

THE COTTON TRADE

As in previous years, the Cotton Trade for 1935 was divided into two sections, viz. (I) Spinning and Doubling (including the manufacture of sewing cotton) and (II) Weaving. The spinning and doubling departments of firms engaged also in weaving are included as separate businesses in (I). Firms that also operated bleaching, dyeing and finishing departments furnished additional returns for those departments (*see* the Textile Finishing Trade, page 183). These departmental returns gave little difficulty as a rule, but a number of firms made wages returns in respect of their business as a whole and the separate details shown for 1935 (page 48) include some estimates.

Firms manufacturing goods of artificial silk as well as of cotton are included in the Silk and Artificial Silk Trade (*see* page 100) if the weaving of artificial silk was the more important section of the business.

The numbering of some of the tables differs from that indicated in the Introductory Notes.

(I) COTTON SPINNING AND DOUBLING

Table I A.—General summary

Particulars	1935	1934	1933	1930*	1924*
Value of products (Gross output)...	£'000 74,324	£'000 71,321	£'000 67,575	£'000 78,624	£'000 195,271
Cost of materials, fuel and electricity used	53,783	50,468	47,701	58,584	147,902
Amount paid for work given out...	343	299	285	212	456
Net output	20,198 No.	20,554 No.	19,589 No.	19,828 No.	46,913 No.
Average number of persons employed	182,415 £	183,750 £	183,779 £	190,736 £	252,655 £
Net output per person employed...	111 No.	112 No.	107 No.	104 No.	186 No.
Number of returns	761	} †	†	911 1,000	1,114 †
Number of establishments...	818				

* The figures relate to Great Britain only, particulars of the small production in Northern Ireland not being available for publication.

† Not available.

Table I B.—Firms employing not more than ten persons on the average

Particulars	1935	1930*	1924
Number of returns received	No. 59	No. 103	No. 34
Average number of persons employed :—			
Males... ..	169	276	48
Females	207	325	94
Total	376	601	142
Number of firms not making returns	2	18	13

* Great Britain only.

Table II.—Size of establishments in 1935

Size of establishment (average number employed)	Number of establishments	Gross output	Net output	Number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24	59	503	154	1,056	146
25-49	105	1,790	511	3,910	131
50-99	114	3,654	985	8,379	118
100-199	180	10,992	2,779	26,622	104
200-299	170	17,602	4,216	41,842	101
300-399	83	11,944	3,097	28,819	107
400-499	48	8,707	2,178	21,428	102
500-749	35	8,378	2,394	21,216	113
750-999	14	4,036	1,211	11,604	104
1,000 and over... ..	10	6,718	2,673	17,539	152
TOTAL	818	74,324	20,198	182,415	111

Table III.—Particulars of output, etc., in each of the principal areas of the United Kingdom

Area*	Number of establishments†	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed	
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£	
2	1935	688	63,759	16,205	154,978	105
	1930	788	67,849	16,403	165,362	99
3	1935	78	4,846	1,419	11,251	126
	1930	78	4,266	1,153	9,819	117
14	1935	12	3,209	1,841	8,968	205
15, 16 and 17	1935	4	190	41	711	58
14 to 17	1935	16	3,399	1,882	9,679	194
	1930	16	4,253	1,668	10,152	164
6	1935	29	2,013	592	5,598	106
Other areas	1935	7	307	100	909	110
6 and other areas	1935	36	2,320	692	6,507	106
	1930†	29	2,256	604	5,403	112
TOTAL	1935	818	74,324	20,198	182,415	111
	1930	911	78,624	19,828	190,736	104

* For particulars see page (xviii).

† Number of returns for 1930.

‡ Excluding Northern Ireland.

Table IV.—Sub-divisions of the industry

Group	Number of establishments*	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
Spinners (including spinners and doublers) mainly of :—					
Waste yarns... {					
1935	108	3,375	1,045	7,149	146
1930	97	3,472	1,043	7,161	146
Other yarns :—					
Counts up to 40's ... {					
1935	349	43,853	10,720	101,536	105
1930	402	44,433	10,363	102,698	101
Counts over 40's and up to 80's {					
1935	126	13,700	4,553	39,698	115
1930	183	17,253	4,636	46,842	100
Counts over 80's ... {					
1935	32	2,638	937	8,332	112
1930	42	3,858	1,205	10,860	111
Doublers only (including commission doubling) ... {					
1935	166	9,592	2,670	23,337	115
1930	152	8,710	2,353	21,086	112
Other firms (reelers, winders, etc.) ... {					
1935	37	1,166	273	2,363	115
1930	35	898	228	2,089	109
TOTAL ... {					
1935	818	74,324	20,198	182,415	111
1930	911	78,624	19,828	190,736	104

* Number of returns for 1930.

The grouping shown above is based on the principal kind of production in which firms were engaged. As many spinning firms made yarn over a wider range of counts than that of a single group, and a large number also produced doubled yarn, there is a certain overlapping between one group and another. The extent of this overlapping may be seen in Table V C., which shows for each range of counts the total quantities of yarn produced by these groups of firms.

The principal items comprised in the gross output of each group are shown below:—

Group	Cotton yarn		Cotton waste, unmanufactured	Other output	Amount received for work done on commission	Total
	Single	Doubled (including sewing cotton)				
Spinners (including spinners and doublers) mainly of:—	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Waste yarns ...	1935 3,151	139	48	37	—	3,375
	1930	3,423	49	—	—	3,472
Other yarns:—						
Counts up to 40's ...	1935 37,911	4,248	1,226	429	39	43,853
	1930	43,428	914	84	7	44,433
Counts over 40's and up to 80's ...	1935 10,209	2,513	712	261	5	13,700
	1930	16,462	777	9	5	17,253
Counts over 80's ...	1935 1,982	448	149	56	3	2,638
	1930	3,648	177	27	6	3,858
Doublers only (including commission doubling) ...	1935 —	8,766	27	450	349	9,592
	1930	8,372	25	82	231	8,710
Other firms (reelers, winders, etc.) ...	1935 —	192	5	866	103	1,166
	1930	241	1	589	67	898
TOTAL ...	1935 53,253	16,306	2,167	2,099	499	74,324
	1930	75,574	1,943	791	316	78,624

PRODUCTION

Table V A.—Total make of single Cotton Yarn

(including yarn spun and used for further manufacturing processes in the same works and yarn spun on commission)

Single cotton yarn	1935		1934
	Quantity	Entries	Quantity
Counts spun:—	Th. lbs.	No.	Th. lbs.
Up to 20's:—			
Spun from raw cotton* ...	403,849	291	404,403†
Spun from waste† ...	109,384	115	80,000‡
Over 20's and up to 40's§ ...	497,672	387	499,794
Over 40's and up to 56's ...	101,821	253	101,108
Over 56's and up to 80's ...	74,950	186	76,957
Over 80's and up to 120's ...	36,991	127	36,790
Over 120's ...	3,098	52	4,403
TOTAL ...	1,227,765	...	1,203,455

* Including 1,011,000 lbs. (3 entries) in 1935 and 1,460,000 lbs. in 1934 returned on schedules for other trades.

† Including 913,000 lbs. (3 entries) in 1935 returned on schedules for other trades.

‡ Estimated.

§ Including 871,000 lbs. in 1934 returned on schedules for other trades.

The weights shown in the preceding and in subsequent tables represent yarn after conditioning.

Table V B.—Total make of single Cotton Yarn, 1924-1935

Single cotton yarn	1924	1930	1933	1934	1935
	Thousand lbs.				
Counts spun:—					
Up to 40's ...	1,021,879	821,600	949,026	984,197	1,010,905
Over 40's and up to 80's ...	313,707	185,164	190,852	178,065	176,771
Over 80's and up to 120's ...	55,874	36,835	36,616	36,790	36,991
Over 120's ...	3,623	3,504	3,129	4,403	3,098
TOTAL ...	1,395,083	1,047,103	1,179,623	1,203,455	1,227,765

The average weight of single yarn produced per head of the persons employed in the Cotton Spinning and Doubling Trade was as follows:—

	lbs.
1924 ...	5,516
1930 ...	5,484
1933 ...	6,391
1934 ...	6,537
1935 ...	6,720

These figures are based on the total number of persons employed in the Cotton Spinning and Doubling Trade in each year, but it may be noted that from 1930 onwards there has been a continuous increase in the output of artificial silk products in the trade. Accordingly the number of employees actually engaged in the production of cotton yarn has probably declined to a somewhat greater extent than is indicated by the total employment figures and the above figures understate the increase that has taken place.

Among the factors contributing to the large increase in the *per capita* yarn production may be mentioned the steady growth in the proportion of the coarser counts spun. The following figures show the output of yarn up to 40's as percentages of the total production in each year and up to 20's for the years for which such information is available:—

	Up to 40's Per cent.	Up to 20's Per cent.
1924 ...	73.2	...
1930 ...	78.5	...
1933 ...	80.5	39.4
1934 ...	81.8	40.3
1935 ...	82.3	41.8

The figures shown in the preceding table include the following output recorded by firms whose returns were made on schedules for other trades and are not, therefore, included in Table I A.

Kind of output	1935			1934	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
<i>Goods made for sale</i>	Th. lbs.	£'000	No.	Th. lbs.	£'000
Cotton yarn, including sewing cotton :—					
Single	106	34	4	—	—
Doubled	3,522	352	17	1,898	256
Cotton waste, unmanufactured	41,379	467	1,118	41,440	413
Cotton yarn purchased and reeled, wound, warped, etc.	14,126	869	15	14,002	872
Total—Goods made for sale ... ..	...	1,722	...	...	1,541
<i>Goods made on commission</i>		Amount received			Amount received
Cotton yarn, including sewing cotton :—					
Doubled	30	1	3	—	—
Cotton waste, unmanufactured	57	1	7	113	1
Cotton yarn, reeled, wound, warped, etc.	26,264	219	68	22,042	178
Total—Work done on commission ... ..	...	221	...	...	179
Total ... ..	...	1,943	...	...	1,720

Of the total output of 1,227.8 million lbs. of single cotton yarn in 1935 (see Table V A.), 1,159.6 million lbs., or 94.5 per cent. were sold (or transferred to other works owned by the spinners) in the form of single yarn, the remainder (68.2 million lbs.) being used in the same works for doubling or for sewing cotton. The proportion sold as single yarn in 1934 was 93.7 per cent. and in 1933, 96.0 per cent.

Table X A. shows that 132.2 million lbs. of cotton yarn were purchased and used in 1935 by firms that made returns on schedules for the Cotton Spinning and Doubling Trade. This amount may be assumed to have consisted of single yarn purchased for doubling, reeling, winding, etc., and is duplicated in the output of figures shown in Table V E. Taking the output of single yarn in the Cotton Spinning and Doubling Trade alone (1,225.8 million lbs.), the disposals in 1935 were as follows :—

Single cotton yarn	Quantity
Used in spinners own works for doubling or manufacture of sewing cotton	Mill. lbs. 66.3
Sold to firms in the trade for doubling or manufacture of sewing cotton	117.0
Sold to firms in the trade for reeling, winding, etc.	15.2
Sold to firms outside the trade	1,027.3
Total	1,225.8

Table V F.—Principal products made for sale or on commission, 1924-1935

Kind of output	1924	1930	1933	1934	1935
<i>Goods made for sale</i>					
Cotton yarn, including sewing cotton :—					
Single	1,528,318	1,167,029	1,132,293	1,127,932	1,159,628
Doubled	187,947	76,097	48,774	51,117	53,287
Cotton waste, unmanufactured	237,166	202,589	165,146	180,569	181,203
Cotton yarn purchased and reeled, wound, warped, etc.*	5,585	2,342	15,561	16,797	16,658
TOTAL—Goods made for sale £'000	194,654	79,822	68,321	71,780	74,509
<i>Goods made on commission</i>					
Cotton yarn, including sewing cotton :—					
Single	9,946	9,639	1,079	1,064	1,040
Doubled	521	248	13	10	9
Cotton waste, unmanufactured	—	22	13,333	15,111	14,955
Cotton yarn, reeled, wound, warped, etc....	—	1	229	265	280
TOTAL—Work done on commission £'000	587	438	545	560	618
TOTAL—PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS £'000	195,241	80,260	68,866	72,340	75,127

* The figures for years earlier than 1933 are incomplete.
† Less than £500. ‡ So far as recorded.

Table VI.—Average values of goods produced, exported and imported

Kind of goods	Production (at factory)			Exports (f.o.b.)		Imports (c.i.f.)	
	Average value		1935 as a percentage of 1934	Average value		Average value	
	1935	1934		1935	1934	1935	1934
Cotton yarn, including sewing cotton :—	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Per cent.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Single	11.03	10.88	101.4	18.35*	18.29*	9.83*	9.84*
Doubled	22.06	22.33	98.8	58.97†	60.65†	40.43†	49.40†
Cotton yarn, reeled, wound, warped, etc.	16.18	15.93	101.6	...	...	...	...
Cotton waste, unmanufactured	2.62	2.22	117.9	3.62	2.78	3.50	3.35

* Cotton yarn, grey, unbleached.
† Finished thread of cotton, for sewing, crocheting, etc.

Table VII.—Volume of Production, 1924-1935

Kind of output	Total production			Production index (1935 = 100)			
	1935 as returned	1934		1924	1930	1933	1934
		As returned	At 1935 average values				
	£'000	£'000	£'000	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Goods made for sale :—							
Cotton yarn (including sewing cotton) :—							
Single	53,287	51,117	51,827	113	87	98	97
Doubled	16,658	16,797	16,768			92	101
Cotton waste, unmanu- factured	2,634	2,170	2,564	98	84	97	97
Cotton yarn, reeled, wound, warped, etc.	1,930	1,696	1,723	38	50	97	89
Goods made on commis- sion	618	560	593	39	50	94	96
TOTAL	75,127	72,340	73,475	110	86	97	98

Table VIII.—Production in relation to Exports and Imports

Counts of yarn	Pro- duction	Exports	Pro- portion of pro- duction exported	Retained imports	Available for use in the United Kingdom	Share of home market held by British goods
Up to 40's ... {	1935 1,010,905	81,454	8.1	1,358	930,809	99.9
1934 984,197	74,169	7.5	2,516	912,544	99.7	
Over 40's and up {	1935 176,771	41,648	23.6	176	135,299	99.9
to 80's ... {	1934 178,065	38,337	21.5	42	139,770	100.0
Over 80's and up {	1935 36,991	16,249	43.9	15	20,757	99.9
to 120's ... {	1934 36,790	15,916	43.3	3	20,877	100.0
Over 120's ... {	1935 3,098	2,323	75.0	1	776	99.9
1934 4,403	2,005	45.6	5	2,403	99.8	
TOTAL ... {	1935 1,227,765	141,674	11.5	1,550	1,087,641	99.9
1934 1,203,455	130,427	10.8	2,566	1,075,594	99.8	
Cotton waste, un- manufactured {	1935 241,486	73,931	30.6	55,002	222,557	75.3
1934 234,588	74,709	31.9	52,926	212,805	75.1	

Table IX.—Other output of the Cotton Spinning and Doubling Trade

The value of the gross output of the firms whose returns were made on schedules for the Cotton Spinning and Doubling Trade was £74,324,000 in 1935 and £71,321,000 in 1934, of which £73,184,000 in 1935 and £70,620,000 in 1934 consisted of products included in Table V E. Particulars of the remaining items are shown below.

Kind of output	1935		1934	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Yarn, spun, doubled or otherwise worked :—	Th. lbs.	£'000	Th. lbs.	£'000
Of artificial silk	1,278	264	1,935	304
Of staple fibre	6,114	533		
Of artificial silk mixed with other materials	134	41	1,055	157
Of staple fibre mixed with other materials	264	34		
Woollen and worsted yarns	238	44	333	52
Other goods made ... ..	...	122	...	133
Work done on commission (bleaching, dyeing, winding, warping, etc.) ...	...	102*	...	55*
TOTAL ... ..	...	1,140	...	701

* Amount received.

MATERIALS AND FUEL

Table X A.—Materials, fuel and electricity purchased and used

Kind of materials, etc.	1935		1934	
	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost
Raw cotton	Th. lbs.	£'000	Th. lbs.	£'000
1,282,970	37,476	1,278,076	35,677	
Cotton waste... ..	130,880	2,252	...	14,791
Cotton yarn	132,174	8,011		
Staple fibre of artificial silk ...	6,829	405		
Fuel and electricity used for all purposes :—	Th. tons			
Coal	1,583.2	1,406		
Coke	3.3	4		
Heavy fuel oil	158	4		
Purchased electricity*	Th. B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)			
260,202	596			
All other purchased materials and fuel ... ..	...	3,629		
TOTAL ... ..	...	53,783	...	50,468

* Including electricity generated in other works under the same ownership.

Table X B.—Consumption of coal, coke and electricity in 1935 and 1930

Kind of fuel								1935	1930*
Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	Th. tons	Th. tons
							1,583.2	1,768.8	
Coke	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.3	1.8
Electricity :—								Th. B.T.U.	Th. B.T.U.
								(Kw.-hrs.)	(Kw.-hrs.)
Generated in the same works	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,671	115,543†
Generated in other works under same ownership	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,101	944
Purchased	...	...	...	...	...	...	258,101	194,680†
Total electricity consumed								336,873	311,167

* Great Britain only.

† Corrected figure.

EMPLOYMENT**Table XI A.—Average numbers employed in 1935 and 1934**

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total		
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	
	Operatives (average for the year) ...	1935	8,860	66,897	19,477	109,727	28,337	176,624
	1934	8,174	63,481	17,666	109,388	25,840	177,869
Administrative, technical and clerical staff*	1935	304	4,613	185	1,178	489	5,791
	1934	246	4,773	140	1,108	386	5,881
TOTAL ...	1935	9,164	71,510	19,662	110,905	28,826	182,415
	1934	8,420	73,254	17,806	110,496	26,226	183,750

* As at 12th October, 1935, and 13th October, 1934.