

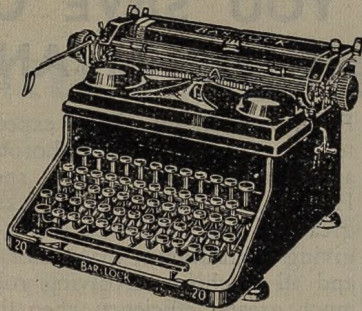
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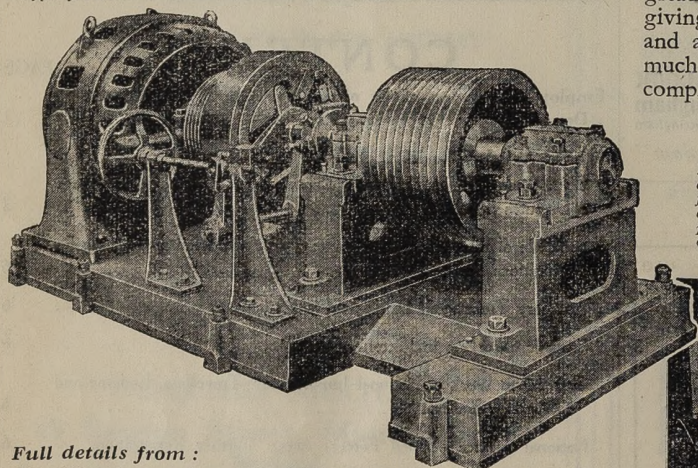
# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

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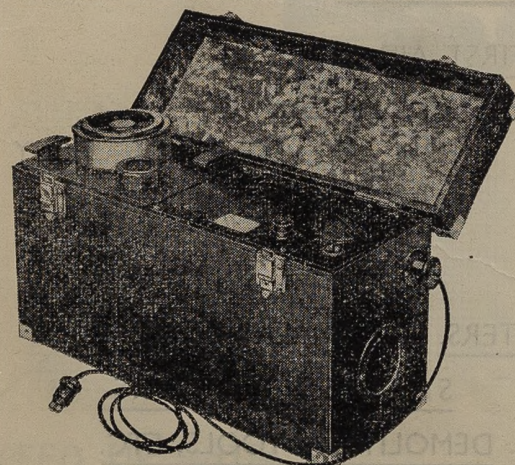
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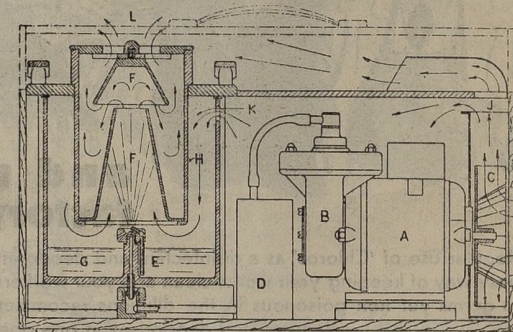
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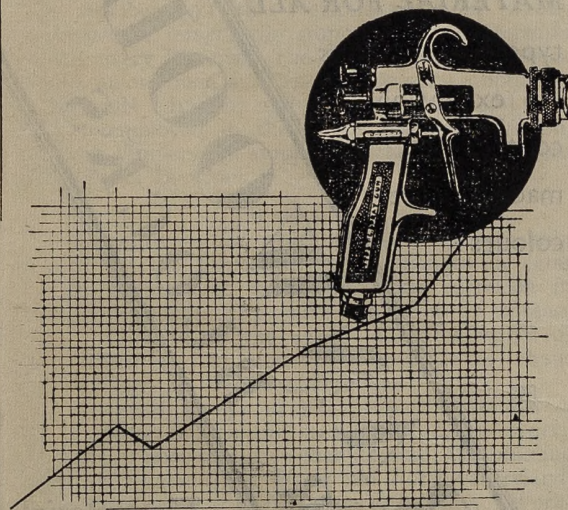
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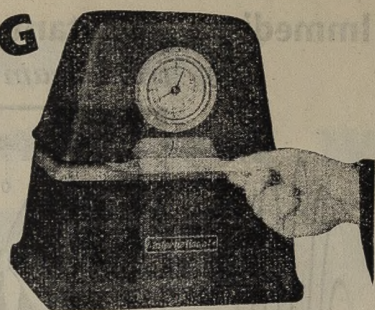
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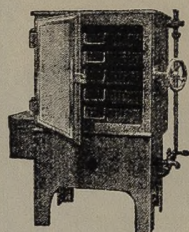
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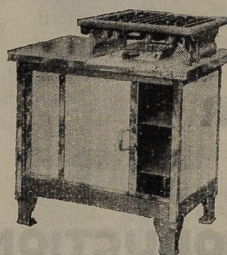
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# THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. XLIX.—No. 1.]

JANUARY, 1941.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

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

### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 9th December was 265,011, a reduction of 43,120 as compared with 11th November. Those registered as on short time, or otherwise temporarily suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment, numbered 84,850, a decrease of 11,727 as compared with 11th November. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 20,435, a reduction of 3,113 as compared with 11th November.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 9th December were 276,889 wholly unemployed, 56,998 temporarily stopped, and 1,096 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 11th November the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 18,221, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 9,789, and unemployed casual workers an increase of 69. At 16th December there were 35,508 women registered as applicants for work in districts to which they had been evacuated, a decrease of 3,686 as compared with 18th November.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 9th December was 586,081, as compared with 669,428 at 11th November and 1,187,910 at 11th December, 1939.

The numbers on the registers, whether wholly unemployed or temporarily stopped, showed decreases in nearly every Division. The only important increases occurred among men and boys temporarily stopped in the Midlands Division, and among women and girls wholly unemployed in the North Midlands Division, and those temporarily stopped in the South-Western and Midlands Divisions.

### 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 £152,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 1,450,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of about £2,600 in those of 100,000 workpeople.\*

The principal groups of workpeople affected were those employed in iron and steel manufacture, hosiery manufacture, boot and shoe manufacture, the building industry in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, and the road motor transport (goods) industry. Workpeople employed in iron and steel manufacture in various districts received increases of 2.4d. a shift for men and 1.2d. a shift for youths and boys. Hosiery workers in the Midlands received advances amounting to approximately 5 per cent. except in the case of the higher-paid workers, for whom the increase was rather less. Workpeople employed in boot and shoe manufacture obtained increases of 3s. and 2s. a week for men and women respectively on time rates, and of nearly

\* The workpeople whose rates of wages were reduced in December had received increases of greater amount during the earlier months of 1940.

4 per cent. for pieceworkers. Building trade operatives had their wages advanced by ½d. an hour; and the statutory minimum rates for adult drivers and mates employed in the road motor transport (goods) industry were raised by 3s. 6d. a week.

Other groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased included coal miners in South Derbyshire, ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in various districts, tinplate workers, silk workers at Leek and Macclesfield, shirt makers, carpet workers, tobacco workers, and bakers in Scotland.

The decreases in rates of wages affected coal miners in North Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase, North Staffordshire and Warwickshire, and were due to the operation of sliding-scale agreements under which wage rates vary in correspondence with fluctuations in the ascertained proceeds of the industry. All the workers concerned had received increases of greater amounts during the earlier months of 1940.

The changes reported to have come into operation in 1940, in the industries for which statistics are available, are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of over £2 million in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 8 million workpeople. Further particulars are given on pages 2 to 4.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st January, the official cost-of-living index figure was 96 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 95 per cent. at 30th November, 1940. The rise of one point was due to increases in the prices of clothing and of coal.

For food alone, the index figure at 1st January was 72 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 73 per cent. at 30th November, 1940. The decline of one point was due to reductions in the prices of sugar and eggs, the effects of which were partly offset by increases in those of milk and fish.

The rise during December in the prices of clothing (including clothing materials) was largely attributable to the effects of the Purchase Tax. Since this Tax came into operation, on 21st October, the resulting increases in prices have raised the cost of living index figure by about 2½ points.

Further particulars are given on page 16, and an article reviewing the movements of the index figures during 1940 appears on pages 4 and 5.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in December, was 61. In addition, 8 disputes which began before December were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workpeople involved in these 69 disputes, including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, was 16,500, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in December was about 50,000 working days.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress during 1940 was about 940,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was about 300,000.

The aggregate number of working days lost in these disputes in 1940 was lower than in any previous year during the period of nearly 50 years for which statistics are available.

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## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, HOURS OF LABOUR, COST OF LIVING AND TRADE DISPUTES IN 1940.

## EMPLOYMENT.

In the first few weeks of 1940 there was a sharp increase in unemployment. This was due mainly to exceptionally severe weather, which seriously hindered work in outdoor industries and caused some temporary dislocation of working conditions in many other cases, particularly where delays in transport resulted in a shortage of materials or inability to move output. An improvement in weather conditions in the second half of February was followed by substantial reductions in unemployment month by month until the middle of June, when the total number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was approximately 834,000, showing a reduction of over 600,000 as compared with 11th December, 1939. After some fluctuations in the figures, during the next four months, which raised the total to over 900,000 at 14th October, there was a marked further reduction in November and December, and at 9th December, 1940, the number on the registers was approximately 775,000, showing a fall of over 660,000 since December, 1939.

The total numbers of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at any particular date include three distinct categories, viz.: (a) persons registered as wholly unemployed, or out of a situation; (b) persons registered as on short time, or otherwise temporarily suspended from work on the understanding that they are shortly to return to their former employment; and (c) unemployed casual workers, who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration. The following Table shows the numbers in each of these groups, on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at one date in each month from December, 1939, to December, 1940:—

Date.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
1939			
11th December	1,244,555	146,318	50,050
1940			
15th January	1,296,233	253,992	52,326
12th February	1,216,759	318,930	50,195
11th March	1,032,570	112,323	48,366
15th April	902,295	93,301	44,748
20th May	790,956	107,224	49,572
17th June	708,069	86,918	39,227
15th July	696,659	162,559	39,359
12th August	670,488	163,362	33,889
16th September	675,642	194,401	33,394
14th October	695,864	178,472	30,144
11th November	665,471	171,210	26,132
9th December	602,495	148,753	23,674

It will be seen that the reductions in the numbers unemployed, during 1940, occurred among those registered as wholly unemployed and among unemployed casual workers. In each of these groups the numbers on the registers at 9th December, 1940, were less than one-half of the corresponding totals in December, 1939.

The reduction which occurred in the numbers of men and boys registered as wholly unemployed was considerably greater than that in the numbers of women and girls in the same category. Between December, 1939, and December, 1940, the total number of men and boys registered as wholly unemployed fell from over 852,000 to less than 298,000, a reduction of about 65 per cent., whilst the number of wholly unemployed women and girls fell from 392,000 to less than 305,000, or about 22 per cent. The total number of women registered as wholly unemployed in December, 1940, included a considerable number who were seeking work in districts to which they had been evacuated during the later months of the year.

The numbers temporarily suspended from work fluctuated considerably during the year, but were slightly higher in December, 1940, than in December, 1939, a reduction of nearly 5,000 in the number of men and boys in this group having been more than counterbalanced by an increase of over 7,000 in the number of women and girls.

There are very few women among unemployed casual workers, and the marked decrease in the numbers in this category during the year occurred almost entirely among men.

Among wholly unemployed men there was a marked reduction, during 1940, in the number who had been unemployed for long periods. The number of men, aged 18-64, applying for benefit or allowances who had been continuously on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain for 12 months or more fell from nearly 137,000 at 1st January, to about 105,000 at 20th May, and to 54,000 at 25th November. There was also a reduction during the year in the number of women, aged 18-64, who had been registered as unemployed for a year or more, the figure falling from 20,300 at 1st January, to 16,700 at 20th May, and 13,700 at 25th November.

The following Table shows, for each administrative Division, the numbers of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at 11th December, 1939, and 9th December, 1940, distinguishing (a) those wholly unemployed, and (b) those temporarily suspended from their employment and unemployed casual workers:—

Division.	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped and Unemployed Casual workers.	
	11th December, 1939.	9th December, 1940.	11th December, 1939.	9th December, 1940.
London	296,682	111,282	31,479	15,497
Eastern	54,259	38,869	5,941	2,813
Southern	35,056	24,122	3,605	1,290
South-Western	40,826	32,535	5,428	4,934
Midlands	55,580	20,911	17,718	17,794
North-Midlands	49,567	28,754	10,279	13,183
North-Eastern	80,192	32,920	24,201	21,591
North-Western	208,455	64,655	37,788	21,228
Northern	95,370	53,074	20,646	21,767
Scotland	158,954	77,055	18,074	14,026
Wales	95,857	55,728	15,568	29,256
Great Britain	1,170,798	541,900	190,727	163,379
Northern Ireland	73,757	60,595	5,641	9,048
Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland	1,244,555	602,495	196,368	172,427

Comparison of the figures for December, 1939, and December, 1940, for some of these Divisional areas is affected by the registration of women as applicants for work in districts to which they had been evacuated at the later date.

The following Table shows, for each year from 1929 to 1940, the average numbers of (a) persons wholly unemployed, (b) persons temporarily stopped, and (c) unemployed casual workers on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Year.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.	Unemployed Casual Workers.
1929	900,553	268,595	79,440
1930	1,347,840	527,720	98,941
1931	1,994,471	587,719	115,678
1932	2,136,052	574,315	102,675
1933	2,037,517	456,743	94,098
1934	1,763,911	369,002	88,150
1935	1,706,783	312,757	86,581
1936	1,491,051	251,568	79,081
1937	1,284,123	205,369	67,509
1938	1,433,248	380,484	67,625
1939	1,308,212	220,990	60,599
1940	829,458	165,962	39,252

In each category the average figure for the year 1940 is well below the corresponding figure for any year in the period covered by the Table, and when the three groups are combined the average number of persons on the register is the lowest for any year during the whole period (since 1921) for which comparable statistics are available.

As the publication of statistics relating to the numbers and percentages of insured persons recorded as unemployed in particular industries has been suspended since September, 1940, the usual annual analysis of the changes in employment in the principal industries is not available for 1940.

## RATES OF WAGES.

THE marked rise in rates of wages which began soon after the outbreak of the war, mainly on account of the increase in the cost of living, continued throughout 1940.

In the industries for which statistics of changes in rates of wages are regularly compiled by the Department,\* the changes reported during the year are estimated to have resulted in an aggregate net increase of over £2 million in the weekly full-time rates of wages of nearly 8 million workpeople, of whom about 4½ million had already received some increase in wage rates during the last four months of 1939. In the whole period between the outbreak of the war and the end of 1940 the number of workpeople whose wage rates were reported to have been raised, in the industries covered by the statistics,\* was about 8 million, the aggregate net increase in their full-time weekly wages being estimated at about £3 million.

There were wide variations in the amounts of increase granted in different industries, but it is estimated that the average level of full-time weekly rates of wages, in all the industries (including agriculture) for which information is available, was about 12 per cent. higher at the end of 1940 than at the end of 1939, and about 16 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the war. These figures relate to rates of wages and take no account of increases in earnings resulting from other factors, such as fuller employment, overtime working increased, and the extension of systems of payment by results.

The following Table shows the approximate numbers of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department in 1940, and the net amount of the change

\* The changes reported are mainly those arranged by organisations of employers and workpeople; in many cases changes arranged by individual employers, and affecting unorganised groups of workers, are not reported to the Department. The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural workers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks (see, however, paragraph in the second column on page 3 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 other factors, such as changes in the state of employment or in weekly working hours.

in their weekly rates of wages, in each of the principal groups of industries for which detailed statistics are available\*; corresponding figures are also given for 1939.

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of separate individuals reported as affected by Net Increases in weekly Rates of Wages.		Estimated Net Weekly Increases in the Rates of Wages of all workpeople affected.	
	1940.†	1939.‡	1940.†	1939.‡
Coal Mining	787,100	783,000	£ 270,450	£ 174,000
Other Mining and Quarrying	58,900	44,200	19,600	5,800
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc.	304,200	279,600	90,250	42,300
Iron and Steel	147,800	125,000	81,250	14,000
Engineering§	1,012,300	735,000	228,350	71,600
Shipbuilding	140,500	180,800	33,450	18,000
Other Metal	334,200	204,400	89,900	24,000
Textile	865,500	794,600	261,050	121,700
Clothing	767,700	415,100	118,700	78,100
Food, Drink and Tobacco	205,000	82,700	47,300	12,700
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	179,300	179,400	43,550	25,500
Paper, Printing, etc.	331,900	31,500	62,800	7,400
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.	955,400	938,800	256,800	97,150
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	161,800	79,900	41,200	12,000
Transport§	1,056,400	558,600	355,350	164,950
Public Administration Services	156,400	85,400	30,600	14,200
Other	438,000	137,000	117,200	48,000
Total	7,902,400	5,655,000	2,148,000	931,400

## PRINCIPAL INCREASES IN 1940.

Increases in rates of wages were granted, in 1940, in nearly all the industries for which information is available. In the following paragraphs particulars are given of the increases in some of the principal industries.

In the coal mining industry there were general flat-rate increases, under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale, of 1s. 2d. a shift for men and of 7d. a shift for youths and boys. In addition, the arrangement under which the level of wages in each district is adjusted periodically in accordance with fluctuations in the proceeds of the industry continued to operate. Under this arrangement the percentage additions to basis rates were increased during the year in Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Cannock Chase, Warwickshire, Somerset and Scotland. In Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, North Wales and the Forest of Dean, the percentage additions to basis rates were reduced, but these reductions were more than counterbalanced by the general flat-rate increases referred to above. In other districts the percentage additions were the same at the end as at the beginning of the year.

Workpeople engaged in the manufacture of heavy chemicals received increases amounting, at different works and for different classes of workers, to 1½d. to 3d. an hour in the case of men and to 1½d. or 1d. an hour in the case of women. In the pottery industry there were increases, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, of 1s. 4d. and 1s. a day for men and women respectively.

During the first few months of the year the rates of wages of workpeople engaged in the smelting, rolling, etc., of iron and steel continued, as in the past, to be adjusted periodically in accordance with movements in the selling price of the product. Under this arrangement there were increases of varying amounts in all the principal districts. Subsequently this method of adjusting wage rates was suspended and replaced by cost-of-living sliding scales. Under these scales, flat-rate increases were granted amounting, in most sections of the industry and in most districts, to 1s. a shift for men and to 6d. a shift for youths and boys. In the engineering industry rates of wages were increased by 5s. a week for men and 3s. a week for women, with proportionate increases in the rates of wages of youths, boys and girls. An increase of 5s. a week was also granted to men in the ship building and repairing industry, with smaller amounts in the case of women and juveniles.

The principal increases in rates of wages in the textile industries took effect under the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales. In the cotton industry increases granted during 1940 amounted to about 11½ per cent. on current rates of wages in the preparing and spinning section and to about 19 per cent. in the manufacturing section. (There had already been some increase in wage rates in this industry in October and November, 1939, and the further increases granted in 1940 brought the total advance since the outbreak of the war to about 25 per cent. in both sections of the industry). Wool textile operatives in Yorkshire received increases in 1940 equivalent to about 15 per cent. for pieceworkers and 16 per cent. for timeworkers on the rates prevailing at the end of 1939. In the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades in Yorkshire there were increases equivalent to 14½ per cent. for timeworkers and to 12½ per cent. for pieceworkers, while in Lancashire and Scotland men received an increase of 7s. 5d. and 7s. 8d. a week and women 4s. 7d. a week; in all these districts special advances were also granted in addition of 2s. 6d. a week for men and 1s. 6d. a week for women. In the hosiery industry in the Midlands the cost-of-living bonus was increased from 7d. to 10d. on each shilling

\* See footnote \* on page 2.

† The figures given for 1940 are preliminary and subject to revision.

‡ The figures for 1939 represent the number of workpeople who received net increases in wages. In addition, about 66,000 workpeople were reported to have sustained a net decrease during the year of about £8,500 a week.

§ Changes affecting workpeople employed in railway engineering workshops are included under "Engineering" and not under "Transport."

earned, subject to the provision that on those portions of the total earnings exceeding 60s. a week for men and 36s. for women the bonus should be 9d.

In the clothing industries there was an increase of ½d. an hour for both men and women engaged in ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring and in shirt making. The minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for retail bespoke tailoring were increased by 10 per cent. in England and Wales and by 5 or 7½ per cent. in different areas in Scotland. In the boot and shoe manufacturing industry the time rates of wages were increased by 9s. and 6s. a week in the case of men and women respectively, while piece rates were raised by about 12 per cent.

In the food, etc., industries the principal classes of workpeople who received increases included flour mill workers, bakers and tobacco workers. In flour mills there were increases of 8s. and 4s. a week for men and women respectively, with further increases for some groups of men. In the baking trade, Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts provided for general increases in rates of wages; in England and Wales the increases amounted to 1d. an hour for men and to ¾d. an hour for women; in Scotland they varied in different districts. There were also further increases in the wage rates of bakers in some areas under the provisions of local voluntary agreements. For tobacco workers the Trade Board minimum rates for men were raised by 10s. 1½d. a week and those for women by 6s. 9d. a week.

For printing trade workers, except those employed on London and certain other newspapers, rates of wages were increased by 5s. a week for men and for women engaged on men's work, by 2s. 6d. a week for other women, and by 1s. 6d. a week for juveniles.

In the building industry there were general increases of 1½d. an hour in England and Wales, and of 1½d. an hour for craftsmen and 1d. an hour for labourers in Scotland. Civil engineering workers received an increase of 1d. an hour, with additional increases in London and particular localities adjacent thereto.

Gas workers were granted a general increase of 1½d. an hour, or 1s. a shift, and electricity supply workers a bonus of 1d. an hour. The increases for waterworks employees varied in different districts.

In the transport group of industries dock labourers were granted an increase of 1s. a day or 6d. a half-day. Railway workers engaged in the manipulation of traffic received an increase of 7s. a week, while railway shopmen (who are included in the engineering group in the foregoing Table) received an increase of 8s. a week. The statutory minimum rates of wages of men engaged in the road haulage of goods were raised by amounts varying from 6s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. a week in different districts. Tramway and omnibus workers received an increase of 3s. a week. The standard rates of pay of merchant seamen were raised by £1 a month, or 5s. a week, and there was also an increase of £2 a month, or 9s. 4d. a week, in their "war risk money."

Other important classes of workpeople who received increases in rates of wages during the year included employees in the non-trading departments of Local Authorities in most areas, milk distributive workers, leather tanners, and workers in cinemas in a number of districts.

*Agricultural Labourers, Government Employees, etc.*—As already explained, certain classes of workers (for example, agricultural labourers, Government employees, and shop assistants) are excluded from the statistics given in the foregoing Table. Among these, agricultural labourers obtained substantial increases in their rates of wages. The Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Amendment Act of 1940\* required the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales to fix a national minimum wage. At a meeting of the Board held on 7th June the amount of this minimum wage was fixed at 48s. a week. Proposals were thereupon made by the Agricultural Wages Committee in each area to raise the existing minimum rates of wages for ordinary male labourers to not less than this amount and these proposals were embodied in Orders of the Agricultural Wages Board which became operative on 30th June, 1940. In the case of Scotland an amending Act was also passed in June. Although no national minimum rate of wages was fixed, the proceedings of the district committees which followed resulted in the establishment of a new minimum rate, usually of 48s. a week, in each area. The adoption of the new minimum rates, together with certain increases which had been granted in some areas at earlier dates in 1940, resulted in the rates of wages of ordinary male labourers in agriculture in all areas in Great Britain being raised during 1940 by amounts ranging from 9s. to 17s. a week.

Government industrial workers employed in H.M. Dockyards and other establishments received increases usually of 5s. a week. In the case of whole-time non-industrial Government employees whose remuneration was at the rate of 95s. a week or less in London and 91s. or 87s. a week, according to locality, in the provinces, a bonus was granted in February ranging from 1s. 6d. a week for juveniles to 5s. a week for adults in receipt of more than 50s. a week.

As regards shop assistants, whilst comprehensive information is not available, it is known that workers employed by retail co-operative societies generally and by a number of important firms received increases in rates of wages during the year.

\* See the Issues of this GAZETTE for May, 1940 (page 129), June 1940 (page 158), and July 1940 (page 188).

## CHANGES IN ACTUAL EARNINGS.

The particulars given above relate only to increases in rates of wages for a full normal week, and do not take account of increases in actual earnings resulting from fuller employment, increased overtime working, the extension of systems of payment by results and the transference of workpeople from relatively low-paid to higher-paid occupations and industries. Statistics which were published in the issues of this GAZETTE for November and December last (see pages 280-2 and 306-7) indicated that during the period from the outbreak of the war to July, 1940, the average increase in actual earnings was considerably greater than that in rates of wages.

## CHANGES IN WAGES IN THE YEARS 1930-1940.

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 1930 to 1940, and the net amount of increase or decrease in their weekly rates of wages:—

Year.	Approximate Number of separate individuals† reported 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.	
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	2,381,500	322,200	262,100	18,800	+ 243,300
1939	5,655,000	65,800	939,900	8,500	+ 931,400
1940†	7,902,400	—	2,148,000	—	+ 2,148,000

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 rates 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. It will be seen, however, that the numbers of workpeople affected by increases in rates of wages in the industries covered by the statistics, and the net amount of increase in weekly rates of wages, were much greater in 1940 than in any previous year in the period covered by the Table.

## HOURS OF LABOUR.

The total number of workpeople whose normal weekly hours of labour were reported as having been changed during 1940,‡ in the industries and services for which statistics are regularly collected,§ was about 145,600. Of these about 144,400 had their working time reduced by an average of about 4½ hours a week, and about 1,200 had their hours increased by an average of about half an hour a week. The largest group affected were juvenile workers under 16 years of age employed in such occupations as van boys, messengers, page boys, lift boys, attendants at theatres, cinemas and other places of entertainment, assistants to cinema operators, juveniles employed in receiving offices for laundries and for dyers and cleaners, and boys and girls employed in the retail distributive trade, whose weekly hours were reduced to a maximum of 44 as from 1st January, 1940, under the provisions of the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938. Other workpeople whose normal weekly hours were changed included coal tipplers and trimmers at Cardiff, Barry and Penarth, whose weekly working time was reduced by ½ or 2 hours, and bakers and confectioners at Edinburgh and Leith, whose normal week was increased by half an hour.

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 1930 to 1940, 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.	
1930	13,175	349,225	- 873,500
1931	294,000	111,000	+ 142,000
1932	6,000	8,750	+ 7,000
1933	2,500	12,500	- 36,000
1934	520	5,000	- 11,500
1935	2,450	43,700	- 153,850
1936	600	160,600	- 804,500
1937	1,500	390,650	- 960,000
1938	1,950	166,650	- 371,100
1939	—	380,000	- 1,280,000
1940†	1,200	144,400	- 604,700

The comparatively large numbers affected in the years 1930 and 1931 were mainly coal miners. In 1937 they were mainly printers, coal miners and flour millers, in 1938 mainly boot and shoe operatives, and in 1939 juvenile workers under 16 years of age in the great majority of manufacturing industries.

\* See footnote \* in the second column on page 2.

† In addition to the workpeople for whom figures are given in this Table there were considerable numbers in most years (other than 1940) whose wages during the year were increased and reduced by equal amounts.

‡ The figures given for 1940 are preliminary and subject to revision.

§ The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks.

## COST OF LIVING.

At 1st January, 1940, the cost-of-living index figure was 74 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939, immediately before the outbreak of the war. Between 1st January and 1st March, 1940, the figure rose to 79, but it showed little further movement until 1st July, when it rose sharply to 87. After a decline to 85 at 1st August there was a steady rise during the later months of the year, until at 1st January, 1941, the figure was 96 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The rise of 22 points during 1940, viz., from 74 to 96 per cent. above the 1914 level, was equivalent to nearly 13 per cent. during the year.

The following Table shows for 1st September, 1939, and for each month during 1940, the index figures for the five groups of items included within the scope of the statistics:—

Average Percentage Increases 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
1939.						
1st September*	38	62	108	82	79	55
1940.						
1st January	57	62	150	101	90	74
1st February	61	62	160	102	90	77
1st March	61	62	165-170	105	93	79
1st April	58	62	170-175	105	93	78
1st May	59	64	180	108	110	80
1st June	58	64	185	112	110	81
1st July	68	64	190	112	110	87
1st August	64	64	190	112	119	85
31st August	66	64	195	112	119	87
1st October	69	64	200	114	119	89
1st November	72	64	205-210	115	120	92
30th November..	73	64	220	119	121	95
1941.						
1st January	72	64	230	123	122	96

Of the total rise of 22 points in 1940, approximately 1 point was due to the increases in the duties on tobacco and cigarettes and matches and about 2½ points were due to the effects of the Purchase Tax, which came into operation on 21st October but had not fully affected retail prices by the end of the year.

Food.—On 1st January, 1940, the index figure relating to the average level of retail food prices was 57 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 38 per cent. at 1st September, 1939. After a rise to 61 at 1st February the figure fell again and at 1st June it was 58 per cent. above the 1914 level. A month later it rose sharply to 68, mainly owing to temporarily higher prices of new potatoes and to increases in the prices of milk. At 30th November the figure reached its maximum for 1940, viz., 73, and at the beginning of 1941 it was 72 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The increase of 15 points during 1940 was equivalent to a rise of nearly 10 per cent. during the year.

The following Table shows the average retail prices at 1st January, 1941, with those a year earlier and at the outbreak of the war.

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) at 1st Jan., 1941 as compared with	
	1st Sept., 1939	1st Jan., 1940	1st Jan., 1941	1st Sept., 1939	1st Jan., 1940
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—					
Ribs	1 2½	1 3½	1 3½	10	2
Thin Flank	0 7½	0 8½	0 9½	25	10
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 9½	0 10½	1 0½	34	22
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 6	22	5
Mutton, British—					
Legs	1 3½	1 4½	1 5½	12	4
Breast	0 7½	0 8½	0 8	7	-6
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 10½	0 11½	1 0	15	6
Breast	0 4	0 4½	0 4	-16	-
Bacon (Streaky)†	1 3	1 7½	1 6½	24	-6
Fish	—	—	—	75	38
Flour	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	-1	-3
Bread	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	3	-
Tea	2 4	2 5½	2 6	7	2
Sugar (granulated)	0 3	0 4½	0 4	32	-11
Milk	0 6½	0 7	0 9	33	28
Butter—					
Fresh	1 4½	1 7	1 7	14	-
Salt	1 3½	1 6½	1 7	24	1
Cheese (Canadian or New Zealand)†	0 10	1 0½	1 1	30	4
Margarine‡	0 6½	0 6½	0 9	12	9
Eggs (Fresh) .. each	0 2	0 2½	0 3½	86	44
Potatoes per 7 lbs.	0 6½	0 6½	0 8½	32	27

\* When the figures for 1st September, 1939, were originally published, in the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1939, the information then available indicated that the increase for the "clothing" group was between 105 and 110 per cent., for the "fuel and light" group between 80 and 85 per cent., and for the "other items" group approximately 80 per cent. The more complete information which subsequently became available when certain outstanding returns were received indicated that the percentages were approximately as stated in this Table, viz., 108, 82 and 79 respectively.

† Where this kind is seldom sold, the returns relate to another kind locally representative.

‡ On 1st January, 1941, two brands of margarine, "special" and "standard," were on sale at 9d. and 5d. per lb., respectively. The figures for 1st September, 1939 and 1st January, 1940, are averages calculated from the prices of various brands on sale at those dates.

As regards the individual articles included in the above Table, the prices of beef, mutton, bacon, margarine and tea showed very little change in 1940, apart from some movements in prices in the earlier months of the year, and the prices of bread and of butter were practically stationary throughout the year. Prices of milk, eggs and potatoes varied with seasonal influences, but over the whole year rose considerably. Prices of cheese advanced slightly in the early part of the year but receded in May; those of flour showed a slight decline. Granulated sugar was usually at 4½d. per lb. in January to August, then 5d. until December, when it fell to 4d. The prices of fish (with the exception of those of herrings, bloaters and kippers) showed a marked rise during the year. Among these articles maximum retail prices fixed by Order of the Minister of Food were in force at the beginning of 1940 for imported meat, tea, sugar, butter, imported eggs, potatoes, herrings, bloaters and kippers. During 1940 maximum retail prices were fixed by Order for bacon (from 8th January), meat, home-produced and imported (from 15th January), milk (from 1st February), home-produced eggs (from 14th May), cheese (from 27th May), and imported cod fillets (from 4th November); and prices of tea were de-controlled from 29th January, but were again restricted from 6th July. Prices of these articles remained controlled at the end of the year.

Rents of working-class dwellings throughout 1940 were subject to the control of the Rent Restrictions Acts, and showed an average increase during the year of only about 1 per cent., wholly due to increases in local rates in some districts.

Clothing.—There was a marked increase in the retail prices of working-class clothing and clothing materials during 1940. For men's suits and overcoats the average increase during the year, as indicated by the returns collected by the Department, was about 34 per cent.; for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery it was about 39 per cent.; for cotton materials and the clothing group as a whole the average increase during 1940 was about 32 per cent. These increases were partly due to the operation of the Purchase Tax, referred to above.

Fuel and Light.—There were general increases in the retail prices of coal in 1940, which averaged about 10 per cent. higher at the beginning of 1941 than a year earlier. Prices of gas were raised in many towns during 1940, but the increases were generally not large, and the average price rose by only about 5 per cent. Lamp oil, candles (cheap wax) and matches showed increases in prices during the year averaging about 15, 26 and 60 per cent., respectively, most of the increase in the prices of matches having followed the increase in duty in April.

Miscellaneous Other Items.—In this group the largest increase during 1940, among the items included within the statistics, was in the prices of tobacco and cigarettes, which showed a rise averaging about 32 per cent., following increases in the duties in April and July. Railway fares and, in a number of towns, tramway fares, were raised during 1940, the average increase during the year being about 10 per cent. The prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery advanced gradually throughout 1940, the increase over the year averaging about 21 per cent. Prices of soap rose by 12 per cent. Changes in the prices of the remaining items included in this group, viz., soda and newspapers, were relatively unimportant.

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 1940 with the corresponding averages for the years 1930 to 1939:—

Average Percentage Increase over the level of July, 1914.

Year.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items included.	All Items included.
1930	45	53	111	72½	77½	58
1931	31	54	96	74	75	47½
1932	26	54	89	72	73	44
1933	20	56	84	70	72½	40
1934	22	56	86	70	72½	41
1935	25	57	87	70	70	43
1936	30	59	89	74	70	47
1937	39	59	102	78	74	54
1938	40½	60	109	81	75	56
1939	41	62	114	84	79	58
1940	64	63	185	110	108	84

The foregoing figures are designed to indicate the average percentage increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing among working-class households prior to August, 1914, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living since that date, or for any economies or readjustments in consumption and expenditure since the outbreak of the war.

## TRADE DISPUTES.\*

The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as having begun in 1940 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 914, as compared with 940 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 1940 was about 226,700, while about 73,500 were indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes

\* 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 1940 are preliminary and subject to revision.

occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition about 300 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 3 disputes which began in 1939 and extended into 1940. The total number of workpeople involved, either directly or indirectly, in all disputes which were in progress in 1940 was thus about 300,500; the corresponding total for 1939 was 337,300.\*

At the establishments where disputes were reported the aggregate time lost in 1940 on account of disputes in progress during the year is estimated at about 941,000 working days. This is the smallest total recorded in any year during the whole period (nearly 50 years) for which comparable statistics are available, though the figure for 1934 was only slightly greater. The corresponding total for 1939 was about 1,356,000.

The following Table shows by industries the number of disputes reported as beginning in 1940 and in 1939, together with the approximate number of workpeople involved in, and the estimated aggregate duration of, all disputes in progress in each year:—

Industry Group.	1940.			1939.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in 1940.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in 1939.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Fishing and Agriculture	4	4,400	27,000	8	1,000	41,000
Coal Mining	377	190,600*	506,000	404	205,800*	565,000
Other Mining and Quarrying	5	400	3,000	13	1,600	47,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc.	23	1,400	5,000	11	1,500	9,000
Engineering	69	19,000	79,000	61	30,100	167,000
Shipbuilding	65	10,000	37,000	39	4,300	37,000
Iron and Steel and other Metal	92	10,900	47,000	81	21,600	128,000
Textile	60	9,700	77,000	73	8,700	100,000
Clothing	34	9,300	40,000	25	5,800	13,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco	13	5,000	14,000	14	1,600	11,000
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	11	500	1,000	18	2,600	23,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	5	200	1,000	5	500	2,000
Building, Public Works	81	26,000	73,000	122	35,400	131,000
Contracting, etc.	36	5,500	13,000	34	11,700	57,000
Transport	6	500	1,000	9	1,100	2,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance	33	7,100	17,000	23	4,000	23,000
All other Industries	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	914	300,500*	941,000	940	337,300*	1,356,000

Of the total numbers of workpeople shown above as involved in all disputes which were in progress in the two years, approximately 73,500 in 1940 and 91,000 in 1939 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 more than two-fifths of all the disputes recorded for each of the years 1940 and 1939, and for over three-fifths of all the workpeople involved in the disputes; nearly all of these stoppages, however, affected only individual collieries.

Principal Disputes in 1940.—Only two disputes beginning in 1940 involved more than 5,000 workpeople. The earlier of these occurred in January, when 26,000 colliery workpeople in Lanarkshire and parts of Dumbartonshire and West Lothian were idle for one day; the other involved about 20,000 colliery workpeople in Yorkshire in the loss of about 130,000 working days in the latter part of February and at the beginning of March. One protracted dispute affecting 1,450 weavers, winders and ancillary workers employed by a linen manufacturing firm in

## SCHEDULE OF RESERVED OCCUPATIONS.

### POSITION OF MEN IN TRAINING FOR MUNITIONS WORK.

For the purposes of the Schedule of Reserved Occupations, men in training for any particular occupation in munitions work are treated, as a general rule, during the period properly necessary for such training, as if they were employed in that occupation. This rule applies not only when the training is being given in a Government Training Centre or under a Training Scheme on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and National Service but also when the training is being given by an employer for employment at his own works.

Men who are accepted for training under any of the Ministry's schemes are not called up while they are receiving training. Men who satisfactorily complete their training and qualify for the new occupation will be classified accordingly and will take the age of reservation of that new occupation.

Men who may be accepted for such training are (a) young men of the age of 16 and under 20, (b) men of ages not yet registered under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act (men born in 1904 have now been registered, and (c) a limited number of men over 30 under the current age of registration who have not yet been called up.

Men who qualify for their new occupation will be placed in employment on munitions production. A considerable proportion of the men who enter upon training under the age of 20 will, on reaching military age, go into the Forces as tradesmen, although a few of them may be reserved under the Schedule and will accordingly be retained in industry. The older men will normally have been trained for occupations in which they will be reserved under the Schedule and will thus be retained in industry, although it may be that some of them will go into the Forces as tradesmen.

Many men are, of course, taken on by employers and trained in the course of their employment. Such men are regarded as following the occupation in which they are employed and take the reservation age, if any, appropriate to it.

## AUXILIARY TRAINING IN EMPLOYERS' WORKSHOPS.

A new leaflet\* has been issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service, describing the advantages of the scheme whereby recruits now urgently needed for munitions factories may receive training on production in employers' works. The introduction of this scheme was mentioned on page 283 of the November issue of this GAZETTE.

Conditions of training and the allowances payable to trainees are given in the leaflet. It is emphasised that, if persons who are not immediately available, but who want to take up training, will make their applications at once, such action will materially assist the Ministry in organising the training schemes.

Copies of the leaflet may be obtained free of charge from any Employment Exchange or from the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Public Relations Department, Montagu House, Whitehall, S.W.1.

## SEATS FOR WORKERS IN FACTORIES.

The third edition of a welfare pamphlet† on seats for workers in factories has been issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. The object of the pamphlet is to direct attention to the importance of good seating, and to assist employers by placing before them a concise summary of the information and experience on the subject gained by H.M. Inspectors of Factories.

Because posture and health are closely related the pamphlet emphasises the importance of the principles that (1) wherever seats can be used for work they should be so arranged as to enable the work to be done in a correct sitting posture and (2) wherever possible, arrangements should be made for a change of posture, e.g., from sitting to standing at work.

Details of construction and design of seats, back-rests and foot-rests are of great importance if correct posture is to be maintained; proper adjustment of the seats is also essential on account of individual differences in workers and the great diversity of types of work, work-tables and machines. General principles of design of seat, back-rest, foot-rest and arm-rest are set out and there are numerous illustrations of the application of these principles in a wide range of special cases.

The pamphlet also describes and illustrates various types of seats for occasional use in workrooms when work cannot be done sitting, seats outside the workrooms for use during organised rest-pauses and seats for mess-rooms and canteens. A method of measuring a worker for a chair is shown in an appendix.

\* Training for Wartime Work in the Engineering Industry: Auxiliary Training in Employers' Workshops. P.L.82, 1941.

† Seats for Workers in Factories: Ministry of Labour and National Service Welfare Pamphlet No. 6. H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. net (1s. 2d. post free).

## TRANSFER TO WORK OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE.

### TRAVELLING, LODGING AND OTHER ALLOWANCES.

MEN and women who leave home to take work of national importance may, in certain circumstances, receive allowances from the Ministry of Labour and National Service. To be eligible for such allowances, the worker must be transferred by an Employment Exchange or Trade Union approved for this purpose, and the work must be in another area, beyond reasonable daily travelling distance from the worker's home. The scheme does not apply to workers whose homes are outside Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man. The arrangements for allowances, which are set out below, do not apply in the case of dockers, shipyard workers, or, in general, workers in the building and civil engineering contracting industries, for whom there are special schemes, nor do they apply to workers who are entitled to similar allowances from their employers under any agreement or custom.

**Travelling Allowances.**—The worker may receive a free travelling warrant for the first journey to the place where he is going to work, and a payment for travelling time of 5s. (3s. for a worker under 16) if the journey lasts for not more than four hours, or 10s. (7s. for a worker under 16) if it lasts longer than four hours. He will receive the warrant from his home Exchange and the payment for travelling time from the Exchange in the new area; generally this payment is made on Friday.

**Loans.**—On reaching the new area, a worker who cannot keep himself for the first week may borrow anything up to £1 from the Exchange. He must repay it out of his first full week's wages.

**Lodging Allowances.**—Married men may receive a lodging allowance of 3s. 6d. a night, including Sundays. The same allowance may be paid to unmarried workers, both men and women, who have similar responsibilities (for example, a young man who has been supporting his widowed mother and young brothers and sisters). These allowances are paid so long as the worker lives and works in the new area and maintains his home in the area from which he was transferred. They cease when his dependants join him in the new area. They are usually paid on Friday for a pay week ending on the previous Wednesday.

**Household Removal Grants.**—A worker who is receiving lodging allowances may apply for help in moving his family and furniture to the new area. This will be granted if it appears that he will be employed for a lengthy period in the new area and that, on the whole, it is desirable for his family to come and live there. (For example, it must not be an area where accommodation is already scarce.) When the Exchange agrees to make a household removal grant, it will advise the worker about estimates and methods of removal. If he follows this advice carefully the Department will pay the cost of moving his furniture\* and provide travelling warrants for each member of his family. He must not incur any expense until the Department has agreed. If he moves to an unfurnished house or flat, he may also receive £2 towards the incidental expenses of the removal.

Household removal grants are not available to workers whose homes are in Northern Ireland or the Isle of Man.

## NATIONAL SERVICE (ARMED FORCES) ACTS.

### FURTHER REGISTRATIONS.

MEN in the 1904 class were required to register in January, 1941, together with those who had reached the age of 20 between the last registration and the end of the year 1940. Men born between 1st July and 31st December, 1904, and those born between 10th November and 31st December, 1920, all dates inclusive, were required to register on 11th January, and the remainder of the 1904 class on 18th January. The provisional total of men registered in this group was 350,340.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS IN RELATION TO THE WAR EFFORT.

### REPORT BY SELECT COMMITTEE.

THE third Report of the Select Committee on National Expenditure (Session 1940-1941) relates to the costs of national Supply Services and deals, *inter alia*, with the effect on such costs of local shortages of labour, overtime working, loss of production time during air-raids, interior lighting of factories and workshops, and dilution and training of labour.

Copies of the Report may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE, either directly or through any bookseller, price 3d. each (4d. post free).

\* This does not include coal, live stock or articles not normally regarded as household furniture.

## WEEKLY EXPENDITURE OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1937-38.

### II.—HOUSEHOLDS OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

IN last month's issue of this GAZETTE a summary was given of the information collected by the Department in 1937-38 from households of industrial, commercial, clerical, etc., workers who supplied budgets analysing their weekly expenditure. In the following article, and in the Table on pages 10 and 11, similar particulars are given summarising the information supplied by households the head of which was engaged in an agricultural occupation (including farm work, forestry, market gardening or horticulture).\* It should be observed that many of the households in this group included wage-earners other than the head of the family, and that a large proportion of these supplementary wage-earners were employed in industrial, commercial or clerical occupations. Consequently, the total weekly expenditure of many of these households was considerably greater than that of households in which an agricultural worker was the sole wage-earner.

### NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS FROM WHOM EFFECTIVE BUDGETS WERE RECEIVED.

As shown in the Table on page 301 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE, the number of agricultural households (as defined above) who supplied effective budgets, suitable for tabulation and eligible for inclusion in the statistics, ranged from 1,649 in October, 1937, to 1,517 in July, 1938. Of these, 1,491 supplied budgets for the complete series of four weeks (in October, 1937, and January, April, and July, 1938) covered by the enquiry.† The information furnished by these households is summarised in the Table on pages 10 and 11, which gives figures, in separate columns, compiled from (a) all the effective budgets obtained in October, 1937, and January, 1938, and (b) the budgets received from the 1,491 households who furnished information for all the four weeks.‡ It will be seen from the Table, however, that the inclusion or exclusion of the households who supplied less than four budgets does not materially affect the figures, the two series of averages being identical in many cases and showing only insignificant differences in others. In these circumstances the statistics compiled from the budgets furnished by the 1,491 agricultural households who supplied information for the complete series of four weeks have been utilised for the purpose of the summary given below.

The procedure by which these budgets were obtained was similar to that adopted in collecting the budgets from households of industrial, etc., workers, as described on pages 300-301 of last month's issue of this GAZETTE. As, however, the total number of agricultural workers in the United Kingdom is much less than that of industrial, commercial, etc., workers, it was necessary, in order to provide a sound basis for separate statistics relating to agricultural households, that the proportions of agricultural households visited and invited to supply budgets should be considerably higher than those of industrial, etc., households. The number of industrial, etc., households visited in Great Britain, for example, was approximately 27,000, equivalent to about 1 in 400 of the total number of men and women insured against unemployment in industrial, commercial, clerical, etc., occupations, and the number of such households who furnished budgets for the complete series of four weeks covered by the enquiry was approximately 8,900. While this total was ample to provide a basis for satisfactory statistics, a similar proportion (1 in 400) of the total number of insured men and women in agriculture would have provided only about 1,400 names of persons to be visited, of whom not more than 500 to 600 could have been expected to supply the complete series of four budgets. The Advisory Committee considered it desirable that the number of budgets obtained from agricultural households should be at least double this total, and it was necessary, therefore, that the number of households to be visited should be correspondingly increased. It was also considered necessary that substantially higher proportions of agricultural households should be visited and invited to supply budgets in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland than in England, in view of the wide disparities between the total numbers of agricultural households in the four countries and of the possibility that separate statistics for each country might eventually be required.

Of the 1,491 households who supplied the complete series of four budgets, 881 were in England, 155 in Wales, 277 in Scotland, and 178 in Northern Ireland. As a result of the arrangements referred to above, these numbers represented considerably larger proportions of the total number of agricultural households in Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland than in England. In order that the averages for the United Kingdom, given in the Table on pages 10 and 11, should not be affected by these inequalities in the proportions of budgets received, the budgets for each of the four countries were tabulated separately, and the respective totals were then combined into general aggregates

\* Private and jobbing gardeners, park-keepers, etc., in rural districts have been included with agricultural workers; those employed in towns, under conditions approximating to those of industrial workers, however, have been included with industrial, etc., workers.

† For particulars of the scope of the enquiry, and of the procedure adopted, see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, pages 300 and 301.

‡ The numbers of budgets supplied in April and July, 1938, by households who had not furnished effective budgets for each of the two earlier weeks were so small that their inclusion would have had no appreciable effect on the statistics. The figures relating to April and July, 1938, given in the Table on pages 10 and 11, have accordingly been based solely on the particulars supplied by the 1,491 households who furnished the complete series of four budgets.

by the use of appropriate "weights" before the final averages for the United Kingdom were calculated.

As explained in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, families in which both husband and wife were in wage-earning employment were over-represented in the budgets received, owing to the fact that where the husband and wife were both insured against unemployment the household had a two-fold chance of inclusion in the list of wage-earners to be visited and invited to supply budgets. Among households of which the principal wage-earner was an agricultural worker, however, the number of such cases was relatively small, and the discrepancy was adjusted by excluding from the tabulations the budgets received from 53 households which were not strictly eligible for inclusion within the statistics since the head of the household was not one of the wage-earners who were selected, by the process of random sampling described in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, to be visited and asked to supply budgets.‡

### COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLDS.

From the particulars given on page 10 it will be seen that the average number of persons in the agricultural households who supplied the complete series of four budgets was approximately 3.8, of whom 2.4 were aged 18 years or over, and 1.1 were under 14 years. The number of wage or salary earners averaged approximately 1.6 per household, and the average number of days worked by these earners in the four weeks for which the particulars were obtained was slightly over 5½ a week.§ As explained above, many of the supplementary earners were in industrial, commercial, etc., occupations; the number of days worked by the heads of the households (all of whom were engaged in agricultural occupations) averaged about 5.9 a week.

### HOUSING, RENTS, ETC.

Of the total number of agricultural households covered by the enquiry, 95½ per cent. were either directly renting their dwellings or occupying a dwelling provided by their employer, the value (or part of the value) of which was regarded as part of their wages. (In England and Wales, Orders were in operation, under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, fixing the minimum rates of wages for workers employed in agriculture. These Orders contained clauses permitting the value, or part of the value, of cottages and certain other allowances in kind, where provided by the employer, to be reckoned as part payment of wages, at amounts specified in the Orders, in lieu of payment in cash. Similar Orders came into operation in Scotland in the summer of 1938.) The average amount paid as rent, or reckoned as part payment of wages on account of the provision of a cottage by the employer, was 4s. 9d. a week. The number of rooms in the dwellings (including kitchens, but excluding sculleries, bathrooms, etc.), averaged 4.0.

Of the total of 95½ per cent. of all households in this group, three-fifths were directly renting their dwellings, and the average amount paid in rent, rates, etc., by these households was 5s. 4d. a week. The remaining two-fifths had their dwellings provided by their employers, the average value at which these dwellings were reckoned as part payment of wages being 3s. 11d. a week.¶

About 4½ per cent. of all the households stated that they owned or were buying their dwellings, and the weekly payments made by these households for instalments of purchase price, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc. (after deducting any rent received for rooms sub-let) averaged 4s. 8d.

The average weekly payment (or corresponding deduction from cash wages) in respect of rent or purchase instalments, rates, water charges, etc., distributed over all the 1,491 agricultural households who supplied four budgets, was 4s. 9d.

### EXPENDITURE ON FOOD.

The total weekly expenditure on food averaged 27s. 9d.¶ As in the case of the budgets from industrial households, summarised in last month's GAZETTE, the figures for most of the individual items of food, given on page 10, show only slight differences in the average expenditure in the four weeks, the principal exceptions being mutton and lamb, pork, rabbits and poultry, vegetables and fruit. The following Table shows

\* There are no statistics showing the actual numbers of agricultural households in each of the four countries. The available information suggests, however, that in England the proportion of such households represented by the budgets received was only about one-half of the corresponding proportion in Scotland, and about one-fourth of the proportions in Wales and Northern Ireland. Accordingly, in combining the figures for the four countries, in order to obtain aggregates for the United Kingdom, the weights to be applied to the respective totals were taken as England 4, Scotland 2, Wales 1, and Northern Ireland 1.

† See the second paragraph, following the Table, in the first column on page 302.

‡ In each of these 53 cases, the person whose name had been included in the list of wage-earners to be visited was found to be the wife of the head of the household. If sufficient information had been available to enable the list to be restricted to heads of households (thus ensuring that no household should have a double chance of inclusion) these households would not have been asked to supply budgets.

§ In October, 1937, and in January and July, 1938, the particulars related to the number of days worked in the week preceding the budget week; in April, 1938, they related to the budget week, the previous week having included Easter Monday.

¶ It should be noted that this average covers some classes of workers, e.g., private gardeners in rural districts, to whom the Orders under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts did not apply. Moreover, the Orders relating to Scotland were not in operation in October, 1937, and the early months of 1938, and there were no similar Orders in operation in Northern Ireland.

¶ This figure excludes expenditure on alcoholic drinks, mineral waters, etc., and on food for animals, poultry, etc., which is included under "Expenditure on Other Items."

the average expenditure, of the 1,491 households who supplied budgets for four weeks, on some of the principal items:—

Article.	Average expenditure in each of the four weeks.				Weekly average for four weeks.
	October, 1937.	January, 1938.	April, 1938.	July, 1938.	
Bread .. .. .	s. d. 3 0½	s. d. 2 11½	s. d. 2 11½	s. d. 2 10½	s. d. 2 11½
Flour .. .. .	1 3½	1 3	1 2½	1 1½	1 2½
Cakes, buns, pastries, biscuits, etc. . . . .	1 2½	1 1½	1 1½	1 2½	1 1½
Oatmeal, oatcakes, breakfast cereals, etc. . . . .	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 1½	0 2
Rice, sago, tapioca, barley, macaroni, etc. . . . .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
Beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork (joints, cuts and mince) . . . . .	4 2½	4 3½	4 3½	4 2½	4 3
Other meat, rabbits, poultry, etc. (including sausages and potted meat) . . . . .	1 4½	1 3½	1 1	1 0½	1 2½
Bacon, ham, etc. . . . .	1 7½	1 9	1 8	1 10½	1 8½
Fish (including fried fish and chips) . . . . .	0 9½	0 8½	0 9½	0 9	0 9
Milk: . . . . .					
Fresh, whole . . . . .	2 0	2 0½	2 0	2 1	2 0½
Skimmed (liquid) and buttermilk, condensed and dried milk, and cream . . . . .	0 4½	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½
Butter . . . . .	2 3½	2 0½	2 1	2 2½	2 1½
Margarine . . . . .	0 5½	0 5½	0 6	0 5½	0 5½
Lard, suet, dripping and other cooking fats . . . . .	0 8½	0 8	0 7½	0 6½	0 7½
Cheese . . . . .	0 10½	0 10½	0 10	0 10½	0 10½
Eggs . . . . .	0 11½	0 11½	1 0½	1 1½	1 0½
Tea . . . . .	1 5½	1 6	1 6½	1 7	1 6½
Cocoa, coffee, etc. . . . .	0 3	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 2½
Sugar . . . . .	1 3½	1 2½	1 3	1 5	1 3½
Jam, marmalade, syrup, honey, etc. . . . .	0 6½	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	0 7
Potatoes . . . . .	0 4½	0 5½	0 7	0 4½	0 5½
Other vegetables (fresh, dried, canned, etc.) . . . . .	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 8½	0 6
Apples, oranges and bananas . . . . .	0 5	0 7½	0 6½	0 5½	0 6
Other fruit (fresh, dried, canned, etc.) and nuts . . . . .	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	0 10½	0 8½
Meals away from home . . . . .	0 3½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 3
Other food† . . . . .	0 8	0 6½	0 7½	0 8½	0 7½
Total . . . . .	27 8½	27 6½	27 6½	28 1½	27 9

Of the average weekly expenditure of 27s. 9d. on food, meat accounted for 7s. 2d., or 26 per cent., the principal items included being 2s. 8½d. for beef and veal, 1s. 8½d. for bacon and ham, and 1½d. for mutton and lamb. Bread, flour, cakes, biscuits, oatmeal, rice and other cereals and cereal products accounted for 5s. 7½d., or 20 per cent., including 2s. 1½d. for bread, 1s. 2½d. for flour, and 1s. 1½d. for cakes, buns, pastries, biscuits, etc. Expenditure on butter, margarine, lard, suet, dripping and other cooking fats averaged 3s. 3½d., or 12 per cent. of the total, the principal item included being 2s. 1½d. for butter. Milk and cream accounted for 2s. 4½d., or nearly 9 per cent.

The following Table shows the average quantities of some of the principal foods bought by the 1,491 agricultural households who supplied budgets for each of the four weeks. For most of the other important articles a large proportion of the budgets did not give sufficiently exact information as to the quantities bought to afford a satisfactory basis for the calculation of general averages.

Article.	Average quantity bought in each of the four weeks.				Weekly average for four weeks.
	October, 1937.	January, 1938.	April, 1938.	July, 1938.	
Bread .. .. .	lb. 15-1	lb. 14-7	lb. 15-0	lb. 15-1	lb. 15-0
Flour .. .. .	6-6	6-6	6-5	6-2	6-5
Beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork (joints, cuts and mince) . . . . .	4-2	4-3	4-3	4-1	4-2
Bacon, ham, etc. . . . .	1-3	1-5	1-3	1-5	1-4
Milk, fresh, whole . . . . .	pints 8-4	pints 8-2	pints 8-4	pints 8-3	pints 8-3
Butter .. .. .	1-6	1-6	1-6	1-7	1-6
Margarine .. .. .	0-8	0-8	0-8	0-8	0-8
Lard .. .. .	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6	0-6
Cheese sold by weight† . . . . .	0-9	0-9	0-9	0-9	0-9
Tea .. .. .	0-6	0-6	0-7	0-6	0-6
Sugar .. .. .	5-8	5-6	5-8	6-5	5-9
Jam and marmalade . . . . .	0-8	0-9	1-0	0-9	0-9
Potatoes .. .. .	5-2	7-5	9-7	3-6	6-5
Eggs .. .. .	6-1	7-1	11-1	8-4	8-2
Oranges .. .. .	1-1	3-8	2-5	1-7	2-3
Bananas .. .. .	1-6	1-0	1-5	2-1	1-5
Apples .. .. .	0-9	0-6	0-4	0-3	0-5

The particulars given above, and in the Table on page 10, relate only to the food bought by the households in the four weeks covered by the enquiry, and do not include the values or quantities of (a) allowances of food received by many of the households from their employers, or (b) garden, allotment, etc., produce raised and consumed by the households.

\*Of this amount, 7½d. was spent on cheese sold by weight, and the balance on cheese sold by the box or packet.  
† This figure includes expenditure on alcoholic drinks, mineral waters etc., and on food for animals, poultry, etc., which is included under "Expenditure on Other Items."  
‡ The quantities shown do not include cheese sold by the box or packet, which is included in the average of 10½d. shown in the previous Table.

The main items of food provided by employers were milk, potatoes and oatmeal. Of the 1,491 agricultural households who supplied the complete series of four budgets, approximately 18 per cent. received a regular allowance of milk from their employers, amounting on average to about 14 pints a week; between 12 and 13 per cent. received an allowance of potatoes, averaging about 27½ lb. a week; and 5 per cent. (almost all of whom were in Scotland) received an allowance of oatmeal, averaging about 13½ lb. a week. If averaged over all the 1,491 households who supplied four budgets, these allowances are equivalent, per household, to about 2½ pints of milk, 3½ lb. of potatoes, and nearly ½ lb. of oatmeal, a week. A small proportion of the households also received allowances of other items of food, but the quantities of these, when averaged over all the 1,491 households, were very small. The Orders made under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts, fixing minimum rates of wages for agricultural workers, permit some of these allowances in kind, when provided by the employer, to be reckoned as part payment of wages, at values fixed by the Orders. On the basis of the values specified in the Orders in operation in 1937-38, and of such information as is available as to market prices in other cases, it is estimated that the total value of the allowances of food received from employers, when distributed over the whole of the households covered by the enquiry, was equivalent to an average per household of nearly 1s. a week. The principal items of garden, allotment, etc., produce raised by the 1,491 agricultural households and consumed at home were potatoes and eggs. About one-half of the budgets received showed some consumption of home produced potatoes during the four weeks to which the enquiry related, the average weekly quantity in these cases being about 15 lb., and about 20 per cent. of the households showed an average weekly consumption of 14 or 15 eggs produced at home. When distributed over all the agricultural households covered by the enquiry, these quantities are equivalent to averages of about 7½ lb. of potatoes and 3 eggs a week. A number of the budgets also showed some consumption of other vegetables, and of small quantities of fruit, produced at home. Of the vegetables, cabbages formed the principal item, the quantity raised at home and consumed in the four budget weeks representing an average of nearly 1 lb. a week for all the agricultural households covered by the enquiry.

EXPENDITURE ON CLOTHING.

The average expenditure on clothing, clothing materials and footwear (including repairing, dyeing and cleaning), as shown by the budgets supplied by 1,491 agricultural households for the four weeks to which the enquiry related, was 5s. 10d. In view, however, of the wide variations in expenditure on clothing and footwear at different periods of the year, arrangements were made to obtain, from a representative selection of the households who furnished budgets in October, 1937, records of their expenditure under this heading week by week over a period of twelve months. Among the 1,491 households who supplied budgets for the complete series of four weeks, nearly 400 furnished the desired information, and the particulars given by these households are summarised in the following Table:—

Item.	Average weekly expenditure in the undermentioned periods.				Weekly average for the twelve months.
	17 Oct., 1937 to 15 Jan., 1938.	16 Jan., 1938 to 16 April, 1938.	17 April, 1938 to 16 July, 1938.	17 July, 1938 to 15 Oct., 1938.	
Men's clothing and materials	s. d. 2 1½	s. d. 1 5½	s. d. 1 6½	s. d. 1 5½	s. d. 1 7½
Women's clothing and materials	1 6½	1 4	1 4½	1 3½	1 4½
Children's clothing and materials	0 9½	0 6½	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½
Clothing repairs, and dyeing and cleaning	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
Boots, shoes, etc. . . . .	1 5½	1 0	1 0½	1 4½	1 2½
Boot and shoe repairs	0 4½	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	0 4
Total . . . . .	6 4½	4 9½	4 10½	5 0	5 3

There can be little doubt that the total of 5s. 3d. shown in the last column of this Table, based on returns supplied by about 400 households week by week over a period of twelve months, approximates more closely to the average expenditure on clothing and footwear (including repairs) of the agricultural households covered by the enquiry, than the figure of 5s. 10d. shown by the budgets relating to four specified weeks at quarterly intervals. The 400 households were selected by taking names at regular intervals from a list of households who, when supplying budgets in October, 1937, had stated that they would be willing to furnish supplementary returns, week by week, of expenditure on clothing. There is good reason to suppose that they were a representative selection, since the composition of these households was found to correspond closely with that of the 1,491 households, the average number of persons in the household being approximately 3.8 (including 2.4 over 18 years of age and 1.4 under that age) in each group, and the average number of wage-earners included being in each case 1.6. Moreover, the average expenditure on clothing in the week covered by the first of the four budgets (i.e., the week ended 23rd October, 1937) was practically identical, being approximately 6s. 0d. in each group. In the three later budget weeks (in January, April and July, 1938) however, the expenditure on clothing shown by the budgets received from the 1,491 households was about 1s. 1d. a week higher, on average, than that shown for the same weeks, by the 400 households who supplied regular weekly returns. As explained on page 303 of last month's issue of this

GAZETTE, it seems probable that this discrepancy was due to a tendency on the part of some households who supplied budgets for only four weeks, at quarterly intervals, to include expenditure incurred towards the end of the preceding week, in addition to that incurred in the budget week. The returns supplied by those households who furnished information week by week were less liable to be affected by over-statement of this kind, after the first week. In these circumstances the average weekly expenditure on clothing, among the agricultural households covered by the enquiry, may reasonably be regarded as more accurately represented by the figure of 5s. 3d.,\* based on the weekly returns covering a period of twelve months, than by that of 5s. 10d. shown by the budgets relating only to four weeks.

Of the total weekly expenditure of 5s. 3d. on clothing, etc., 1s. 7½d., or 31 per cent., was allotted to men's clothing, 1s. 4½d., or 26 per cent., to women's clothing and materials, 7½d., or 12 per cent., to children's clothing and materials, and 1s. 6½d., or 30 per cent., to boots and shoes (including repairs).

EXPENDITURE ON FUEL AND LIGHT.

The average weekly expenditure on fuel and lighting, among the 1,491 agricultural households who supplied four budgets, ranged from 5s. 9½d. in January to 4s. 0½d. in July, the general average for the four weeks covered by the enquiry being 4s. 11d. Expenditure on coal averaged 2s. 11d. a week, or nearly 60 per cent. of the total: the average weekly quantity of coal bought in the four weeks to which the budgets related was about 1.4 cwt. in October, 1.8 cwt. in January, 1.4 cwt. in April, and 1.2 cwt. in July; the general average for the four weeks was nearly 1½ cwt. About 6 per cent. of the households stated that they received allowances of coal, averaging about 1½ cwt. a week, from employers of the wage-earners; these allowances are not included in the figures of expenditure given above, but when distributed over all the households covered by the enquiry the quantity so allowed was small, being equivalent to less than one-tenth of one cwt. a week. Expenditure on gas averaged 4d. a week, and expenditure on electricity 3½d. a week (including in each case payments for meter rent and fittings): of these amounts, payments through slot meters accounted for 3½d. and 2d., respectively. Expenditure on lamp oil averaged 7½d. a week. Coke, firewood and other fuel (including peat used as fuel in some households in Northern Ireland), candles, and matches accounted for an average expenditure of 9½d. a week.

EXPENDITURE ON OTHER ITEMS.

Expenditure on "Other Items" (i.e., items other than food, rent, clothing, fuel and lighting) averaged 14s. 8d. a week, or over one-fourth of the total expenditure. The Table below shows the amounts spent on some of the principal items:—

Item.	Average expenditure in each of the four weeks.				Weekly average for four weeks.
	October, 1937.	January, 1938.	April, 1938.	July, 1938.	
Soap, soda, and other cleaning and polishing materials	s. d. 0 11	s. d. 0 10½	s. d. 0 11	s. d. 0 11	s. d. 0 10½
Household equipment (pottery and glass, hollow-ware, drapery, brushes, floor coverings, furniture, etc.) . . . . .	1 4½	1 4	1 8	1 5½	1 5½
Tobacco and cigarettes . . . . .	2 0	1 10½	1 10½	1 11	1 11
Travelling . . . . .	0 10	0 10½	0 10½	0 11	0 10½
Newspapers, and other periodicals . . . . .	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 10½	0 9½
Entertainments . . . . .	0 4½	0 4½	0 4	0 3½	0 4½
Laundry charges . . . . .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
Hairdressing, shaving, etc. . . . .	0 2½	0 2	0 2	0 2½	0 2½
Doctor, dentist, optician, midwife, nursing, medicines, drugs, hospital payments, etc. . . . .	1 4	1 4½	0 11½	1 2½	1 2½
National Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurances . . . . .	1 8	1 7½	1 8	1 7½	1 7½
Other insurances, pension funds, etc. . . . .	1 5½	1 4½	1 4½	1 5½	1 5½
Trade Union subscriptions.. Licences (dog, wireless, gun, motor-cycle, etc.) . . . . .	0 7	0 6½	0 5½	0 6½	0 6½
Food for animals, birds, poultry, etc. . . . .	0 6½	0 5½	0 4½	0 4½	0 5
Postages, telephones, etc. . . . .	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	0 3½	0 4
Other expenditure . . . . .	2 0½	1 10½	1 11½	2 1	2 0½
Total . . . . .	15 0½	15 0	14 2	14 6	14 8

A more detailed analysis of the expenditure on some of the groups of items shown above is given in the Table on page 11, from which it will be seen that of the average weekly expenditure of 10½d. on cleaning, polishing, etc., materials, 7½d. was allotted to soap and 3½d. to other materials; that the average weekly expenditure on travelling included 4½d. for journeys to and from work† and 6d. for other travelling; and that the weekly average of 4½d. spent on entertainments included 2½d. for cinemas and 1½d. for other entertainments. The average weekly expenditure shown on tobacco and cigarettes was 1s. 11d. There are indications, however, in some of the budgets received, that expenditure on tobacco and cigarettes was not in all cases fully stated. There seems little doubt, also, that the personal expenditure of many of the wage-earners on beer, spirits, etc., was not fully reflected in the budgets, and the figures relating to

\* The average of 5s. 3d. has been computed from the particulars given in the returns actually received. In each week throughout the year a small proportion (averaging about 2 per cent.) of the households omitted to send returns. A considerable proportion of these omissions may have been due to the fact that no expenditure was incurred in the particular week, but it is improbable that any adjustment which might justifiably be made on this account would reduce the average of 5s. 3d. by as much as 1d.  
† Including journeys to and from work by the supplementary wage-earners in the family (some of whom were employed in industrial, etc., occupations).

"Drink (beer, mineral waters, etc.)," given on page 11, with the corresponding figures on page 305 of last month's GAZETTE, must accordingly be regarded as an understatement. The experience of previous enquiries into household expenditure has indicated that the particulars given in large-scale collections of family budgets are unlikely to disclose the full amount of expenditure either on tobacco and cigarettes or on alcoholic drink.

SUMMARY OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure on "all items," as shown by the budgets supplied by the 1,491 agricultural households who furnished information for the four weeks covered by the enquiry, averaged 57s. 11d. a week. If, however, an average weekly expenditure of about 5s. 3d. on clothing and footwear, as suggested by the returns obtained week by week over a period of twelve months, is substituted for that of 5s. 10d. shown by the budgets covering only four weeks, the total expenditure on "all items" becomes 57s. 4d., of which food accounted for 27s. 9d., or about 48 per cent., rent, etc. (including rates) for 4s. 9d., or about 8 per cent., clothing for 5s. 3d., or about 9 per cent., fuel and light for 4s. 11d., or nearly 9 per cent., and other items for 14s. 8d., or nearly 26 per cent.

COMPARISON OF THE BUDGETS OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS WITH THOSE OF INDUSTRIAL HOUSEHOLDS.

In the following Table the expenditure shown in the budgets, summarised above, of the 1,491 agricultural households who supplied information is compared with that shown in the budgets, summarised in last month's issue of this GAZETTE, of 8,905 households of industrial, commercial, etc., workers:—

Item.	Industrial, etc., Households (Average 3-77 persons).		Agricultural Households (Average 3-79 persons).	
	Average weekly expenditure	Proportion of total expenditure	Average weekly expenditure	Proportion of total expenditure
	s. d.	Per cent.	s. d.	Per cent.
Rent (or purchase instalments), rates, etc. . . . .	10 10	12-7	4 9	8-3
Food:—				
Bread and flour . . . . .	3 6½	4-1	4 2	7-3
Other cereals and cereal products . . . . .	1 10	2-2	1 5½	2-5
Meat, poultry, rabbits, etc. . . . .	6 2½	7-3	5 5½	9-5
Bacon, ham, etc. . . . .	1 11	2-3	1 8½	3-0
Fish . . . . .	1 4½	1-7	0 9	1-3
Milk (fresh, condensed and dried) and cream . . . . .	3 6½	4-2	2 4½	4-1
Butter . . . . .	2 5½	2-9	2 1½	3-7
Margarine, lard, suet and other cooking fats . . . . .	0 11½	1-1	1 1½	2-0
Cheese . . . . .	0 8½	0-8	0 10½	1-5
Eggs . . . . .	1 10½	2-2	1 0½	1-8
Tea . . . . .	1 7½	1-9	1 6½	2-7
Sugar . . . . .	1 0½	1-2	1 3½	2-3
Potatoes . . . . .	1 1½	1-3	0 5½	0-8
Other vegetables (fresh, dried, canned, etc.) . . . . .	1 4½	1-6	0 9	0-9
Fruit (fresh, dried, canned, etc.) and nuts . . . . .	1 9½	2-1	1 2½	2-1
Other food . . . . .	2 9	3-2	1 8½	2-9
Total—Food . . . . .	34 1	40-1	27 9	48-4
Clothing and Footwear* :—				
Clothing and materials, including repairs, etc. . . . .	6 0	7-1	3 8½	6-4
Boots, shoes, etc., including repairs . . . . .	2 1	2-4	1 6½	2-7
Total—Clothing, etc. . . . .	8 1	9-5	5 3	9-1
Fuel and Light :—				
Coal and coke . . . . .	3 3	3-8	2 11½	5-2
Gas and electricity . . . . .	2 5½	2-9	0 7½	1-0
Other fuel and lighting . . . . .	0 8½	0-9	1 4½	2-4
Total—Fuel and Light . . . . .	6 5	7-6	4 11	8-6
Other Items :—				
Soap and other cleaning and polishing materials . . . . .	1 11½	1-3	0 10½	1-6
Household equipment . . . . .	2 11½	3-5	1 5½	2-5
Tobacco and cigarettes . . . . .	2 6½	3-0	1 11	3-4
Travelling . . . . .	2 3	2-6	0 10½	1-5
Newspapers and periodicals . . . . .	1 0	1-2	0 9½	1-4
Entertainments . . . . .	1 4½	1-6	0 4½	0-6
Doctor, dentist, nursing, medicines, etc. . . . .	1 8	2-0	1 2½	2-1
National Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurances . . . . .	2 0½	2-4	1 7½	2-9
Other insurances, pension funds, etc. . . . .	2 4½	2-8	1 5½	2-5
Trade Union subscriptions..				



SUMMARY OF BUDGETS SUPPLIED BY HOUSEHOLDS OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS\* IN 1937-38.

Item.	Week ended 23rd October, 1937†		Week ended 29th January, 1938†		Week ended 30th April, 1938†	Week ended 23rd July, 1938†	General Average for households who supplied budgets for the 4 weeks.
	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.‡	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.‡	
<b>Composition, etc., of the Households:</b>							
1. Number of households from which budgets were received	1,649	1,491	1,583	1,491	1,491	1,491	1,491
2. Average number of persons per household:—							
Children under 14 years .. .. .	1.15	1.15	1.13	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.14
Males 14 and under 18 years .. .	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.16
Females 14 and under 18 years ..	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.10
Males 18 years and over .. .	1.25	1.26	1.25	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26
Females 18 years and over .. .	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.14	1.13	1.12	1.13
Total—all persons .. .	3.79	3.81	3.77	3.80	3.79	3.78	3.79
3. Average number of wage or salary-earners per household	1.53	1.60	1.57	1.58	1.59	1.58	1.59
4. Average number of days worked, in previous weeks, by:—							
(a) Head of household .. .	6.0	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9
(b) All wage or salary-earners in household ..	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.5
<b>Housing:</b>							
5. Percentage of total number of households, who were renting¶ their dwellings .. .	95.9	95.7	95.7	95.6	95.6	95.5	95.6
6. Average weekly payments, by those households, in respect of purchase instalments, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc. (after deducting any rent received for rooms sub-let) .. .	4s. 9½d.	4s. 8½d.	4s. 9½d.	4s. 9d.	4s. 9½d.	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d.
7. Average number of rooms rented¶ per household (including kitchens, but excluding sculleries, bathrooms, etc., and any rooms sub-let) .. .	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
8. Percentage of total number of households, who owned or were buying their dwellings .. .	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4
9. Average weekly payments, by those households, in respect of purchase instalments, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc. (after deducting any rent received for rooms sub-let) .. .	5s. 1d.	4s. 10d.	5s. 0d.	4s. 9d.	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d.	4s. 8d.
10. Average expenditure per household on rent¶ or purchase of dwelling, ground rent, rates and water charges, etc.¶¶	4s. 9½d.	4s. 8½d.	4s. 10d.	4s. 9d.	4s. 9½d.	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d.
<b>Average expenditure per Household on Food:</b>							
11. Bread .. .	3 0½	3 0½	2 11½	2 11½	2 10½	2 11½	2 11½
12. Flour .. .	1 3	1 3½	1 2½	1 2½	1 2½	1 2½	1 2½
13. Cakes, buns, pastries, currant bread, etc. .. .	0 11½	0 11½	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	0 11½	0 11½
14. Biscuits .. .	0 2½	0 3	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
15. Oatmeal, oatcakes, oats and proprietary cereals ..	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 2½	0 2
16. Rice, sago, tapioca, semolina, barley, macaroni and vermicelli .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
17. Beef and veal (joints, cuts and mince) .. .	2 9	2 9	2 9½	2 9	2 9½	2 9½	2 8½
18. Mutton and lamb ( " " ) .. .	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 11½	0 11½	0 11½
19. Pork .. .	0 7½	0 7½	0 9	0 9	0 7	0 7	0 7
20. Canned and potted meat .. .	0 2	0 2½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2	0 2
21. Sausages and meat pies .. .	0 8½	0 8½	0 8	0 8½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½
22. Other meat (kidney, liver, fry, heart, head, sweetbreads, tripe, brown, cowheels, etc.) .. .	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½
23. Rabbits, poultry, game, etc. .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 2	0 0½	0 1½	0 1½
24. Bacon, ham (cooked or uncooked) and gammon ..	1 7½	1 7½	1 9	1 9	1 8	1 8½	1 8½
25. Fish—fresh (including shell fish) .. .	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4
26. " dried or cured .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
27. " canned, and paste .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2	0 2
28. " fried, and chips .. .	0 2	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 1½	0 1½
29. Milk—fresh, whole (including milk at school) .. .	2 0	2 0	2 0½	2 0½	2 0	2 0	2 0½
30. " skimmed (liquid) and buttermilk .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
31. " condensed .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
32. " dried, and milk preparations .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
33. Cream .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
34. Butter .. .	2 3½	2 3½	2 0½	2 0½	2 1	2 2½	2 1½
35. Margarine .. .	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 6	0 5½	0 5½
36. Lard, including compound lard .. .	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5	0 4½	0 5½
37. Suet, dripping, and other cooking fats .. .	0 3	0 3	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
38. Cheese .. .	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	0 10½	0 10	0 10½	0 10½
39. Eggs .. .	0 11½	0 11½	0 11½	0 11½	1 0½	1 1½	1 0½
40. Tea .. .	1 5½	1 5½	1 6	1 6	1 6½	1 7	1 6½
41. Cocoa and cocoa essence .. .	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1
42. Coffee and coffee essence .. .	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
43. Sugar .. .	1 3	1 3½	1 2½	1 2½	1 3	1 5	1 3½
44. Jam, marmalade, etc. .. .	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	0 6	0 5½	0 5½
45. Syrup, treacle and honey .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
46. Potatoes .. .	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	0 7	0 4½	0 5½
47. Green vegetables and legumes (fresh)** .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 1½
48. Dried legumes .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
49. Root vegetables, etc.†† .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 1½	0 5½	0 2½
50. Onions, leeks and shallots .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
51. Canned and bottled vegetables .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
52. Apples .. .	0 2½	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
53. Oranges .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 4½	0 4½	0 3	0 2	0 2½
54. Bananas .. .	0 1½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1½	0 2	0 1½
55. Other fresh fruit, and nuts .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 3	0 1½
56. Dried fruits .. .	0 5	0 5	0 5½	0 5½	0 4½	0 4½	0 5
57. Canned and bottled fruits .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2	0 2
58. Meals, etc., away from home††† .. .	0 3½	0 3½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 3
59. Other food (excluding food for animals, poultry, birds, etc., see item 99) .. .	0 7½	0 8	0 6½	0 6½	0 7½	0 8½	0 7½
Total expenditure on food .. .	27 8	27 8½	27 6	27 6½	27 6½	28 1½	27 9

For footnotes see next page.

[Continued on page 11

SUMMARY OF BUDGETS SUPPLIED BY HOUSEHOLDS OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS\* IN 1937-38—continued.

Item.	Week ended 23rd October, 1937†		Week ended 29th January, 1938†		Week ended 30th April, 1938†	Week ended 23rd July, 1938†	General Average for households who supplied budgets for the 4 weeks.
	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	All households.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.‡	Households supplying budgets for 4 weeks.‡	
<b>Average Expenditure per Household on Clothing§§:</b>							
60. Men's clothing and materials .. .	s. d. 1 11½	s. d. 1 11½	s. d. 1 8	s. d. 1 8	s. d. 1 9	s. d. 1 10½	s. d. 1 9½
61. Women's clothing and materials .. .	0 11	0 11	0 9½	0 10	0 10	0 11	0 11
62. Children's clothing and materials .. .	0 8½	0 8	0 6½	0 6½	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½
63. Clothing repairs, dyeing and cleaning .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
64. Boots and shoes .. .	1 7½	1 8½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 8½	1 7½
65. Repairs to boots and shoes .. .	0 8½	0 8½	0 6½	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½
Total expenditure on clothing§§ .. .	6 0	6 0	4 11	4 11	6 2½	6 3	5 10
<b>Average Expenditure per Household on Fuel and Light:</b>							
66. Coal .. .	2 9½	2 9½	3 6½	3 7	3 0	2 3½	2 11
67. Coke .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½
68. Gas (including payment for meter rent and fittings)¶¶ ..	0 4½	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 3½	0 4	0 4
69. Electricity (including payment for meter rent and fittings)¶¶ ..	0 3½	0 3½	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	0 2½	0 3½
70. Lamp oil .. .	0 8	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	0 6½	0 6	0 7½
71. Firewood and other fuel, candles and matches .. .	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 9	0 7½	0 9
Total expenditure on fuel and light .. .	4 11	4 11	5 9½	5 9½	4 10½	4 0½	4 11
<b>Average Expenditure per Household on Other Items:</b>							
72. Soap (including soap flakes) .. .	0 7	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½
73. Soda, polishes and cleaning materials .. .	0 4	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3½
74. Ironmongery, hollow-ware, cutlery, tools, etc. .. .	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 1½
75. Household brushes and brooms .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
76. Pottery and glass-ware .. .	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 0½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1
77. Drapery and haberdashery .. .	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 4½
78. Furniture .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 3½	0 3½	0 5½	0 4	0 4
79. Carpets, linoleum, mats, etc. .. .	0 3	0 3	0 3½	0 3½	0 4	0 3	0 3½
80. Other household utensils and equipment .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 0½	0 1½
81. Tobacco and cigarettes .. .	1 11½	2 0	1 10½	1 10½	1 10½	1 11	1 11
82. Travelling:—							
Railway fares, to and from work .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 0½	0 1½
Bus, tram and coach fares, to and from work ..	0 3½	0 3½	0 3	0 3	0 2½	0 3	0 3
Other rail, bus, tram and coach fares .. .	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 7½	0 6
Total—travelling .. .	0 10	0 10	0 10	0 10½	0 10½	0 11	0 10½
83. Newspapers, magazines and other periodicals .. .	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 10½	0 9½
84. Books, stationery, pens, pencils, etc. .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
85. Postages, telephones and telegrams .. .	0 3½	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 3½	0 4
86. Entertainment:—							
Cinemas .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
Theatres, music-halls, concerts, dances, etc., and admission charges for sports, games, etc. .. .	0 2	0 2	0 1½	0 2	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
87. Education, music lessons, etc. .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1	0 1½
88. Hairdressing, shaving, etc. .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2½	0 2½
89. Laundry charges .. .	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½
90. Doctor, dentist, optician, midwife, nursing fees, etc. ..	0 8½	0 9	0 9½	0 9½	0 4½	0 7½	0 7½
91. Medicines, drugs, medical and surgical appliances, etc. ..	0 4½	0 4½	0 5½	0 5	0 3½	0 3½	0 4½
92. Payments to hospital funds .. .	0 2½	0 2½	0 3½	0 3½	0 3	0 3½	0 3
93. National Health, Pensions, and Unemployment Insurance contributions .. .	1 8	1 8	1 7½	1 7½	1 8	1 7½	1 7½
94. Insurance premiums, payments to pension funds, etc. ..	0 7	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	0 6½	0 7	0 6½
95. Trade Union subscriptions .. .	0 5½	0 5½	0 11½	0 11½	0 11½	0 2½	0 6½
96. Licences (dog, wireless, gun, motor-cycle, etc.) .. .	0 1	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 1½	0 1	0 1
97. Wages paid for domestic help .. .	0 1	0 0½	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
98. Holiday expenditure .. .	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 1	0 4½	0 1½
99. Food for animals, poultry, birds, etc. .. .	0 6	0 6½	0 5½	0 5½	0 4½	0 4½	0 5
100. Drink (beer, mineral waters, etc.) .. .	0 4½	0 4½	0 4	0 4	0 4½	0 5½	0 4½
101. Other expenditure .. .	1 2½	1 4	0 11½	1 1½	1 2½	0 11½	1 1½
Total expenditure on "other items" .. .	14 9	15 0½	14 11	15 0	14 2	14 6	14 8
<b>Summary of Average Expenditure per Household:—</b>							
Rent¶ or purchase of dwelling, ground rent, rates, etc. ..	4 9½	4 8½	4 10	4 9	4 9½	4 9	

UNEMPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

INTERIM REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

THE Select Committee of the House of Commons of Northern Ireland, appointed on 1st October, 1940, to inquire into unemployment in Northern Ireland\* have issued an interim report.

From a preliminary survey, the Committee found that the rate of unemployment was much higher in the textile trade (which is mainly linen manufacture) than in any other trade, and they therefore decided to investigate this matter first.

The Committee state that the high rate of unemployment in the textile trade is attributable to four causes:—(1) Shortage of Raw Materials: as a result of the war the import of flax from abroad has largely ceased, and the home-grown flax is insufficient for requirements; (2) Control of Markets: the export of goods to certain countries not on a satisfactory exchange basis has been restricted; (3) the Limitation of Supplies (Woven Textiles) Order: this Order, together with the restriction on the home consumption of linen and cotton goods, is said to have brought the bleaching, dyeing and finishing trade almost to a standstill and to have seriously affected the hemstitching and embroidery trade; (4) Insufficiency of War Orders placed in Northern Ireland: owing to the lack of orders, no alternative employment is open to labour displaced by war restrictions.

The Committee urge the provision of increased plant and machinery in Northern Ireland for processing flax and the grant of financial assistance for this purpose. In order to encourage the growing of more flax by farmers who cannot ret the crop, they also recommend that considerably greater quantities of green flax should be bought on foot.

The Committee recommend that the Limitation of Supplies Order should be modified so far as it affects linen goods, and they suggest that no more severe restriction in the rate of home consumption of linen goods be made than applies to cotton goods. They also recommend that a scheme should be put into operation to provide alternative employment, of a useful national character, for workers displaced by war restrictions; that a greater effort should be made to obtain Government orders, especially for the making-up trades; and that special attention should be paid to the development of the export trade.

In conclusion the Report states that, in the view of the Committee, the Northern Ireland Government should make strong representations to the British Government to take urgent steps to provide work for the alleviation of unemployment in Northern Ireland.

REVIEW OF MEN REGISTERED AS WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED.

The panels of Local Employment Committees, assisted in some areas by representatives of Trades Councils, which were set up in July last† to interview men who had been unemployed for one month or more have now had before them the great majority of the men concerned.

The total number of men interviewed up to the end of October was about 151,700, of whom 116,900 were considered by the panels to be suitable for immediate employment, and 3,000 were considered likely to become suitable for employment after a period of trial employment or reconditioning. About 9,500 men were considered unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment on account of age, nearly 25,600 on account of physical or mental disability, 700 because they were in receipt of Workmen's Compensation, and 1,600 for other reasons. Some men were included in more than one of the foregoing categories. It should also be observed that the panels did not always adopt a uniform line in dealing with men who were fit only for light employment.

A count was taken on 28th October of the men interviewed by the panels and still registered as unemployed, with the following results:—

Number who had been classified as fit for immediate employment	61,869
Number classified as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment	29,360

A small survey of nearly 200 cases of the men, interviewed by panels, who had gone off the register showed that 50 per cent. had been placed or had found work.

In a further review that is to take place, the scope will be extended to include men who have had less than an aggregate of four weeks' employment in the preceding four months. Men classified as unsuitable for ordinary industrial employment will be sub-divided to show those who are suitable in every respect for light work.

It is hoped that such men can be fitted into employment in such a way as to release men whose services can be better utilised in the war effort in some other employment. Panels are being asked to consider specially the question of mobility, and the possibility of suggesting men for training. Under the expanded programme of training, a continuous flow of recruits is required.

\* See page 264 of the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1940.  
† See page 213 of the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1940.

The Minister, in the course of a statement in Parliament on Wednesday, 27th November, expressed his appreciation of the work being performed by the panels. There can be no doubt that applicants have considerably benefited by this opportunity of discussing their prospects with panel members. Not only have the panels interested themselves in placing individuals, but the men themselves have been stimulated to further efforts.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS IN THE ROAD HAULAGE INDUSTRY.

THE Minister of Labour and National Service has made a new Order dated 11th December, 1940, under Section 3 of the Road Haulage Wages Act, 1938, amending the statutory remuneration for road haulage workers prescribed by the Order R.H. (4), made by him under the Section on 25th April, 1940\*. The principal effect of the new Order, which became operative on 23rd December, 1940, is to increase remuneration by 3s. 6d. a week for all road haulage workers of the age of 21 years or over and, with the following exceptions, by 1s. 9d. a week for all road haulage workers below the age of 21. The workers below the age of 21 who are entitled to the full increase of 3s. 6d. are (a) drivers engaged on long distance services, (b) drivers in the London Area of vehicles with a carrying capacity of over one ton, and (c) drivers outside the London Area of vehicles with a carrying capacity of over 30 cwt. Hourly rates, overtime, and holiday remuneration are increased in proportion.

The Order further brings under the Grade 1 rates or the long distance service rates, as the case may be, the remuneration of all road haulage workers whose vehicles are based on depots outside the London Area in respect of any journey which involves the picking up or setting down of a load in the London Area (i.e., the Metropolitan Police District with certain minor adjustments). Hitherto, with the exception of milk workers, all workers on vehicles which were based on depots outside the London Area but within the Metropolitan Traffic Area (a larger area) were entitled to the appropriate London Area rates when picking up or setting down in the London Area.

FOOD CONTROL.

EXTENSION OF PRICE CONTROL.

THE Ministry of Food has announced that it has been decided to extend considerably the field of price control, and a considerable number of additional Maximum Price Orders are to be issued in due course. Meanwhile, as an interim measure, an Order came into operation on 13th January making it an offence for any manufacturer, wholesaler, retailer or other dealer to sell any of the following goods at a price higher than he charged on 2nd December, 1940:—

Coffee (including coffee essence and 'coffee and chicory'); cocoa powder; cocoa butter; chocolate sold for use as a beverage; canned and bottled vegetables; canned pork and beans; honey; meat pastes, and fish, poultry and other edible pastes; meat and other edible extracts; shredded suet; dead poultry (other than turkeys); rice; tapiocas and sagos; macaroni, spaghetti and vermicelli; biscuits, rusks and crisp breads; soups, tinned, bottled and powdered; processed cheese; pickles, sauces and relishes; custard and blancmange powders; table jellies; edible nuts.

In addition to the foregoing Order, Maximum Price Orders have been or are being made covering syrup and treacle; marmalade; jams (other than those covered by the existing Order); canned and bottled fruits; canned fish, other than canned salmon.

Apart from the extension of the field of price control, referred to above, maximum retail prices of home-produced and Eire fresh eggs were reduced, from 30th December, and again from 20th January; prices of oatmeal, oat flakes (rolled oats) and oat flour were limited, from 13th January, as regards retail prices, and prices of other cereal breakfast foods were limited from 30th December; new maximum retail prices were introduced for offals, from 6th January; maximum retail prices of canned corned beef were raised, from 6th January; all pork, whether imported or home-produced, was made subject to the maximum prices prescribed for fresh pork, from 6th January; maximum prices were prescribed for frozen whole eggs in tins, from 6th January; a new Order was made, in place of a previous Order, fixing maximum prices for rabbits; maximum retail prices of onions were applied to shallots, from 17th January; and the manufacture of sausages and sausage meat of Grades A and B was prohibited from 20th January, the maximum retail prices of Grade C sausages and sausage meat remaining unchanged.

FOOD RATIONING.

The domestic ration of meat, which was reduced to a retail price value of 1s. 10d.† per head per week on 16th December, was further reduced to 1s. 6d.† on 6th January, and at the same time pork and most offals were included within the ration, though manufactured meat products (for example, sausages) remained free of the ration. Later, it was stated that during the next few months it will be necessary to vary the meat ration within the range of 1s. to 1s. 6d.† and that the amount of the ration will be announced week by week.

\* See page 132 of the May, 1940, issue of this GAZETTE.  
† One-half of these amounts for persons six years of age and under.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE number of men and boys registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain as wholly unemployed at 9th December was 265,011, a reduction of 43,120 as compared with 11th November. Those registered as on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment numbered 84,850, a decrease of 11,727 as compared with 11th November. Those registered as unemployed casual workers (being persons who normally seek their livelihood by jobs of short duration) numbered 20,435, a reduction of 3,113 as compared with 11th November.

The corresponding figures for women and girls on the registers at 9th December were 276,839 wholly unemployed, 56,998 temporarily stopped and 1,096 unemployed casual workers. As compared with 11th November, the numbers wholly unemployed showed a decrease of 18,221, those temporarily stopped a decrease of 9,789 and unemployed casual workers an increase of 69. At 16th December there were 35,508 women registered as applicants for work in districts to which they had been evacuated, a decrease of 3,686 as compared with 18th November.

The number of applicants for unemployment benefit or allowances on the registers at 9th December was 586,081, as compared with 669,428 at 11th November, and 1,187,910 at 11th December, 1939.

The following Table shows the numbers wholly unemployed, the numbers temporarily stopped, and the numbers of unemployed casual workers on the registers of Employment Exchanges (a) in Great Britain and (b) in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at 9th December, 1940, and the increase or decrease as compared with 11th November, 1940, and 11th December, 1939:—

Division.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Unemployed Casual Workers.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Great Britain.	248,068	82,435	20,372	141,848	21,531	21,531	20,372	63	1,076	21,531
Men .. .. .	248,068	82,435	20,372	141,848	21,531	21,531	20,372	63	1,076	21,531
Boys .. .. .	16,943	2,415	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Women .. .. .	244,166	53,952	1,076	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Girls .. .. .	32,723	3,046	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	541,900	141,848	21,531	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease (—) as compared with:										
11th November, 1940 ..	— 61,341	— 21,516	— 3,044	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11th December, 1939 ..	— 628,898	— 1,217	— 26,131	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	278,591	84,124	22,488	148,753	23,674	23,674	22,488	63	1,187	23,674
Men .. .. .	278,591	84,124	22,488	148,753	23,674	23,674	22,488	63	1,187	23,674
Boys .. .. .	19,020	2,481	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Women .. .. .	269,258	58,753	1,103	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Girls .. .. .	35,626	3,395	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	602,495	148,753	23,674	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with:										
11th November, 1940 ..	— 62,976	— 22,457	— 2,458	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11th December, 1939 ..	— 642,060	— 2,435	— 26,376	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows, for each administrative division, the numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at 9th December, 1940:—

Division.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Wholly Unemployed.					
London .. .. .	41,793	2,349	62,352	4,788	111,282
Eastern .. .. .	12,982	893	22,513	2,481	38,869
Southern .. .. .	7,437	659	14,138	1,888	24,122
South-Western ..	10,913	1,187	17,842	2,593	32,535
Midlands .. .. .	8,760	559	10,642	950	20,911
North-Midlands ..	11,645	474	15,162	1,473	28,754
North-Eastern ..	18,129	648	12,414	1,729	32,920
North-Western ..	30,949	1,703	29,613	2,385	64,650
Northern .. .. .	32,182	2,625	12,649	5,618	53,074
Scotland .. .. .	36,783	3,442	33,670	4,160	77,055
Wales .. .. .	36,495	3,404	13,171	4,658	57,728
Great Britain ..	248,068	16,943	244,166	32,723	541,900
Northern Ireland ..	30,523	2,077	25,092	2,903	60,595
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	278,591	19,020	269,258	35,626	602,495
Temporarily Stopped.					
London .. .. .	2,005	12	4,958	191	7,166
Eastern .. .. .	366	6	1,562	138	2,072
Southern .. .. .	367	13	494	38	912
South-Western ..	1,371	46	2,163	446	4,026
Midlands .. .. .	6,967	112	10,321	355	17,755
North-Midlands ..	6,828	100	5,396	408	12,732
North-Eastern ..	10,664	112	9,071	382	20,229
North-Western ..	7,717	102	10,593	267	18,679
Northern .. .. .	16,161	698	1,890	170	18,919
Scotland .. .. .	5,017	182	6,502	492	12,193
Wales .. .. .	24,972	1,032	1,002	159	27,165
Great Britain ..	82,435	2,415	53,952	3,046	141,848
Northern Ireland ..	1,689	66	4,801	349	6,905
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	84,124	2,481	58,753	3,395	148,753

Division.	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.
Unemployed Casual Workers.					
London .. .. .	7,888	1	437	5	8,331
Eastern .. .. .	692	—	49	—	741
Southern .. .. .	365	—	13	—	378
South-Western ..	859	—	49	—	908
Midlands .. .. .	22	—	17	—	39
North-Midlands ..	352	—	91	8	451
North-Eastern ..	1,362	—	835	—	1,362
North-Western ..	2,379	13	157	—	2,549
Northern .. .. .	2,723	33	87	5	2,848
Scotland .. .. .	1,642	16	173	2	1,833
Wales .. .. .	2,088	—	3	—	2,091
Great Britain ..	20,372	63	1,076	20	21,531
Northern Ireland ..	2,116	—	27	—	2,143
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	22,488	63	1,103	20	23,674

The changes between 11th November, 1940, and 9th December, 1940, in the numbers of persons on the registers in the various administrative divisions were as shown below:—

Division.	Wholly Unemployed.		Temporarily Stopped.		Unemployed Casual Workers.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
London .. .. .	— 17,652	— 8,350	— 936	— 2,214	— 2,389	— 54
Eastern .. .. .	— 3,114	— 273	— 375	— 149	— 155	— 16
Southern .. .. .	— 2,595	— 3,482	— 149	— 69	— 268	—
South-Western ..	— 924	— 271	— 584	— 1,525	— 415	— 7
Midlands .. .. .	— 537	— 462	— 3,745	— 2,803	— 2	— 10
North-Midlands ..	— 1,345	— 1,681	— 1,143	— 835	— 90	— 64
North-Eastern ..	— 2,503	— 914	— 3,775	— 3,947	— 71	—
North-Western ..	— 4,347	— 4,381	— 2,146	— 5,317	— 424	— 50
Northern .. .. .	— 3,791	— 78	— 4,054	— 50	— 387	— 31
Scotland .. .. .	— 3,690	— 1,581	— 104	— 1,500	— 2	— 25
Wales .. .. .	— 2,622	— 812	— 3,880	— 334	— 174	— 2
Northern Ireland ..	— 117	— 1,518	— 46	— 895	— 586	—

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows the numbers of persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges at one date in each month since December, 1939:—

Date.	Great Britain.					G. Britain & N. Ireland.
	Men 18 years and over.	Boys 14-17 years.	Women 18 years and over.	Girls 14-17 years.	Total.	
	Wholly Unemployed.					
1939.						
11 December ..	763,699	33,506	325,166	48,427	1,170,798	1,244,555
1940.						
15 January ..	805,026	38,427	319,691	56,359	1,219,503	1,296,233
12 February ..	759,164	33,387	298,808	49,999	1,141,358	1,216,759
11 March .. .. .	628,456	24,103	273,486	39,622	965,667	1,032,570
15 April .. .. .	538,570	21,528	243,480	36,449	840,027	902,295
20 May .. .. .	468,990	15,843	217,832	28,108	730,773	790,956
17 June .. .. .	392,337	14,047	225,777	26,153	648,314	708,069
15 July* (a) ..	344,086	18,363	248,025	33,852	644,326	704,452
12 August .. ..	336,292	27,168	235,192	46,817	613,156	670,488
16 September ..	303,972	25,145	227,293	42,999	613,671	675,642
14 October .. ..	309,357	24,579	257,300			

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS.

On page 13 details are given of the number of boys and girls aged 14-17 years on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux at 9th December, 1940, distinguishing those wholly unemployed and temporarily stopped and unemployed casual workers. The following Table shows the total numbers of juveniles, (a) aged 14 and 15 years, and (b) aged 16 and 17 years, on the registers at the same date:—

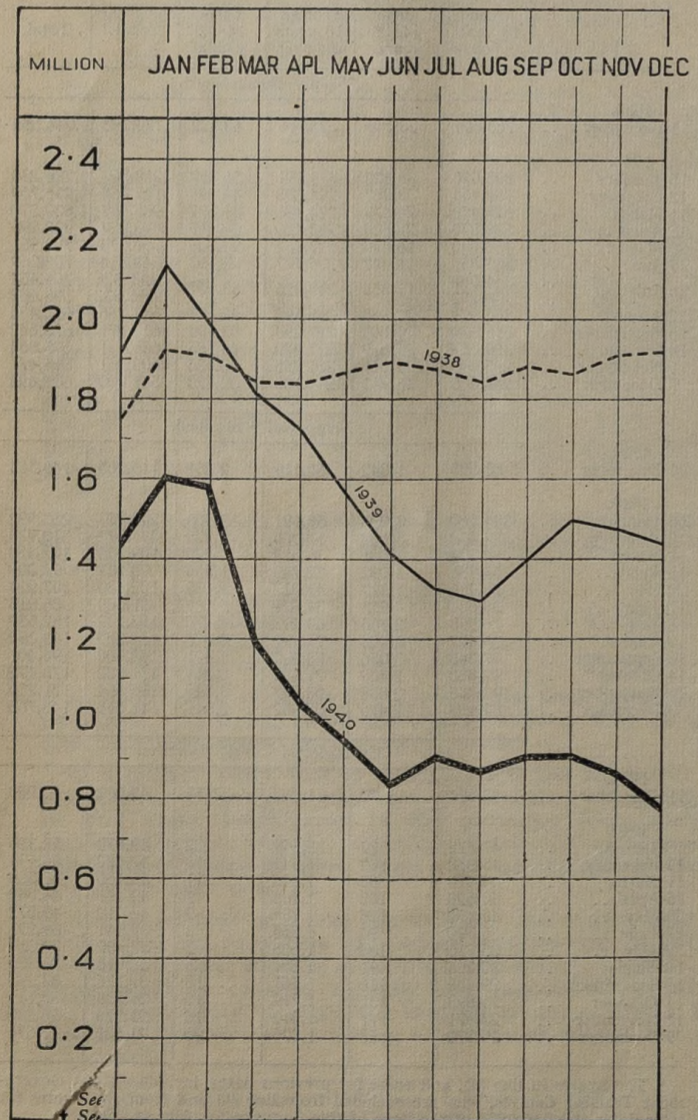
Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Aged 14 and 15	Aged 16 and 17	Total.	Aged 14 and 15	Aged 16 and 17	Total
	London .. ..	973	1,389	2,362	2,055	2,929
Eastern .. ..	348	551	899	690	1,929	2,619
Southern .. ..	317	355	672	741	1,185	1,926
South-Western ..	516	717	1,233	1,171	1,868	3,039
Midlands .. ..	273	398	671	458	847	1,305
North-Midlands ..	224	350	574	601	1,288	1,869
North-Eastern ..	296	464	760	854	1,257	2,111
North-Western ..	702	1,116	1,818	1,116	1,536	2,652
Northern .. ..	1,310	2,046	3,356	2,890	2,903	5,793
Scotland .. ..	941	1,699	2,640	1,692	2,962	4,654
Wales .. ..	1,524	2,912	4,436	2,005	2,812	4,817
Great Britain ..	7,424	11,997	19,421	14,273	21,516	35,789
Northern Ireland.	326	1,817	2,143	488	2,764	3,252
Gt. Britain and N. Ireland ..	7,750	13,814	21,564	14,761	24,280	39,041

The total number of insured juveniles, under 18 years of age, recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 9th December, 1940 (including those, not on the register, whose unemployment books were in the two months files) was 56,038, of whom 21,587 were boys and 34,451 were girls. Of these, 6,848 boys and 10,774 girls were under 16 years of age.

In the week ended 18th December, 1940, the number of juveniles, under 18 years of age, who attended authorised courses of instruction was 3,028, including 1,021 boys and 2,007 girls. Of this total, 445 were in the North-Eastern Division, 671 in the Northern Division, 321 in Scotland, and 1,413 in Wales.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

NUMBERS OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.



COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 9TH DECEMBER, 1940.

	Men (18 years and over)	Boys (under 18 years)	Women (18 years and over)	Girls (under 18 years)	Total
A. Insured on Register:—					
1. Claimants to Benefit and applicants for Unemployment Allowances .. ..	319,070	9,116	223,852	15,241	567,279
2. Non-claimants:—					
(a) Aged 16 and over	11,737	1,470	21,286	2,894	37,387
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	4,534	—	7,149	11,683
B. Others on Register:—					
3. Applicants for Unemployment Allowances .. ..	7,533	66	10,850*	353	18,802*
4. Persons without applications:—					
(a) Aged 16 and over	12,535	1,345	43,206	3,028	60,114
(b) Aged 14 and 15 ..	—	2,890	—	7,124	10,014
C. TOTAL ON REGISTER ..	350,875	19,421	299,194	35,789	705,279
D. Insured Unemployed:—					
Aged 16 and over:—					
5. Number on Register (Items 1 and 2 (a)) ..	330,807	10,586	245,138	18,135	604,666
6. Two months file ..	28,046	2,249	49,530	2,833	82,658
7. Special Schemes Claimants to Benefit ..	440	15	411	38	904
Total aged 16 and over ..	359,293	12,850	295,079	21,006	688,228
8. Aged 14 and 15:—					
(a) Item 2 (b) ..	—	4,534	—	7,149	11,683
(b) Two months file ..	—	1,972	—	3,182	5,154
Total aged 14 and over ..	359,293	19,356	295,079	31,337	705,065

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

The following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Unemployment Fund† in Great Britain for the periods stated:—

	Four weeks ended 28th Dec., 1940	Five weeks ended 30th Nov., 1940	Five weeks ended 30th Dec., 1939
(1) General Account.	£	£	£
Contributions received from:—			
Employers .. ..	1,873,000	2,290,000	1,952,000
Employed persons .. ..	1,873,000	2,290,000	1,951,000
Exchequer .. ..	1,875,000	2,289,000	1,950,000
Miscellaneous Receipts .. ..	2,000	—	3,000
Total Income .. ..	5,623,000	6,869,000	5,856,000
Benefit .. ..	1,587,000	2,264,000	3,395,000
Cost of Administration .. ..	550,000†	167,000†	119,000†
Accrued Charge for Debt Service§	153,000	192,000	373,000
Miscellaneous Payments .. ..	29,000	52,000	56,000
Total Expenditure .. ..	2,319,000	2,675,000	3,943,000
Debt Outstanding§ .. ..	38,974,000	38,974,000	77,082,000
(2) Agricultural Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers .. ..	25,000	28,000	36,000
Employed persons .. ..	24,000	28,000	36,000
Exchequer .. ..	25,000	28,000	36,000
Miscellaneous Receipts .. ..	—	—	—
Total Income .. ..	74,000	84,000	108,000
Benefit .. ..	51,000	20,000	77,000
Cost of Administration .. ..	9,000	11,000	13,000
Miscellaneous Payments .. ..	—	—	2,000
Total Expenditure .. ..	60,000	31,000	92,000

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

For the period of four weeks ended 28th December, 1940, expenditure on unemployment allowances (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £786,000 compared with £1,155,000 during the five weeks ended 30th November, 1940, and £2,399,000 during the five weeks ended 30th December, 1939.

Comparison of the figures for the three periods is affected by the increases which were made on 18th December, 1939, and again on 4th November, 1940, in the scale which forms the basis for the calculation of unemployment allowances (see the issues of this GAZETTE for December, 1939 (page 409), and November, 1940 (page 297)).

\* This total includes, in addition to applicants for unemployment allowance, 2,286 women, aged 60-64, who had ceased to be insurable under the Unemployment Insurance Acts at 1st July, 1940, but were still applying for unemployment benefit under Section 3 (4) of the Old Age and Widows' Pensions Act, 1940.  
† A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually (see H.C. 22 of 1940 for the period ended 31st March, 1939).  
‡ 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, additional sums of £20,000,000, £3,000,000 and £37,000,000 were repaid on 31st March, 1938, 31st March, 1939 and 30th March, 1940, respectively. After each such repayment the half-yearly payment was reduced accordingly.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

IRELAND. INFORMATION supplied by the Department of Industry and Commerce shows that the number of persons on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges declined from 104,555 at 30th November, 1940, to 96,386 at 28th December. At 30th December, 1939, the corresponding figure was 108,180.

UNITED STATES. According to information supplied by the Social Security Board, 4,620,862 applications for employment were registered at Public Employment Offices at the end of October, 1940, a decline of 6 per cent. as compared with the number registered at the end of September, 1940.

According to estimates of the American Federation of Labour published in the *American Federationist* for December, 1940, the total number of unemployed persons in the United States of America was approximately 8,130,000 in October, 1940, as compared with 8,467,000 in September, 1940, and 9,181,000 in October, 1939.

In all cases the figures include a large number of persons provided with employment on public relief work schemes.

CANADA. Industrial employment showed a further pronounced expansion at 1st November, 1940. According to returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 12,392 firms, the number of workpeople employed at 1st November, 1940, was 1,364,720, as compared with 1,336,181 at 1st October. If the average number of workpeople employed by the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st November, 1940, was 139.2, as compared with 136.2 at 1st October, 1940, and 123.6 at 1st November, 1939.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. Returns received by the Census and Statistics Office from selected industrial undertakings employing approximately 770,000 workpeople in September, 1940, show that there was an increase in employment during that month, according to information published in the official *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, for November, 1940. If the average number of workpeople employed by the reporting firms in July, 1925, be taken as 100, the index of employment for September, 1940, was 179.1, as compared with 178.5 for August, 1940, and 170.1 for September, 1939.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

In the following paragraphs a summary is given of the latest information contained in official publications received since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, relating to changes in retail prices and the cost of living in overseas countries.

IRELAND. In mid-November, 1940, the official cost-of-living index number was 3.9 per cent. above the figure for mid-August, 1940, and 23.7 per cent. above the figure for mid-August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 6.6 and 22.8, respectively.

FINLAND. In September, 1940, the official index figure relating to the cost of food was 1.4 per cent. above the figure for August, 1940, and 27.3 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939.

GERMANY. In September, 1940, the official cost-of-living index figure showed a decline of 1.1 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1940, but an increase of 3.4 per cent. over the figure for August, 1939.

PORTUGAL. At 15th October, 1940, the official index figure relating to the cost of food, fuel and light, was 0.3 per cent. above the figure at 15th September, 1940, and 8.9 per cent. above that at 15th August, 1939.

SWEDEN. At 1st October, 1940, the official cost-of-living index figure was 2.1 per cent. above the figure for 1st July, 1940, and 16.6 per cent. above the figure for 1st July, 1939. At 1st September, 1940, the official index figure relating to the cost of food and fuel and light showed a decline of 0.6 per cent. as compared with the figure for 1st August, 1940, but an increase of 16.8 per cent. as compared with the figure for 1st September, 1939.

UNITED STATES. At 15th September, 1940, the official cost-of-living index number was 0.1 per cent. below the figure for 15th June, 1940, but 1.8 per cent. above the figure for 15th June, 1939.

CANADA. The new official cost-of-living index figure at the beginning of November, 1940, was 0.7 per cent. above the figure at the beginning of October, 1940, and 6.9 per cent. above the figure at the beginning of September, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 2.5 and 9.4, respectively.

NEW ZEALAND. In October, 1940, the official cost-of-living index number showed a decline of 0.2 per cent. as compared with the figure for September, 1940, but an increase of 5.3 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the index figure for October, 1940, was 0.7 per cent. below the figure for September, 1940, but 2.5 per cent. above the figure for August, 1939.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. The official cost-of-living index number for October, 1940, showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. as compared with the figure for September, 1940, and of 5.7 per cent. as compared with the figure for August, 1939. For food alone, the corresponding percentage increases were 2.2 and 7.4, respectively.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople, other than seamen\*, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in December, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 250, as compared with 238† in the previous month, and with 219‡ in December, 1939.

MINES AND QUARRIES.†		FACTORIES—continued	
Under Coal Mines Acts:—		Paper, Printing, etc. ...	1
Underground .. ..	60	Rubber .. ..	—
Surface .. ..	4	Gas Works .. ..	2
Metalliferous Mines ..	3	Electrical Stations ..	3
Quarries .. ..	9	Other Industries... ..	3
TOTAL, MINES AND QUARRIES ..	76	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937.	
FACTORIES.		Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships .. ..	13
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass .. ..	4	Building Operations ..	27
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc.	8	Works of Engineering Construction .. ..	4
Metal Extracting and Refining .. ..	6	Warehouses .. ..	4
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) .. ..	16	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT... ..	154
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. .. ..	19	RAILWAY SERVICE.	
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture ..	6	Brakemen, Goods Guards ..	5
Shipbuilding .. ..	24	Engine Drivers, Motormen ..	1
Other Metal Trades ..	2	Firemen .. ..	—
Cotton .. ..	1	Guards (Passenger) .. ..	—
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy ..	1	Labourers... ..	—
Other Textile Manufacture	2	Mechanics .. ..	3
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing .. ..	1	Permanent Way Men... ..	—
Tanning, Currying, etc... ..	1	Porters .. ..	—
Food and Drink .. ..	5	Shunters .. ..	3
General Woodwork and Furniture .. ..	1	Other Grades .. ..	6
		Contractors' Servants ..	2
		TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ..	20
		Total (excluding Seamen) ..	250

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, 1926:—

I. Cases.		I. Cases—continued.	
LEAD POISONING.		EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Among Operatives engaged in:—		Pitch .. ..	3
Smelting of Metals .. ..	2	Tar .. ..	4
Plumbing and Soldering ..	—	Paraffin .. ..	1
Shipbreaking .. ..	1	Oil .. ..	1
Printing .. ..	—	TOTAL .. ..	9
Other Contact with Molten Lead .. ..	—	CHROME ULCERATION.	
White and Red Lead Works .. ..	1	Manufacture of Bichromates ..	2
Pottery... ..	1	Dyeing and Finishing .. ..	—
Vitreous Enamelling .. ..	—	Chrome Tanning .. ..	—
Electric Accumulator Works .. ..	2	Chromium Plating .. ..	4
Paint and Colour Works ..	1	Other Industries .. ..	8
Coach and Car Painting ..	—	TOTAL .. ..	14
Shipbuilding .. ..	—	Total, Cases .. ..	36
Paint used in other Industries .. ..	—		
Other Industries .. ..	—	OTHER POISONING.	
Painting of Buildings... ..	—	Aniline .. ..	1
TOTAL .. ..	8	Toxic Jaundice .. ..	3
II. Deaths.		TOTAL .. ..	4
POISONING		ANTHRAX.	
Lead .. ..	—	Wool .. ..	1
Chronic Benzene .. ..	1	Handling of Horsehair... ..	—
Toxic Jaundice .. ..	2	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins .. ..	—
TOTAL .. ..	3	Other Industries... ..	—
		TOTAL .. ..	1
		Total, Deaths .. ..	4

\* Statistics of fatal accidents to seamen are not available.  
† For mines and quarries, weekly returns are furnished and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 28th December, 1940, in comparison with the 4 weeks ended 30th November, 1940, and the 4 weeks ended 30th December, 1939.  
‡ Revised figure.  
§ 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.  
|| In addition, one fatal case of lead poisoning was reported among plumbers not employed in factories.

CHANGES IN RETAIL PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Summary of Index Figures for 1st January, 1941.

Increase since July, 1914	72%	96%
Change since 30th November, 1940:		
Food	-1	+1
All Items	-1*	+1*
Per cent.	-1*	+1*

FOOD.

At 1st January the average level of retail prices of the articles of food included within the scope of these statistics was slightly lower than at 30th November, 1940. This was the net result of reductions in the prices of sugar and eggs and of increases in the prices of milk and some kinds of fish.

The following Table compares the average retail prices in the United Kingdom generally at 1st January, 1941, with the corresponding prices at 30th November, 1940, and 1st September, 1939:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ d.)			Percentage Inc. or Dec. (—) at 1st Jan., 1941, compared with	
	1st Jan., 1941.	30th Nov., 1940.	1st Sept., 1939.	30th Nov., 1940.	1st Sept., 1939.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	10
Thin Flank	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	25
Beef, Chilled or Frozen					
Ribs	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	34
Thin Flank	0 6	0 6	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	22
Mutton, British—					
Legs	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	12
Breast	0 8	0 8	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	7
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	1 0	1 0	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	15
Breast	0 4	0 4	0 4	—	—
Bacon†	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3	—	24
Fish					
per 7 lb.	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	6
per 4 lb.	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—
Tea	2 6	2 6	2 4	—	—
Sugar (granulated)	0 4	0 5	0 3	-20	32
Milk	0 9	0 8	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	12
Butter—					
Fresh	1 7	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	14
Salt	1 1	1 1	0 10	—	30
Cheese‡					
Special	0 9	0 9	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	12
Standard	0 5	0 5	0 5	—	—
Eggs (fresh)	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2	-7	86
Potatoes	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	2

The average rise of 1d. per lb. in the price of sugar since 1st September, 1939, is due to increased duty.

The following Table shows the average percentage increases or decreases in prices at 1st September, 1939, 30th November, 1940, and 1st January, 1941, respectively, as compared with July, 1914:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (—) since July, 1914, at—		
	1st Sept., 1939.	30th Nov., 1940.	1st Jan., 1941.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—			
Ribs	44	59	59
Thin Flank	15	44	44
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	32	77	77
Thin Flank	1	23	23
Mutton, British—			
Legs	48	65	66
Breast	14	22	23
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	51	74	74
Breast	-3	-3	-3
Bacon†	35	67	67
Fish	116	256	278
Flour	26	25	25
Bread	42	46	46
Tea	52	63	63
Sugar (granulated)	46	141	93
Milk	92	127	155
Butter—			
Fresh	13	29	30
Salt	7	33	33
Cheese‡	16	50	50
Margarine§	-8	3	3
Eggs (fresh)	58	214	193
Potatoes	33	73	76
All above articles (Weighted Average)	38	73	72

On the basis of the figures in the foregoing Table, the average level of retail prices of food at 1st January was rather more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. lower than at 30th November, and about 25 per cent. higher than at the beginning of September, 1939.

\* A fall of 1 point on a total of 173 for food (the figure for July, 1914, being 100) is equivalent to rather more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; similarly, a rise of 1 point on a total of 195 for "all items" is equivalent to about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.  
 † The description of bacon specified for quotation is streaky, but where this kind was seldom being sold the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.  
 ‡ Mostly Canadian or New Zealand cheese, but in some districts the returns relate to another kind, locally representative.  
 § On 30th November, 1940, and 1st January, 1941, two brands of margarine, "special" and "standard," were on sale at 9d. and 5d. per lb., respectively. The figures for 1st September, 1939, and July, 1914, are averages calculated from the prices of various brands on sale at those dates.  
 || Since this date the change in the average price has been slight (less than one-half of one per cent.) but sufficient to alter the average to the nearest  $\frac{1}{2}$  d.

ITEMS OTHER THAN FOOD.

There was no change during December in the general level of working-class rents (including rates), the average level at 1st January being about 1 per cent. above that at the beginning of September, 1939, and about 64 per cent. above that in July, 1914.

As regards clothing, information collected from representative retailers in a number of the principal towns indicates that at 1st January the retail prices of clothing of the kinds generally bought by working-class families averaged about 3 per cent. higher than at 30th November, 1940, and about 60 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939. The average increase during December was about 3 per cent. for men's suits and overcoats, about 4 per cent. for woollen materials, underclothing and hosiery, about 3 per cent. for cotton materials and hosiery, and about 2 per cent. for boots and shoes. These increases were partly due to the operation of the Purchase Tax. Owing to the wide range of quotations, to changes in qualities, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles have been affected by price changes, it is not possible to make an exact comparison over a long period of years, but on the basis of such information as is available it is estimated that at 1st January the average rise over the level of July, 1914, was about 230 per cent.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal in most towns were slightly higher at 1st January than at 30th November, the average increase being about 2 per cent.; compared with 1st September, 1939, the average increase was about 18 per cent., and with July, 1914, about 129 per cent. The prices of gas showed little change as compared with 30th November, 1940, and were about 20 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 86 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. Lamp oil, candles and matches showed little change in price during the month. In the fuel and light group as a whole, the average level of prices at 1st January was about 2 per cent. higher than at 30th November, 1940, about 23 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 123 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

As regards other items included in these statistics, there were increases in the prices of domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, averaging about 2 per cent., but the remaining items included in this group showed little change during December. In the group as a whole, the average level at 1st January was less than 1 per cent. higher than at 30th November, 1940, about 24 per cent. higher than at 1st September, 1939, and about 122 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in working-class family expenditure prior to August, 1914, the resultant general average increase at 1st January, 1941, is approximately 96 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 95 per cent. at 30th November, 1940, and 55 per cent. at 1st September, 1939. The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken at each date) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevailing in working-class families prior to August, 1914, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living since that date, or for any economies or readjustments in consumption and expenditure since the outbreak of the war.

The rise of 1 point between 30th November and 1st January is equivalent to about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The rise of 41 points since the beginning of September, 1939, is equivalent to over 26 per cent. Of these 41 points, about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  points are due to the increases, since that date, in the taxes on sugar, tobacco and cigarettes, and matches, and about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  points are due to increases resulting from the Purchase Tax.

SUMMARY TABLE: ALL ITEMS.

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 since January, 1920:—

Year.	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	119	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	64	65	65	65	66	67	67
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	68
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931	53	52	50	47	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	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	49	51	51
1937	51	51	51	51	52	52	55	55	55	58	60	60
1938	59	57	56	54	56	55	59	56	56	55	56	56
1939	55	55	53	53	53	53	56	55	55	55	56	57
1940	74	77	79	78	80	81	87	85	87	89	92	95
1941	96	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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, from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

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 Great Britain and Northern Ireland during December are estimated to have resulted in an increase of about £151,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 1,452,000 workpeople and in a decrease of about £2,600 in those of 100,000 workpeople. The particulars are analysed by industry groups below:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying	23,900	100,500	£ 1,400	£ 2,600
Metal Industries	223,300	—	18,000	—
Building and Contracting	651,500	—	63,000	—
Other Industries	553,100	—	69,200	—
Total	1,451,800	100,500	151,600	2,600

In the mining and quarrying group there were increases in the rates of wages of coal miners in South Derbyshire, and decreases in North Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase, North Staffordshire and Warwickshire, the changes being due to the operation of sliding-scale agreements under which wage rates fluctuate in correspondence with the ascertained proceeds of the industry. Other workpeople in this group whose rates of wages were increased included ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in various districts.

In the metal industries, blastfurnacemen, iron puddlers and millmen, workers employed in steel melting and rolling in various districts, and tinplate workers received increases under cost-of-living sliding scales, which amounted in most cases to 2-4d. a shift for men and to 1-2d. a shift for youths and boys. Other workers whose wages were increased included electrical cable-makers, chain makers, galvanisers and workpeople employed in the cutlery trade.

Building trade operatives in England and Wales and Northern Ireland received an increase of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour. There were also increases in the rates of wages of journeymen employed by electrical contractors in Scotland, and asphalt workers.

In other industry groups the principal increases affected hosiery workers in the Midlands, whose wages were raised by about 5 per cent. (or rather less in the case of the higher-paid workers), and boot and shoe operatives, whose wages were advanced by 3s. and 2s. a week for men and women respectively on time work and by nearly 4 per cent. for pieceworkers. The statutory minimum rates for drivers and mates employed in the road motor transport (goods) industry were increased by 3s. 6d. a week. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included woollen operatives in the West of England, silk workers at Leek and Macclesfield, shirtmakers, carpet makers, tobacco workers, and bakers in Scotland.

Of the estimated total increase of £151,600 a week, about £130 was due to the operation of sliding scales based on fluctuations in the proceeds of the coal mining industry; £106,550 was due to arrangements made by joint standing bodies (including £65,680 under cost-of-living sliding scales arranged by such bodies); £33,540 was due to the operation of other sliding scales based on the cost of living; £3,640 was due to arbitration awards; and the remaining £7,740 was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. The whole of the estimated decrease of £2,600 a week was due to the operation of sliding scales based on the proceeds of the coal mining industry.

Hours of Labour.

The only change in normal weekly hours of labour reported during December affected agricultural workers in the North Riding of Yorkshire, where the weekly hours in respect of which the statutory minimum rates are payable were reduced by 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hours in summer, the winter hours remaining unchanged.

Changes in Wages and Hours in 1940.

A special article dealing with these changes appears on pages 2 to 4 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. (Decreases in Italics.)
Agriculture	Staffordshire	29 Dec.	Male workers under 21 years of age.	Increases of varying amounts in minimum rates for male workers under 21 years of age.†
Coal Mining	Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire)	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 1-4d. per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 7-5 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
	South Derbyshire			Increase of 1-14 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 51-93 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
	Leicestershire			Decrease of 0-06 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 77-79 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
	Cannock Chase			Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 63-15 per cent. above the basis rates for shopmen, mechanics and surface workers not handling coal and 61-15 per cent. for all other workers.‡
	North Staffordshire			Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 47 per cent. above the basis rates.‡
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Warwickshire	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines.	Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 92 per cent. above the basis rates at the majority of collieries and 87 per cent. at others.‡
	Cleveland	2 Dec.	Ironstone miners	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased § by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Cumberland	30 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about iron ore mines.	War bonus increased § by 2d. a shift (1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) for those 18 years and over and by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a shift (9d. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) for those under 18 years of age.
	Furness and District	28 Dec.	Iron ore miners	War bonus increased § by 2d. a shift (1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.) for those 18 years and over and by 1d. a shift (9d. to 10d.) for those under 18 years of age.
	Leicestershire and adjoining parts of Lincolnshire.	1st pay day in Dec.	Ironstone and limestone quarrymen.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased § by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	North Lincolnshire	1 Dec.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	
	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	1 Dec.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased § by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	Banbury and District	1 Dec.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	
	Corby	1 Dec.	Certain ironstone miners and quarrymen.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased § by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for those 18 years and over and by 1d. a shift (8d. to 9d.) for those under 18 years.
	Northamptonshire (excluding Corby).	1 Dec.	Limestone quarrymen	
	South and West Durham.	2 Dec.	Limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased § by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for those 18 years and over and by 1d. a shift (8d. to 9d.) for those under 18 years.
	West Cumberland	2 Dec.	Limestone quarrymen	
Scotland	25 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about shale mines and oil works.	Increase § of 4d. a shift for those 18 years and over and of 2d. a shift for those under 18 years.	

\* 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 overtime working, etc.  
 † This increase took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts, 1924 and 1940.  
 ‡ Flat-rate advances, previously paid in addition to the basis rates and percentages,

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Glassworking	Certain districts in England and Scotland.*	1st pay day in Dec.	Flint glass cutters . . . . .	Increase† of 2s. a week.
	Liverpool . . . . .	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the decorative glass trade.	Increase of ½d. an hour for men and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Minimum rates after change: brilliant cutters, 1s. 11½d.; silverers, 1s. 10½d.; bevellers and plate cutters, 1s. 9½d.; examiners and surface polishers, 1s. 8½d.; machine bevellers, 1s. 6½d.; labourers, 1s. 5½d.
	Yorkshire . . . . .	Last pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in glass bottle manufacture (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Increase† in bonus of 2s. a week (11s. to 13s.) for men and of 1s. (5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.) for youths and females.
	Cleveland and Durham, West Cumberland and North Lancs., North Lincs., North Staffs., South Staffs., Bilston, Northants., Corby, and South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased † by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire . . . . .	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at blast-furnaces.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased † by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	West of Scotland	1 Dec.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at blast-furnaces.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (8d. to 10-4d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4d. to 5-2d.) for youths and boys.
	Great Britain†	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (8-8d. to 11-2d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-4d. to 5-6d.) for youths and boys.
	North-East Coast Area	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	1 Dec.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	West of Scotland	29 Dec.	Do. do.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2-4d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (6d. to 7-2d.) for youths and boys.
	West of Scotland	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling forges and mills and sheet mills.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	West of Scotland	30 Dec.	Do. do.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (1s. to 1s. 2-4d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (6d. to 7-2d.) for youths and boys.
	Great Britain‡		Workpeople employed at steel melting shops (melting, pitmen, slagmen, lademen, furnace helpers, gas producermen, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.).	
	North-East Coast Area (except certain men employed at Gateshead).		Men employed at steel rolling mills.	
	Barrow-in-Furness . . . . .		Rail millmen, merchant millmen, enginemmen, cranimen, etc.	
	Workington . . . . .	1 Dec.	Steel millmen and labourers (datal workers).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (9-6d. to 1s.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-8d. to 6d.) for youths and boys.
	Scunthorpe . . . . .		Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers.	
	Bilston . . . . .		Steel millmen, maintenance men, etc.	
	West of Scotland . . . . .		Millmen, gas producermen, enginemmen, cranimen, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers employed at steel rolling mills.	
	South-West Wales . . . . .	1 Dec.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in Siemens steel manufacture.	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (8-8d. to 11-2d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-4d. to 5-6d.) for youths and boys.
Engineering	Swansea, Llanelly, Port Talbot, Neath, and Mid-Glamorgan.	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed in engineering and foundry shops.	Increase of 3s. a week for those 18 years and over and of 1s. 6d. for those under 18 years of age.
Galvanising	England and Wales	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed in galvanising processes (excluding the process of annealing).	Flat-rate addition to wages (previously granted) increased† by 2-4d. a shift (8-8d. to 11-2d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (4-4d. to 5-6d.) for youths and boys.
Tinplate Manufacture.	South Wales and Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.	1 Dec.	Workpeople (excluding those engaged on maintenance work) employed in tinplate manufacture.	Cost-of-living war bonus increased† by 2-4d. a shift (10-4d. to 1s. 0-8d.) for men and by 1-2d. a shift (5-2d. to 6-4d.) for women and juveniles.
Electrical Cable Making.	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Essex.	3rd pay day in Dec.	Timeworkers employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber-jointers, etc.).	Increase† of 1s. 11½d. a week for men 21 years and over, of 1s. 5½d. a week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. a week for boys 14, 16 and 17 years, and of 5½d. a week for boys 15 years; of 1s. a week for women 18 years and over and of 6d. a week for girls 14 to 17 years.
	Great Britain other than the above counties.			Increase† of 2s. a week for men 21 years and over, of 1s. 6d. a week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. a week for boys 14 to 17 years, of 1s. a week for women 18 years and over and of 6d. a week for girls 14 to 17 years.

\* Including Birmingham, Dudley, Stourbridge, Tutbury, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London, Manchester and Sheffield.

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

‡ 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.

§ This increase affected mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the principal districts affected being the North East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, the Midlands, South Wales, and the West of Scotland.

|| This increase affected mainly employees of firms who are members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Cutlery Manufacture.	Great Britain . . . . .	23 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the cutlery trade.	Increase of 5 per cent. (10 to 15 per cent.) in the general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates.*
	Great Britain . . . . .	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in making hand-hammered chain from iron up to and including ½ in. diameter.	Increase† of 5 per cent. in general minimum time rates and general minimum piece rates. General minimum time rate after change for adult workers, 6¼s. 8d. an hour.*
Chain and Anchor Manufacture.	Cradley Heath and district, Chester, Stoke, Pontypridd, Birmingham, St. Helens and Shifnal.	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed in making drolled and tinned chain from iron No. 6 I.S.W.G. up to and including ¾ in. diameter, and hand-hammered chain from iron ¾ in. up to and including ¾ in. diameter.	Increase† of 5 per cent. in general minimum time rates and general minimum piece rates. General minimum time rate after change for the lowest-paid adult workers, 1s. 5½d. an hour.*
			Makers of commercial end-welded drolled and tinned chain (except those whose wages are regulated by the Chain Trade Board), block chain, large end-welded stud, open and short link, drolled and tinned chain, Admiralty end-welded chain and cable shackle, Admiralty rigging chain, Admiralty block chain and steering gear chain.	Increase† of 5 per cent. on list prices, making wages 20 per cent. above the list of March, 1940.
			Admiralty side-welded stud link chain and Trinity House chain makers.	Increase† of 2½ per cent. on list prices, making wages 10 per cent. above the list of March, 1940.
Lock, Latch and Key Manufacture.	England†	Pay day in week commencing 2 Dec.	Side-welded stud link chain makers.	Increase† of 2d. to 4½d. a cwt.
			Anchor and grapnel makers . . . . .	Increase† of 3d. a cwt.
Tin Box Manufacture.	Great Britain . . . . .	1st full pay period in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the lock, latch and key trade.	Increase† of 5 per cent. for all workers. Weekly time rates† after change for adult workers: men, Class A occupations, 69s. 7d. to 84s.; Class B, 67s. 2d. to 78s.; Class C, 64s. 9d. to 73s. 2d.; Class D, 63s. 7d. to 70s. 9d.; bobbers, 76s. 2d. to 92s. 2d.; women, 20 years and over, 32s. 6d. (34s. 5d. on power pressing, varnishing, emery wheeling, on capstan lathes, polishing and burnishing lacquering and plating).
			Workpeople employed in the manufacture of tin boxes and other metal containers.	Increase of 1½d. an hour in the general minimum time rates for men, of 1d. for women and of ½d. to 1d. for juveniles. Piecework basis time rates to be 15 per cent. above the appropriate minimum time rate.‡
Typefoundry	London . . . . .	20 Dec.	Workpeople employed in typefoundries.	Increase† of 1s. a week for male workers and of 6d. a week for females. Rates after change: mould makers, 93s.; engineers and justifiers, 85s.; rubbers, 68s.; other workers, 73s.; females, 36s. 6d.
Lace and Net Finishing.	Great Britain . . . . .	16 Dec.	Workpeople (mainly females) employed in the machine-made lace and net finishing trade.	Increase of 10 per cent. in the general minimum time rate and general minimum piece rates.*
Woollen and Worsted Industry.	West of England . . . . .	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry.	Increase of 2s. 6d. a week for men in Classes A, B and C, of 3s. 6d. a week for those in Class D, of 1s. 6d. for women and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers include: men 21 years and over—Class A occupations, 63s.; B, 60s.; C, 56s.; D, 54s.; women 18 years and over—Class A, 34s.; B, 32s. 6d.; C, 31s.
	Rosendale Valley district (certain firms).	31 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry (pressed felt).	Increase† of 2s. 2d. a week. Rate after change for adult male time-workers, 67s. 4d.
Asbestos Manufacture.	Bury and district . . . . .	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of cloth (woven felt and cotton filler cloths) for mechanical purposes.	Cost-of-living wage increased† from 28s. 6d. to 29s. 10d. a week for men 21 years and over, from 17s. 10d. to 18s. 8d. for women 18 years and over and by proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: men, 26s. 6d. plus 29s. 10d. cost-of-living wage plus 3s. war bonus; women, 20s. plus 18s. 8d. cost-of-living wage plus 2s. war bonus.
	Great Britain . . . . .	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the asbestos industry.	Increase† of ½d. an hour for adults and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change: men, 1s. 4½d.; women, 11d.
Silk Manufacture.	Macclesfield . . . . .	3 Jan.†	Workpeople employed in silk manufacture.	War bonus on earnings increased† from 2¼d. to 3d. in the shilling.
	Leek . . . . .			Increase† of 2s. a week for men, of 1s. 6d. for women, and of 1s. for juveniles.
Hosiery Manufacture.	Various districts in the Midland Counties¶	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in hosiery manufacture.	Bonus of 9d. in the shilling increased† to 10d. on basic wages up to and including 60s. for males and 36s. for females; on basic wages over these amounts the bonus is increased from 8½d. to 9d. for that portion in excess of 60s. for males and 36s. for females.
	Dumfries . . . . .			Increase† of ½d. in the shilling on rates adopted in November, 1919, leaving a total deduction of 1d. in the shilling from these rates. Minimum rates after change (including war bonus): timeworkers—men, 55s. 4d.; women, 31s. 10d.; pieceworkers—men, 59s.; women, 35s. 6d.
Carpet Manufacture.	Hawick . . . . .	1st full pay in Dec.	Adult workpeople employed in hosiery manufacture.	Bonus on base rates increased† by 10 per cent. (30 to 40 per cent.), the flat-rate bonuses of 9s. 9d. a week for men and 7s. 6d. a week for women remaining unchanged.
	Great Britain . . . . .	1st pay day in Dec.	Apprentices . . . . .	Bonus on base rates increased† by 7½ per cent. (22½ to 30 per cent.), the flat-rate bonus of 3s. 4½d. a week remaining unchanged.
Hosiery Dyeing and Finishing.	Midland Counties**	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of carpets.	Increase† of 10 per cent. on basis rates, making wages 80 and 90 per cent. above the basis rates for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
			Timeworkers (except auxiliary workers and menders paid on the Nottingham list).	Increase† of 1d. an hour for male dry and wet workers 21 years and over, of ½d. for those 18 to 20 and for trimmers and of ¼d. for those under 18 and for females. Rates after change for men: trimmers, 1s. 9½d.; dry workers, 1s. 5½d.; wet workers, 1s. 6d. Increase† of ½d. an hour. Rates after change at 21 and over: auxiliary workers, 10½d.; menders, 1s.
			Piece or incentive workers . . . . .	Increase† of 5 per cent. for dyers and auxiliary workers and of 7½ per cent. for trimmers and females.

\* These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

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

‡ Principally Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Willenhall and Walsall districts, Bolton, Wigan and London. In the case of firms outside the Midland Area, 15 per cent. is to be added to the rates quoted.

§ These increases were agreed upon by the Trade Board on 6th December, to take effect from a date to be determined by the Minister of Labour. The employers' side of the Trade Board, however, agreed to recommend that the new rates should be put into effect without waiting for the Minister's Confirming Order.

¶ In respect of the preceding pay period.

\*\* Including Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley and Coventry districts.

\*\*\* Including Leicester, Loughborough, Hinckley and district (including Derby).

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Shirtmaking	Great Britain	Beginning of 1st full pay period following 22 Nov.	Workpeople employed in the shirt-making trade.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour for men 22 years of age and over and for women 18 and over, and of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for learners.*
Boot and Shoe Manufacture.	Great Britain	1st pay day in Jan.†	Male timeworkers	Increase of 1s. to 3s. a week. Minimum rates after change: 18s. at 15 years increasing each year to 28s. at 17, and then each half-year to 70s. at 22 years and over.
			Female timeworkers	Increase of 1s. to 2s. a week. Minimum rates after change: 18s. at 15 years increasing each year to 27s. at 17 and then each half-year to 46s. at 20 years and over.
Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Northern Ireland	2 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the boot and shoe repairing trade.	Increase of 2s. a week in general minimum time rates for male workers, of 1s. or 1s. 3d. for female workers, and of 1s. for learners; of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in piecework basis time rate for male and female workers respectively; pieceworkers—increase of 3 per cent. (10 to 13 per cent.) on general minimum piece rates.‡
			Manchester district	Bakers and confectioners
	Scotland	1 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase of 6d., 9d. or 1s. according to weekly wages. General minimum time rates after change for adults: foremen, 78s. 6d. to 94s., chargehands, 60s. to 66s. 6d., ovenmen, 70s. to 79s., dough-makers, 67s. 6d. to 77s., journeymen bakers, 66s. 6d. to 74s., rounds-men, 61s. to 74s., other men, 55s. to 63s.; forewomen, 41s. 6d. to 55s., chargehands, 38s. 6d. to 50s., confectioners, oatcake bakers, hot plate workers, table workers, etc., 39s. 6d. to 47s., other women, 35s. 6d. to 40s. 6d., according to area.‡
	Ayrshire	1st pay day in Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase of 1s. a week. Rates after change: journeymen—Ayr and Kilmarnock co-operative societies, 77s. a week of 45 hours, other co-operative societies and private traders, 76s. a week of 47 hours.
Baking	Border district (including Galashiels, Hawick, Jedburgh, Kelso, Peebles, Selkirk and Tweed-side).	1st pay day in Dec.	Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies.	Increase of 1s. a week for adults and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rate after change for journeymen, 75s.
			Bakers and confectioners	Increase of 1s. a week. Rates after change: 80s. to 85s. 6d. according to times of start.
	Edinburgh and Leith	1st pay day in Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase of 1s. a week. Rate after change for journeymen, 79s.
	Lothians	2 Dec.	Adult male bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies.	Increase of 1s. a week. Rates after change: 78s. for those starting at 4 a.m. (3 a.m. on Saturdays); ovenmen and those starting at 3 a.m. (2 a.m. Saturdays) to receive 5s. a week extra.
	Northern Ireland	30 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners employed in home bakeries.	Scales of general minimum weekly rates of wages adopted according to area. Minimum rates include: males—adult bakers, 57s. 9d. to 68s., other workers (except apprentices) 17s. to 20s. 6d. at under 17 years, increasing to 40s. 6d. to 48s. 6d. at 21 and over. Extra payment for nightwork varying from 3s. to 6s. according to area. Females—adult bakers, 34s. to 40s., other workers (except learners) 10s. 3d. to 12s. at under 16 years, increasing to 26s. 3d. to 31s. at 21 and over.‡
Flour Milling	Great Britain	23 Dec.	Road transport workers	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week.
Tobacco	Great Britain	1 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the tobacco trade.	Increase of 1s. $\frac{1}{4}$ d. a week in the minimum rate for men, of 9d. for women and juveniles, with corresponding increases for pieceworkers.‡
Mill-sawing	Liverpool	1 Dec.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in sawmills and packing case shops.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.).
			Manchester, Salford and district and Ashton-under-Lyne.	Woodcutting machinists employed in steam joinery and sawmill shops.
	Preston	1 Dec.	Woodcutting machinists employed in sawmills and building trade shops.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.).
			Labourers	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 1s. 4d.).
Packing Case Making.	Liverpool	1 Dec.	Packing case makers	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour (1s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 1s. 9d.).
			Manchester, Salford and Bolton and district.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in packing case shops.
Furniture Manufacture.	Various towns in England and Wales¶	1 Dec.	Furniture trade operatives	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change for journeymen: Peterborough, 1s. 9d.; Ipswich, spindle hands, 1s. 10d., other classes, 1s. 9d.; Sheffield, carpet fitters, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., other classes, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; other districts, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
			Manchester and district.**	Furniture trade operatives, mattress makers and glass workers.
Paper Manufacture.	Great Britain	1st full pay period after 26 Oct.	Workpeople employed in paper mills (excluding those employed in hand-made mills and board mills).	War bonus increased by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour for men, by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for women and for youths 18 to 21 years, and by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for juveniles.

\* These increases, which applied to all workers irrespective of earnings, were the result of an Award of the National Arbitration Tribunal dated 20th December, 1940, with retrospective effect to the date shown.

† In respect of the preceding pay period.

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

§ These changes took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

|| Including Manchester, Salford, Stockport, Didsbury, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Stretford, Urmston, Flixton, Irlam and Cadishead, Barton, Patricroft, Eccles, Swinton, Pendlebury, Prestwich, Middleton, Oldham, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Walkden, Hyde, Denton, Royton, Shaw, Crompton and Glossop.

¶ The towns include Barrow-in-Furness, Chester, Derby, Fenton, Hanley, Ipswich, Lancaster, Leicester, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Peterborough, Rochdale, St. Helens, Sheffield, Southport, Stoke-on-Trent and Warrington.

\*\* Including Altrincham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Bolton, Bury, Eccles, Flixton, Glossop, Heywood, Irlam, Oldham, Radcliffe, Sale, Salford, Stockport, Stretford, Swinton, Urmston and Wigan.

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

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Building	London district (within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross).	1 Dec.	Bricklayers, stone and marble masons, marble polishers, carpenters and joiners, machinists, slaters and tilers, plasterers, plumbers, painters, french polishers and labourers.	Increase* of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross—masons (fixers), 2s.; bricklayers, masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters and tilers, plasterers and plumbers, 1s. 11d.; painters, 1s. 10d.; marble polishers, 1s. 9d.; french polishers, 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; labourers, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; 12 to 15 miles from Charing Cross— $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour less for craftsmen and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for labourers.
			Derrick, crane, etc., drivers, signalmen, fitters, etc.	Increase* of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross include—derrick drivers, 1s. 10d. plus height-money; boiler attendants and crane signalmen, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; fitters and blacksmiths, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; rope runners, 1s. 7d.; 12 to 15 miles from Charing Cross— $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour less.
Building	London	1 Dec.	Glaziers	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour for journeymen and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rate after change for journeymen, 1s. 11d.
			Building trade operatives	Increase* of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change for craftsmen and labourers respectively: Grade A towns, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; A1, 1s. 9d., 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; A2, 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1s. 4d.; A3, 1s. 8d., 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; B, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; B1, 1s. 7d., 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; B2, 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; B3, 1s. 6d., 1s. 2d.; C, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
Building	Various other districts in England and Wales (excluding Liverpool and Birkenhead districts)†	1 Dec.	Building trade operatives	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change include: bricklayers, masons (banker hands), tilers, carpenters and joiners and plumbers, 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. plus 2s. a week "tool money"; masons (fixers), 2s. plus 2s. a week "tool money"; plasterers, 2s.; woodcutting machinists sawyers, slaters, painters, street masons and paviers, 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; craftsmen's labourers, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; navvies and general labourers, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
			Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wirral districts.	Building trade operatives
Civil Engineering	London Area.‡	1st full pay in Dec.	Men employed by civil engineering contractors.	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour according to previous classification. Basic rate after change for navvies and labourers, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
			Scotland	Journeymen electricians employed by electrical contractors.
Asphalt	England and Wales	1 Dec.	Asphalt workers	Increase of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour. Rates after change for London include: spreaders, 2s.; potmen, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.
			London and district	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of mastic asphalt.
Road Transport (Goods).	Great Britain	23 Dec.	Road motor transport drivers, attendants and mates.	Statutory minimum rates increased by 1s. 9d. a week for drivers under 21 years of age of vehicles of carrying capacity of 30 cwt. or less (20 cwt. or less in the London Area), of 3s. 6d. for all other drivers and statutory attendants and mates 21 years and over, and of 1s. 9d. for statutory attendants and mates 18 years and under 21 years of age other than vanguards.
			Workpeople employed in the furniture warehousing and removing industry.	Increase of 1s. 9d. a week for drivers under 21 years of age of vehicles of carrying capacity of 30 cwt. or less (20 cwt. or less in the London Area), and for attendants 18 and under 21 years, and of 3s. 6d. a week for all other workers.
Local Authorities Non-Trading (Services).	Metropolitan Area	23 Dec.	Horse carters, stablemen, etc.	Increase of 3s. 6d. a week for adult workers and of 1s. 9d. for juniors.
			Bradford and Shipley	Horse carters and stablemen
Leather Manufacture.	Belfast	1st full pay period after 12 Dec.	Manual workers except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	War bonus increased by 5s. a week for men and by 2s. 6d. for female employees, youths and boys.¶ Minimum rate after change for labourers: 50s. a week plus 10s. a week war bonus.
			Various districts in Great Britain.	Workpeople employed in the tanning, currying and leather dressing industry.
Brush and Broom Manufacture	Great Britain	1 Dec.	Adult workers and certain classes of juveniles.	Increase* of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or $\frac{1}{4}$ d. an hour in the general minimum time rates with corresponding increases in piece rates.**
			Northern Ireland	Adult workers and certain classes of juveniles.
Basket Making.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	2 Dec.	Basket makers employed on Government work.	Bonus of 60 per cent. on revised Government price list of 1919 increased* to 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
			Lancashire and Cheshire.	Skip and basket makers
Basket, Hamper and Cane and Wicker Furniture Manufacture.	Midland Counties	2 Dec.	Timeworkers	Increase* of 1d. an hour (1s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.).
			Pieceworkers	Increase* of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in percentage additions paid on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto).
Corn Trade	Great Britain	16 Dec.	Workpeople employed in provender mills (except transport workers).	Increase of 4s. a week for men, of 2s. for women, and of proportional amounts for juveniles.
Entertainments	Manchester, Salford and district.	Week commencing 30 Dec.	Workpeople employed in cinema theatres.	War bonus granted of 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on weekly rates of wages.

## PRINCIPAL CHANGE IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING DECEMBER.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Agriculture	North Riding of Yorkshire.	29 Dec.	Male workers	Weekly number of hours beyond which overtime rates become payable fixed at 50 throughout the year in lieu of 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ in summer and 50 in winter previously fixed.††

\* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

† For wages purposes the majority of localities have been assigned to the various grades, but the localities so graded are too numerous to be quoted in the space available. Generally speaking the largest towns have been allocated to the highest-paid grades, while small country towns and rural areas are allocated to the lowest-paid. Remaining localities have been classified to the intermediate grades.

‡ Including Belfast, Bangor, Lurgan, Lisburn, Newtownards, Holywood, Ballymena, Larne, Londonderry, Aldergrove, Donaghadee and Portadown.

§ This increase was the result of the adoption of a new super-grade named "London Area Super-Grade." The districts include the County of London and the following County Boroughs, Metropolitan Boroughs and Urban District Councils: Acton, Barking, Barnes, Barnet, Beckenham, Beddington and Wallington, Bexley, Brentford and Chiswick, Bromley, Carshalton, Chingford, Chislehurst and Sidcup, Croydon, Dagenham, Ealing, East Barnet, East Ham, Edmonton, Enfield, Erith, Finchley, Friern Barnet, Harrow, Hendon, Heston and Isleworth, Hornsey, Ilford, Kingston-on-Thames, Leyton, Merton and Morden, Malden and Coombe, Mitcham, Penge, Richmond, Southall, Southgate, Surbiton, Sutton and Cheam, Tottenham, Twickenham, Walthamstow, Wanstead and Woodford, Wembley, West Ham, Willesden, Wimbledon and Wood Green.

|| These increases took effect as the result of an Order of the Minister of Labour and National Service giving effect to proposals of the Road Haulage Central Wages Board (see article on page 12).

¶ This increase was the result of an Award of the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland).

\*\* These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts. Details of the minimum rates are contained in the Confirming Orders of the Minister of Labour, obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

†† This change took effect under an Order issued under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Acts, 1924 and 1940.

## 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 61, as compared with 79 in the previous month and 40 in December, 1939. In these 61 new disputes about 13,600 workpeople were directly involved, and 1,300 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 1,600 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 8 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 69, involving about 16,500 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during December, estimated at 50,000 working days.

*Causes.*—Of the 61 disputes beginning in December, 12, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages, 7, directly involving 800 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages, and 17, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, on other wage questions; 3, directly involving 400 workpeople, on questions as to working hours; 11, directly involving 3,400 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 8, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 2, directly involving 3,100 workpeople, on questions of trade union principle. One stoppage of work, directly involving 200 workpeople, was in support of workers involved in another dispute.

*Results.*—Final settlements of disputes which terminated during December have been effected in the case of 49 disputes, directly involving 10,900 workpeople. Of these disputes, 6, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 33, directly involving 8,200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 10, directly involving 700 workpeople, resulted in a compromise. In the case of 10 other disputes, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

In the following Table an analysis is given, by groups of industries, of all disputes in progress in December:—

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople 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 . . . . .	4	23	27	9,500	22,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding . . . . .	2	17	19	2,700	8,000
Clothing . . . . .	1	3	4	2,300	15,000
Other . . . . .	1	18	19	2,000	5,000
Total, December, 1940 . . . . .	8	61	69	16,500	50,000
Total, November, 1940 . . . . .	9	79	88	20,100	48,000
Total, December, 1939 . . . . .	12	40	52	15,800	36,000

*Principal Disputes in December.*—Particulars of the principal disputes involving stoppages of work during the month of December are set out in tabular form below.

## STATISTICS FOR 1940.

The total number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported as having begun in 1940 was 914. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the year (including disputes which began in 1939 and extended into 1940) was about 300,000. The aggregate duration in 1940 of all disputes in progress during the year was about 940,000 working days.

A summary of the statistics of disputes in 1940, with comparative statistics for 1939, and, in less detail, for earlier years, is given in the annual review on page 5 of this issue.

## PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING DECEMBER.

Occupations† and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	In-directly.†	Began.	Ended.		
<b>COAL MINING:—</b> Brushers, hole borers, machinemen and other colliery workpeople—Shotts, Lanarkshire (one colliery).	300	700	27 Nov.	4 Dec.‡	Hole borers' refusal to work shifts of 7½ hours, as agreed between management and pit committee, and contention that the boring of three holes, occupying 4½ hours underground, constituted a full shift.	Work resumed on advice of trade union officials.
Colliery workpeople—Harthill, Lanarkshire (one colliery).	794	..	11 Dec.	11 Dec.	Against dismissal of two workpeople.	Work resumed.
Colliery workpeople—Stepps, Lanarkshire (one colliery).	900	..	30 Dec.	31 Dec.	Employers' refusal to grant an advance of pay.	Work resumed.
Colliery workpeople—near Bridgend, Glam. (one colliery).	1,000	..	30 Dec.	1 Jan.	Refusal to work with men who were in arrears with their trade union subscriptions.	Work resumed.
<b>ENGINEERING:—</b> Fitters, turners, machinemen, boiler-makers, labourers, etc.—Glasgow (one firm).	1,120	..	15 Dec.	17 Dec.	Against suspension of an employee who was absent from work without permission.	Work resumed; employee in question to be reinstated.
<b>CLOTHING MANUFACTURE:—</b> Cutters, machinists, etc.—near Manchester (one firm).	2,000	..	20 Dec.	27 Dec.§	Against continued employment of a man who had been expelled from his trade union.	Work resumed on advice of trade union officials.
Workpeople employed in clothing manufacture—Bolton (one firm).	186	..	27 Dec.	27 Dec.	In sympathy with the workpeople involved in the above dispute.	
<b>BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC.:—</b> Plumbers, chemical plumbers, lead burners and labourers—Bishop-ton, Renfrewshire (one firm).	500	..	6 Dec.	7 Dec.	For payment for one hour a day travelling time, payment of fares and inconvenience money, and provision of improved mess room and sanitary accommodation.	Improved mess room and sanitary accommodation to be provided; negotiations to continue on other questions.
Workpeople employed on civil engineering contract—Stanford-le-Hope, Essex (one firm).	500	..	28 Dec.	28 Dec.	Against withdrawal of a bonus.	Bonus restored.

\* 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.

‡ The colliery was idle on 27th (afternoon) and 28th November, and 3rd and 4th December, and partially idle on 29th November.

§ Work was resumed on 30th December.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.  
DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown (*see* Section 40 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1935), for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions\* are final.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the leave of the Chairman of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself. The claimant may also appeal if the decision of the Court was not unanimous.

The following recent decision is of general interest:—

## Case No. 803/40. (11.12.40).

SECTION 27 OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS 1935 TO 1940.—EMPLOYMENT LEFT VOLUNTARILY.—DESIRE TO ESCAPE FROM THE RISKS, DANGERS AND DISCOMFORTS OF AIR RAIDS, TO WHICH EACH AND ALL ARE SUBJECT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE COUNTRY BEING AT WAR, CANNOT OF ITSELF BE REGARDED AS JUST CAUSE FOR LEAVING EMPLOYMENT VOLUNTARILY.—CLAIMANT TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT MUST SHOW THAT HE HAS BEEN SO AFFECTED, PERSONALLY AS TO RENDER CONTINUANCE OF EMPLOYMENT IMPOSSIBLE OR REASONABLY UNDESIRABLE.

The material circumstances of this case are as stated in the following decision:—

*Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit is disallowed, the claimant being disqualified for receiving benefit for three weeks from and including the first day of the benefit period immediately following that in which this decision is given.

"From the 20th August to the 14th September, 1940, the claimant was employed as a waitress in one of the London shops of a well-known firm of caterers of light refreshments. The claimant voluntarily terminated her employment on the latter date and the onus rests upon her to show that she had 'just cause' for leaving.

"Shortly stated the claimant's alleged reason for leaving her employment was that she was afraid of the noise and bombing of the air raids and that this affected her health through lack of sleep. She has further stated that the Government were urging people to get out of London if possible, and so she went home to her people who lived in one of the coastal counties in the north-east of England.

"The Court of Referees reversed the decision of the Insurance Officer, who had disallowed the claimant's claim and had disqualified her for the receipt of benefit for six weeks from and including the 16th September, 1940.

"The only finding which the Court recorded was 'good cause' and it is not possible to ascertain from the record whether the finding was based on the claimant's alleged fear, or on her state of health, or on her desire to conform to the alleged wishes of the Government.

"This is one of several cases in which the experience and effects of air raids have been pleaded as justification for voluntarily leaving employment.

"The existence or non-existence of 'just cause' is a question which is personal to each claimant and it must be answered by a consideration of all the circumstances of each case.

"Included in the circumstances may be conditions which are common to all people living or working in the locality which the claimant has left.

"Indiscriminate bombing subjects everyone in the area attacked to the risks of injury and death and to discomfort and often loss of sleep whilst sheltering from the danger. These are the conditions in which millions of persons live and work, both in London and elsewhere in Great Britain.

"If the Court of Referees arrived at their finding of 'good cause' merely on account of the claimant's fear of air raids I am unable to agree with their finding.

"In Case No. 897/39† the claimant suddenly decided to give up his employment and to return with his family to Ireland because there seemed to be a likelihood of war. It was said in the decision: 'The claimant left his employment voluntarily to avoid the risks and dangers to which, in common with other citizens, he would be subject if war had broken out; and this cannot be regarded as "just cause" within the meaning of section 27 of the Act . . . . .

"In Decision 591/40‡ the Umpire agreed with the observation of the Insurance Officer that 'whether the interference of air raids in normal life provides just cause for leaving employment voluntarily must be decided on the facts of each case, and is presumably a question of degree'.

"The Umpire then referred to the common experiences of all persons and the way in which those experiences were generally met: 'The material facts of this case are that the claimant was employed at a time when all of us are liable to have our night's rest interrupted by reason of enemy air activity, but those who live in industrial areas are more liable to such interruption than are those who live in non-industrial areas. The claimant was employed in an industrial area. For weeks thousands of persons have carried on their employments in

London despite almost continuous bombardment from the air. In other industrial centres work has been continued despite air raids'.

"In Decision 663/40† the Umpire has pointed out that: 'The first consideration is that the country is at war and each case must be considered from that angle'.

"From the decisions just referred to (by all of which the claims were disallowed) the following principle may be deduced, namely, that a desire to escape from the risks, dangers and discomforts of air raids, to which each and all are subject as a consequence of the country being at war, cannot of itself be regarded as just cause for leaving employment voluntarily.

"In order to succeed in showing just cause for leaving her employment voluntarily on account of the air raids, the claimant must prove that, as a result of such raids, she has been personally affected in such a way as to render the continuance in her employment impossible or reasonably undesirable. Such might be the case (for example) if there was proof that as a result of the raids the claimant's nerves or health had been seriously impaired, or that they would be seriously affected by continuing in the employment.

"An allegation to this effect must be proved by detailed evidence and preferably by medical evidence. A statement that the claimant is afraid of air raids or is of a nervous disposition is not sufficient without evidence of the actual effects. There is not sufficient evidence of these in the present case.

"The claimant's statement that she left her employment because the Government were urging people to get out of London if possible is not accurate. Persons in employment, whether in London or elsewhere, were urged to remain in their employment.

"In my view there was no evidence to support the finding of the Court of Referees and the claimant should have been disqualified for the receipt of benefit.

"It is doubtful whether this is a case which merits a reduction in the period of disqualification, and if at the time the claimant had been in London there had been provision in the shelters for sleeping no reduction would have been made. The claimant's uncomfortable and novel experience of sleeping on the floor of the shelter for three weeks had probably more to do with her leaving her employment than anything else, and for this reason I allow a reduction in the period of disqualification."

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

## Recent Proceedings.

## INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL STAFFS: CHESTERLE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers asked that the Council's decision to grant a war bonus to administrative, technical and clerical staffs in receipt of less than £250 per annum be extended to include all officers in these categories. The Court awarded the bonus to all officers in these categories whose salaries, including war bonus, shall not thereby be increased beyond £350 per annum. *Award No. 1777*; dated 9th December, 1940.

BUILDING TRADE: ALDERSHOT DISTRICT.—The National Federation of Building Trade Operatives claimed that building trade employers in the Aldershot district should observe the terms and conditions of employment which have been prescribed by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry. The claim was limited to the rate of pay of painters. The Court awarded that the rate paid to painters should be 1s. 8d. an hour. *Award No. 1778*; dated 12th December, 1940.

CLERICAL EMPLOYEES: HEAD WRIGHTSON AND COMPANY LIMITED, THORNABY-ON-TEES.—The National Union of Clerks and Administrative Workers put forward claims regarding the wages and conditions of employment of their members in the employ of the firm. The award of the Court gave an increase of 3s. a week to adult employees and 2s. 6d. a week to those under 21. The award also contained provisions as to overtime payment, night shift, annual holidays and certain other matters. *Award No. 1779*; dated 20th December, 1940.

NON-TRADING SERVICES, BRIDLINGTON CORPORATION.—The National Union of General and Municipal Workers asked the Court to determine the rates of wages of the workpeople employed in the health, cemetery, water, parks and gardens and high-ways departments, and asked for an all-round increase of 8s. a week. The Court awarded, in addition to an advance of 2s. already given by the Corporation, an increase of 2s. a week as from 26th September, 1940, and a further increase of 2s. a week as from 6th February, 1941. *Award No. 1780*; dated 20th December, 1940.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC  
BOARDS OF ARBITRATION.

SLAUGHTERMEN, ABERDEEN.—Mr. John Stewart was appointed to act as Arbitrator under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to determine a difference relating to the duties of slaughtermen that existed between the National Union of Distributive and

† Not Printed.

\* Selected decisions of the Umpire are published: (i) in monthly pamphlets—U.I. Code 8b; (the latest pamphlet is that for the months of June and July, 1940, price 2d. net); the pamphlets are also obtainable by annual subscription of 2s. 6d. net; (ii) in annual volumes (the latest volume is that for 1937, price 3s. net); (iii) in the following special volumes:—(a) U.I. Code 8, containing specially selected decisions prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net); (b) U.I. Code 8a, containing specially selected decisions from 19th April, 1928, to 12th March, 1930 (price 6s. net); and (c) U.I. Code 8c, containing selected decisions from 13th March, 1930, to 31st December, 1934 (price 10s. net).

† The analytical guide to Umpire's decisions (U.I. Code 7), originally published in 1930, has been revised and is on sale in four parts.

Allied Workers and the Aberdeen, Banff, Moray and Kincardine Master Butchers' Association.

After the case had been heard the parties requested an adjournment for the purpose of considering whether agreement could be reached. Agreement was reached and its terms were incorporated in Mr. Stewart's Award of 13th December, 1940.

**BUILDING TRADE WORKERS, BRADFORD.**—A difference having arisen between the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives (Bradford Branch) and the Bradford and District Master Spinners' Association; the Woolcombing Employers' Federation; the Bradford Dyers' Association Limited; and Buckle Crossley and Company Limited, regarding the wages and conditions of workpeople employed on building maintenance and repair work, Mr. F. N. Keen was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine the matter. Mr. Keen's Award was issued on 10th December, 1940.

**INFIRMARY WORKERS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—Sir Harold Morris, K.C., was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator in the matter of a difference between the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, as to the weekly rates, including war bonus, of the porters who were in the Institution's employ in September, 1939. In his Award dated 7th December, 1940, Sir Harold found that the war bonus, granted by the Royal Victoria Infirmary in June, 1940, should be additional to a base wage of £3 a week in the case of the men concerned.

**CLAY INDUSTRY, DURHAM.**—A trade dispute between the Priestman Collieries Ltd., and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers concerning the wages of bricklayers having been reported to the Minister by the Priestman Collieries Ltd., in accordance with Article 2 of the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, and the parties having agreed that the matter be referred to a single arbitrator, the Minister under the powers conferred on him by that Order and by the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, referred the matter for determination to Professor D. T. Jack, M.A., who issued his Award on 6th December, 1940.

**LEATHER WORKERS, LEEDS.**—Mr. A. N. Shimmin, M.A., was appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine a claim by the Amalgamated Society of Leather Workers for retrospective effect to be given to wage increases and overtime rates of piece-workers, employed by S. Gibson & Sons, Leeds.

At the hearing that part of the claim relating to overtime rates was withdrawn by consent of the parties on the understanding that payment for overtime should be the subject of negotiations between the Society and the Association of the Leather Trades of Leeds and District. In his Award dated 3rd December, Mr. Shimmin found that the remainder of the claim had been established.

**CARPET TRADES, ROCHDALE.**—A dispute between the Northern Carpet Trades Union and John Bright and Bros. Ltd., Rochdale, relating to the rates of pay of carpet weavers having been reported to the Minister under Article 2 of the Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration Order, 1940, and the parties having agreed that the matter should be referred to an arbitrator, Mr. A. N. Shimmin, M.A., was appointed under the Order and under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Arbitrator to determine the matter. In his Award dated 23rd December, Mr. Shimmin decided against the Union's claim for an increase in the rates of the carpet weavers concerned in the case.

## THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND NATIONAL ARBITRATION ORDER, 1940\*.

### NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL AWARDS.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A LONDON FIRM OF BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURERS.

*Parties:* The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives and the Stepney Shoe Manufacturing Company, Limited.

*Question raised:* Whether the Company are observing terms and conditions which are not less favourable than "the recognised terms and conditions."

*Claim:* That the Company should observe the terms and conditions of the National Conference (January, 1940) Agreement.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the terms and conditions of employment to be observed by the Company shall be the terms and conditions of the National Conference (January, 1940) Agreement between the Incorporated Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Great Britain and Ireland and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of 1941, as respects the Holiday Provision Scheme and as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award as respects the other provisions of the National Conference Agreement.

*Award No. 37;* dated 2nd December, 1940.

\* Summaries of two cases, referred under Article 2 of the Order and decided under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, are printed above among awards by Single Arbitrators and *Ad Hoc* Boards of Arbitration.

AGENTS OF THE BLACKBURN ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

*Parties:* The National Amalgamated Union of Life Assurance Workers and the Blackburn Assurance Company, Limited.

*Claim:* For the payment of a minimum salary of £3 per week.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the company shall pay "out-district" whole-time agents, whether employed temporarily or permanently, who in accordance with the terms of their contracts are remunerated by salary and not by commission, on the following basis, viz.: £2 per week for collecting the first £10 or £10 10s. of combined debit, in accordance with existing agreements, plus 2s. (two shillings) in the £1 increase in combined debit over and above the said £10 or £10 10s. debit, subject to a minimum salary in all cases of £2 15s. per week; salaries to be reviewed quarterly.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the next full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 38;* dated 2nd December, 1940.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF AN ENVELOPE AND WHOLESALE STATIONERY MAKING FIRM IN EDINBURGH.

*Parties:* The National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers and Messrs. Andrew Levy and Company, Limited.

*Question raised:* Whether the company are observing terms and conditions which are not less favourable than "the recognised terms and conditions."

*Claim:* That the firm have not given effect to the National Arbitration Tribunal Award No. 1 dated 20th August, 1940, in so far as members of the Union are concerned, except to a very few in the Printing Machine Department.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that, without prejudice to any question as to the existing basic rates paid by the company where these are lower than those provided under existing joint agreements for the work concerned, the company shall apply to the basic rates paid by them the advances provided by National Arbitration Tribunal Award No. 1, but in doing so may take into account the 7½ per cent. increase granted by the company since the date of such award.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 39;* dated 5th December, 1940.

BONUS FOR WORKERS EMPLOYED BY A LONDON FIRM OF WHOLESALE OPTICIANS.

*Parties:* The National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers and Messrs. Lenton and Rusby (London) Limited.

*Claim:* For an increase in wages of 10 per cent., due to cost of living, to rank as a war bonus.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the company pay a bonus of 4s. a week in the case of male workers and 3s. a week in the case of female workers, over and above the rates of wages paid by the Company as on 2nd December, 1940.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 40;* dated 7th December, 1940.

GRADUATED SCALE OF MINIMUM SALARIES FOR THE INSIDE MALE AND FEMALE CLERICAL STAFFS, CHEMISTS AND LABORATORY ASSISTANTS EMPLOYED BY A FIRM OF STEEL AND TINPLATE MANUFACTURERS AT CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS IN SOUTH WALES.

*Parties:* The National Association of Clerical and Supervisory Staffs and Messrs. Richard Thomas and Company, Limited.

*Claim:* For a revision and improvement in the salaries and conditions of employment of members of the Union employed by the Company in the capacity of inside and outside clerical staffs, chemists, laboratory assistants and supervisory grades at certain of the Company's works.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the company shall within a period of six weeks from the date of the award, establish as respects inside male and female clerical staffs, chemists and laboratory assistants, a graduated scale on a basis of minimum salary for age related to the nature of the work performed in the several grades, with specified periodic increments.

*Award No. 41;* dated 9th December, 1940.

WAGES OF WORKPEOPLE EMPLOYED ON CERTAIN DEMOLITION WORK IN SCOTLAND.

*Parties:* The Constructional Engineering Union and Messrs. Thomas W. Ward, Limited.

*Claim:* For the application to workers employed by the Company on a particular demolition work contract in Scotland, of the wages and conditions provided in the agreement between the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation and the Constructional Engineering Union.

*Award:* The Tribunal found against the claim and they awarded accordingly.

*Award No. 42;* dated 10th December, 1940.

COAL TRIMMERS EMPLOYED AT CERTAIN PORTS IN SOUTH WALES.

*Parties:* Employers' Clearing House (Coal Trimming at Ports of Cardiff, Penarth and Barry) and the Cardiff, Penarth and Barry Coal Trimmers' Union.

*Claim:* For the re-introduction of a "stand-off" arrangement in connection with the employment of coal trimmers at the ports of Cardiff, Penarth and Barry.

*Award:* The Tribunal considered that the operation of a "stand-off" arrangement was under present conditions in the best interests both of the country and of the parties. They awarded that a "stand-off" arrangement be operated, on the basis of a 20 per cent. "stand-off" (i.e., 20 per cent. of the men available), this percentage to be subject to variation from time

to time, in accordance with variation in conditions by mutual agreement between the parties.

*Date of Operation:* As from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 43;* dated 11th December, 1940.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A LONDON WHOLESALE TEXTILE FIRM.

*Parties:* The National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks and Messrs. Jeremiah Rotherham and Company, Limited.

*Claim:* For the adoption by the Company of a minimum scale of pay and code of working conditions.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the Company shall observe a minimum scale of total remuneration and code of working conditions which are set out in full in the award and which provide, *inter alia*, for weekly minimum wage rates ranging from 22s. 6d. at 16 and under 17 years of age to 68s. at 25 years or over in the case of certain categories of male workers, from 22s. 6d. at 16 and under 17 years of age to 63s. at 25 years or over in the case of certain other categories of male workers, and from 18s. at 16 and under 17 years of age to 48s. at 24 years or over in the case of female workers.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 44;* dated 14th December, 1940.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A LONDON FIRM OF BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURERS.

*Parties:* The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives and Messrs. M. Rubin and Sons (Shoes) Limited.

*Question raised:* Whether the Company are observing terms and conditions which are not less favourable than "the recognised terms and conditions."

*Claim:* That the Company should observe the terms and conditions of the National Conference (January, 1940) Agreement between the Incorporated Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Great Britain and Ireland and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, subject to the modifications in the Holiday Provision Scheme which had been agreed between the parties and particulars of which had been submitted to the Tribunal.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 45;* dated 14th December, 1940.

WAGES IN THE SHIRTMAKING TRADE.

*Parties:* The National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers and the Shirt, Collar and Tie Manufacturers' Federation.

*Claim:* For increases of 1d. per hour for adult male and female workers, with corresponding increases for male and female learners.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded increases on existing time and piece-work rates to be paid to all workers irrespective of earnings as follows:—

Male workers of 22 years of age or over } ½d. an hour.  
Female " 18 " " }  
Male learners ranging from ½d. to ¾d. an hour according to age.  
Female learners ranging from ½d. to ¾d. an hour according to experience.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following 22nd November, 1940.

*Award No. 46;* dated 20th December, 1940.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF THE EMPLOYEES OF A WIGAN FIRM OF LADIES' HANDBAG MANUFACTURERS.

*Parties:* The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and Mr. Robert W. Burney.

*Claim:* That the firm should observe the wages and conditions of employment of the joint agreement in the Leather Goods trade.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the firm should observe the terms and conditions of the existing joint agreement in the trade.

*Date of Operation:* As from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 47;* dated 24th December, 1940.

SALARIES OF ENGINEER SURVEYORS EMPLOYED BY CERTAIN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

*Parties:* The Engineer Surveyors' Association and the British Engine Boiler and Electrical Insurance Company, Limited and the Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Company, Limited.

*Claim:* For a revision of the existing salary scale for Engineer Surveyors.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded the following revised basic scale of salaries:—

	£		£
During 1st year ...	275	During 8th year ...	355
" 2nd " ...	290	" 9th " ...	365
" 3rd " ...	305	" 10th " ...	380
" 4th " ...	315	" 11th " ...	395
" 5th " ...	325	" 12th " ...	410
" 6th " ...	335	After 12 years' service	425
" 7th " ...	345		

*Date of Operation:* As from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 48;* dated 28th December, 1940.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF A LONDON FIRM OF BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURERS.

*Parties:* The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives and Messrs. H. Franks and Sons.

*Question raised:* Whether the Company are observing terms and conditions which are not less favourable than "the recognised terms and conditions."

*Claim:* That the Company should observe the terms and conditions of the National Conference (January, 1940) Agreement.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the firm observe the terms and conditions of the National Conference (January, 1940) Agreement between the Incorporated Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Great Britain and Ireland and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives.

*Date of Operation:* As from 1st February, 1941, as respects the Holiday Provision Scheme and as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award as respects the other provisions of the National Conference Agreement.

*Award No. 49;* dated 28th December, 1940.

MUSICIANS EMPLOYED AT A LONDON THEATRE.

*Parties:* The Windmill Theatre and the Musicians' Union.

*Claim:* For the fixing of certain rates of remuneration and other conditions of employment of the musicians employed at the Windmill Theatre, London.

*Award:* It was intimated by the Theatre in the course of the hearing that a provision that the other terms of the claim should not be altered for a period of one year after an armistice is declared, constituted an integral part of the claim and that the other terms of the claim were conditional on the acceptance of such provision. The Tribunal were not prepared to make an award in this case which embodied such a provision. In these circumstances the question of the rates of remuneration and other conditions of employment set out in the claim ceased to be material so far as this claim was concerned. The Tribunal while for these reasons expressing no opinion in regard to the terms of the claim relating to rates of remuneration found against the claim and they awarded accordingly.

*Award No. 50;* dated 30th December, 1940.

## NATIONAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL (NORTHERN IRELAND) AWARDS.

WAGES OF BREADSERVERS.

*Parties:* The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and the Belfast Master Bakers' Association, The Provincial Association of Master Bakers, The North of Ireland Bakers' Alliance and the Belfast Co-operative Society, Limited.

*Claim:* For a substantial increase in wages.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded an increase of 2s. per week on the current rates of wages.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of award.

*Award No. 12;* dated 2nd December, 1940.

WAGES OF WORKERS IN THE NON-TRADING DEPARTMENTS OF THE BELFAST CORPORATION.

*Parties:* The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Belfast Corporation.

*Claim:* For an increase of war bonus of 8s. per week to adults of 21 years and over, and 4s. per week to females, boys and youths.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded an increase of 5s. per week on the existing war bonus in the case of adult males and 2s. 6d. per week to females, boys and youths.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of award.

*Award No. 13;* dated 12th December, 1940.

WAGES OF CARTERS IN LONDONDERRY.

*Parties:* The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and The Londonderry Employers' Federation, Ltd. (Carriers' Section).

*Claim:* For an increase of 3s. 6d. per week for carters, loaders and stablemen.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded an increase of 1s. 6d. per week for carters and stablemen and rejected the claim for an increase for loaders.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of award.

*Award No. 14;* dated 17th December, 1940.

WAGES OF DOCKERS AT THE PORT OF LONDONDERRY.

*Parties:* The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and the Londonderry Employers' Federation, Ltd.

*Claim:* For an increase of 1s. per day for all day-workers and a proportional increase for tonnage-workers.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded that the increase of 1s. per day under the National Award of 8th July, 1940, be made operative in respect of day-workers who have not already received this increase, and that a proportionate increase be made operative similarly in respect of tonnage-workers.

*Date of Operation:* As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of this award.

*Award No. 15;* dated 17th December, 1940.



WAGES OF SENIOR AND MARRIED ATTENDANTS EMPLOYED IN THE LONDONDERRY CITY AND COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL.

*Parties:* The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union and The Londonderry City and County Mental Hospital.

*Claim:* For an increase of 20s. per month in the wages of senior and married attendants who are members of the Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded an increase of salary of £6 10s. per annum to senior attendants.

*Date of Operation:* Effective with the payment of salary in respect of the month of December, 1940.

*Award No. 16;* dated 17th December, 1940.

WAGES OF LABOURERS EMPLOYED BY THE COLERAINE BOROUGH COUNCIL.

*Parties:* The National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Coleraine Borough Council.

*Claim:* For an increase of 5s. per week in the wages of labourers in the Surveyors' and Gas Works' Departments and for certain week-end rates for shift-workers.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded an increase of 2s. 6d. per week on the current rate of wages. The claim for shift-workers was withdrawn.

*Date of Operation:* As from 1st December, 1940.

*Award No. 17;* dated 20th December, 1940.

WAGES OF MEMBERS OF THE AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION, EMPLOYED BY MESSRS. W. H. KANE AND COMPANY, LARNE.

*Parties:* The Amalgamated Engineering Union and Messrs. W. H. Kane and Company, Circular Road, Larne.

*Claim:* For observance of the Belfast District rate of wages and overtime conditions as agreed to between the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation and the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

*Award:* The Tribunal awarded an increase of 2s. 9d. per week on current rates of wages and that overtime rates shall be at time-and-one-third for the first two hours and time-and-one-half thereafter.

*Date of Operation:* As from the first full pay period following the date of the award.

*Award No. 18;* dated 30th December, 1940.

## TRADE BOARDS ACTS AND ROAD HAULAGE WAGES ACT.

### A.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Proposals to vary minimum rates of wages have been issued by the Trade Boards shown below. Further information may be obtained by persons engaged in the respective trades on application to the Secretary of the Trade Board concerned, at the Gordon Hotel, Leicester Street, Southport, Lancs.

OSTRICH AND FANCY FEATHER AND ARTIFICIAL FLOWER TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal O.F. (11), dated 13th December, 1940, to vary minimum rates of wages.

LAUNDRY TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal W. (34), dated 24th December, 1940, to vary minimum rates of wages.

GENERAL WASTE MATERIALS RECLAMATION TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal D.B. (29), dated 27th December, 1940, to vary minimum rates of wages.

JUTE TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal J. (64), dated 31st December, 1940, to vary minimum rates of wages.

SHIRTMAKING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal S. (22), dated 31st December, 1940, to vary minimum rates of wages.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal F.M. (7), dated 3rd January, 1941, to fix or vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of apprentices or learners, late entrants and workers in the bedding section of the trade.

### B.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

In pursuance of the powers conferred by the Trade Boards Acts, the Minister of Labour and National Service in Great Britain and the Ministry of Labour in Northern Ireland have made Orders confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the Trade Boards indicated below. Copies of the Orders may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, either directly or through any bookseller.

CUTLERY TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order C.T. (25), dated 16th December, 1940, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 23rd December, 1940, as the date from which such rates become effective.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order F.M. (6), dated 1st January, 1941, confirming a variation of overtime rates and specifying 6th January, 1941, as the date from which such rates become effective.

TOY MANUFACTURING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order Y. (25), dated 4th January, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 15th January, 1941, as the date from which such rates become effective.

BAKING TRADE BOARD (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Order BK. (7), dated 4th January, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 20th January, 1941, as the date from which such rates become effective.

FLAX AND HEMP TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Order F.H. (44) dated 9th January, 1941, confirming a variation of minimum rates of wages and specifying 20th January, 1941, as the date from which such rates become effective.

ROAD HAULAGE CENTRAL WAGES BOARD.

Order R.H. (6), dated 11th December, 1940, confirming and making effective from 23rd December, 1940, the proposals of the Road Haulage Central Wages Board amending the statutory remuneration of road haulage workers to whom Part I of the Road Haulage Wages Act 1938 as amended by the Road Haulage (Emergency Provisions) (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 1940, applies.

BAKING TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.Bk. (6 and 7), dated 18th December, 1940, confirming the fixation of general minimum time rates and general overtime rates for certain male and female workers employed in Home Bakeries and the variation of the application of general minimum time-rates and general overtime rates for certain male and female workers employed in establishments other than Home Bakeries, and specifying the 30th December, 1940, as the date from which these rates become effective.

LINEN AND COTTON HANDKERCHIEF AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND LINEN PIECE GOODS TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.H.G. (70), dated 20th December, 1940, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers and the general minimum piece-rates for female workers and specifying the 6th January, 1941, as the date from which these rates become effective.

ROPE, TWINE AND NET TRADE BOARD (NORTHERN IRELAND).

Order N.I.R. (36), dated 30th December, 1940, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and general overtime rates for male and female workers and specifying the 10th January, 1941, as the date from which these rates become effective.

## FACTORIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1938.

### NEW REGULATIONS.

The Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland has made the following Regulations\* :—

The Factories (Weekly hours of Young Persons under sixteen in the Printing, Bookbinding and Allied Industries) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1940, made on 19th December, 1940, under Section 77(2) of the Factories Act (Northern Ireland), 1938, applying to factories in which the sole or principal work carried on is one, or a combination, of the following, namely :—

- printing by letterpress, lithography, photogravure or other similar process ;
- bookbinding ;
- the making of paper boxes, bags or other similar articles.

The Regulations fix (as from 1st January, 1941) forty-five as the weekly maximum hours of work for young persons under sixteen.

\* *Statutory Rules and Orders of Northern Ireland, 1940, No. 161.* H.M. Stationery Office ; price 1d. net (2d. post free).

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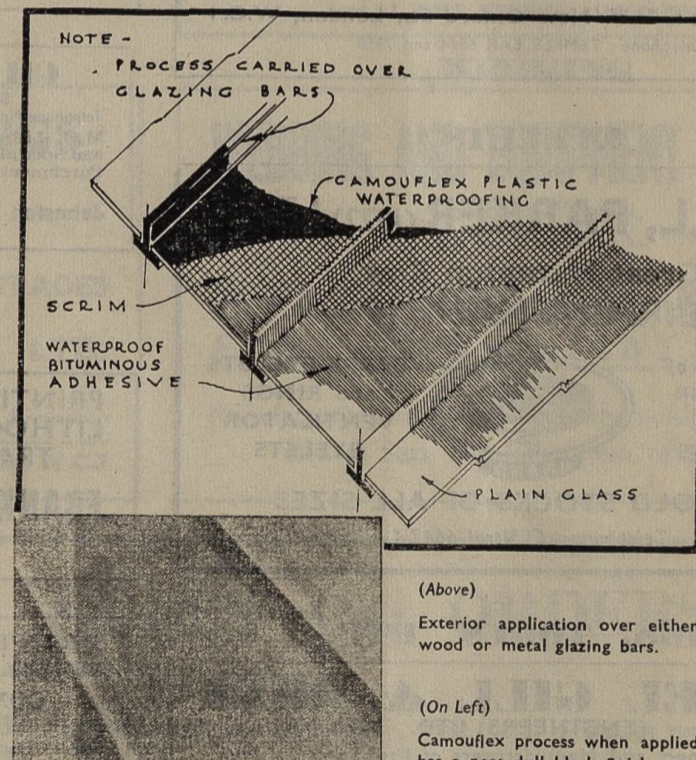
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