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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, DISPUTES, AND PRICES IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued bad, though there was an improvement in some of the industries not directly affected by the disputes in the engineering and shipbuilding trades. Among the industries showing an improvement were coal mining, the tinplate trade, the cotton, jute, and wool textile industries, and the clothing trades.

The percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received was 17.0 at the end of April, as compared with 16.3 at the end of March. The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act* was 14.4 at 24th April, the same as at 27th March. The percentages for males and females at 24th April were 16.8 and 8.6 respectively.

The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges* as unemployed at 24th April was approximately 1,699,000, of whom 1,346,000 were men and 259,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 27th March the number on the live register was 1,690,000, of whom 1,319,000 were men and 277,000 were women.

In addition to those unemployed 114,000 males and 75,000 females were registered on 24th April as working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At 27th March the corresponding figures were 131,000 males and 91,000 females.

The number of vacancies notified by employers to Exchanges and unfilled at 24th April was 18,400, of which 4,600 were for men and 11,300 for women, compared with 17,400 at 27th March.

WAGES.

There were further substantial reductions in wages during April. In the industries and services for which statistics are collected by the Department the changes in rates of wages reported during the month resulted in a reduction of approximately £700,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 3,200,000 workpeople. The increases reported amounted to only about £7,000 per week in the wages of 150,000 workpeople.

The principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were reduced were building trade operatives, workpeople in the cotton and wool textile industries, coal miners, and railway servants. Building trade operatives sustained a reduction of 2d. per hour. In the cotton industry there was a reduction of 40 per cent. on standard list prices, equivalent to about 16½ per cent. on current rates. The wages of woollen and worsted operatives in Yorkshire were decreased, under a cost of living sliding scale, by 10 per cent. on basis rates (about 5 per cent. on current rates) in the case of time-workers, the wages of piece-workers being proportionately reduced. In the coal mining industry there were decreases, varying from under 1 per cent. to about 2 per cent. on current rates in the Yorkshire and East Midland area, Lancashire, North Staffordshire and Cheshire, and the Forest of Dean, and slight reductions in the subsistence wage in Northumber-

land and Durham; on the other hand the percentage payable on standard rates was increased by the equivalent of from about 1 to 2½ per cent. on current rates in the case of coal miners in Northumberland, Radstock, Bristol and Scotland. In the railway service wages were reduced by 4s. a week.

Since the beginning of 1922 changes in rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of over £1,900,000 in the weekly rates of wages of 6,800,000 workpeople, and a net increase of about £3,300 in the wages of 22,000 workpeople.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April, was 38. In addition, 58 disputes, which began before April, were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The principal disputes in progress were those, involving nearly a quarter of a million workpeople, which began in March in the engineering and shipbuilding industries and continued throughout April. Early in May a settlement of the shipbuilding dispute was effected, but in the engineering industry the lock-out of members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union was extended to members of other Unions.

The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in April (including those workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 270,000, as compared with 280,000 in the previous month and 1,190,000 in April, 1921. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during April was about 5,800,000 working days, as compared with 3,500,000 days in March, 1922, and 23,800,000 in April, 1921. The exceptional magnitude of the figures for 1921 was due to the general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, in which over 1,100,000 workpeople were involved.

RETAIL PRICES.

At 1st May the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was about 81 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The corresponding figure for 1st April was 82 per cent., and that for 1st May, 1921, was 128 per cent. The highest point reached by the figure was 176 per cent. above the pre-war level, in November, 1920. Apart from a slight interruption in the summer of 1921, there has been a continuous decline since that date, and the figure now recorded is lower than that for any date since October, 1917.

The statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, 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, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

For further particulars and details of the statistics reference should be made to the article on page 207.

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* The figures given relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and exclude the Irish Free State.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in Dundee and the surrounding districts during April showed a distinct improvement, but was still bad. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.2 at 24th April, as compared with 15.4 at 27th March.

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

Table with columns: DEPARTMENTS, Week ended 29th April, 1922, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Total Wages paid to all Workpeople, £, Per cent., Per cent.

Returns relating to short time were received from firms employing 12,000 workpeople. Of these workpeople nearly 30 per cent. were working 18 hours less than full time in the week ended 29th April.

LACE TRADE.

The depression in the lace trade continued during April, and, taken as a whole, employment showed but little change compared with March. Unemployment and short-time working were again prevalent in all the principal districts.

At Nottingham and Long Eaton employment was generally bad except in the curtain section, where some improvement was reported. In Scotland employment was moderate, and as compared with a year ago showed an improvement.

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

Table with columns: Branches, Districts, Total Number of Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople, £, Per cent., Per cent.

Returns received from certain firms, employing about 2,400 workpeople, showed that in the week ending 29th April about 20 per cent. of these employees worked, on the average, about 18 hours a week less than full time.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the carpet trade during April was fair, and showed a slight improvement on the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the carpet and rug trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 5.8 at 24th April, as compared with 6.5 at 27th March.

Returns received from firms employing 11,173 workpeople in the week ended 29th April, and paying £20,674 in wages, showed an increase of 2.8 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 3.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades during April remained bad on the whole. There was a large amount of unemployment and short-time working in the principal districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.9 at 24th April, as compared with 11.3 at 27th March.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 29th April :-

Table with columns: Trades, Districts, Number of Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Total Wages paid to all Workpeople, £, Per cent., Per cent.

Returns received from firms employing over 17,500 workpeople showed that in the week ended 29th April about 54 per cent. of these employees worked, on the average, 13 hours less than full time.

In Yorkshire and Lancashire employment continued slack on the whole, although it was reported as fairly good in the cotton (warp and hank) section in Lancashire. At Nottingham employment with lace dyers was good.

FELT HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the felt hat trade, though it showed some improvement as compared with the previous month, continued slack on the whole. Trade Unions at Denton, Stockport, Bredbury, Bury and Hyde, with a membership of 4,956, reported that 3.3 per cent. of the members were unemployed at the end of April, compared with 5.1 per cent. at the end of March.

TAILORING TRADES.

BESPOKE.

London.—Employment during April in the bespoke branch of the tailoring trade was still generally moderate, but an improvement was reported upon the previous months.

Other Centres.—In most provincial centres a seasonal improvement was reported, with less unemployment and short-time working. In the northern district employment was slightly better as compared with March.

READY-MADE.

The seasonal improvement in this branch of the tailoring trade was maintained during April. Of the employees covered by the returns relating to short time about 27 per cent. were losing, on the average, about 13½ hours in the week ended 29th April.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

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

Table with columns: District, Number of Indoor Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Total Wages paid to all Indoor Workpeople, £, Per cent., Per cent.

Employment in the northern districts was fair; some further improvement was reported at Leeds. There was a slight decline in employment at Bristol. In the North and West Midland Counties, and in the South Midland and Eastern Counties, some improvement was reported.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

THERE was very little change in April in the state of employment in the shirt and collar trade, which remained slack generally. Returns received for the week ended 29th April from firms employing about 10,000 workpeople indicated that nearly 35 per cent. of that number lost, on the average, 13 hours owing to short time working.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers employed and wages paid :-

Table with columns: District, Number of Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Total Wages paid to all Workpeople, £, Per cent., Per cent.

Employment in London showed a slight improvement. At Manchester short time working was again very prevalent; nearly one-half of the workpeople covered by returns lost on the average over 17 hours through short time in the week ended 29th April.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

EMPLOYMENT in the dressmaking trade in London during April was fair generally, and showed an improvement compared with March, but some short time was reported.

Employment with milliners in the West End showed a further improvement, but remained only fair.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, ETC., TRADES.

In London, employment on the whole continued fair; some short time was still worked. Returns from firms employing 2,090 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 29th April showed no variation in the number employed in comparison with March, but a decrease of 3.6 per cent. in comparison with a year ago.

In Manchester, employment was slightly better than in the previous month, and, generally, was fair; a little short time was again worked in the costume trade.

Employment in the mantle trade in Glasgow remained moderate on the whole, but again showed an improvement, only about 17 per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns received being on short time.

CORSET TRADE.

In the corset trade employment continued fairly good, showing a slight improvement on the previous month; some short time, however, was again reported.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the tanning and currying section was moderate on the whole, showing a slight decline compared with March. In the manufactured leather goods section it was again slack.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.8 at 24th April, as compared with 13.6 at 27th March.

With skippers, tanners and carriers employment showed a slight decline, and was only moderate generally; at some establishments it was reported as very bad, the great majority of the workpeople being on short time.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

In this trade there was a further slight improvement during April; employment was still bad in the heavy boot trade, but fair, on the whole, with operatives engaged in the light boot trade.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the boot, shoe and slipper making and repairing trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.0 at the 24th April, as compared with 9.6 at the 27th March.

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

Table with columns: District, Number of Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Total Wages paid to all Workpeople, £, Per cent., Per cent.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

Returns received from firms employing 34,650 workpeople showed that in the week ended the 29th April 26.0 per cent. of these employees worked, on the average, 12 hours a week less than full time.

In London employment continued bad, but was slightly better than in March. At Leicester employment showed a further improvement, and was fairly good on the whole. At Hinckley employment continued bad, with much short time. At Northampton and at Wellingborough there was a slight improvement, but most firms were still on short time, and there was much unemployment; most firms at Wellingborough closed for a full week at Easter. At Kettering employment continued bad, very few firms were on full time, the average being about three-quarter time. There was an improvement at Rushden at the end of the month, at which time most of the factories were working full time. At Higham Ferrers and Ringstead there was little change, and employment was depressed. At Stafford there was a further improvement, and short time had practically ceased.

At Norwich employment continued good, and was much better than a year ago. Practically all the firms were working full time, and some cases of overtime were reported. At Bristol and Kingswood and at Leeds employment was bad in the heavy boot trade, and the Easter stoppage was prolonged, sometimes to a fortnight or more, by most firms engaged in this trade. Employment with firms producing light footwear was fairly good. There was a decided improvement in the Rossendale Valley, and several of the larger firms were on full time at the end of the month.

In Scotland employment continued bad at all the principal centres, except at Edinburgh and Kilmarnock, where it was reported as fair.

The exports of boots and shoes in April, 1922, amounted to 60,675 dozen pairs, or 4,637 dozen pairs less than in March, 1922, but 20,708 dozen pairs more than in April, 1921.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade was very slack on the whole during April, but in some districts there was a slight improvement. In the South Wales and Monmouth district employment was reported as fair and improving; in Suffolk and Essex it was good; but in most other districts it was depressed.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick and tile and cement trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 24th April, was 18.2, as compared with 19.0 at 27th March.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.*	Year ago.*
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,725	- 17	+ 33.4	£ 4,023	- 14.1	- 7.8
Midlands and Eastern Counties	3,047	- 0.7	- 5.2	6,940	- 4.7	- 29.9
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,143	- 1.4	- 3.5	3,007	+ 2.4	- 28.0
Other Districts	1,428	- 1.2	+ 14.1	3,142	- 6.0	- 13.2
Total	7,343	- 1.1	+ 5.8	17,112	- 6.2	- 22.5

Returns from firms employing 6,385 workpeople in this trade show about 41 per cent. of their workpeople worked short time, to the extent of 13 hours on the average, during the week ended 29th April.

CEMENT.

Employment during April was bad and showed a decline as compared with the previous month; it was much worse than a year ago. Returns from employers employing 5,489 workpeople in the week ended 29th April, 1922, showed a decrease of 4.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. Compared with April, 1921, there was a decrease of 38.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 49.6 per cent.* in the amount of wages paid by these firms.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades remained slack, on the whole, during April. A very slight general improvement was again shown, although short time was worked in several districts and a decline reported from a few centres. There were slight decreases in the numbers registered as unemployed in all the geographical divisions shown in the Table given below.

Employment remained fairly good with plasterers and continued slack with bricklayers, carpenters and plumbers. With painters it continued to improve, but it was still bad with masons, labourers and workpeople employed on construction of works.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 24th April:—

Occupation.	Number of Unemployment Books Remaining Lodged at 24th April, 1922.	Percentage of Unemployment at 24th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 27th March, 1922.	
			Month ago.	Year ago.*
Building Trade.				
Carpenters	13,558	10.0	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Bricklayers	7,052	11.2	- 1.5	- 1.5
Masons	2,788	11.6	+ 0.5	- 4.5
Plasterers	576	3.9	- 4.5	- 4.5
Painters	14,528	12.4	+ 0.3	- 0.5
Plumbers	3,713	10.2	+ 0.3	- 0.5
All other occupations ..	88,262	23.3	- 0.5	- 0.5
Total	130,577	16.9	- 0.9	- 0.9
Construction of Works.				
Navvies	10,697	29.6	+ 0.3	- 0.3
All other occupations ..	16,748	21.9	- 0.3	- 0.3
Total	27,445	24.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Grand Total	158,022	17.9	- 0.7	- 0.7
Divisions.				
London	34,374	18.5	- 1.2	- 1.0
South-Eastern	16,193	12.6	- 1.0	- 0.4
South-Western	15,915	15.2	- 1.1	- 1.1
Midlands	19,860	20.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
North-Eastern	20,113	17.8	- 0.7	- 0.7
North-Western	24,122	20.3	- 0.4	- 0.4
Scotland	15,001	17.8	- 1.0	- 1.0
Wales	7,385	23.0	- 1.6	- 1.6
Northern Ireland	4,559	32.9	- 0.7	- 0.5
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	158,022	17.9	- 0.7	- 0.7
Males	157,621	18.0	- 0.7	- 0.5
Females	401	5.4	- 0.5	- 0.5

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades remained bad on the whole during April, but in some districts there was a slight improvement. Returns were received from trade unions covering 88,577 workpeople, of whom 8.7 per cent. were stated to be unemployed at the end of April (exclusive of considerable numbers on short time), as compared with 8.8 per cent. at the end of March and 10.7 per cent. in April, 1921.

Mill-Sawing and Machining.—In this trade employment continued bad, and much short time was worked, but in a few localities it was reported as moderate or fair. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the mill-sawing and machine wood-working trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 24th April, was 13.1, as compared with 13.3 at 27th March.

Furnishing.—Employment in this trade was again bad on the whole, and short time was general. In a number of districts, however, employment was reported as moderate or fair.

Coach Building.—Employment in this trade was fair generally, showing an improvement on a month ago. Short time was worked in many districts.

Coopering.—In this trade employment varied considerably in the different localities, but it was better on the whole than in the previous month, except in the dry section, where a slight decline was reported at a few centres.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the brushmaking trade was fair on the whole, but was reported as slack in some localities. With basket makers it was again bad, and a considerable amount of short time was worked, particularly in Lancashire. Employment with packing-case makers also remained bad, with much short time. With wheelwrights and smiths employment continued bad, and short time was worked in some districts.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper, printing and bookbinding trades continued bad generally during April. A good deal of short time was worked in all sections.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the printing, publishing and bookbinding trades as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges was 7.7 at 24th April, as compared with 7.6 at 27th March.

With letterpress printers employment was generally slack in London and with some classes it was worse than in March. Overtime was worked, however, by compositors and readers in certain offices. In the provinces employment remained generally slack, but a slight improvement was reported from certain centres, including Hull, Nottingham, Derby, and Glasgow. In the lithographic printing trade employment continued bad, and much short time was worked, although in the case of lithographic artists an improvement was reported in London and at Manchester. Of over 6,700 workpeople employed in the letterpress and lithographic printing trades covered by returns received by the Department, 30 per cent. were working short time, and losing, on an average, eight hours each per week.

Employment in the bookbinding trade continued bad, and a decline on the previous month was reported in London. Of over 3,600 workpeople concerning whom returns were received, 43 per cent. were working, on an average, 9½ hours per week short of full time.

In the paper trade a slight improvement was reported from one or two districts, but the majority of the mills were still working intermittently. Of over 8,000 workpeople covered by returns received 23 per cent. were working, on an average, 14½ hours per week short of full time.

The following Table summarises the Returns from Trade Unions relating to unemployment in April:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Apr., 1922.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Apr., 1922.	Mar., 1922.	Apr., 1921.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Printing	76,735	6.5	6.0	7.5	+ 0.5	- 1.0
Bookbinding	14,711	10.4	11.4	10.3	- 1.0	+ 0.1

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

	Number of Workpeople			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 29th Apr., 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 29th Apr., 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Paper	9,555	- 1.9	+ 4.8	£ 24,605	- 1.7	- 0.3
Printing	9,185	- 0.2	- 7.1	32,208	- 1.6	- 9.4
Bookbinding	4,747	+ 5.1	- 9.4	10,562	+ 6.7	- 5.9
Total	23,487	+ 0.1	- 3.2	67,375	- 0.4	- 5.7

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades during April was bad, and slightly worse than a month ago. Much short time continued to be worked. The earthenware section in Yorkshire showed no change, whilst in Bristol employment continued fair. In Scotland employment was bad in the stoneware section of the trade; it was moderate, however, in the white earthenware section at Glasgow, Bo'ness and Kirkcaldy.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.0 at 24th April, as compared with 12.9 at 27th March.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
China Manufacture ..	1,601	- 2.6	+ 18.2	£ 2,676	- 19.4	- 11.5
Earthenware Manufacture ..	7,834	- 0.0	+ 11.4	14,551	- 3.2	+ 63.5
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,521	- 3.1	- 7.3	2,929	+ 5.8	+ 15.8
Total	10,956	- 0.8	+ 6.8	20,156	- 4.5	+ 39.5
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries	8,483	- 1.2	+ 9.0	£ 14,817	- 6.3	+ 78.3
Other Districts	2,473	+ 0.6	+ 5.5	5,339	+ 0.5	- 13.1
Total	10,956	- 0.8	+ 6.8	20,156	- 4.5	+ 39.5

Returns received from employers relating to short time working showed that about 57 per cent. of 9,000 workpeople covered by the returns worked, on an average, 18 hours short of full time in the week ended 29th April.

The exports of china, earthenware and pottery in April, 1922, amounted to 269,395 cwts., or 30,931 cwts. more than in March, 1922, but 114,294 cwts. less than in April, 1921.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was bad, and showed a decline during April.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the glass trades (excluding optical and scientific glassware), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22.2 at 24th April, as compared with 21.4 at 27th March.

Employment in the glass bottle trade was very bad, especially at St. Helens, Leeds and Bristol. With flint glass cutters at Birmingham there was a further decline, but at Edinburgh a slight improvement was reported. At Glasgow and Edinburgh some sections reported employment as good.

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

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Glass, Bottle	4,528	- 3.0	+ 23.8	£ 11,419	- 5.4	- 3.8
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,873	- 0.2	- 11.4	4,403	- 3.2	- 20.5
Other Branches	510	- 14.1	- 29.7	1,143	- 16.8	- 36.6
Total	6,911	- 3.2	+ 6.4	16,965	- 5.7	- 11.7
DISTRICTS.						
North of England	841	- 4.6	+ 4.6	£ 1,876	- 3.7	- 15.2
Yorkshire	2,841	- 5.2	- 27.7	7,038	- 8.1	- 28.9
Lancashire	799	- 3.3	+ 48.8	1,777	- 7.1	+ 21.7
Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcester-shire	772	- 1.2	- 10.6	1,783	- 10.8	- 25.4
Scotland	324	+ 6.3	+ 73.8	1,951	+ 2.7	+ 62.4
Other parts	834	+ 9.2	+ 15.0	2,480	- 1.2	+ 10.5
Total	6,911	- 3.2	+ 6.4	16,965	- 5.7	- 11.7

Returns covering 5,355 workpeople showed that in the week ended 29th April 23.2 per cent. were working, on the average, 18 hours less than full time.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate in the food preparation trades as a whole during April.

In the sugar-refining industry employment remained fair, and the slight improvement previously reported was maintained during the month; both short time and overtime were reported. Employment was fair in the cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery trades. Of the workpeople reported upon, 13 per cent. lost about 10½ hours in short time, while 15 per cent. worked 5 hours overtime in the week ended 29th April. The state of employment varied in the biscuit and cake making trade, but was moderate on the whole; short time continued to be prevalent, 31 per cent. of the workpeople for whom returns were received working 10 hours less than full time, but some overtime was also worked. Employment was moderate on the whole in the jam and marmalade trade, and 9 per cent. of the workpeople reported on lost 11 hours on the average in the week ended 29th April on account of short time. A little overtime was reported. In the bacon and preserved meats trade employment continued to be moderate, but little short time or overtime was reported. It was also moderate in the pickle and sauce making trades; of the workpeople covered by the returns in these trades 22 per cent. worked 11 hours short time, on the average, in the week ended 29th April.

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

Trade.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 29th April, 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Sugar Refining, etc. ..	7,201	+ 3.2	+ 13.2	£ 24,493	+ 3.0	+ 4.4
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ..	29,950	- 0.7	+ 8.9	63,543	- 4.7	- 4.7
Biscuits and Cakes	14,713	- 0.6	+ 2.4	31,554	+ 4.1	+ 2.2
Jams and Marmalade ..	6,884	- 1.5	+ 1.4	14,379	- 0.6	- 3.9
Bacon and Preserved Meats	1,917	- 2.0	- 5.6	4,410	- 0.1	- 13.3
Pickles and Sauces	1,514	- 0.2	+ 8.0	2,792	- 2.0	- 2.5
Total	62,179	- 0.3	+ 5.5	141,171	- 0.3	- 1.9

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

AGRICULTURE.*

ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE supply of labour exceeded requirements in practically all parts of the country. Unemployment was to some extent reduced by the demand for labour for potato planting, but the extra workers required for this purpose were readily obtainable, and in many districts this work was stopped by wet weather towards the end of the month.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April continued moderate, and showed little change on the whole from the previous month.

The number of fishermen whose unemployment books were lodged at Employment Exchanges at 24th April was 3,024, as compared with 3,019 at 27th March.

East, South and West Coasts.—Employment at Hull was fair in all branches. At Grimsby it was fairly good. At Yarmouth it declined to slack with fishermen and fish dock labourers, but fish curers were again fairly well employed. At Lowestoft employment improved to fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and to moderate with fish curers. On the Devon and Cornwall coasts it was slack, operations being restricted by boisterous weather. At Cardiff, Swansea and Milford Haven also it continued slack.

Scotland.—Employment at Aberdeen showed an improvement in comparison with the previous month, and was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers and good with fish curers. At Peterhead, although a slight improvement was reported, it remained moderate with fishermen and bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Macduff it was again fair with fishermen and bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Fraserburgh employment continued to improve with fishermen, but was still only moderate, while with fish dock labourers and fish curers it remained bad.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of fish landed in April, 1922, as compared with April, 1921:—

Table with columns for Quantity of fish landed (April 1922, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with April 1921) and Value (£, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with April 1921). Rows include Fish (other than shell) and Shell Fish, with sub-rows for England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during April continued slack generally. At certain ports an improvement was reported, more especially in the coal shipping section. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the canal, river, harbour, dock and wharf service, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 24th April, was 22.2, as compared with 21.8 at 27th March.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in each week of the month:—

Table showing Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London. Columns include Period, In Docks (By Port of London Authority or through Contractors, By Ship-owners, etc.), At Wharves making Returns, and Total Docks and Principal Wharves.

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in April was 1,179, as compared with 1,208 in the previous month and with 1,519 in April, 1921.

* Based on information supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

East Coast.—On the Tyne and Wear employment was fair, and better than in March, with trimmers and teamers: with other classes of dock labour there was an improvement to fairly good on the Tyne, while at Blyth it continued fair. At Hartlepool employment was rather slack, though better than in March; while at Middlesbrough it was reported fairly brisk at the docks, but slack at riverside wharves. Improvements in employment were reported from Hull and Ipswich, but at Goole, and at Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment was still slack.

Southern and Western Ports.—At Plymouth and Falmouth employment remained slack. It was also slack at the Bristol Channel ports, except in the case of Swansea, where the improvement noted last month was maintained, and at Avonmouth, where it was reported fairly good and better than in March. At Liverpool employment remained fairly good with dockers, and bad with coal trimmers and heavers. The average weekly number of dock labourers employed at Liverpool during the five weeks ended 1st May was 14,222, compared with 14,578 in the four weeks ended 27th March, and 13,996 in the corresponding period of last year. At Manchester employment continued slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment continued dull at Glasgow and Leith, and fair at Dundee. At Belfast it improved to good; at Londonderry it was fair.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during April among seamen continued slack on the whole. At most of the ports considerable numbers of men failed to obtain engagements. Towards the end of the month, however, the demand for men increased at the majority of the ports.

The percentage of seamen unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.7 at 24th April, as compared with 20.7 at 27th March.

On the Thames the demand, which was small in the early part of the month, improved considerably, being reported as fairly good at the end of April. Employment on the Tyne was moderate. On the Wear the demand remained very quiet. The demand on the Tees was quiet, but improved slightly at the end of the month. At Hull employment was moderate and not so good as in the previous month. Employment was very poor at Goole and Grimsby.

At Southampton employment was fairly good, and better than in March. The demand at Bristol and Cardiff was quiet, but some improvement was noticeable in the last week of April. Employment at Avonmouth improved, particularly in the latter part of the month. The demand for men at Newport was very poor. Employment at Swansea was fair, and showed a gradual improvement in the course of the month. The demand in the foreign-going trade on the Mersey was moderate, but revived considerably at the close of the month; a large number of men, however, were unable to secure employment.

Employment on the Clyde remained moderate and declined at Leith, where it was described as very poor at the end of the month. The demand for men was fair at Aberdeen and quiet at Dundee.

At Belfast the demand was very quiet, becoming negligible in the last week of the month.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports during April:—

Table showing Number of Seamen* shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports during April. Columns include Principal Ports, April 1922, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Month ago, Year ago, and Four months ended (April 1922, April 1921). Rows include ENGLAND & WALES (East Coast, Tyne Ports, Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Hull, Grimsby, Bristol Channel, Other Ports) and SCOTLAND (Leith, Other Ports).

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals. † Including Avonmouth and Portishead ‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SHORT-TIME WORKING IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.*

UNDER the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 and 1921, substantially all persons for whom Health Insurance contributions have been paid, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Employees of local 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 be exempted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under 16 years of age. An applicant for unemployment benefit must, inter alia, prove continuous unemployment, and it is provided that two periods of unemployment of not less than two days each, separated by a period of

not more than two days, during which the insured contributor has not been employed for more than 24 hours, or two periods of unemployment of not less than six days each, separated by an interval of not more than six weeks, shall be treated as continuous unemployment for this purpose. Persons employed in establishments where, owing to trade depression, the number of working days has been reduced on a systematic basis in such a manner as to fall within the above provision are accordingly eligible for benefit. Payment of unemployment benefit is subject to certain statutory conditions and disqualifications. The procedure requires the "lodging" of an unemployed person's unemployment book, and the record of books "lodged" thus affords a measure of the extent to which unemployment is prevalent in the insured industries.

Large table showing Unemployment and Short-time Working in Insured Industries. Columns include Industry, Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople (Males, Females, Total), Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 24th April, 1922 (Males, Females, Total), Percentage Unemployed (Total, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 27th Mar., 1922), and Systematic Short-time (Number of Short-time Workers claiming Unemployment Insurance Benefit at 24th April, 1922, Percentage on Systematic Short-time (Total, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 27th Mar., 1922)). Rows list various industries like Building and Construction of Works, Shipbuilding, Engineering and Ironfoundry, etc.

* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administration of Unemployment Insurance in the Irish Free State having been transferred to the Provisional Government as from 1st April (see LABOUR GAZETTE for April, 1922, page 159). The percentages for March have been re-calculated on the new basis.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

The number of persons remaining on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges at 24th April was 1,699,251, as compared with 1,689,734 at 27th March. The men's Live Register increased by 27,423, while in the women's and juveniles departments there were decreases of 17,253 and 653 respectively.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 24th April, 1922:—

Week ended	Applications by Employers.	Vacancies Filled.	Applications outstanding at end of week.	
			From Workpeople (Live Register.)	From Employers.
27th March, 1922 ..	18,421	16,435	1,689,734	17,402
3rd April, 1922 ..	19,184	16,681	1,685,788	17,477
10th " " ..	18,446	15,612	1,669,646	17,600
17th " " ..	12,123	10,409	1,639,872	17,256
24th " " ..	17,131	13,583	1,699,251	18,359
Total (4 weeks) ..	66,887	56,185	—	—

Of the total number of workpeople on the Live Register at 24th April, 1,346,044 were men, 54,442 were boys, 259,436 were women, and 39,329 were girls. Of the 18,359 vacancies unfilled, 4,637 were for men, 11,287 were for women, and 2,435 for juveniles.

Details of the figures given in the preceding paragraphs are not yet available, but the outstanding features of the work of the Employment Exchanges during the five weeks ended 10th April are dealt with below:—

Applications from Workpeople.—The daily average number of applications from workpeople (23,772) during the five weeks ended 10th April, 1922, showed a decrease of 1,306, or 5.2 per cent., compared with the previous month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 16,713, women for 5,027, and juveniles for 2,032—decreases of 2.1 per cent. in the case of men, 12.5 per cent. in the case of women, and 10.2 per cent. in the case of juveniles.

Slight increases occurred in the number of applications from men in engineering and ironfounding, construction of vehicles, miscellaneous metal trades, commercial and clerical occupations, and general labourers. There were decreases in dress, including boots and shoes, (22.4 per cent.), the textile trades (19.2 per cent.), building and construction of works (10.7 per cent.), and the transport trades (3.3 per cent.).

In the case of women there were slight increases in the number of applications in the food, tobacco, drink and lodgings group of trades, and in engineering and ironfounding. In all other occupations, however, there were considerable decreases, the principal being dress, including boots and shoes, (31.7 per cent.), the textile trades (14.7 per cent.), and domestic service (9.5 per cent.).

Of the total applications from men, 23.3 per cent. were in engineering and ironfounding, 14.1 per cent. in building and construction of works, 9.7 per cent. in the transport trades, 8.9 per cent. in shipbuilding, and 7.9 per cent. as general labourers. Of the total applications from women, 37.5 per cent. were in the textile trades, while domestic service accounted for 20.5 per cent.

Vacancies Notified.—The average daily number of vacancies notified by employers during the five weeks ended 10th April was 3,178, as compared with 3,296 during the preceding period. Of this daily average, 1,795 were for men, 956 were for women, and 427 were for juveniles—decreases of 0.4 per cent. in the case of men, 7.9 per cent. in the case of women, and 6.0 per cent. in the case of juveniles. Increases occurred in the number of vacancies notified for men in building and construction of works, commercial and clerical occupations, and dress (including boots and shoes); while there were slight decreases in engineering and ironfounding, shipbuilding, miscellaneous metal trades, the transport trades and general labourers.

Of the total vacancies notified for men, 51.5 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 4.6 per cent. in shipbuilding and 17.7 per cent. for general labourers. The only exceptions to the general decrease in the number of vacancies notified for women were the textile trades, engineering and ironfounding, and dress (including boots and shoes).

Of the total vacancies notified for women, 18,564, or 64.7 per cent., were in domestic service.

Vacancies Filled.—The average daily number of vacancies filled during the five weeks ended 10th April was 2,680, as compared with 2,815 during the previous period. Compared with the previous month, the average daily number of vacancies filled by men, women, and juveniles decreased by 1.4 per cent., 11.8 per cent., and 7.0 per cent. respectively.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified during the period was 84.3 per cent., as compared with 85.4 per cent. during the previous period. Of the total vacancies filled by men 52.6 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 4.9 per cent. in shipbuilding, and 18.4 per cent. as general labourers.

* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administration of Employment Exchanges in the Irish Free State having been transferred to the Provisional Government (see LABOUR GAZETTE for April, 1922, page 159).

In the men's department there were increases in the number of vacancies filled in building and construction of works, commercial and clerical occupations and dress (including boots and shoes), while decreases occurred in engineering and ironfounding, shipbuilding, miscellaneous metal trades, the transport trades, agriculture and general labourers. In the women's department there was a decrease in the number of vacancies filled in most of the principal trade groups, the most important being a decrease of 13.1 per cent. in the number of women placed in domestic service.

Juveniles.—With reference to juveniles, 31,432 applications were received from boys and 5,450 vacancies were notified for boys. Of the vacancies notified 4,838, or 88.8 per cent., were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by boys 32.5 per cent. were in the transport trades, 13.2 per cent. in engineering and ironfounding and 8.8 per cent. in commercial and clerical occupations.

The number of applications received from girls was 29,535. The number of vacancies notified was 7,333, of which 6,051, or 82.5 per cent., were filled. Of the total vacancies filled, domestic service accounted for 33.1 per cent., dress (including boots and shoes) for 16.1 per cent., and commercial and clerical occupations for 8.2 per cent.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for boys among the more important trade groups was greatest in building and construction of works (95.5 per cent.), engineering and ironfounding (93.0 per cent.), the transport trades (91.3 per cent.), and commercial and clerical occupations (88.4 per cent.). In the case of girls the percentages were: Food, tobacco, drink and lodgings occupations (96.4), commercial and clerical occupations (89.2), the transport trades (87.5), and dress (including boots and shoes) (86.7).

Of the total vacancies (10,889) filled by juveniles, 1,690, or 15.5 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The following Table shows, for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the number of applications for men and women, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the five weeks ended 10th April, and the number remaining on the Live Registers. It should be noted that the number on the Live Registers of Employment Exchanges does not include persons on short time:—

Group of Trades.†	Men.			
	Applications from Workpeople.	Live Register.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Building ..	62,102	118,664	7,786	6,864
Construction of Works ..	8,538	19,236	19,950	19,782
Engineering and Ironfounding ..	116,754	342,220	2,149	1,826
Shipbuilding ..	44,493	114,704	2,483	2,468
Construction of Vehicles ..	3,201	8,050	238	168
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ..	40,478	109,228	280	217
Domestic Service ..	5,463	15,475	689	426
Commercial and Clerical ..	10,478	26,690	2,136	1,855
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages ..	48,735	126,215	1,689	1,416
Agriculture ..	2,220	4,725	1,137	1,083
Textiles ..	29,391	60,372	333	283
Dress (including Boots and Shoes) ..	6,441	18,430	583	458
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodgings ..	5,753	15,057	180	129
General Labourers ..	39,639	106,167	9,513	9,334
All other Trades ..	77,411	212,094	4,821	4,344
Total ..	501,397	1,287,327	53,867	50,653
	Women.			
Engineering and Ironfounding ..	3,606	15,944	299	267
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ..	5,565	14,362	185	149
Domestic Service:—				
Resident domestic servants ..	6,732	4,178	8,084	3,335
Non-resident domestic servants ..	9,011	9,853	3,506	2,480
Other domestic offices and services ..	15,189	20,653	6,974	5,731
Commercial and Clerical ..	7,681	17,805	813	657
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages ..	3,954	9,663	345	320
Agriculture ..	184	429	92	83
Textiles ..	56,803	81,567	2,085	1,648
Dress (including Boots and Shoes) ..	10,219	20,845	4,132	2,496
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodgings ..	6,692	13,528	262	193
General Labourers ..	3,182	5,616	183	159
All other Trades ..	22,262	46,294	1,723	1,335
Total ..	150,820	260,736	28,683	18,853

† Casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers) are excluded from this table, and from all other figures above except those in the first three paragraphs. The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations during the period of five weeks ended 10th April was 1930.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April, was 38, as compared with 48 in the previous month, and 44 in April, 1921. In these new disputes about 11,000 workpeople were directly involved and 1,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes).

The stoppages which began in March in the engineering and shipbuilding trades continued throughout April, and are estimated to have involved about 240,000 workpeople. Details of these disputes will be found on pages 106 and 156 of the LABOUR GAZETTE for March and April respectively, and on page 200 of the current issue. In addition, about 15,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 56 smaller disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of new and old disputes in progress in April was thus 96, involving about 267,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during April of nearly 5,800,000 working days.

The following Table classifies the disputes by groups of trades:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Disputes in progress in April.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in April.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in April.
	Started before 1st April.	Started in April.	Total.		
Building ..	8	3	11	500	7,000
Mining and Quarrying ..	14	9	23	17,000	154,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	19	15	34	244,000	5,573,000
Textile and Clothing ..	4	3	7	1,000	13,000
Transport ..	3	3	6	1,000	9,000
Other Trades ..	7	2	9	2,500	18,000
Employees of Public Authorities ..	3	3	6	1,000	17,000
Total, April, 1922 ..	58	38	96	267,000	5,791,000
Total, Mar., 1922 ..	53	43	101	277,000	3,517,000
Total, April, 1921 ..	54	44	98	1,191,000†	23,802,000†

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN APRIL, 1922.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute Began.		Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
BUILDING TRADES:— French polishers (employed by master builders and shop-fitters), carpenters and joiners.—London.	300	100¶	1922. 28 Jan.	10 April	Against application to french polishers of building trade conditions as to travelling allowance, working hours, etc., in place of those observed in the cabinet trade.	Work resumed on employers' terms.
MINING AND QUARRYING:— Coal miners, etc.—Sunderland (near).	1,558		1921. 3 Oct.	..	Men demanded reinstatement of two putters, dismissed for alleged malingering under the protection of the Minimum Wage Act. Subsequently men desired to resume work, but employers demanded abolition of certain colliery customs. (See Special Articles on pages 105 and 156 of the LABOUR GAZETTE for March and April respectively, and page 200 of the current issue.)	No settlement reported.
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES:— Engineers, etc. (members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union and other workpeople) in the employment of firms affiliated to the Engineering and the National Employers' Federations.—United Kingdom. Shipyards workers.—Federated districts and certain other districts.‡‡	160,000††		1922. 13 Mar.	..	Against proposed reduction of war bonus by 10s. 6d. a week from 29th March, with a further reduction of 6s. on 26th April.	Reductions accepted of 10s. 6d. a week as from 29th March, followed by 3s. on 17th May and 3s. on 7th June (see page 200).
OTHER TRADES:— Workpeople employed in boot and shoe manufacture.—Chesham. Marine wireless telegraph operators.—London, Liverpool and other ports.	500		18 Mar.	..	For rate of wages prescribed by National Agreement.	No settlement reported.
Chemical workers and electricians.—South Wales.	472	46	27 Feb.	12 April	Dispute arising out of proposed new conditions of employment, involving liability to other than telegraphic duties. Against proposed reduction in wages.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Teachers (elementary schools)—Southampton.	464		3 April	..	Dispute arising out of the issue of notices (subsequently withdrawn) to reduce existing scale of salaries; the teachers claiming Burnham No. 111 scale.	Agreement effected providing <i>inter alia</i> for acceptance of proposed minimum rates, subject to negotiations with individual firms as regards workpeople claiming to be graded above the minimum. No settlement reported.

* 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.
† Revised figure.
‡ A general dispute in the coal mining industry was in progress in April, 1921.
§ 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 where, in 1921, about 6,000 workpeople were involved more than once in the totals. The extent of such duplication is very slight except in the mining and quarrying group but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, are reported that these workpeople were idle for a short period only.
¶ On 3rd May the lock-out, previously confined to members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, was extended to members of other Trade Unions in the engineering industry.
†† Estimated number involved up to the end of April, exclusive of workpeople unemployed when the stoppage began. Exact figures are not available.
‡‡ The districts involved included the Clyde, East Scotland, North-East Coast, Hull, Barrow, Liverpool, Birkenhead, London, Southampton, and Portsmouth (private firms).
§§ Date of acceptance of terms of settlement offered by the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation. No agreement has yet been reported with Ship Repairing Employers in London and on the Mersey.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics (see note in next column) the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in April resulted in a reduction of over £700,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 3,200,000 workpeople and in an increase of about £7,000 in the wages of 155,000 workpeople.

The groups of trades principally affected by the changes are shown below:—

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Building	—	463,000	—	166,100
Mining and Quarrying ..	155,000	518,000	7,000	17,100
Iron and Steel	—	144,000	—	48,500
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal	—	132,000	—	35,700
Textile	—	757,000	—	223,700
Clothing	—	239,000	—	52,200
Transport	—	535,000	—	92,500
Chemical, Brick, Pottery etc.	—	172,000	—	42,500
Public Utility Services ..	—	150,000	—	23,400
Other	—	62,000	—	8,200
Total	155,000	3,220,000	7,000	712,900

Building trade operatives sustained a reduction of 2d. per hour under a general agreement, which affected all the principal towns in Great Britain except Liverpool and Birkenhead. There was also a general reduction of ¼d. per hour in the case of men engaged on civil engineering work.

In the mining group the workpeople affected by increases were coal miners in Northumberland, Radstock, Bristol and Scotland, the amount of increase varying from about 1 to 2½ per cent. on current rates. In the case of Northumberland the subsistence wage was slightly reduced for the lower-paid datal workers, and there was also a reduction in the subsistence wage paid in Durham. There were small decreases (varying from under 1 to about 2 per cent. on current rates) in the wages of coal miners in the Yorkshire and East Midland area, Lancashire, North Staffordshire and Cheshire, and the Forest of Dean.

Reductions occurred in April in the wages of blastfurnace workers in nearly all the principal districts, varying from about 1 per cent. on current rates in Cleveland to over 15 per cent. in South Staffordshire and the West of Scotland. Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands sustained a decrease of over 14 per cent. on current rates, and steel sheet millmen a decrease of nearly 8½ per cent.

Engineers and shipbuilders at Belfast had their wages reduced by 10s. 6d. per week. In the Birmingham district men employed in the brass trade sustained a decrease of ¼d. per hour.

The principal reductions in the textile group affected workpeople in the cotton, woollen and worsted and bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries. In the case of cotton operatives the reduction amounted to 40 per cent. on the standard lists, equivalent to about 16½ per cent. on current rates. Woollen and worsted operatives in Yorkshire had their cost of living wage reduced

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922.

NOTE.—The following Table relates mainly to changes which came into operation in April, with effect either from that month or from earlier dates. Certain earlier changes, however, of which particulars were received during April are also included. The weekly rates quoted are in respect of a full ordinary working week and do not take into account the effect of short time working.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Building	BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES (including Construction of Works).			
	London and Districts within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross; also Grays and Purfleet, Epsom and Watford	1 April	Bricklayers, masons and marble masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters and tilers, plumbers, plasterers, painters, electric and steam derrick drivers, travelling crane and overhead traveller drivers (steam or electric), portable and stationary engine drivers, boiler attendants and crane signalmen, scaffolders, timbermen and labourers	Decrease of 2d. per hour.* Rates after change: masons (hewers), granite masons, and spindle and fourcutter machinists, 1s. 11d.; plumbers, 1s. 10½d.; painters, 1s. 9d.; other tradesmen, 1s. 10d.; electric derrick drivers, 1s. 9d.; steam derrick drivers, 1s. 8½d.; marble polishers, 1s. 8d.; crane and traveller drivers, 1s. 7½d.; scaffolders and timbermen, and engine drivers, 1s. 6d.; labourers, boiler attendants and crane signalmen, 1s. 5d.
	Other Principal towns in Great Britain (except Liverpool and Birkenhead)*	1 April	Building trade operatives (except plumbers in certain towns (See p. 223) and painters in Scotland)	Decrease of 2d. per hour.*

* The change took effect under a resolution of the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry. Full particulars as to the rates previously paid and the localities affected were given on p. 144 of the March GAZETTE. In the case of bricklayers, masons and labourers employed by members of the Scottish Building Contractors' Association in the Glasgow and West of Scotland district (whose wages were not generally reduced in February), the rates were reduced to 1s. 10d. for tradesmen and 1s. 5d. for labourers as from 1st April.

by 10 per cent. on basis rates (about 5 per cent. on current rates) in the case of timeworkers, with proportionate reductions in the case of pieceworkers.

In the clothing group the principal decreases resulted from Orders under the Trade Boards Acts and affected all classes of workpeople in the ready-made tailoring and wholesale mantle and costume trades and females employed in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trades.

In the railway service men employed in the traffic grades sustained a reduction of 2s. per week under the "cost of living" sliding scale, and, in addition, 2s. was withdrawn from the special advances granted in June, 1920. Chemical workers had their wages reduced by 1d. per hour. Men employed in the soap and candle trade sustained a decrease of 5s. per week, and those in the brickmaking trade a decrease of 6s. per week.

In the public utility services, under "cost of living" sliding scales, gasworkers sustained a decrease of ¼d. per hour, men employed in electricity supply undertakings a decrease of 1d. per hour, and those in waterworks undertakings decreases varying from 2s. to 6s. per week.

Of the changes taking effect in April, 6, affecting over 9,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration; 6, affecting nearly 4,000 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation; 156, affecting 1,885,000 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales; and the remaining 154, affecting nearly 1,477,000 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives, or took effect as the result of Orders under the Trade Boards Acts. In 16 cases, involving over 5,000 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary of Changes in January—April, 1922.

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Building	100	498,000	20	222,200
Mining and Quarrying ..	22,000	1,075,000	3,250	246,700
Iron and Steel	—	234,000	—	155,700
Engineering and Shipbuilding	—	1,302,000	—	205,700
Other Metal	—	317,000	—	86,800
Textile	200	922,000	50	297,600
Clothing	—	482,000	—	92,200
Transport	—	932,000	—	337,300
Paper, Printing, &c. ..	—	104,000	—	15,200
Furniture and Woodworking	—	84,000	—	23,900
Chemical, Glass, Brick, Pottery, &c.	—	249,000	—	79,600
Food, Drink and Tobacco	—	166,000	—	32,300
Public Utility Services ..	—	223,000	—	102,300
Other	—	106,000	—	24,500
Total	22,300	6,801,000	3,320	1,921,400

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in April. [NOTE.—The above statistics exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, farm labourers, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics.]

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Building (continued)	BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES (including Construction of Works)—(continued).			
	Various towns*	April*	Plumbers	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. 1d. to 1s. 11d.).
	Maeclesfield	24 April	Plumbers	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 10d.).
	Preston	15 April	Plumbers	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. 0½d. to 1s. 10½d.).
	Leek and Newark	1 April	Plumbers	Decrease of 2d. per hour (1s. 11½d. to 1s. 9½d.).
	Stoke and Newcastle-under-Lyme District	1 April	Plumbers	Decreases to a uniform rate of 1s. 11d. per hour.
	Chard	1 April	Building trade operatives	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 3d.; other tradesmen, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 11d.
	East Grinstead	1 April	Building trade operatives	Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 4½d.; scaffolders, 1s. 1½d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.
	Lingfield	1 April	Building trade operatives	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 4½d.; scaffolders, 1s. 1½d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.
	Salisbury (certain firms)	29 April	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s.
	Sidmouth	1 April	Painters and grainers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: skilled painters and grainers, 1s. 4d.; rough painters, 1s. 3d.
	Wadebridge	1 April	Building trade operatives	Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 3½d.; other tradesmen, 1s. 4½d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.
	Llandrindod Wells	1 April	Building trade operatives	Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s.
	Aberdeen	20 April	Masons	Decrease of 3d. per hour (1s. 10½d. to 1s. 7½d.).
	Dumfries and Galloway	8 April	Joiners and plasterers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. 7½d.).
Inverness	11 April	Plumbers	Decrease of 3½d. per hour (1s. 11½d. to 1s. 8d.).	
Belfast	1 April	Masons and joiners	Decrease of 5d. per hour. Rates after change: masons, 1s. 6½d.; joiners, 1s. 6d.	
		Plasterers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).	
		Bricklayers, stonecutters, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 10d.).	
Ramsey (Isle of Man) and District	1st pay day in April	Masons, joiners, plumbers, painters, and masons' labourers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 2d.; masons' labourers, 11d.	
Great Britain	1st pay after 18 April	Men employed on civil engineering constructional works	Decrease of ¾d. per hour. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: County of London, 1s. 4d.; other centres, 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3½d.	
London (Metropolitan Police Area)	1st pay in April	Men employed by public works contractors	Decrease of 1d. per hour. [For particulars of rates previously paid see p. 79 of February GAZETTE.]	
London	1 April	Asphalte workers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: spreaders, 1s. 6d.; potmen and labourers, 1s. 3d.; apprentices (starting rate), 7d.	
Manchester, Salford and Bolton	1 April	Concretors and asphalters	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 10d.).	
Scotland	1 April	Asphalte workers	Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: spreaders, 1s. 6½d.; potmen (common asphalte), 1s. 5½d.; labourers, 1s. 5d.	
London District (within 15 miles of Charing Cross)	10 April	French polishers employed in the building and shop-fitting trades	Decrease of 2d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 9d.).†	
Glasgow	3 April	Monumental masons	Decrease of 4d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 8d.).	
Manchester	1 April	Decorative glassworkers	Decrease of 2d. per hour (1s. 10½d. to 1s. 8½d.).	
MINING AND QUARRYING.				
Northumberland	1 April	Workpeople (both underground and surface) employed in or about coal mines other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Increase of 5½ per cent. on standard base rates of 1879, making wages 85½ per cent. above the standard of 1879, subject to lower paid datal workers receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 9½d. per day (compared with 6s. 10d. during March).	
Durham	1 April	Adult day wage workers employed in or about coal mines	Subsistence wage of 6s. 10½d. per day, previously paid, reduced to 6s. 8½d. per day.	
Yorkshire and East Midland Areas			Decrease of 0·66 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 90·37 per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
Lancashire, North Staffordshire and Cheshire			Decrease of 3 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 54 per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
Forest of Dean			Decrease of 1·15 per cent. on standard base rates of 1919, leaving wages at the minimum of 62 per cent. above the standard of 1919.	
Radstock †			Increase of 3·62 per cent. on standard base rates of 1918, making wages 59·4 per cent. above the standard of 1918.	
Bristol	1 April	Workpeople (both underground and surface) employed in or about coal mines other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Increase of 2·39 per cent. on standard base rates of 1917 for hewers and of 2·06 per cent. for other workers, making wages 27·3 and 28·97 per cent. respectively above the standard of 1917, subject to lower paid married men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 6d. per day for underground workers and 6s. for surface workers, provided that necessary additions do not exceed 6d. per day for underground workers, and 9d. per day for surface workers.	
Scotland			Increase of 5·73 per cent. on standard base rates of 1888, making wages 113·73 per cent. above the standard of 1888, subject to a subsistence wage for lower paid day wage surface workers.††	
South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire	1 April	Miners and surface workers employed in fireclay mines	Decrease of 6d. per shift for those 18 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift for those under 18.	

* The date of change and the districts affected are as follows:—1st April—North Eastern Area: Including Blaydon, Blyth, Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Hexham, Jarrow, Middlesbrough, Morpeth, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Stockton, Sunderland, Thornaby, and Wallsend; North East Lancashire: Accrington, Blackburn, Burnley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Great Harwood, Haslingden, Nelson, Padiham, Rawtenstall and Rishton; Todmorden; Warrington; Manchester Area: Alderley Edge, Altrincham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Atherton, Bolton, Bury, Cheadle, Disley, Dukinfield, Eccles, Edenfield, Farnworth, Glossop, Heywood, Hyde, Leigh, Manchester, Middleton, Mossley, Oldham, Openshaw, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Rochdale, Sale, Salford, Stalybridge, Stockport, Tyldesley, Whitefield and Wilmslow; Brighouse; Belper, Derby, Ilkeston, Leicester, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Mansfield, Nottingham, Nuneaton; and Stafford, 15th April—West Riding of Yorkshire: Barnsley, Batley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Huddersfield, Ilkley, Keighley, Leeds, Menston, Mirfield, Morley, Normanton, Otley, Rotherham, Sheffield, Shipley, Sowerby Bridge, Spen Valley, Wakefield, Wombwell, and Yeadon; Chesterfield. 14th April—Birmingham and Sutton Coldfield.

† This decrease took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, &c.
 ‡ In addition to the above reduction in wages, the hours of labour were decreased from 47 to 44 per week.
 § Viz., Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire.
 ¶ In the case of West Yorkshire, the surface workers' percentage addition to the 1911 standard from 1st April was 83·71 for the Eastern Area and 85·37 for the Western Area.

** In this coalfield the change took effect from 30th March for those paid weekly.
 †† The percentages quoted apply to the North Side of Bristol; on the South Side the percentage increase was 1·72 (hewers) and 1·39 (other workers), making the percentage above the standard 30·64 for hewers and 32·50 for other workers.

‡‡ For particulars of subsistence wage in operation see p. 80 of the February LABOUR GAZETTE. In the case of surface and other workers for whom there are no defined basis rates the April wages are calculated by deducting 14·5 per cent. from the rates in operation in March, 1921, after deducting from the latter the flat rate advances in operation at that date; an advance of 1s. 8d. per shift given to winding engine-men in December, 1920, is not subject to the reduction of 14·5 per cent.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Mining and Quarrying, Iron and Steel Smelting and Manufacture, and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

* The additional 8 per cent. which was granted in 1919 to compensate underground pieceworkers for the reduced hours of labour was also withdrawn from 24th April. † The percentage reduction due under the sliding scale amounted to 16½ per cent., but it was agreed to carry forward 8 per cent. for consideration at the next ascertainment. ‡ The reduction took effect under an agreement made between the West of Scotland Quartermasters' Association and the trade union concerned. § The scale percentage on bonus earnings paid to keepers, slagers, fillers, enginemen, etc., is 7½ in the Workington area and 69½ in Furness area. ¶ This reduction took effect from the pay period beginning nearest 1st May; in most cases this was 30th April. †† This reduction took effect on page 133 of the March GAZETTE. ††† For particulars of the districts affected and the amounts of the decreases, see Table and footnote † on page 133 of the March GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Iron and Steel Smelting and Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, and Other Metal Trades.

* Including fitters, turners, smiths, ironmoulders, brassmoulders and machinists; patternmakers receive a slightly higher rate. † Belonging to the Galvanising Conciliation Board. ‡ This decrease took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc. § Including spinners and straighteners, cutters up, polishers, testers, picklers, cleaners, warehouse and yard labourers, and furnacemen engaged on hardening, softening, patenting and galvanising.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for OTHER METAL TRADES, TEXTILE TRADES, and various manufacturing trades.

* The change took effect under an agreement made between the Joint Wages Board of Railway Wagon Builders and Repairers and the trade unions concerned.
† This decrease took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for TEXTILE TRADES, CLOTHING TRADES, and various manufacturing trades.

* The decrease took effect under an arrangement by which wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices &c.
† The maximum amount on which full "cost of living" percentage is payable is 35s.
‡ See note ¶ on p. 226.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Clothing Trades, Transport Trades, and various regional entries for England and Wales, London, Bradford, Liverpool, and Great Britain.

* See also p. 191 of April LABOUR GAZETTE. † Area A.—(a) All areas administered by Rural District Councils and (b) all areas administered by Municipal Borough Councils and Urban District Councils which according to the most recent census, had a population of less than 10,000; but so as in neither case to apply to any area within the Metropolitan Police District.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Transport Trades, Agriculture, Paper, Printing and Allied Trades, Furniture and Woodworking Trades, and various regional entries for England and Wales, Scotland, and Great Britain.

* The above decreases applied to juniors who were in the railway service previous to October, 1921. The reduced rates have already been made applicable to new entrants since that date (see p. 604 of LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1921).

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Furniture Manufacture, Mill Sawing, Vehicle Building, Packing Case Making, Picture Frame Making, Chemical Manufacture, Soap and Candle Manufacture, Glass Working, and Brick, etc., Making.

* This decrease took effect under an arrangement by which wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc. † Including Blyth, Dunston, Jarrow, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Seaham Harbour, Sunderland, Tynes Dock, and Tees, and Hartlepool district. ‡ Including Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley, and Leeds. § It has been reported that in the case of one firm a reduction of 1d. per hour only was put into operation as regards men in Grade A occupations. ¶ The change took effect from the date of resumption of work following a dispute (generally 17th April or later). ** At Port Sunlight a rate of 32s. 6d. is paid after one year's service. *** The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee for the Clay Industries. It does not apply to Sheffield and Peterborough. †† Further decreases took effect from 1st May as follows: 4s. per week for male timeworkers 18 years of age and over (provided that in no cases were the advanced over pre-war rates for males 21 years and over to be reduced below 25s. per week), 2s. per week for male timeworkers under 18 years, 4s. per week for female timeworkers 18 years and over (except in certain districts where the full war advances had not been given, in which case the reduction was not to operate in full), and 2s. per week for female timeworkers under 18 years, and proportionate amounts for pieceworkers. ††† A further reduction of 3s. per week took effect in the first full pay in May, and a further reduction of 3s. is to take effect in the first full pay in June.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Cement Manufacture, Marl Industry, Stoneware Pottery Manufacture, Baking and Confectionery, Brewing, Aerated Water Manufacture, Leather Tanning, Made-up Leather Goods, and Basket Making.

* The decreases took effect under an agreement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cement Manufacturing Industry. † For workers under 16 years the reductions were to be arranged by individual manufacturers subject to a maximum reduction of 1s. a week. ‡ The decreases took effect under an arrangement by which wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc. § The rate quoted is for workpeople employed by private traders. The rate for those employed by Co-operative Societies is 2s. per week higher. ¶ Including Bradford, Barnsley, Bridlington, Doncaster, Dewsbury, Hull, Halifax, Huddersfield, Harrogate, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield, and York. ** The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Bakery Conciliation Board. The principal towns in which it has been reported that the change has taken effect are Falmouth and Penzance. †† With addition of 1s. 6d. per day when lorries are working away from home. ††† In the Orkney and Shetland Islands the decrease was 1d. per hour more in each case: the minimum rates in this locality are therefore 1d. per hour less than those quoted above.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for MISCELLANEOUS TRADES, PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES, and Electricity Undertakings.

* The decrease took effect under an arrangement by which wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.
† Viz., superintendents of packing presses (hand or machine) or press foremen (hand or machine) and setters-up and operators of branding machines...

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1922—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES, Electricity Undertakings, Gas Undertakings, Waterworks Undertakings, Omnibus Undertakings, Local Authority Services, and Public Utility Services.

* This decrease took effect under an agreement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc.
† Under the cost of living sliding scale a decrease of 1d. per hour became due, but it was agreed that the reduction should be made in two stages...

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1922.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by reductions in wages reported as having been agreed to take effect in May: coal miners in certain districts; steel melters; shippbuilders; boot and shoe operatives; seamen; carters and furniture trade operatives in London; vehicle builders; coopers; paint, colour and varnish workers; brickmakers; flour millers; cocoa and chocolate workers; employees of tramway and gas undertakings.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

The number of persons relieved on one day in April, 1922, in the thirty-one selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 616 per 10,000 of population, showing an increase of 67 per 10,000 on the previous month and of 396 per 10,000 on a year ago. Compared with March, 1922, the total number relieved increased by 116,595 (or 12.2 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief decreased by 1,424 (or 1.1 per cent.), while the number of outdoor recipients increased by 118,019 (or 14.2 per cent.). One district showed no change, three showed decreases, and every other district showed an increase. The greatest increases were in the Newcastle district (265 per 10,000), in the Stockton and Tees district (191 per 10,000), and in the Manchester district (187 per 10,000).

Compared with April, 1921, the total number relieved increased by 677,265 (or 172.6 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief increased by 6,676 (or 5.7 per cent.), and the number of outdoor recipients increased by 670,589 (or 243.2 per cent.). Every district showed an increase, the greatest being in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (1,046 per 10,000), in the Stockton and Tees district (976 per 10,000), in the Birmingham district (860 per 10,000), and in the Sheffield district (842 per 10,000). Fifteen districts showed increases ranging from 213 to 764, and twelve districts showed increases ranging from 7 to 163.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Number of persons in receipt of poor-law relief on one day in April, 1922.			Rate per 10,000 of Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
Metropolis.						
West District ..	9,351	15,417	24,768	305	+ 6	+ 167
North District ..	10,269	29,725	39,994	392	+ 6	+ 133
Central District ..	2,755	3,312	6,067	494	+ 87	+ 442
East District ..	9,914	52,910	62,824	991	+ 32	+ 352
South District ..	19,314	97,696	117,010	616	+ 28	+ 277
Total, Metropolis ..	51,603	198,960	250,563	559	+ 97	+ 579
West Ham ..	4,140	65,534	69,674	946	+ 263	+ 717
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ..	2,564	40,684	43,248	889	+ 191	+ 976
Stockton and Tees District ..	1,142	34,918	36,060	1,271	+ 22	+ 72
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ..	3,794	7,842	11,636	149	+ 50	+ 302
Wigan District ..	1,757	18,025	19,782	456	+ 187	+ 441
Manchester District ..	8,751	55,760	64,511	638	+ 114	+ 646
Liverpool District ..	9,545	89,602	99,147	841	- 12	+ 125
Bradford District ..	1,702	7,229	8,931	243	+ 7	+ 96
Halifax and Huddersfield ..	1,152	5,819	6,971	185	+ 52	+ 153
Leeds District ..	2,465	10,838	13,303	277	+ 40	+ 213
Barnsley District ..	929	10,425	11,354	363	+ 109	+ 542
Sheffield District ..	2,713	59,122	61,835	1,228	+ 23	+ 250
Hull District ..	1,853	14,946	16,799	539	+ 19	+ 70
North Staffordshire ..	1,875	7,886	9,761	313	+ 33	+ 136
Nottingham District ..	2,065	9,999	12,064	265	+ 29	+ 124
Leicester District ..	1,163	4,446	5,609	240	+ 96	+ 476
Wolverhampton District ..	3,112	44,455	47,567	678	+ 162	+ 860
Birmingham District ..	6,813	87,025	93,838	1,020	+ 20	+ 260
Bristol District ..	2,584	13,443	16,027	396	- 11	+ 7
Cardiff and Swansea ..	2,352	15,611	17,963	389		
Total "Other Districts" ..	58,750	537,895	596,645	591	+ 88	+ 404
SCOTLAND.††						
Glasgow District ..	4,853	92,087	96,940	1,001	+ 36	+ 764
Paisley & Greenock Dist. ..	779	12,945	13,724	716	+ 82	+ 246
Edinburgh & Leith Dist. ..	1,586	15,102	16,688	397	+ 13	+ 163
Dunfermline ..	707	5,587	6,294	310	+ 121	+ 163
Aberdeen ..	824	5,801	6,625	398	+ 13	+ 255
Coatbridge and Airdrie ..	437	12,330	12,767	1,257	- 6	+ 1,046
Total for the above } Scottish Districts ..	8,886	143,932	152,818	747	+ 41	+ 554
Total for above 31 Districts in April, 1922 ..	123,379	946,321	1,069,700	616	+ 67	+ 396

* These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

† Exclusive of Casuals; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board; of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

†† The numbers included for the Middlesbrough and Sheffield Unions do not cover changes in numbers which have taken place since the 22nd April, 1922, and the 1st April, 1922, respectively.

‡ The numbers given for these districts relate to the Unions comprised therein as constituted on the 1st April, 1922, after alteration of the areas of certain of the Unions.

§ The figures for Scotland include able-bodied unemployed in receipt of poor relief.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.*

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment during April, 1922, was 170, as compared with 214 in the previous month and 132 a year ago.

The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops—(continued):	
Brakemen and Goods Guards ..	1	Engineering ..	3
Engine Drivers ..	1	Making ..	1
Firemen ..	...	Boiler Making, Construction Engineering ..	1
Guards (Passenger) ..	...	Locomotives, Railway & Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ..	1
Permanent Way Men ..	12	Other Metal Trades ..	1
Porters ..	4	Shipbuilding ..	4
Shunters ..	1	Wood ..	2
Mechanics ..	2	Gas ..	2
Labourers ..	1	Electric Generating Stations ..	4
Miscellaneous ..	8	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ..	4
Contractors' Servants ..	1	Chemicals, etc. ..	4
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ..	31	Food and Drink ..	3
		Paper, Printing, etc. ..	2
		Tanning, Currying, etc. ..	...
		Rubber Trades ..	...
		Other Non-Textile Industries ..	...
TOTAL, MINES ..	88	TOTAL FOR FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ..	44
		Docks, Wharves, Warehouses, etc., s. 104 ..	1
		Buildings, s. 105 ..	3
TOTAL ..	119	Total (excluding Seamen) ..	170
		Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 ..	...
		Total (excluding Seamen) ..	170

* Based on Home Office, Mines Department and Ministry of Transport Returns.

† Includes 3 females; one each in the wool industry, other metal, and paper, printing, &c., trades.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The total number of cases* of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during April, 1922, was 17. Two deaths due to lead poisoning in the pottery industry were reported. Four cases of lead poisoning (three fatal) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during April, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

The cases of poisoning and anthrax are analysed below:—

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.	Items on which Computation is based.*	Percentage increase as compared with July, 1914.†				
			July, 1918.	July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	Latest figures available.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Mercurial Poisoning—	Country.					
Smelting of Metals ..	Barometer and Thermometer Making ..	UNITED KINGDOM ..	Per cent. 100	Per cent. 105	Per cent. 152	Per cent. 119	Per cent. 81
Printing ..	Other Industries ..	AUSTRIA (Vienna) ..	...	...	...	...	...
File Cutting and Hardening ..	Phosphorus Poisoning ..	Belgium ..	...	...	...	...	...
Tinning of Metals ..	Arsenic Poisoning ..	Denmark ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Contact with Molten Lead ..	Toxic Jaundice—	Finland ..	...	...	...	...	...
White and Red Lead Works ..	Arseniuretted Hydrogen Gas ..	France (Paris) ..	...	...	...	...	...
†Pottery ..	Other ..	Germany ..	...	...	...	...	...
Vitreous Enamelling ..	Epitheliomatous Ulceration—	Italy (Rome) ..	...	...	...	...	...
Electric Accumulator Works ..	Paraffin ..	(Milan) ..	...	...	...	...	...
Paint and Colour Works ..	Pitch ..	Norway ..	...	...	...	...	...
Indiarubber Works ..	Tar ..	Poland ..	...	...	...	...	...
Coach and Car Painting ..	Chrome Ulceration ..	Sweden ..	...	...	...	...	...
Shipbuilding ..	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF POISONING ..	Switzerland ..	...	...	...	...	...
Paint used in other Industries ..	6	UNITED STATES ..	Per cent. 100	Per cent. 105	Per cent. 152	Per cent. 119	Per cent. 81
Other Industries ..	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—	Australia ..	22†	33†	67†	46†	40
	Wool ..	Canada ..	48	56	90	52	46
	Handling of Horsehair ..	India (Bombay) ..	27	32	49	57	51
	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ..	New Zealand ..	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Industries ..	South Africa ..	16	20	62	30†	20
TOTAL OF ABOVE... ..	9	TOTAL ANTHRAX ..	2				

* Cases include all attacks reported to the Home Office 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 in the Pottery industry was a male.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information in each country, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries. 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.]

GENERAL SUMMARY.

I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.	Rise.	Date.
	July, 1918.	July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	Per cent.			
UNITED KINGDOM ..	Per cent. 110	Per cent. 109	Per cent. 158	Per cent. 120	Per cent. 72	May '22		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.								
Austria (Vienna) ..	...	...	359	9,320†	10,420	Apl. '22	
Belgium ..	...	...	1,246	1,444	299	Feb. '22	
Czechoslovakia ..	...	...	136	136	97	Jan. '22	
Denmark ..	87	112	153	178	101	Feb. '22		
Finland ..	...	...	161	206	204	Apl. '22	
France (Paris) ..	106	144	188	250	223	1st Qr '22		
(Other Towns) ..	...	...	106	143	114	Mar. '22	
Germany ..	...	...	106	143	114	90	Jan. '22
Holland (The Hague) ..	...	...	106	143	114	90	Jan. '22
(Amsterdam) ..	...	...	106	143	114	90	Jan. '22
Italy (Rome) ..	103	106	218	302	355	Apl. '22		
(Milan) ..	...	...	225	210	406	Mar. '22	
(Florence) ..	...	...	188	178	315	390	Mar. '22
Norway ..	...	...	179	189	219	138	Mar. '22
Poland (Warsaw) ..	...	...	188	219	138	Mar. '22	
Sweden ..	168	210	197	132	82	Jan. '22		
Switzerland ..	...	...	129	135	113	73	Mar. '22
United States ..	64	86	115	45	36	Mar. '22		
OVERSEAS DOMINIONS								
Australia ..	31	47	94	61	41	Mar. '22		
Canada ..	75	86	127	48	38	Apl. '22		
India (Bombay) ..	...	...	44	67	64	Mar. '22	
New Zealand ..	...	...	39	44	67	64	Apl. '22
South Africa ..	34	39	97	39	19	Mar. '22		

* Exemptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other Towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; Germany, average, 1913-14; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome, Milan, Florence, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ The increase shown are for families of the lowest income class; in February the increase for all working-class families ranged from 292 to 299 per cent. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. ¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter.

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.	Rise.	Date.
		July, 1918.	July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	Per cent.			
UNITED KINGDOM ..	A, B, C, D, E	Per cent. 100	Per cent. 105	Per cent. 152	Per cent. 119	Per cent. 81	May '22		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.									
Austria (Vienna) ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Belgium ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Denmark ..	A, B, C, D, E	82	111	162	353	279	112	Mar. '22	
Finland ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
France (Paris) ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(Other Towns) ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Germany ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Italy (Rome) ..	A, B, C, D, E	97	105	213	287	320	Apl. '22		
(Milan) ..	A, B, C, D, E	188	180	341	394	403	Mar. '22		
Norway ..	A, B, C, D, E	188	180	202	202	202	157	Mar. '22	
Poland ..	A, B, C, D, E	119	157	170	136	85	Apl. '22		
Sweden ..	A, B, C, D, E	119	157	170	136	85	Apl. '22		
Switzerland ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
UNITED STATES ..	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	...

the Exchanges on 31st March was 89,099. Of these 27,343 were employed on relief works, leaving 61,756 entirely without work. At the end of February the corresponding total was 99,541, and at the end of March, 1921, 43,282. The applicants for employment included 17,888 persons normally engaged in the watch, clock and jewellery trades, 13,833 in the building trades, 12,146 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 6,280 in the textile trades. In addition to the foregoing persons entirely unemployed, 40,315 persons were reported as only partially employed, including 13,231 in the metal and engineering trades, 13,005 in the textile trades, and 5,040 in the watch, clock and jewellery trades. The vacancies offered by employers remaining unfilled on the same date numbered 1,475.

During the month of March on an average 585 applications were made for each 100 vacancies reported for men, and 342 for each 100 for women. In February the figures were 897 and 465 respectively.

NORWAY.*

Trade Union Unemployment in February.—The percentage of members reported as unemployed at the end of February in certain trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics was 21.3, as compared with 20.4 at the end of the preceding month and 13.1 in February, 1921.

Unions.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Feb. 28, 1922.	Jan. 31, 1922.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1922.	Jan. 31, 1922.	Feb. 28, 1921.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania) ..	929	931	923	12.1	10.2	9.8
Carpenters	920	892	1,287	34.8	35.1	28.0
Painters (Christiania) ..	625	611	549	24.5	29.3	23.5
Metal workers	6,599	6,791	10,010	24.7	23.2	11.3
Boot and shoe makers ..	899	821	1,013	12.4	11.1	21.1
Printers	2,467	2,355	2,619	13.3	10.8	7.5
Bookbinders (Christiania) ..	744	742	883	22.8	24.4	15.9
Cabinetmakers	589	589	601	27.0	26.3	17.3
Bakers (Christiania)	510	500	590	9.8	11.0	7.3
Total	14,192	14,242	18,475	21.3	20.4	13.1

SWEDEN.†

Unemployment in February and March.—According to a return made by the State Unemployment Commission of Sweden 149,300 persons were out of work on 31st March. The percentage of unemployed members of trade unions on the same date was 32.1. Full particulars are, however, not available for that date, and the following Table relates to the end of February :-

Unions.	Membership reporting on 28th Feb. 1922.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		28th Feb., 1922.	31st Jan., 1922.	28th Feb., 1921.
All Unions making Returns ..	137,279	32.1	34.8	20.7
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Iron and Steel workers ..	10,277	33.7	32.4	25.1
Foundrymen, etc. .. .	3,037	48.9	80.5	20.2
Engineering workers ..	33,950	39.7	41.8	22.6
Electrical workers	2,746	26.7	24.4	21.0
Textile workers	3,963	5.0	6.7	12.7
Clothing workers	3,429	15.5	18.1	29.5
Boot, shoe and leather workers	5,568	20.3	17.7	12.6
Brewery workers	3,289	9.0	9.3	3.0
Food trade workers	3,247	9.5	11.2	—
Tobacco workers	3,118	2.5	1.5	0.6
Sawmill workers	9,188	41.3	57.8	21.6
Wood workers	7,960	53.6	54.3	34.7
Municipal workers	5,774	6.0	6.0	3.0
General and factory workers (trades not specified)	12,919	41.0	44.5	30.1
Commercial employees ..	5,958	11.5	12.6	6.4

DENMARK.‡

Unemployment in March.—Out of a total of 278,105 workpeople covered by returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange, 27.9 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of March, as compared with 33.1 per cent. at the end of February and 23.6 per cent. on 1st April, 1921.

	Number of Workpeople included in Returns for 31st March, 1922.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		31st Mar., 1922.	21st Feb., 1922.	1st April, 1921.
Copenhagen	113,792	26.2	29.6	22.9
Provinces	164,313	29.1	35.6	24.0
Total	278,105	27.9	33.1	23.6

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.
† Based on a despatch from H.M. Minister at Stockholm; also on information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Department for Social Affairs, and *Sociale Meddelelser*, No. 5, 1921. Stockholm.
‡ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 25th April, 1922. Copenhagen.

CANADA.*

Employment in February.—For the fortnight ended 28th February returns were received by the Employment Service of Canada from 6,086 firms, with an aggregate pay-roll of 673,348 persons, of whom 661,765 were actually working on that date. In the preceding fortnight the same firms reported 660,088 employed, the increase in staff employed at the later date thus being 1,677. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index of employment for the period under review is 81.9, as compared with 81.6 for the fortnight ended 14th February, 1922. The corresponding figure for the fortnight ended 28th February, 1921, was 88.0.

Unemployment among Trade Union Members.—Returns relating to unemployment at the end of February were received by the Canadian Department of Labour from 1,528 labour organisations with a total membership of 163,033. For all trades reporting 10.6 per cent. of the members were unemployed, as compared with 13.8 per cent. at the end of the preceding month and 16.1 per cent. in February, 1921.

UNITED STATES.†

Employment in March.—The following tabular statements showing the volume of employment in representative establishments in twelve manufacturing industries and in bituminous coal mining in the United States in March, 1922, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) March, 1921, are compiled from reports received by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics :-

(a) March, 1922, as compared with February, 1922.

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.		Earnings.†			
		Feb., 1922.	Mar., 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)		Per cent.	
		Feb., 1922.	Mar., 1922.	Feb., 1922.	Mar., 1922.	Feb., 1922.	Mar., 1922.
Coal mining (bituminous) ..	85	23,604	23,085	- 2.2	1,651,563	1,682,262	+ 1.9
Iron and steel ..	109	117,193	119,914	+ 2.3	4,981,029	5,313,992	+ 6.7
Railway and tram-car building and repairing ..	62	54,504	57,007	+ 4.6	3,183,436	3,301,886	+ 3.7
Automobiles ..	49	94,196	96,269	+ 2.2	2,538,006	2,722,175	+ 7.3
Cotton manufacturing ..	59	59,905	42,228	- 28.5	1,007,793	674,927	- 33.0
Cotton finishing ..	17	12,164	12,441	+ 2.3	234,596	246,008	+ 4.9
Hosiery and underwear ..	65	33,321	33,238	- 0.2	557,297	566,057	+ 1.6
Silk	44	17,817	17,735	- 0.2	747,648	710,055	- 5.0
Men's ready-made clothing ..	48	30,569	31,545	+ 3.4	840,913	853,607	+ 1.5
Boots and shoes ..	82	68,989	67,144	- 2.7	1,558,928	1,459,893	- 6.4
Cigars	56	15,506	15,837	+ 2.1	258,450	275,667	+ 6.7
Leather	36	13,644	13,149	- 3.6	298,824	277,724	- 7.1
Paper	57	24,957	24,332	- 0.5	592,893	582,973	- 1.7

The above figures show that in March there were increases in the number of persons employed in six industries and decreases in seven. The largest increases were in railway and tramway car building and repairing (4.6 per cent.) and men's ready-made clothing (3.4 per cent.). A decrease of 28.5 per cent. occurred in cotton manufacturing.

(b) March, 1922, as compared with March, 1921.

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.		Earnings.†			
		Mar., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)		Per cent.	
		Mar., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	Mar., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	Mar., 1921.	Mar., 1922.
Coal mining (bituminous) ..	90	24,368	24,221	- 0.6	1,507,716	1,778,657	+ 18.0
Iron and steel ..	113	134,421	120,663	- 10.2	3,185,422	5,341,971	+ 34.7
Railway and tram-car building and repairing ..	62	55,587	57,007	+ 2.6	3,750,721	3,301,886	- 12.0
Automobiles ..	50	80,679	97,493	+ 20.8	2,126,182	2,758,907	+ 29.6
Cotton manufacturing ..	61	58,580	43,366	- 26.0	1,010,521	681,278	- 32.5
Cotton finishing ..	17	11,905	12,441	+ 4.5	253,292	246,008	- 6.6
Hosiery and underwear ..	64	23,121	33,153	+ 43.4	381,316	565,365	+ 48.3
Silk	45	17,179	17,935	+ 4.4	783,672	717,023	- 8.5
Men's ready-made clothing ..	45	26,195	31,353	+ 19.7	852,185	841,680	- 1.2
Boots and shoes ..	83	55,424	67,780	+ 22.3	1,345,496	1,464,671	+ 8.9
Cigars	52	15,163	15,225	+ 0.4	291,517	284,696	- 2.3
Leather	36	11,343	13,149	+ 15.9	248,028	277,724	+ 12.0
Paper	58	23,116	25,732	+ 8.5	697,901	602,922	- 13.6

A comparison of the figures for March, 1922, with those for March, 1921, shows that there were increases in the number of persons employed in nine industries, the most important (43.4 per cent., 22.3 per cent., and 20.8 per cent.) being in hosiery and underwear, boots and shoes and automobiles respectively. Iron and steel showed a decrease of 10.2 per cent., and paper making one of 8.5 per cent.

* Employment, 1st April, 1922. Ottawa.
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington.
‡ The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of coal mining, the iron and steel, railway and tramcar building and repairing, and silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, ETC.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION FAILS.—COMPANY PREJUDICED THROUGH LACK OF NOTICE.—ONUS OF PROOF.

Section 2 of the above Act provides as follows :-

"1. Proceedings for the recovery under this Act of compensation for an injury shall not be maintainable unless notice of the accident has been given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof, and before the workman has voluntarily left the employment in which he was injured, and unless the claim for compensation with respect to such accident has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident causing the injury, or, in case of death, within six months of the time of death, provided always that

(a) the want of or any defect or inaccuracy in such notice shall not be a bar to the maintenance of such proceedings if it is found in the proceedings for settling the claim that the employer is not, or would not, if a notice or an amended notice were then given and the hearing postponed, be prejudiced in his defence by the want, defect, or inaccuracy, or that such want, defect, or inaccuracy was occasioned by mistake, absence from the United Kingdom, or other reasonable cause"

It has been held where a man does not give notice of the accident because he believes his injuries not to be serious that he comes within the meaning of the word "mistake" supra. (Rankine v. Alloa Coal Co. (1904) 41 Sc. L.R. 306.) Much depends on the state of knowledge of the person on whom it is incumbent to give the notice. He cannot be expected to give notice until he realises that his condition is due to accidental injury entitling him to compensation under the Act (White v. Ford Motor Co., Ltd. (England), 1917) 10 B.W.C.C. 334). The onus of proving that the employer has not been prejudiced lies, in the first instance, on the workman (Hughes v. Coed Talon Colliery Co., Ltd. (1909) 1 K.B. 957).

An unsuccessful claim for compensation was made by a fireman through an accident alleged to have taken place on board ship in 1915. The fireman, who was working on a steamer assisting the second engineer in effecting repairs in the engine room, was holding a spanner which the engineer was striking, when a 14-lb. hammer slipped and struck him on the elbow. At the time of the injury it was considered slight, and he continued working until 1919, when he began to suffer from his elbow and could not make use of his left arm. No report of the accident was sent to the employers, and it was not until he went into hospital for treatment that the company were notified of the accident which occurred six years ago. The second engineer gave evidence upon the occurrence of the accident. He admitted that it was his duty to report the accident, but putting it down as a minor injury did not do so. Medical evidence in support of the claim showed that the injury to the elbow probably resulted from a blow, and that it would have been quite possible for the man to go on working for several years after receiving such a blow; but in cross-examination it was admitted that it was possible that the plaintiff was suffering from something else instead of a blow. For the defence it was urged that the defendant company had been prejudiced by the lapse of time. For the plaintiff it was contended that the workman had discharged the slight onus of proof that the employers were not prejudiced.

His Honour Judge J. J. Shortt, in giving judgment for the defendant, with costs, said that the plaintiff had not discharged the onus of proving that the employers had not been prejudiced by the delay.

(2) Trade Union Act, 1871.

TRADE UNION SUED BY MEMBER.—UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.—STATUTORY DEFENCE.

At Lincoln County Court, on the 2nd May, 1922, the local branch of the National Union of Foundry Workers had a claim brought against them by one of their members for unemployment benefit amounting to £3 8s. 4d.

The plaintiff, who conducted his own case, stated that he had been paying contributions to the Union for some time, and that on becoming unemployed in February of this year he made a claim on the Union for the full benefit of 10s. a week. The Union, claiming that their funds had been seriously depleted by the number of strikes in recent years, refused to pay him this amount, and, after deducting the club money, offered him the sum of 3s. 4d. per week. The plaintiff contended that, before a reduction in benefit was resolved upon, the rules of the society required that a ballot should be taken and a two-thirds majority obtained. This was not done. He further contended that if he was to be put on half benefit the officials of the Union ought to be put on a 50 per cent. reduction.

For the Union it was submitted that they were not in a position to pay the full benefit and that the Society relied upon the defence filed in the case and provided for by section 4 of the Trade Union Act, 1871. This section reads as follows :-

"(a) Nothing in this Act shall enable any court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of any of the following agreements, namely"

(iii) any agreement for the application of the funds of a Trade Union—

(a) to provide benefits to members."

The Judge gave it as his opinion that this was a very serious matter, and he did not think it desirable for the Society to make use of the drastic defence which had been set up; in fact, he was of opinion that it was liable to do the Society a great deal of harm. Counsel for the Society explained that the Union had done their best to meet the situation by offering the man half benefit, which had, in other cases, been accepted, and that his instructions were to rely on the section of the Act quoted above. His Honour gave judgment for the defendants, costs not being asked for.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.—SHOREHAM-BY-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.—National Association of Local Government Officers v. Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council.—Under decision No. 559 of the Industrial Court, Mr. A. W. Nye, who holds the joint offices of surveyor and sanitary inspector to the Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council, was granted a bonus of 68 per cent. on a salary of £276 per annum, such bonus being subject to variation according to the changes in the cost of living index figure. The association contend that as the percentage on the basic salary of £100 attaching to his office of surveyor amounts to less than the full salary of that office, namely £175, he should be paid the full salary and the bonus should lapse, but that he should still receive the bonus on the basic salary of £176 as sanitary inspector. Decision.—The Court find against this contention. So long as the two offices are held jointly the salaries cannot be separated for the purpose of calculating war bonus. Issued 29th April, 1922. (722.)

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY EMPLOYEES.—NEW CUMNOCK.—National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers v. New Cumnock Co-operative Society Limited.—The wages of Scottish co-operative employees were determined by an agreement between the Scottish Co-operative Wages Board and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, which became operative as from 2nd January, 1922. The New Cumnock Co-operative Society propose rates of wages generally lower than those set out in the agreement, and also a different method of regulation of the sliding scale. The union, on the other hand, contend that the provisions of the agreement are reasonable. Decision.—The Court decide that for every variation of 10 points in the cost of living index number above or below 100 the rates of wages to be paid shall be varied, in the case of male assistants, by from 1s. 8d. to 3s. a week, and in the case of female assistants by from 1s. 5d. to 2s. 7d. a week, with correspondingly lower variations for juniors. The claim of the society that tailors and dressmakers should be paid the rates of wages laid down by the Trade Boards is referred back to the parties. Issued 29th April, 1922 (723).

CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896, AND THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

GAS PRODUCER FIREMEN: NORTH-EAST COAST.—Iron and Steel Trades Confederation v. Steel Ingot Makers' Association. Difference—Claim by the Confederation that the above Association were not carrying out an award made by an ad hoc Board of Arbitration on 20th August, 1920, affecting gas producer firemen employed on open hearth steel plants of associated members on the North-East Coast (excepting Consett and Newburn works), inasmuch as the tonnage bonus in the Memorandum of Settlement made between the above parties and the workmen on 28th April, 1920, referred to in Clause 4 of the award, was being paid on the total output of the shop or plant. Board of Arbitration:—Sir William W. Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C. (Chairman), Mr. M. L. Simpson (Employers' Representative) and Mr. W. Dodgson (Workpeople's Representative). Award.—The Board decided that, under the terms of the Memorandum of Settlement above referred to, the tonnage bonus should be paid on the total output of the shop, and found against the claim of the Confederation that the bonus should be reckoned on the basis of the output of each furnace. Issued 25th April, 1922 (I.R. 576/2/1922).

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMPLOYEES: LLANDUDNO AND COLWYN BAY.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Llandudno and Colwyn Bay Electric Railway Company. Difference—As to the Company's intention to reduce wages by 3s. per week, subsequently amended to 2s. 6d. per week, as from 17th February, no previous notification having been sent to the Union. Agreement—Wages would be reduced by 2s. 6d. per week, and any future variations of wages would be the matter of discussion between the Company and the Union. A "No Victimisation" Clause was also embodied in the agreement, together with a paragraph that the men concerned would abide by the discipline of the Company. Signed 3rd April, 1922 (I.R. 480/1922).

PLUMBERS: DUMFRIES AND DISTRICT.—Operative Plumbers of Scotland v. Southern Counties Branch of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Master Plumbers. Difference—Proposal to reduce wages by 3½d. per hour and to increase the working week to 50 hours. Agreement—The rate of wages should be 1s. 8d. per hour without specification of period, but two weeks' notice of any proposed change should be given by either side. The working hours in Dumfries and Maxwelltown should be 44 per week, 8 hours on the first five working days of the week and 4 hours on Saturday. In the remainder of the area, the employers will be entitled to work the same number of hours as are generally worked by all the trades in the Building Industry. Signed 8th April, 1922 (I.R. 632/1922).

MUSICIANS: LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.—Musicians' Union v. London Theatres of Varieties, Limited. Difference—Arising out of the employers' notice to musical directors to terminate their contracts of service, with the option of re-engaging them at a rate of £6 10s. per week, a reduction of 17s. per week. Agreement—The question as to whether the Union should be allowed to negotiate on behalf of the musical directors, together with the amount of the reduction that should be made, would be referred to an arbitrator (Lord Askwith) for settlement. No reduction of wages should be made pending the issue of the award. Disputes between the above parties would be referred in future to a Conciliation Board appointed by the parties, consisting of three from each side. The opinion of the Board should be given within 14 days of reference with a view to securing an amicable settlement. Failing a settlement within 7 days, the Board, with the assistance of a neutral chairman appointed by the Ministry of Labour, should give an immediate decision, and should either party refuse to conform to such decision, the parties would have liberty of action. Should either party refuse to appoint representatives to the Board or refuse to meet the other party within 7 days of being requested to do so, the parties would have liberty of action. The question of a penalty clause was left for consideration by both sides. The employees concerned would be re-instated, upon an undertaking being given by the Union that a certain musician should be employed elsewhere than hitherto. Agreed 12th April, 1922 (I.R. 701/1922).

CLOG SOLE WORKERS: HEBDEN BRIDGE.—Workers' Union v. J. Maude & Sons, Hebden Bridge. Difference—As to the firm's intention to reduce wages by 3d. per hour as from 20th April. Agreement—Wages should be reduced by 1d. per hour as from and including 27th April, and by a further 1d. per hour at the end of six weeks from that date, this additional reduction to be operative for at least six weeks before any further variation in wages is made. Signed 28th April, 1922 (I.R. 788/1922).

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

ORDERS.

ORDERS confirming minimum rates of wages as fixed and/or varied by the following Trade Boards have been made under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918:—

Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Scotland).

Order [H.M.S. (9)] dated 8th May, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates as varied for female workers, and specifying 15th May, 1922, as the date from which the rates become effective.

The rates confirmed are as follows:—

- I. In all branches of the trade except the Wholesale Cloth Hat and Cap Making branch:—
- (a) *General minimum time-rates.*—Area A, 7½d. per hour; Area B, 7d. per hour for female workers other than learners, with lower rates under each scale during their four years of learnership for female learners.
- (b) *Piece-work basis time-rates.*—Area A, 8½d. per hour; Area B, 8d. per hour for female workers.
- II. In the Wholesale Cloth Hat and Cap Making branch of the trade:—
- (a) *General minimum time-rates.*—7½d. per hour for female workers other than learners, with lower rates for learners.
- (b) *Piece-work basis time-rate.*—8½d. per hour for female workers.

The overtime rates have been varied correspondingly.

NOTE.—Area A rates apply to (a) all Royal, Parliamentary and

Police Burghs which had, according to the most recent census, a population over 12,000, and (b) the following Special Lighting Districts, the boundaries of which have been defined, viz., Bellshill and Mossend, Blantyre, Cambuslang and Larkhall, all in the County of Lanark, and Vale of Leven, in the County of Dumbarton.

Area B rates apply to the whole of Scotland other than Area A.

Milk Distributive Trade Board (Scotland).

Order [M.D.S. (4)] dated 9th May, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates and overtime rates fixed for male and female workers, and specifying 15th May, 1922, as the date from which the rates become effective.

The rates fixed and confirmed are as follows:—

(a) *General minimum time-rates* of 65s. 6d. per week for foremen, 52s. per week for male shop assistants and male clerks of 21 and over, 50s. per week in the case of workers with not less than 12 months' experience, and 48s. per week for workers with less than 12 months' experience for all other male workers and for roundswomen of 21 and over, 32s. 6d. per week for female clerks of 21 and over, 29s. per week for female shop assistants of 21 and over, and 27s. per week for all other female workers of 21 and over, with correspondingly lower rates for male and female workers under 21 years of age.

(b) *Overtime rates* for all male and female workers.

[NOTE.—For the purposes of this Order a "week" means a week of 48 hours, except in the case of classes of whole-time workers employed by the week or longer period whose customary working week consists of a number of hours less than 48 but not less than 40, when a "week" means a week of the number of hours customarily worked by the class in question.]

Ready-Made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order [R.M. (16) and (17)] dated 5th April, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates (as varied) for male and female workers, and specifying 17th April, 1922, as the date from which these rates are effective.

I. **MALE WORKERS.**—(i) *General minimum time-rates* and (ii) *piece-work basis time-rates* for (a) Measure Cutters, Cutters, Knife Cutters or Knifemen, Fitters-up, Tailors, Pressers, Machinists and Passers ranging, according to experience, (i) from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 3½d. per hour; (ii) from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 4½d. per hour. (b) Measure Cutters, Cutters or Knife Cutters or Knifemen employed in the London district: (i) 1s. 9½d. or 1s. 7½d. per hour; (ii) 1s. 10½d. or 1s. 8½d. per hour. (c) Measure Cutters, Cutters, Knife Cutters or Knifemen, Fitters-up, Tailors, Pressers, Machinists or Passers engaged wholly or mainly upon the making of Heavy Cotton Clothing: (i) From 1s. 6d. to 1s. 3½d.; (ii) from 1s. 7½d. to 1s. 4½d.; (d) Underpressers, Plain Machinists, Warehousemen, Packers and Porters: (i) 1s. 3d. to 1s. 0½d. per hour; (ii) 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 1½d. per hour. (e) All other workers: (i) 1s. 0½d. per hour; (ii) 1s. 1½d. per hour, with lower general minimum time-rates for workers under 22 years of age.

II. **FEMALE WORKERS.**—*General minimum time-rates* (a) for Cutters, Trimmers and Fitters-up (i) under 19 years of age, 7½d. per hour; (ii) 19 and under 20 years of age, 8d. per hour; (iii) 20 years of age and over, 8½d. per hour; (b) other workers, including home-workers, 7½d. per hour; (c) learners, from 1½d. to 6½d. per hour, according to age at entry and period of employment. *Piece-work basis time-rate* for female workers, including home-workers (other than cutters, trimmers and fitters-up, and learners), 8½d. per hour.

Sack and Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order [S.B. (3)], dated 10th April, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates and overtime rates fixed for male and female workers and piece-work basis time-rates fixed for female workers, and specifying 24th April, 1922, as the date from which the rates become effective.

General Minimum Time-Rates.—(a) For male workers of 21 years of age and over: (i) employed as superintendents of packing presses (hand or machine) or press foremen (hand or machine) and setters-up and operators of branding machines, 1s. 4½d. per hour, (ii) all other male workers, 1s. 1½d. per hour for workers of 21 and over, with lower rates for younger workers; (b) for female workers of 18 years of age and over: (i) employed as examiners of mended work, allocators, forewomen, hand sewers on heavy twill sacks of 10 porter and upwards, selectors or graders of mixed loads, and setters-up on branding machines, 8d. per hour, (ii) all other female workers, 7d. per hour for workers of 18 and over, with lower rates for younger workers.

Piece-work Basis Time-Rates.—(i) For all female workers engaged in the occupations specified in (b) (i) above, 9d. per hour; (ii) for all other female workers, 8d. per hour.

Wholesale Mantle and Costume Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order [W.M. (15) and (16)], dated 5th April, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying 17th April, 1922, as the date from which these rates are effective.

I. **MALE WORKERS.**—(i) *General minimum time-rates* and (ii)

piece-work basis time-rates for (a) measure cutters, cutters, knife-cutters or knife-men, fitters-up, tailors, pressers, machinists, passers, ranging according to experience (i) from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 2½d. per hour, (ii) from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 4½d. per hour respectively; (b) under-pressers, plain machinists, warehousemen, packers and porters, (i) 1s., 1s. 0½d. or 1s. 1d. per hour, (ii) 1s. 1½d., 1s. 2d. or 1s. 2½d. per hour; (c) all other workers, (i) 1s., (ii) 1s. 1½d. per hour, with lower general minimum time-rates for workers under 22 years of age.

II.—**FEMALE WORKERS.**—*General minimum time-rates* (a) cutters, trimmers and fitters-up (i) under 19 years of age, 7½d. per hour; (ii) 19 and under 20 years of age, 8d. per hour; (iii) 20 years of age and over, 8½d. per hour; (b) other workers, including home-workers, 7½d. per hour; (c) learners, from 1½d. to 6½d. per hour according to age at entry and period of employment. *Piece-work basis time-rate* for female workers, including home-workers (other than cutters, trimmers and fitters-up and learners), 8½d. per hour.

Shirtmaking Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order, dated 30th March, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates (as varied) for male and female workers, and general minimum piece-rates for female workers, and specifying the 1st April, 1922, as the date from which these rates are effective.

General Minimum Time-rates: (a) male workers: (i) special, measure or pattern cutters, with 5 years' experience, 1s. 6d. per hour; (ii) other male workers, 22 years of age and over, mostly engaged in cutting, 1s. 4d. per hour; (iii) apprentice cutters and male workers other than cutters, under 15 years, 9s. 3d. per week of 48 hours, with varying rates according to age on employment, up to 47s. per week for workers employed at 22 years and over. (b) female workers: (i) (excluding learners), 7d. per hour; (ii) learners: wage according to age on entry and period of employment, up to 21s. 9d. per 48-hour week in final period.

Piece-work Basis Time-rates: (a) male workers: cutters (other than special or measure cutters), 22 years and over, wholly or substantially employed in cutting, and with 5 years' experience in cutting, 1s. 6d. per hour; (b) female workers, including home-workers, 8d. per hour.

General minimum piece-rates were also fixed for female home-workers engaged on certain processes.

Ready-Made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order, dated 1st April, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers (as varied), and specifying the 3rd day of April, 1922, as the date from which these rates are effective.

General minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates for male workers (measure cutters), 1s. 6½d. and 1s. 7½d. respectively; stock cutters or knife cutters, 1s. 4½d. and 1s. 5½d.; fitters-up, tailors, pressers-off, machinists or passers, 1s. 4½d. and 1s. 5½d. Male workers and learners, under 15 years of age, 2½d. per hour, with varying rates up to 10½d. (21 years); when commencing at or over 19 years of age such persons shall be entitled to 7½d. and 8d. per hour for the first and second six months of employment respectively. *Female workers, including home-workers:* *General minimum time-rate*, 7d. per hour; *piece-work basis time-rate*, 8d. per hour. *Female learners:* rates fixed according to age and varying every six months of employment up to a wage of 23s. 6d. per week of 48 hours during the eighth six months of employment, with a similar rate for learners of 21 years of age and over who are in the fourth three months of employment.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order, dated 8th April, 1922, confirming general minimum time rates, piece-work basis time rates, general minimum piece rates and overtime rates (as varied and/or fixed) for male and female workers, and specifying 10th April, 1922, as the date from which these rates are effective.

General Minimum Time-rates: (a) male workers 21 years and over with not less than 3 years' experience in following: pan (hair and bass); hairs; finishing; boring (hand and machine); drawing; bone brush cutting; bone brush fashioning; bone brush drilling; bone brush profiling; and the manufacture of artists, medical and other brushes not specified; also the drafting, dressing or mixing of animal hair, bass, or whisk fibre, the working of ivory or celluloid, and the turning of bone, 1s. 4½d. per hour. (b) female workers under 14½ years of age, 3d. per hour, with variations up to 8½d. per hour for workers of 21 years and over.

Piece-work Basis Time-rate: female workers, 9½d. per hour. A reduction of 7½ per cent. has been made in the general minimum piece rates for both male and female workers.

Sugar Confectionery and Food-Preserving Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order, dated 19th April, 1922, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying the 20th April, 1922, as the date from which these rates are effective.

General Minimum Time-rates: (a) male workers under 15 years of age, 3d. per hour, with variations up to 1s. 0½d. (22 years and over). (b) female workers under 15 years, 3d., increasing to 7d. per hour for workers of 18 years and upwards.

Piece-work Basis Time-rates: (a) male workers, 1s. 3d. per hour. (b) female workers, 8d. per hour.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL to fix and/or vary minimum rates of wages have been issued by the following Trade Boards:—

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposals, dated 4th May, 1922, to fix and vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers for periods dependent upon the Cost of Living figure as follows:—

I. [D. (16).]—Proposals to fix certain general minimum piece-rates and to vary general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, so that certain scales of rates are payable when the Cost of Living figure [i.e., the average percentage increase since July, 1914, in retail prices (all items) in the United Kingdom, as published each month in the LABOUR GAZETTE] is more than 90, and so that these rates shall be reduced by 7½ per cent. for periods when the Cost of Living figure is not more than 90 and not less than 71, and by 12½ per cent. for periods when Cost of Living figure is 70 or below.

II. [D. (18)] [issued with the Minister's consent].—Proposals to fix general minimum time-rates and overtime rates and to vary the general minimum time-rates, the guaranteed time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers and for male apprentices, and to fix general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers under 16 years of age for periods dependent upon the Cost of Living figure.

The Rates Proposed are set out below—(A) for periods when Cost of Living figure is more than 90, (B) for periods when Cost of Living figure is not more than 90 and not less than 71, (C) for periods when Cost of Living figure is 70 or below.

GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES PROPOSED PER WEEK OF 48 HOURS:—

MALE WORKERS:—

- (i) Male workers, other than those specified in (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii): (A) 65s., (B) 60s., (C) 57s.;
- (ii) Male learners (not being male indentured apprentices): (A) ranging from 14s. at 14 and under to 45s. at 20 and under 21 years of age, (B) ranging from 13s. to 42s. for same ages, (C) ranging from 12s. to 40s. for same ages;
- (iii) Male indentured apprentices: Similar ranges of rates (lower) to the rates for learners—depending on age of commencing apprenticeship;
- (iv) Male Surgical Bootmakers: (A) 96s., (B) 80s., (C) 76s.;
- (v) Male workers of 21 and over with at least three months' experience in working one or other of the machines specified below and employed during the whole of their time in operating:
- (a) Power Sole Stitchers or both Power Sole Stitchers and Blake (or Richardson) machines: (A) 80s., (B) 74s., (C) 72s.;
- (b) Blake or Richardson machines: (A) 75s., (B) 70s., (C) 67s.;
- (vi) Male workers of 21 and over other than those specified in (v) above when employed in operating:
- (a) Power Sole Stitchers: (A) 80s., (B) 74s., (C) 72s.;
- (b) Blake or Richardson machines: (A) 75s., (B) 70s., (C) 67s.;
- (vii) Male workers employed as Pressmen who are responsible for cutting and costing: (A) 75s., (B) 70s., (C) 67s.;
- (viii) Foremen and Managers (as defined by the Trade Board)—*General minimum time-rates and guaranteed time-rates:* (A) 80s. 0d., (B) 74s. 0d., (C) 72s. 0d.

FEMALE WORKERS:—

- (i) Female workers other than those specified in (ii) and (iii) below:
- (a) Workers (other than learners) employed on Benching and Finishing: (A) 65s. 0d., (B) 60s. 0d., (C) 57s. 0d.
- (b) Learners employed on Benching and Finishing: (A) Ranging from 14s. 0d. at 14 and under to 45s. 0d. at 19 and under 20 years of age; (B) ranging from 13s. 0d. to 42s. 0d. for same ages; (C) ranging from 12s. 0d. to 40s. 0d. for same ages.
- (ii) Female Surgical Bootmakers: (A) 96s. 0d., (B) 80s. 0d., (C) 76s. 0d.
- (iii) Female workers employed as Foremen or Managers (as defined by the Trade Board)—*General minimum time-rate:* (A) 80s. 0d., (B) 74s. 0d., (C) 72s. 0d.; *guaranteed time-rate:* (A) 75s. 0d., (B) 70s. 0d., (C) 67s. 0d.
- (iv) All female workers other than those specified above in (i), (ii) and (iii):—
- (a) For workers of 21 years of age and over: (A) 45s. 0d., (B) 42s. 0d., (C) 40s. 0d.

(b) For workers between 14 and 21 years of age: Rates ranging according to age—(A) From 14s. 0d. to 40s. 0d., (B) from 13s. 0d. to 38s. 0d., (C) from 12s. 0d. to 36s. 0d.

The Board also propose to fix and vary overtime rates for male and female workers on the basis of the rates specified above.

NOTE.—Each "Cost of Living" period referred to above is a period from the first day of the month following the publication in the LABOUR GAZETTE of a Cost of Living figure within one of the specified ranges of percentages until the first day of the month following the publication of a figure within another of the ranges specified.

Button-Making Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal (V. 7), dated 22nd April, 1922, to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers and the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for all female workers (other than homeworkers).

Rates proposed.—*General minimum time-rates:* (A) Male workers (a) employed in Stamping, Burnishing, Spinning (including Setting), Dipping, Staining, Sawing, Turning or Cutting (other than Cutting on Wet Lathes); (i) 20 and under 21, 11½d. per hour; (ii) 19 and under 20, 9d. per hour; (iii) 18 and under 19, 8d. per hour; (b) all other male workers, (i) 20 and under 21, 11d. per hour; (ii) 19 and under 20, 10d. per hour; (iii) 18 and under 19, 9½d. per hour, lower rates being proposed for all male workers under 18 years of age. (B) Female workers of 18 years of age and over, 7d. per hour, with lower rates for younger workers.

Piece-work basis time-rate for female workers (other than homeworkers), 8d. per hour.

Cotton Waste Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal (C.W. 9), dated 20th April, 1922 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

Rates proposed.—*General minimum time-rates:* (a) Male workers of 21 years of age and over, 1s. 0½d. per hour, with rates 11½d., 10½d. and 8½d. per hour for younger workers down to 18 years of age, no variation being proposed for workers under 18 years of age; (b) female workers (A) in England and Wales, (i) 18 years of age and over, 7½d. per hour; (ii) 17 and under 18, 6d. per hour; (B) in Scotland, (i) 18 years of age and over, 6½d. per hour; (ii) 17 and under 18, 6d. per hour, no variation being proposed for workers under 17 years of age.

Flax and Hemp Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal [F.H. (12)], dated 25th April, 1922 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male Hose-pipe Weavers employed on Power or Hand Looms and the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers.

The rates proposed per hour or for a week of 48 hours (or of the number not less than 44 customarily worked by classes of whole-time workers employed by the week or longer period) are as follows:—

General minimum time-rates for female Reelers of 18 years of age and over: (i) from date proposed variation takes effect until the expiry of the three months during which are effective the rates for other classes of female workers as proposed by the Board in their Notice F.H. (11), dated 8th March, 1922 [see page 143 of LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1922], 30s. per week; (ii) from the expiry of this period, 29s. per week; with lower rates for female learners employed in Reeling in each case.

Piece-work basis time-rates for male Hose-pipe Weavers employed on Power or Hand Looms: (i) for period of four months from date proposed variation takes effect, 1s. 2d. per hour; (ii) from the expiry of this period, 1s. 1d. per hour.

The Board also propose to vary the overtime rates correspondingly for these classes of male and female workers.

General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal [D.B. (4)], dated 2nd May, 1922, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers and to cancel the guaranteed time-rates for female piece-workers.

Rates proposed.—*General minimum time-rates:* (i) female workers employed wholly or mainly in (a) the sorting, grading or stripping of woollen rags and/or woollen and worsted waste materials to shade and/or quality, (b) the operation of receiving, packing, compressing, teagling, craning, despatching or warehousing, when carried on in association with or in conjunction with any of the operations referred to in (a) above, 7½d. per hour for workers of 18 years of age and over, with lower rates for younger workers; (ii) female workers other than those specified in (i) above, 6½d. per hour for workers of 18 and over, with lower rates for younger workers; (iii) male workers of 21 and over employed in that branch of the trade which is engaged in the collecting, sorting, grading or breaking of scrap iron or other scrap metal where the collecting, sorting or grading of other waste materials is not carried on to a substantial extent in connection therewith, 1s. per hour; (iv) male workers of 21 and over employed in any other branch of the trade, 11½d. per hour.

Piece-work basis time-rates: (i) for female workers specified in (i) above, 8½d. per hour; (ii) for all other female workers, 7½d. per hour.

The Board also propose to vary the overtime rates for all female workers and for male workers of 21 years of age and over.

Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain)

Proposal [P. (8)], dated 21st April, 1922 (issued with the Minister's consent) to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers and the piece-work basis time-rates for female workers for periods dependent upon the Cost of Living index figure, as published each month in the LABOUR GAZETTE.

The rates proposed per week of 48 hours range according as the Cost of Living index figure falls within ranges specified by the Board between 150 and 0:—*General minimum time-rates:* (a) Male workers, (i) machine tacklers, 23 years of age and over, 94s. to 45s., with lower scales for younger workers; (ii) workers entering the trade for the first time at the age of 21 years or over as machine tacklers, 74s. 6d. to 35s. 6d., 80s. to 38s., 87s. 6d. to 42s., during the first, second and third twelve months of employment respectively; (iii) paper bag cutters of 23 years of age and over, 86s. to 40s., with lower scales for younger workers; (iv) workers entering the trade for the first time at the age of 21 years or over as paper cutters, 75s. 6d. to 35s. 6d., 78s. to 36s. 6d., 82s. to 38s., during the first, second and third twelve months of employment respectively; (v) hydraulic pressers, slitters, stock-keepers, packers and despatchers of 21 years of age and over, 75s. 6d. to 35s., 76s. 6d. to 35s. 6d., 79s. to 37s., 82s. to 38s., during the first, second and third twelve months and subsequent employment in the same occupation respectively; (vi) workers other than those specified above, 79s. to 32s. 6d., with lower scales for learners; (b) female workers, including homeworkers, 41s. to 20s., with lower scales for learners.

Piece-work basis time-rates for all female workers, including homeworkers, 44s. to 21s.

NOTE.—Each Cost of Living period is a period from the first day of the month following publication in the LABOUR GAZETTE of a Cost of Living figure within one of the ranges of percentages specified by the Board until the first day of the month following the publication of a figure within another such range.

Paper Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal [B. (9)], dated 5th May, 1922 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers for periods dependent upon the Cost of Living index figure and to cancel a piece-work basis time-rate in its application to certain classes of male workers.

The rates proposed per week of 48 hours range as follows, according as the Cost of Living figure falls within ranges specified by the Board (from not less than 93 to less than 1):—(a) *General minimum time-rates:* (i) Male workers employed as the makers, forme setters, cutters (including shears and guillotine) and machine-minders and head stock-keepers, from 46s. to 72s. 6d. for workers of 23 years of age and over, with lower ranges of rates for such workers between 18 and 23 years of age; (ii) all other male workers, except learners, from 33s. to 55s., with lower ranges of rates for male learners; (iii) female workers, other than learners, from 20s. to 33s., with lower ranges of rates for female learners.

(b) *Piece-work basis time-rates:* (i) Male workers, other than the classes specified in (a) (i) above, from 36s. to 61s.; (ii) female workers (including homeworkers), from 22s. to 35s.

The Trade Board also propose to cancel the piece-work basis time-rate of 1s. 3½d. per hour at present in operation for all male workers in its application to the classes of male workers specified in (a) (i) above.

NOTE.—Each Cost of Living period is a period from the 28th day of the month of the publication in the LABOUR GAZETTE of a Cost of Living figure within one of the ranges of percentages specified by the Board until the 28th day of the month of the publication of a figure within another such range.

Pin, Hook and Eye and Snap Fastener Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal [O. (12)], dated 11th April, 1922, to vary the minimum rates for certain classes of male and female workers and to fix general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for female workers (other than homeworkers) employed in carding hooks and eyes or snap fasteners and general minimum time-rates for homeworkers.

Rates proposed:—(A) To operate for a period of three months from the date on which the proposed variation takes effect; (B) to operate from the expiry of the period of three months.

General minimum time-rates:—(a) Male workers of 21 years of age and over, other than homeworkers, and other than workers employed as pin makers, hairpin machinists, hook and eye makers, machine blackers or automatic machinists (including snap fastener machinists), blackers (other than machine blackers), electro-platers, whiteners or wire-straighteners: (A) 1s., (B) 11½d. per hour, with lower rates for all workers under 21 years of age; (b) female workers (i) of 18 years of age and over who are employed as charge hands and who are responsible for all work and order in the particular section of which they have charge: (A) 7½d., (B) 7½d. per hour; (ii) other female workers of 18 years of age and over, (A) 7d., (B) 6½d. per hour, with lower rates for

younger workers. The general minimum time-rates proposed for female workers employed in carding hooks and eyes or snap fasteners are as proposed for other workers in (b) above. *Piece-work basis time-rates:* (a) All female workers, including workers of 18 years of age and over employed in carding (other than carding hooks and eyes or snap fasteners), (A) 7½d., (B) 7½d. per hour; (b) female workers employed in carding hooks and eyes or snap fasteners, of 18 years of age and over, 7½d. per hour (without subsequent variation), with lower rates for younger workers.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal [R.B. (17)], dated 19th April, 1922 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers.

Rates proposed:—(a) For female workers of 20 years of age and over who have completed not less than five years' total employment, including not less than three years as an apprentice and/or learner on operations other than packing and all other incidental operations: (i) *General minimum time-rate*, 9½d. per hour; (ii) *Piece-work basis time-rate*, 10½d. per hour; (b) for all other female workers (excluding apprentices and learners, for whom the rates fixed are as set out in Notices R.B. (11) and R.B. (15)), a general minimum time-rate of 7½d. per hour; (c) for all female workers, including learners (but excluding the class of workers specified in (a) and apprentices specified in (b)), a piece-work basis time-rate of 8½d. per hour.

Sack and Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal [S.B. (4)], dated 1st May, 1922, to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers and the piece-work basis time-rates for female workers.

Rates proposed.—*General minimum time-rates:* (i) For male workers of 21 and over employed as Superintendents of Packing Presses (Hand or Machine) or Press Foremen (Hand or Machine), Setters-up and Operators of Branding Machines, 1s. 3½d. per hour; (ii) all other male workers, 1s. 0½d. per hour for workers of 21 years of age and over, with lower rates for younger workers; (iii) female workers of 18 years of age and over employed as Examiners of Mended Work, Allocators, Forewomen, Hand Sewers on Heavy Twill Sacks and Bags of 10 porter and upwards, Selectors or Graders of Mixed Loads, or Setters-up on Branding Machines, 7½d. per hour; (iv) all other female workers, 6½d. per hour for workers of 18 years of age and over, with lower rates for younger workers.

Piece-work basis time-rates: (i) For the female workers specified in (iii) above, 8½d. per hour; (ii) for all other female workers, 7½d. per hour.

Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal (X. 6), dated 11th April, 1922 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

Rates proposed per week of 48 hours.—*General minimum time-rates:* (a) Male workers of 21 years of age and over (i) employed as Knife Hands or Press Hands, 60s.; (ii) all other workers, 52s., with lower rates for younger workers. (b) Female workers of 18 years of age and over (i) for a period of three months from the effective date, 30s.; (ii) from the termination of that period, 29s., with lower rates for younger workers without periodical variation.

Piece-work basis time-rates for workers specified above: (a) Male workers (i), 72s.; (ii), 62s., with lower rates for younger workers. (b) Female workers (i), 35s.; (ii), 34s., with lower rates for younger workers without periodical variation.

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Notice of Proposal, dated 22nd April, 1922, to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers.

General Minimum Time-rates:—(a) Male workers: (i) Cutters employed wholly or mainly in cutting, with 5 years' experience, 1s. 4d. per hour; (ii) other male workers, 2½d. per hour for those under 15 years of age, with variations up to 11½d. for workers of 22 years and upwards. (b) Female workers (factory branch): 6½d. per hour (including homeworkers). Revised rates are also proposed in respect of learners.

Piece-work Basis Time-rates:—(a) Male workers: (i) Cutters employed mainly in cutting and with 5 years' experience, 1s. 5½d. per hour; (ii) other male workers, 1s. 1½d. per hour. (b) Female workers (factory branch): 7½d. per hour (including homeworkers).

Aerated Waters Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Notice of Proposal, dated 23rd April, 1922, to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

General minimum time-rates proposed.—(a) Male workers: Rates varying from 13s. 8½d. per week of 47 hours (workers

under 16 years of age) to 47s. per week for workers of 21 years of age and over. (b) Female workers: rates varying from 13s. 8½d. (workers under 16 years of age) to 25s. 6d. per week of 47 hours (workers of 18 years of age and over).

Further particulars regarding minimum rates of wages proposed, fixed, or varied for Great Britain or Scotland may be obtained from the Secretary of the Trade Board concerned at 7-11, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4.

Objections to the proposed rates (which should be in writing and signed by the person making the same, adding his or her full name and address) may be lodged with the Trade Board issuing the notice, within two months from the date of the Notice of Proposal, and should be sent to the Secretary of the Trade Board at the above-mentioned address.

Particulars regarding minimum rates of wages Proposed, Fixed or Varied by Trade Boards established in Northern Ireland may be obtained from the Secretary, Office of Trade Boards (Northern Ireland), Upper Queen Street, Belfast.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire appointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions will be printed in a pamphlet issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free as and when issued for an annual subscription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to His Majesty's Stationery Office or at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

CASE NO. 2032.—SECTION 8 (1)—TRADE DISPUTE—JOINERS ENGAGED ON ORGAN BUILDING—SUSPENDED FROM WORK AS A RESULT OF A DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO TRADE UNIONS ON QUESTION OF APPLICANTS' MEMBERSHIP OF A PARTICULAR UNION—APPRECIABLE STOPPAGE OF WORK.

The applicants had been employed as draughtsman and joiners respectively at a firm of organ makers, and it was reported that they lost their employment on the 22nd December, 1921, by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises where they were employed.

It appeared that there were employed at the works four members of Association A and thirty members of Association B. The applicants were the members of Association A. In December, 1921, a dispute arose between the two associations on the question of the membership of the applicants. The members of Association B wanted the applicants to leave their own association and join Association B, whose members, in view of the dispute, had handed in their notices to cease work. The applicants stated that the employer had suggested that they should fall in with the wishes of Association B in order that the work should not be dislocated, and had pointed out that if they could not transfer their membership they would have to cease work. The applicants declined to take any action in the matter, and, as a result, the employers "paid off" all the applicants. The applicants explained that they had been engaged on case making, and that their work was three months ahead. It was contended that in these circumstances there was no stoppage of work so far as the applicants' work was concerned.

Further evidence was obtained from the employer, which showed that it was not true that the work of the case makers was in advance of other departments, as there were a number of organs waiting for case work. Owing to the large number of orders on hand, it was possible to carry on without case making up to the 4th March, 1922. The employer had hoped that some agreement could be made by the respective associations whereby he could re-engage the workmen dismissed, but, as he found that no agreement was made, he was compelled to re-organise his workshops and employ organ builders who were members of Association B on case making as from the 6th March, 1922. The stoppage of work amounted to a complete cessation of all case work from December, 1921, to 4th March, 1922.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be disallowed, on the ground that the applicants had lost their employment by reason of the stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises where they were employed. The Court found that there was an appreciable stoppage of work in the case making department, but that the stoppage terminated on the 4th March, 1922. It was further recommended that the claims should be allowed from and including 6th March, 1922.

The applicants' association declined to accept the recommendations of the Court of Referees, and appealed to the Umpire on their behalf against the disallowance of the claims. It was pointed out on appeal that the employer's request to the applicants was in accordance with a new policy of the

employers' association, but that it was contrary to the custom which had been in vogue for thirty years. It was contended that the applicants' association had no dispute with the firm and that the rate of wages offered by the firm under the new conditions was below the standard rate for joiners in the district. Further, the dismissal of the applicants in order to secure harmonious working in the factory did not cause a stoppage of work, but merely involved transferring the same work to other men.

Decision.—"On the facts before me, my decision is that the claims for benefit should be disallowed up to and including 4th March.

"I agree with the Court of Referees. The stoppage of work, however, appears to have terminated on the 4th March, when the employer reorganised his shops."

CASE No. 2038.—SECTION 7 (1) (ii)—CONTINUOUSLY UNEMPLOYED—CUSTOMARY HOLIDAY FELL WITHIN A PERIOD OF ORDINARY UNSYSTEMATIC SUSPENSION—CONTINUITY OF UNEMPLOYMENT NOT INTERRUPTED BY OCCURRENCE OF HOLIDAYS.

The applicant became unemployed and made a claim to benefit on the 22nd November, 1921. She signed the Unemployed Register continuously up to and including Saturday, the 17th December, a period of twenty-three working days. She obtained employment on Monday, the 19th December, and worked up to and including Friday, the 23rd December, when she was suspended for a period of seven working days, two of which were customary holidays. She signed the Unemployed Register from 24th to 31st December, and returned to her employment on Monday, the 2nd January, 1922, and apparently would have remained in continuous employment had it not been for a temporary breakdown of machinery.

The claim dated 24th December was disallowed on the ground that the seven days' unemployment from 24th to 31st December could not be regarded as continuous with the period of unemployment ending the 17th December, as two of the seven days of unemployment during period 24th to 31st December were customary holidays. Further benefit would not therefore be payable for the remaining five days.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit be allowed. The Court were of opinion that, although the applicant was not working under a systematic short-time arrangement, the principle of decision No. 678 applied to this case; that, as the applicant was unemployed for seven working days from the 24th to 31st December, the occurrence of the holidays on the 26th and 27th December should not be regarded as interrupting the continuity of unemployment where there would have been continuity if these days had not been holidays. The Court were of opinion, however, that benefit should not be paid in respect of 26th and 27th December.

The Insurance Officer declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees. He pointed out that decision No. 678 applied only to cases where an applicant was suspended under a systematic short-time arrangement. In the present case the applicant had not been suspended under a "short time" system, but had obtained employment of a permanent character, after having previously claimed benefit for some time. As she was not suspended under a short-time arrangement, the days of customary holiday, viz., 26th and 27th December, could not be counted as days of unemployment even for the purpose only of preserving continuity of unemployment under Section 7 (2) (b) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

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

"Although this was not a case of systematic short time, the principle of decision No. 678 should apply."

CASE No. 2067.—SECTION 7 (1) (ii)—NOT UNEMPLOYED—OCCUPATION FOLLOWED IN ADDITION TO USUAL EMPLOYMENT—QUESTION OF REMUNERATION—BRANCH SECRETARY OF ASSOCIATION—INCOME NOT TO BE APPORTIONED TO PARTICULAR DAYS OF THE WEEK.

The applicant had normally been employed as a shipwright, and became unemployed on the 7th December, 1921. He lodged a claim to benefit on the 8th December, which was disallowed on the ground that he was following an occupation as branch secretary of his association, from which he derived more than 3s. 4d. per day.

He stated that he was paid quarterly at the rate of £7 17s. 1d. for work as branch secretary. In addition, he received a percentage of the amount paid to members by way of unemploy-

ment benefit, and stated that the total remuneration received by him in respect of each of the last three quarters had been £23 2s. 3d., £22 4s. 3d. and £29 4s. 2d. respectively. He admitted that, so far as his secretarial duties were concerned, the payment, viz., £7 17s. 1d., was held to cover work on six days a week, because branch secretaries were expected to be available for duty on every day. With regard to the percentage received on payments of unemployment benefit, it was explained that payment of benefit was a separate duty, which was confined to Thursday and Friday nights in each week. Accordingly, it was contended that while the amount received on Thursdays and Fridays exceeded 3s. 4d. per day, the remuneration received in respect of the other days of the week was considerably less than 3s. 4d. per day on the daily average. Accordingly, the applicant claimed benefit for only four days a week, contending that he was in a position similar to that of a "short time" worker employed on two days a week and unemployed the remaining four.

Recommended, by the Court of Referees, that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court were of opinion that the applicant was following a remunerative occupation which he had ordinarily carried on in addition to his usual employment. The duties as branch secretary and as officer paying benefit could not be separated, and could not be confined to any specific days of the week. As the remuneration was paid quarterly, the period over which the payment was averaged must be a quarter, and the total remuneration per quarter averaged more than 3s. 4d. per day.

The applicant's association, however, declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees, and appealed to the Umpire on his behalf against the disallowance of the claim.

Decision.—"On the facts before me, my decision is that the claim should be disallowed.

"I agree with the Court of Referees. The applicant cannot apportion his income as branch secretary to particular days of the week."

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING APRIL.

[N.B.—The list of Official Publications published in the British Dominions and India and in Foreign Countries has been discontinued.]

EX-SERVICE MEN.—The national scheme for the employment of disabled ex-Service men. List of local authorities whose names are included in the King's National Roll. Ministry of Labour. [Cmd. 1646: price 3d.]

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE.—Laws and regulations relating to lead poisoning, being an analysis with texts of the laws and regulations made in the chief industrial countries to prevent plumbism. Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau. [S.O. publication: price 5s.]

INSURANCE.—(1) Interdepartmental committee on health and unemployment insurance. First interim report. Grant towards administrative expenses of associations. Second interim report. Possibility of introducing combined card for health and unemployment insurance contributions in July, 1922. Ministry of Labour. [Cmd. 1644: price 3d.] (2) National Health Insurance Fund Accounts. Appendix. Approved societies and insurance committees receipts and payments for the year ended 31st December, 1919. [Cmd. 1635: price 3d.] (3) Financial provisions of the National Insurance Bill, 1922. Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 1651: price 2d.]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—Minutes of evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Local Government. Part II. [S.O. publication: price 3s. 6d.]

NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—(1) First Report of Select Committee on estimates. (Ministry of Labour.) [H.C. 70: price 2d.] (2) Civil Services, supplementary estimate, 1922-3, £23,562,844. (Ministry of Labour.) Treasury. [H.C. 63: price 2d.]

STREET TRADING.—Report of the Committee appointed to consider the question of the regulation of street trading in the Metropolitan Police district. Home Office. [Cmd. 1624: price 6d.]

TRADE BOARDS.—Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the working and effects of the Trade Boards Acts. Ministry of Labour. [Cmd. 1645: price 2s.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, APRIL, 1922.

ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT).

Alternators, Motor, with Control Gear, etc.: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Artists' Tools:** P. B. Baker, London, E.C.; F. Brockley & Son, Epsom; J. Mares & Sons, London, N.; Reeves & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Bags, Kit, Painted:** Adam & Lane & Neave, London, E.; H. J. Barr, Wivenhoe.—**Bars, Naval Brass:** Bull's Metal & Mould Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Bolts and Nuts, Naval Brass:** Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bows, Black Silk:** H. G. Horrell & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Brassfoundry:** Bailey & Mackey, Ltd., Birmingham; Evered &

Co., Ltd., Smethwick; J. P. Marrian & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; T. Pemberton & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Walter Rowley, Birmingham; Tonks (Birmingham), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Calcium Chloride:** Hopkin & Williams, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Caps, Blue Cloth, with Peaks:** Reese & Bonn, Ltd., London, E.—**Caps, Blue Serge:** Reese & Bonn, Ltd., London, E.—**Caps, White Duck:** Myers & Co., London, E.; S. Schneiders & Son, London.—**Chain, Cable:** Fellows Bros. Ltd., Cradley Heath; J. Green (Old Hill), Ltd., Old Hill.—**Chemicals:** F. Allen & Co., Ltd., London, E.; United Alkali Co., Ltd., Runcorn.—**Collars, Stiff White:** McIntyre, Hogg, March & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drills, Twist, etc.:** The Stalker Drill Works, Ltd., Sheffield; Alex. Mathieson & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Walter

AIR MINISTRY.

Aeroplane Spares: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aviation Spirit (Iraq):** Anglo-Persian Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Baths and Fittings:** Wellmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Fuel Oil for Diesel Engines:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hire of Cars:** Daimler Hire, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Hot Water Installations, Farnborough:** Brightside Foundry and Eng. Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Hutting, Conversion of (Eastchurch):** Grumman Bros., Ramsgate.—**Lavatory Fittings:** B. Finch & Co., Ltd., Lambeth.—**Motor Generator:** Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Steel Sheets, Corrugated, Galvanised:** Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Birkenhead.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Apparatus, Testing, Protective, etc.:** British L.M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.—**Boots:** Adams Bros., Raunds; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds.—**Boxes, Packing, Wood:** A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic:** Enfield Ediswan Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey.—**Canvas, Sailcloth:** J. A. Shepherd & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Cells, Dry:** Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., London, N.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cells, Secondary, Stationary:** Oldham & Son, Ltd., Denton, near Manchester; Van Raden & Co., Ltd., Great Heath, Coventry.—**Chloride of Ammonia (Vol-toids):** Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Winnington, Cheshire.—**Couplings, C.I.:** Jones & Attwood, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Lamp Caps:** J. Hannan, Nailsworth, Glos.—**Mouthpieces for Telephones:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Paper, Telegraph:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Pole Labour in connection with Telegraph Poles:** A. Bruce & Co., Grays and Leven; Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd., Staddlethorpe.—**Screws, Coach:** T. W. Lench, Ltd., Blackheath, near Birmingham.—**Sleeves, Lead:** Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Sleeves, Paper:** S. O'Neill & Sons, Ltd., Castleton, near Manchester; Paper Tube Makers' Association, Ltd. (Messrs. J. Stell & Sons' Branch), Rochdale.—**Spindles:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Staples, Insulated:** Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Tube, Lead, Pneumatic:** T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Wire, Copper:** Enfield Ediswan Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex.

Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing—Brixton-Hop Junction: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Conduits, Laying:** St. Albans: G. B. Hughes & Co., Ltd., London, W. Windsor: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Liverpool (North), Section II.; Wakefield: W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Commercial Road, E.; St. Pancras: Edwards Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Blackheath (Lee Park); Deptford, Lewisham, etc.; Camberwell, Southwark, etc.: T. W. Robinson, London, S.E. Beith-Glengarnock; Blaydon-on-Tyne and Corbridge; Wombwell (New Exchange); Hexham: G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Kensington, Paddington and St. Marylebone: A. Thomson & Co., London, W.C. Cowdenbeath: T. Menzies & Co., Kirkcaldy. Knowle and Solihull: Martin & Element, Ltd., Smethwick. Birmingham (North and Winslow Green); Sheffield (Central); Mirfield (Yorks); Birmingham: E. E. Jeavons & Co., Ltd., Dudley Port, Staffordshire. Walthamstow (Orford Road); Westminster and Chelsea: W. Jones & Sons, London, S.W. Forres: W. Dobson, Edinburgh. Halifax (N. and E.): S. Jowett & Sons, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancs. Sandown-Freshwater and Newport-Shide (I.O.W.); Betchworth, Horsham and Broadbridge Heath: O. C. Summers, London, N. Stockport and Gatley (West): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Berrymond (East): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Wanstead (Hermon Hill): P. R. Paul, Waltham Abbey, Essex. North Shields: S. Oake & Co., Ltd., Hebburn-on-Tyne. Hornsey (West): H. Farrow, London, N.W.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment—**Nelson: Peel-Comer Telephone Works, Stoke, Coventry; Sub-Contractors: The D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Stock for Various Automatic Exchanges in Contemplation; Eastbourne: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: The D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries; The English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machine.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Buildings, Works, etc.: Banded Sewer—Tunnelling, etc., James Todd, Clackmannan. Bethnal Green Houses—Plastering: C. Peppiatt, London, W. Camberwell Houses—Tiling: Roberts, Adlard & Co., London, S.E. Deptford Houses—Plastering: C. Peppiatt, London, W. Edinburgh Museum—Lavatory: Topping & Co., Edinburgh. Merthyr Tydfil and Mynyddislwyn—Houses, etc.: W. J. Simms, Sons & Cooke, Ltd., Nottingham. Norwich Employment Exchange—Alterations, etc.: J. Youngs & Son, Ltd., Norwich. Shotley Bridge Hospital—Alterations, etc.: J. R. Surtees, Blackhill. Stanley—Houses: J. S. Teanby & Son, Ltd., Sheffield. Wembley Post Office—Granolithic Paving: Malcolm Macleod & Co., London, E. Tar Paving: J. Smart & Co., London, W.C. Witton Gilbert Houses—Slating: E. Dawson, Sunderland.—**Engineering Services:** Electric Lifts: The Express Lift Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Llantrissant Houses

ADMIRALTY.

(CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT).

Cast Iron Pipes and Specials for H.M. Naval Establishment Abroad: The Stanton Ironworks, Ltd., Stanton Ironworks, near Nottingham.

WAR OFFICE.

Caps, Service Dress: E. Altman, Ltd., Aldershot.—**Cases, Packing:** T. E. Dingwall, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drums, Oil:** P. D. Mitchell, Ltd., Dundee.—**Lace, Gold:** Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Locomotive:** Hawthorn, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—**Pneumatic Covers:** Wood Milne, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Steel Pontoons:** J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Tartan Cloth:** D. Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles.—**Works Services: Maintenance Work:** Blackdown and Deepcut: W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes. North Aldershot: Jas. Crockerell, Aldershot. Woking: A. Robinson, Idle, Yorks.

—Electric Wiring: The Electra Contracting Co., Cardiff.—**Miscellaneous:** Curtains: Arding & Hobbs, Ltd., London, S.W. Linoleum: Linoleum Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Michael Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; The New Shepley Linoleum Co., Ltd., Manchester. Steel Shelving: G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E. Wood Block Flooring: Floorings, Ltd., Manchester.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

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