

THE PENS, PENCILS AND ARTISTS' MATERIALS TRADE

Note.—For information regarding the scope of the Census, instructions given to firms for making returns, and definitions of the terms used in this report, reference should be made to the Introductory Notes on pages v to xviii.

Introductory

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of pens, pencils and artists' materials. As separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be published for the year 1930 owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, the summary table (I) and the tables showing details of power equipment (IV) and coal, coke and electricity used (V) are not appended to this report. The whole of this information is available in the tables given in the report itself.

The following table shows the main results of the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 in respect of firms in Great Britain that employed an average of more than ten persons:—

Particulars	Unit	1930	1924
Value of goods made (Gross output)	£'000	2,316	2,115
Cost of materials used	"	974	812
Paid for work given out to other firms	"	5	15
Net output	"	1,337	1,288
Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers)... ..	No.	7,659	7,215
Net output per person employed (excluding outworkers)... ..	£	175	179
Power available:—			
Prime movers	H.P.	1,381	1,262
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	4,523	2,978
Number of returns	No.	47	50
Number of establishments	"	54	*

* Not available.

Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates.—The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by firms that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average was 30, the corresponding figure for 1924 being 71. The value of the gross output of the small firms in 1924 was £20,000, and particulars of the items included in this figure are given below:—

	£'000
Fountain and stylographic pens and parts (including gold nibs)	9
Pens and pen-nibs, other than of gold, and holders, tips, etc.	5
Artists' materials (including brushes and artists' cabinet work)	5
Other goods	1
TOTAL	20

In addition, one small firm at the 1930 Census, and 12 at that of 1924, furnished no information.

Size of firms.—In the following table the main particulars recorded at the Census of 1930 are grouped according to the average numbers of persons shown in the returns:—

Size of firm (average numbers employed)	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers)	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24 ...	4	49	12	72	179
25-49 ...	10	117	60	318	187
50-99 ...	6	200	105	454	231
100-199 ...	13	618	346	1,941	178
200-299 ...	7	382	209	1,599	131
300-749 ...	7	950	605	3,275	185
TOTAL ...	47	2,316	1,337	7,659	175

Regional distribution.—In the following table the results recorded at the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 are grouped according to the principal areas* of Great Britain in which firms in this trade are situated:—

Area	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed (excluding outworkers)	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
1	1930 20	1,095	583	2,965	197
	1924 24	1,064	615	2,971	207
2	1930 5	191	70	628	112
	1924 4	87	34	423	80
5	1930 13	727	514	3,189	161
	1924 14	781	540	3,303	163
6 and 10... ..	1930 9	303	170	877	194
6	1924 8	183	99	518	191
TOTAL {	1930 47	2,316	1,337	7,659	175
	1924 50	2,115	1,288	7,215	179

Northern Ireland.—No production of pens, pencils, etc., was recorded in Northern Ireland for 1930 or 1924.

* For particulars see page xviii.

Production

Principal products.—The following table shows the value of pens, pencils and artists' materials made in 1930 and 1924 :—

Kind of goods	1930				1924
	Returned on schedules for				Total
	The Pens, Pencils and Artists' Materials Trade		All trades		
	Value	Entries	Value	Entries	Value
	£'000	No.	£'000	No.	£'000
Fountain and stylographic pens and parts (including gold nibs and repairs)	729	19	729	19	583
Pens and pen-nibs, other than of gold, and holders, tips, etc. for use therewith ...	516	16	524	17	565
Pencils, pencil leads, crayons and pastels	593	24	593	24	515
Artists' materials (except brushes and pencils, crayons, etc.)	304	8	304	8	329
TOTAL—PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS ...	2,142	...	2,150	...	1,992

Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.—It appears probable that little change occurred between the two years in the average values of pens, pencils and artists' materials and the total output in 1924, recorded as £1,992,000, is estimated to represent a sum of about £2,000,000 on the basis of 1930 prices, the gross output returned for 1930 (£2,150,000) being in excess of this estimate by between 7 and 8 per cent. As no particulars of quantity, and, therefore, of average values, were obtained in respect of these goods, however, this estimate should not be regarded as precise.

Production, exports and imports.—The following table shows, in relation to the value of production, the values of the exports and retained imports of pens, pencils, etc., in 1930 and 1924. The production figures for 1924 include the output of the small firms. The differences in the valuation of production and of exports and imports should be borne in mind in comparing these figures.

Kind of goods	Production (at factory)	Exports (f.o.b.)	Retained imports (c.i.f.)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fountain and stylographic pens and parts (including gold nibs) ...	1930 729* 1924 592*	101 78	51 9
Pens and pen-nibs other than of gold	1930 524† 1924 570†	311 374	16 9
Pencils, pencil leads, crayons and pastels	1930 593 1924 516	153 165	173 199

* Including repairs.

† Including holders, tips, etc.

Other products.—In addition to the output shown in the table of principal products on page 518, the following goods were produced in 1930 and 1924 by firms that made their returns on schedules for the Pens, Pencils and Artists' Materials Trade. These goods are dealt with in the reports on those trades in which the principal output was recorded.

	1930	1924
	£'000	£'000
Metal smallwares	108	194
Artists' brushes and other goods	66	58
TOTAL	174	252

Employment and Wages

Employment.—The following table shows the average numbers of persons employed in 1930 and 1924 :—

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
1930						
Operatives (average for the year)	411	2,100	1,395	4,718	1,806	6,818
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	25	483	67	358	92	841
TOTAL	436	2,583	1,462	5,076	1,898	7,659
1924						
Operatives (average for the year)	400	1,941	1,393	4,545	1,793	6,486
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	30	443	53	286	83	729
TOTAL	430	2,384	1,446	4,831	1,876	7,215
Average number of outworkers :—						
1930	1		18		19	
1924	—		1		1	

Wages.—The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 436 and 437.

Power

The following table shows the capacity of prime movers, electric generators and electric motors ordinarily in use and in reserve or idle in 1930 and 1924 :—

Power equipment	1930			1924		
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total
	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
PRIME MOVERS						
Reciprocating steam engines	631	75	706	372	2	374
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	334	198	532	596	250	846
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils ...	21	52	73	24	—	24
Water engines	60	10	70	18	—	18
TOTAL	1,046	335	1,381	1,010	252	1,262
	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
ELECTRIC GENERATORS						
Driven by						
Reciprocating steam engines	111	—	111	36	—	36
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	90	60	150	216	60	276
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils	—	35	35	2	—	2
Water engines	45	7	52	—	—	—
TOTAL	246	102	348	254	60	314
	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
ELECTRIC MOTORS						
Driven by						
Electricity generated in same works ...	111	43	154	247	20	267
Purchased electricity	4,084	439	4,523	2,744	234	2,978
TOTAL	4,195	482	4,677	2,991	254	3,245

Consumption of fuel

The following table shows the quantities of coal, coke and electricity recorded as used in 1930 :—

Kind of fuel used	For power (driving engines)	For other purposes
	Tons	Tons
Coal	2,958	4,411
Coke	5	1,354
		B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Electricity used for all purposes :—		'000
Generated in same works		106
Purchased		3,866
TOTAL—Electricity		3,972

TABLES

Note:—Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be given.

I.—Summary of results (see page 516)

II.—Production

Kind of goods made	Value
	£'000
Fountain and stylographic pens and parts (including gold nibs and repairs)	729
Pens and pen-nibs, other than of gold, and holders, tips, etc., for use therewith	516
Pencils, pencil leads, crayons and pastels	593
Artists' materials (except brushes and pencils, crayons, etc.).	304
Metal smallwares	108
Artists' brushes and other goods made	66
TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS MADE (GROSS OUTPUT)	2,316

III.—Employment

A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1930
(EXCLUDING OUTWORKERS)

Persons employed (excluding outworkers)	Males		Females		Males and females	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
Operatives	404	2,062	1,370	4,634	1,774	6,696
Administrative, technical and clerical staff	25	483	67	358	92	841
TOTAL	429	2,545	1,437	4,992	1,866	7,537

B.—OPERATIVES EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK IN EACH MONTH OF 1930

Week ended	Males and females	Week ended	Males and females
January 18	7,090	July 19	6,692
February 15	6,900	August 16	6,636
March 15	6,953	September 13	6,642
April 12	6,973	October 18	6,696
May 17	6,998	November 15	6,765
June 21	6,863	December 13	6,614
AVERAGE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS			6,818

C.—NUMBERS OF OUTWORKERS AT TWO SPECIFIED PERIODS IN 1930

January			July		
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1	17	18	1	20	21

IV.—Power (see page 520)

V.—Consumption of fuel (see page 521)