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

### EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further decline, on the whole, in November. This was largely accounted for by seasonal increases in unemployment in the building trade and public works contracting, in their ancillary industries such as the manufacture of bricks, cement and artificial stone, and in most of the clothing industries. There were also increases, however, in the numbers unemployed in the cotton industry, in textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., in the pottery industry, and in iron mining and iron and steel manufacture. On the other hand, there were further improvements in the tinplate industry, in boot and shoe manufacture, and in some sections of the engineering trades, particularly marine engineering and the motor vehicle industry. In coal mining the numbers wholly unemployed showed a further increase, but this was again more than counter-balanced by a decrease in the numbers temporarily stopped.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,100,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together was 10·0 at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 9·5 at 24th October, 1927, and 13·5 at 22nd November, 1926.

The percentage wholly unemployed was 7·6 at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 7·2 at 24th October, 1927; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2·4 as compared with 2·3.

The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th November, 1927, was approximately 1,172,000, of whom 937,000 were men and 173,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 31st October, 1927, it was 1,132,000, of whom 904,000 were men and 162,000 were women; and at 29th November, 1926, it was 1,545,000, of whom 1,206,000 were men and 265,000 were women. The figures for 29th November, 1926, were, of course, affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

### 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 November resulted in a reduction of about £16,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 163,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £7,100 in those of 119,000 workpeople.

The largest group of workpeople affected by reductions were boot and shoe operatives, whose wages were reduced under a cost-of-living sliding scale, the reduction amounting in the case of adult male and female timeworkers to 4s. and 2s. per week respectively. Other groups of workpeople whose wages were reduced included coal miners in Warwickshire, Siemens steel makers in South-west Wales (except the lower-paid men), and certain classes of blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and in North Lincolnshire.

The principal groups whose wages were increased included workpeople employed in steel-smelting shops and rolling mills, pieceworkers in the boot and shoe repairing industry, and men employed by civil engineering contractors. Most classes employed in steel smelting and rolling, except the lower-paid men, had their wages increased by the equivalent of about 1 per cent. on current rates; in the boot and shoe repairing industry the minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were increased by 2½ or 5 per cent.; men engaged on works of civil engineering construction received an increase of ½d. per hour. There were also increases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for certain classes of workpeople employed in brush and broom making.

During the eleven completed months of 1927 the changes reported to the Department have resulted in net increases of nearly £30,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 276,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of £383,000 in those of 1,857,000 workpeople. Of the total net reduction the mining and quarrying industries have accounted for £276,000. In the corresponding period of 1926 there were net increases of over £111,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 348,000 workpeople, and net reductions of nearly £89,000 in those of 813,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st December the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 69 per cent. above that of July, 1914; for food alone the rise was 63 per cent. These figures are the same as those recorded for 1st November, and compare with 79 and 69 respectively at 1st December, 1926.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, and accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in November was 16. In addition, 15 disputes which began before November were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in November (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 10,600; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during November was about 51,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 10,500 workpeople involved and 40,000 working days lost in the previous month. In the first eleven months of 1927 the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was approximately 109,000 and the time lost by such workpeople was about 1,136,000 working days.

## PROVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT CENTRES FOR JUVENILES.

UNDER the Unemployment Insurance Bill at present before Parliament,\* the Minister of Labour is taking powers to pay part of the cost of Juvenile Unemployment Centres out of the Unemployment Fund; and it is of interest, therefore, to review briefly the history of these centres in recent years. Since the Armistice, successive Governments have continued, under varying schemes, the arrangements which were first begun immediately after the War for mitigating the ill-effect of long continued unemployment of boys and girls by providing Juvenile Unemployment Centres.

From the beginning of 1919 until the end of 1922 these centres were conducted by Local Education Authorities, under the supervision of the Board of Education. Unemployed boys and girls were required to enter at first as one of the conditions for receiving out-of-work donation, and later as a condition for receiving unemployment benefit. During 1919, the whole cost of the centres was borne by the Exchequer, but after 24th November, 1919, the rate of grant was reduced to fifty per cent.

From the beginning of 1920 until the end of 1922, the number of centres rapidly declined, and in the autumn of 1922 there were only six centres open. In December, 1922, it was decided to revive the centres, as part of the measures for dealing with unemployment during the winter of 1922 and 1923. The rate of grant to Local Education Authorities was raised from fifty per cent. to seventy-five per cent., and the responsibility for the centres was transferred from the Board of Education to the Ministry of Labour. From December, 1922, until the present time the scheme for centres has been continuously in operation. The rate of grant has varied. Under the present scheme, the normal grant covers 75 per cent. of the cost incurred by the Authority, one hundred per cent. being paid in exceptional cases.

The period of attendance at a Juvenile Unemployment Centre varies from a few days to six months or more: the average stay is probably about three weeks. The conditions under which the centres are conducted do not permit of formal and prolonged courses of instruction. The aim of the centres is to maintain the employability of boys and girls while they are out of work. Provision is usually made for various forms of handwork and, in the case of girls, homecraft; for physical training and organised games, and for informal instruction and lectures of a useful and interesting kind. Normally the centres are open for morning and afternoon sessions on five days in each week, but are closed on Saturdays. The minimum amount of instruction given is fifteen hours weekly, *i.e.*, juveniles attend either at the morning or at the afternoon session.

Although it is only possible to require the attendance of juveniles claiming unemployment benefit, the centres are open to all juveniles from fourteen to eighteen who may be unemployed, and in certain areas a fair number of non-claimants do, in fact, attend. During 1926 there were 126 centres open, in the areas of 43 Education Authorities. The maximum attendance in any one week was reached during the week ended 14th November, 1926, when the average attendance was about 10,500. The total number of boys and girls who passed through the centres during the period from 1st April, 1926, to 31st December, 1926, was about 46,000. At present there are 77 centres open, in the areas of 29 Education Authorities, and the average weekly attendance at the moment is about 4,700. The total number of juveniles who have passed through the centres since 1st April, 1927, is 31,030.

The Ministry are making efforts to develop the organisation of centres in the mining districts of South Wales, Durham, and Northumberland; and it is anticipated that in the near future these areas will be covered by a network of centres, so that every unemployed boy will have a centre to which he may go. In these areas extensive use is being made of omnibus and tram services. Boys are brought in by omnibus or tram from the surrounding mining villages, their fares being paid.

The Malcolm and Salvesen Committees† recommended that centres should be administered under a permanent scheme instead of under a succession of temporary schemes, and made certain suggestions for their improvement. The Government have already accepted recommendations of these Committees that Advisory Councils for Juvenile Employment should be set up in England and Wales and in Scotland, and they propose to remit to these bodies when formed the question of framing a permanent scheme of centres, in accordance with the recommendations of the two Committees. In the meantime the authorities concerned have been informed that the existing scheme will continue until the end of the next financial year.

The reports received by the Ministry show that the centres are increasingly successful in maintaining the employability of boys and girls, and that the centres, many of which have now been open continuously since 1923 or even earlier, are steadily acquiring a recognised place in the life of the community. In the words of the superintendent of the Poplar centre—

"The atmosphere during the first weeks of 1923 was one of sullen antagonism, but gradually the centres have come to be regarded as a perfectly natural place to go to when one is unemployed. In fact, the atmosphere of a club has been more or less created, and the centre has become a friendly place, more desirable than the street corner."

\* A summary of the Bill, in the form in which it was introduced in the House of Commons, appeared in the October issue of this GAZETTE, page 366. † *i.e.*, the Committee on Education and Industry (England and Wales) and the corresponding Committee for Scotland. The first Reports of these Committees were noticed in the issues of this GAZETTE for December, 1926 (pages 435-6), and for March, 1927 (pages 91-2), respectively.

## CHOICE OF EMPLOYMENT WORK OF LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES.

UNDER the Ministry of Labour (Transfer of Powers) Order, 1927,\* the powers of the Board of Education in regard to arrangements made by Local Education Authorities for their choice of employment work were transferred to the Ministry of Labour.

The Ministry have now issued a circular to the Authorities concerned setting forth the principles which they propose to follow in the administration of their choice of employment service. They accept the recommendation of the Committee on Education and Industry (England and Wales)† that Local Education Authorities should be left, as far as possible, "to conduct and develop their choice of employment work on individual lines, and in a manner consistent with their general educational policy." There is consequently no intention of asking Authorities to observe the codified instructions on the subject applicable to Employment Exchanges, or of assimilating by other means the practice of Authorities to that of the Ministry in areas where the Ministry are directly responsible for this service. It is not intended to review Authorities' schemes already approved jointly by the Board of Education and the Ministry, and these schemes will continue to be operative after the first part of the Order takes effect.

Local Education Authorities are invited, in the circular, to communicate freely with the Ministry in regard to their choice of employment work. The Ministry place their industrial experience at the disposal of the Authorities, and expect great help, on their side, from the experience and information possessed by the Authorities.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BILL: EFFECT ON NUMBER OF PERSONS DRAWING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

THE Ministry of Labour have issued a White Paper‡ in which an attempt is made to estimate the effect of the Unemployment Insurance Bill on the number of persons drawing unemployment benefit.

The provisions of the Bill which will chiefly affect this number are: (i) the disallowance of claims under the "30 contributions" rule in Clause 5 (1) (a); and (ii) the admission of certain claims now disallowed under the discretionary power of the Minister, which is abolished by the Bill.

### "30 Contributions" Rule.

An investigation was made in the first week of April, 1927, into the personal circumstances and industrial history of 9,748 individuals who were at that time claimants to unemployment benefit, being a 1 per cent. sample of the total number of claimants then on the live register. Out of 7,703 males and 1,193 females in the sample whose benefit claims were authorised for payment in the week chosen, 1,037 males and 62 females had paid less than 30 contributions since the 5th April, 1925.

In considering these results of the inquiry, however, the following points should be remembered:—

(i) Persons aged 65 and over will cease to be entitled to unemployment benefit on and after 2nd January, 1928, under the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925;

(ii) The conditions in the coal-mining industry were abnormal during the greater part of the two-year period April, 1925, to March, 1927; and the prolonged stoppage of 1926 swelled the number of those who failed to pay 30 contributions during the period;

(iii) The provisions of Clause 5 (1) (a) will not come into force until April, 1929, and will not be fully operative until April, 1930. If the present improving tendency in employment continues, it may be anticipated that the rate of unemployment during the year April, 1929, to April, 1930, should not exceed 8 per cent. This would, of course, reduce the number of claimants, and thus the number of persons failing to satisfy the "30 contributions" rule;

(iv) During the year April, 1929, to April, 1930, the two-year period to be taken into account for the application of the 30 contributions rule will be the period beginning at some point in the year April, 1927, to April, 1928. It is thought reasonable to assume that the average rate of unemployment during this period will not exceed 9 per cent., a reduction of 25 per cent. as compared with the preceding two years.

Allowing for these considerations, it is anticipated that the total number of claims for benefit which would fail to satisfy the 30 contributions rule in the 1 per cent. sample would be 556; this would represent approximately 56,000 of the total number of authorised benefit claims at the end of the transitional period in April, 1930.

### Abolition of Discretionary Power.

The discretionary power which the Minister of Labour at present exercises with regard to the grant of extended benefit applies, in particular, to single persons living with their parents; to married women supported by their husbands; and to short-time workers

\* See the August, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE, page 321. † See the December, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 435. ‡ Cmd. 2987. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.

earning enough for their maintenance. The discretionary power will be abolished by the measure now before Parliament, if passed; and it is anticipated that nearly all the short-time workers now disallowed, and a majority of the other classes, would qualify for benefit under the 30 contributions rule. Assuming a reduction in the rate of unemployment (as above mentioned) to 8 per cent., it is estimated that in any weekly register figure about 26,000 cases, on the average, which would under the present system be disallowed, would be entitled to benefit under the new conditions.

It will be seen that, on the basis of the above estimates, the net effect of the Bill, by the end of the transitional period in April, 1930, would be a reduction of the number in receipt of benefit by about 30,000.

## POOR LAW RELIEF IN RELATION TO DISALLOWANCE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

### I.—MINISTRY OF LABOUR MEMORANDUM.

THE Ministry of Labour have prepared a Memorandum\* bringing together certain statistical data bearing on the relation between the unemployment figures published by that Ministry and the poor-law figures published by the Ministry of Health.

The Memorandum points out that the statistics of outdoor poor-law relief issued by the Ministry of Health include (a) the head of the family in all cases where relief is given in respect of a member of a family, even though relief may not have been granted to him personally; for example, where relief is granted in respect of a sick wife or child, or for the family of a man who is involved in a trade dispute and ineligible for relief himself. Furthermore, (b) the statistics of insured persons on poor-law relief include not only a number of persons whose claims to unemployment benefit have been disallowed, but also (i) persons in the "waiting period"; (ii) persons actually in receipt of benefit; and (iii) persons whose claims for benefit have been disallowed, but are subsequently granted on revision.

The basis of the unemployment statistics issued by the Ministry of Labour is explained in each issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE: see, for example, pages 463 and 464 of the present issue. The Memorandum amplifies the information there given with regard to the "two months file" of lodged unemployment books; and also analyses, more minutely than is done in the Table on page 463, the composition of the live register figures.

This analysis, applied to the numbers on the live register in Great Britain for 26th September, 1927, gives the following results:—

	Per Cent.
Insured persons in receipt of benefit ... ..	66.9
Insured persons in the waiting period, or with claims under consideration ... ..	16.5
Insured persons whose claims to benefit had been disallowed ... ..	8.5
Insured persons who had registered, but had not made claims to benefit ... ..	1.9
Uninsured persons ... ..	6.2
	100.0

The following is an abridgment of a Table given in the Memorandum comparing the average number of men on poor-law relief in each week of the months stated with the number of men recorded as unemployed at the end of the same months. The figures relate to men only and to England and Wales only.

Month.	Men on Outdoor Poor-Law Relief.		Unemployment Statistics.	
	Total Numbers ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation.†	Number included in previous column of insured men with unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges.	Men on Live Register at end of month.	Men with unemployment books lodged.
1927.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.
January ... ..	177	130	962	955
February ... ..	159	121	812	878
March ... ..	151	115	767	814
April ... ..	141	108	735	787
May ... ..	135	103	701	735
June ... ..	133	102	719	749
July ... ..	130	99	719	772
August ... ..	130	99	734	783
September ... ..	128	97	750	799

It will be seen that the trend of the two series of figures is mainly in the same direction. There is no evidence of a steady increase in the poor-law figures coincident with a decrease in Ministry of Labour unemployment figures. On the contrary, when recent differences in trend have occurred they have shown that the poor-law figures have decreased while the Ministry of Labour figures have increased. There is no contrary movement recorded in the statistics for this period.

\* Cmd. 2984. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net. † Including uninsured persons, and also persons "constructively" in receipt of relief, *i.e.*, in receipt of relief not on their own behalf but on account of the sickness or maintenance, etc., of a member of their families.

While the numbers of unemployed insured men on poor-law relief have fallen by 25.4 per cent. during the period, the numbers of insured men in the unemployment statistics have fallen by only 16.4 per cent.; that is to say, the rate of decline in the poor-law statistics has been one-and-a-half times as great as the rate of decline in the Ministry of Labour statistics of unemployment.

Figures given in the Memorandum also show that between April, 1926, and September, 1927, the number of insured men on poor-law relief showed a net decrease of 39,106, or 28.7 per cent.; while the number of men on the live register increased by 120,782, or by 19.2 per cent. A corresponding increase occurred in the monthly "books lodged" figures.

It is concluded, therefore, that there cannot have been any appreciable transfer on the whole from the Ministry of Labour figures to the poor-law figures of unemployed insured men.

### II.—SAMPLE INQUIRY MADE IN APRIL, 1926.

In answer to a question asked in the House of Commons on 23rd November, as to the extent to which persons whose unemployment benefit is disallowed obtain employment or seek poor-law relief, the Minister of Labour gave the following information:—

"The only available information bearing directly on this point is that obtained from an inquiry made in April, 1926, at certain typical Employment Exchanges in co-operation with the poor-law authorities, in order to ascertain the extent to which persons whose benefit claims were disallowed during a period of one week obtained poor-law relief within a period of 14 days from the date on which the disallowance was notified. The areas concerned in the inquiry were Birmingham, Dudley, Dundee, Gateshead, Greenock, Hackney, Liverpool, Portsmouth, Stratford (West Ham), and Swansea. 1,431 cases were dealt with in the inquiry.

"The results showed that, of the males whose benefit claims were disallowed, 15.3 per cent. were already in receipt of relief at the date when the disallowance was notified to them. (In 6.1 per cent. the amount of relief was increased within 14 days and in 9.2 per cent. the amount was not increased.) In 13.2 per cent. the individuals were not in receipt of relief when the disallowance of benefit was notified, but relief was granted within 14 days; while in the remaining 71.5 per cent., relief was not granted at any time within the 14-day period.

"Of those who at some time within the 14-day period referred to above received poor-law relief, 15.5 per cent. had removed their unemployment books before the end of the period and had therefore presumably obtained insured employment; 65.2 per cent. remained on the register at the Employment Exchanges up to the end of the 14-day period; and 19.3 per cent. had ceased to register by the end of the 14-day period, but their unemployment books remained lodged at the Exchange. Of those who did not obtain poor-law relief, 38.6 per cent. had removed their unemployment books on obtaining insured employment by the end of the 14-day period; 35.5 per cent. continued to register at the Employment Exchange; and 25.9 per cent. ceased to register, but their unemployment books remained lodged.

"Taking the whole of the males included in the inquiry together, whether poor-law relief was granted or not, the inquiry showed that 32.1 per cent. had removed their unemployment books on obtaining employment in an insured trade by the end of the 14-day period; 43.9 per cent. of the males whose benefit claims were disallowed were continuing to register at the Exchanges at the end of the 14-day period; and 24 per cent. had ceased to register, but their books remained lodged."

## SCHEMES FOR RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

In answer to questions addressed to the Ministry of Labour on 17th and 30th November, on the subject of relief schemes for the employment of unemployed men, it was stated that, notwithstanding the completion of many of the principal items in the arterial road programme, there remains a balance of about £15 millions to be met in respect of road works expedited for the relief of unemployment and still in progress. Of this total about £10 millions remain to be paid in grants from the Road Fund. There are other large works in progress or in prospect which are not included in the above figures. As to other relief schemes, local authorities, in areas where unemployment is exceptional, may apply to the Unemployment Grants Committee for State assistance towards works expressly accelerated to relieve unemployment. The number employed on 29th October, 1927, on major schemes of road improvement and construction assisted by the Ministry of Transport, and on relief schemes assisted by the Unemployment Grants Committee, was 24,010.

The following Table gives particulars of Ministry of Transport and Unemployment Grants Committee schemes in operation at the end of September in each of the last four years:—

Date.	Ministry of Transport.		Unemployment Grants Committee.	
	Number of schemes.	Number of men employed.	Number of schemes.	Number of men employed.
26th Sept., 1924 ... ..	*	11,879	*	29,726
26th Sept., 1925 ... ..	573	19,510	1,017	32,170
25th Sept., 1926 ... ..	435	18,249	588	19,351
24th Sept., 1927 ... ..	351	13,094	252	11,931

\* Figures not available.

## MEMBERSHIP, INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND FUNDS OF REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS IN 1926.

The Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies has compiled a Statistical Summary,\* giving preliminary figures of the membership, income, expenditure and funds in the years 1917-1926 of those trade unions in Great Britain which were registered under the Trade Union Acts.

Comparative figures for the years 1917, 1920 (when the aggregate membership of trade unions reached its highest point) and 1924-6, extracted from this Summary, are given below, the membership being shown to the nearest thousand, and the income, expenditure and funds to the nearest £1,000. It should be observed that the figures relate only to Great Britain, and that registered Trade Unions of employers, as well as of employees, are included in the figures. The employers' unions included, however, form only a small proportion of the total; e.g., in 1926 they numbered 92, with a total membership of 44,000, an aggregate income of £123,000, expenditure of £111,000 and funds of £172,000.

### Registered Trade Unions in Great Britain.

	1917.	1920.	1924.	1925.	1926.
Number of Unions on Register at end of Year ...	609	656	578	579	577
Number of Returns received† ...	608	664	578	578	577
Membership at end of Year ...	4,387	5,982	4,501	4,492	4,190
Income:—					
From Members ...	5,166	11,315	8,344	8,097	7,120
From Ministry of Labour (Unemployment Insurance and Administration Expenses) ...	53	312	2,070	3,122	4,542
From Other Sources ...	645	1,372‡	930	741	2,282
Expenditure:—					
Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefits§ ...	267	1,718§	3,139§	4,527§	6,377§
Dispute Benefit ...	137	3,219	1,188	313	5,617
Sick and Accident Benefit ...	536	748	822	793	808
Funeral Benefit ...	265	297	310	319	318
Other Benefits, including Superannuation and Grants to Members ...	553	723	992	1,063	1,141
Payments from Political Funds ...	43	185	216	114	103
Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc. ...	276	1,687‡	673	355	456
Management and Other Expenses ...	1,610	4,363	3,327	3,292	3,216
Total Funds:—					
At beginning of Year ...	10,595	15,917	10,905	11,533	12,747
At end of Year ...	12,773	15,975‡	11,581	12,717	8,650

In the following Table details are given of the aggregate membership, income, expenditure and funds in 1926 in each of a number of different groups of trade unions.

Group.	Unions on the Register at end of 1926.†	Membership at end of 1926.	Income.	Expenditure.		Funds at end of 1926.
				Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit.	Other Expenditure.	
Mining and Quarrying ...	97	675	2,290	73	3,383	225
Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances ...	74	641	4,675	3,298	1,708	2,550
Textiles ...	69	250	902	642	257	1,438
Clothing ...	16	146	364	186	210	497
Papermaking, Printing, etc. ...	19	124	556	166	527	545
Building, Decorating, etc. ...	30	326	1,337	539	781	618
Transport ...	27	615	1,388	948	2,250	1,239
Commerce and Finance ...	34	214	354	38	321	300
Other and General ...	119	1,155	1,955	487	2,136	1,066
Total of above ...	485	4,146	13,821	6,377	11,553	8,478
Registered Employers' Associations ...	92	44	123	...	111	172
GRAND TOTAL	577	4,190	13,944	6,377	11,664	8,650

\* H.M. Stationery Office. Price 4d. net.

† In some instances Returns were received from unions removed from the Register during the year.

‡ The sum of £1,687,000, shown under "Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc.," in 1920, includes a substantial amount of funds transferred to the Amalgamated Engineering Union by certain unions which amalgamated to form that union in 1920, but not brought into account in the return of that union until 1921. The figures shown for 1920 under "Income from Other Sources" and "Total Funds at end of Year" are, accordingly, lower than would have been the case if these funds had been brought into account.

§ The expenditure on Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit shown in this Table (e.g., £6,377,000 in 1926) represents the total amount paid by the unions, including, in addition to the benefit chargeable to the funds of the unions, the amounts disbursed by the unions and recoverable from the Ministry of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The total amount receivable each year from the Ministry of Labour on this account and in respect of administration expenses (e.g., £4,542,000 in 1926) is shown under "Income."

## CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT.

### I.—PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES PAID UNDER THE ACT.

The following information with regard to pensions and allowances paid under the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925,\* was given in answer to a question in the House of Commons on 24th November:—

On 30th September last, 183,169 widows were receiving pensions; children's allowances were being paid for 246,949 children; and orphans' pensions for 11,832 orphans. The amount paid to these beneficiaries since the beginning of the Act up to 31st October last was £12,740,000; and the total amount, including payments to old-age pensioners, was £18,700,000.

### II.—POSITION OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND UPWARDS FROM JANUARY, 1928.

Under the provisions of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925,\* men and women aged 65 and over will cease to be entitled to sickness benefit, disablement benefit, or unemployment benefit as from 2nd January, 1928. They will no longer be required to pay health and pensions contributions (which are consolidated in one payment) or unemployment insurance contributions; but if they are insurably employed their employers will be required to pay the employers' contributions for them (pensions and unemployment) as though they were exempt persons.

It is estimated that approximately 342,000 persons aged 65 years and over, now insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, will cease to be insured against unemployment as from 2nd January.

## POOR-LAW RELIEF (ENGLAND AND WALES).

### Third Quarter of Year 1927.

A STATEMENT† has been issued by the Minister of Health showing the number of persons‡ in receipt of poor-law relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in September, 1927, with some particulars as to the "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.

The total number of persons (men, women and children) in receipt of poor-law relief in England and Wales on the last Saturday in September, 1927, was 1,148,000, equivalent to 294 per 10,000 of the estimated population. This compares with 1,171,000 in June, 1927; with 2,396,000 in September, 1926, when the dispute in the coal-mining industry was in progress; and with 611,000 in September, 1913. Nearly the whole of the reduction as compared with September, 1926, occurred in the 78 Unions in which coal mining is an important industry. In these Unions the net reduction amounted to 1,133,000. As regards the remaining 557 Unions, in 302 Unions reductions were recorded amounting to only 131,000, while in 250 Unions there were increases, amounting in all to 16,000. The net reduction, therefore, in the country at large, outside the 78 coal-mining Unions, was 115,000. Practically the whole reduction as compared with September, 1926, was in respect of domiciliary relief.

The totals given above include large numbers of persons who would ordinarily be employed: nearly all these persons are in receipt of domiciliary relief.

The following Table gives comparative figures for persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in England and Wales for the months of August, 1926, and August, 1927; the figures represent averages of the numbers in receipt of relief on each Saturday of the respective months:—

Classes of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief.‡	England and Wales.	
	Numbers.	Numbers per 10,000 of the estimated population.
1. (A.)—Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts (i.e., persons holding the appropriate form issued by an Employment Exchange) ...	102,000	26
(B.)—Wives and dependent children of above persons ...	252,000	65
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange, and their dependants ...	33,000	8
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants ...	90,000	23
4. Totals of above three classes:—		
August, 1927 ...	477,000	122
August, 1926 ...	1,757,000	452
5. All other persons in receipt of domiciliary relief:—		
August, 1927 ...	462,000	118
August, 1926 ...	499,000	128
6. Totals (all persons in receipt of domiciliary relief):—		
August, 1927 ...	939,000	240
August, 1926 ...	2,256,000	580

The 477,000 persons recorded in the first three classes in August, 1927, included 130,000 men, 113,000 women, and 234,000 children.

\* A summary of this Act appeared in the issues of this GAZETTE for May and August 1925, pages 152 and 273 respectively.

† H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net.

‡ Excluding lunatics in county and borough asylums, persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals, totalling to approximately 122,000 persons.

§ Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only.

## WEIGHT LIFTING AND CARRYING BY WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

The subject of weight lifting and carrying by women was dealt with in a Report of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board in 1925.\* This Report, however, did not throw much light on the question of the maximum load that can be carried without injury or discomfort. The Home Office, therefore, requested that the investigation should be continued with special reference to this point. It was pointed out that the lifting or carrying of weights by women and girls has long been regarded as a matter requiring regulation, but that, while it has been possible to insert provisions on the subject in codes of regulations made for dangerous or unhealthy industries, there has hitherto been no general or specific provision in the Factory Acts in regard to it. A proposal to rectify this omission appeared in the Factories (No. 2) Bill, 1926†; and in these circumstances the Home Office requested that the actual load that can be lifted or carried by women and young workers under industrial conditions without injury or discomfort should be the subject of scientific investigation, for their guidance in the event of the new powers contemplated in the Bill being approved by Parliament.

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board have now published a Report‡ embodying the results of their inquiry. Three simultaneous lines of inquiry were undertaken. The first contains a survey of anthropometric data relating to 4,366 women, viz., 3,076 women engaged in industrial work in factories; 413 Glasgow women who had formerly been engaged in factory work, but who had been unemployed for at least one year; 460 women students at a training college for teachers in Glasgow; and 417 women in various factories in England. The earlier researches into methods of weight-carrying were repeated and amplified; the previous results were in all essentials confirmed, and the tentative conclusion reached that 50 lb. for "conveniently disposed" loads and 40 lb. for "inconveniently disposed" loads is about the maximum physiologically economic load for women continually engaged in carrying.

In order to obtain a picture of existing practice a series of about 550 observations of the loads actually carried or lifted in different industries was made, the subjects being grouped in three age-groups—14-16, 16-18, and over 18. It was decided to concentrate on industries that were known to be heavy, i.e., the manufacture of tinplates, pottery, sanitary pipes, bricks, aerated waters, paper, cotton, woollen and worsted, jams, sugar, confectionery, cutlery and engineering works. A general survey was first made of the work of the women and young persons employed in these industries, with special reference to processes in which weights had to be handled; then the workers were weighed, measured, and interrogated, and the actual loads that were being handled were weighed.

It was found that, in regard to loads where the weight is definitely fixed, as in the sanitary pipe industry, the weights in present industrial practice are on the whole well within the capacity of women and adolescents, whilst in occupations where choice of the weight is available to the operative, women are usually self-protective; but young persons of both sexes, particularly males, are sometimes apt to attempt to lift and carry a load heavier than that for which they are adapted. The opinion is expressed that the weight of the individual load should not exceed 40 per cent. of the body weight for continuous and 50 per cent. of the body weight for intermittent or occasional carrying. These weights correspond to about 45 lb. and 55 lb., respectively, on the basis of the anthropometric data already mentioned.

It is pointed out that great caution must be observed in co-ordinating the results of these different lines of investigation. Account, for instance, must be taken of the wide range in strength and other physical attributes amongst women, of the effect of age, and particularly of the fact that the heavier and more strenuous occupations tend to attract the stronger women; so that any standard based on the requirements of the average industrial woman would be inapplicable to special occupations for which women of exceptional physique are recruited.

The final conclusion reached, as regards adult women workers, is that, while a load of about 45 lb. would appear to be the optimum for continuous carriage, the body of the average healthy woman worker would not be in any way strained by a load not exceeding 50 lb., with a possible extension of 20 per cent. when the load is compact and easily handled, so that it does not interfere materially with the gait and balance of the bearer.

In the case of adolescents, the authors of the Report think that it would be unsafe to adopt the above percentages (i.e., 40 and 50 per cent., respectively) of the body weight as a hard and fast standard, and suggest as an alternative a limit of 25 to 30 lb. for female young persons aged 14 to 16, and a limit of 40 lb. for female young persons aged 16 to 18.

An appendix is added, summarizing the existing legislation and regulations, in Great Britain and in various British Dominions and foreign countries, in regard to the maximum loads which may be carried, dragged, or pushed by children, young persons, women, or men.

\* The Effects of Posture and Rest in Muscular Work. Industrial Fatigue Research Board: Report No. 29. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. 6d. net.

† A notice of this Bill appeared in the August, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 286.

‡ The Physique of Women in Industry: A Contribution towards the determination of the Optimum Load. Industrial Fatigue Research Board: Report No. 44. H.M. Stationery Office; price 5s. net.

## EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES.

A RETURN has been issued\* showing, so far as the particulars are available, the total expenditure (other than out of loans for capital purposes) in England and Wales under certain Acts of Parliament for a series of years, and the total number of persons directly benefiting from the expenditure for the year 1926; together with similar particulars for Scotland. The Acts referred to are: the National Insurance (Health) Acts, the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the War Pensions Acts and the Ministry of Pensions Act, the Old Age Pensions Acts, the Education Acts, the Acts relating to Reformatory and Industrial Schools, the Inebriates Acts, the Public Health Acts (so far as they relate to hospitals, the treatment of disease, and maternity and child welfare), the Housing of the Working Classes Acts, the Acts relating to the Relief of the Poor, the Unemployed Workmen Act, the Lunacy Acts, and the Mental Deficiency Act.

The term "expenditure" as used in the Return is restricted to expenditure from (i) local rates, (ii) Parliamentary votes and grants, and (iii) other receipts (not being receipts from loans for capital purposes) accounted for by, or to, Government Departments and Local Authorities. The "other receipts" include, for example, in the case of education, revenue from endowments, voluntary contributions, etc.; in the case of health insurance, unemployment insurance, and widows', orphans', and old age contributory pensions, the contributions of employers and employed, which provide the major part of the expenditure on those services; in the case of housing, rents; and so forth.

The expenditure for the services specified is stated for the years 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921, and 1926, or the latest year for which figures are available. For some of the services an estimate of the expenditure for the year 1927 is given. Comparisons between the totals for the several years are necessarily subject to the consideration that during the period to which the Return relates unrecorded private expenditure on some of the services mentioned has been replaced by recorded public expenditure; for example, the amount of fees formerly paid to medical men by persons now insured under the National Insurance (Health) Acts was not recorded, and is not included in the Return, while the amounts now paid to medical practitioners under those Acts form part of recorded expenditure brought into account in the Return.

The cost of any central department which is devoted wholly to one of the specified services is included throughout the Return in the amounts entered in respect of that service. For 1926 and 1927, however, a proportion of the cost of central departmental administration has been allocated to each specified service in cases where a department administers more than one service.

The following Table gives the total expenditure, as stated in the Return, under the specified services, during the year ended 31st March, 1926 (or the latest year available), and an estimate for the year ended 31st March, 1927, where that is available:—

Name of Act.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	Year ended 31st March, 1926 (or latest available year).	Year ended 31st March, 1927 (estimated).	Year ended 31st March, 1926 (or latest available year).	Year ended 31st March, 1927 (estimated).
National Insurance (Health) Acts ...	£ 33,094,000	£ 35,000,000	£ 3,431,000	£ 3,985,000
Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act ...	1,412,000	6,624,000	204,000	910,000
Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	41,397,024	47,691,578	8,436,401	8,468,911
War Pensions Acts and the Ministry of Pensions Act ...	57,470,528	54,250,000	6,440,500	6,140,000
Old Age Pensions Acts ...	24,860,541	27,448,900	3,092,403	3,464,000
Education Acts ...	79,361,392	80,115,416	12,596,909	12,946,090
Acts relating to Reformatory and Industrial Schools ...	619,382	565,000	189,079	180,532
Inebriates Acts ...	5,433	5,000	5	5
Public Health Acts, so far as they relate to:—				
(i) Hospitals and Treatment of Disease ...	6,235,000	...	1,229,000	1,270,000
(ii) Maternity and Child Welfare Work ...	1,819,000	2,103,000	265,900	266,000
Housing of the Working Classes Acts ...	17,639,000	...	2,434,000	2,870,000
Acts relating to the Relief of the Poor ...	40,142,000	...	3,939,000†	5,205,000†
Unemployed Workmen Act ...	43,060	...	23,400	24,100
Lunacy and Mental Deficiency Acts ...	3,919,000	...	1,217,000†	1,220,000†
TOTALS ...	308,017,360	...	43,498,597	...

Figures are also given in the Return, showing the total expenditure, under each of the above Acts, subdivided between interest on loans and provision for repayment of loans, administrative expenses, and all other expenses (benefits, etc.). The total receipts, from which the expenditure was met, are also shown, subdivided between local rates, Parliamentary votes and grants, and other receipts (contributions, fees, interest, rents, etc.).

\* H.C. 108. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.

† The figures for relief of the poor in Scotland relate to sane poor only. Particulars of the relief given to lunatic and mentally defective poor in Scotland are included under "Lunacy and Mental Deficiency Acts."

## COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CITIES ABROAD, 1st JULY, 1927.

THE series of computations of comparative "real wages" in London and in certain cities abroad, compiled by the International Labour Office from returns supplied (as a general rule) by official statistical departments in the various cities, is carried down to 1st July, 1927, in the October, 1927, issue of the *International Labour Review* published by that Office. Corresponding index numbers for 1st April, 1927, were reproduced in the issue of this GAZETTE for August last (p. 291). For particulars of the origin, method of compilation, significance and limitations of these index numbers, reference should be made to the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1924. These figures have for their object a comparison of working-class real wages, so far as these can be gauged by the purchasing power (in terms of food) of the wage paid for an hour's work at the normal time rate (i.e., apart from extra payment for overtime) to male adult workers in certain typical occupations which are common to large cities. In the index numbers shown in the following Table, which is taken from the *International Labour Review*, an attempt has been made to measure the purchasing power of wages in each city, not only by the working-class standard of food consumption of the country in which the city is situated, but also by corresponding standards appropriate to the various groups of countries, and, finally (columns 7 and 8), by an international standard of working-class food consumption.

### Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Money-Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad at 1st July, 1927.

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

City.	Index Numbers based on Quantities of each Kind of Food (on-united in Working-class Households in)							
	Belgium and France.	Central European Countries.	Great Britain.	Southern European Countries.	Scandinavian Countries.	Overseas Countries (Canada, U.S.A., etc.).	General Average Index Nos. (based on food only).	General Average Index Nos. (with allowance for rent).
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London ...	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Amsterdam ...	89	85	82	87	95	88	87	87
Berlin ...	61	70	64	65	76	70	67	62
Brussels ...	49	44	46	47	53	48	48	52
Copenhagen ...	95	103	103	102	126	110	106	106
Dublin ...	98	102	105	99	103	103	102	110
Lisbon† ...	32	32	30	30	29	31	31	31
Lodz ...	37	44	37	39	51	44	42	44
Madrid ...	55	55	51	54	54	54	54	54
Milán ...	49	62	48	52	54	43	52	53
Ottawa ...	147	156	157	148	170	163	156	154
Paris ...	55	53	49	52	60	52	53	53
Philadelphia ...	169	166	181	175	197	188	178	178
Prague ...	45	44	44	47	48	47	45	49
Riga ...	43	54	45	45	53	50	48	51
Rome† ...	44	45	38	44	48	43	43	45
Stockholm ...	87	86	91	88	106	101	92	90
Tallinn ...	41	51	39	42	54	48	46	47
Vienna ...	35	42	38	38	48	43	41	46
Warsaw‡ ...	34	40	32	35	43	39	37	38

It is explained in the *International Labour Review* that the figures are subject to certain reservations, arising partly from the limited range of information available as to comparable wage rates and food prices and partly from variations in the actual food consumption in different countries. They should not be regarded, therefore, as affording more than a rough indication of the relative levels of real wages in the occupations and cities selected for comparison.

## WAGE MOVEMENTS IN GERMANY.

(1) *Textile Trades.*—During the last few weeks, wage negotiations have been general in most branches of the German textile industry. In a number of cases, settlements have been effected either as a result of the intervention of the official conciliation authorities, or of direct negotiations between the parties. The collective agreement for the textile trades in the Münster district, which was renewed as from 1st November, provides for a general increase of 10 per cent. in time rates, and of from 3 to 10 per cent. in piece rates. In the Lower Rhine silk-weaving industry, time rates have been increased by 10 per cent., while the wages payable to women workers have been made equal to the rates paid to male operatives, involving an increase of 23.5 per cent. In Southern Hanover, an award which the workers declined to accept was amended to provide for an increase of 11.5 per cent. in the basic wage, corresponding adjustments being effected in piece-work rates, while overtime in excess of 48 hours weekly is to be paid for at rates 25 per cent. higher than normal time rates. In Baden, a dispute affecting 35,000 workers has been settled by the issue of an award granting an increase of 5 pfennige in the basic

\* Although London is taken arbitrarily as base (= 100), the ratios would be the same whichever city were chosen as base.

† The figures for Lisbon and Rome are relatively low. This may be accounted for in part by the differences in the items of food consumption in the Southern European countries from those ordinarily consumed in most of the other countries included in the table.

‡ The figures are based on wages in the building, furniture-making, and printing industries only. For other cities the metal industry is also included.

§ Based on a weighted average wage. For other cities an unweighted average has been used.

hourly wage paid to male workers over 25 years of age, the average piece-work rates being adjusted proportionately. In Western Thuringia, a dispute is impending owing to the refusal of the operatives to accept an award increasing the basic hourly rate to 58 pfennige; it is understood that the Ministry of Labour has declined to declare this award generally binding.

(2) *Metal Trades.*—The home workers employed in the Solingen razor-grinding industry struck on 28th November for increased rates. A strike also broke out in the Berlin art metal working industry at the beginning of December as the result of the employers' refusal to accept an award increasing time and piecework wage rates by 3 per cent. as from 1st January next. A strike among the Berlin iron-moulders was averted in November by the acceptance by both employers and workers of an award increasing wages by 5 per cent.

## HOURS OF LABOUR IN THE GERMAN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY.\*

SERIOUS difficulties have recently arisen in the German iron and steel industry in connection with the impending introduction of the eight-hour day for various categories of workers employed in blast furnaces, steel furnaces, puddling works, rolling mills, hammer and press forges, etc. Under the Order of 16th July, 1927, which is to become operative on 1st January, 1928, such workers may not be employed for more than eight hours a day, except where a special permit is issued for overtime necessary in the public interest, or in cases in which long experience has proved that a slightly longer working day (but, in the latter case, not exceeding 8½ hours) is not harmful.

In November last, the employers' organisations requested the Federal Minister of Labour to postpone the date of enforcement of the Order, on the grounds that the re-introduction of the three-shift system would necessitate the employment of a large number of new workers, that the supply of trained workers was inadequate, that the additional housing accommodation which would have to be provided would entail heavy expenditure, and that the industry was not in a position to bear the general increase in wage expenditure which would be necessitated by the engagement of additional staff for the third shift. In reply to these contentions, the trade unions submitted figures which, they claimed, proved that the statements made by the employers were exaggerated, and adhered to their demand that the Order be enforced on 1st January. At the end of November, the Federal Minister of Labour, in the hope of effecting an amicable settlement, set up a joint committee consisting of representatives of the employers and trade unions concerned, under the chairmanship of a conciliation official. The demands formulated by the German Metal Workers' Union included: (1) the enforcement of the eight-hour day and of the system of three daily shifts of eight hours each, without any reduction of weekly wages; (2) an increase of 10 pfennige an hour in the wages of all workers; (3) special increases of wages to youths and apprentices and to unskilled workers, in order to lessen the difference between the wages of skilled and unskilled. The employers declined to accede to these demands, and it was found impossible to arrive at a settlement of any of the points at issue. On 2nd December, the Western German section of the Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Union notified the Federal Minister of Labour that, owing to their inability to comply with the trade union demands, they would be compelled to close down their undertakings as from 1st January, 1928, "in order to avoid an industrial dispute which would entail heavy loss for the State and for industry as a whole." This announcement led to further direct negotiations between the parties, but these proved fruitless; and, on 7th December, it was announced that official conciliation proceedings would be instituted.

In the meantime, closing down notices have been issued by iron and steel manufacturers in other districts, as well as by a number of undertakings which are dependent upon the iron and steel industry for raw materials. The number of workers employed in the undertakings primarily concerned in the dispute is estimated to be between 220,000 and 250,000; while, according to calculations made by the German Metal Workers' Union, the total number of workers in the whole of Germany who are directly affected by the Order of 16th July, 1927, is about 32,000. The employers estimate the number at 50,000.

On 9th December, the conciliation officer for Rhenish Westphalia summoned the parties to a preliminary meeting, when, after further unsuccessful efforts had been made to bring about an amicable settlement, it was agreed to refer the matter to a joint committee consisting of six representatives of the employers and six trade union delegates, under the chairmanship of the conciliation officer. This committee held its first meeting on the following day, but adjourned until 13th December in order that further investigations might be made in the meantime.

On 12th December, the Federal Minister of Labour gave a decision on the enforcement of the Order of 16th July, 1927. This decision maintains 1st January, 1928, as the date on which the three-shift system is to come into force generally; but postponement is to be permitted until 31st January, 1928, in the case of undertakings with Martin, electric and crucible steel furnaces, if an application is made before 31st December, 1927. Postponement beyond 31st January, 1928, will be considered on the merits of each particular case; but in no circumstances may the period of postponement go beyond the limits of the year 1928.

\* Cf. this GAZETTE for October, 1927, page 374, and November, 1927, page 408.

## AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE SITUATION OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN DENMARK.

THE journal of the Danish Statistical Department\* contains the principal results of an inquiry undertaken on 24th September last into the situation of unemployed persons. The investigation was carried out through the agency of the unemployment funds. The total membership of such funds at the end of March, 1927, was about 274,000, of whom 45,386 were returned on 23rd September, 1927, as unemployed. The total number of persons who supplied information for the purposes of the investigation was 37,022 (32,127 men and 4,895 women), or 82 per cent. of the number of persons returned as unemployed.

The following Table shows the distribution of the unemployed over the various age classes, distinguishing the sexes†:—

Age Class.	Whole of Denmark.			Copenhagen.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Under 25 ...	7,546	977	8,523	2,868	494	3,362
25-49 ...	18,384	3,120	21,504	7,192	1,726	8,918
50-59 ...	4,145	594	4,739	1,627	320	1,947
60 and over ...	2,052	204	2,256	898	134	1,032
Total ...	32,127	4,895	37,022	12,585	2,674	15,259

Of the 37,022 persons furnishing information, 14,908 were in receipt of ordinary unemployment benefit and 13,427 in receipt of exceptional benefit (continued assistance); while the remaining 8,687 were without benefit.

The duration of unemployment in the twelve months ended 23rd September, 1927, and the total duration of unemployment since the last period of employment exceeding three weeks, were as shown below:—

Period of Unemployment.	Numbers unemployed for periods specified during year ended 23rd September, 1927.		Numbers unemployed for periods specified since last period of employment exceeding three weeks.	
	Denmark.	Copenhagen.	Denmark.	Copenhagen.
One week or less ...	158	63	1,548	527
One week to one month ...	1,225	549	6,026	2,375
1-3 months ...	4,666	2,081	8,521	3,790
3-6 months ...	9,526	3,725	5,710	2,409
6-12 months ...	21,066	8,646	7,129	2,487
12-24 months ...	...	...	3,665	1,767
Over 24 months ...	...	...	1,588	905
Period not stated ...	381	195	2,835	998
Total ...	37,022	15,259	37,022	15,259

On an average, the unemployed men had, on 24th September, been out of work for 173 days during the preceding year, and of this period ordinary benefit was paid in respect of 67 days and exceptional benefit for 60 days. During the year, 89 per cent. of the unemployed men received ordinary benefit for varying periods and 67 per cent. received exceptional benefit. As regards the women, the duration of unemployment averaged 175 days, and the number of days for which they received ordinary and exceptional benefit were on an average 61 and 52 days respectively, 89 per cent. having received ordinary benefit for varying periods, and 67 per cent. exceptional benefit.

Particulars are also given concerning the distribution of the unemployed according to conjugal condition, the number of dependants, and the place of residence.

## WAGE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE COAL-MINING AND IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES OF POLAND.‡

THE Arbitration Commission, appointed as a result of the demand of the Miners' Union in Upper Silesia for increases in wages, decided that the rates fixed on 1st April, 1926, should be raised by 8 per cent. as from 16th September last and remain in force until 1st January, 1928. On 26th September, the Minister of Labour declared this award binding for all coal mines in Polish Upper Silesia. The rates (for 8 hours' work) in force on 1st April, 1926, ranged from 2.10 to 6.85 zlotys a day.

Negotiations have begun for the mines of the Dombrova district, in which the miners demanded a similar increase.

The Minister of Labour has confirmed an award of the Katowice Arbitration Commission by which wages in force in the iron and steel works of Upper Silesia were increased by 8 per cent. as from 1st August to 31st October. Wages in August and September, 1927, were, for an 8-hour day:—skilled workers, 7.08 zlotys, semi-skilled 6.18 zlotys and unskilled 5.14 zlotys. (The average rates of exchange of the zloty in August and September were 43.48 and 43.51 to the pound sterling, respectively.)

\* *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 28th November, 1927. Copenhagen.

† Under the Act relating to Employment Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, no person under 18 or over 60 may be admitted to full membership of a recognised unemployment fund.

‡ *Industrial and Labour Information*, 31st October, 1927. Geneva. *Statistique du Travail*, July, 1926, and *Informations Statistiques*, 5th November, 1927. Warsaw.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF A LABOUR PROTECTION COUNCIL IN POLAND.\*

UNDER a recent Decree issued by the President of the Polish Republic, a Labour Protection Council has been established as an advisory body to the Ministry of Social Welfare in matters relating to the protection of labour, especially labour contracts, hours of work, holidays, protection of women and young persons, industrial safety and hygiene, trade unionism, and arbitration and conciliation machinery.

The functions of the Council are (1) to give an opinion on Bills and administrative regulations submitted to it by the Minister; (2) to propose new legislation for the protection of labour; (3) to give an opinion on administrative and other matters at the request of the Minister; (4) to carry out any other duties which may be assigned to it by legislation.

The Council is to consist of 45 members, appointed by the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, 15 to be chosen from a list submitted by the national associations of manual and non-manual workers, 15 from a list submitted by the employers' associations and the Chambers of Industry, Commerce and Agriculture, and 15 from among technical, medical, economic and other experts especially interested in the protection of labour. The Council may be divided into committees on which employers and workers must be equally represented. Three committees—Industrial Hygiene, Industrial Safety, and Agricultural Labour—are to be formed immediately. The first two of these must include medical and technical experts and representatives of industrial accident insurance institutions.

The Minister or his representative will act as chairman of the Council, and meetings may be attended by representatives of the Ministries concerned and experts invited by the Minister, the Council or a Committee.

## COMPULSORY INSURANCE AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS IN ITALY.

By a Royal Decree Law† of 27th October, 1927, implementing a resolution in the Charter of Labour, insurance against tuberculosis is made obligatory for all persons of both sexes who are insured under the existing Italian invalidity and old age pensions schemes‡ as well as for contributors to the mercantile marine invalidity insurance funds. The new scheme will, however, not become operative until a date to be prescribed by administrative regulations to be issued subsequently. Contributions will be collected fortnightly, at the rate of one lira for persons in receipt of a daily wage of not more than 8 lire, and of 2 lire for persons earning more than 8 lire a day, the insured person and the employer respectively being each responsible for the payment of one-half of these contributions. The benefits to be provided for insured persons and members of their families include treatment at home or in special sanatoria or other approved curative establishments, with a maintenance allowance for the dependants of insured persons who are undergoing treatment. These benefits will be granted provided at least twelve fortnightly contributions have been paid during the two years preceding the date of application for treatment. The National Insurance Fund is to arrange for the medical examination of applicants, referring them, if necessary, to approved institutions. Appeals will be dealt with by a special committee consisting of members of the executive council of the National Insurance Fund, representatives of various government departments and public health services, the Italian Red Cross, and the Fascist Medical Association.

## REDUCTION OF FOOD PRICES IN ITALY.

ON 4th November, following a meeting of the Central Joint Trade Association Committee, a circular was issued to the chairmen of the provincial joint trade association committees, outlining the action to be taken to reduce the cost of food. The joint trade association committees are instructed to ascertain the original cost of twelve main classes of food stuffs, including meat, cheese, butter, coffee and sugar, and to estimate the basic retail price, allowing for a fair profit for the retailer. The price fixed by the committee is to be communicated, via the prefect, to the podestas who, with the Federation of Commerce, are to see that the price is adhered to, though slight local variations are permissible. The joint trade association committees must report weekly to the *Comitato Centrale Annonario* (the Central Food Committee) at the Ministry of National Economy, who will inform the Central Joint Trade Association Committee and the Committee of Corporate Action on Prices, etc., of the basic prices fixed, and will also supply this information to the other provincial joint trade association committees, so that adjustments in the prices in the various provinces may be made where necessary.

The Federation of Commerce is to hear complaints and take action against retailers who do not adhere to the prices fixed, and to refer serious cases to the joint trade association committees.

\* *Industrial and Labour Information*, 30th October, 1927. Geneva.

† *Gazzetta Ufficiale*, 16th November, 1927. Rome.

‡ All workers, manual and non-manual, in industry, commerce, and agriculture, home workers and domestic servants. The following are, however, excepted: (a) Non-manual workers whose salary exceeds 800 lire a month; (b) maritime workers who contribute to the mercantile marine invalidity insurance funds (now expressly brought under tuberculosis insurance); and (c) employees of the State and local authorities.

The names of shopkeepers who overcharge will be published in the Press, and their licences may be withdrawn. Only in exceptional circumstances will licences be granted during 1928 to private firms for opening new shops.

### COAL INDUSTRY IN BELGIUM.

DURING November wage negotiations have been in progress in the Belgian coal-mining industry, which is at present in a state of depression. A provisional agreement was arrived at, by which wages are to remain at their present level until 1st January, 1928. On that date, the owners wish to establish a new wage-scale, based half on the price of coal and half on the cost-of-living index number, instead of in the present proportions of 25 and 75 per cent. respectively.

The Government intend to make an investigation into the price of coal and wages, in order to facilitate agreement between the parties.

On 15th November, the Charleroi Coal Owners' Association decided that, from 25th November until the end of the year, the mines are to be idle on Mondays. Unless the situation improves, still more drastic measures will have to be resorted to. The Charleroi owners are co-operating with those of the Lower Sambre district, and it is possible that a general scheme of restriction of output may have to be put in force for the whole country.

### WORKING HOURS IN SPANISH COAL MINES.

UNDER a Royal Order published in the *Gaceta de Madrid* of 29th September, 1927, the duration of the working day in Spanish coal mines, hitherto fixed, under a Royal Order of 10th October, 1919, at seven hours for underground workers (with eight hours for surface workers), was increased, as from 1st October last, to eight hours for both underground and surface workers. The increase in working hours is in furtherance of the policy of the Government and of the coal-owners, as indicated by various recent measures, both private and official, to limit the import of foreign coal and increase the output and consumption of Spanish coal. The opposition of the miners to the increase in hours was overcome after negotiations; but a proposal by the employers to reduce wages by 15 per cent. led to a stoppage of work on 17th October in the Asturias area. The miners were willing to accept a reduction of 6 per cent., but this offer was rejected by the employers. A Government proposal that the rate of wages should be calculated in such a way that earnings would not be less than before the prolongation of hours of work was submitted to a ballot of the workers and accepted by a large majority on 22nd October.

### EARNINGS OF UNSKILLED LABOUR IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE issue of the *Monthly Labour Review*, the organ of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, for August last, in an article giving particulars of the earnings of unskilled labourers in various industries, states:

"The relatively high level of wages now existing in the United States has been the subject of frequent comment both by American and foreign observers. Reiteration of this comment, however, should not blind us to the fact that there exist in this country large numbers of common labourers, whose earnings, under the best conditions, are far below the requirements of healthful living and good citizenship."

Further, the Secretary of Labour, Mr. James J. Davis, is quoted as having said, in an address at Washington, on 22nd June, 1927:

"If these underpaid workers were few in number, and existed only in scattered instances, the inequality would be less great. But it is not an exaggeration to say that we have some millions of these hard-worked but underpaid Americans. Taken together with their families and their dependants, I would venture to say we have among us from ten to fifteen millions of people who do not share as they should in the prosperity enjoyed by the rest of us."

The wages data given in the article from which these extracts are taken are reproduced in the Table below. Except in the case of coal mining and railways, the earnings are stated in terms of full-time weekly earnings, that is to say, the amount the average labourer would earn in a week if his employing establishment were operating full time, and he lost no time through unemployment, sickness, accident or other causes. The figures may therefore, it is stated, be taken as "representing maximum possible earnings, thus being in excess of the actual amount which the average worker receives." In the case of coal mining and the railways the information relates to actual earnings. The data refer solely to males, and, while age classification is not available, probably relate to adults only.

The sources of the Table are stated to be the wage surveys of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, and, for railway labour, the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The weekly earnings are shown, where data are available, for the industry as a whole, and also for the lowest and highest district or department.

### Average Weekly Earnings of Male Common Labourers in Various Industries and Districts in 1924, 1925 or 1926.

Industry.	Average Full-Time Hours per Week.*	Average Full-Time Earnings per Week.*		
		Lowest District.	Highest District.	All Districts.
Lumber (1925) ...	57.5	Dollars. 10.48	Dollars. 25.27	Dollars. 17.77
Slaughtering and Meat Packing, all Departments (1925) ...	50.2	17.04	25.34	21.35
Woolen and Worsted Goods Manufacturing (1926) ...	49.4	20.77	27.82	21.98
Machine Shops (1925) ...	50.6	11.78	25.32	23.07
Paper Box-board Manufacturing (1925) ...	56.7	13.37	28.05	23.99
Blastfurnaces (1926) ...	62.4	16.14	27.72	24.34
Foundries (1925) ...	52.5	14.37	28.67	25.25
Motor Vehicle Manufacturing (1925) ...	50.4	24.02	30.26	28.73
Bituminous Coalmining (1926) †	...	10.34	33.90	22.78
Underground Labourers ...	...	11.03	37.69	23.58
Surface Labourers ...	...	...	...	...
Anthracite Coalmining (1924) †	...	...	...	29.42
Underground Labourers ...	...	...	...	29.45
Surface Labourers ...	...	...	...	...
Metalliferous Mines, Underground (1924) ...	52.1	19.80	27.73	22.04
Railways: Track Labourers (1926) ‡	47.5	...	...	17.00

The issue of the *Monthly Labour Review* for October, 1927, contains the results of a survey of the hourly rates of pay given to unskilled adult male common labourers, when first hired, in 13 important industries which require considerable numbers of common labourers. The average rates found in the geographic divisions of the United States in which wages were respectively lowest and highest, and the general averages for all districts, are shown for each industry in the following Table:—

#### Hourly Wage Rates Paid for Common Labour, 1st July, 1927.

Industry.	Lowest District.	Highest District.	Average for all Districts.
Automobile ...	33.3	71.0	46.3
Brick, tile, &c. ...	17.5	62.7	42.2
Cement ...	25.0	56.0	39.2
Electrical machinery, apparatus and supplies	33.0	61.0	44.2
Foundry and machine-shop products	17.5	56.0	37.8
Leather ...	20.0	50.0	43.2
Iron and steel ...	22.5	60.0	41.4
Lumber (sawmills) ...	16.0	62.5	32.2
Paper and pulp ...	22.5	54.0	42.5
Petroleum refining ...	30.0	62.0	44.0
Slaughtering and meat packing	37.5	45.0	41.7
Public utilities ...	20.0	71.5	39.8
General contracting ...	15.0	112.5	48.2
Total ...	15.0	112.5	42.6

The lowest rates apply generally to geographic divisions in which there are large numbers of coloured or Mexican workers.

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN THE IRISH FREE STATE.

IN reply to a question in the Dail Eireann on the 19th October last, the Irish Free State Minister for Industry and Commerce stated that the total number of workers in insurable occupations, as shown by the number of unemployment books current at the end of the last completed year, was 245,613. The Minister further stated that the statistical information compiled in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce is based, not on the calendar year, but on the benefit year. There have been six completed benefit years between July, 1923, and October, 1926. Particulars of applications for benefit and of applications allowed in each of those benefit years and in the current benefit year up to 19th September last are as follows:—

First Benefit Year	Applications	
	received.	allowed.
...	62,998	58,580
Second "	115,828	95,339
Third "	82,908	77,621
Fourth "	96,098	86,821
Fifth "	76,734	61,940
Sixth "	98,286	86,985
Current "	57,130	51,321

Under the procedure in force up to the 25th March, 1925, namely, the end of the fourth benefit year, the number of applications received does not necessarily mean that a corresponding number of individuals applied for benefits, as the same person could have made several applications. The numbers given of applications received since the end of the fourth benefit year represent so many individual claimants.

\* Except in the case of coalmining and railways, where the only available data are for actual earnings and actual hours.

† The weekly earnings are computed as equal to seven-fifteenths of the half-month earnings reported.

‡ Weekly earnings are computed as equal to one fifty-second of the annual earnings reported by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

§ The period from 1st July, 1923, to 14th October, 1925, was divided into five unequal parts for administrative purposes, each part being termed a "benefit year." The actual lengths of the first five benefit years were approximately three and a half, eight, four, five and seven months respectively. The sixth benefit year began on 15th October, 1925, and it was arranged that that year and all subsequent benefit years were to be approximately twelve months in duration.

### CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st DECEMBER.

#### Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included ... 69%  
Food only ... 63%

#### FOOD.

At 1st December the average level of the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about the same as at 1st November, viz., 63 per cent. above the pre-war level of July, 1914. This percentage compares with 69 per cent. at the corresponding date in 1926. The principal movements in prices during the month were increases in the prices of eggs and butter and decreases in those of bacon.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st November, and 1st December, 1927:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Dec., 1927, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Nov., 1927.	1st Dec., 1927.	July, 1914.	1st Nov., 1927.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 4½	1 4½	+0 6½	-0 0½
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 8½	0 8½	+0 2½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	0 7½	0 10	0 10	+0 2½	...
Ribs ...	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+0 0½	...
Mutton, British—	0 10½	1 5½	1 5½	+0 7	-0 0½
Legs ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+0 3	...
Breast ...	0 10½	0 11½	0 11½	+0 0½	...
Mutton, Frozen—	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	+0 0½	...
Legs ...	0 11½	1 4½	1 3½	+0 4½	-0 0½
Breast ...	0 10½	1 5½	1 5	+0 6½	-0 0½
Bacon (streaky)*	0 5½	0 9½	0 9½	+0 3½	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	1 6½	2 5	2 5	+0 10½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	1 6½	2 5	2 5	+0 1½	...
Tea ...	0 3	0 3½	0 3½	+0 0½	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 6½	0 6½	+0 4½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 1½	0 7½	0 7½	+0 6	...
Butter—	1 2½	1 11½	2 0½	+0 9½	+0 0½
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 10½	1 11	+0 8½	+0 0½
Salt ...	0 8½	1 2½	1 2½	+0 5½	...
Cheese† ...	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	+0 0½	...
Margarine ...	0 1½	0 3	0 3½	+0 2	+0 0½
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 4½	0 7½	0 7½	+0 3	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 7½	0 7½	+0 3	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st Dec., 1927, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Nov., 1927.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	66	62	64	66
Thin Flank ...	32	35	34	34
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	...	...	...	...
Ribs ...	38	35	37	36
Thin Flank ...	4	12	8	7
Mutton, British—	67	69	68	69
Legs ...	46	46	46	47
Breast ...	67	60	64	64
Mutton, Frozen—	...	...	...	...
Legs ...	18	22	20	19
Breast ...	38	40	39	47
Bacon (streaky)*	133	106	120	121
Fish ...	59	64	61	63
Flour ...	63	62	63	64
Bread ...	55	61	58	58
Tea ...	80	71	76	79
Sugar (granulated) ...	84	89	87	85
Milk ...	63	70	67	62
Butter—	61	62	61	58
Fresh ...	66	63	65	63
Salt ...	11	5	8	8
Cheese† ...	159	157	158	141
Margarine ...	63	37	50	49
Eggs (fresh) ...	...	...	...	...
Potatoes ...	...	...	...	...
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	64	63	63	63

#### RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage

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

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

Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st December, 1927, was approximately 51 per cent. Of the total increase about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges, and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st December, the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged approximately 115 per cent. higher than in July 1914.

In the fuel and light group, the average price of coal at 1st December was approximately 75 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The price of gas at the same date averaged about 55 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st December, as compared with July, 1914, was about 70 per cent.

#### ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st December is, approximately, 69 per cent.\* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 69 per cent. at 1st November, 1927, and 79 per cent. at 1st December, 1926.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1927 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in those families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

#### SUMMARY TABLE: 1918 TO 1927.

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, 1918:—

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

Month.	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Jan. ...	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75	75
Feb. ...	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72
Mar. ...	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71
Apr. ...	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68	65
May ...	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64
June ...	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63
July ...	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66
Aug. ...	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64
Sept. ...	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65
Oct. ...	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	67
Nov. ...	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69
Dec. ...	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	69

Figures for dates prior to 1918, together with the average increases for each of the five main groups of items (i.e., food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and other items) month by month from January, 1915, to December, 1925, are published in the "Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics" (Cmd. 2740).

#### NOTE.

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

\* If allowance is made for the changes in taxation since July, 1914, on the commodities included in these statistics, the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further decline, on the whole, in November. This was largely accounted for by seasonal increases in unemployment in the building trade and public works contracting, in their ancillary industries such as the manufacture of bricks, cement and artificial stone, and in most of the clothing industries. There were also increases, however, in the numbers unemployed in the cotton industry, in textile bleaching, dyeing, etc., in the pottery industry, and in iron mining and iron and steel manufacture. On the other hand, there were further improvements in the tinplate industry, in boot and shoe manufacture, and in some sections of the engineering trades, particularly marine engineering and the motor vehicle industry. In coal mining the numbers wholly unemployed showed a further increase, but this was again more than counterbalanced by a decrease in the numbers temporarily stopped.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 12,100,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 21st November, 1927 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 10.0, as compared with 9.5 at 24th October, 1927, and 13.5 at 22nd November, 1926. For males alone the percentage at 21st November was 11.3, as compared with 10.8 at 24th October, 1927; for females the corresponding figures were 6.4 and 6.0. The percentage wholly unemployed rose from 7.2 at 24th October to 7.6 at 21st November. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th November, 1927, was approximately 1,172,000, of whom 937,000 were men and 173,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 31st October, 1927, it was 1,132,000, of whom 904,000 were men and 162,000 were women; and at 29th November, 1926, it was 1,545,000, of whom 1,206,000 were men and 265,000 were women. The figures for 29th November, 1926, were, of course, affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

The following Table shows, month by month since November, 1926, the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Date.	Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople.*				Total.	Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.	
	Males.	Females.	Wholly Unemployed and Casually Stopped.	Temporarily Stopped.		Date.	Numbers.
1926.							
22nd Nov.	14.8	10.0	9.4	4.1	13.5†	29th Nov.	1,545,000†
20th Dec.	13.1	8.4	9.1	2.8	11.9	20th Dec.	1,357,000†
1927.							
24th Jan.	13.3	8.4	9.4	2.6	12.0†	31st Jan.	1,375,000
21st Feb.	12.1	7.5	8.7	2.2	10.9	28th Feb.	1,208,000
21st Mar.	11.2	6.1	7.8	2.0	9.8	28th Mar.	1,115,000
25th Apr.	10.7	5.7	7.1	2.3	9.4	25th Apr.	1,075,000
23rd May	10.0	5.3	6.6	2.1	8.7	30th May	1,015,000
20th June	10.1	5.3	6.5	2.3	8.8	27th June	1,032,000
25th July	10.4	5.8	6.6	2.6	9.2	25th July	1,055,000
22nd Aug.	10.4	6.3	6.8	2.5	9.3	29th Aug.	1,076,000
26th Sept.	10.5	5.9	6.9	2.4	9.3	26th Sept.	1,075,000
24th Oct.	10.8	6.0	7.2	2.3	9.5	31st Oct.	1,132,000
21st Nov.	11.3	6.4	7.6	2.4	10.0	28th Nov.	1,172,000

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—In the coal-mining industry employment continued slack. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 26th November, 1927, was 978,535, a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with October; the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 26th November, 1927, was 4.72, as compared with 4.75 in October.

In the iron-mining industry employment was very slack. In the shale mines in West Lothian there was, according to the returns received, a reduction, but an increase in the numbers employed and in the average number of days worked as compared with the previous month. At limestone quarries in the Clitheroe district employment was slack, with much short-time working; in the Weardale district it continued moderate. At granite quarries employment was reported as good at Oban; at Aberdeen there was much unemployment. At slate quarries in North Wales employment was good; at whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland, and at chalk quarries, it continued slack; at china clay quarries it was fair. Employment at tin mines continued good, but showed some decline as compared with the previous month.

\* Some of these percentages have been revised.  
† In the coal-mining industry only those unemployed persons who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the trade dispute were taken into account in the unemployment statistics.

**Manufacture of Pig-Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.**—In the pig-iron industry employment showed a decline, and was bad. Of the 437 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of November, 1927, was 155, compared with 162 in October, 1927.

In the iron and steel trades employment declined, and was slack. In the tinplate trade employment showed a further marked improvement; the number of mills in operation at the end of November, 1927, was 363, as compared with 341 in October, 1927, and with 206 in November, 1926. In the steel sheet trade employment showed some decline; the number of mills in operation at the end of November, 1927, was 111, as compared with 117 in October, 1927, and with 88 in November, 1926.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.**—In the engineering trades employment remained slack, on the whole, but showed some improvement as compared with the previous month. In electrical engineering it was fairly good; at most railway works full-time working continued; in marine engineering it was bad, but showed further improvement; and in textile machinery work it improved, but was still very bad in some areas. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment was very bad, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month. In the other metal trades employment continued moderate to fair on the whole. It was fairly good in the nut and bolt, and hollow-ware trades; fair in the cutlery, sheet metal, tube, file and jewellery and plated ware trades; moderate in the brasswork, lock and latch, and needle and fishing tackle trades; and slack in the wire, metallic bedstead, stove and grate, and chain and anchor trades.

**Textile Trades.**—In the cotton industry employment showed a decline. In the American spinning section organised short-time arrangements had ceased, but at the end of the month the mills, on the average, were only running about 30 hours a week. In the Egyptian spinning section employment continued good; in the weaving department it showed a decline, and large numbers of looms were stopped.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a further improvement in the worsted section, but a decline in the woollen section.

In the hosiery trade employment was good, on the whole, and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it continued fairly good generally; in the lace trade it showed a slight decline; in the linen trade it also showed a slight decline, but was fair on the whole; in the jute trade it was good on the whole. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades, employment showed a decline, and was slack generally.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the retail bespoke branch of the tailoring trade showed a decline and was slack in most districts; in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branch it continued moderate on the whole. In the dressmaking and millinery trades employment showed a slight seasonal decline, but was fair on the whole; in the London blouse and light underclothing trades and in the corset trade it was reported as good; in the shirt and collar trade it was fairly good. In the felt hat trade employment showed a further decline.

In the boot and shoe trades employment showed a further improvement in most districts, and was fairly good on the whole.

**Leather Trades.**—In the leather trades employment generally showed little change, and continued fair to good on the whole.

**Building, Woodworking, etc., Trades.**—Employment in the building trades showed a further seasonal decline; it was generally quiet with skilled operatives, and slack, on the whole, with unskilled workers. As regards individual occupations, it was fairly good with slaters at most centres; fair, on the whole, with plumbers; moderate or slack with plasterers; and generally quiet with bricklayers, masons and carpenters. With painters and tradesmen's labourers it was slack. In the brick trade employment showed a decline; it was a good deal affected by bad weather.

Employment in the furnishing trades continued good; with coachbuilders and millers it showed some decline, but was still fair.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—In the paper trade employment continued fair generally. With letterpress printers it continued moderate on the whole; at Glasgow, however, it was reported as slack and worse than in the previous month; with electrotypers and stereotypers it was generally fairly good, but at Manchester it was dull; in the lithographic printing trade, and with bookbinders, it was fair on the whole.

**Pottery and Glass.**—Employment in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire showed some decline, and there was much short-time working. In the glass trades employment showed an improvement, especially in the glass bottle-making department, where, however, it was still bad.

**Agriculture and Fishing.**—In agriculture in England and Wales the supply of both skilled and casual labour was generally adequate, except in isolated cases where additional labour could have been employed for the lifting of sugar beet. In Scotland the supply of labour at the end of the month was generally sufficient, and in some cases in excess of requirements. In the fishing industry employment was affected by adverse weather, and showed some decline as compared with the previous month.

**Dock Labour and Seamen.**—With dock labourers employment was still generally slack; with seamen employment showed some decline, and was moderate on the whole.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The rates of unemployment in the northern divisions and in Wales remain greater than in the rest of the country.

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured at July, 1927. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 21st November, 1927.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,150,100	7.1	3.3	5.9	+0.4	-1.1
South-Eastern ...	875,680	6.2	4.7	5.9	+0.7	+0.1
South-Western ...	832,980	9.2	5.3	8.4	+0.8	-2.1
Midlands ...	1,783,420	8.8	6.7	8.2	+0.9	-2.7
North-Eastern ...	2,024,720	14.5	6.9	12.9	-0.2	-6.4
North-Western ...	2,148,190	12.9	10.1	12.0	+0.8	-4.0
Scotland ...	1,305,720	11.3	6.2	9.9	+0.7	-7.5
Wales ...	629,190	22.9	7.5	21.5	-1.7	+0.2
Northern Ireland	254,000	14.7	5.6	11.1	+0.6	-10.3
Special Schemes	127,000	1.7	0.4	1.3	+0.1	-0.5
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>12,131,000</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>+0.5</b>	<b>-3.5</b>

NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

TABLE SHOWING, BY DIVISIONAL AREAS, THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1927.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Percentage of Numbers Insured at July, 1927.
South-Eastern: (a) London ...	1,459	5,651	2,485	5,607	15,202	0.71
(b) Rest of South-Eastern ...	1,198	2,307	1,105	1,639	6,249	0.71
South-Western ...	915	2,078	812	1,452	5,257	0.63
Midlands ...	1,143	3,936	1,102	3,283	9,464	0.53
North-Eastern ...	1,143	4,631	1,370	3,097	10,241	0.51
North-Western ...	1,191	4,011	1,354	3,675	10,231	0.48
Scotland ...	650	2,819	635	2,533	6,637	0.51
Wales ...	426	1,608	360	540	2,934	0.47
<b>GREAT BRITAIN ...</b>	<b>8,125</b>	<b>27,041</b>	<b>9,223</b>	<b>21,826</b>	<b>66,215</b>	<b>0.56</b>

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Information as to employment, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below:— (a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for November, 1927.	November, 1927.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
Coal Mining ...	978,535	4.72	4.72	-0.03	*
Iron " ...	5,674	5.17	5.17	+0.07	*
Shale " ...	2,577	6.00	6.00	+0.17	+0.18
Pig Iron ...	...	...	...	...	...
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron and Steel ...	67,559	...	...	...	...

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Per cent.
				Month before.	Year before.	
Textiles:—			£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cotton ...	79,819	-0.7	143,266	-4.3	+5.0	
Woolen ...	65,732	-1.2	138,150	-3.5	+4.4	
Worsted ...	95,073	+1.2	190,342	+1.9	+10.2	
Carpet ...	9,631	+1.4	18,275	+2.1	+11.6	
Boot and Shoe ...	51,970	+0.9	118,856	-2.5	+3.5	
Pottery ...	11,001	-0.7	20,440	-2.9	-2.1	
Brick ...	8,541	-7.5	21,564	-16.3	-0.6	

\* Statistics not available. In November, 1926, there was a general stoppage of work at coal mines, and most of the iron mines were closed.  
† Comparison is affected by changes in rates of wages in some cases.

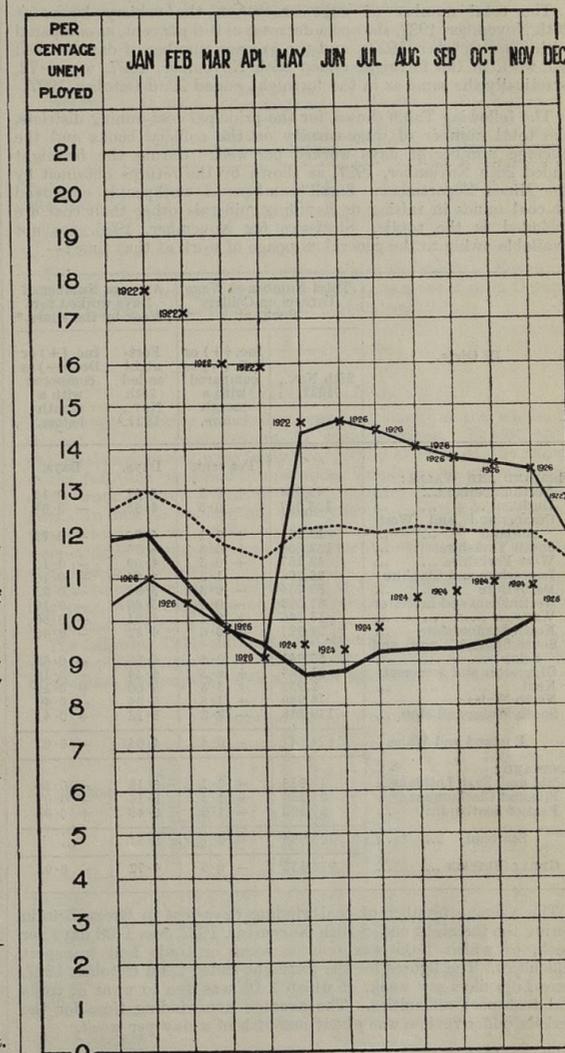
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS:—

Thick Curve - - - - - = 1927.  
Dotted Curve - - - - - = Mean of 1922-26.  
Thin Curve - - - - - = 1926.

\* The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-26.



NOTE.—From May to December, the curve for 1926 and the curve showing the mean for the years 1922-26 are influenced by the heavy increase in unemployment in those months due to the general stoppage in the coal-mining industry of last year. The diagram shows that, while the percentage rates of unemployment in January and February, 1927, were higher than those for the corresponding months of 1926, this difference had almost disappeared by March. The figures for the first two months of 1927 were still affected by the results of the coal-mining dispute in some industries and also by a comparatively high rate of unemployment in coal mining itself. The influence of the latter factor had considerably increased by the end of July, but was not so great in the next four months.

For the whole period of eleven months, the percentages for 1927 were well below the mean percentages of the previous five years, and, in spite of the heavy unemployment in some important industries, the percentages for May to November were below the minima recorded for corresponding months in that period.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during November continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.5 at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 18.7 at 24th October, 1927.

The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 26th November, 1927, showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with 22nd October, 1927; and the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 26th November, 1927, was 4.72, practically the same as in the fortnight ended 22nd October, 1927.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week\* during the fortnight ended 26th November, 1927, as shown by the returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals. Statistics for November, 1926, are not available owing to the general stoppage of work at that time:—

Districts.	Total Number of Wage-earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*	
	26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.	Fortnight ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES:</b>				
Northumberland...	45,974	+ 0.1	5.01	+ 0.18
Durham ...	123,507	- 0.5	4.95	- 0.04
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	12,164	+ 2.1	4.76	- 0.79
South Yorkshire ...	122,506	+ 0.8	4.84	...
West Yorkshire ...	62,257	+ 0.3	4.09	- 0.15
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	86,806	- 1.2	4.04	- 0.16
Derbyshire ...	59,734	- 0.3	3.98	- 0.23
Nottingham and Leicester ...	67,368	- 0.1	3.96	- 0.16
Warwick ...	18,706	+ 0.1	4.91	0.50
North Staffordshire ...	32,997	+ 0.6	4.42	- 0.40
South Staffs., Worcs, and Salop ...	33,641	+ 0.4	4.66	- 0.49
Gloucester and Somerset ...	11,744	+ 0.3	4.34	- 0.14
Kent ...	2,939	+ 3.8	5.60	+ 0.17
North Wales ...	14,980	+ 1.5	5.04	- 0.49
South Wales and Mon. ...	179,218	- 2.2	5.13	+ 0.41
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>874,541</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>- 0.03</b>
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>				
Mid and East Lothians...	12,938	- 0.1	5.12	- 0.28
Fife and Clackmannan ...	23,164	+ 1.3	5.16	- 0.07
Rest of Scotland...	67,892	- 1.5	5.49	+ 0.08
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>103,994</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>GREAT BRITAIN</b>	<b>978,535</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>4.72</b>	<b>- 0.03</b>

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 26th November, 1927, was 1.08 days per week, of which 1.05 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 22nd October, 1927, were 1.05 days per week, of which 1.01 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for the periods under review was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 26th November, 1927, was reported to the Mines Department as 19,633,800 tons, as compared with 19,832,800 tons in the four weeks ended 22nd October, 1927.

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, with the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,029,200 tons in November, as compared with 5,941,600 tons in October, 1927.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 21st November, 1927, and the increases or decreases in the percentages as compared with 24th October, 1927, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 21st November, 1927.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total percentages as compared with	
	Numbers.	Percentages.			a month before.	two years before.
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals).	Temporary stoppages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stoppages.	Total.	
<b>Great Britain ...</b>	<b>139,188</b>	<b>82,514</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>- 0.2 + 3.2</b>
<b>England and Wales ...</b>	<b>121,320</b>	<b>79,551</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>- 0.3 + 4.1</b>
<b>Scotland ...</b>	<b>17,868</b>	<b>2,963</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>+ 0.9 - 3.5</b>
<b>Principal Districts in England and Wales:—</b>						
Northumberland ...	11,303	655	18.8	1.1	19.9	- 2.9 + 5.3
Durham ...	35,668	2,521	21.5	1.5	23.0	- 1.3 ...
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	526	3,201	4.1	24.9	29.0	+ 22.9 + 13.6
Yorkshire ...	7,860	7,442	4.0	3.9	7.9	- 2.6 + 3.0
Lancs and Cheshire ...	7,648	14,904	7.3	14.2	21.5	+ 0.9 + 4.1
Derbyshire ...	1,971	10,799	2.9	15.9	18.8	+ 10.6 + 14.6
Notts and Leicester ...	1,350	3,300	1.8	4.5	6.3	+ 1.6 + 0.5
Warwick ...	615	1,023	4.5	7.4	11.9	+ 7.3 + 9.9
Staffs, Worcester and Salop ...	3,934	4,280	4.8	5.3	10.1	+ 3.5 + 1.9
Glos and Somerset ...	1,132	2,932	7.9	20.6	28.5	+ 4.3 + 7.3
Kent ...	109	...	3.9	...	3.9	- 0.4 - 0.9
Wales and Monmouth ...	48,817	28,471	18.5	10.8	29.3	- 4.2 + 6.5

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT was very slack during November. The returns received showed, in nearly all districts, a further decline in the number of workpeople employed; but there was a reduction in the amount of short time in the Cleveland district in those mines that were working.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20.3 at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 12.0 at 24th October, 1927, and 62.8 at 22nd November, 1926.

The following Table summarizes the information received from those employers who furnished returns for October and November, 1927. In November, 1926, most of the mines were closed owing to the stoppage of work at coal mines:—

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*	
	Fortnight ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.	Fortnight ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.
Cleveland ...	2,135	- 1.4	5.46	+ 0.62
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,197	- 10.0	4.66	- 0.46
Other Districts ...	1,342	+ 1.8	5.55	+ 0.06
<b>ALL DISTRICTS</b>	<b>5,674</b>	<b>- 4.2</b>	<b>5.17</b>	<b>+ 0.07</b>

SHALE MINING.

The number of persons employed in the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 26th November, 1927, by firms making returns was 2,577, showing a decrease of 3.0 per cent. compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 6.1 per cent. compared with November, 1926. The average number of days\* worked per week by the mines was 6.00 in November, 1927, compared with 5.83 in October, 1927, and 5.82 in November, 1926.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during November continued bad, and showed a decline as compared with October. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.1 on 21st November,

\* See footnote \* in previous column.

1927, compared with 13.3 on 24th October, 1927, and 60.3 on 22nd November, 1926.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 155 furnaces were in operation at the end of November, compared with 162 at the end of October and 7 at the end of November, 1926.

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Nov., 1927.	Oct., 1927.	Nov., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
Durham and Cleveland	99	38	37	4	+ 1	+ 34
Cumberland and W. Lancs ...	44	11	13	...	- 2	+ 11
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ...	33	10	12	...	- 2	+ 10
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	64	33	33	2	...	+ 31
Lincolnshire ...	24	13	14	...	- 1	+ 13
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ...	55	12	13	1	- 1	+ 11
South Wales ...	28	8	8	...	...	+ 8
<b>Total, England and Wales</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>- 5</b>	<b>+ 118</b>
<b>SCOTLAND ...</b>	<b>90*</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>+ 30</b>
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>437*</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>- 7</b>	<b>+ 148</b>

Returns received from 79 firms employing 18,201 workpeople at the end of November showed a decrease of 4.2 per cent. in the numbers employed as compared with October.

The production of pig iron in November amounted to 575,900 tons as compared with 596,300 tons in October, 1927, and 12,700 tons in November, 1926.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in November continued slack on the whole, and showed a slight decline; short time working was reported in many districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 21.6 on 21st November, 1927, as compared with 20.3 on 24th October, 1927, and 48.8 on 22nd November, 1926, when employment was affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry.

According to returns received from firms employing 67,559 workpeople in the week ended 26th November, 1927, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 0.7 per cent. as compared with October. The average number of shifts† during which the works were open was 5.3 in November, 1927, the same as in the previous month.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.			Aggregate number of Shifts.†		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.	Year before.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.	Year before.
<b>OpenHearth Melting Furnaces ...</b>	<b>7,138</b>	<b>+ 3.5</b>	<b>+ 232.0</b>	<b>39,870</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 241.4</b>
<b>Puddling Forges ...</b>	<b>2,263</b>	<b>+ 11.6</b>	<b>+ 131.9</b>	<b>9,027</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>+ 111.7</b>
<b>Rolling Mills ...</b>	<b>25,233</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>+ 128.2</b>	<b>122,267</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 129.8</b>
<b>Forging &amp; Pressing ...</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>- 8.4</b>	<b>+ 86.2</b>	<b>16,403</b>	<b>- 8.5</b>	<b>+ 89.3</b>
<b>Founding ...</b>	<b>7,864</b>	<b>+ 7.0</b>	<b>+ 64.5</b>	<b>44,744</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>	<b>+ 10.4</b>
<b>Other Departments ...</b>	<b>7,920</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>45,065</b>	<b>+ 7.0</b>	<b>+ 63.7</b>
<b>Labourers</b>	<b>14,007</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 102.2</b>	<b>77,560</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>+ 96.0</b>
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>67,559</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>+ 94.0</b>	<b>354,936</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 91.4</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	15,031	+ 0.8	+ 179.5	84,631	+ 0.6	+ 191.1
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	18,414	- 0.7	+ 46.5	96,203	- 1.3	+ 43.0
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	1,837	- 7.2	+ 76.8	9,407	- 11.2	+ 67.6
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	6,858	+ 13.0	+ 58.2	35,092	+ 15.1	+ 55.8
Staffordshire ...	5,638	+ 5.2	+ 142.2	28,362	+ 3.8	+ 131.6
Other Midland Counties	2,997	- 12.2	+ 106.4	16,479	- 12.6	+ 93.6
Wales and Monmouth ...	5,448	- 5.3	- 5.5	29,200	- 5.1	- 5.3
<b>Total, England and Wales ...</b>	<b>56,223</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>+ 71.1</b>	<b>299,374</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 70.0</b>
<b>Scotland ...</b>	<b>11,336</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>+ 480.7</b>	<b>55,562</b>	<b>- 3.8</b>	<b>+ 492.7</b>
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>67,559</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>+ 94.0</b>	<b>354,936</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 91.4</b>

\* Revised.

† The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 698,700 tons in November, 1927, as compared with 699,000 tons in October, 1927, and 97,500 tons in November, 1926.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate trade showed a marked improvement as compared with the previous month. At the end of November 363 tinplate mills were reported to be in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 341\* at the end of October and with 206 in November, 1926. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.6 on 21st November, 1927, as compared with 25.7 on 24th October, 1927, and 49.1 on 22nd November, 1926. Employment in November of last year was seriously affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry. Employment in the steel sheet trade showed a decline. The number of steel sheet mills in operation at the end of November was 111 compared with 117 at the end of October and with 88 in November, 1926.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received:—

Works.	Number of Works Open			Number of Mills in Operation		
	At end of Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	At end of Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	65	+ 2*	+ 24	363	+ 22*	+ 157
Steel Sheet	11	- 1	+ 3	111	- 6	+ 23
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>+ 1*</b>	<b>+ 27</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>+ 16*</b>	<b>+ 180</b>

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in November, 1927, amounted to 107,382 tons, or 4,668 tons more than in October, 1927, and 39,281 tons more than in November, 1926.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during November remained slack on the whole, but showed a little improvement in some sections. Conditions in electrical engineering were fairly good, while at most of the railway works full time remained in operation. Employment on motor and cycle work showed a further slight recovery from seasonal slackness. In marine engineering employment was still bad, but continued to improve; while on textile machinery work conditions were a little better, although employment in that section remained very bad in some areas.

Conditions were much better than in the corresponding period of last year, when employment was adversely affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 21st November, 1927, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 21st November, 1927.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering, on Engines, Steam Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	4,489	359	67	119	2,023	7,057	- 29	- 2,121
South-Eastern ...	1,864	285	305	51	1,114	3,619	+ 467	+ 1,176
South-Western ...	1,844	122	591	43	1,446	4,046	- 15	- 6,855
Midlands ...	6,196	1,045	40	541	9,125	16,947	- 960	- 9,968
North-Eastern ...	17,440	560	3,127	741	1,124	22,992	- 983	- 22,859
North-Western ...	18,687	799	121	137	2,241	21,985	+ 326	- 11,105
Scotland ...	7,202	181	1,310	656	750	10,099	+ 183	- 19,624
Wales ...	953	24	35	114	163	1,299	- 116	- 1,944
Northern Ireland	958	9	873	6	152	1,998	+ 45	- 2,228
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b>	<b>59,643</b>	<b>3,384</b>						

On the North-East Coast employment remained bad in both marine and general engineering, especially on the Tyne, but showed improvement in both sections. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment continued slack, with little change. In Lancashire and Cheshire conditions remained bad, but exhibited a slight improvement. In the textile machinery section employment continued to improve a little at some centres, although at others (especially Oldham) conditions were still very depressed. Employment was still fairly good on electrical engineering and railway work.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment on motor and cycle work was dull, but showed a further improvement. Some improvement was also experienced in electrical engineering, in which section conditions were fairly good; in general engineering employment remained moderate. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment continued fair. In the South-Eastern Counties there was a little falling off, but employment remained fairly good on the whole, and good on electrical work. In London and the South-Western Counties conditions were fair, little change being shown.

In Wales employment remained bad, but showed some improvement. In Scotland conditions were again moderate, showing little change on the whole. In Northern Ireland employment was still bad, and experienced a slight decline.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad on the whole during November and showed a slight decline compared with the previous month. There was, however, a decrease in the number of insured persons unemployed at 21st November in comparison with a month before in the South-Western Division and in Wales. Compared with a year ago, when employment was affected by the stoppage in the coal-mining industry, there was a great improvement, especially in Scotland and on the North-East Coast.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 21st November, 1927, and the increase or decrease as compared with 24th October, 1927, and with a year before:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 21st Nov., 1927.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Number Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 21st Nov., 1927.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London...	3,117	+ 507	+ 13	28.3	+ 4.6	+ 1.0
South-Eastern...	1,281	+ 193	+ 380	15.5	+ 2.4	+ 5.4
South-Western...	3,144	- 575	- 683	13.9	- 2.6	- 2.1
Midlands...	39	+ 15	- 7	8.5	+ 3.3	- 6.8
North-Eastern...	15,943	+ 361	- 24,436	26.3	+ 0.5	- 37.8
North-Western...	8,512	+ 655	- 1,084	28.4	+ 1.2	- 40.2
Scotland...	7,902	+ 6.9	- 23,750	13.2	+ 1.2	- 1.3
Wales...	3,565	- 576	- 2,918	33.4	+ 5.4	- 28.0
Northern Ireland	3,319	+ 316	- 2,581	25.8	+ 2.4	- 14.6
GRAND BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	46,822	+ 1,525	- 55,066	21.7	+ 0.7	- 23.8

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT declined in all departments and in nearly all districts. In the American spinning section all arrangements for organised short time had ceased, and there was some increase in the hours worked in the early part of the month; but at the end of the month the mills were only running, on the average, about 30 hours per week instead of the normal 48 hours. In the Egyptian spinning section employment continued good. In the weaving department employment was worse than a month earlier; a very large number of looms were stopped, particularly in the Burnley and Blackburn districts, which are mainly engaged in the manufacture of plain cloths. Firms making fine and fancy cloths, however, were generally maintaining steady employment.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.2 on 21st November, 1927, as compared with 11.0 on 24th October, 1927, and with 19.0 on 22nd November, 1926, when employment was affected by the coal-mining stoppage.

In the Ashton district, a number of mills in the American spinning section were stopped, and employment declined; but operatives in the Egyptian spinning section were on full time. At Stockport, Stalybridge, and Hyde, employment showed a further decline. At Oldham, employment in the spinning section continued bad; organised short time had ceased, but short time in various other forms was still fairly general, and it was estimated that, on the average for the month, approximately 28 to 30 per cent. of the spinners were stopped. In some of the neighbouring towns which belong to the Oldham spinning district—Chadderton, Royton, Middleton—unemployment increased, and there was much erratic

short-time working. In the manufacturing section at Oldham employment continued very slack, with practically all the workpeople on short time or otherwise under-employed (e.g., working less than their usual number of looms). At Bury employment continued bad, with short time general; at Rochdale there was little change, and most firms were still working a certain amount of short time.

At Bolton employment was reported as fair with cardroom workers and good with spinners; it was also fairly good with weavers of quilts. At Leigh it continued good, both in the spinning and in the weaving departments.

Employment at Preston continued fairly good with weavers of fancy goods, but those engaged on plain goods were on short time; several more firms were partially changing over from plain to fancy goods. Under-employment continued at most of the mills at Chorley. At Blackburn and Burnley employment declined and was bad, especially with weavers of coarse goods. At Blackburn a large number of mills were closed each week, and others had some of their looms stopped. At Burnley, several large mills were closed entirely, and there was much under-employment in most of the mills that were open. Employment at Padham was again reported as fair. At Accrington there was more unemployment among weavers and winders than at any time during the previous six months; employment continued, however, to be better than in the surrounding districts. At Darwen employment continued bad, and declined; at the end of the month over 1,000 weavers were unemployed, and under-employment was very prevalent among those who were still working. At Great Harwood employment was very depressed; eight mills had 80 per cent. of their looms idle, and a number of other mills had 80 per cent. of their looms idle. At Colne there was a great increase in under-employment, particularly in the coloured goods section, many weavers being on two or three looms instead of the customary four; hardly any of the employers had their full complement of looms running. At Nelson also there was a marked increase in under-employment, many weavers being reduced from four to three looms.

In Yorkshire employment was described as very bad, and worse than in the previous month; short time was almost general.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.		Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Preparing ...	10,697	- 0.8	- 0.8	17,439	- 4.4	- 0.4
Spinning ...	20,178	- 1.8	+ 2.1	35,337	- 3.4	+ 5.2
Weaving ...	32,928	- 1.7	+ 0.1	55,905	- 6.8	+ 6.4
Other ...	7,782	+ 0.0	- 0.0	18,279	- 3.8	- 0.8
Not specified ...	8,234	+ 6.6	- 3.4	16,306	+ 2.6	+ 13.5
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>79,819</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>143,266</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>

DISTRICTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.		Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Ashton ...	3,414	+ 2.8	+ 2.0	6,049	+ 1.3	+ 13.9
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	8,813	+ 1.3	- 0.9	14,593	- 4.3	- 1.7
Oldham ...	9,179	- 2.9	+ 3.7	17,054	- 6.7	+ 4.0
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,992	- 1.8	- 2.2	23,405	- 3.0	+ 3.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	7,799	- 0.6	- 5.4	13,346	- 3.8	- 4.0
Manchester ...	4,530	- 9.0	12.8	8,021	- 2.4	+ 7.4
Preston and Chorley ...	5,550	+ 1.0	+ 0.2	9,707	- 2.7	+ 3.7
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	8,009	+ 0.3	- 1.9	14,737	- 6.1	- 2.9
Burnley, Padham, Colne and Nelson ...	10,254	+ 1.5	+ 6.4	20,138	- 8.4	+ 14.0
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,204	+ 0.0	- 2.8	3,736	+ 2.7	+ 1.9
Yorkshire Towns ...	4,318	- 0.3	+ 13.7	7,837	- 1.8	+ 25.2
Other Districts ...	2,757	+ 1.5	+ 9.0	4,643	- 1.8	+ 25.1
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>79,819</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>143,266</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>

Returns from firms employing about 75,300 workpeople in the week ended 26th November showed that about 14 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of 16 hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 21st November, 1927:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 21st November, 1927.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Card and Blowing Room ...	494	1,435	1,929	1,166	6,059	7,225
Spinning ...	2,392	1,258	3,650	6,406	5,838	12,244
Beaming, Winding and Weaving ...	487	1,098	1,585	1,478	7,953	9,431
Other Processes ...	1,304	2,508	3,812	3,600	9,617	13,217
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>4,981</b>	<b>6,358</b>	<b>11,339</b>	<b>13,292</b>	<b>29,723</b>	<b>43,015</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 24th October, 1927:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	+ 44	+ 29	+ 73	+ 191	+ 199	+ 390	+ 463
Spinning ...	+ 138	+ 55	+ 193	+ 742	+ 375	+ 1,117	+ 1,310
Beaming, Winding and Weaving ...	+ 13	+ 228	+ 241	+ 139	+ 595	+ 734	+ 975
Other Processes ...	- 6	- 12	- 18	+ 218	+ 128	+ 346	+ 328
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>+ 310</b>	<b>+ 911</b>	<b>+ 1,221</b>	<b>+ 1,880</b>	<b>+ 2,783</b>	<b>+ 4,663</b>	<b>5,884</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 114,350,400 lbs. in November, 1927, compared with 90,170,300 lbs. in October, 1927, and with 229,833,300 lbs. in November, 1926.

The exports of cotton yarn were 17,425,900 lbs. in November, 1927, compared with 15,334,100 lbs. in October, 1927, and with 15,333,700 lbs. in November, 1926.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 402,154,300 square yards, as compared with 312,115,100 square yards in the previous month, and with 277,639,700 square yards in November, 1926.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during November showed a further improvement in the worsted section, but a decline in the woollen section.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.1 on 21st November, 1927, as compared with 7.3 on 24th October, 1927, and with 14.2 on 22nd November, 1926.

Worsted Section.—Employment with woollsorters and combers was slack during November, but showed an improvement as compared with October, the improvement with woollcombers being principally in the merino section. About 30 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the sorting, combing and preparing branches lost, on an average, about 13 hours each in short-time working during the week ended 26th November; while nearly 10 per cent. worked about 8 hours each in overtime.

With worsted spinners employment showed a further slight improvement in almost all the principal districts. Of the spinners covered by the employers' returns about 8 per cent. were reported to be working short time in the week ended 26th November, with a loss on the average of about 9 hours each; on the other hand, 16 per cent. were on overtime to the extent of about 5½ hours each.

In the weaving branch there was an improvement in Bradford and in some other districts. About 10 per cent. of the weavers covered by the returns received worked short time\* to the extent of about 9 hours each in the week ended 26th November, while 7 per cent. worked about 7 hours each in overtime.

The returns received from employers in the worsted section of the industry, taken as a whole, showed that in the week in question about 11 per cent. of the operatives worked short time\* to the extent of about 10 hours each, on an average, while about 13 per cent. worked overtime to the average extent of about 6 hours each.

Woollen Section.—Employment showed some decline in the woollen section in all the principal departments, and in practically all districts. Employers' returns for the week ended 26th November showed that about 24 per cent. of the operatives in the spinning branches and 23½ per cent. of those in the weaving branches worked short time,\* the average loss being about 12 and 10 hours respectively; on the other hand, 14 per cent. of the spinners worked an average of 8½ hours each in overtime, and 7 per cent. of the weavers worked overtime to the extent of about 5 hours each.

Taking the woollen section as a whole, about 22½ per cent. of the operatives lost 10½ hours each in short time,\* the corresponding figures for overtime being about 10 per cent. and 7 hours.

In the Huddersfield district and in the Colne Valley employment was moderate and about the same as a month earlier; several firms worked overtime and there was some night work. In the Heavy Woollen District of Dewsbury and Batley there was a rather marked decline, largely attributed to a decrease in orders from abroad; some firms engaged in the manufacture of heavy cloths, carriage cloths, velours and rugs were working three to four days per week or playing alternate weeks. The rag and shoddy trade showed no signs of improvement at Dewsbury, but employment was fairly good at Batley. At Morley there was an increase in unemployment, partly owing to seasonal causes; in the Yealand district employment also declined. At Rochdale employment with flannel workers was fair; while at Saddleworth it was reported as good, and as better than in October and a year ago, with a considerable number of the operatives working overtime. Employment in the blanket trade at Dewsbury, Brighouse and Hebden Bridge was reported as good, and at Dewsbury manufacturers were busier than in the previous month. In Scotland the tweed industry continued in a prosperous condition.

Carpet Section.—Employment continued good in this trade. At Kidderminster there was considerable activity, almost all factories working full time; employment in Yorkshire was fair. In Scotland employment was good in most centres.

Taking the carpet trade as a whole, the employers' returns for the week ended 26th November showed about 9½ per cent. of the

\* These figures do not take into account other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps" and tending one instead of two looms.

operatives to be working short time, to the extent of about 6½ hours each on the average; while about 5 per cent. worked 6 hours each in overtime.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments :	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	11,692	+ 1.6	101.3	29,353	+ 6.7	97.0
Spinning ...	45,952	+ 1.1	102.0	76,240	+ 1.0	107.3
Weaving ...	22,515	+ 1.4	102.2	47,896	+ 1.1	106.2
Other Depts. ...	12,981	+ 0.5	101.1	32,534	+ 0.8	112.3
Not specified ...	1,933	+ 2.9	101.6	4,319	+ 1.8	111.9
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>95,073</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>190,342</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>104.5</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting ...	1,115	- 2.4	98.8	2,716	- 3.2	107.2
Spinning ...	14,719	- 1.3	96.6	31,905	- 4.4	105.2
Weaving ...	28,374	- 1.4	103.0	53,534	- 3.3	113.3
Other Depts. ...	19,382	- 0.8	99.4	44,913	+ 2.8	103.9
Not specified ...	2,142	- 1.2	96.1	5,057	- 0.0	110.3
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>65,732</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>138,150</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>107.9</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>9,631</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>104.9</b>	<b>18,275</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>104.0</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry</b>	<b>170,436</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>346,767</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>105.9</b>
<b>Districts* :</b>						
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Bradford ...	43,810	+ 0.8	100.0	89,758	+ 3.3	97.0
Huddersfield ...	10,697	+ 0.1	109.1	25,124	- 1.0	120.3
Halifax ...	10,475	+ 2.2	98.0	19,344	+ 1.1	103.0
Leeds ...	9,018	+ 2.0	99.9	17,241	+ 2.8	104.8
Kelghley ...	9,720	+ 1.7	105.1	18,516	- 0.7	119.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,548	+ 0.4	101.9	6,124	+ 0.3	114.9
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>87,268</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>176,107</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>104.1</b>
<b>West of England and Midlands</b>	<b>5,336</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>103.0</b>	<b>10,070</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>	<b>102.5</b>
<b>Lancashire</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>	<b>124.2</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>120.2</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>	<b>106.1</b>	<b>3,477</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>143.8</b>
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>95,073</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>190,342</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>104.5</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Huddersfield ...	14,010	+ 0.5	96.9	32,808	- 0.8	98.4
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	12,416	- 3.9	100.0	25,713	- 9.6	110.1
Leeds ...	9,047	- 2.1	103.2	19,465	- 4.0	113.3
Halifax and Calder	2,722	- 3.9	92.3	5,733	- 10.0	89.5
Vale ...	1,441	+ 0.2	109.4	3,361	- 1.1	110.8
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>39,636</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>87,080</b>	<b>- 4.9</b>	<b>104.7</b>
<b>Lancashire</b>	<b>6,227</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>103.8</b>	<b>13,337</b>	<b>- 1.5</b>	<b>115.9</b>
<b>West of England and Midlands</b>	<b>4,353</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>103.1</b>	<b>7,901</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>113.5</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>15,267</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>103.2</b>	<b>29,479</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>113.7</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>- 8.1</b>	<b>159.8</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>- 9.5</b>	<b>168.9</b>
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>65,732</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>138,150</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>107.9</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>9,631</b>	<b>+</b>				

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with the previous month. (... signifies "no change.")			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>				
Huddersfield ...	- 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 1.4	+ 0.5
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	- 3.3	- 4.9	- 3.2	- 3.9
Leeds ...	- 1.9	- 3.0	- 0.6	- 2.1
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	- 4.5	- 1.2	- 7.6	- 3.9
Bradford ...	- 1.3	- 0.8	+ 2.3	+ 0.2
Total, West Riding ...	- 1.8	- 2.2	- 1.4	- 1.8
Lancashire ...	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 1.1	- 0.2
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 0.4	- 1.1	+ 1.3	- 0.1
Scotland ...	- 0.9	+ 0.2	- 1.2	- 0.2
Wales ...	- 3.2	- 14.5	- 1.2	- 8.1
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	- 1.3	- 1.4	- 0.8	- 1.2

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 21st November, 1927:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Register at 21st November, 1927.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	174	1	175	287	3	290	465
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	244	96	340	397	227	624	964
Wool Combing ...	132	89	221	583	346	929	1,150
Wool Carding ...	359	47	406	485	81	566	972
Woolen Spinning ...	253	40	293	259	145	404	697
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	201	472	673	92	639	731	1,404
Wool Winding and Warping ...	59	8	67	84	94	178	245
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	33	62	95	35	211	246	341
Woolen Weaving ...	104	102	206	156	1,686	1,842	2,048
Worsted Weaving ...	56	60	116	32	517	549	665
Other Processes ...	528	52	580	541	83	624	1,204
<b>Total</b> ...	2,143	1,029	3,172	2,951	4,032	6,983	10,155

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 24th October, 1927:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	- 77	- 1	- 78	- 102	+ 2	- 100	- 178
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	+ 3	+ 1	+ 4	- 121	+ 43	- 78	- 74
Wool Combing ...	- 29	+ 21	- 8	- 324	- 301	- 625	- 633
Wool Carding ...	+ 33	+ 7	+ 40	- 125	- 8	- 133	- 93
Woolen Spinning ...	+ 10	+ 6	+ 16	+ 65	+ 12	+ 77	+ 93
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	- 8	- 6	- 14	+ 5	- 63	- 58	- 72
Wool Winding and Warping ...	+ 18	+ 5	+ 23	+ 15	+ 5	+ 20	+ 43
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 3	- 16	- 13	- 7	- 44	- 51	- 64
Woolen Weaving ...	- 2	- 29	- 31	+ 43	+ 457	+ 500	+ 469
Worsted Weaving ...	- 26	- 124	- 150	+ 5	- 251	- 246	- 396
Other Processes ...	+ 110	+ 7	+ 117	+ 170	+ 1	+ 171	+ 288
<b>Total</b> ...	+ 35	- 129	- 94	- 376	- 147	- 523	- 617

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 29,989,200 lbs. in November, 1927, compared with 9,803,000 lbs. in October, 1927, and 27,822,500 lbs. in November, 1926.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 5,151,900 lbs., compared with 5,145,100 lbs. in October, 1927, and with 4,115,500 lbs. in November, 1926.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 16,351,400 square yards, compared with 13,060,700 square yards in October, 1927, and 13,295,800 square yards in November, 1926.

The exports of blankets were 128,088 pairs, 98,536 pairs and 131,598 pairs in November, 1927, October, 1927, and November, 1926.

**BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT during November showed a further improvement in most districts, and was fairly good on the whole. Short time was still worked to a considerable extent in some districts, but in others it had been reduced to small dimensions; a little overtime was worked in nearly all districts. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 6.4 on 21st November, 1927, as compared with 7.1 on 24th October, 1927, and with 10.5 on 22nd November, 1926.

Employment in the London district showed an improvement, and was fair on the whole. At Leicester there was a further improvement, and employment was fair; more firms resumed full-time working, and a few firms were on overtime; but about 40 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week

ended 26th November were still working short time, losing about 8 hours each on the average. Employment at Hinckley continued good, a little overtime being worked. At Northampton employment continued moderate; short time was worked by about 23 per cent. of the workers covered by the employers' returns, with a loss on the average of 8 hours each. There was still, however, a demand for experienced workers, especially in the closing departments.

At Wellingborough there was a further improvement, and employment was good; short time had almost ceased, and overtime was worked at some factories. Employment continued fairly good at Higham and Rushden, and at Kettering, most of the factories working full time, and some working overtime.

Employment at most of the smaller centres—Earl's Barton, Finedon, Irthlingborough, Raunds—also remained good; but there was a slight decline at Wollaston, where some short time was worked.

Employment continued slack at Stafford, much short time being worked. The depression at Norwich continued, and employment was again slack, although there was a slight improvement with men operatives as compared with the preceding month; about 44 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 26th November, losing about 8 hours each on an average. At Bristol and Kingswood employment continued fairly good, at least with the larger firms; the heavy nailed section was well employed, while factories engaged on lighter grades were fairly busy. At Street employment continued to improve, and was fairly good. At Leeds also there was some further improvement, and there was little unemployment or short time. In the slipper trade in the Rossendale Valley and at Preston employment remained good; but there was a little short-time working at Rawtenstall owing to the completion of Christmas orders.

In Scotland employment remained fairly good on the whole. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

Department.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Per cent. on a Year before.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month* before.	Per cent. on a Year* before.
<b>England and Wales:—</b>						
London ...	1,796	+ 0.1	- 2.8	4,007	+ 1.7	- 2.3
Leicester ...	8,183	+ 2.7	- 0.2	20,484	+ 0.5	- 2.4
Leicester Country District ...	1,981	+ 0.7	+ 8.7	4,731	- 1.7	+ 10.0
Northampton ...	6,923	+ 0.3	+ 2.6	16,835	- 3.0	+ 3.4
Northampton Country District ...	8,130	+ 0.5	+ 3.6	19,073	- 2.0	+ 7.3
Kettering ...	3,590	+ 0.2	+ 4.8	8,973	- 5.8	- 3.7
Stafford and District ...	2,622	- 0.7	- 4.0	4,882	- 10.5	- 19.1
Norwich and District ...	4,008	+ 1.4	- 5.9	8,079	- 0.4	- 3.4
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,852	+ 1.0	+ 3.8	3,544	- 9.2	- 2.7
Leeds and District ...	2,030	+ 3.0	+ 8.2	4,668	+ 0.7	+ 8.4
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	5,441	- 0.1	+ 12.3	11,863	- 4.4	+ 33.4
Birmingham and District ...	1,002	+ 0.1	- 3.2	1,953	- 2.3	+ 10.2
Other parts of England and Wales ...	1,996	+ 1.2	+ 1.7	4,173	+ 2.8	+ 2.1
<b>England and Wales</b> ...	49,554	+ 0.9	+ 2.5	113,265	- 2.5	+ 3.7
<b>Scotland</b> ...	2,416	+ 1.3	- 1.4	5,591	- 1.3	- 0.9
<b>Great Britain</b> ...	51,970	+ 0.9	+ 2.3	118,856	- 2.5	+ 3.5

Returns from firms employing nearly 48,000 operatives in the week ended 26th November, 1927, showed that about 21½ per cent. of these operatives were working short time in that week, losing, on an average, about 9½ hours each; and about 5½ per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 4½ hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the register of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 21st November, 1927:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 21st November, 1927.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
<b>Boot and Shoe Manufacture:</b>							
Preparing Department ...	101	10	111	12	4	16	127
Rough Stuff Department ...	241	1	242	38	...	38	280
Clicking Department ...	480	5	485	100	...	100	585
Closing Department ...	14	648	662	1	332	333	995
Making Department ...	1,377	12	1,389	306	3	309	1,698
Finishing Department ...	1,050	348	1,378	214	87	301	1,679
Slipper Making ...	258	7	265	213	9	222	487
Clog Making ...	10	...	10	...	...	...	10
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	277	1	278	15	...	15	293
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	3,788	1,032	4,820	899	435	1,334	6,154

The exports of boots and shoes in November, 1927, amounted to 146,489 dozen pairs, or 7,447 dozen pairs more than in October, 1927, and 17,723 dozen pairs more than in November, 1926.

\* Comparisons of earnings are affected by reductions of rates of wages.

**BUILDING TRADE.**

EMPLOYMENT during November showed a further seasonal decline; it was generally quiet with skilled operatives and slack on the whole with unskilled workers; the general decline affected all occupations, except slaters, but was most pronounced in the painting and decorating section. Unfavourable weather conditions hampered outside work and caused an appreciable amount of lost time. As compared with November, 1926, employment was not so good with the various classes of skilled workers, other than painters, with whom, as with builders' labourers, it was somewhat better.

As regards individual occupations, employment again showed a marked decline with plasterers and was moderate or slack on the whole; it also declined with bricklayers, masons and carpenters and was generally quiet; with slaters it showed some improvement and was fairly good at most centres; it was fair, on the whole, with plumbers. The seasonal decline with painters continued, and employment was slack; it was also slack, on the whole, with tradesmen's labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 21st November, 1927, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with November, 1926:—

Occupations.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1927.	Total Number Unemployed at 21st Nov., 1927.	Number included in previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.
<b>OCCUPATIONS.</b>						
Carpenters ...	134,450	11,424	243	8.5	+ 1.2	+ 1.8
Bricklayers ...	75,760	7,044	217	9.3	+ 1.9	+ 3.1
Masons ...	24,560	2,206	133	9.0	+ 1.7	+ 0.8
Slaters ...	6,130	288	8	4.7	- 0.8	+ 0.6
Plasterers ...	22,130	2,525	72	11.4	+ 3.9	+ 8.5
Painters ...	114,610	24,805	377	21.6	+ 5.5	- 2.4
Plumbers ...	34,220	2,379	47	7.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Labourers to above ...	265,020	36,358	737	13.7	+ 1.0	- 0.5
All other occupations ...	170,980	24,758	533	14.5	+ 1.4	- 1.6
<b>Total</b> ...	847,860	111,787	2,367	13.2	+ 1.9	...
<b>DIVISIONS.</b>						
London ...	172,520	21,922	4	12.7	+ 2.3	- 0.8
South-Eastern ...	135,420	11,804	34	8.8	+ 2.0	+ 2.5
South-Western ...	105,400	11,501	85	10.9	+ 2.0	+ 1.3
Midlands ...	95,990	10,222	450	10.6	+ 1.5	- 1.1
North-Eastern ...	108,500	21,762	812	20.1	+ 2.9	+ 2.7
North-Western ...	112,090	15,802	440	14.1	+ 0.2	- 1.5
Scotland ...	76,230	8,599	214	11.3	+ 1.9	- 3.4
Wales ...	29,790	7,338	322	24.6	- 2.1	+ 2.1
Northern Ireland ...	13,920	2,837	6	20.4	+ 0.2	- 9.3
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b> ...	847,860	111,787	2,367	13.2	+ 1.9	...

**BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.**

Returns from Local Authorities in 141 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council Area), with a total population of 16,204,000, show that in November, 1927, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,729,700, as compared with £5,478,700 in October, 1927, and £4,679,500 in November, 1926. Of the total for November, 1927, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,067,100; factories and workshops for £273,000; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £381,800; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,007,800.

**BRICK TRADE.**

EMPLOYMENT during November showed a decline; it was a good deal affected by bad weather.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.8 at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 8.8 at 24th October, 1927, and 17.3 at 22nd November, 1926 (when the coal-mining stoppage was in progress).

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Per cent. on a Year before.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Per cent. on a Year before.*
<b>Districts.</b>						
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire ...	1,877	- 2.8	+ 18.8	4,332	- 9.8	+ 5.8
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	4,889	- 10.3	- 4.2	13,071	- 19.7	- 6.3
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,600	- 4.0	+ 9.9	3,672	- 11.3	+ 7.7
Scotland ...	175	- 2.8	+ 84.2	489	- 6.7	+ 92.5
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	8,541	- 7.5	+ 3.7	21,564	- 16.3	- 0.6

\* Comparisons of earnings are affected by changes in rates of wages in some cases.

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that of 8,541 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 4½ per cent. were working on an average 16 hours less than full time in the week ended 26th November, 1927.

**POTTERY INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed some decline as compared with the previous month, and there was much short-time working. At Worcester and Derby employment was fairly good; in the stoneware section in Scotland it was reported to be bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.3 at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 11.8 at 24th October, 1927, and with 18.5 at 22nd November, 1927.

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

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Per cent. on a Year before.	
<b>BRANCHES.</b>						
China Manufacture ...	1,230	- 0.1	- 0.1	2,223	- 8.0	- 17.8
Earthenware Manufacture ...	7,893	- 0.7	+ 12.6	14,796	- 2.9	+ 2.8
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,878	- 1.5	- 0.4	3,421	+ 0.8	- 9.4
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	11,001	- 0.7	+ 8.7	20,440	- 2.9	- 2.1
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

Employment was still generally slack, and showed little change from the level of the previous month. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 23.4 per cent. were unemployed at 21st November, 1927, as compared with 22.4 per cent. at 24th October, 1927, and with 31.1 per cent. at 22nd November 1926.

London.—Employment during November was fair, and improved towards the end of the month. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for each week of the month:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
12th November, 1927	4,876	2,066	6,942	7,919	14,861
19th " "	4,893	2,313	7,206	8,106	15,312
26th " "	4,957	2,219	7,176	8,173	15,399
Average for 4 weeks ended 26th November, 1927 ...	5,085	2,240	7,325	8,207	15,532
Average for October, 1927	4,913	2,175	7,088	7,756	14,844
Average for November, 1926 ...	4,952	1,999	6,951	8,292	15,243

Ilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during November was 1,055, compared with 903 in October and with 1,244 in November, 1926.

East Coast.—Employment with coal trimmers and teamers on the North-East Coast continued moderate. With other classes of dock workers in this district it showed a tendency to decline and was generally slack or bad, but at Middlesbrough it remained fairly good. Employment was quiet at Hull and bad at Grimsby, Goole and Boston. At the East Anglian ports it varied from slack to fair.

Liverpool.—Employment was generally moderate, and somewhat better than in October. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 25th November was 15,569, compared with 15,002 in October and with 16,146 in November, 1926. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £43,053 in the four weeks ended 25th November, compared with £40,428 in October, and with £46,624 in November, 1926.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at the South Wales ports generally was moderate and about the same as in October. At Bristol and Avonmouth work continued plentiful and employment was good. At Gloucester and Sharpness, however, there was a falling off. At Southampton and Plymouth there was little change as compared with the previous month, employment remaining respectively fair and slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment continued fair at Glasgow and fairly good at Aberdeen and Leith. At Dundee it was fairly good until the last week, when bad weather caused delay in the arrival of cargoes. Employment continued good at Grangemouth, and fair at Belfast; and bad at Ayr and Troon.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during November was moderate on the whole and somewhat worse than in the previous month.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 21st November, 1927, was 16.2, compared with 15.4 at 24th October, 1927, and 21.4 at 22nd November, 1926.

The demand for men on the Thames was quiet to fair, and showed some improvement towards the close of the month. It was fairly active on the Tyne, and a shortage of able seamen was experienced at North Shields; on the Wear the demand was fair up to the middle of November, and quiet afterwards. There was some improvement on the Tees until the end of the month, when a decline occurred, the demand being described as poor; the supply of deck hands at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool was, however, not sufficient for requirements. It fluctuated at Hull and was reported to be moderate in the closing stages of the month. At Southampton the demand was quiet at the beginning of November, but improved to fair towards the end of the month. It remained fair at Bristol in the first half of the month, but declined later; at Avonmouth the demand was again fairly good. It was generally moderate at Newport and at Cardiff, showing a substantial decline at the latter port towards the end of the month; at Barry occasional shortages of efficient ordinary seamen were reported. The demand was fairly brisk at Swansea. It was quiet to moderate on the Mersey, and continued fair at Manchester. On the Clyde the demand varied from fair to quiet, being extremely dull at the end of November. It was very quiet at Leith, and very moderate at Belfast.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Nov., 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Eleven Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	Nov., 1927.	Nov., 1926.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES:</b>					
Liverpool ...	10,166	- 1,854	- 1,040	137,355	130,248
Manchester ...	863	+ 318	- 395	8,303	11,013
London ...	8,519	- 1,972	- 3,180	103,577	108,012
Southampton ...	9,413	- 1,154	+ 178	108,976	114,289
Tyne Ports ...	3,186	+ 245	+ 2,257	30,055	14,533
Sunderland ...	367	+ 61	+ 238	4,087	1,738
Middlesbrough ...	468	+ 165	+ 213	4,164	3,681
Hull ...	1,379	+ 112	+ 398	14,515	15,599
Bristol ...	853	- 237	- 299	11,664	12,687
Newport, Mon. ...	461	- 333	+ 306	8,334	5,617
Cardiff ...	2,271	+ 265	+ 1,106	28,411	16,905
Swansea ...	703	- 230	+ 325	9,179	7,276
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>					
Leith ...	232	- 173	- 240	4,173	3,941
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	314	+ 77	+ 90	3,844	3,109
Glasgow ...	3,062	- 415	- 33	34,416	34,822
<b>NORTHERN IRELAND:</b>					
Belfast ...	224	+ 14	- 47	2,262	2,214
<b>TOTAL for above Ports</b>	<b>42,481</b>	<b>- 5,091</b>	<b>- 73</b>	<b>513,295</b>	<b>485,804</b>

WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES. II

At 28th November, 1927, the number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,145,230; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,171,802.

Statistics for men, boys, women and girls, separately, are given below:—

	28th November, 1927.				31st Oct., 1927.	
	Persons normally in regular employment.		Persons normally in casual employment.	Total.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary Stoppages.				
<b>Great Britain.</b>						
Men ...	649,703	202,221	64,921	916,845	884,984	
Boys ...	25,432	6,693	125	32,050	33,371	
Women ...	89,119	77,209	741	167,069	156,617	
Girls ...	24,054	5,191	21	29,266	31,085	
<b>Total...</b>	<b>788,108</b>	<b>291,314</b>	<b>65,808</b>	<b>1,145,230</b>	<b>1,106,057</b>	
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland.</b>						
Men ...	667,198	203,110	66,505	936,813	904,233	
Boys ...	25,692	6,721	125	32,538	33,984	
Women ...	92,985	79,033	741	172,789	161,940	
Girls ...	24,308	5,213	21	29,662	31,555	
<b>Total...</b>	<b>810,243</b>	<b>294,167</b>	<b>67,392</b>	<b>1,171,802</b>	<b>1,131,712</b>	

The following Table gives particulars relating to certain branches of the work of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the four weeks ended 28th November, 1927. Of the 103,361 vacancies filled, 58,193 were for men, 26,393 for women, and 21,775 for juveniles:—

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled †	Number of Work-people on Registers.**
	During Week.	At end of Week.		
31st October, 1927 ...	28,442	20,109	24,643	1,131,712
7th November, 1927 ...	32,599	22,180	26,938	1,137,339
14th " " ...	30,642	20,182	28,192	1,150,917
21st " " ...	28,724	19,156	25,895	1,151,835
28th " " ...	28,329	19,592	24,736	1,171,802
<b>Average (4 weeks) ...</b>	<b>30,074</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>26,590</b>	<b>1,152,973</b>

\* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.  
 † Including Birkenhead and Garston.  
 ‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.  
 § Including Barry and Penarth.  
 ¶ The term "employment exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of the Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 5 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.  
 \*\* Vacancies filled include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men on relief works in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 24th October, 1927, the average number of such placings was 5,682 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers, such as dock labourers and coal porters, during the four weeks ended 28th November, 1927, was 650 per week.  
 \*\*\* The figures include, in addition to those wholly unemployed, persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who although not at work on a basis of systematic short time, were not at work on the date in question.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 28th November, 1927. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Registers at 28th November, 1927.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 31st Oct., 1927.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
<b>London Division</b> ...	<b>93,993</b>	<b>17,737</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>116,810</b>	<b>+ 5,542</b>
<b>South-Eastern Division</b>					
Brighton ...	1,909	498	285	2,692	+ 267
Chatham ...	2,639	284	600	3,523	+ 202
Ipwich ...	1,224	214	86	1,524	- 73
Norwich ...	2,942	837	75	3,854	+ 474
Rest of South-Eastern	29,860	5,307	2,719	37,886	+ 4,743
<b>South-Western Division</b>					
Bristol ...	56,204	7,496	4,562	68,262	+ 5,906
Plymouth ...	11,095	2,172	1,156	14,423	+ 1,953
Plymouth ...	4,353	558	475	5,386	+ 134
Portsmouth ...	4,802	445	447	5,694	+ 137
Reading ...	1,338	72	146	1,556	+ 51
Southampton ...	4,403	363	582	5,348	+ 144
Swindon ...	966	99	72	1,137	+ 83
Rest of South-Western	29,467	3,786	1,684	34,937	+ 3,692
<b>Midlands Division</b>					
Birmingham ...	100,817	27,196	6,023	134,036	+ 7,312
Coventry ...	17,317	7,494	838	25,649	+ 324
Coventry ...	3,667	1,554	49	4,370	+ 56
Cradley Heath ...	2,538	444	90	3,072	+ 32
Derby ...	1,677	469	170	2,316	+ 75
Leicester ...	2,600	836	25	3,461	+ 529
Northampton ...	1,452	300	86	1,838	+ 310
Nottingham ...	4,938	1,548	509	6,995	+ 233
Nottingham ...	2,207	656	73	2,936	+ 172
Smethwick ...	4,562	964	14,838	20,364	+ 3,344
Stoke-on-Trent ...	2,545	617	169	3,331	+ 33
Walsall ...	1,998	391	98	2,487	+ 2
West Bromwich ...	3,036	650	107	3,793	+ 262
Wolverhampton ...	46,530	8,576	2,845	57,951	+ 5,717
<b>North-Eastern Division</b>					
Barnsley ...	2,433	391	172	2,996	+ 482
Bradford ...	8,856	1,957	302	9,115	+ 903
Darlington ...	1,922	145	198	2,365	+ 13
Dewsbury ...	1,208	562	138	1,908	+ 499
Doncaster ...	1,505	198	255	1,958	+ 6,108
Gateshead ...	9,822	639	702	11,163	+ 1,896
Grimsby ...	5,372	248	232	5,852	+ 134
Hull ...	1,852	438	27	2,317	+ 154
Hull ...	1,919	168	452	2,539	+ 543
Hull ...	1,919	759	143	2,821	+ 159
Hull ...	10,025	614	930	11,569	+ 348
Leeds ...	11,594	3,840	590	16,024	+ 740
Lincoln ...	1,545	221	102	1,868	+ 222
Middlesbrough ...	7,185	360	329	7,874	+ 635
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	14,295	1,204	778	16,277	+ 597
North-Eastern Division	3,420	257	324	3,993	+ 297
Rotherham ...	19,128	1,988	1,316	22,432	+ 13
Sheffield ...	7,645	298	419	8,362	+ 863
South Shields ...	188	316	5,202	5,706	+ 369
Stockton-on-Tees ...	8,167	560	513	9,240	+ 300
Sunderland ...	1,954	250	256	2,460	+ 504
Wakefield ...	1,481	181	150	1,792	+ 130
York ...	97,835	8,222	4,407	110,464	+ 6,066
<b>North-Western Division</b>					
Accrington ...	1,250	105	2,644	4,044	+ 545
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	2,815	1,692	211	4,718	+ 316
Barrow ...	1,721	177	218	2,116	+ 444
Birkenhead ...	5,782	343	359	6,484	+ 972
Blackburn ...	4,045	4,363	454	8,862	+ 1,321
Blackpool ...	1,894	981	256	3,131	+ 528
Bolton ...	3,906	1,681	173	5,760	+ 2
Bolton ...	2,457	2,564	185	5,206	+ 212
Bury ...	1,346	788	99	2,233	+ 103
Chorley ...	3,414	786	250	4,450	+ 1,831
Liverpool ...	38,218	4,829	4,007	47,054	+ 885
Manchester ...	17,002	5,658	375	23,035	+ 701
Manchester ...	840	448	31	1,319	+ 162
Nelson ...	13,085	4,890	747	18,722	+ 216
Oldham ...	2,507	2,004	178	4,689	+ 451
Preston ...	2,125	962	79	3,166	+ 100
Rochdale ...	4,832	272	137	5,241	+ 420
St. Helens ...	7,536	3,209	824	11,569	+ 767
Salford ...	1,986	1,605	161	3,752	+ 509
Stockport ...	2,398	966	516	3,680	+ 107
Warrington ...	7,461	2,476	416	10,353	+ 1,403
Wigan ...	49,565	19,307	4,081	72,953	+ 6,007
Rest of North-Western	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Scotland Division</b>					
Aberdeen ...	96,910	18,557	8,261	123,728	+ 7,110
Aberdeen ...	3,581	670	130	4,381	+ 521
Clydebank ...	672	175	87	934	+ 9
Dunfermline ...	2,957	1,393	229	4,579	+ 58
Edinburgh ...	32,861	5,965	3,353	42,179	+ 812
Glasgow ...	3,483	451	311	4,245	+ 189
Greenock ...	2,780	155	224	3,159	+ 78
Motherwell ...	1,851	386	159	2,396	+ 226
Paisley ...	40,334	7,240	3,102	50,376	+ 6,008
Rest of Scotland	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Wales Division</b>					
Cardiff ...	129,934	3,994	6,232	140,160	

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 21st November, 1927, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are exempted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be exempted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded, *inter alia*, the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 462 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The statistics of unemployment in insured industries are presented in two separate Tables, one showing the numbers recorded as unemployed, and the other showing the estimated numbers insured and the percentages unemployed.

Each of these Tables gives an analysis of the figures, distinguishing between persons who are wholly unemployed (in the sense that they are definitely without a job) and those who are temporarily stopped or suspended from the service of an employer. The figures under the heading "temporary stoppages" include those persons recorded as unemployed on the date of the return who were either on short time or were otherwise stood off or suspended on the definite understanding that they were to return to their former employment within a period of six weeks from the date of suspension. In cases where there was no definite prospect of return within six weeks the individuals have been included in the statistics as "wholly unemployed." The only exception to this rule arises in the small number of cases where, although the expectation of resumption within the six weeks' period was not realised, a definite date for resumption of work had nevertheless been fixed. In such cases the individuals concerned have been included under the heading "temporary stoppages." The figures given in the grand total columns in both Tables are strictly comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 21ST NOVEMBER, 1927.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.						GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.					
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing ... ..	2,318	19	2,337	64	3	67	2,382	22	2,404	2,352	22	2,384
Mining :—							220,520	1,234	221,754	220,468	1,234	221,702
Coal Mining ... ..	138,622	617	139,239	81,898	617	82,515	3,023	3,023	3,009	...	...	3,009
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	1,662	...	1,662	1,361	...	1,361	556	...	556	...	...	556
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	502	2	504	54	...	54	4,182	16	4,198	3,893	16	3,909
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	3,412	11	3,423	754	5	759	397	...	397	...	...	397
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	202	...	202	195	...	195	1,724	112	1,836	1,651	112	1,763
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	1,397	56	1,453	327	56	383	783	9	792	765	9	774
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	728	5	733	55	4	59	1,405	13	1,418	1,404	13	1,417
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—	1,152	13	1,165	253	...	253	2,669	90	2,759	2,658	88	2,746
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,037	63	2,100	632	27	659	1,554	44	1,598	1,478	44	1,522
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	1,258	28	1,286	296	16	312	8,323	879	9,202	8,370	879	9,249
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ... ..	7,053	642	7,695	1,470	237	1,707	4,738	4,883	9,621	4,732	4,883	9,615
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	1,934	1,603	3,537	2,804	3,280	6,084	2,057	213	2,270	2,737	209	2,946
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	1,802	196	1,998	260	17	277	2,739	209	2,948	2,737	209	2,946
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	2,190	195	2,385	549	14	563	5,137	730	5,867	5,066	727	5,793
Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	4,712	660	5,372	425	70	495	873	267	1,140	870	267	1,137
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	760	241	1,001	113	...	113	704	169	873	704	169	873
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	615	143	758	89	26	115	4,276	835	5,111	4,262	828	5,090
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	3,418	734	4,152	858	101	959	3,758	15	3,773	3,755	15	3,770
Metal Manufacture :—	2,925	13	2,938	833	2	835	41,761	227	41,988	41,747	227	41,974
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	17,013	142	17,155	24,748	85	24,833	3,431	185	3,616	3,388	185	3,573
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	2,767	154	2,921	664	31	695	5,480	529	6,009	5,479	529	6,008
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	2,174	258	2,432	3,306	271	3,577	3,779	87	3,866	3,776	87	3,863
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	1,882	82	1,964	1,897	5	1,902	3,473	250	3,723	3,461	250	3,711
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	1,663	199	1,862	1,810	51	1,861	2,057	213	2,270	2,737	209	2,946
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture ... ..	41,135	1,233	42,368	16,934	341	17,275	58,069	1,574	59,643	57,117	1,568	58,685
Engineering, etc. :—	2,465	475	2,940	362	82	444	2,827	557	3,384	2,818	557	3,375
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	6,173	20	6,193	270	6	276	6,443	26	6,469	5,570	26	5,596
Electrical Engineering ... ..	1,948	43	1,991	413	4	417	2,361	47	2,408	2,355	47	2,402
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	14,202	1,052	15,254	2,717	167	2,884	16,919	1,219	18,138	16,771	1,215	17,986
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	1,558	113	1,671	274	91	365	1,832	204	2,036	1,764	204	1,968
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	2,195	24	2,219	1,268	18	1,286	3,463	42	3,505	3,446	42	3,488
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building ... ..												

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ... ..	44,742	100	44,842	1,917	63	1,980	46,659	163	46,822	43,342	161	43,503
Metal Trades :—							7,286	522	7,808	7,171	522	7,693
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ... ..	5,593	402	5,995	1,693	120	1,813	720	23	743	702	23	725
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ... ..	674	21	695	46	2	48	3,118	1,246	4,364	3,108	1,246	4,354
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ... ..	2,806	1,028	3,834	312	218	530	3,693	1,137	4,830	3,693	1,137	4,830
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ... ..	2,544	987	3,531	1,149	150	1,299	1,503	964	2,467	1,503	963	2,466
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture ... ..	906	756	1,662	597	208	805	1,854	943	2,797	1,853	943	2,796
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,424	700	2,124	430	243	673	276	9	285	274	9	283
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ... ..	257	9	266	19	...	19	1,424	886	2,310	1,400	884	2,284
Other Metal Industries ... ..	1,140	673	1,813	284	213	497	9,600	5,208	14,808	9,508	5,202	14,710
7,473	3,958	11,431	2,127	1,250	3,377							
Textile Trades :—							24,728	44,925	69,653	24,728	44,924	69,652
Cotton ... ..	7,907	10,645	18,552	16,821	34,280	51,101	9,076	8,666	17,742	9,036	8,661	17,697
Woolen and Worsted ... ..	4,267	2,857	7,124	4,809	5,809	10,618	1,031	2,218	3,249	1,028	2,217	3,245
Silk ... ..	652	696	1,348	379	1,522	1,901	2,723	3,856	6,579	511	1,346	1,857
Linen ... ..	2,037	2,523	4,560	686	1,333	2,019	1,017	1,589	2,606	1,016	1,589	2,605
Jute ... ..	930	1,385	2,315	87	204	291	1,075	1,591	2,666	1,075	1,591	2,666
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making ... ..	426	665	1,091	90	410	500	3,011	3,750	6,761	3,011	3,750	6,761
Hosiery ... ..	424	1,403	1,827	315	1,608	1,923	784	567	1,351	783	567	1,350
Lace ... ..	382	211	593	402	356	758	488	623	1,111	488	623	1,111
Carpet Manufacture ... ..	251	256	507	237	367	604	915	2,028	2,943	856	1,887	2,743
Other Textile Industries ... ..	693	1,233	1,926	222	795	1,017	11,762	4,081	15,843	11,411	3,780	15,191
3,426	1,003	4,429	8,336	3,078	11,414							
Leather and Leather Goods :—							1,795	353	2,148	1,791	352	2,143
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ... ..	1,505	244	1,749	290	109	399	1,007	631	1,638	984	631	1,615
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ... ..	859	395	1,254	148	236	384	6,864	11,617	18,481	6,339	11,474	17,813
Clothing Trades :—							675	5,737	6,412	664	5,657	6,321
Tailoring ... ..	5,509	316	5,825	1,355	7,301	8,656	1,877	5,516	7,393	1,873	5,506	7,379
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery ... ..	612	3,558	4,170	63	2,179	2,242	963	1,864	2,827	962	1,862	2,824
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture ... ..	600	1,096	1,696	363	768	1,131	355	3,389	3,744	278	2,352	2,630
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making ... ..	336	1,657	1,993	19	1,732	1,751	687	1,234	1,921	545	687	1,232
Other Dress Industries ... ..	465	390	855	82	297	379	6,878	2,218	9,096	6,789	2,216	9,005
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	5,378	1,674	7,052	1,500	544	2,044	7,193	2,380	9,583	6,706	2,353	9,059
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—							1,394	126	1,520	1,394	126	1,520
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ... ..	6,846	2,199	9,045	347	191	538	1,573	2,042	3,615	1,478	44	1,522
Grain Milling ... ..	1,394	126	1,520	402	36	438	4,188	4,322	8,510	140	720	860
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ... ..	1,573	2,042	3,615	304	3,474	3,778	4,328	5,042	9,370	4,247	4,976	9,223
Other Food Industries ... ..	4,188	1,519	5,707	130	285	415	4,566	1,804	6,370	4,132	1,792	5,924
Drink Industries ... ..	4,328	1,519	5,847	130	285	415	482	1,029	1,511	418	953	1,371
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ... ..	473	895	1,368	9	134	143	4,190	74	4,264	331	11	342
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—							938	88	1,026	245	44	289
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	3,712	474	4,186	225	99	324	1,277	284	1,56			

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.												GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 21ST NOV., 1927.			
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1927.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 21ST NOVEMBER, 1927.						INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.				24TH OCT., 1927.	22ND NOV., 1926.	23RD NOV., 1925.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
Fishing ... ..	27,500	960	28,460	8.4	2.0	8.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	8.7	2.3	8.4	+ 0.6	- 16.5	- 1.9	8.4
Mining:—																
Coal Mining ... ..	1,192,190	6,800	1,198,990	11.6	9.1	11.6	6.9	9.1	6.9	18.5	18.2	18.5	- 6.2	+ 9.9*	+ 3.2	18.5
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	14,840	30	14,870	11.2	...	11.2	9.2	...	9.1	20.4	...	20.3	+ 8.3	- 42.5	- 2.5	20.4
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	5,630	60	5,710	8.9	3.3	8.8	0.9	...	0.9	9.8	3.3	9.8	+ 1.6	- 5.1	- 1.7	9.8
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	42,730	330	43,060	8.0	3.3	7.9	1.7	1.5	1.8	9.7	4.8	9.7	+ 1.6	- 6.2	+ 2.8	9.3
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	11,150	10	11,160	1.8	...	1.8	...	...	1.8	3.6	...	3.6	+ 1.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.2	3.6
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	16,840	1,610	18,450	8.3	3.5	7.9	1.9	3.5	2.1	10.2	7.0	10.0	+ 1.0	- 6.6	+ 2.4	9.8
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	15,210	160	15,370	4.8	3.1	4.8	0.3	2.5	0.4	5.1	5.6	5.2	+ 1.0	- 5.0	+ 1.1	5.1
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,680	120	11,800	9.9	10.8	9.9	2.1	...	2.1	12.0	10.8	12.0	+ 0.8	- 57.6	- 3.4	12.0
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture ... ..	15,690	1,360	17,050	13.0	4.6	12.3	4.0	2.0	3.9	17.0	6.6	16.2	+ 2.0	- 4.4	+ 1.4	16.2
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ... ..	18,710	890	19,600	6.7	3.1	6.6	1.6	1.8	1.6	8.3	4.9	8.2	+ 1.6	- 1.0	+ 4.2	7.9
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	79,510	7,650	87,160	8.9	8.4	8.8	1.8	3.1	2.0	10.7	11.5	10.8	+ 2.0	- 6.5	+ 3.2	10.7
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	34,540	37,990	72,530	5.6	4.2	4.9	8.1	8.7	8.4	13.7	12.9	13.3	+ 1.5	- 5.2	- 0.7	13.3
Glass Trades:—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture ... ..	20,020	5,350	25,370	9.0	3.7	7.9	1.3	0.3	1.1	10.3	4.0	9.0	- 0.6	- 6.7	- 0.9	9.0
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	16,150	2,190	18,340	13.6	8.9	13.0	3.4	0.6	3.1	17.0	9.5	16.1	- 3.0	- 13.3	- 4.7	16.1
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc.																
Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	72,860	22,560	95,420	6.5	2.9	5.6	0.6	0.3	0.5	7.1	3.2	6.1	...	- 5.3	- 3.2	6.1
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	12,900	6,060	18,960	5.9	4.0	5.3	0.9	0.4	0.7	6.8	4.4	6.0	- 0.7	- 1.1	- 2.6	6.0
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	14,380	4,340	18,720	4.3	3.3	4.0	0.6	0.6	0.7	4.9	3.9	4.7	+ 0.5	- 1.7	- 0.2	4.7
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	59,160	20,920	80,080	5.8	3.5	5.2	1.4	0.5	1.2	7.2	4.0	6.4	- 0.1	- 2.6	...	6.4
Metal Manufacture:—																
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	24,650	270	24,920	11.9	4.8	11.8	3.3	0.8	3.3	15.2	5.6	15.1	+ 1.8	- 45.2	- 5.3	15.1
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	190,270	4,250	194,520	8.9	3.3	8.8	13.0	2.0	12.8	21.9	5.3	21.6	+ 1.3	- 27.2	- 2.0	21.6
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	37,550	3,060	40,610	7.4	5.0	7.2	1.7	1.0	1.7	9.1	6.0	8.9	- 0.6	- 11.2	- 1.3	8.9
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	28,240	3,990	32,230	7.7	6.5	7.5	11.7	6.8	11.1	19.4	13.3	18.6	- 7.1	- 30.5	+ 10.5	18.6
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	26,770	1,350	28,120	7.0	6.1	7.0	7.1	0.3	6.7	14.1	6.4	13.7	+ 0.7	- 9.9	- 2.5	13.7
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture ... ..	18,910	3,990	22,900	8.8	5.0	8.2	9.6	1.3	8.1	18.4	6.3	16.3	+ 0.4	- 5.7	+ 2.6	16.2
Engineering, etc.:—																
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	558,100	42,290	600,390	7.4	2.9	7.1	3.0	0.8	2.8	10.4	3.7	9.9	...	- 8.8	- 2.1	9.9
Electrical Engineering ... ..	62,630	15,670	78,300	3.9	2.8	3.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	4.5	3.3	4.3	- 0.3	- 2.5	- 1.3	4.3
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	55,990	1,140	57,130	11.0	1.8	10.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	11.5	2.3	11.3	- 1.2	- 20.6	- 14.6	10.7
Constructional Engineering ... ..	26,400	1,060	27,460	7.4	4.1	7.3	1.5	0.3	1.5	8.9	4.4	8.8	- 0.3	- 18.8	- 2.2	8.8
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—																
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	210,040	22,820	232,860	6.8	4.6	6.6	1.3	0.7	1.2	8.1	5.3	7.8	- 0.5	- 1.6	+ 0.8	7.8
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	18,600	2,270	20,870	8.4	5.0	8.0	1.4	4.0	1.8	9.8	9.0	9.8	+ 0.7	- 5.8	- 1.5	9.6
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building ... ..	54,790	1,330	56,120	4.0	1.8	4.0	2.3	1.4	2.2	6.3	3.2	6.2	+ 0.4	- 22.1	- 1.7	6.2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ... ..	212,660	3,370	216,030	21.0	3.0	20.8	0.9	1.8	0.9	21.9	4.8	21.7	+ 0.7	- 23.8	- 15.9	21.4
Metal Trades:—																
Stove Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ... ..	81,460	7,910	89,370	6.9	5.1	6.7	2.0	1.5	2.0	8.9	6.6	8.7	+ 0.1	- 6.4	- 1.2	8.6
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ... ..	13,640	1,170	14,810	4.9	1.8	4.7	0.4	0.2	0.3	5.3	2.0	5.0	- 0.2	- 3.7	- 1.6	5.0
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ... ..	53,950	30,560	84,510	5.2	3.4	4.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	5.8	4.1	5.2	+ 0.1	- 2.7	- 0.3	5.2
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	24,420	10,670	35,090	10.4	9.3	10.1	4.7	1.4	3.7	15.1	10.7	13.8	- 0.6	- 9.4	+ 1.3	13.8
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ... ..	14,800	11,110	25,910	6.1	6.8	6.4	4.1	1.9	3.1	10.2	8.7	9.5	+ 0.2	- 8.1	- 1.6	9.5
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture ... ..	18,780	10,850	29,630	7.6	6.5	7.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	9.9	8.7	9.4	...	- 1.6	+ 0.3	9.4
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	7,140	500	7,640	3.6	1.8	3.5	0.3	...	0.2	3.9	1.8	3.7	- 0.5	- 3.8	- 0.4	3.7
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ... ..	24,370	20,600	44,970	4.7	3.3	4.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	5.8	4.3	5.1	- 0.2	- 3.3	- 2.2	5.1
Other Metal Industries ... ..	119,540	67,480	187,020	6.3	5.9	6.1	1.7	1.8	1.8	8.0	7.7	7.9	- 0.6	- 3.9	- 1.0	7.9
Textile Trades:—																
Cotton ... ..	207,640	362,470	570,110	3.8	2.9	3.3	8.1	9.5	8.9	11.9	12.4	12.2	+ 1.2	- 6.8	+ 5.5	12.2
Woolen and Worsted ... ..	104,310	144,870	249,180	4.1	2.0	2.9	4.6	4.0	4.2	8.7	6.0	7.1	- 0.2	- 7.1	- 2.5	7.1
Silk ... ..	22,850	32,220	55,070	2.9	2.2	2.4	1.6	4.7	3.5	4.5	6.9	5.9	- 0.1	- 4.7	- 5.8	5.9
Linen ... ..	23,460	58,670	82,130	7.7	4.3	5.4	2.6	2.3	2.3	10.3	6.6	7.7	+ 0.2	- 14.1	- 27.6	11.9
Jute ... ..	12,720	27,180	39,900	7.3	5.1	5.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	8.0	5.8	6.5	- 0.2	- 9.6	- 5.9	6.5
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making ... ..	7,340	12,190	19,530	5.8	5.5	5.6	1.2	3.3	2.5	7.0	8.8	8.1	- 0.4	- 7.0	- 5.1	8.3
Hosiery ... ..	22,190	79,000	101,190	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.4	2.0	1.9	3.3	3.8	3.7	- 0.6	- 4.0	- 2.4	3.7
Lace ... ..	7,290	10,880	18,170	5.2	1.9	3.3	5.6	3.3	4.1	10.8	5.2	7.4	+ 0.4	- 7.8	- 13.2	7.4
Carpet Manufacture ... ..	9,240	14,840	24,080	2.5	1.7	2.0	2.4	2.5	2.5	4.9	4.2	4.5	- 1.1	- 6.5	- 4.7	4.5
Other Textile Industries ... ..	13,610	30,410	44,020	5.1	4.1	4.4	1.6	2.6	2.3	6.7	6.7	6.7	+ 0.2	- 4.9	- 3.1	6.9
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ... ..	87,630	33,330	120,960	3.9	3.0	3.7	9.5	9.2	9.4	13.4	12.2	13.1	+ 2.8	- 7.7	+ 1.1	13.6
Leather and Leather Goods:—																
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ... ..	32,200	9,480	41,680	4.7	2.6	4.2	0.9	1.1	1.0	5.6	3.7	5.2	...	- 3.8	- 5.0	5.1
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ... ..	13,470	13,160	26,630	6.4	3.0	4.7	1.1	1.8	1.5	7.5	4.8	6.2	+ 0.4	- 2.5	- 1.5	6.1
Clothing Trades:—																
Tailoring ... ..	69,150	131,820	200,970	8.0	3.3	4.9	1.9	5.5	4.3	9.9	8.8	9.2	+ 1.5	- 5.4	- 3.3	9.1
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery ... ..	10,670	95,070	105,740	5.7	3.7	3.9	0.6	2.3	2.2	6.3	6.0	6.1	+ 2.2	- 1.4	- 1.5	6.1
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture ... ..	13,520	19,960	33,480	4.4	5.5	5.1	2.7	3.8	3.3	7.1	9.3	8.4	+ 2.4	- 3.9	- 2.8	8.5
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making ... ..	7,510	67,400	74,910	4.5	2.5	2.7	0.2	2.5	2.3	4.7	5.0	5.0	+ 0.5	- 2.8	- 2.7	4.6
Other Dress Industries ... ..	9,900	17,650	27,550	4.7	2.2	3.1	0.8	1.7	1.4	5.5	3.9	4.5	+ 0.6	- 2.7	- 4.3	

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in November in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of about £16,600 in the weekly full-time wages of 163,000 workpeople and in an increase of £7,100 in those of 119,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as follows:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Iron and Steel ... ..	36,000	19,000	£ 1,200	£ 2,000
Clothing ... ..	30,000	120,000	1,500	13,250
Other ... ..	53,000	24,000	4,400	1,350
Total ... ..	119,000	163,000	7,100	16,600

The increase in the iron and steel group principally affected workpeople employed in steel smelting shops and rolling mills in various districts in England and Scotland, most classes of whom, with the exception of men on basis rates up to 7s. per shift, had their wages increased by the equivalent of about 1 per cent. on current rates. Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales, with the exception of lower-paid men, sustained a reduction of about 4½ per cent. on current rates. There were also reductions in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England and of certain classes of workpeople employed at blast furnaces in Cumberland and North Lincolnshire.

In the clothing group workpeople whose wages were increased included pieceworkers employed in the boot and shoe repairing industry, in whose case the minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were increased by 2½ or 5 per cent. under a cost-of-living sliding scale. The reductions in this group mainly affected workpeople employed in boot and shoe manufacture, whose wages were reduced under a cost-of-living sliding scale, the reductions amounting in the case of adult male and female timeworkers to 4s. and 2s. per week respectively.

In the other industrial groups there was an increase of ¼d. per hour in the wages of men employed by civil engineering contractors and an increase of ¼d. per hour in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for certain classes of workpeople employed in brush and broom making. There was a reduction in the percentage addition payable on the basis rates of coal miners in Warwickshire equivalent to about 2 per cent. on current rates.

Of the total reductions of £16,600 per week, nearly £13,300 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; nearly £3,000 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices or the proceeds of the industry (coal mining); rather under £200 was the result of arbitration; and the remainder was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople.

Of the total increases of £7,100 per week, about £5,600 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, including over £3,000 under scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint bodies of employers and workpeople, and over £2,000 under scales arranged by Trade Boards; £1,150 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remainder was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-NOVEMBER, 1927.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ... ..	18,000	789,000	£ 850	£ 276,000
Iron and Steel ... ..	6,500	135,000	650	21,500
Engineering and Shipbuilding ... ..	185,000	...	18,600	...
Other Metal ... ..	33,000	43,500	3,400	5,300
Textile... ..	1,750	231,000	190	23,200
Other ... ..	...	...	...	...
Clothing ... ..	170	196,000	55	18,900
Food, Drink and Tobacco ... ..	630	21,500	200	2,150
Paper, Printing, etc. ... ..	800	17,500	110	2,300
Woodworking, etc. ... ..	...	26,000	...	1,950
Building and Allied Industries ... ..	15,000	57,000	3,100	5,900
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ... ..	1,950	36,500	275	3,350
Transport ... ..	7,000	196,000	1,800	13,100
Public Administration ... ..	5,400	66,000	510	5,900
Other ... ..	800	42,000	130	3,800
Total ... ..	276,000	1,857,000	29,850	383,350

In the corresponding eleven months of 1926, there were net increases of over £111,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 348,000 workpeople, and net reductions of nearly £89,000 in those of 813,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in November. During the eleven completed months of 1927 there has been an average increase of 3.6 hours per week in the normal working time of 18,500 workpeople, and a reduction of 4.7 hours per week in that of 1,650 workpeople.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1927.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	East Riding of Yorkshire.	24 Nov.	Female agricultural workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: under 16 years, 5d.; 16 years and over, 6d.½
	Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely.	1 Nov.	Male agricultural workers (other than horsemen, cowmen, or shepherds).	Minimum rates previously in operation extended, but for a week of 48 hours in winter and 50 hours in summer in lieu of 48 hours in winter and 51 hours in summer.
Coal Mining	Carmarthenshire ...	15 Nov.	Male agricultural workers ...	Decreases in minimum rates of 6d. per week for those 15 and under 16 years, and 1s. per week for those 16 and under 17 years.†
	Warwickshire ...	1 Nov.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Decrease of 3 per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages 44 per cent. above basis rates; also subsistence wage previously paid to adult able-bodied surface workers reduced from 7s. 2d. to 7s. 1½d. per day.‡
Iron Mining	Radstock and Newbury.	12 May	Surface labourers ... ..	District percentage§ made payable, in lieu of minimum previously fixed, and basis rates increased by 3d. to 5d. per shift, making rate 4s. 4d. per shift.
	Furness and District	14 Nov.	Iron-ore miners ... ..	Increase of 2d. per shift in the bargain price (7s. 6d. to 7s. 4d.), and of 2d. per shift in the minimum wage (6s. 9d. to 6s. 7d.).
Iron Mining	North Lincolnshire...	6 Nov.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen...	Decrease¶ of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25½ per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift; also additional bonuses paid to lower-paid men increased by amounts varying from 1d. to 4d. per shift, making bonuses 9d. per shift on base rates of 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0½d.; 6d. per shift on base rates of 4s. 3½d. to 4s. 6d.; and 1d. per shift on base rates of 4s. 6½d. to 4s. 9d. per shift. Minimum rate after change for general labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 25½ per cent., plus 1s. 10d. per shift.
	Flint Glass Making.	Birmingham and Stourbridge Districts.	Week ended 5 Nov.	Flint glass makers ... ..
West Cumberland and North Lancashire.		2nd full pay in Nov.	All classes except skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work, and also labourers. Keepers, slaggers, fillers, enginemen, etc.	Increases in bonuses** of amounts varying, according to base rates, from 2.6d. to 7d. per week, making total amount of bonuses from 1s. 11.8d. to 4s. 11d. per week.
Pig Iron Manufacture.	North Lincolnshire and certain firms in the Leeds District.	6 Nov.	Blastfurnacemen ... ..	Decrease¶ of 2½ per cent. on output bonus earnings, leaving the percentage payable 43½ in the Workington Area and 38½ in the Furness Area.

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages 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 current rate of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.  
 † In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of over 70,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.  
 ‡ The changes in minimum rates referred to took effect under an Order of the Agricultural Wages Board.  
 § The subsistence wage for adult able-bodied underground workers remains unchanged at 8s. 3d. per day.  
 ¶ Prior to 12th May a minimum of 40 per cent. on basis rates was paid to surface labourers. The current district percentage was 41½ in Radstock and 35½ in Newbury. At the present time the percentages are 35½ and 30 respectively.  
 \*\* Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.  
 †† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1927 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Pig Iron Manufacture (cont.)	North Lincolnshire	6 Nov.	Engineers, electricians, apprentices, improvers, etc., employed on maintenance work at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works.	Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 22½ per cent. above the standard, plus a tonnage bonus.†
	North of England ...	20 Nov.	Iron puddlers ... ..	Increase of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard, plus a tonnage bonus.
		28 Nov.	Iron millmen ... ..	Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 29½ per cent. above the standard.
	England and West of Scotland.	6 Nov.	Men employed in steel-melting shops—Melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladle-men, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producermen and charge wheelers (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).‡	Increase* of 1½ per cent. on the standard of 1905, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard (basic process) and at the standard rates (acid process).
Semi-skilled workers, etc., on 8-hour shifts (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).§			Increase* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard.	
North of England ...	6 Nov.	Semi-skilled workers, etc., whose wages are based on a 47-hour week (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).¶	Increase* of 1½ of the total war advances given between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1st May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
		also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Increase* of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1st May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
North-East Coast Area (except certain men employed at Newburn, West Hartlepool and Gateshead). Workington ...	6 Nov.	Men employed on direct production in steel-rolling mills (excluding those in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard.	
		Steel millmen (excluding men on base rates below 7s. per shift). Workpeople employed in steel works—	Increase* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates.	
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	6 Nov.	Rail millmen (excluding those on base rates below 7s. per shift).	Increase* of 1½ per cent., making wages 16½ per cent. above the standard of 1909.	
		Enginemen, cranemen, etc. (except those on base rates below 7s. per shift).	Increase* of 1½ per cent., making wages 25 per cent. above the standard of 1909.	
Scunthorpe ...	6 Nov.	Merchant millmen ... ..	Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 32½ per cent. above the standard of 1919.	
South-West Wales ...	6 Nov.	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers, etc. (excluding those on base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard.	
		Workpeople (excluding maintenance men) employed in Siemens steel manufacture.	Sliding-scale percentage on base rates reduced* from 11½ to 6½. Bonuses paid to men on base rates up to 30s. per week increased from 3½ to 4½ for adults, leaving total wages for such workers as previously, viz., 30s. per week, plus 50 per cent. Ex gratia bonus granted to boys under 18 years to remain at 5 per cent., making wages 11½ per cent. above base, plus 3d. per shift. Bonuses paid to men rated over 30s. and up to 50s. to remain as previously (6d. per shift for those at 30s. 1d. to 40s., and 4d. per shift for those at 40s. 1d. to 50s.), subject to the proviso that men on base rates from 30s. 1d. to 39s. 6d. are to have their bonus made up so that they receive the same gross earnings (viz., 45s.) as men with a base rate of 40s.¶	
Farriery	Various towns in Yorkshire.¶	1 Nov.	Farriers ... ..	Increase of ¼d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d. per hour; doormen at Hull, 1s. 5½d. per hour; doormen at other towns, 1s. 5d. per hour.
			Workpeople employed in the metallic bedstead trade.	Increase** in flat rate bonus of 2s. per week for male workers 18 years and over†, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for boys under 18 years and girls under 18 but over 15 years. Rates after change: men—cupola men, 1s. 3d. per hour (56 hours); frame setters, 1s. 4d. per hour (48 hours); stockfitters in charge, 85s. per week; stockfitters (second hands, able to fit all classes of stocks), 70s. per week; stockfitters (improvers, not less than 3 years' experience), 30s. per week; bending, 1s. 3d. per hour; cutting off and other sections, 1s. 1½d. per hour, less 12½ per cent. in each case, and subject to the addition of a bonus of 14s. per week; women 18 years and over—wrappers and lacquerers, 7d. per hour; colour painters and transferers, 8d. per hour; subject, in each case, to the addition of a bonus of 7s. per week.

\* Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.  
 † This decrease operated for two weeks only. It was then agreed by the employers and workpeople to restore—as from 20th November—the 2½ per cent. on standard rates.  
 ‡ Principally the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South and West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and the Midlands.  
 § The men on 8-hour shifts referred to are those who do not receive allowance hours and/or extra payment for night shift during the normal week. The men whose wages are based on a 47-hour week are mainly men employed in engineering shops or working with craftsmen, who receive the allowances or extra payments mentioned.  
 ¶ Men in receipt of base rates of 50s. 1d. to 51s. 10d. per week (i.e., those who do not receive a bonus) are to receive a make-up sufficient to bring their gross earnings up to those with a base rate of 50s. per week.  
 \*\* Including Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Todmorden.  
 †† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
 ††† The increase for youths engaged after 18th October, 1926, was 1s. per week for those 18 to 20 years of age, and 1s. 6d. per week for those from 20 to 21 years of age.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1927 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Clothworking	London ... ..	1 Oct.	Labourers ... ..	Rate of 54s. per week adopted.
Machine Calico Printing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Dec.	Machine calico printers ... ..	Supplementary cost-of-living wage increased* from 44-80 per cent. to 48-30 per cent. on basis wages, the flat rate bonuses of 13s. per week for journeymen and 13s. per week for apprentices remaining unchanged.
Silk Dyeing and Finishing.	Macclesfield ... ..	Pay day in week ending 12 Nov.	Male workers 21 years and over ... ..	Increase* of 3d. per week, and the special advance of 2s. per week previously awarded withdrawn. Rates after change: 43s. at 21, increasing to 49s. at 22½ years.
Linen and Cotton Hand-kerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Manufacture.	Northern Ireland ... ..	28 Nov.	Female workers 18 years* and over Male workers employed in the Swiss embroidery branch.	Increase* of 1d. per week (28s. to 28s. 1d.) Minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, at 3d. per hour during first six months' employment, 6d. per hour during second six months' and 10d. per hour after 12 months' employment, and piecework basis time rates fixed, according to machines operated, at 10½d., 11½d. or 1s. 0½d. per hour (see page 441 of November GAZETTE).
	Lancashire (Eastern Part) and Westmorland.		Female workers employed on fancy linens.	New scale of minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, for workers engaged on the making of bias or french corners (see page 441 of November GAZETTE).
Retail Bespoke Tailoring.	Macclesfield ... ..	28 Nov.	Workpeople employed in the retail-bespoke tailoring trade.	Differential minimum time and piecework basis time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople in various areas, and differential piece rates based on Parts I and II of the London Time Log of 1923 fixed for journeymen tailors performing certain classes of work. The minimum hourly time rates for Grade III male workers and for the lowest-rated adult male workers (formerly 1s. 3d. and 1s. respectively) and for the two classes of adult female workers (formerly 9½d. and 7½d.) are as follows:—Men—Grade III, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 4½d.; lowest rated, 11½d. to 1s. 1½d.; women—Grade I, 9½d. or 9½d.; others, 7½d.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture.	Great Britain ... ..	9, 10 or 11 Nov.	Workpeople employed in boot and shoe manufacture:— Male operatives in all departments.	General minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates and log rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, to be those applicable to Area A.2 in Cheshire, Lancashire (Western Part), and Shropshire, specified in the Trade Board's notice R.B. (W.L.) 2.†
	Great Britain ... ..	1 Nov.	Female operatives in closing and heel building departments or in stock or shoe rooms.	Decreases* in minimum rates of from 1s. 6d. to 4s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 13s. at 15 years, increasing each year to 27s. at 18, 50s. at 21, and to 56s. at 22.
Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Great Britain ... ..	1 Nov.	Pieceworkers ... ..	Decreases* in minimum rates of from 1s. to 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. at 15 years, increasing each year to 24s. 3d. at 18 and to 34s. at 20.
Fur Making	Great Britain ... ..	7 Nov.	Workpeople employed in the furriers' section:— Male and female workers employed in the cutting and nailing branch (other than cutters and nailers as defined, apprentices or learners).	Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on list prices.† Increase* in the minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts (a) of 2½ per cent. on list prices for bespoke hand-sewn, bespoke hand-sewn surgical, bespoke pegged and bespoke riveted work, leaving wages 7½ per cent. below list prices, and (b) of 5 per cent. for repairing, leaving wages 12½ per cent. below list prices (see page 441 of November GAZETTE).
	Great Britain ... ..	7 Nov.	Male and female workers (other than learners) with less than four years' employment in the machining, lining, finishing and hand fur sewing branch.	New scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts starting at 16s. per week during first year, and increasing to 37s. during fourth year of employment.
Baking and Confectionery.	Airedale, Calderdale, Dewsbury, and Huddersfield Districts.	1st pay day after 7 Nov.	Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies:— Adult male workers ... ..	Rates adopted of 70s. per week for foremen, chazgemen and singlehands, 65s. per week for doughmixers, ovenmen, and second hands, 62s. per week for table-hands, and 55s. per week for allied workers.
	Edinburgh and Leith	26 Nov.	Male workers under 21 ... ..	Scale of rates adopted starting at 18s. per week at 16 years increasing each year to 33s. at 20 years.
Mill-Sawing	Nottingham, Derby, and Burton-on-Trent.	1 Nov.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers ... ..	Scales of rates adopted starting at 14s. per week for skilled workers and 11s. per week for unskilled workers at 15 years, increasing each year to 23s. and 20s. respectively at 18 and to 37s. and 32s. respectively at 21 and over; forewomen to receive 44s. per week.
	King's Lynn ... ..	28 Oct.	Workpeople employed in sawmills ... ..	Increase* of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change 73s. 6d.
Furniture Manufacture.	Edinburgh and Leith	19 Nov.	Bakers and confectioners ... ..	Increase* of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 73s. 6d.
	Oldham ... ..	1 Nov.	Upholsterers and french polishers	Increase* of 1d. per hour for men and ½d. per hour for boys. Minimum rates after change: machinemakers and sawyers, 1s. 3d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.
Furniture Manufacture.	Wigan ... ..	1 Nov.	Cabinet makers, machinists, french polishers and upholsterers.	Increase* of ½d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 6½d.)
	Wigan ... ..	1 Nov.	Upholsterers and french polishers	Increase of ½d. per hour for male workers, ½d. per hour for female workers, and of proportionate amounts for apprentices and improvers. Rates after change: cabinet makers, chair-makers, carvers, machinists (after four years on machines), upholsterers, polishers and mattress makers, 1s. 8d.; labourers, 1s. 3d.; upholsterers and women, polishers, 1s.; glass workers—bevelers, silverers and cutters, 1s. 8d.; brilliant cutters, 1s. 9d.; fitters, 1s. 6d.; packers, 1s. 5d.

\* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
 † The minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates previously fixed were those applicable to Area B. Log rates have not previously been fixed.  
 ‡ Except clerks, engineers, mechanics, electricians, stokers, porters, sweepers-up, lift or hoistmen, caretakers, timekeepers, and labourers and odd-job men not employed in actual manufacturing.  
 § The effect of this reduction is that in the case of statements compiled or revised under the 1919 agreement, which came into force on or before 31st December, 1919, net list prices are paid to men, while women are paid 2½ per cent. above the list; in the case of those which came into operation on or after 1st January, 1920, net list prices are paid to women, while men are paid 2½ per cent. below the list, in the case of the Northampton County Clickers' Statement, which came into operation on 2nd June, 1919, wages are 5 per cent. below list prices; and in the case of those statements the piecework prices of which include the percentage increase granted by the Interim (1920) Agreement wages are 10 per cent. below list prices for men and 7½ per cent. below for women.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1927 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Civil Engineering	Great Britain* ... ..	1st pay day after 17 Nov.	Men employed by civil engineering contractors.	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change for navvies and labourers:—County of London, 1s. 3½d.; Class I districts, 1s. 5d.; Class II, 1s. 2d.; Class III, 1s. 1d.; Class IV, 1s.; Class V, 11d.†
Tramway Undertakings.	Great Britain ... ..	1st full pay after 17 Nov.	Youths under 19 years of age employed as parcels, messengers, point and trolley boys.	Cost-of-living sliding scale terminated and rates of wages adopted as follows:—14 years of age, 13s.; 15 years, 15s.; 16 years, 17s.; 17 years, 22s.; 18 years, 27s. 6d.; resulting in a decrease of 3d. per week for those 14, 15 and 16 years of age, and an increase of 3d. per week for those 17 and 18.
Railway Service	County Down ... ..	1st Nov.	All classes of workpeople except those in workshops.	Decrease of 10 per cent. Rates after change: drivers, first and second years, 64s. 10d.; after second year, 70s. 2d. to 81s.; firemen, first and second years, 51s. 4d.; after second year, 56s. 8d. to 64s. 10d.; cleaners, 21s. 7d. to 40s. 6d.; traffic porters, Belfast, 38s. 6d., rural stations, 34s.; goods porters, Belfast, 43s. 8d.; guards, Belfast, 46s. 10d. to 52s. 2d.; branch guards, rural, 45s. 3d. to 50s. 8d.; platelayers, Belfast yards, 41s. 5d., rural areas, 35s. 9d.†
Dock, Wharf, etc. Labour.	North West Coast (Workington, Whitehaven, Maryport and Silloth). Cumberland ... ..	1 Nov.	Coal trimmers ... ..	Decrease of 5 per cent. on tariff rates‡ leaving wages at tariff rates less 35 per cent.
Local Government Services (Non-Trading).	Certain Authorities in Northumberland and Durham.	1 Sept.	Manual workers employed by County Council.	Cost-of-living sliding scale revised and increase of 2s. 6d. per week granted. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 44s.
	Bethnal Green ... ..	4 Nov.	Manual workers ... ..	Decreases in scheduled minimum rates in respect of (a) Grade A Authorities, of ½d. per hour where previous minimum was 55s. per week and over and of ¼d. per hour where minimum was under 55s. per week, and (b) Grade B Authorities, of ¼d. per hour for all classes of workpeople; no change taking place in respect of Grade C Authorities. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change include: paviers and jiggers' labourers and steam roller drivers, Grade A Authorities, 1s. 3½d.; B, 1s. 3d.; C, 1s. 1½d.; 1st class roadmen (r.p.a.r.s.), A, 1s. 2½d.; B, 1s. 2d.; C, 1s. 0½d.; dustmen (day work), A, 1s. 2d.; B, 1s. 1d.; C, 11½d.; road sweepers and general labourers: A, 1s. 1d.; B, 1s.; C, 10 d.†
Lighthouse Service.	Glamorganshire	11 Oct. 16 Nov.	Manual workers employed by County Council.	Rates of wages reduced so as to leave the present rates at not more than 10 per cent. above the scheduled rates of the London District Joint Industrial Council's other trade rate, resulting in reductions carrying up to about 10s. per week. Rates after change include: scavengers, 62s. 11d.; carmen, dust collectors and labourers, 66s. 6d.
	Perth ... ..	6 Oct.	Manual workers employed in non-trading and water departments.	Increase of 7½d. per week. Rate after change for fillers, sweepers and roadmen, 51s. 10d.
Leather Belt Manufacture.	England and Wales	1st full pay period following 31 Oct.	Principal and assistant lighthouse keepers employed by the Corporation of Trinity House.	Increase† of 1s. per week. Rates after change: road labourers 53s.; scavengers and sweepers, 54s. 6d.; waterworks' labourers, 55s.; pipe layers, 64s. 6d.
	Great Britain ... ..	1st pay day in Nov.	Workpeople employed in leather belt manufacture.	New scale of basic rates of pay adopted as follows:—Assistant keepers, under two years' service, 3s. 6d. per day, rising to 4s. 9d. per day after 18 years' service; principal keepers, under two years' service, 5s. 3d. per day, rising to 5s. 6d. per day after four years' service, resulting in slight increases in certain cases.†
Brush and Broom Making.	Great Britain ... ..	1 Nov.	Workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade:— Certain classes of male timeworkers.*	Percentage payable on base rates embodied in agreement of November, 1922, increased† from 66 to 67, resulting in the case of timeworkers in an increase of ¼d. per hour for semi-skilled men, the rates for skilled men remaining unchanged. Current rates of wages for timeworkers: skilled—London, 1s. 3½d., provinces, 1s. 3d.; semi-skilled—London, 1s. 0½d., provinces, 11½d.
	Great Britain ... ..	1 Nov.	Female pan hands ... .. Female workers (other than pan hands and learners).	Increase† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see page 441 of November GAZETTE):— Increase† of ¼d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d.).

\* The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board. It is understood that the rates of wages agreed by the Board are followed by certain public bodies in various parts of the country. The Classes in which districts are placed are determined by economic and geographical conditions. The Board have agreed that the Class I rate should apply to the following towns:—Newcastle-on-Tyne, North and South Shields, Hartlepool, Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Leeds, Bradford, Hull, Manchester, Oldham, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Rochdale, Bolton, Burnley, Barrow-in-Furness, Stockport, Birmingham, Smethwick, West Bromwich, Coventry, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Wolverhampton, Acton, Croydon, Tottenham, East Ham, Willesden, Wimbledon, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport (Mon.), Merthyr Tydfil, and Bristol.  
 † Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
 ‡ The reduction referred to applies to employees of the Belfast and County Down Railway and took effect under an award of the Irish Railways Wages Board. It is to operate from 1st November, 1927, until 31st October, 1928.  
 § A further decrease of 2½ per cent. is to take effect from 1st May, 1928.  
 ¶ The above reductions took effect under recommendations made by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council. A full list of the Authorities affected is not yet available. Wages in this Area are regulated by a cost-of-living sliding-scale on the basis of ¼d. per hour variation in wages for each complete six points variation in the cost-of-living index number. Under the former Agreement of the Council it was provided that wages should not be changed until the index number fell to 60 or rose to 84. The revised Agreement provides for a reduction as stated, subject to an increase of ¼d. per hour if the index number rises to 72.  
 ¶ These rates took effect under a Decision (1342) of the Industrial Court dated 31st October, 1927. They are subject to the addition of the current Civil Service cost-of-living bonus and certain allowances.  
 \*\* Viz., men 21 years and over with three years' experience in certain operations and those of all ages who have served at least five years' apprenticeship in one or more of these operations.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN DECEMBER, 1927.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in rates of wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in December. *Increases*.—Electrical cable makers. *Decreases*.—Coal miners in Warwickshire; iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands. Particulars of these and of other changes reported in December will be published in the January issue of the GAZETTE.

TRADE DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER.\*

**Number, Magnitude and Duration.**—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in November in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 16, as compared with 27 in the previous month, and 12 in November, 1926. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred though not themselves parties to the disputes) was 6,600. In addition, about 4,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 15 disputes which began before November and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 31, involving about 10,600 workpeople, and resulting in a loss of approximately 51,000 working days.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in November in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress:—

Groups of Industries.†	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...	5	4	9	5,200	16,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	4	1	5	700	6,000
Clothing...	1	1	2	3,700	19,000
Other Industries ...	6	10	16	1,000	10,000
<b>Total, Nov., 1927</b> ...	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>10,600</b>	<b>51,000</b>
<b>Total, Oct., 1927</b> ...	<b>16</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Total, Nov., 1926</b> ...	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>815,000†</b>	<b>16,057,000†</b>

**Causes.**—Of the 16 disputes beginning in November, 8, directly involving 400 workpeople, arose on questions as to wages; 3, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 3, directly involving 900 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; and 2, directly involving 700 workpeople, on other questions.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING NOVEMBER, 1927.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object §	Result. §
	Directly.	Indirectly. §	Began.	Ended.		
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING:—</b>			1927.	1927.		
Coal hewers, fillers, putters, etc.—Durham (near).	1,770	463	18 June	...	Refusal to work on Saturdays	No settlement reported.
<b>METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRIES:—</b>						
Boilermakers and helpers—Southampton.	500	...	5 Nov.	8 Nov.	Against employment of non-unionists by a sub-contractor.	Non-unionists in question withdrawn.
<b>CLOTHING INDUSTRY:—</b>						
Tailors ...	170	...	15 Nov.	25 Nov.	Dispute respecting the employment of boy improvers and others.	Agreement effected providing <i>inter alia</i> that boys learning tailoring be provided with facilities for so doing.
Pressers, machinists, cutters, etc.	3,500	...	23 Nov.			

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† The general coal-mining stoppage was in progress in November, 1926.

‡ In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have, been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, very slight, except in the mining and quarrying group in 1926, when about 44,000 workpeople were involved in more than one dispute, and in the case of industries involved in the General Strike in May, 1926.

§ I.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

|| This dispute caused stoppage of work on Saturdays only.

**Results.**—Settlements were effected in the case of 6 new disputes, directly involving 4,700 workpeople, and 9 old disputes, directly involving 1,300 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, one, directly involving 300 workpeople, was settled in favour of the workpeople; 5, directly involving 800 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 9, directly involving 4,900 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of one dispute, directly involving 20 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1926 AND 1927.‡

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first eleven months of 1927, as compared with the corresponding period of 1926:—

Groups of Industries.	January to Nov., 1926.			January to Nov., 1927.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
General Strike ...	1	1,580,000	15,000,000	...	...	...
Mining and Quarrying ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General Coal-Mining Stoppage ...	1	1,050,000	142,700,000	...	...	...
Other Stoppages ...	49	44,000	1,172,000	99	69,000	672,000
Engineering ...	17	4,000	75,000	6	2,000	11,000
Shipbuilding ...	7	1,000	4,000	20	7,000	30,000
Other Metal ...	37	10,000	138,000	36	6,000	39,000
Textile ...	30	16,000	189,000	25	4,000	27,000
Clothing ...	12	1,000	8,000	10	9,000	199,000
Woodworking and Furnishing ...	12	2,000	34,000	18	1,000	9,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	40	3,000	37,000	34	8,000	126,000
Transport ...	43	23,000	170,000	16	2,000	6,000
Other ...	43	7,000	122,000	19	1,000	17,000
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>292</b>	<b>2,741,000</b>	<b>159,650,000</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>109,000</b>	<b>1,136,000</b>

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases\* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during November, 1927, under the Factory and Workshop Act or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, was 49. Ten deaths\* were reported during the month, seven due to epitheliomatous ulceration, two due to lead poisoning and one due to mercurial poisoning. In addition, two cases of lead poisoning among house plumbers (both fatal) came to the knowledge of the Home Office during November, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.
Among Operatives engaged in—	
Smelting of Metals ... 3	Mercurial Poisoning ... 1
Plumbing and Soldering ... 5	
Shipbreaking ... 5	
Printing ... 3	
Tinning of Metals ...	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ... 4	
White and Red Lead Works ...	
Pottery† ... 1	
Vitreous Enamelling ...	
Electric Accumulator Works ... 1	
Paint and Colour Works... 1	
Indiarubber Works ...	
Coach and Car Painting ...	
Shipbuilding ...	
Paint used in Other Industries ... 2	
Other Industries... 1	
Painting of Buildings ... 9	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE</b> ... <b>30</b>	
	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.
	Wool ... 2
	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 1
	<b>TOTAL, ANTHRAX</b> ... <b>3</b>
	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.
	Pitch ... 4
	Tar ... 2
	Paraffin ... 2
	Oil... 5
	<b>TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION</b> ... <b>11</b>
	(e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.
	Manufacture of Bichromates ... 3
	Dyeing and Finishing ... 3
	Chrome Tanning... 1
	Other Industries... 1
	<b>TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION</b> ... <b>4</b>

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during November, 1927, as killed in the course of their employment was 221, as compared with 190 in the previous month and with 144‡ in November, 1926. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in November numbered 86, as compared with 42 in the previous month and with 44 in November, 1926.

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued).
Brakemen and Goods Guards ... 1	Other Metal Trades ... 3
Engine Drivers ... 1	Shipbuilding ... 9
Firemen ...	Wood ... 4
Guards (Passenger) ...	Gas ... 1
Permanent Way Men ... 12	Electric Generating Stations ... 2
Porters ... 2	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ... 7
Shunters ... 1	Chemicals, etc. ... 5
Mechanics ... 2	Food and Drink ... 6
Labourers ...	Paper, Printing, etc. ... 8
Miscellaneous ... 1	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...
Contractors' Servants ... 2	Rubber Trades ...
	Other Non-Textile Industries ... 4
<b>TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE</b> ... <b>22</b>	
	<b>MINES.</b>
	Underground ... 80
	Surface ... 7
	<b>TOTAL, MINES</b> ... <b>87</b>
	<b>QUARRIES over 20 feet deep</b> ... <b>8</b>
	<b>FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.</b>
	Cotton ... 3
	Wool, Worsted and Shoddy ... 1
	Other Textiles ... 1
	Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ... 1
	Metal Extracting and Refining ...
	Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ... 9
	Metal Founding ... 3
	Engineering and Machine Making ... 6
	Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering... 4
	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ... 1
	<b>TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS</b> ... <b>103</b>
	<b>PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.</b>
	Docks, Wharves, etc. ... 12
	Buildings ... 12
	Warehouses and Railway Sidings ... 2
	<b>TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS</b> ... <b>103</b>
	<b>Use or working of Sewage Works</b> ... <b>1</b>
	<b>Total (excluding Seamen)</b> ... <b>221</b>
	<b>SEAMEN.</b>
	Trading Vessels, Sailing ...
	" " Steam ... 75
	Fishing Vessels, Sailing ...
	" " Steam ... 11
	<b>TOTAL, SEAMEN</b> ... <b>86</b>
	<b>Total (including Seamen)</b> ... <b>307</b>

\* 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. † The person affected was a male. ‡ The figure formerly published for November, 1926, has been revised.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons\* relieved on one day† in November, 1927, in the poor-law areas in the thirty-one selected urban areas named below was 763,159, or 0.7 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 26.0 per cent. less than in November, 1926. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 427, 424 and 577 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in November, 1927.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>Metropolis.</b>						
West District ...	9,213	7,236	16,449	198	+ 6	- 12
North District ...	10,506	17,715	28,221	274	+ 6	- 40
Central District ...	2,300	2,353	4,653	347	+ 4	- 49
East District ...	9,974	57,850	67,824	1,040	+ 1	- 146
South District ...	19,280	70,674	89,954	458	+ 10	- 57
<b>TOTAL Metropolis</b> ...	<b>51,273</b>	<b>155,828</b>	<b>207,101</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>+ 7</b>	<b>- 57</b>
West Ham ...	4,502	28,925	33,427	442	- 3	- 242
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District	2,915	26,190	29,105	574	- 11	- 720
Stockton and Tees District ...	1,385	15,795	17,180	622	- 2	- 236
Bolton, Oldham, etc. District ...	4,213	8,086	12,299	157	+ 1	- 32
Wigan District ...	1,840	14,157	15,997	352	+ 2	- 1,017
Manchester District	9,443	38,207	47,650	455	+ 5	- 34
Liverpool District	9,598	64,627	74,225	585	+ 1	- 18
Bradford District ...	1,864	6,684	8,548	231	+ 8	- 21
Halifax and Huddersfield ...	1,531	2,973	4,504	121	+ 3	-
Leeds ...	2,802	10,801	13,603	285	+ 6	- 105
Barnsley District ...	975	10,392	11,367	338	- 8	- 2,322
Sheffield ...	2,572	23,127	25,699	499	- 8	- 180
Hull District ...	1,789	15,242	17,031	532	+ 21	- 39
North Staffordshire	2,442	8,777	11,219	270	+ 1	- 98
Nottingham District	2,142	11,906	14,048	299	+ 3	- 7
Leicester ...	1,164	3,993	5,157	213	+ 9	-
Wolverhampton District ...	3,524	16,014	19,538	259	+ 10	- 19
Birmingham ...	7,394	18,267	25,661	274	+ 5	- 32
Bristol District ...	2,553	14,009	16,562	400	+ 6	- 28
Cardiff and Swansea	2,603	19,570	22,173	459	+ 5	- 230
<b>TOTAL, "Other Districts"</b> ...	<b>62,749</b>	<b>328,817</b>	<b>391,566</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>- 196</b>
<b>TOTAL Districts in England and Wales</b> ...	<b>118,524</b>	<b>513,570</b>	<b>632,094</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>+ 4</b>	<b>- 158</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Glasgow District ...	5,891	77,564	83,455	868	- 18	- 99
Paisley and Greenock District ...	969	12,360	13,329	690	- 14	- 68
Edinburgh ...	1,668	16,261	17,929	423	+ 2	- 85
Dunfermline ...	840	4,758	5,598	266	+ 7	- 68
Aberdeen ...	525	4,429	4,954	314	+ 16	- 1
Coatbridge & Airdrie	367	5,433	5,800	570	+ 9	- 126
<b>TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts</b> ...	<b>10,260</b>	<b>120,805</b>	<b>131,065</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>- 7</b>	<b>- 84</b>
<b>TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Nov., 1927</b> ...	<b>128,784</b>	<b>634,375</b>	<b>763,159</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>- 150</b>

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland granted during November, 1927, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted in Nov., 1927.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in Nov., 1927.	Total Departures.	
		1922 to 1926.	Jan.-Nov., 1927.		1922 to 1926.	Jan.-Nov., 1927.
To Australia ...	2,355	113,386‡	25,789†	2,720	111,716	28,007
" New Zealand ...	293	35,423‡	5,232†	264	34,404	4,210
" Canada ...	400	40,606‡	24,727†	577	40,862	25,185
Province of Ontario ...	...	1,367	...	...	1,356	...
South Africa ...	20	500	239†	14	251	178
Minor Schemes ...	49	6,752	1,268†	68	5,927	1,131
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>3,117</b>	<b>198,034‡</b>	<b>57,255†</b>	<b>3,643</b>	<b>194,516</b>	<b>58,711</b>

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

\* The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in asylums, registered hospitals and licensed houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

† The figures for England and Wales relate to 26th November, and those for Scotland to 15th November.

‡ Revised figures.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	Rise.	Date.
UNITED KINGDOM ...	Per cent. 62	Per cent. 67	Per cent. 61	Per cent. 59	Per cent. 63	1927. 1 Dec.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>						
Czechoslovakia ...	737	816	776	862	810	Sept.
Denmark ...	100	110	59	53	52	Oct.
Egypt (Cairo)†	48	58	58	47	45	Sept.
Finland ...	916	1,007	967	965	1,020	Oct.
France (Paris)‡	260	321	474	457	400	Nov.
" (other towns)‡	300§	351§	510§	453§	453	Aug.
Germany ...	...	54	45	57	52	Nov.
Holland (The Hague)	67	76	68	72	60	Sept.
Italy (Milan)	408	502	554	424	409	Oct.
" (Rome)	369	427	498	425	408	Oct.
Norway ...	148	160	98	75	71	Nov.
Spain (Madrid)‡	82	90	86	89	127	Oct.
" (Barcelona)‡	72	82	63	64	67	Oct.
Sweden†	59	69	56	51	55	Nov.
Switzerland ...	70	69	59	57	59	Oct.
United States ...	40	56	54	50	53	Oct.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp; C.</b>						
Australia ...	49†	56	59	52	57	Sept.
Canada ...	34†	42†	51†	49	51	Nov.
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	51	52	55	54	49	Dec.
Irish Free State ...	85	88	74	66	72	Oct.
New Zealand ...	48	51	49	44	44	Nov.
South Africa ...	17	20	16	19	19	Oct.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.‡	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	Rise.	Date.
UNITED KINGDOM	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 70	Per cent. 73	Per cent. 70	Per cent. 66	Per cent. 69	1927. 1 Dec.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>							
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	393	409	537	690	709	Nov.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	589	641	618	647	630	Sept.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	114	119	84	76	76	Oct.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,032	1,094	1,018	1,081	1,115	Oct.
France (Paris)	A,B,C,D,E	267†	301†	439*	407†	391†	3rd qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	43	42	50	51	Nov.
Greece (Athens)	A,B,C,D,E	1,225	1,372	1,708	...	1,856	Oct.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	73†	79†	71†	67†	67	Sept.
Italy (Milan)	A,B,C,D,E	412	498	549	448	436	Oct.
" (Rome)	A,B,C,D,E	349	395	462	406	387	Oct.
Luxemburg ...	A,C,D	361	415	509	681	697	Nov.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	151†	161†	121†	103	95	Nov.
Poland (Warsaw)	A,B,C,D,E	...	57	77	99	102	Sept.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	71	76	72	69	72	Oct.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	...	6*	62	50	61	Oct.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	69†	74†	75†	73†	73	June
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp; C.</b>							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	42†	44†	47†	...	45	1st qr.
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	53†	55†	57†	55†	56	Nov.
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	57	57	57	56	51	Dec.
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	83	88	82	71	75	Oct.
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	60§	63§	61	61	61	Nov.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	32	33	30	32	32	Oct.

\* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris all items), Poland, Australia (Food), Greece, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; United States (all items), Canada, 1913, Australia (all items), November, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and light are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 454-455 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7).]

FRANCE.\*

Unemployment in November.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 26th November, 1927, was 28,474 (19,646 men and 8,828 women). At the end of October the corresponding total was 24,177. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 4,303 (1,931 for men and 2,372 for women), as compared with 5,988 at the end of October. During the last week of November the Exchanges succeeded in placing 20,899 persons in situations, including 7,929 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 139 foreign immigrants.

GERMANY.†

Employment in October and November.—The course of the labour market in October could not on the whole be described as unfavourable. Owing to the mild weather the discharges consequent upon the stoppage of outdoor work were not very numerous. Further, employers were in the position of still being able to absorb fresh workers and for the most part employment was good.

Statistical returns to the number of 3,926 were received from representative establishments in various industries employing 1,747,000 workpeople on 15th October. This total shows an increase of 1.3 per cent. as compared with that for 15th September. Thirty-four per cent. of the workpeople were employed in establishments reporting good employment (as against 32 per cent. in September) and 14 per cent. in those reporting bad employment (14 per cent. also in September). Increases in the number employed were shown in particular by the food, etc., musical instrument and toys, wood-working, engineering and electrical and leather industries.

The membership of health insurance societies increased from 14,697,568 on 1st October to 14,809,730 on 31st October, or by 0.8 per cent., as against an advance of 0.4 per cent. between 1st September and 1st October.

On 15th November, 1927, the Employment Exchanges making returns reported 896,375 persons on the "live register," as against 784,035 on 14th October, and 1,835,939 on 16th November, 1926. The number of vacant situations registered at the Exchanges on 15th November was 37,460, as compared with 62,101 on 14th October and 16,920 on 16th November, 1926.

Figures showing the number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment are available for 15th November, 1927, on which date the total was 518,596 (including 126,027 entitled to assistance from special funds). On 15th October the corresponding total was 442,453 (including 112,790 from special funds).

Returns relating to 3,955,965 organised workers were received from 39 national trade unions. Of these, 1,770,112, or 4.5 per cent., were totally unemployed on 29th October, as compared with 4.6 per cent. on 24th September, and 14.2 per cent. at the end of October, 1926. In addition, 79,076, or 2.0 per cent., were working short time, as against 2.4 per cent. on 24th September, and 10.2 per cent. at the end of October, 1926.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment among the principal groups of trades represented in the above totals.

Groups of Trades.	Membership reported on at end of October, 1927.	Percentage unemployed at end of month.	
		October, 1927.	September, 1927.
All Unions making Returns	3,955,965	4.5	4.6
Mining ...	149,400	1.1	1.0
Pottery, etc. ...	217,200	4.8	3.8
Engineering and metal ...	838,300	4.1	4.5
Chemical ...	238,500	4.9	5.3
Textile ...	374,200	2.0	2.4
Paper ...	53,600	4.4	5.2
Leather ...	144,500	7.1	7.4
Wood ...	230,500	6.3	7.5
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	218,200	6.1	6.7
Clothing ...	87,300	9.9	12.5
Building ...	581,800	5.5	4.0
Printing ...	140,200	3.8	4.0
Transport ...	306,200	4.4	5.2

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in October.—According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th November, 1927, the number of persons in receipt of

\* *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 2nd December, 1927. Paris. † *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 20th November and 1st December, 1927. ‡ Members of these societies are persons under obligation to pay insurance premiums. During unemployment they are relieved of this obligation; once paying members are assumed to be in employment.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Boards Act, 1909-1918.

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRING TRADE—MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES—MANAGER OF BRANCH SHOP—"PURPOSE UNCONNECTED WITH HIS WORK"—"WAITING FOR WORK."

The plaintiff claimed from the defendants, a firm of boot and shoe repairers, approximately £363 which he alleged was due to him as wages.

The boot and shoe repairing trade is a trade for which minimum piece rates and time rates have been fixed by the Trade Board in accordance with the provisions of the Trade Boards Acts.

The plaintiff was employed by the defendants as working manager of a branch shop at Openshaw for some three years. By the terms of his agreement with the defendants the plaintiff was bound to do all kinds of boot repairing; to be responsible for all money and goods at the shop; to render accounts to the defendants, and pay over all moneys to them; to keep all the books; and to keep the shop open during business hours and be in attendance there. The business hours were specified in a separate document, which further provided that the shop must be cleaned before 10 a.m.; that cash must be balanced and the proper entries made in the day book each night; and that a balance sheet must be completed weekly.

It was admitted that the plaintiff had been paid the full amount of wages according to the terms of the agreement.

This action was brought on the grounds that the amount of the wages due to the plaintiff was regulated by the Trade Boards Acts and regulations; that he had not received payment at the minimum rates provided by those Acts; and that the defendants were liable to pay him the balance by reason of subsection 5 of Section 6 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, which provides that any agreement for the payment of wages in contravention of the provisions of the Acts shall be void.

The business of the branch shop of which the plaintiff was manager was, in the main, the repairing of boots and shoes which customers brought to the shop; there was, however, in addition, a certain amount of retail business done in the sale of sundries. On the average the plaintiff was occupied in the actual repairing of boots and shoes during about half the business hours, and the remainder of his time was devoted to his other duties under the contract.

Section 8 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, provides that, "for the purpose of calculating the amount of the wages payable in the case of a worker employed on any work for which a minimum rate of wage has been fixed under the Act, the worker shall be deemed to have been employed during all the time during which he was present on the premises of the employer, unless the employer proves that . . . he was so present for some purpose unconnected with his work, and other than that of waiting for work to be given to him to perform. . . ."

For the plaintiff it was contended that, having regard to that Section, he was entitled to the legal minimum rates in respect of all the time which he spent at the shop during business hours, inasmuch as he was to be deemed to have been employed in repairing boots and shoes during the whole of that time.

On behalf of the defendants it was argued that the plaintiff was only employed as a boot and shoe repairer during the periods in which he was actually repairing boots and shoes, and not during the times when he was occupied about his other duties.

In giving judgment, Mr. Justice MacKinnon said that the chief difficulty arose in connection with the provisions of Section 8 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918.

It was agreed that the plaintiff was in attendance on the defendants' premises for a considerable number of hours weekly, and during that time he was to be deemed to have been employed on the work of boot and shoe repairing unless it was proved that "he was present for some purpose unconnected with his work, and other than that of waiting for work to be given him to perform."

His Lordship took the view that, having regard to the objects of the Trade Boards Acts, the words "his work" in Section 8 were to be construed as meaning "his work of boot and shoe repairing." The defendants had shown that during about half the business hours the plaintiff was occupied cleaning the shop, selling sundries, keeping the books, and so on; and had thus been successful in proving that to a considerable extent the plaintiff was present at their premises for some purpose unconnected with the work of boot and shoe repairing.

But the defendants had to go further; in order to succeed they had to prove that the plaintiff was present at their premises for some purpose "other than that of waiting for work to be given him to perform." Unquestionably he was waiting there for work to be given him to perform in the sense that, if a customer came in with given him to perform while the plaintiff was either doing nothing or performing any of his other duties, he would be given work to perform. In his view, however, the case that was contemplated by the section was not a case of that sort, but the case of a worker employed during the whole of his time to do work for which a minimum rate had been fixed; such a worker was not to be prejudiced if his work were interrupted owing to delay in the provision of raw material or to the absence of raw material. It was open to the defendants to say that the plaintiff was present at their shop for a purpose other than that of waiting for work to be given him to perform, that purpose being the performance of his duties apart from the actual boot and shoe repairing.

unemployment benefit in Austria was 127,392 at the end of October, as compared with 129,948 at the end of the preceding month. In Vienna alone there were 61,948 persons in receipt of benefit at the end of October as against 66,190 at the end of September. The total number of applicants for work registered at the employment exchanges at the end of October was 153,987, including 74,934 in Vienna.

BELGIUM.\*

Unemployment in October.—Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 143 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 607,677, show that 8,728 (1.4 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month. Both in the preceding month and in October, 1926, the corresponding percentage was 1.4. In addition, 21,290 members were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment in October numbered 339,598, or 1.86 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 2.05 and in October, 1926, 1.80.

ITALY.†

Unemployment in September.—According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 305,930 persons were unemployed on 30th September, 1927, as compared with 291,821 on 31st August and 89,434 at the end of September, 1926. In addition 133,568 persons were partially unemployed on that date as compared with 134,251 at the end of the preceding month, and 14,519 at the end of September, 1926. These totals must be regarded as approximate only. In September, 105,309 insured workers received benefit in respect of a total of 1,879,167 days of unemployment.

SWITZERLAND.‡

Unemployment in October.—On 31st October, 1927, the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 9,873 (7.5 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) as compared with 8,335 (6.3 per thousand) at the end of September and 14,253 (10.8 per thousand) at the end of October, 1926. Offers of situations made by employers on these dates numbered 2,136, 2,959 and 1,352 respectively.

Unemployment among Insured Workers, 30th September.—Returns from 149 unemployment insurance funds show that, out of an aggregate of 247,147 members, 4,311, or 1.7 per cent., were totally unemployed, and 3,725, or 1.5 per cent., partially so, at the end of September, 1927. On 30th June, 1927, the corresponding percentages (based on returns from 145 funds with 242,378 members) were 1.6 and 1.7 respectively.

UNITED STATES.§

Employment in October.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in October, based on returns from 10,862 establishments in 54 of the principal manufacturing industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 3,002,549 persons employed in October as against 3,017,126 in September, a decrease of 0.5 per cent.

The aggregate wages paid for October show an increase of 1.2 per cent. as compared with September, and the average earnings per head an increase of 1.7 per cent.

Index Number of Employment, October.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for October, 1927, is 87.6 as compared with 88.0 in September, and 92.5 in October, 1926.

CANADA.

Employment in November.—For 1st November, 1927, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,221 firms, with an aggregate of 891,105 upon their pay rolls. On 1st October the same firms reported 903,099 employed and the total for 1st November thus shows a decrease of 11,994 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st November, 1927, is 107.5, as compared with 109.0 at the beginning of the preceding month and 102.8 on 1st November, 1926.

Trade Union Unemployment in October.—On 31st October, 1927, 3.9 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 3.1 at the end of September and 2.6 per cent. in October, 1926.

NEW ZEALAND.\*\*

Unemployment in August.—Returns relating to unemployment in the week ending 13th August, 1927, were furnished to the Census and Statistics Office by trade unions having an aggregate membership of 45,970. Of these, 5,325, or 11.6 per cent., were out of work for more than three days during the week, as compared with 9.7 per cent. in the corresponding week of May, 1927, and 8.3 per cent. in that of August, 1926. (These returns are published at quarterly intervals.)

\* *Revue du Travail*, 30th November, 1927. Brussels. † *Bollettino Mensuale di Statistica*, November, 1927. Rome. ‡ *Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen*, November, 1927. Berne. § *Employment in Selected Manufacturing Industries*, October, 1927. Washington. \*\* *The November Employment Situation*, 1927. Ottawa. † Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa. \*\* *Monthly Abstract of Statistics*, October, 1927. Wellington.

The purpose of the Trade Boards Acts was to ensure that any worker, during the time that he was doing work which was subject to a minimum rate, was being paid that minimum rate, but not to entitle a person who was a member of a privileged class of worker for whom a minimum rate of wages had been fixed to be paid that minimum rate irrespective of the nature of the work which he was doing.

The plaintiff's claim accordingly failed, since Section 8 was not decisive in his favour in view of the facts which had been proved by the defendants.

Judgment was accordingly given for the defendants with costs.—*France v. J. Coombes & Co. High Court of Justice, King's Bench Division. 1st December, 1927.*

#### Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Act, 1927.

WRONGFUL DISMISSAL—LOCAL OR OTHER PUBLIC AUTHORITY—MEMBERSHIP OF A TRADE UNION A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT.

An electrician sued the Birkenhead Corporation for wrongful dismissal: he further claimed a declaration that the Corporation had acted unlawfully in dismissing him because he did not belong to a certain trade union, and sought an injunction restraining the Corporation from so acting in future.

Section 6 of the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Act, 1927, provides that it shall not be lawful for any local or other public authority to make it a condition of the employment of any person that he should or should not be a member of any trade union.

For the plaintiff it was stated that on 2nd August, 1927, after he had been engaged by the defendant Corporation, he was approached by the district secretary of a certain trade union, and, being anxious to retain his job even if it meant joining a trade union under compulsion, he joined that union. On 18th August, however, he was interviewed by the secretary of a competing union, who subsequently telephoned to the Borough Electrical Engineer threatening that, if the plaintiff was not dismissed, the union would stop the job. The plaintiff was then dismissed, but was reinstated towards the end of September.

The defendant Corporation had admitted the plaintiff's cause of action by paying into Court the amount of damages claimed, but they had refused to declare that they had acted unlawfully or to give an undertaking that they would not so act again.

In giving judgment for the plaintiff with costs, the Judge said that there had been an infraction of the Trade Disputes Act. The plaintiff was entitled to a declaration, and there would be liberty to apply for an injunction, but he hoped that this would not be necessary.—*Birkenhead County Court. 28th November, 1927.*

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-26.

### DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

THE Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions\* are final and conclusive.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

#### Case No. 2713/27. (7/11/27.) Section 8 (2) of Principal Act—Employment Left Voluntarily.

CHAMBERMAID LEFT EMPLOYMENT IN ISLE OF MAN—QUESTION WHETHER SUCH EMPLOYMENT WAS WITHIN SCOPE OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

The applicant, whose home was in Lancashire, obtained employment in June, 1927, as a chambermaid in the Isle of Man, but resigned a month later because her mother, who was ill, required her attention. She made a claim for unemployment benefit on her return home on 25th July, but the claim was disallowed on the ground that she had left her employment voluntarily without just cause.

The applicant, in appealing against the disallowance to the Court of Referees, maintained that the Isle of Man was not within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and no disqualification under Section 8 (2) of the principal Act could be imposed in regard to the period of her employment there.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court, in view of the absence of any medical testimony, were not satisfied that the applicant had just cause for leaving.

\* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published by H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given prior to 31st December, 1926, have been published in pamphlet form and later embodied in bound volumes, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1926 (H.M. Stationery Office price 7s. 6d. net). Decisions given subsequent to December, 1926, are printed in pamphlet form and may be obtained as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All inquiries and applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. In his view, the principles of Decision 1195/27\* should be applied. He referred the case to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

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

“In accordance with the principle fully explained by the learned Deputy Umpire in Decision 1195/27, I am of opinion that employment in the Isle of Man (which is not part of the United Kingdom) is not ‘employment’ within the meaning of that expression as used in Section 8 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and, the applicant cannot be disqualified for benefit for leaving, without just cause, service in the Isle of Man.”

#### Case No. 2720/27. (8/11/27.) Section 8 (2) of Principal Act—Employment Left Voluntarily.

CARPENTER DISMISSED FOR REFUSING TO WORK OVERTIME—DISMISSAL FOR SUCH REFUSAL CONTRARY TO WORKING RULE AGREEMENT OF BUILDING TRADE—NO DISQUALIFICATION UNDER SECTION 8 (2).

The applicant, a carpenter, left work on 8th September, 1927, at 5.30 p.m., refusing to work overtime. When he presented himself for work on the following morning he was given two hours' notice and pay. His claim for unemployment benefit was disallowed for six weeks from 8th September on the ground that he had left his employment on that date without just cause.

The applicant maintained that the agreement between the employers and operatives provided that a workman could not be compelled to work overtime. He stated that on previous occasions he had worked overtime beyond the amount permitted by the agreement.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed.

The applicant's association appealed against the disallowance to the Deputy Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

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

“When the applicant presented himself for work one morning he was dismissed because he had refused to work overtime on the previous evening. By the working rule agreement of the building trade in the London District (which was not before the Court of Referees) it is provided that no employee can be dismissed on account of his objection as an individual to work overtime. In these circumstances I can see no reason for disallowing benefit on the ground of misconduct or of voluntary leaving, even though the applicant had worked overtime on previous occasions.”

#### Case No. 2731/27. (10/11/27.) Section 7 (1) (iv) of Principal Act (As Amended)—Genuinely Seeking Work.

SKILLED MACHINIST IN LUTON HAT TRADE LOST EMPLOYMENT IN SLACK SEASON—DID NOT SEEK WORK IN SOME OTHER TRADE.

The applicant, a married woman, whose husband was in employment, was for some years employed as a skilled machinist in the Luton hat trade. She lost her employment on 1st July, 1927, and made a claim for unemployment benefit a week later. Subsequently, on 15th September, her claim was disallowed on the ground that she was not genuinely seeking work.

The applicant, in appealing against the disallowance, stated that prior to the date of disallowance she had sought work only by regular application to her former employer and occasional calls upon one other employer in the same trade. She had not attempted to find work outside the hat trade, which she admitted was of a seasonal nature.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant was not making genuine efforts to find work, but was waiting to return to her former employer.

The applicant, granted leave by the Court, appealed to the Deputy Umpire against the disallowance. She asserted that there was a recognised slack period in the machining branch of the Luton hat trade, during which no employer engaged fresh hands. She submitted that it would be futile to apply for work at factories at which it was common knowledge that no work was available.

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

“The applicant is a skilled machinist in the Luton hat trade, and has a very good industrial record. She was thrown out of employment during a slack time in her trade, which, like many others, has periods of activity and depression, but which is not a seasonal trade in the sense of being closed down during any part of the year.”

“I am satisfied that she had a real desire for resuming the work which she has carried on almost continuously for some years, and that she was, at the time of her suspension of benefit, making reasonable efforts to obtain it.”

“The suggestion appears to be that she ought to have been seeking work in some other occupation. The duty of workers in an industry which has seasonal fluctuations to look for suitable employment of other kinds in the slack season was discussed in Decision 1404/26.† It was there stated that in considering what alternative employment

\* See Umpire's Selected Decisions. (Pamphlet No. 3/1927).  
† See Vol. V, Umpire's Selected Decisions, p. 175. (Pamphlet No. 8/1926.)

is suitable for them ‘special regard must be had to the kinds of employment that they themselves have usually obtained in the slack season, and the others in the same trade usually obtain.’ The decision seems to imply that regard must be had also to such circumstances as the character of the trade, the qualifications of the worker, and the suitability and availability of the alternative employment.

“In the present instance the trade is a specialised and localised industry, dependent on a supply of trained and skilled workers, of whom the applicant is one. The circumstances do not justify an inference that there is any temporary occupation which is suitable for, and probably obtainable by, such a specialised skilled worker as the applicant, or which is usually obtained by other workers of like qualifications in her district; and the mere fact that, after being out of work for two months during a slack period, the applicant had not made inquiries in other industries, is not sufficient reason for disallowing benefit.”

#### Case No. 2800/27. (24/11/27.) Section 1 (2) of 1924 (No. 2) Act—Entitlement to Standard Benefit.

EMPLOYEE'S CONTRIBUTIONS DEDUCTED FROM WAGES—EMPLOYER FAILED TO STAMP INSURANCE CARDS BUT ASSURED EMPLOYEE THAT CARDS WERE DULY STAMPED—NO DISALLOWANCE.

The applicant, a laundry calender hand, lost her employment and received 23 days' benefit, in respect of 23 insurance contributions standing to her credit on her current unemployment book. No contributions were credited to her account in respect of previous insurance years. The claim was accordingly disallowed under the provisions of Section 1 (2) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act, on the ground that she had exhausted her right to benefit in respect of contributions.

The applicant appealed to the Court of Referees against the disallowance, stating that during the period of last employment, six years, contributions had been deducted regularly from her wages. Her insurance cards were kept by the employer, who had assured her when she inquired that they were stamped up to date and had been exchanged annually at the Employment Exchange. Civil proceedings were pending for the recovery of arrears of contributions from the employer.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant had made every reasonable effort to ensure that the contributions in respect of her six years' employment had been paid. They considered that the case was governed by the principles of Decisions 3863\* and 1461/25†, and that, for benefit purposes, contributions were deemed to have been paid.

The Insurance Officer formally disagreed with the Court's recommendation in order to obtain the Umpire's decision:—

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

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

#### Case No. 2808/27. (24/11/27.) Section 7 (1) (iv) of Principal Act (As Amended)—Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment.

PROVISO C—TRADE UNION OBJECTED TO BONUS SYSTEM OF PAYMENT ADOPTED BY FIRM WHERE EMPLOYMENT OFFERED—METHOD OF PAYMENT NOT SHOWN LESS FAVOURABLE THAN THAT USED BY OTHER EMPLOYERS IN DISTRICT.

On 24th August, 1927, the applicant, a fitter, was offered permanent employment in another district at a time rate of 1s. 6½d. per hour for the first four weeks, and payment on a bonus system thereafter, yielding average earnings of 1s. 7½d. per hour. The work was highly skilled, and only men who passed a trade test were accepted. The applicant refused the offer. He was a single man, and had been unemployed for three months. He had seen a statement issued by a trade union (other than that of which he was a member) that the firm in question, while extensively advertising employment at the rates offered to the applicant, had introduced “a bonus system which graded the men into three classes with rates of 1s., 1s. 2d., and 1s. 4d. per hour,” with no additional pay for overtime and Sunday work. The union advised their members to refrain from accepting employment with the firm.

The applicant's claim for payment in lieu of unemployment benefit was disallowed, on the ground that he was not unable to obtain suitable employment.

The applicant appealed against the disallowance to the Court of Referees. He said he knew a workman who had visited the firm for the trade test, and he had confirmed the statement of the union as to the low rates of pay.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court took the view that, since the evidence before them indicated that the terms of the offer of employment were not being complied with, the applicant was justified in refusing the work.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He was of opinion that the man should have accepted the offer, and sought redress if the terms of the engagement were not carried out.

Subsequently, an explanation of the system of payment in operation was furnished by the employers, who claimed that the conditions were more favourable than those provided for in agreements between employers and trade unions in the engineering trade. Each workman was graded according to his skill, and received a basic rate of 1s., 1s. 2d., or 1s. 4d. per hour for the time actually worked on any job;

\* See Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions. (Pamphlet No. 15.)  
† Not published.

but under a bonus system the average earnings of fitters and turners employed on this system were shown to be at rates varying from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 11d. per hour actually worked.

The Deputy Umpire gave the following decision:—

Decision.—“On the facts before me my decision is that, if the above-named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit, the claim would have been disallowed.”

“The applicant's trade union objected to the bonus system of payment adopted by the firm with whom the applicant was offered employment; and it was for this reason and under the influence of his union that the applicant refused the offer.”

“I am not concerned with the fact that the union do not favour the firm in question or their method of payment, so long as I am satisfied that the resultant wages and conditions of employment were not less favourable than those generally observed in the district, which I find to be those agreed between the union and the federated employers. The firm in question were not a federated firm.”

“During the test period the applicant would have earned more than would have been afforded by the district rates, after allowing for overtime beyond the 47 hours at time rate and a half. As regards the payment under the firm's bonus system, although this would not have corresponded in details with the comparable system existing in the engineering trade in the district, I am far from satisfied that in its results it would have been less favourable to the applicant. He should at least have been willing to try it.”

### REFERENCES TO THE HIGH COURT.

PURSUANT to paragraph 6 of the Unemployment Insurance (Determination of Questions) Regulations, 1920, the Minister of Labour hereby gives notice of his intention to refer to the High Court for decision the following questions that have arisen in applications made to him for his decision under Section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, namely, whether the employment in the following instances is or is not employment within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920:—

(i) Domestic servant and barmaid. [Total working week, 54 hours. Employer is licensee of an inn. Employee spends 14½ hours per week in serving customers in the bar, 1½ hours in washing glasses and cleaning up after closing time, and the remaining 38 hours on work of a purely domestic nature in the private part of the house.]

(ii) Domestic servant and shop assistant. [Total working week, 57 hours. Employed approximately 14½ hours in serving customers in the employer's bakery and confectionery business, and for 42½ hours in duties of a purely domestic nature in the residential portion of the premises.]

(iii) Domestic servant and shop assistant. [Working week, approximately 58 hours. Employed for 32½ hours per week as shop assistant in connection with employer's fish and chip business, and for 25½ hours per week on private domestic duties, such as cleaning bedrooms.]

(iv) Domestic help and shop assistant. [Employer is a tobacconist and confectioner. Employee spends approximately half her time upon duties as a shop assistant, and the remaining half upon domestic duties in the private part of the employer's premises.]

(v) Milk roundsman and agricultural labourer. [Total working week, 49½ hours, of which 26½ hours are occupied in employment as milk roundsman and 23½ hours as agricultural labourer. None of the milk sold is produced on the employer's farm, but it is all purchased by the employer for re-sale.]

(vi) Mill hand and farm hand. [Employer is a farmer, miller and coal merchant. He purchases grain for sale and also grinds grain for local farmers. Employee spends about one quarter of his time in the mill and the remainder upon work of an agricultural nature. His duties in the mill are not highly skilled; they mainly consist in seeing that a sufficient and regular supply of grain is feeding the mill and that the meal is running into the sacks properly. When the sacks are full he weighs and stores them.]

(vii) Skilled bricklayer employed on a private estate. [Responsible for the general maintenance, improvements and repairs of all estate buildings. During the greater part of the year employed exclusively on work of this nature, but during harvest time, for two or three weeks, employed solely in assisting in haymaking.]

(viii) Chauffeur, gardener and general domestic help. [Total working week of 49 hours. In the summer months employed approximately 16 hours a week in driving his employer, who is a doctor, on his rounds, and the remaining 33 hours per week in duties of a domestic nature in and about the doctor's house and garden. In the winter months employed for approximately 25 hours a week in driving the doctor on his rounds, and the remaining 24 hours per week in domestic work.]

Under the Rules of the Supreme Court (Order LV.B., Rule 28), any person who claims to be affected by the decisions to be given in the above-mentioned cases may apply to the Judge for leave to intervene.

The cases have been set down in the High Court, and it is hoped will be heard in the near future.

In the event of any person desiring to intervene, all the necessary information and documents can be obtained by applying to the Solicitor to the Minister of Labour, 6, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

### INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (VARIATION AND AMENDMENT) SPECIAL ORDER, 1927.

**The Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Special Order, 1927, dated 8th November, 1927,\* made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).**

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister"), by the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1926, approved for the purposes of Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, a Special Scheme for the Insurance Industry and varied and amended such special scheme, which scheme as so varied and amended is hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme":

And whereas application has been made to the Minister for such further variation and amendment of the provisions of the scheme as will give effect to the provisions of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, which relate to the scheme:

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the said Section 18 and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Special Order:—

1. The variations and amendments of the provisions of the Scheme contained in the Schedule to this Order shall have effect as from the 2nd day of January, 1928.

2. This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Special Order, 1927. And this Order and the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1926, may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1927, and shall be construed as one.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 8th day of November, 1927.

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

#### SCHEDULE.

1. Clause 12 of the Scheme shall have effect as though in paragraph (4) of Part ii (Rules) after the word "contributions" there were inserted the words "shall be payable in respect of an insured person who is of the age of sixty-five or upwards, but"

2. Clause 13, Part i, of the Benefit Table forming part of the Scheme shall have effect as though the following paragraph were inserted at the end of the Supplementary Rules:—

"(k) The right to benefit shall cease if the insured person has then attained or on his attaining the age of sixty-five."

### BANKING INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (VARIATION AND AMENDMENT) SPECIAL ORDER, 1927.

**The Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Special Order, 1927, dated 8th November, 1927,† made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).**

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") by the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1927, approved for the purpose of Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, a Special Scheme for the Banking Industry and varied and amended the said Scheme, which Scheme as so varied and amended is hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme":

And whereas application has been made to the Minister for such further variation and amendment of the provisions of the Scheme as will give effect to the provisions of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, which relate to the Scheme:

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the said Section 18 and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Special Order:—

1. The following amendment shall be made in the Scheme:—

(1) Clause (7) of Part III of the Scheme shall have effect as though there were inserted after the word "contributions" the words "shall be payable in respect of an insured or exempt person who is of the age of 65 or upwards, but"

(2) Clause (4) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as though the following sub-clause were inserted at the end:—

"(f) The right to benefit shall cease if the insured person has then attained or on his attaining the age of sixty-five."

\* *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1927, No. 1074; price 1d. net.  
† *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1927, No. 1075; price 1d. net.

2. This Order shall come into force on the 2nd day of January, 1928.

3. This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Special Order, 1927, and this Order and the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1927, may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1927, and shall be construed as one.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 8th day of November, 1927.

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

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

#### Recent Proceedings.

#### (A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

PREPARATORS, BRITISH MUSEUM AND NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.—Government Galleries Established Officers' Association v. Trustees of British Museum. *Difference*.—Claim for increased remuneration. *Decision*.—The Court awarded the following basic annual scales of pay and fixed annual increments, subject to the usual Civil Service cost-of-living bonus, as from 1st November, 1927:—

Senior Preparators	... ..	£200—£10—£250
Preparators	... ..	£140—£7 10s.—£180

Award issued 18th November, 1927. (1343.)

SEAGOING WIRELESS OPERATORS.—Engineering and Allied Employers' London and District Association v. Association of Wireless and Cable Telegraphists. *Difference*.—Foreign Service Agreement—Interpretation of Award No. 1240. *Decision*.—A letter dated 28th October, 1925, sent to a wireless operator by the Marconi International Marine Communication Co., Ltd., was held by the Court to constitute a specific foreign service agreement under the terms of Clause 26 of Award No. 1240. Award issued 21st November, 1927. (1344.)

MATES OF YARD CRAFT (OTHER THAN TUGS) IN DEPARTMENTS OF THE CAPTAIN OF DOCKYARD IN H.M. DOCKYARDS.—Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council for Government Departments, Trade Union Side v. Official Side. *Difference*.—Claim for scales of pay applicable to Mates of Tugboats. *Decision*.—Mates of Dockyard Tugs to receive the scale of pay laid down in Award No. 960 when employed in the course of their normal turns of duty as mates on Yard Craft other than Tugs in the Departments of the Captain of the Dockyard. Award issued 22nd November, 1927. (1345.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—Plumber—Civil Engineer's Department, Brighton—National Union of Railwaymen v. Southern Railway. *Difference*.—Claim for upgrading. *Decision*.—Grading not to be disturbed but rating to be dealt with under provisions of Par. 29, Award No. 728. Award issued 28th November, 1927. (1346.)

TEMPORARY COPYING TYPISTS AND SHORTHAND TYPISTS, CIVIL SERVICE.—Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries v. H.M. Treasury. *Difference*.—Assimilation of officers at the maximum of the old scales to the new scales provided for in Award 1328. *Decision*.—Any officer who on 1st July, 1927, had been at the maximum of her scale for less than 12 months, to be transferred to the appropriate "wage point" on the new scale as from that date and receive any further increment to which she may be entitled under the new scale on the next anniversary of her incremental date, under the old scale. Any officer who on 1st July, 1927, had been at the maximum of her scale for 12 months or more to be transferred to the appropriate wage point on the new scale as from that date and also as from that date receive any further increment in the new scale. Award issued 29th November, 1927. (1348.)

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

COAL TRADE: CUMBERLAND.—The two sides of the Board of Conciliation for the Cumberland Coal Trade (Enginemen and Boilermen). *Difference*.—As to the payment to be made for working certain specified consecutive substituted shifts. Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896, to act as Independent Chairman to determine the matter, and his decision was issued on the 3rd November, 1927.

#### (C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY: YORKSHIRE.—Saddleworth and District Weavers and Woollen Textile Workers' Association v. Messrs. William Buckley, Ltd., Gateshead Mill, Delph. *Difference*.—Strike of eight shawl hemmers and threatened strike of 150 other operatives in consequence of a proposal to reduce shawl hemmers' piece rates by 25 per cent. on account of the speeding up of machines. *Settlement*.—Rates to be reduced by 15 per cent., with review in three months should earnings be appreciably greater or less than before speeding up of machines. Agreed 2nd November, 1927.

### TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

#### Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

##### I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

###### Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (England and Wales).

Order R.B. (E. & W.) 2, dated 21st November, 1927, confirming certain minimum rates of wages fixed and certain variations of rates made for male and female workers in the East Lancashire, West Lancashire (Borough of Macclesfield only) and South-Eastern (Boroughs of Godalming and Guildford) districts and specifying the 28th November, 1927, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

###### Corset Trade Board.

Order K (12), dated 28th November, 1927, confirming minimum rates of wages fixed for male and female workers in those branches of the trade newly brought within the scope of the Trade Board by the Trade Boards (Corset Trade, Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations, 1927, and specifying the 5th December, 1927, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

###### Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.H.G. (N. 36) dated the 15th November, 1927, confirming certain minimum rates of wages as fixed and as varied for male and female workers in the Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade in Northern Ireland and specifying the 28th November, 1927, as the date from which these rates become effective.

##### II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

###### Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal W (19), dated 15th November, 1927, to vary overtime rates of wages for male and female workers employed on time work. Objection period expires 15th January, 1928.

###### General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal D.B. (11), dated 29th November, 1927, to vary general minimum time rates and overtime rates of wages for female workers under 18 years of age and male workers under 21 years of age. Objection period expires 29th January, 1928.

### LEAD PAINT (PROTECTION AGAINST POISONING) ACT, 1926.

UNDER Section 2 of the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926,\* the employment of women and young persons in painting buildings with lead paint is prohibited as from the 19th November, 1927, except in the case of women so employed at the date of the passing of the Act (15th December, 1926). The Section does not, however, apply to the employment of (a) persons employed as apprentices under arrangements approved by an Order of the Home Secretary, or (b) women or young persons employed in such special decorative or other work, not of an industrial character, as may be excluded by an Order of the Home Secretary.

The Home Secretary has now made an Order,† dated 14th November, 1927, covering both points. The effect is to relax the prohibition (a) in the case of any male young person employed under an indenture of apprenticeship or under an established custom of regular apprenticeship (subject to the condition that his name, age, and the date on which he was first engaged as an apprentice, are entered in a separate list attached to the register of employees which the employer is required to keep), and (b) in the case of any woman or young person employed in "the execution of wall or ceiling paintings, or any similar work of decorative design."

It should be noted that nothing in the Order will relieve any employer from the obligations imposed by the regulations contained in Section 2 of the Women and Young Persons (Employment in Lead Processes) Act, 1920.

\* A summary of the Act and of Regulations issued thereunder appeared in the issues of this GAZETTE for January, 1927 (page 13), and October, 1927, (page 399).  
† *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1927, No. 1094. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

#### Manufacture of Cinematograph Films: Draft Regulations.

The Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 18th November, 1927, that he proposes to make Regulations under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, for the manufacture, repair, manipulation, use or storage of cinematograph films on premises which come under that Act.

It is stated in the notice that fires that have occurred in recent years have shown that special precautions are required where cinematograph films are being made. The matter has therefore been discussed at conferences convened by the Chief Inspector of Factories and attended by representatives of the trade. As a result, complete agreement was reached with regard to the further precautions which should be required; and these requirements are embodied in the present draft Regulations. The intention is that the draft Regulations should supersede the Celluloid Regulations, 1921, so far as regards the manufacture, etc., of cinematograph film; which is defined as meaning any film, including uncoated raw base, containing nitro-cellulose or other nitrated product, intended for use in a cinematograph or other similar apparatus.

Copies of the draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—*Agricultural statistics, 1926. Report on the acreage and production of crops and number of live stock in Scotland.* Vol. XV., Part I. (S.O. publication; price 4s.)

Contains a statement of the number of workers employed on agricultural holdings in each county of Scotland in 1926.

ALIENS.—*A return of alien passengers, excluding transmigrants, landed, embarked, and refused leave to land, in the United Kingdom during the three months ending September 30, 1927.* Home Office. (Cmd. 2864-II; price 1d.)

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—*Third Census of Production, 1924. Preliminary Reports: No. 27. Cocoa and sugar confectionery trades; quarries, other than metalliferous and slate quarries; building and contracting trades.* No. 28. *Building materials and glass trades; ivory, horn, picture frame and fancy articles trades; gold and silver refining trade.* No. 29. *Flock and rag trades; woollen and worsted trades; clothing and millinery trades; fur trade.* Board of Trade. (S.O. publications; price 6d. each.)

LEAD POISONING.—*White lead. Data collected by the International Labour Office in regard to the use of white lead in the painting industry.* Studies and Reports, Series F. (Industrial hygiene.) No. 11. International Labour Office. (Geneva; also P. S. King & Son, Ltd., London; price 8s.)

MINING.—*Report of H.M. Electrical Inspector of Mines for the year 1926.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

Includes tables of fatal accidents from electric shock, 1907-26, and of non-fatal accidents, 1923-6.

PENSIONS.—(i) *The Contributory Pensions, Workmen's Compensation (Valuation) Regulations, 1927, dated October 10, 1927, made by the National Health Insurance Joint Committee, the Minister of Health and the Scottish Board of Health, acting jointly in conjunction with the Treasury under the proviso to Section 25 of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925 (15 & 16 Geo. 5, c. 70), S.R. & O. 1927, No. 1018.* (S.O. publication; price 1d.) (ii) *Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925. Précis of decisions on appeals made under Section 29 (2) of the Act.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 2s.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—(i) *Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor law relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in September, 1927, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (See page 448.) (ii) *Report of the Guardians appointed by the Minister of Health to constitute the Board of Guardians for the Bedwellty Union. Period ending 30th September, 1927.* Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 2976; price 3d.) (iii) *Administration of the poor law. Extract from the Annual Report of the Ministry of Health for 1926-27, including Reports of General Inspectors of the Ministry.* (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES.—*Return showing the total expenditure in England and Wales under certain Acts of Parliament during the years ended the 31st March, 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921, 1926 and 1927, respectively, and the total number of persons directly benefiting from the expenditure for the year 1926, together with similar particulars for Scotland.* Treasury. (H.C. 108; price 3d.) (See page 449.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(i) *Effect of the Unemployment Insurance Bill on the number of persons drawing benefit.* Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 2987; price 2d.) (See page 445.) (ii) *Memo-randum on certain points concerning the statistics of unemployment and of poor-law relief.* Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 2984; price 2d.) (See page 447.) (iii) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920-1926. Decisions given by the Umpire on claims to benefit during the month of October, 1927.* U.I. 440. Pamphlet No. 10/1927. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.—*The physique of women in industry. A contribution towards the determination of the optimum load.* Report No. 44. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 5s.) (See page 449.)

## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

## LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, NOVEMBER, 1927.

## ADMIRALTY.

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

Devonport: **Portland Cement**: T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Peterhead Portland Cement**: British Standard Cement Co. Ltd., London, E.C.—**Portsmouth Railway Materials**: The Railway & General Engineering Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**H.M. Naval Establishment Abroad Portland Cement**: Young & Son, Ltd., London, W.C.

## (Contract and Purchase Department.)

**Accumulators, Air-loaded**: Vickers, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Alternators, Motor**: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Beef Tea**: C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Boat, Motor**: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Boxes, Ammunition**: D. M. Davies, Slough.—**Broth, Chicken**: E. Lazenby & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Broth, Mutton**: Maconochie Bros., Ltd., London, E.—**Cable, Boxes, etc., Supply and Laying of**: G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—**Calico**: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Manchester; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Canvas, Drab**: The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.—**Cases, Cordite**: D. M. Davies, Slough.—**Cases, Suit**: Thos. Thomasson & Co., Worcester.—**Cells**: Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath.—**Chemicals**: Brunner Mond & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Skilbeck Bros., London, E.C.; F. Allen & Sons (Poplar), Ltd., London, E.—**Cloth, Linen Duck**: Thos. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; J. Johnson & Sons, Manchester.—**Clutches, Star and Shaft**: Fairfield Engineering & Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Coats, Oilskin**: Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth.—**Collars, White, Stiff**: Hookway, Sons & Cook, Ltd., London, E.; R. H. & S. Rogers, Ltd., London, S.E.; or Coleraine, Ireland.—**Cooking Apparatus, Seamen's**: Benham & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cutlery**: A. Boswell, Son & Naylor, Ltd., Sheffield; Abram Brooksbank & Co. (Sheffield), Ltd., Sheffield; John Clarke & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; S. & J. Kitchin, Sheffield; Maleham & Yeomans, Ltd., Sheffield; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield; Thomas Turner & Co. (Sheffield), Ltd., Sheffield.—**Earthenware, Miscellaneous**: Wm. Adams & Sons (Potters), Ltd., Tunstall; Bishop & Stonier (1926), Ltd., Hanley; W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; Bovey Pottery Co., Ltd., Bovey Tracey; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Keeling & Co., Ltd., Burslem; John Maddock & Sons, Ltd., Burslem; Minton, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Pearl Pottery Co., Ltd., Hanley; Pountney & Co., Ltd., Bristol; J. Stevenson & Son, Ltd., Burslem; A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Burslem.—**Flour**: Buchanan's Flour Mills, Ltd., Liverpool; E. Marriage & Son, Ltd., Felixstowe.—**Generators, Motor**: Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Handkerchiefs, Black Silk**: J. & T. Brooklehurst & Sons, Ltd., Macclesfield.—**Indicators, Moving Coil**: Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Iron, Fire or Furnace Bar**: Darlington Forge & Rolling Mills, Ltd., Darlington.—**Magnifiers, Note**: The Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Motor and Switchgear**: English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Overcoats, Seamen's**: John Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Plates, Steel**: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pumps, Fire and Bidge**: Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Regulators, Starters, etc.**: Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton, Lancs.; E. N. Bray, Ltd., London, E.—**Rope, Steel Wire**: Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.; British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex; Whitecross Co. Ltd., Warrington; Latch & Batchelor, Ltd., Hay Mills, near Birmingham.—**Sailcloth, Canvas**: Anderson & Chambers, Arbroath; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; The Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—**Shafts and Bearings**: Broom & Wade, Ltd., High Wycombe.—**Shalloon**: Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Luddenden Foot.—**Shirts, Soft White**: John Desmond & Co., Ltd., Londonderry.—**Shoes, Gym.**: The North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Shorts and Vests, Cellular**: Salisbury Manufacturing Co., London, E.—**Soup, Gravy**: Maconochie Bros., Ltd., London, E.—**Soup, Oxtail**: E. Lazenby & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Steel, Bar**: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; United Strip & Bar Mills Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Park Gate Iron & Steel Col. Ltd., Rotherham; Scottish Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Brierley Hill.—**Switchboards and Switchgear**: Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Parmiter Hope & Sugden, Ltd., Manchester.—**Switchgear and Static Transformers**: English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Ties, Black Silk**: Toms, Steer & Toms, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tubing, Canvas Hose**: Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Bentham.—**Watchcoats**: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.

## WAR OFFICE.

**Activated Charcoal**: Sutcliffe, Speakman & Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.—**Ash Fellos Pieces**: East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamstead.—**Boards, Distribution**: Cable Accessories Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Boots, Ankle**: R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; Adams Bros. (Raunds),

Ltd., Raunds; S. Walker, Walgrave.—**Canvas, Flax, Grey**: The Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Chests, M.G.**: T. H. Adamson & Sons, London, S.W.—**Coir Fibre**: J. H. Vasseur & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Conduits and Fittings**: Stella Conduit Co., Ltd., Bilston, Staffs.—**Copper Ingot**: British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cord, Cotton, Khaki**: Hollins Mill Co., Ltd., Marple.—**Cresoli**: Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, E.—**Dowlas, Tan**: D. & R. Duke, Brechin; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Drawers, Woollen**: John Haines & Co., Leicester; Stevenson & Co. (Newtownards), Ltd., Newtownards.—**Duck, Flax, White**: W. Lumden & Son, Freuchie, Fife; Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Brechin.—**Generators, Charging**: George Kent, Ltd., Luton.—**Jackets, S.D.**: J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle-under-Lyme.—**Laces, Leather**: City Leather Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Lathes**: Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax; J. Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone, near Glasgow.—**Linen**: The Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Magnesium Powder**: British Maxium, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Manhole Covers**: The Forth & Clyde & Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Mattresses, S.S.**: Gowen & Co., West Mersea; W. D. Talbert & Co., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Metal Rod**: J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Paint**: Naylor Bros. (London), Ltd., Slough; Alexander, Ferguson & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Livett, Frank & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Pipes and Fittings**: The Shepherds Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield; Clay Cross Co., Ltd., near Chesterfield; The Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Melton Mowbray.—**Pipes, Hose, Canvas**: Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Plates, Dinner, Enamelled**: Eveson Bros., Ltd., Lye.—**Pontoons**: Harland & Wolf, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Refrigerating Plant, Repairs**: J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dartford.—**Shoes, Canvas**: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds.—**Shoes, Highland**: R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds.—**Shoes, Horse, Steel**: Guest & Co. (Halesowen), Ltd., Halesowen; Wm. Cooke & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Soda, Crystals, Caustic and Ash**: United Alkali Co., Ltd., London, Widnes and Fleetwood; J. Manger & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Steamer, Single Screw**: Philip & Son, Dartmouth.—**Steam Launch, Repairs**: Cosens & Co., Weymouth.—**Steel, Shell**: Brown Bayley's Steelworks, Ltd., Sheffield; Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel, Medium Tensile**: Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel, Mild, Bars**: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Sulfarsenol**: Modern Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Switchboards**: Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Tents, Store, Canvas**: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Govan.—**Thread, Machine**: Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd., Johnstone; W. & J. Knox, Ltd., Kilbirnie.—**Ticken, Linen**: T. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy.—**Timber, Deals, White**: Cox, Long & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; May & Hassell, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Troughs, Horse, Steel**: Davies Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Vehicles, 1-tracked**: Burford-Kegresse Sares; H. G. Burford & Co., London, W.—**Crossley-Kegresse Sares**: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—**Vices, Bench, Steel**: Steel Nut & Joseph Hampton, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Works Services**: *Building Works and Services*: Aldershot—Cambridge Hospital, Operation and X-Ray Block: Wm. Townson & Sons, Ltd., Bolton. Longmoor—Roadwork: Mears Bros., London, S.E. Kingston-on-Thames and Hampton Court—Artificers' Works: Messrs. Arundel (Painters), Ltd., Bradford. Hounslow Barracks—Repairs to Roads and Parade Ground: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Woolwich—Royal Military Academy and the Common, Repairs to Roads: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Gosport—New Barracks, Provision of W.C.'s: George Riches, Fareham, Hants. Gosport—Fort Brocklehurst, Provision of W.C.'s: George Riches, Fareham, Hants. Catterick Camp—Bunks for N.C.O.'s, and Sanitary Annexes: G. Dougill & Sons, Darlington. Lichfield: Whittington Barracks, Improvements to two Cookhouses: F. Perks & Son, Ltd., Long Eaton. Aldershot, Thornhill—M.T. School of Instruction, Steel Sliding Doors: Williams & Williams, London, W.C. Longmoor—Steel Rolling Shutters: W. F. S. Holt, Bradford.

## AIR MINISTRY.

**Aircraft**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aircraft, Conversion of**: Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—**Aircraft, Metal Planes for**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Aircraft, Modifications to**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Aircraft, Repair of Metal Wings for**: Steel Wing Co., Hucclecote, near Gloucester.—**Aircraft, Repairs to**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Edgware; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Artificers' Work (Flowerdown and Worthydown): Wise & Lansfield, Ltd., Winchester. Artificers' Work (Old Sarum): A. E. Lailey, Salisbury. Bulk Petrol Storage Tanks (Singapore and Middle East): Simmons & Hawker, London, W.C.—**Improvements to Gas Plant (Cardington)**: R. & J. Dempster, Ltd., Manchester.—**Carburettors and Spares**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Carriers, Bomb**: Hobbies, Ltd., Dereham, Norfolk.—**Connectors, D.F.**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Crossley Chassis**: Crossley

Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**Delco Ignition Spares**: H. M. Hobson, Ltd., Watford.—**Engines, Aircraft**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby; Sunbeam Motor Car Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Engines, Aircraft**: Bedplate: Ricardo & Co., Engineers (1927), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Modification of**: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Engines, Aircraft, Research Running on**: Ricardo & Co., Engineers (1927), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd.**: Bristol; Gillett, Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham.—**Engines, Aircraft, Stripping and Examining**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Test on**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Fluid, Disinfectant**: Jeyes Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Gauges, Height**: Pitter Gauge & Precision Tool Co., London, S.E.—**Gliders and Spares**: S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight.—**Hair, Bedding, Curled**: John Boyd & Co., Ltd., Castle Cary, Somerset.—**Leyland Spares**: Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland, Lancs.—**Morris Touring Cars**: Morris Motors, Ltd., Cowley, Oxon.—**Morris Vans and Chassis**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Reid Reaction Apparatus**: Reid Manufacturing & Construction Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Sights, Quadrant**: E. & R. Watts & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sozal Rust Preventive**: Sozal (1924), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Test Benches and Mountings**: Heenan & Froude, Ltd., Worcester.—**Trojan Chassis fitted with Bodies**: Leyland Motors, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Tyres, Wheel, Aircraft**: Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, E.C.

## H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

**Elastic Braid**: A. Turner & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Elastic Circlets**: G. Edmonds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Envelopes**: Smith & Young, London, E.C.—**Paper (of various descriptions)**: Alex. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal, Westmorland; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend; Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford, Kent; William Nash, Ltd., St. Paul's Cray, Kent; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch, Hants; Ryburndale Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Ripponden, near Halifax.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.**: N. Area, Group I (1928), Miscellaneous Jobwork: M. Carr & Co., Manchester. Group 11 (1928), Reprints of Specifications of Patents: Burgess & Son, Abingdon-on-Thames. Group 12 (1928), Miscellaneous Offices: Harrison & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C. Group 14 (1928), Bookwork Printing: H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow. Group 117 (1927), P.O.—Lists of Offices: T. Beatty Hart, Ltd., Kettering. Group 118 (1928), Air Ministry, Miscellaneous Jobwork: J. Truscott & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 119 (1928), Air Ministry, Specified Items: John Corah & Sons, Ltd., Loughborough. Group 123 (1928), Various Offices, No. 2: J. Truscott & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. Mounting Maps and Plans: Harper & Tunstall, London, W.C.—**Toilet Rolls**: Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.

## POST OFFICE.

**Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing**: Kensington-Battersea Jc., Kensington-Putney Jc.; Kensington-Shepherd's Bush, Mechanical Tandem-Speedwell: Johnson & Phillips, London, S.E.; Mechanical Tandem-Archway Jc.: Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Mechanical Tandem-Paddington Jc.: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Leeds-Bradford: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Conduits—Laying**: Durrington (Sussex); Ardingly and Hainaker (Sussex): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Cirencester and Poulton (Glos.); Cardiff (Roath and Penylan): H. Smith, Newport, Mon. Harrow (Bessborough Rd.) (1) and (2): Kensington Automatic Exchange-Battersea Jc.: H. Farrow, Ltd., London, N.W. Coolham, Kirdford and Loxwood (Sussex); Maidstone; Elstead and Ripley (Surrey); Lancing (Sussex): J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Leeds-Bradford; Ipswich-Felixstowe Jc.; Uphall-Broxburn (Linlithgowshire); Portsmouth-Cosham; Scarborough: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Roundhay (Leeds): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Benton (Northumberland): H. Coxhead & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Ongar: J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Ide Hill (Kent); Pett, Broad Oak and Udmore (Sussex): W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Littleport (Ely); Cromer; Menston; Coalville; Stocksbridge (Sheffield): W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Grappenhall, Warrington. Musselburgh and Tranent: P. Drummond & Son, Dumfries. Thetford: H. Collingridge, London, W.C. Bearwood (Birmingham); Weymouth: J. F. Hodge, Rednal, near Birmingham. Willesden-Cricklewood Jc. and Mechanical Tandem-Maida Vale-Hendon Jc.: T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Chiswick-Twyford Avenue; Palmers Green (Fox Lane) N.: O. C. Summers, London, N. Kensington Automatic Exchange-Putney Jc. and Fulham (New King's Road); Watford: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Dundee-Monifieth: Wilson, Kinmond & Marr, Ltd., Partick, Glasgow. Kingston-on-Thames-Surbiton: Westminster Road Construction and Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Birmingham (Victoria-South Yardley Jc.); Leicester and Wellingborough; Langport: Moore & Rowley, Northfield, Birmingham. Mechanical Tandem-Archway Jc.: Greig & Matthews, London, E.C. Birkenhead (Tranmere North): J. E. Turner, Heywood, Lancs. Kinver (Worcs.): W. Willetts & Son, Ltd., Kingswinford, near Dudley.—**Conduits—Laying and Manholes—Constructing and Altering**: Manchester-Atherton-Leigh and Higher Broughton (Northumberland Street): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham.—**Electric Lighting**: Metropolitan Automatic Telephone Exchange; Kensington New Automatic Exchange; Electrical Installations, Ltd., London, E.C. **New Lift, Installing;**

**and Existing Lift, Extending**: G.P.O. (West): W. Wadsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment**: Norbury (Relief): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machine; Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines; Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W., for Batteries. Sowerby Bridge (Halifax Multi-Exchange Area): Hipperholme (Halifax Multi-Exchange Area): Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractor: Walter Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Machines. Emberbrook (Ditton): Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines; Premier Accumulator Co. (1921), Ltd., London, S.W., for Batteries. Halifax; Wavertree (Liverpool): Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Shepherds Bush, W.: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Rochdale Corporation: Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

**Apparatus, Telephonic**: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts.; Peel-Comer Telephone Works (General Electric Co., Ltd.), Coventry; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford, Essex; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.W.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex; Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Protective**: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. or N.W.—**Blocks, Terminal**: Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cable, Various**: Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Peel-Comer Telephone Works), Coventry W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Clothing, Uniform**: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Combinations, Motor Cycle**: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Redditch and Birmingham.—**Coils, Loading, to encase**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Compound**: Dussek Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cords for Telephones**: L. P. S. Electrical Co., Ltd., London, W.; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Reliance Electrical Wire Co., London, E.C.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Crosscutting**: Armstrong, Addison & Co., N. Shields; Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Newport, Mon. and Eling, Southampton; Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd., Ellesmere Port and Staddlethorpe, Yorks.—**Ducts, Fibre**: Key Engineering Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Extinguishers, Fire**: Pyrene Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Ironwork, Telegraphic**: Guest, Keen & Nettlefold, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Labels**: Reliance Engraving Co. (1904), Ltd., Twickenham, Middlesex.—**Lamps, Electric**: A. C. Cossor, Ltd., London, N.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Lamps, Torchblowing**: T. E. Bladon & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Paper**: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable.—**Pipe, Steel**: Bromford Tube Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Rectifiers, Tungar**: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Seals, Lead**: Dunham, White & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Sleeves, Lead**: J. D. Stoward & Co., Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—**Speedometers**: Cowey Engineering Co., Ltd., Kew Gardens, Surrey.—**Spirit, Methylated**: W. H. Palmer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tents, Joiners, to Repair**: J. Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., Goodmayes, Essex.—**Thread**: Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee; Wrights' Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Vans and Bodies and Chassis for**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; W. H. Parry, Ltd., London, N.—**Wheels, Free, for Bicycles**: Villiers Engineering Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Wire**: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.

## CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

**Asbestos Cement Sheets**: British Fibrocement Works, Ltd., London, W.C.; Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bags**: Griffiths McAlister & Co., Liverpool.—**Barge**: Vosper & Co., Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Battery Materials**: India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bedford Cord**: Whiteley & Green, Ltd., Holmbridge, near Huddersfield.—**Blankets**: Hepworths & Haley, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Brass**: Mangnese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Buffers**: A.B.C. Coupler & Engineering Co., London, S.W.—**Buoys, etc.**: Brown, Lenox & Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.—**Burlaps**: M. C. Thomson & Co., London, E.C.—**Buttons**: Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**Cables**: Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works, London, E.C.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Canvas**: A. Stockwell & Co., Manchester.—**Cement**: T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Chassis**: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Soho, Birmingham.—**Chemicals**: W. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.; Howards & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; May & Baker, Ltd., London, S.W.; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham; Stafford Allen & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cloth**: Colbeck Bros., Ltd., near Wakefield.—**Clothing**: T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Coal**: Watts, Watts & Co., London, E.C.—**Cotton Waste**: Redmayne & Isherwood, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cotton Wool**: T. J. Smith & Nephew, Hull.—**Cranes**: Grafton & Co., Ltd., Bedford; H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Culverts**: Wall's, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Disinfectors**: Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Dogspikes**: Railway Accessories, Ltd., Halesowen, near Birmingham.—**Drainage Fittings**: Burn Bros. (London), Ltd., London,

S.E.—**Drill**: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Manchester; E. Spinner & Co., Manchester.—**Drugs**: Ayrton Saunders & Co., Liverpool.—**Dust Cart**: Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd., Letchworth, Herts.—**Electrical Materials**: Metropolitan-Vickers Elec. Export Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Electric Battery**: Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Engines**: R. Stephenson & Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Flannel**: J. Radcliffe & Co., Rochdale.—**Furniture**: Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Gas Engine**: National Gas Engine Co., Ashton-under-Lyne.—**Glass**: Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Gullies**: Doulton & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Lathe**: Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Openshaw, Manchester.—**Lead Sheeting**: Quirk, Barton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lint**: Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston; Wardle Cotton Co., Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester.—**Locomotives**: The Hunslet Engine Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Lorries**: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Scotstoun, Glasgow.—**"Lux" Cells**: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., London, S.W.—**Machine**: Linotype & Machinery, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Materials, etc.**: Rylands & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Metal**: Wm. Jacks & Co., London, E.C.—**Metal Casements**: Crittall Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Motor Fire Tenders**: Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—**Motor Launch**: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., London, S.W.—**Motor Tyres**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Oil**: C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Ointments**: Anglo American Oil Co., London, N.W.—**Overhead Line Material**: Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Oznaburg**: Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Brechin.—**Paint**: Foster, Mason & Harvey, Ltd., London, S.E.; Red Hand Compositions, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Torbay Paint Co., Ltd., London, E.C.**—**Pig Iron**: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Pipe Stamping Machines**: Anglo Danish Commercial Co., London, E.C.—**Pipes**: J. Crankshaw Co., Ltd., Horwich, near Bolton; Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Printing**: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Printing Machines**: Harrild & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pump and Engine**: Campbell Gas Engine Co., Ltd., Kingston, Halifax.—**Pumping Machinery**: Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Rail Anchors**: P. & M. Co. 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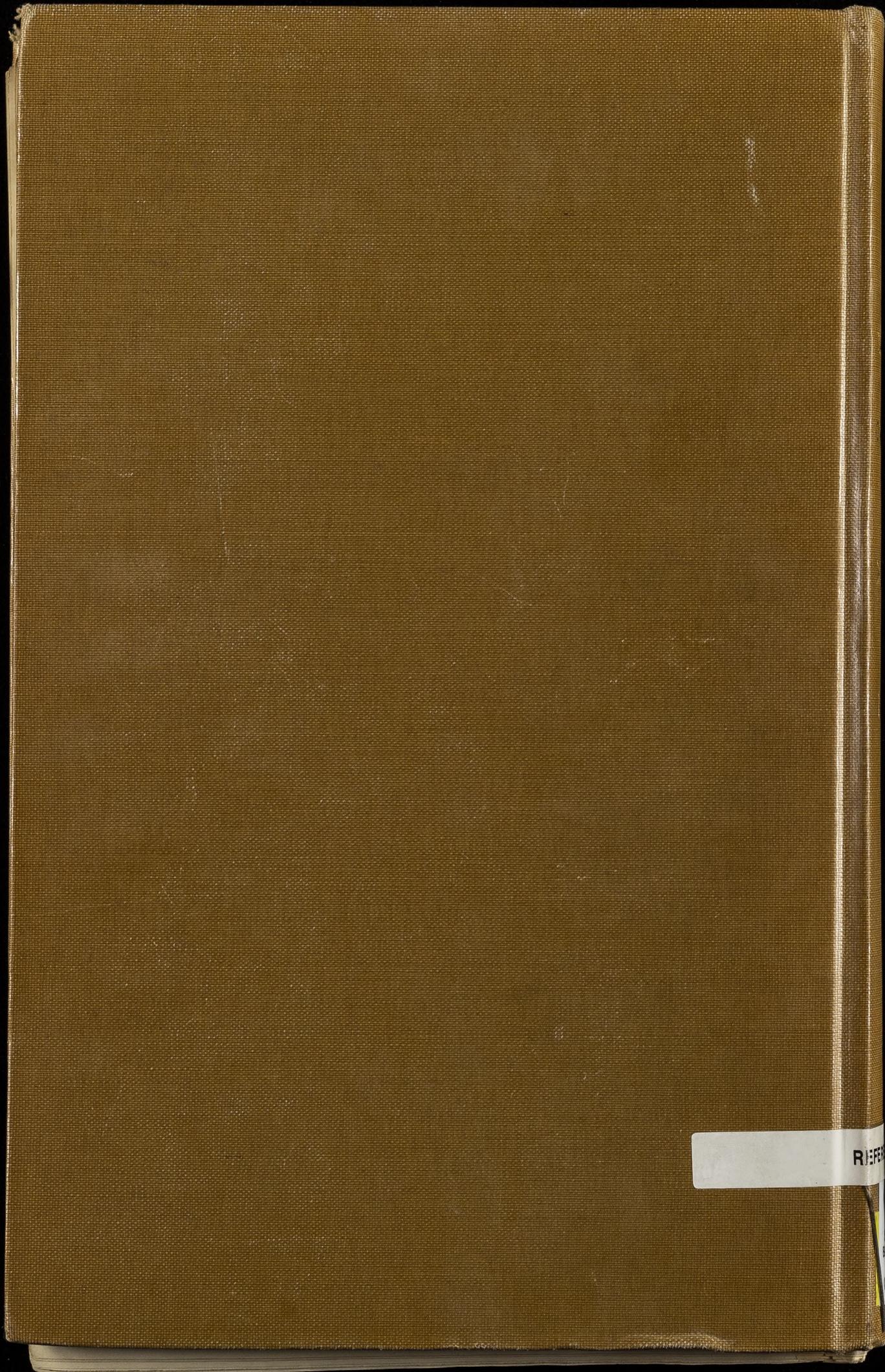
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