctuations, and was worse in most months than in the corresponding periods of 1937.

In the boot and shoe industry employment declined sharply during the summer of 1938, but recovered later and was fairly good on the whole, although much short-time working was reported. The average percentage unemployed was about 12½ in 1938, compared with about 11 in 1937.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning, currying and leather-dressing trades and in leather goods manufacture showed a decline between the end of 1937 and the middle of 1938, but improved in the latter part of the year; it was, however, worse on the whole in 1938 than in 1937.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building industry employment showed a seasonal improvement in the first part of 1938, but a seasonal decline (especially in the decorating section) followed towards the end of the year. Among skilled workers as a whole employment was fairly good, but with painters the level of employment was rather lower than in 1937. The rate of unemployment among labourers and certain other occupations continued to be high. In the building industry as a whole the average percentage unemployed in 1938 was about 15, compared with about 14 in 1937.

In public works contracting employment was better in 1938 than in 1937, although the percentage recorded as unemployed continued at a very high level. In brick, tile and pipe manufacture employment was fairly good during 1938, although it declined in the latter part of the year; the average percentage unemployed in 1938 was about 9½, compared with over 8 in 1937. In the furnishing trade and with millswayers and coachbuilders employment in 1938 showed a decline compared with the previous year, and was moderate on the whole.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In paper manufacture employment declined continuously until June; thereafter it improved and at the end of the year was fair, though not so good as in 1937. In the printing and bookbinding industries employment continued good.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment was slack during 1938, and much worse than in 1937; the approximate average percentages of unemployment in the two years were 19½ and 14½, respectively. Employment in the glass trades also showed a decline compared with 1937; it was slack in the bottle-making section, although there was some improvement towards the end of the year; in other sections employment was moderate.

Transport Services.—With seamen employment was still slack in 1938; it also continued slack with dock workers and, towards the end of the year, was worse than in 1937. The average percentage unemployed in shipping service was about 24 in 1938, compared with approximately 22 in 1937; the corresponding figures for dock, harbour, etc. service were about 26½ and nearly 26, respectively. Employment continued very good in tramway and omnibus service, and moderate in other road transport services.

Agriculture.—The percentage rate of unemployment among workpeople, aged 16-64, insured under the agricultural scheme, was rather higher in 1938 than in 1937. In farming, forestry, etc. the percentage for 1938 was 6½ as compared with 4½ in 1937, and in market gardening, horticulture, etc. the figures were just under 8 and 6 respectively. In the two groups combined the percentage rose from over 4½ in 1937 to over 6½ in 1938.

Other Industries and Services.—Employment in the distributive trades was moderate on the whole during 1938, the average percentage unemployed being about 9½, compared with 9 in 1937. In the food and drink industries and in hotel, boarding house, etc. service the rate of unemployment was slightly higher in 1938 than in the previous year; in entertainments, sport, etc. there was little change.

RATES OF WAGES.

The rise in the general level of wage-rates, which had been in progress since 1933, continued until the end of May, 1938. After that date, further increases in rates of wages in a number of industries were more than counterbalanced by decreases in others, mainly in the coal mining industry, but at the end of 1938 the average level of wage-rates was still appreciably higher than at the end of the previous year.

In the industries for which statistics of changes in rates of wages are compiled,* the changes reported during the year resulted in an aggregate net increase of about £259,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of 2,358,000 workpeople, and an aggregate net decrease of about £18,800 in those of about 321,750 workpeople. These figures are exclusive of changes in rates of wages in agriculture and certain other employments, in which there were also some increases in wage-rates during 1938. In all the industries (including agriculture) for which information is available the average level of weekly full-time rates of wages at the end of 1938 is estimated to have been between 1 and 1½ per cent. higher than at the end of 1937.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department in 1938, and the net amount of the change in their weekly rates of

* These statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks (see, however, paragraph in the second column on page 4 as to agricultural labourers, etc.). They relate to rates of wages for a full week, assuming full employment, and do not take account of variations in actual earnings resulting from changes in the state of employment. The changes reported are mainly those collectively arranged by organisations of employers and workpeople; in many cases changes arranged by individual employers, and affecting unorganised workers, are not reported to the Department.

wages, in each of the principal groups of industries for which detailed statistics are available.* Corresponding figures are also given for 1937:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of separate Individuals reported as affected by Net Increases or Net Decreases in weekly Rates of Wages.				Estimated Net Weekly Increase in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.	
	1938.†		1937.		1938.†	1937.
	Net In-creases.	Net De-creases.	Net In-creases.	Net De-creases.		
Coal Mining ...	287,900	186,800	679,150	—	£ 6,435	167,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	49,900	—	42,100	—	10,600	8,550
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	90,800	100	176,200	—	9,645	17,500
Iron and Steel ...	111,450	16,000	160,100	—	17,100	74,700
Engineering ...	22,200	—	622,800	—	2,000	93,550
Shipbuilding ...	107,600	—	102,700	—	10,700	23,550
Other Metal ...	63,900	28,800	253,150	—	4,650	48,150
Textile ...	55,100	79,650	370,750	2,000	880	49,580
Clothing ...	96,250	—	695,250	2,300	8,300	83,080
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	37,300	2,300	140,050	—	3,480	17,950
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	16,900	100	75,200	—	2,040	12,750
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	1,300	—	24,750	—	100	3,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	898,750	600	706,900	—	94,150	54,750
Gas, Water and Electricity ...	11,150	150	147,250	—	1,040	18,700
Supply ...	282,650	500	749,350	100	39,470	87,740
Transport ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public Administration Services ...	94,350	200	93,500	—	10,085	10,750
Other ...	130,400	6,550	112,000	—	19,725	15,100
Total ...	2,357,900	321,750	5,161,200	4,400	240,400	786,900

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN 1938.

In the paragraphs which follow, particulars are given of the principal increases and decreases in wages in individual industries.

Principal Increases in 1938.—Among the largest groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased in 1938 were coal miners in certain districts; chemical workers; iron and steel workers; shipbuilders and repairers; boot and shoe operatives; building trade operatives; civil engineering construction workers; motor drivers and attendants employed in the road transport (goods) industry; and seamen.

In the coal mining industry, in which rates of wages fluctuate with the proceeds of the industry, there were increases in Northumberland, Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire. The changes took the form of increases in the percentage additions to basis rates, but there were also increases in the basis rates themselves in certain cases. The amount of net increase during 1938 varied, in most cases, from less than 1 per cent. to about 6 per cent. on current rates. In some other districts (see next column) rates of wages were slightly reduced during the year.

Workers engaged in the manufacture of heavy chemicals received increases amounting, for adult male workers, to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour.

Workpeople employed in the manufacture of pig iron and of iron and steel in most districts received substantial increases, mainly as a result of the operation of sliding scales under which wages are regulated according to movements in selling prices. The amount of increase varied widely in different occupations and districts. In the shipbuilding and repairing industry there was a general increase of 2s. a week for men on time work and 4 per cent. for those on piece work.

In boot and shoe manufacture, increases were granted of 2s. and 1s. a week on time rates for men and women respectively, and of 2½ per cent. on piece rates; while the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for certain classes of workers employed in the boot and shoe repairing trade were increased by various amounts.

For building trade operatives there was a general increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour for craftsmen and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour for labourers, except in the Liverpool and Birkenhead district, where the increases were 1d. an hour for craftsmen and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour for labourers; painters in Scotland received an increase of 1d. an hour. Workpeople employed in the civil engineering construction industry in England and Wales received two increases of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour each.

Motor drivers and attendants employed in the commercial road transport industry received increases of 3s. a week in the case of adults and 2s. in the case of youths. Seamen's wages were increased by usually 12s. 6d. on monthly rates and 1s. 6d. on weekly rates.

In addition to the above, rates of wages were increased during 1938 in many other industries or sections of industries. There were increases for quarry workers and iron miners in several districts; shale miners and oil workers in Scotland; brick makers in Scotland and in Kent and Essex; paint, colour and varnish makers; coke-oven and by-product workers in Durham, Cumberland and South Wales; electrical cable makers; bobbin and shuttle makers; heating, ventilating and domestic engineering workers; tin box makers; workers engaged in outside steelwork erection; certain classes of

* See footnote * in the second column on page 3.
† The figures given for 1938 are preliminary and subject to revision.
‡ Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway engineering workshops are included under "Engineering" and not under "Transport."

workers in the engineering industry in particular localities; workpeople employed in the woollen industry in the South of Scotland; rope, twine and net workers; sack and bag makers; workpeople employed in the dressmaking and women's light clothing industry in Scotland; bakers at Belfast, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Leicester and various other towns; workers engaged in beet sugar manufacture and in aerated waters manufacture; electrical wiremen; mill sawing, packing case and furniture trade operatives in a number of districts; omnibus drivers and conductors in Scotland; tram and trolleybus drivers and conductors in London; certain of the railway employees of the London Passenger Transport Board; workers engaged in the milk distributive trade; workpeople employed in cinema theatres in various districts; waterworks employees in several areas; and workers in the non-trading departments of a large number of local authorities.

Principal Decreases in 1938.—The principal groups of workpeople who sustained reductions in their rates of wages during 1938 were coal miners in Scotland, Yorkshire, North Derbyshire, and Somerset, for whom there were slight reductions in the percentage additions to basis rates; workpeople engaged in the textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing trades in various parts of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland, whose wages fluctuated under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale, and at the end of the year had been reduced by about 1½ per cent. in Yorkshire and by 11d. or 1s. a week for men and 7d. a week for women in other districts; workers engaged in steel sheet rolling and in tinplate manufacture; and coke oven and by-product workers in Yorkshire.

Agricultural Labourers, Government Industrial Employees, and Shop Assistants.—The statistics given in the foregoing Table are exclusive of changes in the rates of agricultural labourers, Government employees, shop assistants, clerks and domestic servants. As regards agricultural labourers, increases, usually amounting to 1s., 1s. 6d., or 2s. a week, took place during the year in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, for adult male labourers in 29 of the 47 Agricultural Wages Committee Areas in England and Wales. In Scotland the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) (Scotland) Act, 1937, introduced a system of wages regulation for agricultural workers similar to that in force in England and Wales, and minimum rates of wages were fixed during the year 1938. As regards Government industrial employees, a number of classes of workpeople employed in H.M. Dockyards and other Admiralty industrial establishments received increases generally of 1s. or 2s. a week. In addition, as the result of awards made by the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal, a large number of workers employed in manipulative grades (postmen, sorting clerks, telegraphists, telephonists, etc.) by the Post Office received increases ranging generally from 1s. to 6s. 6d. a week. As regards shop assistants, there were increases in the rates of wages of employees of co-operative societies and of a considerable number of firms engaged in the distributive trades.

INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THERE WAS NO GENERAL CHANGE IN 1938.

Among the more important groups of workpeople whose rates of wages remained generally unchanged during 1938 were coal miners in Durham, North and South Wales, Shropshire, Forest of Dean and Kent; pottery workers; drug and fine chemical workers; brick makers in most districts; cement workers; engineering trade workers (apart from some local changes referred to above); light castings workers; brassworkers in the Midlands and in Yorkshire; workers in precious metals; cotton operatives; woollen and worsted trade operatives in Yorkshire and the West of England; hosiery workers; lace makers; carpet makers; flour millers; bakers in many areas; cocoa, chocolate, sugar confectionery and jam makers; furniture trade operatives in many areas; coopers; paper makers; printers and bookbinders; dock labourers; gas workers; and electricity supply workers. The statutory minimum rates fixed by most of the Trade Boards (e.g., those for the cutlery, hollow-ware, jute, flax and hemp, laundering, tailoring and tobacco trades in Great Britain, and for the dressmaking trade in England and Wales) also remained unchanged.

The rates of wages of about 161,000 workpeople were affected by two or more changes in wages during the year, which left the general level of wages the same at the end as at the beginning of the year. The principal classes of workpeople included in this total were coal miners in North Staffordshire, South Derbyshire, South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland, wool textile operatives at Leicester, railway employees of the main line companies in Great Britain, and brush and broom makers.

CHANGES IN WAGES IN THE YEARS 1924-1938.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople, in the industries and services for which detailed statistics are available,* whose rates of wages were increased or reduced (so far as reported) in each of the years 1924-1938, and the net amount of increase or decrease in their weekly rates of wages.

In view of the limitations to which attention has been drawn above* and especially of the fact that certain large groups of workpeople (notably agricultural labourers) are not covered by the statistics, the figures given in this Table should not be regarded as affording more than a general indication of the movement of wages in any year in comparison with that in other years, and special significance should not be attached to small differences in the amount of change as between one year and another. In particular, it should be noted that if allowance were made for the increases in rates of wages granted to agricultural labourers in many districts, to workpeople employed in H.M. Dockyards and other Admiralty industrial establishments,

* See footnote * in the second column on page 3.

and to workers employed in the Post Office in manipulative grades the total numbers affected by increases in rates of wages during 1938, and the net amount of increase in weekly wages shown in the Table, would be considerably increased.

Year.	Approximate Number of separate Individuals* as affected by:		Estimated Net Weekly Amount of Change in Rates of Wages.		Estimated Net Weekly Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Rates of Wages of all Workpeople affected.
	Net Increases.	Net Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
1924 ...	3,019,000	481,500	616,000	62,100	+ 553,900
1925 ...	873,000	851,000	80,900	159,000	- 78,100
1926 ...	420,000	740,000	133,000	83,700	+ 49,300
1927 ...	282,000	1,855,000	30,700	388,500	- 357,800
1928 ...	217,000	1,615,000	21,800	163,800	- 142,000
1929 ...	142,000	917,000	12,900	91,700	- 78,800
1930 ...	768,000	1,100,000	59,500	116,100	- 56,600
1931 ...	47,000	3,010,000	5,150	406,300	- 401,150
1932 ...	33,500	1,949,000	2,600	251,800	- 249,200
1933 ...	179,500	894,000	17,250	82,500	- 65,250
1934 ...	1,344,000	85,500	95,500	4,000	+ 91,500
1935 ...	2,366,500	49,600	198,900	6,800	+ 192,100
1936 ...	4,062,400	800	493,075	175	+ 492,900
1937 ...	5,161,200	4,400	788,250	1,350	+ 786,900
1938† ...	2,357,900	321,750	259,200	18,800	+ 240,400

It will be seen from the Table that in the industries covered by these statistics the net amount of increase in rates of wages during 1938, though less than in either 1936 or 1937, was greater than in any previous year since 1924.

HOURS OF LABOUR.

The total number of workpeople whose normal weekly hours of labour were reported as having been changed during 1938,† in the industries and services for which statistics are regularly collected,‡ was about 164,500. Of these, 163,000 had an average reduction of about 2½ hours per week, while 1,500 had their hours slightly increased. The principal group of workers affected were operatives employed in boot and shoe manufacture, whose working week was reduced from 46 to 45 hours. Other workpeople whose normal weekly hours were reduced included paper box and paper bag makers, printing ink makers, textile makers-up and packers at Manchester, coke oven and by-product workers in Durham, and building trade workers in Kincardineshire.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople, in the industries covered by the statistics,‡ whose hours of labour were reported as changed in each of the years 1924 to 1938, and the aggregate net amount of the change:—

Year.	Approximate Number of Workpeople whose Hours of Labour were:		Aggregate Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Weekly Hours.
	Increased.	Reduced.	
1924 ...	13,150	16,150	+ 12,500
1925 ...	1,300	3,925	- 11,750
1926 ...	934,500	340	+ 3,984,650
1927 ...	18,700	1,700	+ 59,000
1928 ...	1,400	2,000	- 200
1929 ...	4,050	1,050	+ 8,750
1930 ...	13,175	349,225	- 873,500
1931 ...	294,000	111,000	+ 142,000
1932 ...	6,000	3,750	+ 7,000
1933 ...	2,500	12,500	- 11,500
1934 ...	520	5,000	- 36,000
1935 ...	2,450	43,700	- 153,850
1936 ...	600	160,600	- 804,500
1937 ...	1,500	390,650	- 960,000
1938† ...	1,500	163,000	- 365,500

The comparatively large numbers affected in the years 1926, 1930 and 1931 were mainly coal miners. In 1937 they were mainly printers, coal miners and flour millers.

COST OF LIVING.

The average level of working-class cost of living in 1938, as indicated by the statistics regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, was slightly higher than in the previous year. At 1st January, 1938, the official index-number (which is designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families), showed an increase of 59 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 51 per cent. at the beginning of 1937. During the next three months, however, there was a marked downward movement, and by 1st April the index-number had fallen to 54 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. After 1st April there was relatively little change in the general average, the index-number for each subsequent month being either 55 or 56 per cent. above the pre-war level, except at 1st July, when it rose to 59 per cent. (owing mainly to temporarily high prices for potatoes). At 31st December, the figure stood at 55 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 59 per cent. a year earlier.

The following Table shows, month by month during the period under review, the average percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in retail prices, etc., in each of the five groups of items (food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous other items) included in the figures. The particulars from which the figures given are calculated relate to the prices most generally paid by working-class families.

* In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in this Table there were considerable numbers in most years whose wages during the year were increased and reduced by equal amounts.
† The figures given for 1938 are preliminary and subject to revision.
‡ The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks.

Average Percentage Increase in Retail Prices, Rents, etc., over the level of July, 1914.

Date.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items Included.	All Items Included.
1938.						
1st January ...	45	59	110	80-85	75	59
1st February ...	42	59	110	80-85	75	57
1st March ...	40	59	110	80-85	75	56
1st April ...	37	59	110	80-85	75	54
30th April ...	39	60	110	80-85	75	56
1st June ...	38	60	110	75-80	75	55
1st July ...	46	60	110	75-80	75	59
2nd August ...	41	60	110	75-80	75	56
1st September ...	40	60	110	80	75	55
1st October ...	39	60	105-110	80	75	56
1st November ...	40	61	105-110	80-85	75	56
1st December ...	39	61	105-110	80-85	75	56
31st December ...	38	61	105-110	80-85	75	55

Food.—Between 1st January and 1st April, 1938, the index-number of retail prices of food fell from 45 to 37 per cent. above the pre-war level. At 1st July it had risen to 46 per cent. above the pre-war level, the rise being mainly due to the effects of late frosts and drought on the prices of potatoes. A month later the index-number fell to 41 and at the end of the year it was 38 per cent. above the pre-war level.

The following Table gives a comparison of average retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st January, 1938, and 31st December, 1938, together with the average percentage increase, at the two latter dates, over the level of July, 1914:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¼d.).			Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) as compared with July, 1914.	
	July, 1914.	1st Jan., 1938.	31st Dec., 1938.	1st Jan., 1938.	31st Dec., 1938.
Beef, British—					
Ribs ...	s. d. 0 10	s. d. 1 2½	s. d. 1 2½	Per cent. 46	43
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	18	15
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	34	33
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 5	0 5	3	3
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 4	1 3½	56	45
Breast ...	0 6½	0 8	0 7½	24	14
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	52	51
Breast ...	0 4	0 4½	0 4	3	1
Bacon (streaky)* ...	0 11½	1 3½	1 3	37	35
Fish ...	...	...	...	105	109
Flour ...	per 7 lb. 0 10½	1 4½	1 2	52	31
Bread ...	per 4 lb. 0 5½	0 9½	0 8½	63	47
Tea ...	1 6½	2 2½	2 4½	45	53
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	26	22
Milk ...	per quart 0 3½	0 7	0 7	99	98
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 5½	1 4½	21	14
Salt ...	1 2½	1 4	1 3½	12	7
Cheese (Canadian or N.Zealand)* ...	0 8½	0 11	0 10½	28	25
Margarine ...	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	-7	-9
Eggs (fresh) ...	each 0 1½	0 2½	0 2½	93	75
Potatoes ...	per 7 lb. 0 4½	0 6½	0 5½	30	18

The most important net changes in the retail prices of food during the year were the reductions in the prices of flour and bread. Features of temporary importance were the high prices of potatoes in the early summer and the shortened duration, as compared with previous years, of summer prices of milk in most areas.

Rents.—There was little movement, on the whole, in working-class rents (including rates) during 1938. The average increase, as compared with July, 1914, was 59 per cent. at the beginning of the year and 61 per cent. at the end of the year.

Clothing.—Retail prices of clothing and clothing materials showed little change in 1938. Early in the year the average increase was about 110 per cent. above the level of July, 1914; at the end of the year the increase was between 105 and 110 per cent.

Fuel and Light and Other Items.—Retail prices of coal at the beginning and at the end of 1938 averaged about 95 to 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, lower prices having operated in the summer. There was little or no change during the year in the prices of gas, lamp oil, candles, matches, soap, soda, ironmongery, brushware, pottery, tobacco, and newspapers, or in fares.

Comparison with previous years.—The following Table compares the averages of the percentage increases recorded for the beginning of each of the twelve months of 1938 with the corresponding averages for the years 1924 to 1937:—

Average Percentage Increase over the level of July, 1914.

Year.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

The number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as having begun in 1938 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 866, as compared with 1,129 in the previous year. The great majority of the stoppages affected only individual establishments.

The number of workpeople directly involved (*i.e.*, on strike or locked out) in the disputes beginning in 1938 was about 212,000, while about 63,000 were indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition about 1,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 10 disputes which began in 1937 and extended into 1938. The total number of workpeople involved, either directly or indirectly, in all disputes which were in progress in 1938 was thus about 276,000; the corresponding total for 1937 was 610,000†.

At the establishments where disputes were reported the aggregate time lost in 1938 on account of disputes in progress during the year is estimated at about 1,335,000 working days, as compared with 3,413,000 in 1937.

The following Table shows by industries the number of disputes reported as beginning in 1938 and in 1937, together with the approximate number of workpeople involved in, and the estimated aggregate duration of, all disputes in progress in each year:—

Industry Group.	1938.			1937.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in 1938.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in 1937.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Coal Mining ...	361	173,200†	697,000	457	392,500†	1,496,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	11	700	4,000	13	1,000	5,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	21	3,000	24,000	37	2,500	19,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	76	32,000	156,000	123	91,400	693,000
Iron and Steel and other Metal ...	63	13,200	88,000	97	16,700	85,000
Textile ...	39	7,100	84,000	84	23,200	156,000
Clothing ...	36	6,700	33,000	33	10,000	72,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	20	4,100	12,000	18	2,000	6,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	34	1,900	32,000	60	2,900	31,000
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	4	100	1,000	10	1,400	7,000
Building, Public Works, Contracting, etc. ...	106	13,700	115,000	98	7,800	39,000
Transport ...	49	14,500	40,000	50	52,600	748,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	18	2,100	10,000	12	1,000	10,000
All other Industries ...	28	3,300	39,000	37	5,200	46,000
Total ...	866	275,600†	1,335,000	1,129	610,200†	3,413,000

Of the total numbers of workpeople shown above as involved in all disputes which were in progress in the two years, approximately 62,800 in 1938 and 211,500 in 1937 were only indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments affected, but not themselves parties to the disputes).

As will be seen from the above Table, disputes in the coal mining industry accounted for about two-fifths of all the disputes recorded for each of the years 1938 and 1937, and for nearly two-thirds of all the workpeople involved in the disputes; nearly all of these stoppages, however, affected only individual collieries.

Principal Disputes in 1938.—There was no dispute of major importance during the year. Only two disputes involved more than 5,000 workpeople; one of these involved about 5,100 employees of an aircraft manufacturing firm in Birmingham in a loss of over 40,000 working days, while the other, which lasted for only one day, affected 9,700 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire. In addition, there were three protracted disputes in the coal mining industry, each of which, though affecting only one colliery, resulted in an aggregate loss of from 90,000 to 100,000 man-days; two of these stoppages occurred in Scotland and the other in Kent.

Comparative Figures for 1924-1938.—The following Table shows the total number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning in each of the years 1924-1938, together with the approximate number of workpeople involved in these disputes, and the aggregate number of working days lost, at the establishments where the disputes occurred, in all disputes in progress during the year. It should be observed that the particulars of numbers involved, given in this Table, relate to persons involved in disputes beginning in each year, whilst in the previous Table they relate to the total

* Disputes involving less than ten workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, are omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (*i.e.*, number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days. The figures given for 1938 are preliminary and subject to revision.

† Workpeople are counted in the totals for each year as many times as they were involved in a dispute during the year. The resulting duplication during each of the above years was generally slight, except in the coal mining industry, in which the net number of workpeople involved was approximately 115,000 in 1938 and 211,000 in 1937. The net number of workpeople involved in all industries was approximately 210,000 in 1938, and 418,000 in 1937.

numbers involved in all disputes in progress, irrespective of the date when they began.

Year.	Number of Disputes beginning in Year.	Number of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in Year.*			Approximate Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress during Year (to nearest 10,000).
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
1924 ...	710	558,000	55,000	613,000	8,420,000
1925 ...	603	401,000	40,000	441,000	7,950,000
1926 ...	323	2,724,000	10,000	2,734,000	162,230,000
1927 ...	308	90,000	18,000	108,000	1,170,000
1928 ...	302	80,000	44,000	124,000	1,390,000
1929 ...	431	493,000	40,000	533,000	8,290,000
1930 ...	422	286,000	21,000	307,000	4,400,000
1931 ...	420	424,000	66,000	490,000	6,980,000
1932 ...	389	337,000	42,000	379,000	6,490,000
1933 ...	357	114,000	22,000	136,000	1,070,000
1934 ...	471	109,000	25,000	134,000	960,000
1935 ...	553	230,000	41,000	271,000	1,960,000
1936 ...	818	241,000	75,000	316,000	1,830,000
1937 ...	1,129	388,000	209,000	597,000	3,410,000
1938 ...	866	212,000	63,000	275,000	1,340,000

Although the number of disputes in 1938 was greater than in any of the previous years shown in the Table except 1937, the aggregate working time lost through disputes in 1938 was less than in any previous year during the period, with the exception of 1927, 1933 and 1934.

The magnitude of the figures for 1926 was due to the prolonged general dispute in the coal mining industry and the "general strike".

LABOUR LEGISLATION IN 1938.

LEGISLATION adopted during 1938 included the undermentioned Acts relating to labour matters:—

The *Unemployment Insurance Act, 1938*, extends unemployment insurance to outdoor private domestic servants and empowers Education Authorities to provide meals, etc., to unemployed juveniles attending courses of instruction. It also amends the law relating to the Unemployment Fund and to the insurance of men discharged from H.M. Forces.

The *Baking Industry (Hours of Work) Act, 1938*, provides for the restriction of night work in the baking industry.

The *Holidays with Pay Act, 1938*, empowers wage regulating authorities to provide for holidays with pay and empowers the Minister of Labour to assist holiday schemes.

The *Road Haulage Wages Act, 1938*, has as its main purpose the regulation of the remuneration of workers employed in connexion with goods vehicles for which A, B and C licences are required under the Road and Rail Traffic Act, 1933.

The *Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938*, regulates the hours of employment of persons under 18 years of age in specified classes of employment.

Further particulars regarding each of these Acts have appeared in previous issues of this GAZETTE. A summary of the Bill which eventually became the Unemployment Insurance Act was given in the issue of the GAZETTE for December, 1937, and that summary may be read as a summary of the Act. The Young Persons (Employment) Act was summarised in the issue for September, 1938. The other three Acts were summarised in the issue for August, 1938.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION : ROYAL COMMISSION.

A ROYAL Commission, of which the Chairman is Sir Hector J. W. Hetherington, M.A., LL.D., J.P., was appointed on 22nd December, 1938, to enquire into and report on the operation and effects of the system of workmen's compensation for injuries due to employment and the working and scope of the law relating thereto, and the relation of this system to other statutory systems for providing benefits or assistance to incapacitated or unemployed workmen and to arrangements for the treatment of injured workmen and the restoration of their working capacity, and to make such recommendations, whether by way of amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Acts or otherwise, as may appear desirable; and, further, to consider in relation to workmen's compensation and advise whether any alteration is desirable in the present position in regard to the civil liability of the employer to pay compensation or damages in respect of such injuries independently of those Acts.

The Secretary of the Commission is Mr. F. Popplewell, O.B.E., and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. A. Simes, O.B.E. All communications relating to the work of the Commission should be addressed to the Secretary, whose temporary address is Metropole Buildings, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.

The first meeting of the Commission, to consider procedure and arrange for the taking of evidence, was held on 13th January, 1939.

The Commission are now prepared to receive, from persons and organisations interested, applications to give evidence before the Commission on matters within the Commission's terms of reference. All applications to give evidence before the Commission should be accompanied by a statement of the heads of the proposed evidence.

* For the purpose of these totals workpeople are counted in the total for each year as many times as they were involved in a dispute during that year. The resulting duplication is mainly confined to the coal mining industry, with the addition in 1926 of other industries involved in the "general strike." Since 1926 the more considerable duplications in the totals for all industries have been as follows:—1931, 57,000; 1932, 70,000; 1935, 59,000; 1936, 66,000; 1937, 181,000; 1938, 66,000.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1938 (pages 423-4), a statement was published giving for the period from 1924 to October, 1938, estimates of the numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain. Figures for the period from January, 1937, to December, 1938, are given below. Separate figures are given for the old series, which excludes agriculture and the domestic employments brought into insurance at 4th April, 1938, and the new series, which includes these classes. The figures in column 6 have been obtained by deducting from the total estimated numbers insured the numbers recorded as unemployed and the numbers directly involved in trade disputes, together with an allowance of 3½ per cent. of the numbers insured in respect of absences from work through sickness and other forms of unrecorded non-employment apart from "recognised" holidays.

OLD SERIES.

Prior to October, 1938, the monthly estimates of the numbers of insured persons in employment excluded persons insured under the agricultural scheme, which came into operation in May, 1936, and persons engaged in certain classes of domestic employments which first became insurable in April, 1938. The following Table gives comparable figures in this series up to and including December, 1938:—

Date.	Estimated Total Insured, aged 16-64 (excluding agriculture, etc.).	Number Unemployed.	Number not recorded as unemployed.	Estimated number in Employment after allowance for Sickness, etc.—	
				(A) Including persons directly involved in Trade Disputes; (B) excluding such persons.	(B)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Numbers. (Thousands.)					
1937:—					
25th January ...	13,243	1,604	11,639	11,175	11,163
22nd February ...	13,268	1,552	11,716	11,252	11,250
15th March ...	13,290	1,505	11,785	11,320	11,310
19th April ...	13,325	1,368	11,957	11,491	11,472
24th May ...	13,360	1,390	11,970	11,502	11,475
21st June ...	13,390	1,306	12,084	11,615	11,613
26th July ...	13,420	1,321	12,099	11,629	11,623
23rd August ...	13,440	1,294	12,146	11,676	11,672
13th September—					
Old Basis* ...	13,453	1,315	12,138	11,667	11,663
New Basis* ...	13,453	1,271	12,182	11,711	11,707
18th October ...	13,473	1,328	12,145	11,673	11,664
15th November ...	13,488	1,432	12,056	11,584	11,580
13th December ...	13,503	1,584	11,919	11,446	11,444
Average for 1937* ...	13,388	1,413	11,975	11,506	11,497
1938:—					
17th January ...	13,522	1,729	11,793	11,320	11,319
14th February ...	13,537	1,720	11,817	11,343	11,338
14th March ...	13,551	1,677	11,874	11,400	11,399
4th April ...	13,562	1,673	11,889	11,414	11,412
16th May ...	13,583	1,696	11,887	11,412	11,406
13th June ...	13,596	1,744	11,852	11,376	11,369
18th July ...	13,612	1,721	11,891	11,415	11,413
15th August ...	13,624	1,698	11,926	11,449	11,447
12th September ...	13,636	1,728	11,908	11,431	11,429
17th October ...	13,651	1,716	11,935	11,457	11,455
14th November ...	13,663	1,755	11,908	11,430	11,428
12th December ...	13,675	1,742	11,933	11,454	11,452
Average for 1938 ...	13,601	1,716	11,885	11,409	11,406
Index Numbers. (Average 1924 = 100.)					
1937:—					
25th January ...	119.6	142.6	117.0	116.9	117.2
22nd February ...	119.8	138.0	117.8	117.7	118.1
15th March ...	120.0	133.8	118.5	118.4	118.7
19th April ...	120.3	121.6	120.2	120.2	120.4
24th May ...	120.7	123.6	120.3	120.3	120.4
21st June ...	120.9	116.1	121.5	121.5	121.9
26th July ...	121.2	117.4	121.6	121.6	122.0
23rd August ...	121.4	115.0	122.1	122.1	122.5
13th September ...	121.5	116.9	122.0	122.0	122.4
18th October ...	121.7	122.1	121.6	121.6	122.0
15th November ...	121.8	131.7	120.7	120.6	121.0
13th December ...	121.9	145.7	119.3	119.2	119.6
Average for 1937 ...	120.9	127.0	120.2	120.2	120.5
1938:—					
17th January ...	122.1	159.0	117.9	117.8	118.2
14th February ...	122.3	158.2	118.2	118.0	118.4
14th March ...	122.4	154.2	118.8	118.6	119.1
4th April ...	122.5	153.9	118.9	118.8	119.2
16th May ...	122.7	156.0	118.9	118.8	119.1
13th June ...	122.8	160.4	118.5	118.4	118.7
18th July ...	122.9	158.3	118.9	118.8	119.2
15th August ...	123.0	156.2	119.3	119.1	119.5
12th September ...	123.1	158.9	119.1	118.9	119.3
17th October ...	123.3	157.8	119.4	119.2	119.6
14th November ...	123.4	161.4	119.1	118.9	119.3
12th December ...	123.5	160.2	119.4	119.2	119.6
Average for 1938 ...	122.8	157.9	118.9	118.7	119.1

* A revised procedure for counting the unemployed was introduced in September, 1937, under which persons subsequently found to be in employment at the date of the count are excluded from the figures. At 13th September, 1937, the count of the unemployed was made on both the original and the revised bases, and the figures so obtained have been utilised for the purposes of linking the index numbers for September, 1937, and later dates, and the averages of the index numbers for the year 1937, with those for earlier dates, in order to obtain a continuous and comparable series of index numbers. The averages for 1937 of the actual numbers in cols. (3) to (6), of the first part of the Table, however, are computed from the figures (a) on the old basis for January to August, and (b) on the new basis for later months, and they are not strictly comparable with those given for previous years. It is estimated that, if the old procedure for counting the unemployed had been in force throughout the year, the average numbers in employment in 1937, shown in column (6), would be about 11,480,000. If the new procedure had been in operation throughout that year, it is estimated that the average would be about 11,530,000, and this figure is comparable with the average of 11,406,000 for 1938.

NEW SERIES.

The figures in the following Table include not only persons insured under the general scheme and the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries, but also persons insured under the agricultural scheme and the domestic employments that were brought into insurance in April, 1938. As comparable figures on this basis are not available for dates prior to July, 1938, the series starts with that date. In compiling the index numbers, the figures for July, 1938, have been equated to 100.

Date.	Estimated Total Insured, aged 16-64.	Number Unemployed.	Number not recorded as unemployed.	Estimated number in Employment (see above).	
				A.	B.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Numbers. (Thousands.)					
1938:—					
18th July ...	14,516	1,751	12,765	12,258	12,256
15th August ...	14,528	1,728	12,800	12,292	12,290
12th September ...	14,540	1,759	12,781	12,273	12,271
17th October ...	14,555	1,750	12,805	12,296	12,294
14th November ...	14,567	1,798	12,769	12,260	12,258
12th December ...	14,579	1,804	12,775	12,265	12,263
Index Numbers. (18th July, 1938 = 100.)					
1938:—					

The total expenditure on schemes assisted by the Commissioner from the Special Areas Fund during the year under review was about £4,250,000, and further commitments were entered into amounting to about £4,000,000.

In an economic survey of the three Special Areas which constitutes Part II of the Report, it is shown that, while unemployment within these Areas did not increase as much as in the rest of Great Britain during the twelve months ending in September, 1938, the percentage of unemployment in the Special Areas remained nearly twice as high as it was for the country as a whole (24.3 compared with 13.6). But for the rearmament programme the position would have been worse. There was a notable increase, amounting to 34 per cent., in the number of young men of 18 to 20 years of age unemployed at May, 1938, compared with a year previously.

As regards the duration of unemployment of individual workers, while there was an increase of 16 per cent. between July, 1937, and July, 1938, in the number of men who had been on the register under a year, a reduction was effected in the numbers unemployed for longer periods. The proportion of those unemployed for three years or more (22.5 per cent.) was still, however, about three and a half times the corresponding proportion for the rest of Great Britain.

Parts III and IV of the Report deal with industrial policy and the facilities offered for industrial development. The Commissioner has, since the 1937 Act came into force, assisted 60 undertakings with contributions towards rent, income tax, etc., as an inducement to start production within the Areas. Of these 60 undertakings, which are expected to provide employment for 8,000 workers, 23 have been established by aliens, or in conjunction with aliens. Up to 30th September, 1938, capital assistance, which is not restricted to new undertakings, had been granted to 151 undertakings, the sum involved being over £5,500,000.

Part V of the Report gives an account of "sub-economic" employment given, through a variety of schemes, to about 10,000 men who, through old age or other disability, are unlikely to get normal industrial employment.

In Parts VI and VII, which deal with health services and housing respectively, the Commissioner reports good progress in bringing public health and sanitary services up to the general level of other parts of the country.

In further sections of the Report an account is given of the progress of various land settlement schemes. There is also a description of the various voluntary social services which have been encouraged and assisted, the Commissioner's main contribution being a grant-in-aid of £200,000 to the National Council of Social Service.

II. SCOTLAND.

THE Report of Lord Douglas-Hamilton, Commissioner for Scotland, has also been published.* This Report relates to the period 1st September, 1937, to 30th September, 1938.

The problems confronting the Commissioner are very similar to those which exist in the Special Areas in England and Wales, and the Report gives a full account of the policy pursued towards a solution, which to a large extent employs the same methods as those adopted in England and Wales.

In the first part of the Report statistics are given relating to population, unemployment, and training and industrial transference. Employment was affected by the general trade recession, and the number of unemployed persons in the Special Areas increased from 58,318 at June, 1937, to 64,435 at June, 1938. On the other hand, there was a reduction, as in England and Wales, in the number of men who had been out of work for a year or more, the number falling from 17,640 in June, 1937, to 15,282 in June, 1938. Unemployment remained especially heavy in coal mining. The Commissioner attributes this largely to a surplus of unskilled labour, the demand for skilled labour exceeding the supply in some districts; he suggests that the balance of skilled men now left unemployed, which includes a number of older men, will probably not get further work in the industry.

In Part II of the Report, which contains an account of the Commissioner's work during the period under review, sections are included describing industrial development, particularly in regard to new industries brought into the Area; the improvements effected in essential health and public services; the progress of various amenity schemes, and of social service and welfare schemes; and housing developments. The first Trading Estate was opened at Hillington in November, 1937, and is expected, when fully developed, to give employment to over 15,000 workpeople. Three smaller Estates have since been opened. An important step forward as regards housing was taken by the formation in November, 1937, of a Special Areas Housing Association, which is now carrying out work, or considering plans, for the provision of about 5,000 houses on 25 sites.

The Commissioner gives his general conclusions in the last part of the Report. A disproportionate dependence on the heavy industries is, he says, the root of the evil in the Special Areas, and the increase in mechanisation and labour-saving devices has appreciably reduced the demand for labour, causing a surplus of labour "which can never be absorbed except by transference to other work or by training to a new occupation." The technique of production has outstripped that of distribution, and "the natural and healthy trend in years to come must be in the direction of greater employment in the distributive and allied services."

* Cmd. 5905. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net (1s. 8d. post free).

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN 1937.

THE following particulars have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from statutory returns furnished to his Department. The figures are exclusive of agricultural societies (the transactions of which will be summarised in an article in a subsequent issue of this GAZETTE) and relate only to societies which are co-operative in character, so that, in effect, the article deals with the transactions of societies operating within the co-operative movement.

The societies are divided into two classes, viz., those which deal directly with the consumer and those which do not. The two categories are described for convenience as "Retail" and "Wholesale and Productive" respectively.

(A) DISTRIBUTION.

(1) GENERAL.

At the end of 1937 there were 1,252 registered industrial co-operative societies in Great Britain mainly engaged in the supply of commodities, or 9 less than in 1936. Of these 1,252 societies, 1,133 were retail societies and 119 were wholesale and productive societies.

The sales made by such societies in each of the last eleven years are shown in the following Table:—

Year.	Sales of Retail Societies.	Sales of Wholesale and Productive Societies.			
		C.W.S.*	S.C.W.S.*	E. & S.J. C.W.S.*	Other Societies.
1927	£1,000's 198,173	£1,000's 86,894†	£1,000's 17,718‡	£1,000's 8,633	£1,000's 8,809
1928	207,652	87,294	15,715‡	8,809	7,490
1929	215,739	89,288	13,353	8,647‡	7,738
1930	216,327	85,313	17,694	7,721	7,120
1931	206,878	82,067	16,569‡	6,798	7,132
1932	200,127	83,824‡	16,148	6,209	6,144
1933	196,357	83,031	16,023	5,976	5,895
1934	205,583	91,293	17,674	7,590	6,496
1935	218,991	98,284	18,645	8,664‡	6,969
1936	232,317	107,692	20,592‡	7,538	7,491
1937	248,273	119,852	22,447	8,297	8,021

In considering the above Table, it should be borne in mind that the sales of the wholesale societies in the main are made to the retail societies for resale to their members and that, in consequence, any aggregation of the figures would be misleading. Further, the sales of the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., (which is the separately registered joint tea, etc., department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.) include goods invoiced to the two principal wholesale societies for resale. In 1937 the value of the goods so invoiced was £7,091,000.

The number of persons employed in distribution by the retail and wholesale and productive societies was 202,000 (123,000 males aged 18 years and over, 36,000 females aged 18 years and over and 43,000 persons under 18 years of age), and the amount paid in salaries and wages was £26,717,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: employees, 192,000, and salaries and wages £25,281,000.

(2) RETAIL SOCIETIES.

Of the 1,133 retail societies engaged in distribution, 1,078 were general supply stores.

The sales of the general supply stores (including revenue from service departments) totalled £247,888,000 and represented an increase of £15,922,000 over 1936. These societies had 8,002,000 shareholding members at the end of the year, with share capital amounting to £148,511,000. They returned an aggregate surplus on the year's working of £29,665,000, of which £5,002,000 was distributed as interest on share capital and £22,953,000 as dividends on sales. Their investments totalled £134,997,000, of which £97,492,000 was invested in other co-operative societies, mainly in the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: societies, 1,087; sales, £231,966,000; shareholding members, 7,746,000; share capital, £141,858,000; surplus on year's working, £28,271,000; share interest, £4,849,000; dividends on sales, £21,717,000, and investments, £128,336,000 (about £93,000,000 in other co-operative societies).

The total number of persons employed in distribution by the general supply stores was 186,000 (112,000 males aged 18 years and over, 33,000 females aged 18 years and over and 41,000 persons under 18 years of age). Their salaries and wages totalled £24,058,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: employees, 177,000, and salaries and wages, £22,781,000.

The dividends on sales distributed by the general supply stores in 1937 averaged 1s. 10½d. in the £, compared with 1s. 10½d. in 1936.

The remaining 55 retail co-operative societies were various in character and their sales in 1937 amounted to only £385,000.

* Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., respectively.

† The figures for this year cover 55 weeks.

‡ The figures for this year cover 53 weeks.

§ Not available.

¶ The figures for this year cover 45 weeks.

‡ The figures for this year cover 40 weeks.

(3) WHOLESALE AND PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES.

There were 119 wholesale and productive societies at the end of 1937. The bulk of the business of the group, however, was conducted by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.

The sales of the three wholesale societies in 1937 (excluding goods invoiced by the Joint society to the two parent societies) amounted to £143,505,000. They had a total shareholding membership of 1,813, of which 1,255 were retail societies and 558 were employees of the Scottish wholesale society, an aggregate share capital of £16,597,000 (excluding £2,409,000 share capital provided by the English and Scottish wholesale societies for the Joint society), loan capital of £79,472,000 and a balance of reserves and undivided profit amounting to £11,034,000. Most of the capital was not required for trading; their investments totalled £11,288,000, and, in addition, the English wholesale society had £75,312,000 deposited with its banking department. The aggregate surplus (before deducting £678,000 share interest) amounted to £4,591,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: sales £129,412,000; members, 1,829; share capital, £16,000,000; loan capital, £76,830,000; balance of reserves and undivided profit, £11,248,000; investments, £11,978,000; deposit with the banking department of the English wholesale society, £72,085,000, and surplus on the year's working, £4,547,000.

The total number of persons employed in distribution by the three wholesale societies (including those engaged in the buying departments) was 14,700 (9,900 males aged 18 years and over, 3,100 females aged 18 years and over and 1,700 persons under 18 years of age), and their total salaries and wages amounted to £2,433,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: employees, 13,800, and salaries and wages, £2,323,000.

A dividend of 4d. in the £ on sales was distributed by the English wholesale society for 1937, together with an additional dividend of 3d. in the £ on sales of its own products. Dividends at the same rates were distributed for 1936. The Scottish wholesale society distributed a dividend of 5d. for the first half-year and 4d. for the second half-year, as compared with 6d. for the whole of 1936. The dividends of these two societies aggregated £2,786,000.

(B) PRODUCTION.

Among the registered industrial co-operative societies which were mainly engaged in the supply of commodities, there were 966 societies whose activities in 1937 included the production of commodities. The number of persons employed in production was 108,000 (62,000 males aged 18 years and over, 29,000 females aged 18 years and over and 17,000 persons under 18 years of age); the amount paid as salaries and wages was £14,499,000, and the value of productions (including materials) was £99,513,000.

In the following Table the productive work undertaken in 1937, in comparison with that in 1936, is analysed by industry, the value of productions being given gross, i.e., including the cost of materials used. Totals also are given for each of the five years 1933-7.

Industry.	Year.	Number of Employees.	Salaries and Wages.	Gross Value of Productions.			All Societies.
				Retail Societies.	Wholesale and Productive Societies.	All Societies.	
				C.W.S.; S.C.W.S.; E. & S.J. C.W.S.*	Other Societies.		
				£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's
Food and Tobacco	1937	31,050	4,580	33,785	23,245	2,876	64,906
	1936	30,151	4,461	31,837	24,976	2,443	59,256
Farming and Dairying	1937	3,427	417	3,251	677	681	4,609
	1936	3,211	373	2,944	706	570	4,220
Clothing ...	1937	30,301	3,303	2,368	4,418	2,369	9,155
	1936	29,783	3,218	2,351	4,205	2,209	8,765
Soap, Candles and Starch.	1937	2,138	295	—	2,643	—	2,643
	1936	2,117	293	—	2,314	—	2,314
Textiles ...	1937	4,805	500	—	2,006	253	2,259
	1936	4,727	490	—	1,868	241	2,109
Mining and Quarrying	1937	810	113	—	223	—	223
	1936	996	128	—	211	26	237
Building and Woodworking	1937	16,841	2,736	3,031	3,899	21	6,951
	1936	14,573	2,386	2,675	3,099	21	5,795
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	1937	5,872	874	—	1,576	925	2,501
	1936	5,706	831	—	1,460	843	2,303
Metal and Engineering	1937	4,968	725	484	2,262	168	2,914
	1936	4,434	634	399	1,747	145	2,291
Drugs and Chemicals	1937	1,680	175	—	1,564	—	1,564
	1936	1,733	171	—	1,481	—	1,481
Miscellaneous (including Transport for Productive Depts.)	1937	5,920	781	141	1,630	17	1,788
	1936	6,227	791	117	1,464	15	1,596
Totals ...	1937	107,812	14,499	43,060	49,143	7,310	99,513
	1936	103,638	13,776	40,323	43,531	6,513	90,367
	1935	98,787	12,912	37,718	38,909	6,269	82,896
	1934	93,777	12,166	35,472	35,484	5,944	76,900
	1933	89,322	11,526	34,542	31,863	5,538	71,943

* See footnote * on page 8, column 2.

The following is an analysis of the net value of productions, i.e., the value after the cost of materials used has been deducted:—

Industry.	Year.	Net Value of Productions.					All Societies.
		Retail Societies.	Wholesale and Productive Societies.			All Societies.	
		£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's
Food and Tobacco	1937	7,820	3,276	699	119	977	12,891
	1936	8,632	3,757	714	123	948	14,174
Farming and Dairying	1937	603	144	17	—	214	978
	1936	768	179	17	—	177	1,141
Clothing ...	1937	1,261	1,662	271	—	1,055	4,249
	1936	1,337	1,609	284	—	984	4,214
Soap, Candles and Starch.	1937	—	822	104	—	—	926
	1936	—	756	101	—	—	857
Textiles ...	1937	—	495	126	—	103	724
	1936	—	491	130	—	101	722
Mining and Quarrying	1937	—	207	—	—	—	207
	1936	—	200	—	—	25	225
Building and Woodworking	1937	1,555	1,362	354	—	14	3,285
	1936	1,454	1,158	285	—	13	2,910
Papermaking, Printing, etc.	1937	—	661	197	—	557	1,415
	1936	—	632	184	—	517	1,333
Metal and Engineering	1937	201	600	227	—	95	1,123
	1936	192	495	184	—	86	957
Drugs and Chemicals	1937	—	387	64	—	—	451
	1936	—	415	64	—	—	479
Miscellaneous ...	1937	56	454	101	—	8	619
	1936	44	440	97	—	8	589
Totals ...	1937	11,496	10,070	2,160	119	3,023	26,868
	1936	12,427	10,132	2,060	123	2,859	27,601
	1935	11,865	9,818	1,826	79	2,715	26,303
	1934	11,122	9,327	1,797	107	2,610	24,965
	1933	10,916	8,476	1,613	114	2,412	23,531

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining accurate figures relating to the cost of materials used, particulars relating to the estates in India and Ceylon belonging to the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., have been omitted. In 1937, the gross value of goods produced on these plantations was £440,000. European employees numbered 59 and their salaries and wages totalled £38,000. Native overseers, etc., numbered 243 and their wages totalled £13,000. Similar particulars of native labour employed in cultivation are not available.

The productions of the retail and wholesale societies differ in character and those of the wholesale societies cover a wider field of operations than those of the retail societies. In the retail societies, the dominating productive operation is baking, which in 1937 accounted for about one-half of the aggregate net value created. In the wholesale societies the outstanding productive department is that of milling, which accounted for nearly one-eighth of the aggregate net value. Some of the productive operations of the wholesale societies which are either not undertaken by the retail societies at all or only to a negligible extent are tea and coffee; oil and cake; soap, candles and starch; chemicals; margarine and lard, and textiles.

When allowance is made for the surplus earned and expenses chargeable to distribution, it is estimated that in 1937 approximately one-seventh of the wholesale value of the goods sold by the retail societies was created within the co-operative movement.

The profits arising from productive operations in 1937 of the two principal wholesale societies were as follows: in the English society, £1,461,000 compared with £1,436,000 for 1936; and in the Scottish society, £213,000 as compared with £232,000† in 1936. Separate figures showing the profit on production of the other wholesale and productive societies and the retail societies are not available.

Farming.—Farming is carried on by a number of retail societies. During 1937 there were 89 societies undertaking farming operations, apart from those which maintained land for accommodation and grazing purposes only. In only 40 cases did these operations result in a surplus. The surpluses returned aggregated £20,000, as compared with £13,000 in 1936; the losses aggregated £39,000, as against £29,000 in 1936. The total acreage of farms of retail societies was 30,000 (as compared with 34,000 for 1936) and the total capital invested in farm land and buildings, implements, stocks, etc., was about £1,328,000. The sales or transfers of farm produce, etc., totalled £554,000, or £8,000 less than in 1936.

The farms owned by the two principal wholesale societies covered 17,700 acres, which was 200 acres less than in 1936. The English society reduced the acreage farmed from 17,800 to 17,600, and the Scottish society occupied 100 acres, the same as in 1936. Capital invested in their farms by these societies totalled £876,000, and the sale or transfer value of farm produce increased by £33,000 to £337,000. The English society returned a loss on farming operations of £13,600 as against a profit of £6,600 in 1936, and the Scottish society had a loss of £2,700 compared with one of £3,200 in 1936.

* See footnote

Share of Employees in Membership, Capital and Management of Societies.—In the retail societies generally, employees have no prescribed right as employees to share in the capital and management of the societies, although they may become shareholding members (with full rights as such) in the ordinary way. In the wholesale and productive societies (other than the three principal wholesale societies), however, the registered rules frequently provide for the employees, as such, not only to share in the capital but also to become members of the committee of management. Employees shared both in capital and in management in 50 of these societies. These 50 societies, whose sales in 1937 amounted to £2,901,000, had a total shareholding membership of 14,792, of whom 5,745 were employees. Of the 437 committees of these societies, 240, or 55 per cent., were employees, 132, or 30 per cent., were other individual members and the remaining 65, or 15 per cent., were representatives of societies. The total share capital of these societies amounted to £514,000, of which 29 per cent. was held by the employees who also held 27 per cent. of the aggregate loan capital of £440,000.

(C) SERVICES.

The services provided by the co-operative movement are varied in character, but the principal are banking, insurance and laundering.

Banking.—The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., has as a separate department a bank which provides all banking services and conducts the banking business of almost all the societies in the co-operative movement in England and Wales. Receipts on deposit and current account in 1937 totalled £391,355,000 (excluding a transfer from current to deposit account), and the aggregate balances of deposit and current accounts at the end of the year amounted to £85,558,000 and £18,388,000 respectively. There were 71,435 separate accounts, of which 834 were in the names of co-operative societies, 10,134 trade unions, 1,020 clubs, 10,781 other mutual organisations and 48,616 individuals. Of the total amounts held on deposit and on current account, £65,000,000 and £10,312,000 respectively represented the balances of the society's own trade department. The assets of the bank totalled £109,255,000, of which £101,090,000 was invested in Government, municipal and other securities. Profit on the year's working amounted to £377,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: receipts on deposit and current account, £357,632,000; deposit and current accounts balances, £100,224,000 (which included £72,085,000 to the credit of the trade department); assets, £105,105,000 (including £96,667,000 in Government, etc., securities), and profit on the year's working, £338,000.

Insurance.—The Co-operative Insurance Society, Ltd., is owned by the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd. The society does extensive business in all the main branches of insurance with the exception of marine risks. The total premium income for all departments in 1937 amounted to £8,416,000, an increase of £721,000 over 1936. More than one-half of the premium income was in respect of industrial assurance. Collective life assurance, which is undertaken largely in conjunction with the retail societies, accounted for £529,000 of the premium income. The total of the insurance funds at the end of the year was £26,047,000 and the increase for the year was £2,811,000. Profit on the year's working amounted to £187,000, of which £1,000 was allocated as interest on shares to the two constituent societies and £46,000 as dividends on premiums. Salaries and wages payable in 1937 totalled £530,000 and commission £1,564,000, compared with £405,000 and £1,544,000 in 1936.

Laundering.—Many retail societies themselves undertake laundering, but others have combined to form separately registered federal laundry societies to perform this service in the areas covered by the retail societies concerned. At the end of 1937 there were 16 such societies, with 421 shareholding members. Charges for work done in 1937 amounted to £1,413,000, and resulted in an aggregate net surplus on the year of £163,000. Share, loan and reserve capital totalled £1,568,000. Salaries and wages amounted to £680,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: societies, 17; charges for work done, £1,240,000; net surplus, £130,000; capital, £1,367,000, and salaries and wages, £601,000.

Miscellaneous.—The retail and wholesale and productive societies in 1937 provided miscellaneous services yielding revenue amounting to £2,011,000, and employed in service departments 7,000 persons whose salaries and wages totalled £780,000. Corresponding figures for 1936 were: revenue, £1,431,000; employees, 5,800, and salaries and wages, £656,000.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES
IN 1937.

The following statistics, which have been compiled by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies from the annual returns furnished to his Department, relate to the activities of all societies in Great Britain registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts whose primary concern is the provision of housing for members and others. These societies should be distinguished from building societies, which help their members to buy houses, but do not erect them. Except in the widest sense, the societies are by no means all co-operative in character. Many have been promoted, and are financed (apart from State loans and loans from local authorities) and controlled, mainly by public-spirited persons interested in housing; while others are run by employers in the interests of their employees.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Number of Societies ...	318	325	351	356	356
Number of Members ...	31,636	33,551	35,448	37,261	38,438
Capital:—					
Shares ...	1,410,846	1,462,574	1,643,723	1,689,789	1,641,343
Loans ...	12,222,790	12,116,798	12,244,562	12,911,208	12,929,793
Reserves* ...	838,416	802,515	755,819	823,492	899,801
Totals ...	14,472,052	14,381,887	14,644,104	15,424,489	15,470,937
Rents receivable	882,545	924,392	953,690	1,025,517	1,089,819
Surplus on Year before deduction of Interest on Shares ...	47,476	133,104	98,033	203,255	115,345

About three-quarters of the societies provided houses for renting, and tenant shareholders represented approximately one-quarter of the total membership.

Expenditure during 1937 on the purchase of land, building, road-making, etc., amounted to £1,211,000. The total value of the land and buildings owned at the end of the year was £14,448,000.

Eighty-nine societies showed loans owing to the Public Works Loan Board at the end of 1937 aggregating £2,404,000. Fifty societies showed loans owing to local authorities totalling £1,770,000.

In addition to the societies mentioned above, some of the trading societies dealt with in the preceding article, have instituted housing schemes for their members. At the end of 1937, the house property owned by these and other co-operative trading societies was valued at more than £3,000,000.

POOR RELIEF: THIRD QUARTER, 1938.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

A statement† issued by the Ministry of Health shows that the total number of persons‡ in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales on the last Saturday in September, 1938, was 1,030,976, as compared with 1,040,352 at the end of June, 1938, and 1,017,317 at the end of September, 1937. Apart from an increase following the August bank holiday, there was during the quarter a continuous decrease in the number of persons in receipt of poor relief until the last two weeks, when increases were recorded.

The total number of persons in receipt of poor relief at the end of September, 1938, viz., 1,030,976, was composed of 146,947 recipients of institutional relief and 884,029 recipients of domiciliary relief ("outdoor" relief, i.e., relief in their own homes).

The average of the numbers in receipt of domiciliary relief on each Saturday in the months July, August and September, 1938 were 876,556, 874,744, and 876,696, respectively. An analysis of the number for September, 1938 is given below:—

Classes of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief.	Number of persons.	
	Relieved on account of unemployment.	Relieved for other causes.
1. Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	3,053	6,668
Wives and dependent children of such persons ...	5,497	14,130
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ...	15,788	1,923
Wives and dependent children of such persons ...	20,776	2,840
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants ...	3,675	154,395
4. Total of above three classes ...	228,745	179,026
5. All other persons ...	647,951	—
Total ...	876,696	—

SCOTLAND.

The total number of persons§ in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland on 15th September, 1938, was 207,176, as compared with 206,330 on 15th August, 1938, 205,869 on 15th July, 1938, 207,236 on 15th June, 1938, and 212,881 on 15th September, 1937.

The number for 15th September, 1938, is analysed below. Items 1, 2 and 3 (i) relate to persons relieved on account of unemployment.

Classes of persons in receipt of outdoor relief.	Number of persons relieved.	
	Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	Dependent wives and children of such persons ...
1. Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	879	1,328
Dependent wives and children of such persons ...	4,392	4,500
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ...	1,460	1,889
(i) Able-bodied unemployed ...	23,315	44,761
(ii) Dependent wives and children of such persons ...	82,524	124,652
3. Other persons ...	124,652	—
4. Total of above three classes ...	207,176	—
5. All other persons ...	—	—
Total ...	207,176	—

* Includes profit carried forward.

† Persons in receipt of Poor Relief (England and Wales): July-September, 1938. H.M. Stationery Office: price 6d. net (7d., post free).

‡ Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only (numbering 22,735), casuals (numbering, 8,674), and rate-aided patients in mental hospitals.

§ Excluding lunatics, mental defectives, persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals.

EARNINGS IN THE COTTON
INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

A REPORT* recently issued by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics summarises the results of investigations into the earnings of wage-earners employed in the cotton goods industry of the United States of America in April, 1937, and August, 1938.

EARNINGS IN APRIL, 1937.

In the investigation relating to April, 1937, particulars were extracted from the pay-rolls of a representative selection of 244 undertakings employing 91,970 workpeople, or about one-fifth of the total number of workers engaged in the industry at that date. In the Northern States, the hourly earnings of workpeople in these undertakings averaged 52.1 cents for males, 44.5 cents for females, and 48.9 cents for all wage-earners; in the Southern States, they averaged 39.6 cents for males, 35.2 cents for females, and 38.1 cents for all wage-earners. The following Table shows the average hourly earnings in some of the principal occupations at April, 1937:—

Occupation.	Northern States.		Southern States.	
	Number of workers.	Average hourly earnings.	Number of workers.	Average hourly earnings.
Male Workers.				
Card grinders ...	117	57.1	438	48.7
Card tenders and strippers ...	484	46.3	1,840	35.2
Drawing-frame tenders ...	176	43.3	990	37.0
Slubber tenders ...	238	53.9	1,204	41.0
Twister tenders ...	360	49.8	2,899	40.7
Speeder tenders ...	159	54.6	988	36.2
Roving men ...	355	40.2	1,346	35.3
Doffers ...	669	49.9	4,082	38.6
Loom fixers ...	947	77.3	2,337	57.0
Section hands ...	305	71.7	953	57.9
Slasher hands ...	408	56.0	1,430	48.6
Slasher tenders ...	168	65.7	518	44.7
Weavers ...	2,254	56.0	4,371	45.3
Sweepers and scrubbers ...	438	37.5	1,909	27.5
Oilers ...	343	41.0	1,102	34.6
Truckers, general ...	419	41.3	1,452	34.7
Female Workers.				
Drawing-frame tenders ...	185	41.0	180	33.6
Speeder tenders ...	1,061	47.5	734	39.3
Frame spinners ...	1,883	45.7	8,833	35.3
Trimmers and inspectors ...	736	39.2	1,074	34.9
Creeblers ...	118	40.3	504	34.8
Weavers ...	1,529	51.1	2,269	43.1
Filling and battery hands ...	569	39.0	1,878	34.0
Machinery cleaners ...	429	37.8	412	30.5

In April, 1937, wages were at a relatively high level, which was maintained during the later months of that year. During the spring and summer of 1938, however, there was a gradual decline, more especially in the Northern States, and in August, 1938, the general level of average hourly earnings was considerably lower than in April, 1937.

EARNINGS IN AUGUST, 1938.

In August, 1938, particulars of weekly earnings and of man-hours worked were obtained from 784 establishments, employing 319,000 workpeople, or about 89 per cent. of the total numbers then engaged in the industry. Of the 784 establishments covered, 200 were in the North, employing 69,000 workers, and 584 were in the South, employing 250,000 workers. The average hourly earnings in the Northern States were 44.58 cents, the average weekly number of man-hours worked being 37.1; in the Southern States, the average hourly earnings were 36.54 cents, the average weekly man-hours being 35.2.

Figures are given in the Report showing the distribution of individual hourly earnings, at August, 1938, of 89,000 wage-earners employed at 237 of the 244 representative undertakings for which particulars of occupational earnings at April, 1937, are given in the Table above (the remaining 7 undertakings having closed down between these two dates). The average hourly earnings of the workpeople employed in these 237 establishments were 36.9 cents, as compared with 38.3 cents in the 784 establishments from which returns of total earnings and total man-hours worked were obtained. The percentage proportions of workpeople, in these 237 undertakings, whose hourly earnings, at August, 1938, fell within certain specified limits, were as shown below:—

Range of average hourly earnings.	Proportions of wage-earners whose average hourly earnings were within the ranges specified in the previous column.					
	Northern States.		Southern States.		Northern and Southern States.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 22.5 Cents.	0.1	0.7	5.4	8.6	4.2	6.2
22.5 and under 35.0	18.9	30.1	47.2	61.0	40.6	52.4
35.0 " " 47.5	47.5	42.7	57.1	33.4	28.1	35.5
47.5 " " 67.5	29.7	12.0	13.5	2.3	17.2	5.1
67.5 " " 92.5	8.2	0.1	0.5	0.0	2.4	0.0
92.5 and over	0.4	...	0.0	...	0.1	...
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Wages in Cotton-Goods Manufacturing: Government Printing Office, Washington. Price 20 cents.

The Report also contains a survey of the economic position of the cotton industry in the United States, including sections relating to productivity and equipment, profits and costs, mill margins, foreign trade, etc. It is pointed out in the Report that the United States is the world's largest producer of cotton textiles, consuming annually about twice as much raw cotton as either the United Kingdom or Japan; but that, whereas about three-fourths of the British and Japanese production goes into the export trade, all but about 3 per cent. of the cotton goods production of the United States is absorbed in the domestic market.

WAGES IN THE METAL,
ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING
INDUSTRIES IN THE NETHERLANDS.

STATISTICS of wages, at 1st July, 1938, and in the preceding six months, of workers employed in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding industries in the Netherlands are contained in the issues of the official monthly journal of the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics for September and October, 1938, from which the figures in the following Tables have been extracted.

The first Table shows the average hourly rates of wages, the minimum average hourly earnings (as laid down in the schedules issued by the employers' association) and the actual average hourly earnings in 1938 of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers, in the upper age classes, employed in undertakings affiliated to the *Metaalbond*, an important association of employers in the Netherlands metal, engineering and shipbuilding industries. Separate particulars are given for the three groups of industrial centres according to which the constituents of the *Metaalbond* are classified for purposes of wage regulation. The first of these groups comprises Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Schiedam, the second group, Utrecht, Hengelo, Haarlem, Velsen, Dordrecht and nine other centres, and the third group, Breda and nineteen other centres of minor importance.

Class of Worker.	Industrial Centres.		
	First Group.	Second Group.	Third Group.
	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
Skilled workers (30 to 65 years, inclusive):—			
Average hourly time rate at 1st July, 1938 ...	61	57	50
Scheduled minimum average hourly earnings at 1st July, 1938 ...	55	51	46
Average hourly earnings during first half of 1938 ...	72	65	56
Semi-skilled workers (28 to 65 years, inclusive):—			
Average hourly time rate at 1st July, 1938 ...	56	50	43
Scheduled minimum average hourly earnings at 1st July, 1938 ...	45	41	38
Average hourly earnings during first half of 1938 ...	66	58	49
Unskilled workers (26 to 65 years, inclusive):—			
Average hourly time rate at 1st July, 1938 ...	50	47	39
Scheduled minimum average hourly earnings at 1st July, 1938 ...	39	36	33
Average hourly earnings during first half of 1938 ...	59	52	43

The statistics reproduced above relate to 21,978 workers belonging to the upper age classes, of whom 10,358 were skilled, 7,316 were semi-skilled and 4,304 were unskilled. In nearly all groups of workers, the actual average hourly earnings were higher in the first half of 1938 than in any other half-yearly period since 1934 or 1935.

The second Table shows the average hourly earnings, in the first half of 1938, in some of the principal occupations and centres of the Netherlands metal, engineering and shipbuilding industries. The figures, which relate, as before, to skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers in the upper age classes, cover constituents of the *Metaalbond* as well as certain other undertakings.

Occupation.	Average hourly earnings in cents.						
	Amsterdam.	Rotterdam and Schiedam.	Utrecht.	Hengelo.	Haarlem.*	Dordrecht.	Breda.
Skilled workers (30 to 65 years, inclusive):—							
Fitters ...	76.2	69.9	63.8	67.7	66.8	63.2	57.2
Turners ...	79.4	70.7	63.9	69.7	66.4	60.9	57.3
Boilermakers ...	77.0	71.3	...	63.0	...	58.8	55.2
Tinsmiths and copper-smiths ...	76.2	67.2	...	65.7	65.9	...	...
Patternmakers ...	73.3	69.9	62.7	63.5	67.8	62.2	62.6
Shipbuilders (iron) ...	73.8	67.2	...	63.6	63.6	60.2	...
Hand moulders ...	75.1	68.8	64.7	69.5	67.8	57.8	49.0
Smiths ...	74.4	68.3	65.6	64.6	67.9	59.3	...
Semi-skilled workers (28 to 65 years, inclusive):—							
Drilling machinists ...	72.5	63.4	57.9	62.4	61.5	48.1	53.8
Erectors (constructional iron-work) ...	66.0	61.0	57.9	61.2	56.1	50.2	45.4
Lathe hands ...	72.6	66.5	62.0	62.0	62.0	56.3	...
Riveters ...	70.9	71.3	60.7	...	57.0	58.1	...
Planing machinists ...	73.4	68.0	62.4	66.8	60.6	57.6	...
Grinding machinists ...	72.5	62.5	54.7	60.4	...	53.1	52.5
Machine moulders ...	64.0	...	56.9	60.9	...	...	53.6
Unskilled workers (26 to 65 years, inclusive):—							
Labourers ...	60.0	57.6	49.7	52.9	50.5	46.1	40.8

An article dealing with wages in the Netherlands metal, engineering and shipbuilding industries in 1937 appeared in this GAZETTE for February, 1938.

* Including Velsen (Ijmuiden).

EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT at 12th December showed an improvement on the whole as compared with 14th November, due mainly to seasonal demands. The number of insured workpeople recorded as temporarily stopped showed a reduction in most districts.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 14.4 at 12th December, 1938, as compared with 15.1 at 14th November, 1938 and 11.5 at 13th December, 1937. The percentage wholly unemployed was 9.7, the same as in the previous month, but the percentage temporarily stopped decreased by 0.7 (from 5.4 to 4.7).

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the respective areas at 12th December, 1938, and the increases or decreases as compared with a month before and a year before :-

Area.	Insured persons, aged 16-64, recorded as unemployed at 12th December, 1938.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.		Month before.	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).	Temporarily Stopped.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.		
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
Northumberland	3,035	132	6.5	0.3	6.8	- 0.1
Durham	13,494	4,097	11.0	3.4	14.4	+ 0.2
Cumberland and Westmorland	1,456	126	17.6	1.6	19.2	+ 0.2
Yorkshire	8,894	10,007	6.2	6.9	13.1	- 1.3
Lancashire and Cheshire	8,692	1,931	12.7	2.8	15.5	- 1.5
Derbyshire	2,052	2,616	4.1	5.2	9.3	- 1.6
Notts. and Leicester	3,159	6,074	5.5	10.5	16.0	- 4.4
Warwickshire	681	33	4.9	0.2	5.1	+ 0.3
Staffs., Worcester and Salop	3,497	1,180	6.1	2.1	8.2	- 1.8
Glos. and Somerset	658	55	7.2	0.6	7.8	+ 0.6
Kent	324	1	4.9	0.0	4.9	+ 0.2
Wales and Monmouth	24,698	11,779	14.6	6.9	21.5	+ 1.1
England & Wales (including areas not shown above)	71,514	38,035	9.5	5.0	14.5	- 0.8
SCOTLAND:	11,967	2,304	11.5	2.3	13.8	- 0.2
GREAT BRITAIN:	83,481	40,339	9.7	4.7	14.4	- 0.7

The following Table shows, for the principal coal mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 17th December, 1938, and the average number of days worked per week* during the preceding fortnight, 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.		Average Number of Days worked per week at the Mines.*		
	17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
				Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Northumberland	44,889	+ 0.1	5.44	+ 0.10	+ 0.06
Durham	110,755	+ 0.3	5.18	+ 0.08	- 0.23
Cumberland	6,768	+ 1.1	5.63	+ 0.33	+ 0.08
South Yorkshire	98,385	+ 0.5	4.78	+ 0.24	- 0.47
West Yorkshire	44,193	+ 0.5	4.90	+ 0.37	- 0.39
Lancs. and Cheshire	58,105	+ 0.6	5.13	+ 0.16	- 0.35
Derbyshire	44,879	- 0.0	4.59	+ 0.54	- 0.22
Notts. and Leicester	54,086	- 0.2	4.84	+ 0.54	- 0.45
Warwick	16,453	+ 0.1	5.48	+ 0.43	- 0.35
North Staffordshire	23,511	+ 1.0	5.41	+ 0.32	+ 0.10
Staffs., Worcester and Salop	26,674	- 0.0	5.50	+ 0.73	- 0.28
Glos. and Somerset	8,455	+ 0.5	5.54	+ 0.19	- 0.16
Kent	6,520	+ 0.3	5.30	- 0.13	- 0.26
North Wales	9,778	+ 0.3	5.49	+ 0.12	- 0.10
South Wales and Mon.	133,302	- 0.0	5.08	- 0.20	- 0.63
England and Wales	686,753	+ 0.2	5.08	+ 0.19	- 0.34
SCOTLAND:					
Mid and East Lothians	13,199	+ 0.2	5.69	+ 0.49	- 0.10
Fife and Clackmannan	23,402	- 0.1	5.48	- 0.13	- 0.21
Rest of Scotland	53,697	+ 0.3	5.73	+ 0.20	- 0.09
Scotland	90,298	+ 0.2	5.66	+ 0.16	- 0.12
GREAT BRITAIN	777,051	+ 0.2	5.14	+ 0.18	- 0.32

The average number of coal winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 17th December, 1938, was 0.64 of a day

* The figures 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.

per week, of which 0.57 of a day was due to want of trade. The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 19th November, 1938, were 0.82 and 0.74 of a day per week respectively, and for the fortnight ended 18th December, 1937, 0.32 and 0.20 of a day per week respectively.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 17th December, 1938, as reported to the Mines Department, was 19,285,400 tons, as compared with 18,952,800 tons in the four weeks ended 19th November, 1938, and 20,606,200 tons in the four weeks ended 18th December, 1937.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during December remained slack on the whole and was much worse than a year ago. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 21.1 at 12th December, 1938, as compared with 20.4 at 14th November, 1938, and 7.5 at 13th December, 1937.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week at the Mines.*		
	Fortnight ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
				Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Days	Days	Days
Cleveland	1,939	+ 0.5	3.36	- 0.68	- 2.64
Cumberland and Lancashire	1,919	+ 1.5	6.00	...	...
Other Districts	1,752	+ 3.8	4.90	- 0.03	- 0.92
ALL DISTRICTS	5,610	+ 1.9	4.74	- 0.25	- 1.21

SHALE MINING.

THE number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 17th December, 1938, by firms making returns was 2,068, a decrease of 1.1 per cent. as compared with November, 1938, but an increase of 2.3 per cent. as compared with December, 1937.

The average number of days worked per week* at the mines making returns was 5.91 in December, 1938, as compared with 6.00 in November, 1938, and 5.88 in December, 1937.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT at 12th December showed little change as compared with 14th November. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 21.5 at 12th December, 1938, as compared with 21.6 at 14th November, 1938, and 8.9 at 13th December, 1937.

Returns received by the British Iron and Steel Federation from firms engaged in the production of pig iron, employing 12,265 workpeople at the end of December, 1938, showed a decrease of 5.3 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with November, 1938, and of 26.5 per cent. compared with December, 1937.

The number of furnaces in operation at the end of December, 1938, was 78, compared with 79 at the end of November, 1938, and 133 at the end of December, 1937. The figures are analysed below :-

Districts.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Dec. 1938.	Nov. 1938.	Dec. 1937.	Month before.	Year before.
Durham and Cleveland	21	19	36	+ 2	- 15
Cumberland & W. Lancs. Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield), N. Wales and Cheshire	4	5	11	- 1	- 7
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants.	4	4	8	...	- 4
Lincolnshire	20	21	29	- 1	- 9
Staffs., Shrops., Worcs. and Warwick	12	11	15	+ 1	- 3
South Wales and Mon.	4	4	11	...	- 7
England and Wales	5	5	7	...	- 2
Scotland	70	69	117	+ 1	- 47
Great Britain	8	10	16	- 2	- 8
	78	79	133	- 1	- 55

The production of pig iron in December, 1938, amounted to 445,800 tons compared with 461,500 tons in November, 1938, and 783,800 tons in December, 1937.

* See footnote * in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in December showed a further slight decline. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 24.5 at 12th December, 1938, as compared with 23.8 at 14th November, 1938, and 11.0 at 13th December, 1937.

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.*	
	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	6,599	- 9.9	39,081	- 9.5
Puddling Forges	546	- 17.1	2,141	- 7.0
Rolling Mills	23,373	+ 0.9	116,130	+ 2.4
Forging and Pressing	1,586	+ 5.0	9,019	+ 3.8
Founding	8,478	- 1.9	48,041	- 0.6
Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	12,319	- 2.1	68,614	- 1.6
TOTAL	69,042	- 1.1	375,872	- 0.3
DISTRICTS.				
Northumberland, Durham, and Cleveland	12,813	- 4.1	69,985	- 4.2
Sheffield, Rotherham, Leeds, Bradford, etc.	24,218	+ 0.1	134,369	+ 1.5
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire	398	+ 12.1	1,954	+ 16.4
Staffordshire	5,103	+ 9.5	26,294	+ 10.3
Other Midland Counties	5,465	+ 3.7	30,011	+ 12.0
Wales and Mon.	5,740	- 2.9	31,273	- 5.3
Total, Eng. & Wales	6,325	- 7.3	34,383	- 9.4
Scotland	60,062	- 0.8	328,269	- 0.1
Wales	8,980	- 2.9	47,603	- 1.6
TOTAL	69,042	- 1.1	375,872	- 0.3

The average number of shifts* during which the works were open was 5.4 in the week ended 17th December, 1938, the same as in November, 1938, compared with 5.7 in December, 1937.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the British Iron and Steel Federation, amounted to 655,700 tons in December, 1938, as compared with 860,000 tons in November, 1938, and with 1,103,800 tons in December, 1937.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment in December showed a further decline and was very bad. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 37.5 at 12th December, 1938, as compared with 35.1 at 14th November, 1938, and 17.5 at 13th December, 1937.

There was also a further decline in steel sheet manufacture. The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at those works in respect of which returns were received for the week ended 17th December, 1938, and comparisons with a month before and a year before :-

Works.	Number of Works Open.		Number of Mills in Operation.	
	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
Tinplate	45	- 1	236	- 22
Steel Sheet	8	...	67	- 9
Total	53	- 1	303	- 31

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT showed an improvement between 14th November and 12th December in most of the principal sections of the industry, and was fairly good on the whole. It was good in electrical engineering and in motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft manufacture, fair in general engineering, and moderate in constructional and in textile engineering; a slight decline occurred in marine engineering and employment was fair in that section.

Compared with a year ago there was little change in motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft manufacture, but there was a decline in employment in other sections of the industry; all administrative divisions, with the exception of Northern Ireland, showed a decline.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured work-

* These figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

people, aged 16-64, at 12th December, 1938, and the increases or decreases as compared with a month before and a year before :-

Division.	Numbers of Insured Workpeople, aged 16-64, Unemployed at 12th December, 1938.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	General Engineering; Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London	4,632	794	66	531	3,953	9,976	- 662	+ 2,707
South-Eastern	1,936	421	136	122	1,426	4,041	- 280	+ 886
South-Western	1,108	120	272	107	1,632	3,239	- 1,017	+ 638
Midlands	4,980	1,545	15	916	6,035	13,489	- 2,513	+ 1,762
North-Eastern	7,249	248	252	385	841	8,985	- 1,257	+ 1,828
North-Western	14,103	1,612	142	722	2,368	18,947	+ 1,612	+ 6,689
Northern	4,601	559	2,366	1,136	660	9,322	+ 353	+ 2,929
Scotland	9,404	239	1,678	1,484	1,355	14,160	+ 278	+ 4,168
Wales	1,256	142	36	392	637	2,463	- 123	+ 964
Northern Ireland	1,058	73	388	76	498	2,093	- 16	+ 158
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	50,327	5,753	5,361	5,871	19,403	86,715	- 5,849	+ 22,729
	Percentages Unemployed at 12th December, 1938.							
London	3.6	4.2	18.3	7.6	5.4	4.4	- 0.3	+ 1.0
South-Eastern	4.3	3.6	3.1	12.4	3.0	3.7	- 0.3	+ 0.7
South-Western	3.3	3.5	3.2	9.1	2.8	3.1	- 0.9	+ 0.4
Midlands	4.7	4.1	13.6	8.0	4.9	4.8	- 0.9	+ 0.3
North-Eastern	8.1	4.2	17.1	12.5	5.1	7.7	- 1.1	+ 1.3
North-Western	12.1	6.0	15.8	13.2	6.5	10.2	- 0.3	+ 3.1
Northern	11.9	6.5	14.7	15.4	12.7	12.3	+ 0.5	+ 3.2
Scotland	13.1	6.0	8.8	19.2	8.2	11.9	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Wales	20.9	19.2	10.0	17.0	14.3	17.8	- 0.9	+ 4.8
Northern Ireland	16.8	17.8	6.9	30.4	8.5	11.3	- 0.1	- 0.6
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	7.9	4.9	9.4	12.6	5.0	6.9	- 0.5	+ 1.5
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with:								
Nov., 1938	- 0.3	- 0.4	+ 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 0.5	-	-

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT at 12th December showed some further improvement as compared with 14th November, but was much worse than in December, 1937.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 21.2 at 12th December, 1938, as compared with 22.5 at 14th November, 1938, and 15.8 at 13th December, 1937. In the preparing and spinning departments the corresponding percentages were 19.7, 20.5, and 16.2; in the manufacturing department they were 22.8, 24.6, and 15.5.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Per cent.	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
						£
Preparing ...	10,941	+ 2.5	- 7.0	18,729	+ 2.6	- 8.7
Spinning ...	20,163	+ 0.5	- 9.5	34,180	+ 2.0	- 9.3
Weaving ...	18,010	+ 3.5	- 15.4	31,478	+ 3.2	- 15.7
Other ...	6,603	+ 1.4	- 8.3	14,523	+ 0.7	- 9.1
Total ...	55,717	+ 2.0	- 10.9	98,910	+ 2.3	- 11.3
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	4,062	+ 7.6	- 7.5	7,054	+ 11.6	- 4.3
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	4,837	- 2.1	- 12.7	8,262	+ 0.2	- 12.1
Oldham ...	10,518	+ 1.5	- 5.9	19,758	+ 0.8	- 9.4
Bolton and Leigh ...	10,354	+ 4.5	- 8.8	18,098	+ 4.9	- 9.6
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood and Todmorden ...	5,416	- 0.2	- 11.1	9,545	- 4.7	- 17.3
Manchester ...	3,356	- 0.1	- 11.3	5,792	+ 0.5	- 10.8
Preston and Chorley ...	3,590	+ 3.7	- 10.0	6,022	+ 5.6	- 9.9
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	2,907	+ 1.2	- 23.8	5,234	+ 1.5	- 21.8
Burnley and Padiham ...	2,358	+ 8.8	- 27.3	5,023	+ 7.6	- 22.0
Colne and Nelson ...	2,154	+ 1.4	- 11.0	4,709	- 0.9	- 10.5
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,743	- 0.8	- 2.2	4,010	+ 2.3	- 1.1
Yorkshire Towns ...	1,021	+ 2.3	- 10.5	1,704	+ 3.3	- 4.2
Other Districts ...	2,401	- 3.7	- 13.6	3,699	+ 0.8	- 7.6
Total ...	55,717	+ 2.0	- 10.9	98,910	+ 2.3	- 11.3

Returns from firms employing about 55,000 workpeople in the week ended 17th December, 1938, showed that about 11 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing 12½ hours each on the average. These figures do not take account of other forms of under-employment, e.g., reductions in the number of looms worked by individual operatives.

At Ashton-under-Lyne and at Glossop employment showed a slight improvement; there was also some improvement in the manufacturing department at Stalybridge; at Stockport there was a slight decline. Employment at Hyde showed little change.

In the Oldham district employment showed little general change. Many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Christmas and short-time working was prevalent. In the manufacturing department a large amount of machinery was reported to be idle, and employment with weavers of velvets was stated to be very bad.

At Bolton there was a further improvement, but employment was generally bad with spinners and weavers and slack with cardroom workers. At Leigh employment declined in the spinning department. At Rochdale and at Bury it showed little general change and was bad. At Heywood there was a slight decline in the spinning department, but some improvement was reported in the manufacturing department; employment, however, remained poor generally.

At Preston, Blackburn and Chorley employment showed some improvement in the manufacturing department; there was also some general improvement at Burnley, Darwen and Accrington. At Great Harwood, Padiham, Colne and Nelson there was little change. Employment in the Rossendale Valley declined and was bad.

At Huddersfield employment showed a slight improvement; at Todmorden it declined.

The following Table shows the number of men and women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres of Lancashire and Cheshire at 12th December, 1938 :-

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 12th December 1938.				Total.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.		
Card and Blowing Room ...	920	3,061	604	3,822	8,407	- 282
Spinning ...	5,435	2,669	5,372	2,665	16,141	- 705
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	1,248	4,710	1,292	5,402	12,652	- 1,078
Weaving ...	5,022	15,390	2,079	4,862	27,353	- 2,204
Other Processes ...	740	304	324	153	1,521	+ 55
Total ...	13,365	26,134	9,671	16,904	66,074	- 4,214

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change, on the whole, between 14th November, 1938, and 12th December, 1938 (apart from slight seasonal improvements in certain sections) and it remained slack generally; it was better, however, than a year ago. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 12th December, 1938, was 13.6, the same as at 14th November, 1938, compared with 17.9 at 13th December, 1937.

Worsted Section.—Employment showed little change on the whole and remained slack; a slight improvement was reported in the weaving section. Returns from employers for the week ended 17th December, 1938, showed that in the worsted section as a whole 21½ per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time* in that week, losing 10½ hours each on the average, and 9 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 5½ hours each. In the *sorting, combing and preparing departments*, 25 per cent. were on short time, losing 17½ hours each on the average, and 13 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7½ hours each. In the *spinning department* 17 per cent. were on short time, losing 9½ hours each on the average, and 8½ per cent. were on overtime averaging 4½ hours each. In the *weaving department* the corresponding figures were: short time*, 32 per cent. and 7 hours; overtime, 5½ per cent. and 5 hours.

Among woollenters employment continued fair. In the wool-combing department machinery activity showed a temporary improvement early in the month but decreased later. In the spinning department there was little change, but an improvement occurred in the weaving department in several districts.

At Bradford employment showed little change in the spinning section but improved in the manufacturing section in many firms; it remained poor on the whole. At Shipley a further improvement occurred among women workers in all sections and a shortage of juvenile workers was reported. At Halifax employment continued to improve but was still slack. At Keighley employment improved slightly but remained poor generally; the shortage of juvenile labour continued. At Huddersfield employment remained moderate; a slight improvement was reported in the fine worsted (men's wear) section.

Woolen Section.—Employment showed little change on the whole. Returns from employers for the week ended 17th December, 1938, showed that in the woolen section as a whole 22 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time* in that week, losing 10½ hours each on the average, and 15½ per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7 hours each. In the *spinning department* 19½ per cent. were on short time, losing 9 hours each on the average, and 25 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7½ hours each. In the *weaving department* the corresponding figures were: short time*, 25½ per cent. and 11 hours; overtime, 8½ per cent. and 5½ hours.

Employment at Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley district continued to improve but was still slack. At Leeds employment showed a slight decline and was poor generally. At Morley employment remained slack for the time of year. Employment in the Heavy Woollen district continued poor and was slightly worse on the whole than in the previous month. The rag and shoddy trade remained slack. In the blanket trade the improvement reported in November was maintained. Among flannel workers at Rochdale and Saddleworth employment continued fair. In the West of England employment was again fairly good on the whole. Employment in the south of Scotland declined slightly and was slack in most of the principal districts; in the woolen cloth trade employment improved slightly on the whole and was fair.

Carpet Section.—Employment at 12th December showed a slight improvement and was fair on the whole. It was much better than a year ago. The percentage unemployed at 12th December, 1938, was 7.2 as compared with 7.7 at 14th November, 1938, and 17.2 at 13th December, 1937.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index Figure (Jan., 1926 = 100).	Week ended 17th Dec., 1938.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	
						£
WORSTED SECTION:						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	8,916	+ 0.1	90.4	21,438	+ 3.6	75.2
Spinning ...	36,344	+ 0.6	84.6	57,089	+ 0.3	83.8
Weaving ...	13,762	+ 1.2	76.1	26,985	+ 1.5	72.0
Other Depts. ...	10,057	- 0.8	95.1	22,396	+ 1.0	81.9
Not Specified ...	1,334	+ 1.4	77.3	2,703	+ 4.6	59.8
Total—Worsted	70,413	+ 0.5	83.8	130,611	+ 0.5	78.3
WOOLEN SECTION:						
Wool Sorting ...	918	- 1.2	74.4	2,110	+ 2.7	81.3
Spinning ...	11,922	+ 0.8	85.8	27,151	- 0.8	99.6
Weaving ...	21,220	- 0.2	91.0	40,054	- 0.5	97.7
Other Depts. ...	13,854	- 2.4	82.5	32,065	- 2.9	87.5
Not Specified ...	1,828	+ 0.4	73.8	3,804	+ 0.7	76.2
Total—Woollen	49,742	- 0.6	86.2	105,184	- 1.2	93.3
CARPET SECTION:						
... ..	10,083	+ 0.1	126.2	19,799	- 0.6	140.8
Total—Wool Textile Industry	130,238	+ 0.0	87.0	255,594	- 0.8	87.7

* The figures given in the article do not take into account, in the case of weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," or tending one loom instead of two.
† Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc. ...	15,460	1,777	17,237	1,944	222	2,166	17,404	1,999	19,403	16,924	1,981	18,905
Railway Carriages and Wagons, etc. ...	1,338	97	1,435	123	10	133	1,461	107	1,568	1,377	107	1,484
Total, Vehicles ...	16,822	1,919	18,744	2,067	232	2,300	18,865	2,106	20,971	18,301	2,108	20,409
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	36,261	240	36,501	2,849	43	2,892	39,110	283	39,393	37,338	277	37,615
Other Metal Industries:—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ...	7,670	617	8,287	5,157	209	5,366	12,827	826	13,653	12,745	825	13,570
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	3,902	86	3,988	159	2	161	4,061	88	4,149	3,866	82	3,948
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc. ...	5,864	5,081	10,945	524	680	1,204	6,388	5,761	12,149	6,303	5,754	12,057
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	1,754	843	2,597	1,552	273	1,825	3,306	1,116	4,422	3,291	1,116	4,407
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. ...	1,012	1,314	2,326	776	389	1,165	1,788	1,703	3,491	1,700	3,484	3,484
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	1,125	963	2,088	235	122	357	1,360	1,085	2,445	1,340	1,085	2,425
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus ...	1,461	41	1,502	95	3	98	1,556	44	1,600	1,511	44	1,555
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc. ...	1,149	1,054	2,203	457	292	749	1,606	1,346	2,952	1,582	1,342	2,924
Metal Industries not separately specified ...	11,835	7,347	19,182	2,909	1,443	4,352	14,744	8,790	23,534	14,396	8,767	23,163
Total, Other Metals ...	35,772	17,346	53,118	11,864	3,413	15,277	47,636	20,759	68,395	46,818	20,715	67,533
Textiles:—												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	8,233	11,617	19,850	7,604	12,106	19,710	15,837	23,723	39,560	15,827	23,720	39,547
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.) ...	7,294	22,578	29,872	4,238	9,593	13,831	11,532	32,171	43,703	11,528	32,156	43,684
Total, Cotton ...	15,527	34,195	49,722	11,842	21,699	33,541	27,369	55,891	82,263	27,355	55,876	83,231
Woolen and Worsted ...	5,189	7,781	12,970	6,452	10,027	16,479	11,641	17,808	29,449	11,552	17,678	29,230
Silk Spinning and Manufacturing and Artificial Silk Weaving, etc. ...	1,473	2,497	3,970	1,702	2,794	4,496	3,175	5,291	8,466	3,173	5,265	8,438
Artificial Silk Yarn Manufacture ...	1,200	658	1,858	1,037	811	1,848	2,237	3,706	2,237	1,467	3,704	2,237
Linen ...	5,003	10,916	15,919	628	1,525	2,153	5,631	12,441	18,072	5,099	12,441	17,540
Jute ...	1,954	3,597	5,551	64	120	184	2,018	3,717	5,735	2,718	3,717	5,735
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	729	1,401	2,130	155	486	641	884	1,857	2,711	744	1,857	2,397
Hosiery ...	950	3,494	4,444	956	4,789	5,745	1,906	8,283	10,189	1,887	8,230	10,117
Lace ...	367	449	816	588	655	1,243	955	1,104	2,059	953	1,102	2,055
Carpets ...	375	636	1,011	591	656	1,247	966	1,292	2,258	963	1,292	2,255
Other Textiles ...	1,372	2,730	4,102	304	1,279	1,583	1,676	4,009	5,685	1,483	3,054	4,540
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ...	5,396	2,372	7,768	9,425	3,100	12,525	14,821	5,472	20,293	13,377	5,056	18,433
Total, Textiles ...	39,535	70,726	110,261	33,744	47,941	81,685	73,279	118,067	191,946	66,254	106,042	172,296
Leather and Leather Goods:—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	2,326	590	2,916	844	263	1,107	3,170	853	4,023	3,159	852	4,011
Leather Goods ...	861	828	1,689	238	348	586	1,099	1,176	2,275	1,073	1,170	2,24

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1938, PERCENTAGES AT 12TH DECEMBER, 1938, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 14TH NOV. 1938, 13TH DEC. 1937, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 12TH DEC., 1938.

* The figures for these industry groups now include certain classes of domestic employments which were brought into insurance in April, 1938. These classes were necessarily excluded from the figures for December, 1937 (see article on page 425 of the November, 1938, issue of this GAZETTE).

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1938, PERCENTAGES AT 12TH DECEMBER, 1938, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 14TH NOV. 1938, 13TH DEC. 1937, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 12TH DEC., 1938.

* See footnote * on the previous page. † Persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries are included in these figures.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

Table with columns: Industries, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the numbers insured, aged 16-64, recorded as unemployed at 12th December, 1938, compared with 14th November, 1938, Males, Females, Total.

NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Table with columns: Division, Men aged 18-64, Boys, Women Aged 18-64, Girls, Total.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 12TH DECEMBER, 1938.

	Men (18 years and over)	Boys (under 18 years)	Women (18 years and over)	Girls (under 18 years)	Total.
A. Insured on Register:—					
1. Claims admitted for Insurance benefit:					
(a) General scheme ...	769,255	20,767	238,025	14,457	1,042,504
(b) Agricultural scheme ...	20,119	895	12,241	628	33,883
2. Unemployment allowances authorized:					
(a) Excluding insurance benefit claimants ...	481,633	2,254	39,656	2,091	525,634
(b) Insurance benefit claims disallowed ...	4,939	131	1,982	106	7,158
3. Claims under consideration ...	27,490	1,586	11,099	1,446	41,621
4. Others not in receipt of benefit or allowances:					
(a) Aged 16-64 ...	44,290	2,086	32,256	2,944	81,576
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ...	—	7,817	—	7,725	15,542
B. Others on Register:—					
5. Unemployment allowances authorized:					
6. Applications under consideration ...	13,653	468	5,748	935	20,804
7. Not in receipt of allowances:					
(a) Aged 16 and over ...	23,251	2,172	15,401	3,182	44,006
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ...	—	7,351	—	10,745	18,096
C. Total on Register ...	1,384,922	45,549	356,580	44,321	1,831,372
D. Insured Unemployed—Aged 16-64:					
8. Number on Register (Items 1-3 and 4 (a)) ...	1,347,726	27,719	335,259	21,672	1,732,376
9. Two months file † ...	30,002	1,286	35,960	1,653	68,901
10. Special Schemes—claimants to benefit ...	2,576	23	331	11	2,941
Total aged 16-64 ...	1,380,304	29,028	371,550	23,336	1,804,218
11. Aged 14 and 15:					
(a) Item 4 (b) ...	—	7,817	—	7,725	15,542
(b) Two months file ...	—	1,773	—	2,520	4,293
Total aged 14-64 ...	1,380,304	38,618	371,550	33,581	1,824,053

APPLICANTS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

DIVISIONAL ANALYSIS—12TH DECEMBER, 1938.

Division.	Men 18-64.	Boys 16 & 17.	Women 18-64.	Girls 16 & 17.	Total 16-64.
CLAIMS ADMITTED FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT.†					
General Scheme.					
London ...	134,088	1,718	35,873	906	172,585
South-Eastern ...	58,768	1,361	14,057	987	75,173
South-Western ...	49,100	789	8,946	753	59,588
Midlands ...	89,738	1,559	39,316	1,513	132,126
North-Eastern ...	87,657	2,010	23,871	1,701	121,049
North-Western ...	130,221	3,989	69,236	2,973	206,419
Northern ...	63,225	2,444	7,687	1,386	74,742
Scotland ...	87,619	3,973	26,836	3,033	121,461
Wales ...	68,829	2,924	6,403	1,205	79,361
Great Britain ...	769,255	20,767	238,025	14,457	1,042,504
Agricultural Scheme.					
London ...	739	13	987	16	1,755
South-Eastern ...	4,373	144	5,141	131	9,789
South-Western ...	2,336	65	221	16	2,538
Midlands ...	1,774	40	752	6	2,572
North-Eastern ...	2,527	90	3,865	296	6,778
North-Western ...	1,684	46	221	14	1,965
Northern ...	1,010	83	165	39	1,297
Scotland ...	3,723	289	727	95	4,834
Wales ...	2,053	125	162	15	2,355
Great Britain ...	20,119	895	12,241	628	33,883
APPLICATIONS AUTHORISED FOR UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.‡					
London ...	38,615	26	4,214	8	42,864
South-Eastern ...	16,542	39	1,706	67	18,354
South-Western ...	15,580	28	1,145	47	16,800
Midlands ...	42,201	39	3,045	41	45,326
North-Eastern ...	48,119	69	3,092	181	51,461
North-Western ...	106,580	660	16,345	331	123,916
Northern ...	70,302	509	2,412	617	74,340
Scotland ...	92,204	866	12,861	1,078	107,009
Wales ...	69,581	617	2,566	762	73,526
Great Britain ...	500,225	2,853	47,386	3,132	553,596

* These exclusions represent (a) insurance benefit claimants in receipt of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit (numbering 13,220 at 12th December, 1938); and (b) persons disqualified for short periods from receiving benefit, who are shown in line 2 (b) of the Table.
 † See explanation on page 20.
 ‡ Including 13,220 persons for whom payment of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit had been authorised.
 § Including 7,158 persons, disqualified for short periods from receiving benefit, who had applications authorised for unemployment allowances.

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons aged 16-64, applying for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances (including those applicants whose position in relation to insurance benefit and unemployment allowances had not been determined), who were registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as unemployed, who were not available in respect of persons, registered as unemployed, who were not applicants for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances.

Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each, during such periods.

	Applicants, aged 16-64, who had been on Register					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Totals.
Men, 18-64	810,010	141,792	70,620	52,926	257,696	1,333,044
Boys, 16-17	22,022	2,925	783	360	408	26,499
Women, 18-64	226,815	40,791	15,521	9,476	22,859	315,462
Girls, 16-17	17,292	1,896	445	205	241	20,080
Total ...	1,076,139	187,405	87,369	62,968	281,204	1,695,085

	PERCENTAGES.					
	60-8	10-6	5-3	4-0	19-3	100-0
Men, 18-64	60-8	10-6	5-3	4-0	19-3	100-0
Boys, 16-17	85-1	11-0	3-0	1-4	1-5	100-0
Women, 18-64	86-1	12-9	4-9	3-0	7-3	100-0
Girls, 16-17	86-1	9-5	2-2	1-0	1-2	100-0
Total ...	63-5	11-0	5-2	3-7	16-6	100-0

Of the 1,076,139 applicants who had been on the register for less than 3 months, approximately 774,000, or 45-6 per cent. of the total number of applicants, had been on the register for less than six weeks.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND. GREAT BRITAIN.

The following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Unemployment Fund* for the periods stated:—

	Five weeks ended 31st Dec., 1938.	Four weeks ended 26th Nov., 1938.	Five weeks ended 1st Jan., 1938.
(1) General Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	£ 2,057,000	£ 1,692,000	£ 2,085,000
Employed persons ...	2,036,000	1,670,000	2,053,000
Exchequer ...	2,049,000	1,674,000	2,065,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	2,000	1,000	438,000
Total Income ...	6,144,000	5,037,000	6,641,000
Benefit ...	5,343,000	4,103,000	3,937,000
Cost of Administration ...	834,000†	443,000	555,000†
Accrued Charge for Debt Service‡	385,000	309,000	385,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	38,000	40,000	72,000
Total Expenditure ...	6,600,000	4,895,000	4,949,000
Debt Outstanding‡ ...	81,530,000	81,530,000	103,122,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	47,000	47,000	56,000
Employed persons ...	47,000	46,000	56,000
Exchequer ...	47,000	46,000	56,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	1,000	—	11,000
Total Income ...	142,000	139,000	179,000
Benefit ...	115,000	41,000	89,000
Cost of Administration ...	17,000	17,000	21,000
Miscellaneous Payments ...	2,000	—	3,000
Total Expenditure ...	134,000	58,000	113,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES (GREAT BRITAIN).

As from 1st April, 1937, the cost of unemployment allowances is met from the Unemployment Assistance Fund which is reimbursed by the Exchequer. For the period of five weeks ended 31st December, 1938, expenditure on these allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £3,549,000 as compared with £2,663,000 during the four weeks ended 26th November, 1938, and £3,515,000 during the five weeks ended 1st January, 1938.

* A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C. 49 of 1938 for the period ended 31st March, 1937).
 † Includes adjustment.
 ‡ Statutory provision was made for the repayment (including interest) of the debt outstanding on 1st July, 1934 (amounting to £105,780,000) by half-yearly payments of £2,500,000 commencing on 30th September, 1934. Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1938, an additional sum of £20,000,000 was repaid on 31st March, 1938, and thereafter the half-yearly payments are reduced to £2,000,250.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 12TH DECEMBER, 1938.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London ...	1,046	2,524	3,570	1,181	1,587	2,768
South-Eastern ...	610	1,926	2,536	1,024	1,811	2,835
South-Western ...	549	1,181	1,730	966	1,310	2,276
Midlands ...	675	2,106	2,781	805	2,118	2,923
North-Eastern ...	1,120	2,772	3,892	1,905	3,036	4,941
North-Western ...	2,615	5,780	8,395	2,510	4,375	6,885
Northern ...	2,945	3,532	6,477	3,679	3,033	6,712
Scotland ...	3,007	6,067	9,074	3,326	5,345	8,671
Wales ...	2,601	4,493	7,094	3,074	3,236	6,310
Great Britain ...	15,168	30,381	45,549	18,470	25,851	44,321
N. Ireland ...	630	2,253	2,883	595	1,507	2,102
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	15,798	32,634	48,432	19,065	27,358	46,423

Note.—These figures include considerable numbers of boys and girls who though registered at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux as applicants for employment, are remaining whole time at school until employment is obtained. See article on page 48 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1938.

INSURED JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 12TH DECEMBER, 1938.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.	Aged 14 and 15.	Aged 16 and 17.	Total.
London ...	1,373	2,842	4,215	1,634	1,885	3,519
South-Eastern ...	570	1,912	2,482	853	1,684	2,537
South-Western ...	350	1,156	1,506	587	1,213	1,800
Midlands ...	593	1,995	2,588	665	2,050	2,715
North-Eastern ...	720	2,600	3,320	1,060	2,825	3,885
North-Western ...	1,723	5,457	7,180	1,762	4,122	5,884
Northern ...	1,366	3,284	4,650	1,291	2,468	3,759
Scotland ...	1,989	5,738	7,727	1,790	4,822	6,612
Wales ...	906	4,021	4,927	603	2,256	2,859
Special Schemes ...	—	23	23	—	11	11
Great Britain ...	9,590	29,028	38,618	10,245	23,336	33,581
N. Ireland ...	502	2,261	2,763	442	1,512	1,954
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ...	10,092	31,289	41,381	10,687	24,848	35,535

Note.—These figures include not only insured juveniles on the register, but also those whose unemployment books were in the "two months' file." (See paragraph below the Table in next column.) The effect of the inclusion of those with books in the two months' file is especially marked in the London Division.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT FOUR WEEKS ENDED 12TH DECEMBER, 1938.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
London ...	5,057	4,016	9,073	522	539	1,061
South-Eastern ...	1,156	1,067	2,223	137	112	249
South-Western ...	1,060	1,118	2,178	145	117	263
Midlands ...	1,770	1,632	3,402	362	395	757
North-Eastern ...	1,231	1,356	2,577	211	180	391
North-Western ...	2,432	2,402	4,834	450	424	874
Northern ...	944	1,145	2,089	170		

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: ADJUDICATIONS BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES.

THE Table below analyses for Great Britain for the period 1st to 31st December, 1938, inclusive, the decisions of Insurance Officers, of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire on doubtful claims for insurance benefit.

A.—DECISIONS OF INSURANCE OFFICERS*.

	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.
Claims allowed :—				
Grounds on which Insurance Officers have power to disallow ...	4,317	989	215	5,521
Grounds on which Insurance Officers have not power to disallow ...	10,147	13,291	2,242	25,680
Claims disallowed :—				
Contributions conditions :—				
(a) General Scheme ...	87	18	64	169
(b) Agricultural Scheme ...	2,971	877	333	4,181
Not unemployed ...	4,700	1,008	282	5,990
Other grounds on which Insurance Officers have power to disallow ...				
Total Claims disallowed ...	7,758	1,903	679	10,340

B.—DECISIONS OF COURTS OF REFEREES*.

(1) Appeals against Disallowances by Insurance Officers.

	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.
Claims allowed ...	175	29	5	209
Claims disallowed :—				
Contributions conditions :—				
(a) General Scheme ...	13	—	2	15
(b) Agricultural Scheme ...	—	—	—	—
Not unemployed ...	582	65	6	653
Other grounds ...	380	79	8	467
Total Claims disallowed ...	975	144	16	1,135

(2) Other Cases.

	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.
Claims allowed ...	3,682	3,637	777	8,096
Claims disallowed :—				
Contributions conditions :—				
(a) General Scheme ...	5	—	—	5
(b) Agricultural Scheme ...	2	—	—	2
Anomalies Orders :—				
Class (b)—seasonal workers ...	340	960	20	1,320
Class (c)—normal employment not more than 2 days a week ...	54	67	7	128
Class (d)—married women ...	—	3,761	—	3,761
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	4,675	3,481	1,953	10,109
Employment lost through misconduct Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	2,673	982	1,072	4,727
Not unemployed ...	1,051	1,708	423	3,182
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	292	37	11	340
Other grounds ...	619	1,211	177	2,007
Total Claims disallowed ...	335	86	649	1,070
Total Claims disallowed ...	10,046	12,293	4,312	26,651

C.—TRADE DISPUTE CASES.

	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	878	1,462	2,340	
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	15	66	81	
Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	4	8	12	
Juveniles ...	2	2	4	
Total Appeals ...	21	76	97	

D.—DEPENDANTS BENEFIT CASES.

	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	8,843	3,914	12,757	
Cases dealt with by Courts of Referees :—				
(1) Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers ...	127	426	553	
(2) Other cases ...	44	145	189	

E.—DECISIONS BY UMPIRE.

	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.
Appeals by the Chief Insurance Officer :—				
(1) Against disallowances ...	11	100	111	
(2) Against disallowances ...	38	13	51	
Appeals by Associations ...	45	93	138	
Appeals by Claimants ...	53	85	138	
Total ...	147	291	438	

* Except in "Trade Dispute" and "Dependants Benefit" cases, which are given separately in Parts C and D.

POOR RELIEF IN DECEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health and by the Department of Health for Scotland.)

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in December, 1938, in the forty-seven selected areas in Great Britain named below was 575,882, or 1.5 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 1.7 per cent. less than in December, 1937. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 351, 346, and 356 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number relieved in December was 456,158, an increase of 1.5 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, and a decrease of 1.5 per cent. as compared with December, 1937. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 119,724, or 1.7 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 2.5 per cent. less than in December, 1937.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in December numbered 67,814, or 0.1 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 6.0 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 508,068, or 1.7 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 1.1 per cent. less than in December, 1937.

Of the forty-seven areas, forty-three showed slight increases in the proportion of the population in receipt of relief in December, as compared with November, two showed slight decreases, while in two areas there was no change. Compared with December, 1937, thirty areas showed increases in the proportion of the population in receipt of relief, and seventeen areas showed decreases.

	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in December, 1938.			Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.		Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
County of London	20,575	74,607	95,182	232	—	8
Birkenhead ...	823	5,449	6,272	431	+ 6	- 31
Birmingham ...	4,471	14,419	18,890	183	+ 3	+ 2
Blackburn ...	717	2,843	3,560	312	+ 27	+ 38
Bolton ...	822	3,798	4,620	271	+ 6	+ 5
Bradford ...	986	6,508	7,494	259	+ 2	+ 11
Brighton ...	565	2,423	2,988	204	+ 2	+ 7
Bristol ...	1,970	7,970	9,940	239	+ 5	+ 15
Burnley ...	320	2,580	2,900	323	+ 10	+ 28
Cardiff ...	1,106	8,568	9,674	439	—	- 24
Coventry ...	374	1,815	2,189	107	- 2	- 1
Croydon ...	748	4,873	5,621	232	+ 7	+ 24
Derby ...	595	2,959	3,554	254	+ 5	+ 16
East Ham ...	639	3,619	4,258	325	+ 1	- 5
Gateshead ...	548	6,095	6,643	565	+ 11	+ 54
Huddersfield ...	480	1,565	2,045	166	+ 2	- 12
Kingston-upon-Hull ...	1,505	18,557	20,062	628	+ 13	+ 44
Leeds ...	1,096	12,912	14,008	285	+ 5	+ 8
Leicester ...	783	4,182	4,965	189	+ 1	+ 2
Liverpool ...	3,724	45,196	48,920	585	+ 8	- 65
Manchester ...	2,732	30,179	32,911	447	+ 8	- 6
Middlesbrough ...	356	3,878	4,234	302	+ 7	+ 12
Newcastle-upon-Tyne ...	800	11,705	12,505	431	+ 3	+ 1
Norwich ...	824	4,737	5,561	452	+ 11	+ 26
Nottingham ...	1,100	9,674	10,774	386	+ 14	+ 8
Oldham ...	854	3,169	4,023	315	+ 4	+ 11
Plymouth ...	437	4,681	5,118	243	+ 12	- 17
Portsmouth ...	839	2,920	3,759	147	+ 5	- 4
Preston ...	405	2,060	2,465	217	+ 7	+ 8
St. Helens ...	330	5,171	5,501	512	- 12	+ 21
Salford ...	491	6,252	6,743	354	+ 6	+ 8
Sheffield ...	1,298	20,127	21,425	413	+ 5	- 24
Southampton ...	1,230	4,340	5,570	312	+ 1	- 5
Southend-on-Sea ...	318	2,856	3,174	231	+ 8	+ 13
South Shields ...	424	4,700	5,124	462	+ 9	+ 31
Stockport ...	460	1,807	2,267	170	+ 5	- 7
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,752	8,885	10,637	390	+ 11	+ 6
Sunderland ...	728	11,908	12,636	691	+ 21	+ 20
Swansea ...	437	6,518	6,955	430	+ 7	+ 16
Walsley ...	266	2,030	2,296	242	+ 1	- 2
Walsall ...	267	2,922	3,189	299	+ 2	+ 35
West Ham ...	2,003	10,259	12,262	473	+ 1	- 5
Wolverhampton ...	591	2,673	3,264	227	+ 3	+ 2
Totals for above 42 County Boroughs ...	41,194	319,782	360,976	348	+ 6	- 2
Totals, London and 42 Boroughs ...	61,769	394,389	456,158	315	+ 4	- 4
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow ...	4,583	86,867	91,450	817	+ 14	- 29
Edinburgh ...	705	13,530	14,235	304	+ 2	- 3
Dundee ...	337	7,590	7,927	442	+ 9	+ 19
Aberdeen ...	420	5,692	6,112	343	+ 12	+ 9
Totals for above 4 Scottish Burghs ...	6,045	113,679	119,724	615	+ 10	- 17
Totals for all 47 areas above ...	67,814	508,068	575,882	351	+ 5	- 5

* The numbers stated include dependants of persons relieved. The figures include casuals, persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, rate-aided patients in mental hospitals in England and Wales, and lunatics and mental defectives in Scotland.

† 24th December in London, 31st December in the rest of England and Wales, and 15th December in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official and other 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 statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 12-13 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that in other countries.]

GERMANY.†

In Germany (excluding Austria and the Sudeten Areas), unemployment increased substantially during December. The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at the end of the month was 456,000,* as compared with 152,430† at the end of November, 1938, and 994,784 at the end of December, 1937.

In Austria (excluding incorporated Sudeten Areas), the number of unemployed registered at the end of December, 1938, was 150,000,* as compared with 112,745 at the end of November, 1938. At the end of December, 1937, the available statistics show that there were 368,637 persons registered as applicants for work.

FRANCE.§

Unemployment increased considerably during December. The total number of applicants for work remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 444,327, as compared with 404,957 at the end of November, 1938, and 394,330 at the end of December, 1937.

At the beginning of November, 1938, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport, and commercial undertakings covered by the official monthly investigation showed an increase of 1.24 per cent., as compared with November, 1937. In 8,213 undertakings in which, at 1st November, 1938, 2,350,063 persons were employed, the percentage of workpeople who were on short time to such an extent as to bring their weekly working time below the normal 40 hours was 16.61, as compared with corresponding percentages of 18.45 at 1st October, 1938, and 8.41 at 1st November, 1937. On the other hand, the percentages of workpeople in the undertakings concerned who were employed for more than the normal 40 hours were 11.59 at 1st November, 1938, 10.39 at 1st October, 1938, and 10.17 at 1st November, 1937.

BELGIUM.||

Returns received by the National Employment and Unemployment Office from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 956,933 showed that 13.0 per cent. of these were totally unemployed in September, 1938, as compared with 12.5 per cent. in August, 1938, and 10.0 per cent. in September, 1937. In addition, 15.1 per cent. were employed intermittently in September, 1938, as compared with 15.7 per cent. in August, 1938, and 9.3 per cent. in September, 1937. In September, 1938, 15.8 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 15.0 and in September, 1937, 11.5.

NETHERLANDS.¶

Unemployment increased during October. Figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges show that, of 491,403 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 29th October, 1938, 21.5 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 3.0 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 20.9 and 3.1, and in the last week of October, 1937, 23.1 and 3.0. At the end of October, 1938, 335,784 applicants for work were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 318,674 were unemployed; at the end of the previous month the corresponding totals were 318,947 and 301,730, and at the end of October, 1937, 356,869 and 340,436.

SWITZERLAND.**

Unemployment showed a further considerable increase during November. At the end of that month, 68,827 applications for employment (47.9 per thousand of the employed population according to the census of 1930) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 57,405 (40.0 per thousand) at the end of October, 1938, and 71,002 (49.4 per thousand) at the end of November, 1937. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 1,135, 1,506 and 1,311, respectively.

ITALY.††

According to a semi-official series of index-numbers compiled by the Fascist Confederation of Industrialists, employment in industrial undertakings increased in September, but declined in October, 1938. If the average monthly index of employment in industrial undertakings for the year 1929 be taken as 100, the corresponding index of employment at the end of October, 1938, was 113.5, as compared with 115.3 and 112.5† at the end of September and August, respectively. The corresponding figure at the end of October, 1937, was 109.6.

* Provisional figure. † Revised figure.
 ‡ Deutscher Reichsanzeiger und Preussischer Staatsanzeiger, 14th January, 1939. Berlin.
 § Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 9th December, 1938, and 7th January, 1939. Paris.
 ¶ Revue du Travail, December, 1938. Brussels.
 ** Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 30th November, 1938. The Hague.
 †† La Vie Economique, December, 1938. Berne.
 ††† Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, 21st December, 1938. Rome.

POLAND.‡

Unemployment increased further during October. The number of applicants for work remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 232,364, as compared with 212,283 at the end of September, 1938, and 262,954 at the end of October, 1937.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment increased in Denmark during December, in Norway during October and in Sweden during November.

Denmark.—According to returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds with a total membership of approximately 459,000, 32.5* per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of December, 1938, as compared with 22.7† per cent. at the end of November, 1938, and 34.6 per cent. at the end of December, 1937.

Norway.—Returns furnished by ten trade unions with a total membership of 89,169 show that 18.5 per cent. of this membership were unemployed at the end of October, 1938, as compared with 17.7 per cent. at the end of September, 1938, and 19.1 per cent. at the end of October, 1937.

Sweden.—Of a total of approximately 616,000 members covered by the returns of the reporting trade unions, 10.9* per cent. were unemployed at the end of November, 1938, as compared with 8.9 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 11.1 per cent. at the end of November, 1937.

UNITED STATES.**

According to returns received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics from employers, covering one-half of the aggregate number of wage-earners in manufacturing industries, the number of workpeople employed at the middle of October, 1938, showed an increase of 0.8 per cent., as compared with the previous month. Aggregate weekly earnings in the establishments covered increased also during the same period by 3.3 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries for the three years 1923-1925 be taken as 100††, the corresponding index for October, 1938, was 89.5, as compared with 88.8† for the previous month and 107.2 for October, 1937.

At the end of November, 1938, 7,529,384 applicants for work were registered at the Public Employment Exchanges comprised in, or affiliated to, the United States Employment Service, a decrease of 2.8 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 70.3 per cent. as compared with November, 1937. The increase between November, 1937, and November, 1938, is mainly due to the incentive to register provided in a number of States by the initiation in 1938 of unemployment compensation payments. Included among the registered applicants are a large number of persons provided with employment on public relief work schemes.

Reports received by the American Federation of Labour from affiliated trade unions in 24 cities showed that, in November, 1938, 16* per cent. of the membership of these unions covered by the returns were unemployed, as compared with 15 per cent. in October, 1938, and 14 per cent. in November, 1937.

ÉIRE.††

The number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges fell from 93,223 at 28th November to 88,380 at 19th December, 1938. At 20th December, 1937, the corresponding figure was 89,879.

CANADA.§§

Industrial employment showed

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN DECEMBER.

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 December in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an increase estimated at about £21,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 297,000 workpeople. Of the total amount of the increase the coal mining industry accounted for £17,000. No decreases were reported during the month.

Of the 297,000 workpeople whose wages were increased, about 264,000 were coal miners in Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire), Cannock Chase, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, and Scotland, the increases being due to fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry as shown by the district ascertained. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included workpeople employed in steel sheet rolling mills in various districts, for whom there was an increase of 5 in the percentage addition to basis rates amounting to about 3 per cent. on current rates; certain building trade operatives in Kincardineshire for whom there was an increase of ½d. per hour; tram and trolleybus drivers and conductors employed in London whose wages were increased by 2s. per week; galvanisers in England and Wales; skilled workers employed in the galvanised

section of the wrought hollow-ware trade in the Midlands; cokemen and by-product workers in Durham; and workpeople employed in cinema theatres at Hull.

Of the estimated total increase of £21,000 per week, about £19,200 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on selling prices or on the proceeds of the industry; about £250 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies; and the remaining £1,550 was due to direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Hours of Labour.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes during December in the number of hours constituting a full ordinary week's work affected about 1,200 workpeople whose hours were reduced by about 3 per week. The workpeople mainly concerned were building trade operatives in Kincardineshire, coopers employed in the fish curing industry in various districts in England and Scotland, and cinema employees in Hull.

Changes in Wages and Hours in 1938.

A special article dealing with these changes appears on pages 3 to 5 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	Buckinghamshire ...	18 Dec.	Male workers 20 years of age and over.	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 32s. 3d. per week at 20 years increasing to 35s. 6d. at 21 years and over.
Coal Mining	Northumberland ...	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Increase of 4.07 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 49.07 per cent. above the basis rates.†
	Nottinghamshire ...			Increase of 11.01 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 69.83 per cent. above the basis rates.†
	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire). Cannock Chase ...			Increase of 0.34 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 3.04 per cent. above the basis rates.†
Coal Mining	Leicestershire ...	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines, other than engine winders, deputies and firemen, examiners and shotlighters.	Increase of 1.11 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 47.09 per cent. above the basis rates.†
	Warwickshire ...			Increase of 0.29 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 47.40 per cent. above the basis rates.†
	Scotland ...			Increase of 1 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 76 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of the collieries and 71 per cent. at three other collieries. Subsistence wage payable to adult able-bodied surface workers increased by ½d. per shift (7s. 9d. to 7s. 9½d.).‡
Coke, etc., Manufacture.	Durham§ ...	1 Dec.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase of 1 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 44 per cent. above the basis rates.
	South Eastern Area¶	7 Dec.	Cast stone and cast concrete products workers.	Adoption of minimum hourly rates as follows: Zone A—grade 1, 1s. 1d., grade 2, 1s. 3½d.; Zone B—grade 1, 1s., grade 2, 1s. 2½d.; youths, 4½d. at 15 years increasing to 8d. at 18 years and to 11½d. at 20 years.¶
Steel Sheet Manufacture.	Various districts in Great Britain.**	5 Dec.	Workpeople employed in steel sheet rolling mills:—	Increase of 5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 77.5 per cent. above the basis rates.
			Adult workers (except general labourers). Boys and youths ...	Increase of 5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 85 per cent. above the basis rates for pryler, markers and scrap lads in the mill and 82.5 per cent. for others.
Galvanising	England and Wales††	5 Dec.	Workpeople employed in galvanising processes (excluding process of annealing):—	Increase of 5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 77.5 per cent. above the basis rates.
			Adult workers (except general labourers). Boys and youths ...	Increase of 5 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 85 per cent. above the basis rates for pryler, markers and scrap lads in the mill and 82.5 per cent. for others.
Wrought Hollow-ware Manufacture.	Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Lye and Stourbridge districts.	3 Dec.	Adult workers employed in the galvanised section of the wrought hollow-ware trade (except unskilled workers, whose wages are regulated by the Trade Board).	Restoration of deduction of 5 per cent. from basis time and piece rates previously in operation. Minimum time rate after change, 1s. 6d. per hour.
			Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the Nottingham District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd.	Adoption of weekly rates as follows:—foremen, 68s. 6d. to 73s. 6d., singlehands and secondhands, 65s., other adult male workers, 62s. 6d.; juniors—males, 15s. at 16 years increasing to 54s. 6d. at 22; females, 15s. at 16 years increasing to 43s. 6d. at 21; confectioners to receive 2s. per week extra.
Baking	Nottinghamshire and East Midlands district.	1st pay day in week commencing 28 Nov.	Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the Nottingham District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change include: masons, 1s. 7d.; other craftsmen, 1s. 6½d.; masons' labourers, 1s. 0½d.‡‡
Building	Kincardineshire ...	12 Dec.	Masons, joiners, plumbers, slaters and labourers.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change include: masons, 1s. 7d.; other craftsmen, 1s. 6½d.; masons' labourers, 1s. 0½d.‡‡

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in the weekly wages and hours of labour exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the wages and hours of these classes are shown in the list of principal changes recorded. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.

† Apart from the percentage additions to basis rates, certain flat-rate additions per day or per shift, granted in January, 1936, are paid to all workers, as well as "subsistence allowances" to adult day-wage workers for whom the basis rates plus the percentage additions do not yield certain specified amounts.

‡ This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Durham Coke Owners' Association.

§ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

¶ These rates were agreed to by The Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products Industry (South-Eastern Area) Joint Industrial Council. The Area— which covers Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, Berkshire, Surrey, Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, Isle of Wight and Middlesex, excluding a circle with a radius of fifteen miles from the Charing Cross—is divided into the following Zones: Zone A—all districts other than those covered by Zone B; Zone B—rural areas and small towns with a population under 4,000. The occupations are graded as follows: Grade 1—labourers and all men making repetition units; Grade 2—cast stone finishers. In addition it was agreed that piecework rates should be such as to yield not less than 25 per cent. over the minimum day work rates.

** This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the principal districts affected being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district. In the case of general labourers the minimum total wage remained unaltered at 50s. per normal week.

†† This increase affected mainly the employees of firms who are members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board. In the case of general labourers the minimum total wage remained unaltered at 50s. per normal week.

‡‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Road Passenger Transport.	London ...	7 Dec.	Tram and trolleybus drivers and conductors employed by the London Passenger Transport Board.	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: starting, 73s.; maximum, 82s. after 2 years.
Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services).	Shrewsbury ...	9 Dec.	Manual workers employed by the Corporation.	Adoption of Zone B2 rates* of wages resulting in increases of various amounts. Rates after change include: general yard and road labourers and road scavengers, 47s. 3½d.; refuse collectors, 49s. 2½d. per week.
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	5 Dec.	Skip and basket makers ...	Increase of 1 per cent. on list prices, making wages 83½ and 73½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
Entertainments	Hull ...	24 Oct.	Workers employed in cinema theatres.	Adoption of scales of minimum rates according to class of theatre, resulting generally in increases of various amounts. Minimum weekly rates include: projectionists—chief, 60s. to 90s., others, 32s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.; foremen, 47s. 6d. to 62s. 6d.; doormen and attendants, 37s. 6d. to 50s.; cashiers, 25s. to 35s.; usherettes, 18s. to 25s.†
	Glasgow and West of Scotland.	5 Dec.	Projectionist apprentices or probationers employed in cinema theatres.	Increase in the minimum rates of 2s. 6d. per week for those in the 1st to 4th years of apprenticeship and of 5s. for those in the 5th year. Minimum rates after change: 12s. 6d. in 1st year increasing to 40s. in 5th year.‡
	Islington, Smithfield and Aldgate Meat Markets.	21 Nov.	Workpeople employed in the loading and unloading of town killed beef.	Rates adopted as follows: loading—bodies, 10½d. each, hinds and forefibs, 10½d. pairs, quarters and shorts, 3d. each; unloading—bodies, 1s. 1½d. each, hinds and forefibs, 1s. 1½d. pairs, quarters and shorts, 3d. each.
Distributive Trades.	Smithfield Market ...	5 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the wholesale poultry trade.	Adoption of minimum rates resulting generally in increases of various amounts. Minimum weekly rates include: those entering the trade at 16 years of age, 30s., increasing to 65s. at 21 years; those entering the trade at 20 years, 50s., increasing to 65s. at 24 years; casual workers, 15s. per day.
	Belfast ...	17 Oct.	Yardmen and bag fillers employed in the coal trade.	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week for permanent men (58s. 6d. to 60s.) and adjustment in piece rates for casual men.
	Coleraine ...	26 Dec.	Lorry drivers and yardmen employed in the coal trade.	Adoption of minimum rates resulting in increases of various amounts. Minimum weekly rates: lorry drivers, 50s.; yardmen, 45s.
Distributive Trades.	Certain towns in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire.	1st pay day in week commencing 15 Oct.	Adult male and female dairy workers employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd.	Adoption of scales of minimum rates resulting in increases of various amounts. Minimum weekly rates include: foremen, 60s. to 73s. (according to number of employees or grade of Society); other workers, 2s. to 5s. in excess of current Trade Board (Areas A and B) rates for workers employed on work covered by Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts.‡‡
	Kent ...	1st pay day in week commencing 30 Oct.	Adult male dairy workers employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the Kent District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd.	Adoption of scales of 2s. 6d. to 4s. in excess of current Trade Board (Area B) rates for workers employed on work covered by Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts.
	Various towns in Great Britain.	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the retail boot and shoe trade.	Adoption of minimum rates resulting in increases of various amounts for some workers. Minimum weekly rates include: male workers—19s. and 16s. at 16 years increasing each year to 60s. and 57s. at 25 years and over; female workers—17s. and 14s. at 16 years increasing each year to 38s. and 35s. at 24 years and over—for London and Provinces respectively in each case.¶

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING DECEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Fish Curing	Various districts in England and Scotland.**	3 Dec.	Coopers and barrel makers ...	Weekly working hours reduced from 56 to 53.
Building	Kincardineshire ...	12 Dec.	Masons, joiners, plumbers, slaters and labourers.	Weekly working hours reduced from 49 to 44.††
Entertainments	Hull ...	24 Oct.	Workers employed in cinema theatres.	Adoption of a normal working week of 48 to 52 hours for projectionists, of 48 to 54 for other males and of 48 to 50 for females.‡‡

* In accordance with the recommendations of the West Midlands Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers).

† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

‡‡ These increases took effect under an agreement between the Cinema Exhibitors' Association (Scottish Branch) and the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees. The agreement also provides that qualified projectionists' wages shall be unchanged and that the ratio of apprentices or probationers employed shall not be more than one to each qualified projectionist.

¶ The Areas are as follows: Area A—Blechley, Leighton Buzzard, Newport Pagnell, Tring. Area B—Aylesbury, Bedford, Berkhamsted, Chesham and Wycombe, Croxley, Luton, St. Albans, Wolverton.

¶¶ This change affected mainly workers employed by member firms of the Multiple Shops Federation, and did not apply to towns with a population of less than 10,000.

** Including Aberdeen, Berwick, Buckie, Fraserburgh, Lerwick, Peterhead, Stornoway, Wick, Lowestoft and Yarmouth.

†† See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

The following Table shows the results of recent ascertainties of selling prices of pig-iron and of manufactured iron and steel, upon which are based changes in the rates of wages of certain classes of iron and steel and other workers in particular districts:—

Product and District	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price* per ton according to last Audit.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with	
			Previous Audit.*	A Year ago.*
Pig-iron: Lincolnshire ...	1938. July-Sept.	s. d. 101 8	s. d. - 1 3½	s. d. + 11 0
Nottingham District	July-Sept.	95 5½	+ 0 2½	+ 16 6
Manufactured Iron: West of Scotland	Sept.-Oct.	267 8½	+ 3 11½	- 2 5½
Steel: South-West Wales	July-Sept.	150 8	+ 0 6	+ 3 2

In accordance with the provisions of the agreements under which wages are regulated, the ascertainties resulted in an increase in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland and in a reduction in the wages of blastfurnacemen, ironstone miners and quarrymen in North Lincolnshire.

In the case of blastfurnacemen in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, ironstone and limestone quarrymen in Leicestershire and the adjoining parts of Lincolnshire, and Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales, the ascertainties did not warrant a change in wages.

For details of the changes in wages, reference should be made to pages 490 and 491 of the December, 1938, issue of this GAZETTE.

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

TRADE DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in December in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 30, as compared with 81 in the previous month and 40 in December, 1937. In these 30 new disputes about 7,400 workpeople were directly involved, and 800 workpeople 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 1,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 11 disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 41, involving 9,200 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during December, estimated at 29,000 working days.

Causes.—Of the 30 disputes beginning in December, 4, directly involving 500 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 6, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, on other wage questions; 12, directly involving 4,400 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 4, directly involving 100 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 4, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle.

Results.—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during December have been effected in the case of 19 new disputes, directly involving 6,300 workpeople, and 6 old disputes, directly involving 800 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 4, directly involving 300 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 13, directly involving 4,900 workpeople, were settled in favour of the

employers; and 8, directly involving 1,900 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 6 other disputes, directly involving 500 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

Analysis by Groups of Industries.

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying...	...	11	11	3,400	8,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding...	3	7	10	2,800	7,000
Building, etc. ...	3	5	8	1,900	10,000
Other ...	5	7	12	1,100	4,000
Total, December, 1938...	11	30	41	9,200	29,000
Total, November, 1938 ...	13	81	94	30,800	90,000
Total, December, 1937 ...	16	40	56	9,200	45,000

STATISTICS FOR 1938.

A summary of the statistics of disputes in 1938, with comparative statistics for 1937, and, in less detail, for earlier years, is given in the annual review on page 6 of this issue.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING DECEMBER

Occupations† and Locality.	Approximate Number of Work-people Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	In-directly.†	Began.	Ended.		
POTTERY, ETC. MANUFACTURE :— Workpeople employed in pipe and sanitary ware manufacture—Halifax (one firm).	202	...	21 Nov.	3 Dec.	Against introduction of a new system of wage payment, in place of existing piecework system, alleged to involve a reduction in earnings.	New system accepted for certain workpeople; the majority to remain on previous piece rates pending new terms to be agreed between firm and workpeople's trade union.
BUILDING :— Electricians—Chorley ...	450	...	30 Nov.	2 Dec.	Against employment of non-unionists (by other contractors) and discharge of a number of employees.	Work resumed on advice of officials of workpeople's trade union.
Carpenters and labourers—Runcorn	450‡	...	6 Dec.	16 Dec.	For increase in wages of 2d. per hour on a certain contract.	Increase of 1d. per hour awarded by National Joint Council for the Building Industry.
Bricklayers, carpenters, steel benders and labourers—London, W. (one firm).	795	...	8 Dec.	14 Dec.	Against dismissal of carpenters stated to be redundant.	Work resumed. Meeting arranged between firm and trade union to discuss differences.

* 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, etc.) exceeded 100 days.
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved, *i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.
‡ Estimated number.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

Statistics of workpeople killed in industrial accidents in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported in December are given below:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES—continued.
Brakemen, Goods Guards	Shipbuilding ... 6
Engine Drivers, Motormen	Other Metal Trades ... 1
Firemen ... 1	Cotton ... 1
Guards (Passenger) ... 1	Wool, Worsted, Shoddy ... 1
Permanent Way Men ... 2	Other Textile Manufacture ... 1
Porters ... 1	Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing ...
Shunters ... 3	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...
Mechanics ... 2	Food and Drink ... 4
Labourers ...	General Woodwork and Furniture ... 2
Other Grades ... 2	Paper, Printing, etc. ... 2
Contractors' Servants ...	Rubber ...
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	Gas Works ... 5
14	Electric Generating Stations 2
MINES AND QUARRIES.*	Other Industries ... 1
Under Coal Mines Acts:—	
Underground ... 60	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER ss. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
Surface ... 12	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships ... 7
Metalliferous Mines ... 1	Buildings ... 20
Quarries ... 5	Warehouses and Railways ... 1
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES	Works of Engineering Construction ... 8
78	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT... 87
FACTORIES.	Total (excluding Seamen) 179
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass ... 2	Seamen† ... 15
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc... 3	Total (including Seamen) 194
Metal Extracting, etc. ... 2	
Metal Conversion and Founding ... 9	
Engineering, Boilerwork, etc. 8	
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture ... 2	

* For mines and quarries the figures cover 4 weeks ended 31st December.
† All in Trading Vessels (Steam and Motor).

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE Table below shows the number of cases and deaths* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during December, under the Factories Act, 1937, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act:—

I. Cases.	I. Cases—continued.
LEAD POISONING.	CHROME ULCERATION.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Manufacture of Bichromates ... 1
Shipbreaking ... 1	Dyeing and Finishing ... 1
Printing ... 2	Chrome Tanning ... 8
White and Red Lead Works ... 2	Chromium Plating ... 2
Electric Accumulator Works ... 1	Other Industries ... 2
Shipbuilding ... 1	TOTAL ... 12
Painting of Buildings ... 2	TOTAL, Cases ... 51
TOTAL ... 9	
ANTHRAX.	II. Deaths.
Wool ... 2	LEAD POISONING.
Handling of Horsehair ...	Printing ... 1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 1	Painting of Buildings ... 1
Other Industries ... 1	TOTAL ... 2
TOTAL ... 4	ANTHRAX.
EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 1
Pitch ... 9	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.
Tar ... 8	Tar ... 1
Paraffin ... 9	Oil ... 5
Oil ... 9	TOTAL ... 6
TOTAL ... 26	TOTAL, Deaths... 9

* 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.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	55%
Food only ...	...	38%

FOOD.

At 31st December the average level of the retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was slightly lower than at 1st December. This was due to reductions in the prices of eggs, other changes in prices being relatively unimportant.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 38 per cent. at 31st December, 1938, as compared with 39 per cent. at 1st December, 1938, and 45 per cent. at 1st January, 1938.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st December, and 31st December, 1938:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 31st December, 1938, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1938.	31st Dec., 1938.	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1938.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 2½	1 2½	+ 4½	—
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1	—
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 2½	—
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 5	0 5	+ 0½	—
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 4½	—
Breast ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1	—
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 3½	—
Breast ...	0 4	0 4	0 4	—	—
Bacon (streaky)†	0 11½	1 3	1 3	+ 3½	—
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 2	1 2	+ 3½	—
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 2½	—
Tea ...	1 6½	2 4½	2 4½	+ 10	—
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	—
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 7	0 7	+ 3½	—
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 4½	1 4½	+ 2	—
Salt ...	1 2½	1 3	1 3½	+ 1	+ 0½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 2	—
Margarine ...	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	- 0½	—
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 2½	0 2	+ 0½	- 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 1	+ 0½

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) at 31st December, 1938, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average Inc. or Dec. (-) for 1st Dec., 1938.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	43	43	43	43
Thin Flank ...	14	16	15	15
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	31	34	33	32
Thin Flank ...	-1	7	3	2
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	42	48	45	45
Breast ...	13	16	14	14
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	53	49	51	50
Breast ...	-5	6	3	3
Bacon (streaky)†	34	35	35	33
Fish ...	121	98	109	104
Flour ...	50	33	31	32
Bread ...	47	47	47	47
Tea ...	52	54	53	53
Sugar (granulated) ...	25	19	22	22
Milk ...	91	106	98	99
Butter—				
Fresh ...	9	18	14	13
Salt ...	5	9	7	6
Cheese† ...	24	26	25	24
Margarine ...	-7	-10	-9	-9
Eggs (fresh) ...	75	74	75	94
Potatoes ...	26	10	18	16
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	38	39	38	39

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, enquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled

* As 1st January fell on a Sunday, the statistics relate to 31st December, in accordance with the usual practice.
† If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.
‡ The description of cheese for which prices are quoted is in most cases Canadian or New Zealand, but in some districts the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 31st December, 1938, was approximately 53 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in controlled and decontrolled working-class rents (including rates) is approximately 61 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase shown below for "all items."

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 the 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. Information which has been collected, however, from retailers in the principal towns as to the prices of clothing bought by working-class families indicates that for articles of, as far as possible, similar quality at each date, the average increase in retail prices between July, 1914, and 31st December, 1938, was between 105 and 110 per cent. For the separate groups of items included, the percentage increases were approximately: men's suits and overcoats 80, woollen material for women's outer clothing 150, woollen underclothing and hosiery 135-140, cotton material for women's outer clothing 140-145, cotton underclothing material and hosiery 110-115, boots and shoes 95-100.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal were, on the average, between 95 and 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas was approximately 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 31st December, as compared with July, 1914, was between 80 and 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 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st December, 1938, is approximately 55 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 56 per cent. at 1st December, 1938, and 59 per cent. at 1st January, 1938.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken now 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). In view of the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities, it is probable that economies or readjustments 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, the standard of living has doubtless risen in many cases 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 comprehensive statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1938.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1938:—

Year.	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921	165	151	141	133	128	119	113	122	120	110	103	99
1922	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	68
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	57	57	57
1931	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	45	48
1932	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934	42	41	40	39	37	38	41	42	43	43	44	44
1935	43	42	41	39	39	40	43	43	43	45	47	47
1936	47	47	46	44	44	44	46	46	47	48	51	51
1937	51	51	51	51	52	52	55	55	55	58	60	60
1938	59	57	56	54	56	55	59	56	55	56	56	56

For 31st December, 1938, the percentage was 55.

A review of the changes in the cost of living during 1938 appears on page 5 of this issue.

NOTE.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 3d. net (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. In every case, the percentage calculation is based on the cost of a fixed list of commodities taken in identical quantities.

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, 1935.	July, 1936.	July, 1937.	July, 1938.	Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1938.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	26	29	40	46	38	31 Dec.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czecho-Slovakia (Prague) ...	585	575	579	582	587	Aug. '37
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	19	14	10	8	898	Sept. '37
Finland‡ ...	809	792	870	865	898	Sept. '37
France (Paris) ...	325	352	500	588	656	Dec. '37
Germany (other towns) ...	305	352	477	554	590	Nov. '37
Germany (Vienna) ...	23	24	25	24	21	Dec. '37
Netherlands (Amsterdam) ...	2	0	0	0	-2	Nov. '37
Norway ...	18	19	30	30	28	Nov. '37
Portugal ...	40	45	61	68	62	Nov. '37
Sweden† ...	1,899	1,963	1,938	1,928	1,907	Oct. '37
Switzerland ...	32	35	41	45	45	Oct. '37
Switzerland ...	15	20	31	29	30	Nov. '37
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.						
Australia‡ ...	25	27	31	39	38	Nov. '37
Canada ...	3	9	17	17	13	Dec. '37
Eire ...	40	45	54	59	63	Nov. '37
New Zealand ...	18	25	35	41	40	Nov. '37
South Africa ...	2	1	2	7	5	Nov. '37

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, 1935.	July, 1936.	July, 1937.	July, 1938.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1938.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A.B.C.D.E	43	46	55	59	55	31 Dec.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A.C.D.E	554	574	640	655	672	Nov.
Czecho-Slovakia (Prague) ...	A.B.C.D.E	617	609	623	648	650	Aug.
Denmark ...	A.B.C.D.E	73	74	80	82	82	Oct.
Egypt (Cairo) ...	A.B.C.D.E	30	30	28	31	32	Oct.
Finland ...	A.B.C.D.E	896	888	952	961	986	Oct.
France (Paris) ...	A.B.C.D.E	369††	404††	530††	589††	589	3rd Qr.
Germany (Vienna) ...	A.B.C.D.E	24	25	26	27	25	Dec.
Netherlands (Amsterdam) ...	A.B.C.D.E	5	4	5	4	2	Dec.
Italy (Rome) ...	A.B.C.D.E	36	31	39	39	37	Nov.
Norway ...	A.B.C.D.E	300	324	363	399	398	Sept.
Sweden ...	A.B.C.D.E	51	55	68	73	70	Nov.
Switzerland ...	A.B.C.D	56	58	62	66	67	Oct.
Switzerland ...	A.B.C.D	28	30	37	37	37	Nov.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia ...	A.B.C.D.E	22††	25††	28††	31††	31	3rd Qr.
Canada ...	A.B.C.D.E	23	26	30	32	31	Dec.
Eire ...	A.B.C.D.E	56	59	70	73	76	Nov.
New Zealand ...	A.B.C.D.E	33	37	47	51	51	Nov.
South Africa ...	A.B.C.D.E	16	16	18	23	22	Nov.

* Exceptions to this are: Finland, Italy (Rome), January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Portugal, South Africa, 1914; Egypt, Germany (other than Vienna), 1913-1914; Netherlands, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are weighted averages for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, at Vienna, on prices converted at the rate of 1.44 Schilling equals one pre-war Krone, and, in the other cities or countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.

† Fuel and light are also included in these figures.
‡ The method of calculation was revised in 1937.
§ Figure for August.
|| The figures for 1936 and subsequent years are on a revised basis.
¶ Figure for June.
** A = Food; B = House-rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.
†† Figure for 3rd Quarter.
‡‡ The method of calculation was revised during the latter half of 1936.
§§ Decrease.
||| Revised figure.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

DECEMBER, 1938.

RETURNS as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during December, have been received from 141* of the 146 Local Authorities which supply such information to the Department.

The returns received from these 141 Authorities (representing towns with a total population of 17,267,000 in 1931) are summarised in the following Table, in which are also given the total figures for December, 1937, in respect of the same 141 Authorities:—

District.	Dwelling-Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and Other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings; and Additions and Alterations to existing Buildings.	Total.
ENGLAND AND WALES—						
Northern Counties	115,500	11,100	6,200	39,000	19,500	191,300
Yorkshire	616,500	23,600	161,500	231,400	144,600	1,177,600
Lanes and Cheshire	218,300	46,100	57,900	87,800	127,100	537,200
North and West-Midland	905,100	321,600	218,500	64,100	194,700	1,703,800
South-Midland & Eastern	117,400	10,900	26,500	60,000	22,300	237,100
Outer London†	641,200	87,800	259,600	43,700	115,900	1,148,200
South-Eastern	432,900	4,900	27,300	2,500	54,700	522,300
South-Western	65,200	3,000	5,200	37,000	15,300	126,700
Wales and Mon.	164,800	30,500	20,700	7,900	24,600	248,500
SCOTLAND ...	634,600	2,800	23,100	114,400	198,400	973,300
TOTAL, Dec., 1938	3,912,500	542,300	806,300	687,800	917,100	6,866,000
Total, Dec., 1937	6,954,500	615,800	636,600	751,700	931,700	9,890,300

For all classes of buildings combined, the total for December shows an increase of 3.0 per cent. as compared with the corresponding total for November, but a decrease of 30.6 per cent. as compared with December, 1937.

NOVEMBER, 1938.

In last month's issue of this GAZETTE figures were given for 144 Local Authorities in respect of plans approved during November, 1938. Returns for the latter month are now available for all of the 146 Local Authorities covered by the Department's enquiries (representing towns with a total population of 17,864,000 in 1931). The estimated cost of the buildings included in the returns was £7,086,100, compared with £8,368,400 in October, 1938, and £8,309,000 in November, 1937. Of the total for November, 1938, dwelling-houses accounted for £4,003,700; factories and workshops, £747,400; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises, £737,700; churches, schools and public buildings, £789,900; other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, £807,400. The number of dwelling-houses for which plans were approved by the 146 Authorities in November was 8,047, as compared with 9,841 in October, 1938, and 11,340 in November, 1937.

SHIPBUILDING: 4TH QUARTER, 1938.

ACCORDING to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland, at the end of December, 1938, amounted to 779,762 tons. This was 105,719 tons less than at the end of September, 1938, and 345,664 tons less than at the end of December, 1937. The figures for the present quarter include 7,017 tons on which work was suspended.

The tonnage commenced during the quarter was 87,632 tons; an increase of 169 tons as compared with the corresponding total for the September quarter.

The tonnage launched during the quarter under review was 241,627 tons; a decrease of 68,143 tons compared with the previous quarter.

The total horse power of marine engines under construction or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of December, 1938, amounted to 726,020 h.p., as compared with 852,586 h.p. in the previous quarter.

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

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
NEW REGULATIONS.

THE Home Secretary has made the following Regulations, under the Factories Act, 1937, to have effect from the dates indicated:—

The Biscuit Manufacture (Overtime) Regulations, 1938, modifying the provisions of section 73 of the Act, as to overtime, to meet seasonal or other special pressure of work. *Effective from 13th December, 1938.*

The Glass Bottles and Jars (Overtime) Regulations, 1938, modifying the provisions of section 73 of the Act, as to overtime, to meet seasonal or other special pressure of work. *Effective from 31st December, 1938.*

Copies of the Regulations can be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d. net (1½d. post free).

* The outstanding returns were distributed as follows:—Northern Counties (one); South-Midland and Eastern (one); South-Eastern (one); Wales and Mon. (one); and Scotland (one).
† Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

× Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

FAILURE TO KEEP MACHINERY PROPERLY FENCED.

In this case proceedings had been taken under sections 10 (1) (c) and 136 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, by a factory inspector against J. J. Lane, Limited, of Cranbrook Street, Old Ford Road, London, E., for failing to have machinery properly fenced in consequence whereof an employee named Jack Albert Foster had sustained bodily injury. The summons against the Company came before Mr. F. O. Langley at Old Street Police Court on 31st December, 1937, when it was dismissed. A summons by the Company against Foster under section 141 (1) of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, alleging that he was the actual offender, was also dismissed. The factory inspector appealed by way of case stated on the question whether in dismissing the summons against the Company the magistrate came to a correct determination in point of law. The Divisional Court allowed the appeal of the factory inspector and sent the case back to the magistrate with a direction to find that the offence charged against the Company was proved. The proceedings in the Divisional Court were reported at pages 496-7 of THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for December 1938. The matter now came before Mr. F. O. Langley again pursuant to the order of the Divisional Court.

Counsel for the Company informed the magistrate that Foster had acted in disobedience to orders in working the machine before a guard was fixed. Guards were fixed on all machines and the Company's foreman was specially instructed that no machine must be worked without a guard. Counsel also stated that the Company had been in business for 100 years and no proceedings under the Factory Act, or any other Act in connexion with their business, had ever been taken against them.

The magistrate, Mr. F. O. Langley, said he thought that anybody who heard the original proceedings and saw the conduct of the parties would feel that suspicions of bad faith on the part of the Company could not be justified. Regarding the suggestion that Foster did not give evidence because he was intimidated, Mr. Langley said: "Anybody who saw Foster would have seen that he was not the type of young man who was likely to be intimidated by anybody." Foster had been represented in Court by Counsel, who was there to fight the employers, and not to assist them. Regarding the Company, Mr. Langley said: "I must say that they were not guilty of any intimidation or lack of good faith in this Court." Mr. Langley said that had he convicted when the case was first before him he would have dealt with it under the Probation of Offenders Act. In view of that he imposed a fine of 20s. Replying to Counsel for the Company, Mr. Langley made it clear that he considered there had been no intimidation and no bad faith on the part of anybody.—*Macloed v. J. J. Lane, Limited, Old Street Police Court. 16th December, 1938.*

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

✓ QUESTION WHETHER WORKMAN WHO IS INJURED AS A RESULT OF HIS OWN RASHNESS IS ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION.

This was an appeal to the House of Lords by a workman whose claim to compensation had been dismissed by the county court Judge and by the Court of Appeal. The claim arose out of an accident which occurred at the employers' works on 11th December, 1936, as a result of which the workman lost his right hand. The workman was employed at times to stand in water, and in accordance with a recognised practice he used sacking to protect his trousers. In the course of his employment he was entitled to dry the sacking at the end of each day, and was permitted by his employers to do so either at a stove or at the unfenced orifice of the revolving fan of a turbine in the motor room. On the day in question the workman whilst drying his sacking held his hand too near the fan. The sacking was caught by the fan, and the workman's right hand was also caught and was severed by the blades of the fan. The county court Judge's view was that though in drying the sacking the workman was doing something in the course of his employment, yet as he was acting with extreme rashness he was not entitled to an award. The Court of Appeal dismissed the workman's appeal. The workman's appeal to the House of Lords was heard by Lord Atkin, Lord Thankerton, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Macmillan and Lord Wright. The House (Lord Russell of Killowen dissenting) allowed the workman's appeal and the case was remitted to the county court Judge to award compensation.

Lord Atkin in delivering judgment said that he could not assent to the doctrine that though a man might be doing a piece of work within his employment, and might still be within his employment if he did it carelessly, yet if he did the same piece of work very carelessly he might be found to be doing something outside his employment. Once it had been found that the work which he was seeking to do was within his employment the question of negligence, great or small, was irrelevant, and no amount of negligence in doing an employment job could change the workman's action into a non-employment job.

Lord Russell of Killowen in his dissenting judgment expressed the opinion that on the authorities the House was bound to hold that if the accident had been brought about by an act of the workman of a nature so perilous that no one could be employed to do such an act, then the workman could not recover, because the accident could not be said to have arisen out of and in the course of his employment.—*Harris v. Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, Limited. House of Lords. 15th December, 1938.*

QUESTION WHETHER WORKMAN WHO RECOVERS ONLY THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION ADMITTED BY HIS EMPLOYER IS ENTITLED TO AN AWARD.

The question in these proceedings turned on section 21 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, which provides in sub-section (1): "If any question arises in any proceedings under this Act as to the liability to pay compensation under this Act . . . or as to the amount or duration of compensation under this Act . . . the question, if not settled by agreement, shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be settled by the arbitration . . . of an arbitrator, or of a Judge of county courts in accordance with the First Schedule to this Act." The facts of the case were that from the 18th February, 1936, (when the workman was injured by accident) until 26th April, 1938, the employers paid the workman weekly compensation at the rate of 30s. a week. On the latter date the employers sought to reduce the weekly payment to 21s. 6d. on the ground that the workman was not totally incapacitated for work, but was now able to earn in suitable employment or business wages which did not entitle him to compensation at a greater rate than 21s. 6d. a week. In May, 1938, the workman commenced arbitration proceedings under the Act claiming a weekly payment at the rate of 30s. compensation from 26th April, 1938. The county court Judge came to the conclusion that the employers were right in saying that the applicant was only partially incapacitated to the extent of 21s. 6d. a week, and gave judgment for the employers. He refused an application by the workman's solicitor for an award in favour of the workman for 21s. 6d. The workman appealed claiming that there ought to be an award in his favour for 21s. 6d. a week, which was the sum which the arbitrator decided that he was entitled to receive. The Court of Appeal (Slesser, Clauson, and Goddard, L.J.J.) allowed the workman's appeal and ordered that there must be an award in his favour for 21s. 6d. a week. Lord Justice Slesser after reviewing the facts of the case said that there was clearly, in his opinion, a question arising between the parties—namely, whether this workman was incapacitated to the extent of 30s. a week compensation, or to the extent of 21s. 6d. a week compensation, or to some other intermediate sum. The fact that the employers conceded that they were liable for 21s. 6d. a week compensation did not disentitle the workman to an award, once there was an issue between the parties under section 21, which there was in this case, in that the employers were saying that the workman was only entitled to 21s. 6d. and the workman saying that he was entitled to 30s.—*Howard v. Charles P. Kinnell and Company, Limited. Court of Appeal. 30th November, 1938.*

WORKMAN'S DEATH FROM MOSQUITO BITES—WHETHER ACCIDENT AROSE "OUT OF" HIS EMPLOYMENT.

These proceedings were brought by the mother of a deceased man claiming as a dependant under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925. The son of the applicant was a sailor employed in a ship called the Sea Rambler, which, in 1936, left South Shields on a voyage to West Africa. After calling at various ports the ship sailed from Dakar to Kaolakh and from thence up a river to Zinghichov. After the ship left Zinghichov a number of serious illnesses occurred among the crew. Some of the men died on board, and some, including the applicant's son, were taken to hospital at Funchal, where, among others, the applicant's son died. The county court Judge came to the conclusion that the applicant's son died as a result of either malaria or yellow fever, or perhaps of both combined; that it seemed very much more probable that it was yellow fever than malaria or yellow fever and malaria rather than malaria alone; and that death was caused by mosquito bites, the mosquitos being in the ship when it was around about the port of Zinghichov. The county court Judge considered himself bound by the authorities to hold that the applicant had failed to prove that the accident arose out of the employment, and that therefore she was not entitled to compensation. The learned Judge assessed the compensation at £180 in the event of it being held on appeal that the applicant was entitled to compensation. The applicant appealed.

The Court of Appeal (Slesser, Clauson, and Goddard, L.J.J.) allowed the appeal. Lord Justice Slesser in the course of his judgment said that it was not really disputed that the accident was in the course of the employment, the whole question being whether or not the accident arose out of the employment. The learned Lord Justice cited with approval a proposition of Lord Justice Russell in an earlier case that sufficient causal relation or causal connexion between the accident and the employment is established if the man's employment brought him to the particular spot where the accident occurred, and the spot in fact turns out to be a dangerous spot. If such a locality risk is established then the accident "arises out of" the employment, even though the risk which caused the accident was neither necessarily incidental to the performance of the man's work, nor one to which he was abnormally subjected.—*Craig v. Dover Navigation Company, Limited. Court of Appeal. 23rd November, 1938.*

ROAD HAULAGE WAGES ACT.

THE ROAD HAULAGE CENTRAL WAGES BOARD (MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS) REGULATIONS, 1939.

THE ROAD HAULAGE AREA WAGES BOARDS (MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS) REGULATIONS, 1939.

The above Regulations were made by the Minister of Labour on 2nd January, 1939. Copies may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office; the price of each is 1d. net (1½d. post free).

INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919 AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Recent Proceedings.

INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

MACHINISTS: H.M. DOCKYARDS.—The trade union side of the Ship-building Trade Joint Council for Government Departments submitted a claim that the basic rate of pay of engineering machinists employed in H.M. Dockyards and other Admiralty industrial establishments at home should be increased from 44s. to 48s. a week, the rate paid to mechanics. The Admiralty opposed the claim and submitted that although the skill and ability shown by men of the machinist group vary appreciably the rate paid is sufficiently high and compares favourably with outside rates. The Court noted that the present method of assessing the rate for machinists, although having certain advantages, might in practice operate to the disadvantage of men possessing special qualifications or skill or employed on higher class work, and referred the claim back to the parties for further consideration.—Award No. 1717; dated 2nd December, 1938.

CIVIL SERVICE ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

MALE CLERKS: AIR MINISTRY OUTSTATIONS.—The Civil Service Clerical Association claimed a scale of £180—£12—£320 for male clerks, below the rank of air service clerk, grade III, employed in Air Ministry outstations; they also claimed that the annual leave allowance should be 24 days. The award provided a scale of £170—£7 10s.—£230 in the London postal area, with the appropriate intermediate and provincial differentiation, together with an annual leave allowance of 21 days, but made no award in regard to clerks recruited on a strictly temporary or casual basis.—Award No. 39; dated 1st December, 1938.

MANIPULATIVE GRADES: POST OFFICE.—The Union of Post Office Workers, the National Guild of Telephonists, the Association of Counter Clerks and Telegraphists, the Guild of Postal Sorters and the Post Office Clerks' Association (Northern Ireland) submitted claims for increased scales of pay for the grades concerned. The workpeople directly covered by the claims numbered approximately 150,000 divided among seventeen grades. They comprised the principal male manipulative grades of the Post Office, including nearly all the male staff employed on the transmission and delivery of postal packets and telegrams and on counter duties. The great majority of the staff, both male and female, employed on telephone operating were also included.

The Tribunal awarded as from 1st October, 1938, advances of pay of varying amounts, and stated that, in reaching their conclusions, they had taken into consideration changes in the cost of living and other economic conditions of the country, comparisons with wages in outside industry, and alterations in the work of the different grades concerned.

With regard to the transfer of the existing staff to the new scales of pay awarded, the Tribunal made some departure from the Civil Service practice, whereby staff normally enter new scales at the minimum, or at their existing salaries, and officers who have been at the maximum a year or more receive an increment on the new scale. The Tribunal stated that it was their intention that all officers should receive the full benefit of the new scales within a reasonable time. They awarded immediate increases generally of 3s. a week and made provision whereby on or before 1st October, 1940, all officers should be placed at the points on the new scales commensurate with length and conditions of service in their particular grade.—Awards Nos. 40-44; dated 2nd December, 1938.

SUPERVISING GRADES: POST OFFICE.—The Federation of Post Office Supervising Officers claimed improved scales of pay for the supervising grades employed in the Post Office. The staff concerned numbered approximately 9,500 of whom 2,600 are women. The Tribunal awarded increased scales of varying amounts as from 1st April, 1938. With regard to the transfer of the existing staff to the new scales, the Tribunal departed from the normal Civil Service practice and awarded an immediate increment of £10 a year or 3s. 6d. a week, and made provision that on or before 1st April, 1940, all officers should be placed at the points on the new scales commensurate with their length of service in their particular grade.—Award No. 45; dated 7th December, 1938.

OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

SMITHFIELD MEAT MARKET.—A dispute between the Home Killed Meat Association Limited and the London and Home Counties Haulage Contractors' Association (Smithfield Section) on the one hand, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers on the other, regarding alleged delay in the conclusion of a collective agreement led to a stoppage of work on 20th November, 1938, by workers employed in loading and unloading town killed beef. The dispute was reported to the Ministry of Labour, and after a joint conference under the chairmanship of a Chief Conciliation Officer, work was resumed pending further negotiations on 23rd November, 1938. At a further joint meeting held under Departmental auspices, an agreement, operative from 21st November, 1938, fixing the wages and conditions of employment of the workpeople in question at Smithfield, Islington and Aldgate Markets was concluded on 2nd December, 1938. The agreement also provides procedure for dealing with disputes.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).
Order R. (58), dated 20th December, 1938, confirming the variation of general minimum piece rates for certain classes of female home-workers, and specifying 2nd January, 1939, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order P. (22), dated 23rd December, 1938, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates, and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and specifying 9th January, 1939, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

REGULATIONS.

Button Manufacturing Trade Board (Great Britain).
Regulations (S.R. and O. 1938, No. 1497) dated 12th December, 1938, made by the Minister of Labour under section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Button Manufacturing Trade Board (Great Britain).

TRADE BOARDS INSPECTORATE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS IN SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION (II).
The following amendment is required in the list of addresses of the South-Eastern Trade Boards Divisional Offices which was published on page 370 of the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1937:—

South-Eastern Division (II) (comprising London—South-West and West; Surrey and Sussex):—Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. (Tel. No.: Whitehall 6200).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

PROVISION OF MEALS, MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT, AND MILK AND BISCUITS AT COURSES OF INSTRUCTION IN SCOTLAND.

In pursuance of Sections 1 and 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1938, the Minister of Labour, on 25th November, 1938, made a Scheme under which proposals may be submitted to him by Education Authorities in Scotland for the purpose of exercising their powers under the Act to provide medical treatment and meals for unemployed boys and girls attending authorised courses of instruction, and further to provide free milk and biscuits for all juveniles attending such courses. The Minister also on the same date amended Section 13 of the Unemployment Act, 1934, so as to enable Education Authorities in Scotland to provide for the medical inspection of juveniles attending authorised courses, whether or not recommended for this purpose by the superintendent of the course.

A Memorandum*, in which the above Scheme and the amendment to the Act of 1934 are printed as Appendices, has been issued for the guidance of Education Authorities in putting into effect the various measures for which provision is made. Special attention is directed to arrangements which might suitably be made for ensuring the medical inspection of juveniles attending courses in areas of heavy unemployment (conditionally that no boy or girl is compelled to submit to inspection). Where meals are provided the Minister is anxious that there should be no delay in the selection of juveniles who are in need of them, and Authorities are recommended to arrange, under the new provision for medical inspection, for periodical visits from a School Medical Officer to ensure the early detection of signs of subnormal nutrition.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices are net, and do not include postage.]

AGRICULTURE.—*Social Problems in Agriculture.* Studies and Reports Series K (Agriculture) No. 14. [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King and Son, Ltd.; price 4s.]

CHOICE OF CAREERS.—*Choice of Career Series:* No. 25 (revised). *Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES.—*Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1937, Part 3. Industrial and Provident Societies.* [S.O. publication; price 2s. 6d.]

LABOUR CONDITIONS.—*Labour Conditions in Indo-China.* Studies and Reports Series B (Economic Conditions) No. 26. [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King and Son, Ltd.; price 7s. 6d.]

MINING.—(i) *Royal Commission on Safety in Coal Mines report.* [Cmd. 5890; price 7s. 6d.] (ii) *The World Coal-Mining Industry.* Studies and Reports Series B (Economic Conditions) No. 31. Vol. I. *Economic Conditions.* Vol. II. *Social Conditions.* [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King and Son, Ltd.; price 8s. each.] (iii) *Statistical summary of output, and of costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th September, 1938.* Mines Department. [Cmd. 5918; price 1d.]

* "Memorandum on the Provision of Meals, Medical Inspection and Treatment, and Milk and Biscuits by Education Authorities for Boys and Girls attending Authorised Courses of Instruction in Scotland." (A.C.M. 10 (5)) H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net (3½d. post free).

POOR RELIEF.—*Persons in receipt of poor relief (England and Wales), July-September, 1938.* Ministry of Health. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES.—*Return showing the total expenditure in England and Wales during the financial years 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1936 and 1937 respectively, and the total number of persons directly benefiting from the expenditure for the financial year 1936, together with similar particulars for Scotland.* [Cmd. 5906; price 4d.]

SPECIAL AREAS.—(i) *Report of the Commissioner for the Special Areas (England and Wales).* September, 1938. Ministry of Labour. [Cmd. 5896; price 2s.] (ii) *Report of the Commissioner for the Special Areas (Scotland).* September, 1938. Scottish Office. [Cmd. 5905; price 1s. 6d.]

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT.—*Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom for each of the fifteen years 1915 and 1924 to 1937. Eighty-second number.* Board of Trade (in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour and the Registrars-General.) [Cmd 5903; price 7s.]

UNEMPLOYED BOYS AND GIRLS.—*Memorandum on the provision of meals, medical inspection and treatment, and milk and biscuits, by Education Authorities for boys and girls attending authorised courses of instruction, Scotland.* A.C.M.10(S). Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 3d.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of November, 1938.* U.I. Code 8B. Pamphlet No. 11/1938. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 2d.]

VITAL STATISTICS.—*The Registrar-General's Statistical Review of England and Wales for the year 1936.* (New Annual Series No. 16.) Text. [S.O. publication; price 3s.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, DECEMBER, 1938.

ADMIRALTY.

Air Compressing Equipments: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Alternators, Motor:** Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., St. Mary Cray.—**Anchors:** W. L. Byers, Ltd., Sunderland; Brown Lennox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd.—**Barrels, Steel:** Steel Barrel Co., Ltd., Uxbridge.—**Bars, Aluminium Copper:** Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Batteries:** Accumulators of Woking (1928), Ltd., Woking; Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., London, N.—**Battery Control Units:** Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon.—**Blades, Turbine:** Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wallsend.—**Block, Hoist:** Wharton Crane & Hoist Co., Ltd., Stockport. Sub-Contractors for Motor: Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear: Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton.—**Blocks, Geared:** Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester; Wm. Thomson & Co. (Kinning Park), Ltd., Glasgow; Rowland Priest, Cradley Heath; Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Blocks, Gunmetal:** John Brown & Co., Ltd., Clydebank; A. G. Wild & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Ansell Jones & Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Blocks, Overhead:** Wharton Crane & Hoist Co., Ltd., Stockport; Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Boats, Drifter and Booms:** John Walters, Milford Haven; Sittingbourne Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne; F. H. Wells & Co., Gravesend.—**Boats, Motor:** J. Taylor (Chertsey), Ltd., Chertsey; Risdon Beazley Marine Trading Co., Ltd., Southampton; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton; Groves & Guttridge, Ltd., East Cowes. Sub-Contractors for Electrical Equipment: J. B. Marr & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; E. H. Ruddock, Brightlingsea. Sub-Contractors for Machinery: W. H. Dorman & Co., Stafford; E. H. Ruddock, Brightlingsea.—**Boilers, etc.:** Cochran & Co. (Annan), Ltd., Annan; Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., Nottingham. Sub-Contractors for Boiler Mountings: Dewrance & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors for Pumps: Dawson & Downie, Clydebank. Sub-Contractors for Tanks: Joseph Ash & Co., Birmingham. Sub-Contractors for Calorifiers: Hartley & Sugden, Halifax. Sub-Contractors for Steam and Drain Piping: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow. Sub-Contractors for Condense Piping: Yorkshire Copper Co., Ltd., Leeds. Sub-Contractors for Steam Traps: Holden & Brooke, Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Steam Stop Valves: Knowsley Cast Metal Co., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Lagging for Pumps: Newalls Insulation Co., London, S.E.—**Boots, Ankle:** R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Raunds; Owen Smith (Raunds), Ltd., Stanwick.—**Boxes, Cap:** Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Breakers, Main Ring:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton, Lancs.—**Breathing Apparatus, Spares:** Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Brooms and Brushes:** W. & F. Archer (1935), Ltd., London, N.; Newton & Cook, London, S.W.; Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse; James Root & Son, Bletchley; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; David Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham.—**Bunting:** William Bancroft & Sons of Halifax, Ltd., Halifax; C. B. Brook & Co., Ltd., Drighlington.—**Cable Installation:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cambric, Proofing of:** Thomas Briggs (Manchester), Ltd., Manchester.—**Canvas Drab:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Caps, Blue Cloth:** Army & Navy Hat & Cap Co., Portsmouth.—**Cases, Attaché:** S. Noton, Ltd., Oldham.—**Casings, etc.:** R. B. Pullin & Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Cells:** D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell; Ferguson Battery Co., Ltd., Slough; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cells, Control:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell.—**Chain Cable and Gear:** Carron Co., Falkirk; Samuel Taylor & Sons (Brierley Hill), Ltd., Brierley Hill; Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath; Kendrick & Mole, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Henry Reece;

Cradley; Fellows Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; R. Sykes & Son, Cradley Heath; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Dudley; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney.—**Chests, Safes, etc.:** Joseph & Edward Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Stephen Cox & Son, Ltd., Sedgley; Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Samuel Withers & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Chlorosulphonic Acid:** Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Willcorn.—**Cloth, Blue:** Joseph Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Huddersfield; Runcam Lupton & Co., Ltd., Leeds; W. & T. Huggan, Ltd., Leeds.—**Cloth, Cleaning:** Healey Wood Mill Co., Ltd., Burnley; A. Worsley & Sons, Ltd., Bury.—**Cloth, Leather:** Jas. Williamson & Son, Ltd., Lancaster.—**Cloth, Sack:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Clothing, Oil-skin:** Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich; Superior Waterproof Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Weinberg & Sons (1927), Ltd., Manchester; Edward Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Coats, Waterproof:** Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.—**Cocks, etc.:** Henry Bisseker, Ltd., Birmingham; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham; Hayward Tyler & Co., Ltd., Luton; W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Columns, Air Charging:** Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Compass Forgings:** Sperry Gyroscope Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Cranes:** Thomas Smith & Sons (Rodley), Ltd., Leeds; Clyde Crane Co., Ltd., Mossend; Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Curtains, Anti-Gas:** Greengate & Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., Manchester; Peckwash Mills, Ltd., Duffield; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Glasgow; North British Rubber Co., Edinburgh; A. Whyman & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Cutters, Motor:** A. Rutherford & Co., Ltd., Birkenhead; M. W. Blackmore & Sons, Bideford; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton; James Taylor (Chertsey), Ltd., Chertsey. Sub-Contractors for Machinery: W. H. Dorman & Co., Ltd., Stafford. Sub-Contractors for Electrical Equipment: E. H. Ruddock, Brightlingsea; J. B. Marr & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Sub-Contractors for Metal Fittings: H. P. Trend & Co., Devonport; East Kent Ironworks, Ltd., Sittingbourne.—**Cylinders, etc.:** British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Dinghies, Motor:** James Taylor (Chertsey), Ltd., Chertsey; J. S. White & Co., Ltd., Cowes; Vosper, Ltd., Portsmouth; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton; Frank Curtis, Looe.—**Dowlas, Undyed:** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—**Drill, Satin:** E. Clegg & Son, Ltd., Littleborough.—**Dungaree:** Barker & Swift, Ltd., Swinton.—**Electrical Installation:** G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—**Fan Units:** Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beekingham.—**Fenders, Floating:** Grangemouth Dockyard Co., Ltd., Grangemouth.—**Filter Units:** Murphy Radio, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City; Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; Parmeko, Ltd., Leicester.—**Fish, Frozen:** Robert Chapman, Ltd., Grimsby; Grimsby Trawler Owners' Direct Fish Supply Co., Ltd., Grimsby.—**Flannel:** David Lewis, Henllan, Cards.; John Jones, Llandyssul; Ben Jones & Son, Llandyssul.—**Floats, Pram:** J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Wellington.—**Frames and Mounts:** G. A. Harvey (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; G. H. Williams & Co., London, S.W.—**Gauges, Pressure, etc.:** George Salter & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; Budenberg Gauge Co., Ltd., Manchester; Sydney Smith & Sons (Nottingham), Ltd., Nottingham; Joseph Tomez & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Dewrance & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Gear Shaper:** Drummond (Sales), Ltd., Birmingham. Sub-Contractors for Electrical Equipment: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Generating and Pumping Plant:** Davey, Paxman & Co., Ltd., Colchester. Sub-Contractors for Main Pumps: Worthington Simpson, Ltd., Newark. Sub-Contractors for Generators: Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich. Sub-Contractors for Water Cooler: Heenan & Froude, Ltd., Worcester. Sub-Contractors for Air Compressor: Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich. Sub-Contractors for Purifying Equipment: Alfa Laval Co., Ltd., Brentford. Sub-Contractors for Fuel Supply Pump: Mirllees Bickerton & Day, Ltd., Stockport. Sub-Contractors for Ventilating Fans: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Sub-Contractors for Travelling Cranes: Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Flexible Coupling and Friction Clutches: Cooper Roller Bearing Co., Ltd., King's Lynn. Sub-Contractors for Water Drainage Pump: Hamworthy Engineering Co., Ltd., Poole.—**Generator Sets:** Harland Engineering Co., Ltd., Alloa; Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Glands, Tubes, etc.:** Fairless Engineering Supplies Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; A. Chalmers & Mitchell, Glasgow; F. & B. Brindley, Ltd., London, N.; Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Gratings, Steel:** F. H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Gunmetal Articles:** Edwin Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Player Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham; Gabriel & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Ansell Jones & Co., Ltd., Walsall; Thomas Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell; W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Carron Co., Falkirk; Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; John Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Derby; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull; H. P. Trend & Co., Devonport; Sir James Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Archibald Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Hair, Curled:** McCrae & Drew, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Helves and Mallets, etc.:** Geo. Wingrove & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; R. Groom Sons & Co., Ltd., Wellington; R. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Burley & Sons, Ltd., Bootle; Joseph Elgey, Ltd., Bishop Auckland; English Tools, Ltd., Wigan; Midland Saw & Tool Co., Ltd., Birmingham; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted.—**Hose Fittings, Gunmetal:** Thomas Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell; Edward Barber & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Nunan & Stove, Ltd., Manchester; Knowsley Cast Metal Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Hoses, Fuel:** United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Ingot, Manganese Bronze:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Iron, Pig:** Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth & Co. (Ironfounders), Ltd., Gateshead; Ford Motor Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Ironplate Workers' Wares:** S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Bird Stevens & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill; S. J. &

E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Davies Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Pratt Bros., Ltd., Birmingham; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Marshall & Son, Ltd., Leeds; Sargeant Turner & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge; Redheugh Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Gateshead.—**Knives, Table**: Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Lamp Fittings**: Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham; Gabriel & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham; Oliver Pell Control, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Lanterns**: Aldis Bros., Ltd., Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans. Sub-Contractors for Glass: Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathes**: Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax; H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Sub-Contractors for Motors and Control Gear: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Launchees, Motor**: Sittingbourne Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne. Sub-Contractors for Machinery: Norris, Henty & Gartner, Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Insulation items, Spares, etc.: Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Linen Goods**: A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; John Boath, Junr. & Co., Ltd., Forfar; Richard Buckton & Son, Leeds.—**Liners, Cylinder**: Ashmore, Benson, Pease & Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; Ealing Park Foundry Co., Ltd., London, W. Sub-Contractors for Rough Machining: Des Vignes & Co., Ltd., Kew Bridge. Sub-Contractors for Heat Treatment: Expert Tool & Case Hardening Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Lorries**: Vauxhall Motors, Ltd., Luton.—**Machinery, Cooling**: Ernest West & Beynon, Ltd., London; Haslam Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Machinery, Refrigerating**: J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dartford. Sub-Contractors for Motors: Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., St. Mary Cray. Sub-Contractors for Starters: Electrical Apparatus Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Machinery Spares, etc.**: Vosper, Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Machines, Balancing**: Edward J. Herbert, Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Motors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear: Brookhirst Switchgear, Ltd., Chester.—**Machines, Milling**: Midgley & Sutcliffe, Leeds.—**Meters, Boiler**: Bailey Meters & Controls, Ltd., Croydon.—**Mica**: Dacier, Ltd., London, S.E.; Micanite & Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.; Mica Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Bromley; Attwater & Sons, Preston.—**Miller**: Wadkin, Ltd., Leicester. Sub-Contractors for Motors: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear: Brookhirst Switchgear, Ltd., Chester.—**Motors, etc.**: Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Oscillators and Wavemeters**: Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon; Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Panels, Selector**: Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton, Lancs.—**Panels, W/T**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Pendants, Mooring**: Brown Lennox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Dudley; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney.—**Plugs, Sockets, etc.**: Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley. Player, Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; J. H. Tucker & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Ply Boards**: Venesta, Ltd., London, E.—**Propellers**: Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Birkenhead.—**Pull-overs**: S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor.—**Pumps**: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby; Worthington-Simpson, Ltd., Newark-on-Trent; Hugh Smith & Co. (Possil), Ltd., Glasgow; Gwynnes Pumps, Ltd., London, W.; Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., Reading. Sub-Contractors for Electrical Equipment: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear: Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton. Sub-Contractors for Motors: Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester; Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., St. Mary Cray.—**Purification Plant**: Permutit Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Pushes, Buzzers and Rattlers, etc.**: Alfred Graham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; G. H. Carter & Sons, Romford; Bonnella Bros. (1936), Ltd., London, W.C.; Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Walter's Electrical Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Racks, Storage**: Waddell's (Stratford Steel Equipment), Ltd., Enfield; Art Metal Construction Co., London, S.W.—**Rations, Meat and Vegetable**: Maconochie Bros., Ltd., London, E.; C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Resistances**: Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Ropes, Steel Wire**: George Elliott & Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Martin, Black & Co. (Wire Ropes), Ltd., Glasgow; Wright's Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham; Hall's Barton Ropery Co., Ltd., Hull; John Shaw, Ltd., Sheffield; William Cooke & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Scarves, Silk**: Josiah Smale & Son, Ltd., Macclesfield; Dunfermline Silk Mills, Ltd., Dunfermline.—**Seals, Silica**: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., Mitcham; Thermal Syndicate, Ltd., Wallsend.—**Separators, Oil**: Hopkinsons, Ltd., Huddersfield. Sub-Contractors for Motors: Lancashire Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester. Sub-Contractors for Starter: Electrical Apparatus Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Sheets, Stainless Steel**: Samuel Fox & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Shirts**: Henry Bannerman & Sons, Ltd., Hale, Cheshire.—**Shoes and Slings, Planing**: Head, Wrightson & Co., Ltd., Thornaby-on-Tees.—**Sound Equipment**: Kalee, Ltd., Leeds and London, S.W.—**Spraying Apparatus**: Aerograph Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; H. B. Sale, Ltd., Birmingham; Rippingilles, Ltd., Birmingham; Hayward-Tyler & Co., Ltd., Luton; British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Suits, Combination**: "Wescot" Overall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Egham.—**Switch Units, etc.**: Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beekenhamp; Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon; Clifford & Snell (Eng.), Ltd., Sutton.—**Switches, etc.**: Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Automatic Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Switchgear and Cable**: A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., Hebburn-on-Tyne.—**Tables, Lino Top**: Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.; H. S. Fraser, Ltd., London, N.—**Temperature Recording Instruments**: Negretti & Zambra, London, E.C.—**Testing Gear, etc.**: Hall Telephone Accessories (1928), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Timber for Cases**: W. Lusty & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Tinned and Japanned Ware**: Amos Barber & Son, Downham

Market; S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Reads, Ltd., Liverpool; Armstrong Stamping Works Ltd., Bilston; J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Finklestein, London, E.; W. T. George & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Rippingilles, Ltd., Birmingham; C. Eastgate & Son, Birmingham; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; Welsh Tinplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly; S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Towels, Terry**: Vantona Textiles, Ltd., Bolton; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton; Wm. R. Lee, Ltd., Heywood; Ellenson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Radcliffe; James Holden & Son, Ltd., Ramsbottom.—**Tractor, Electric**: Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Transformers**: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Foster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Transmit-Receive Units, etc.**: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.; Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Tubes, Condenser**: I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham; Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Tubes, Steel**: Phoenix Steel Tube Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; Fairless Engineering Supplies Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.—**Tubs, Cooks**: S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Tuner Amplifiers**: Aeronautical & General Instruments, Ltd., Croydon; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; Parmeko, Ltd., Leicester; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Valves, Vent**: MacTaggart Scott & Co., Ltd., Loanhead.—**Valves, Wireless**: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., Mitcham; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Wembley and Birmingham; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; A. C. Cossor, Ltd., London, N. Sub-Contractors for Bulbs: Johnstone, Ltd., Rugby; T. J. Grainger, Ltd., Newcastle; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Chesterfield. Sub-Contractors for Filaments: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby. Sub-Contractors for Caps: Prestwate, Ltd., London, S.W.; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Vegetables**: C. H. House & Sons, Gosport; Richard England, Ltd., Cardiff; F. S. Wakeham, Deal; Drake & Son, Ltd., Weymouth.—**Vegetables, Tinned**: Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Wisbech; Wisbech Produce Cannery, Ltd., Wisbech; United Cannery, Ltd., Boston.—**Voicing**: Interlock Metal Hose Co., Ltd., Bedford; United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Voltmeters**: E. Turner Electrical Instruments, Ltd., High Wycombe.—**Wash Basins, etc.**: Benham & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Welding Sets**: Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Export Co., Ltd., Manchester; Quasi-Arc Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Sub-Contractors for Transformers and Regulators: Foster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Sub-Contractors for Circuit Breaker and Isolating Switch: Brookhirst Switchgear, Ltd., Chester.—**Wheels, Bucket**: John I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Winches, etc.**: Thomas Reid & Sons (Paisley), Ltd., Paisley; Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead. Sub-Contractors for Engines: Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln. Sub-Contractors for Control Gear: Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Works and Civil Engineering Contracts**: Robt. Hudson, Ltd., Leeds; J. Booth & Sons (Bolton), Ltd., Bolton; Howard Farrow, Ltd., London, N.W.; British Projects, Ltd., London, W.C.; Richard Costain, Ltd., London, W.C.; Concrete Piling, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Works Materials**: Davies Bros., Portmadoc; E. Baydell & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Marshall Sons & Co. (Successors), Ltd., Gainsborough; J. M. Henderson & Co., Aberdeen; Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew; R. Williams & Co., Portmadoc; Blaw, Knox, Ltd., London, N.W.; Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Southampton; Librex Lead Co., Bootle.

WAR OFFICE.

Ablution Ranges: Morrison Ingram & Co., Ltd., Manchester, Caernarvon, and Wolverhampton. **Acid, Sulphuric**: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ardeer.—**Air Separators**: M. & W. Glazebrook, Ltd., Dudley.—**Alternator Sets**: John Fowler & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds.—**Aluminium Alloy Rod**: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Ambulances**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Ammeters, etc.**: Elliott Bros. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; White Electric Instrument Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Weston Electrical Instrument Co., Ltd., Enfield.—**Axes, Pick Valves**: Hardypick, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Badges**: Wm. Dowler & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bags, Aerial Gear**: Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Bandages**: A. Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.; Chas. Newsome (Proprs. Lees, B. & Co., Ltd.), London, E.C.; Robt. Bailey & Son, Ltd., Stockport; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield; Rylance & Sons, Darwen; Southalls (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham; S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Basins, Steel**: J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Bilston; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Welsh Tinplate & Deep Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly; Star Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Bilston.—**Batteries**: Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Bedsteads, Folding**: Chas. Bryant & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boards, Bedstead**: Gramophone Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Boilers**: D. Adamson & Co., Ltd., Dukinfield; Steel Co., Ltd., Sunderland.—**Bolsters**: E. H. P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh.—**Bolts**: Brooks & Walker, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bonnets Tam-o-Shanter**: L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.—**Boots, Ankle**: J. Hovrell & Son, Ltd., Wellingborough; Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Raunds; Wilkins & Denton (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Owen Smith (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; S. Walker, Walgrave; G. T. Hawkins, Ltd., Northampton; Avalon Boot Manfrs., Ltd., Rothwell.—**Bottles, Water**: Anglo-Enamelware, Ltd., Stourport.—**Boxes, Cases and Cylinder Corrugated Board**: Metal Box Co., Ltd., Manchester; M. Cook & Son, Ltd., London, N.; Eburite Corrugated Container, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Boxes, Connector**: Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Boxes, Steel**: J. B. Brooks & Co.,

Ltd., Birmingham.—**Braces**: G. Aked, Halifax; [Midland Brace Co., Ltd., Leicester; Halifax Brace Co., London, E.C.; Faire Bros. & Co., Ltd., Leicester; F. W. Duerdoto, Chesham.—**Braid**: Stephen Simpson, Preston.—**Brass Bar**: Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bridges**: Hurst Nelson & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—**Bronze Rod**: Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Brushes**: C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans.—**Buckets, etc.**: National Galvanizers, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Buckles**: S.D. Rivet Co., Leicester; Wm. White, Ltd., Birmingham; Newey Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Buttons**: Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; Vaughans, Ltd., Birmingham; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. Dowler, Birmingham; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham; W. J. Dingley, Birmingham; F. T. Heath, Birmingham.—**Cable and Wire**: Edison Swan Cables, Ltd., Lydbrook; Connolly (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh.—**Canvas**: John Bright & Bros., Ltd., Rochdale.—**Cap Comforters**: A. Yates & Co., Leicester; Moore Eady & Murcott Goode, Ltd., Derby; J. Pick & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Pool Lorimer & Tabberer, Ltd., Foleshill; M. C. Foister Clay & Ward, Ltd., Derby; Frisby Jarvis & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Capes, Greatcoats**: J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Milns Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.—**Caps F.S.**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; L. Silberston & Sons, London, E.—**Cases, Mattress**: Thos. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.—**Castings, Steel**: Kryn & Lahy (1928), Ltd., Letchworth.—**Chairs, etc.**: Thos. Glenister, Ltd., High Wycombe.—**Charcoal**: Farnell Carbons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Brimsdown Chemical Works, Ltd., Enfield; Thos. Hill Jones, Ltd., London, E.—**Central Ranges**: Benham & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cloth, Blue, Red and Scarlet**: Strachan & Co., Ltd., Stroud.—**Compressor, Air**: Broom & Wade, Ltd., High Wycombe.—**Concrete Mixer, Spares**: Blaw Knox, Ltd., Watford.—**Containers, Portable**: Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Fisher & Ludlow, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Conveyors**: Bagshaw & Co., Ltd., Dunstable.—**Cookers, Portable, Parts**: Rippingilles, Ltd., Birmingham; Turley & Williams (1925), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Counterpanes**: Irish Tapestry Co., Ltd., Newtownards.—**Covers**: Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Crane**: Newton Chambers Harnischfeyer Engineering Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Cutting Machine**: Hancock & Co. (Engrs.), Ltd., Croydon.—**Dish Washing Machines**: Benham & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Dressings, Field**: S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., New Barnet; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; Southalls (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham; Arthur Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.; Johnson & Johnson (Great Britain), Ltd., Gargrave; Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Drilling Machines**: A. A. Jones & Shipman, Ltd., Leicester.—**Drums, Cable**: G. Mills, Beckenham; W. H. Beal, Ltd., Hull; Hearl Heaton & Sons, Ltd., Liversedge.—**Excavator**: Newton Chambers Harnischfeyer Engineering, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Forges**: Wm. Allday & Co., Ltd., Blackheath, Staffs.—**Forms, Barrack**:—**Legs, etc.**: B. C. Barton & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Forms, Barrack, Tent**: Manor Joinery Works, Ltd., Barking.—**Forms, Dining, Tops**: Swarland Sawmills & Joinery, Ltd., Amble; W. Boothman & Sons, Ltd., Nelson; Gramophone Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Frames, Resistance**: Expanded Metal Co., W. Hartlepool.—**Full Dress Clothing**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Milns Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; Rego Clothiers, London, N.—**Furnaces**: Electric Resistance Furnace Co., Aberdeen, Manchester and Slough.—**Gear Loading**: Laurence Scott & Electromotors, Ltd., Norwich.—**Gears, Well-head**: C. L. Jones, London, N.—**Generating Sets**: R. A. Lister & Co., Ltd., Dursley.—**Generators**: Electro-Dynamic Constn. Co., Ltd., St. Mary Cray; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Tilling-Stevens, Ltd., Maidstone; Lanes. Dynamo & Crypto, Ltd., Manchester.—**Globes, Lamps, Hurricane**: Falk Stadelmann & Co., Ltd., St. Helens.—**Gloves**: E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton; North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Barnard Castle.—**Greatcoats**: J. Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Derby; G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Milns Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle (Staffs.); H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Grinding Machines**: A. A. Jones & Shipman, Ltd., Leicester; Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Broadheath.—**Guttering, etc.**: Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Handles, Broom, etc.**: Hollis Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Heads, Mallet**: H. Burbridge & Son, Coventry.—**Hose, Canvas**: F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Pendleton; W. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Housewives and Holdalls**: Red Rose Products, Manchester; J. R. Carmichael, Liverpool; Humphrey Bros., Ltd., Wilmslow and Macclesfield; Pike Bros., Ltd., London, E.C.; Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hutting (Steelwork)**: Bayliss Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Colvilles, Ltd., Glasgow; Glasgow Steel Roofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Hydraulic Motors**: Vickers Armstrongs, Ltd., Elswick.—**Jacks, Screw Lifting**: Lake & Elliot, Ltd., Braintree.—**Jerseys, Pullover**: Peter Scott & Co., Ltd., Hawick; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; J. Pick & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; I. & R. Morley, Ltd., Heanor; R. H. Lowe & Co. (Congleton), Ltd., Congleton.—**Kits**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Milns Cartwright & Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., London, N.; J. Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Knives, Table**: Gladwin, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Lamps, Hurricane**: A. W. Sanderson & Co., Birmingham; Jones & Foster, Ltd., Birmingham; Sherwoods, Ltd., Birmingham; W. Redman & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Falk Stadelmann & Co., Wolverhampton.—**Lathes**: T. C. Jones & Co., Ltd., London, W.; Jas. W. Carr & Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Lawn Mowers**: Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—**Locomotives**: J. Fowler

& Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Masks, Respirator**: Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Manchester; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland.—**Masts, Duralumin**: Yeadon Admitt & Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Meters, Electric**: Ferranti, Ltd., Hollinwood; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Meters, Universal**: Automatic Coil Winder & Electrical Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Milling Machines**: Adecock & Shipley, Leicester; A. Herbert, Ltd., Coventry; J. Archdale & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Mirrors, Driving**: H. Miller & Co., Birmingham.—**Mopheads, Woollen**: T. M. Clewes & Sons, Cradley.—**Moulds**: Sagar Richards, Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Numerals, etc.**: Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Oven Parts**: S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Barron Pearson Engineering Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Pieces, Poles, Tent**: C. Webber & Co., Exeter; F. 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Brockhouse & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**M/T Vehicles**: Ford Motor Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—**Oil Bath Air Cleaners**: A.C. Sphinx Sparking Plug

Co., Ltd., Dunstable.—**Oil Engines, Horizontal**: Ruston & Hornby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Oxygen Cylinders, Apparatus for Cleaning**: Sir W. M. Bailey & Co., Ltd., Salford, Lancs.—**Pads, Buoyancy**: Baxter Woodhouse & Taylor, Ltd., Manchester.—**Paint**: Wood Hempel, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Photographic Chemicals**: Johnson & Sons (Manufacturing Chemists), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Pistols for Smoke Floats**: Edwin Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Plugs, Smoke Float**: J. & J. Braddock, Oldham; Suckling, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Pressure Heads**: Avimo, Ltd., Taunton.—**Pressure Heads, Electrically Heated**: S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.; Short & Mason, Ltd., London, E.—**Rectifiers, Metal**: Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Reservoirs, Mod. of**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Rings, Aircraft Fitting**: N. Hingley, Dudley.—**Sewage Ejector Plant and Accessories**: Adams Hydraulic, Ltd., York.—**Sheets, Ground Balloon**: J. T. Inglis & Son, Ltd., Dundee; J. Edgington & Co., London, W.C.—**Silk Fabric, Proofing of**: I.C.I. (Rexine), Ltd., Hyde.—**Sound Film Copies**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Spanners, Adjustable**: Abingdon Works, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steel Masts, Spares for**: Dixon Corbett, Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.—**Stocks, Drill, Hand**: J. A. Chapman, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Stoles**: Wm. Warne & Co., Ltd., Barking; J. Mandelberg & Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Stoppers**: Sir Jas. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Stoves**: S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Suits, Combination, Tropical**: Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., Manchester; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Suppressors**: A.C. Cossor, Ltd., London, N.; McMichael Radio, Ltd., Slough.—**Switches**: Isenthal Automatic Controls, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Synthetic Enamel**: Lewis Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Tanks, Oil Heater**: T. Mody & Co., Birmingham.—**Testing Sets, Electrical**: Nalder Bros. & Thompson, Ltd., London, E.; Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Theodolites**: E. R. Watts & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Thermometers**: S. Smith & Son (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.; Coley Thermometers, Ltd., Brentford; Short & Mason, Ltd., London, E.; Negretti & Zambra, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Torches**: Downs Engineering Co., London, W.—**Transformers, Power**: Yorkshire Electric Transformer Co., Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Transmitters, Semi-Automatic**: Standard Telephone & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Transmitters and Spares**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Transmitters, Spares and Receivers**: Standard Telephone and Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Trestles, Jacking, Components for**: Ernest Lake, Ltd., Bishop's Stortford; J. H. Heathman, Ltd., London, S.W.; Lake & Elliott, Ltd., Braintree; Alfred Allen & Son, Ltd., Lower Gornal.—**Trolleys and Trucks**: Superbuilt Products, Ltd., Uxbridge.—**Trucks**: Robert Hudson, Leeds.—**Tubes**: Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Tubes, Duralumin**: James Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tubing**: British Tyre & Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Turbine Starters, Cartridge Operated**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Unions, Casing and Lubricating**: Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Varnish**: Cellon, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Vices**: H. Brindley, Ltd., Birmingham; Smith Francis Tools, Ltd., Birmingham; Wynn Timmins Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Vices, Revolving**: Swinden's Patents, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wheels, Aero**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**W/T Equipment**: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Castle Bromwich, Warwick, Coventry, Warwick—Artificers Works: T. Johnson (Contractors), Ltd., Birmingham. Various Stations—Balloon Sheds: British Steel Construction (Birmingham), Ltd., London, S.W. Warrington, Lancs.—Internal Wiring and Overhead Cable Scheme: E. E. Coleman, Ltd., Manchester. 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Bros., Dundee. Various Stations—Steel Doors for Hangars : Eclair Doors, Ltd., Birmingham. Coltishall, Norfolk—Construction of Station : Walter Lawrence & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. Sub-Contractors—Steelwork : Banister Walton & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Heating : Ellis (Kensington), Ltd., London, S.W. Electrical Wiring : Atzed (London), Ltd., London, S.W. Bramcote (Bulkington), Warwick—Construction of Station : John Laing & Son, Ltd., London, N.W. Sub-Contractors—Steelwork : Fairfield Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., Chepstow, Mon. Heating : Selborne Domestic Eng. Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Electrical Wiring : Holliday Hall & Stinson, Ltd., London, S.W. Boscombe Down, Wilts.—Builders' Works : Anglo-Scottish Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Carlisle, Cumberland—Various Buildings and External Services : John Laing & Son, Ltd., London, N.W. Sub-Contractor—Steelwork : Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Hawking, Kent, Lympne, Kent—Artificers' Works : James & Co. (Capel), Ltd., Capel-le-Ferne, Folkestone. Ottercoops, Northumberland, Rye, Sussex, Danby Beacon, Yorks—Hutting : Lewisham Timber Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Abbotsinch, Renfrew—Artificers' Works : A. McNaughton & Sons, Paisley. Mount Batten, Devon—Officers' Mess, Single Officers' Quarters and External Services : Pearn Bros., Ltd., Plymouth. Heston, Middlesex—Lorenz Landing Gear : General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Donibristle, Fife—Hutting and External Services : Stewart McIntyre, Edinburgh. Leconfield, Yorks, Dishforth, Yorks, Driffeld, Yorks : Single Squash Racket Courts : F. Perks & Son, Ltd., Long Eaton, Notts.

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Switchgear :** Leicester A.T.E. and Repeater Station : M. & C. Switchgear, Ltd., Glasgow.—**L.T. Switchboard :** Glasgow H.P.O. : British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Lifts :** Belfast H.P.O. : Ritchie Hart & Co., Ltd., Belfast. Edinburgh G.P.O. : Wm. Wadsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment :** South (Glasgow) Power Plant, Kingswood (Bristol) Extension 1, Dringhouses Extension 2, Whitton (Ipswich) Extension 2, Bradford Power Plant, Ashton-under-Lyne (Lancs) Extension 2, Hunslet Extension 3, Bridgeton (Glasgow), Waterlooville Extension 1 : Automatic Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Paignton (Torquay) Extension 1, South Brent (Plymouth) Power Plant, Stockfield Power Plant, Rushden (Northants), Tidworth (Hants) Power Plant, Nantwich (Cheshire) Extension 2, Kempston (Bedford) Power Plant, Droylens (Lancs) Extension 2, Ibrox, Chard (Somerset), Tonypany (Glam) Power Plant, Ironbridge (Shropshire), Bulford Camp (Salisbury) Power Plant, Rotherham Power Plant : Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors for South Brent (Plymouth) and Tidworth : Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W., for Batteries. Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co., Ltd., London, N., for Rectifiers. W. Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Dynamotors. Sub-Contractors for Kempston (Bedford) and Bulford Camp (Salisbury) : D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, for Batteries. Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co., Ltd., London, N., for Rectifiers. W. Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Dynamotors. Sub-Contractors for Tonypany : D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, for Batteries. Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Rectifiers. W. Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Dynamotors. Giffnock : General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry. Central (Aberdeen) Power Plant, Melrose, Cleveleys (Lancs) Power Plant, Dronfield Power Plant, Sharrow Extension 2, Shelford (Cambridge) Power Plant, Mountain Ash (Glam), Kirkintilloch (Glasgow), Culls, Dereham (Norfolk), Tewkesbury (Gloucester) Power Plant, Dumbar, West Ayton (Yorks) Power Plant, Tring (Herts), Penzance Power Plant, Brierley Hill (Staffs) Extension 1, Moulton (Northampton) Power Plant, Rhiwderin (Monmouth), Glasgow Corporation P.A.B.X. Extension, Central (Edinburgh) Equipment for 2 V.F. Signalling, Musselburgh, Langham (London), Newcastle (Co. Down), Burgess Hill Extension 1 : Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors for Shelford (Cambridge), Tewkesbury (Gloucester) and Moulton (Northampton) : Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E., for Batteries. Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co., Ltd., London, N., for Rectifiers. W. Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Machines. Sub-Contractors for Cleveleys (Lancs.) : Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester, for Batteries. Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Rectifiers. W. Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Machines. Little Chalfont (Bucks) Extension 1, Sheerness (Kent), Cuffley Extension 1, Tutbury (Burton-on-Trent) Extension 1 : Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.—**Telephone Repeater Equipment :** South Stoke (Lincs) Power Plant, Skellow (Yorks) Power Plant, Bamby Moor (Notts) Power Plant, Wittering (Northants) Power Plant, East

Stour (Shaftesbury) Power Plant, Stockland Power Plant, West Coker Power Plant : Austinit, Ltd., Smethwick.—**Ultra Short Wave Radio Equipment :** Anglo-French : Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.

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