

THE LABOUR GAZETTE

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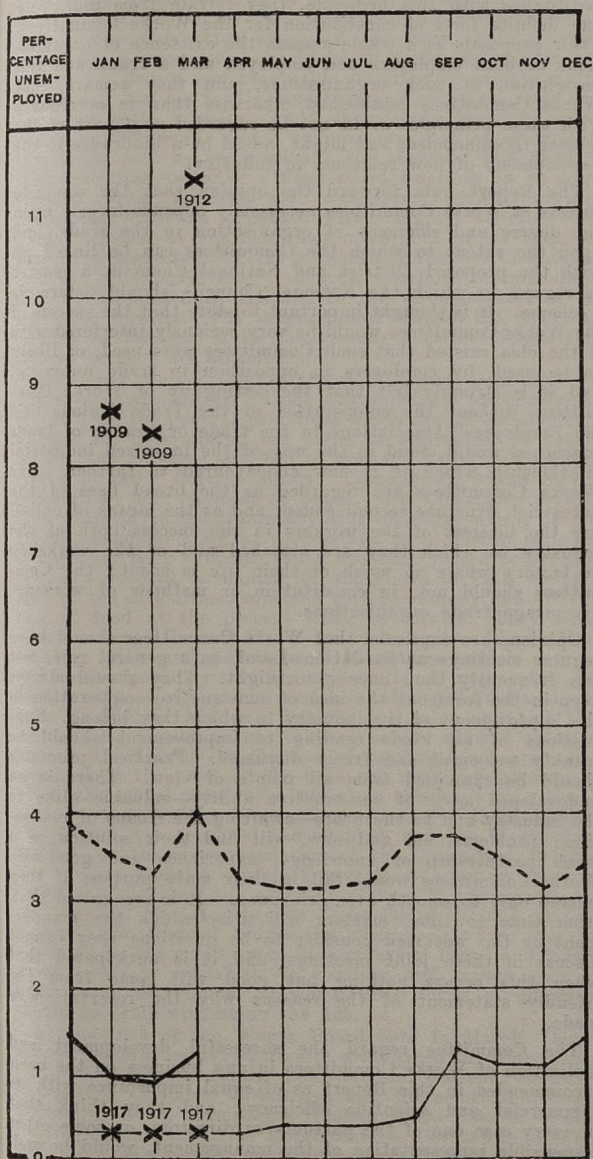
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1918. — Thin Curve = 1917.
..... Dotted Curve = Mean of 1908-17.

x The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1908-17.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. See also remarks respecting cotton industry in next column.

THE LABOUR MARKET.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good in March in most of the principal industries, and the iron and steel, ship-building and engineering trades were still working at great pressure. The restriction of consumption of raw materials, however, continued to affect employment in the textile industries, and in the cotton trade, especially, employment showed a decline.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,068,154, excluding those serving with the Forces, reported 12,397 (or 1.2 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of March, compared with 0.9 per cent. at the end of February and 0.3 per cent. at the end of March, 1917. The increase in the percentage as compared with a month ago and a year ago was almost entirely due to the cotton industry, in which the "unemployment" is in the nature of short time—the operatives affected not being discharged, but merely suspended in rotation for one week out of four or more according to circumstances.

Of the 3,662,673 male and female workpeople insured under the National Insurance Acts, 1911 to 1916, the number unemployed at the end of March was 36,873 (or 1.01 per cent.), compared with 0.89 per cent. in the previous month, and 0.66 per cent. a year ago. For males and females separately the percentages unemployed at the end of March were 0.41 and 2.36.

Employment at coal mines continued good; at collieries covered by the Returns received the pits worked an average of 5.62 days per week in the fortnight ended 23rd March, as compared with 5.38 days per week in the corresponding period of 1917; the number of workpeople employed showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. At iron mines employment continued very good, and the number of workpeople employed at the mines covered by the Returns was 14.6 per cent. greater than a year ago. At shale and lead mines employment continued very good, and at tin mines good. In quarrying employment was good on the whole.

In the pig iron industry employment continued good; at iron and steel works it was very good, and showed an increase as compared with a year ago of over 5 per cent. in the numbers employed at those works covered by the Returns. Engineering works and shipyards continued to work at high pressure. The tinplate and steel sheet trade showed little change. In most of the other metal trades employment continued good.

Employment in the cotton industry was worse than a month ago and a year ago, owing to the restrictions on the consumption of cotton. In the weaving section it was moderate; in the spinning section it was good in the districts using Egyptian, and moderate in those using American cotton. The woollen trade showed little change, and about half the workpeople were still working short time; in the worsted trade employment continued moderate.

In the hosiery trade employment continued good on Government contracts, and overtime was worked; some slackness, however, was reported, largely owing to inadequate supplies of yarn. Employment in the jute trade was worse than a month ago and a year ago owing to the restriction on the consumption of jute. In the linen trade employment continued very slack

in Ireland, and in the Belfast district about 70 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were working short time; in Scotland it continued good on the whole. In the silk trade employment was fairly good; in the lace trade it was fair on the whole; in the carpet trade it continued moderate. In the textile bleaching trade employment was slack; in the dyeing and finishing sections it continued good with woollen and worsted dyers and slack with cotton dyers and finishers.

Employment in the leather trades continued good on the whole. In the boot and shoe trades it was also good, though in certain districts some slackness was reported among women workers. In bespoke tailoring and in court and private dressmaking employment showed a seasonal improvement. In the ready-made tailoring trade employment was good. In the shirt and collar, wholesale mantle, costume, blouse and corset trades it continued fairly good. With silk hatters employment was brisk; with felt hatters it showed an improvement.

Private building work continued slack, but Government requirements kept the men remaining in the brick and building trades well employed; cement workers were also busy with much overtime. With coachbuilders, coopers, and brushmakers employment was good; with mill sawyers it was fairly good. The paper, printing and bookbinding trades were well employed, and in London compositors and bookbinders worked a large amount of overtime. There was a shortage of labour in the glass and pottery trades, and overtime was worked. In the food preparation trades employment was good except in those branches affected by the shortage of sugar.

Good progress was made with agricultural operations during the month; the supply of skilled hands was still short, but much assistance was rendered by soldiers and women. With fishermen employment continued fairly good on the whole; with dock labourers it was fair generally, except at certain ports on the East Coast and in Ireland.

Detailed reports and statistics as to employment in the various trades are given on pages 143-149.

Employment Exchanges.—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Employment Exchanges for the four weeks ended 8th March, 1918, was 40,720, as compared with 41,417 in the previous four weeks and with 44,608 in the four weeks ended 9th March, 1917. The average weekly number of vacancies filled for the same period was 30,042, 31,876 and 35,824 respectively. The number of workpeople remaining on the live register at 8th March, 1918, was 31,483 men, 56,377 women, 7,697 boys, and 8,093 girls, a total of 103,650.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as having been granted during March (including some increases awarded during that month to have effect from earlier dates in 1918) resulted in a net increase of over £67,000 in the weekly wages of more than 220,000 workpeople.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected were tramway and omnibus workers and aircraft workers. Employees in the traffic section of tramway and omnibus undertakings received war wage advances raising the wages of men, and of women paid at men's rates, to 20s. above pre-war rates, with smaller increases to other women, boys and girls. Skilled aircraft woodworkers were awarded an advance of 5s. per week, as war wages, and bonuses on earnings of 12½ per cent. to men on time rates and 7½ per cent. to men on piece rates. The bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. were also extended to men in various metal industries and in a number of local authority undertakings.

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in March was 83, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 46,900, as compared with 55,800 in the previous month, and 28,900 in March, 1917. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 276,200 days, as compared with 287,500 days in February, 1918, and 202,000 days in March, 1917.

WORKS COMMITTEES.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF WHITLEY COMMITTEE.

In the First and Second Reports of the Committee on Relations between Employers and Employed (the Whitley Committee),* references were made to the establishment of Works Committees, representative of the management and of the workpeople, and appointed from within the works, as an essential part of the scheme of organisation suggested to secure improved relations between employers and employed. A "Supplementary Report on Works Committees" has now been published,† which deals more fully with the proposal to institute such committees.

In this Supplementary Report it is pointed out that, while in every industry there are certain questions such as rates of wages and hours of work, which should be settled by district or national agreement, there are also many questions closely affecting daily life and comfort in, and the success of, the business, and affecting in no small degree efficiency of working, which are peculiar to the individual workshop or factory. The purpose of a Works Committee is to establish and maintain a system of co-operation in all these workshop matters.

Throughout their recommendations the Committee have proceeded upon the assumption that the greatest success is likely to be achieved by leaving to the representative bodies of employers and employed in each industry the maximum degree of freedom to settle for themselves the precise form of Council or Committee which should be adopted, having regard in each case to the particular circumstances of the trade; and, in accordance with this principle, they refrain from indicating any definite form of constitution for the Works Committees. Their proposals as a whole assume the existence of organisations of both employers and employed and a frank and full recognition of such organisations, and they remark that Works Committees established otherwise than in accordance with these principles could not be regarded as a part of the scheme recommended, and might indeed be a hindrance to the development of new relations in industry.

The Report puts forward the opinion that the complete success of Works Committees necessarily depends largely upon the degree and efficiency of organisation in the trade, and upon the extent to which the Committees can be linked up with the proposed District and National Councils, a matter in regard to which the National Councils should determine a scheme. It is thought important to state that the success of the Works Committees would be very seriously interfered with if the idea existed that such Committees were used, or likely to be used, by employers in opposition to trade unionism, and it is strongly felt that the setting up of Works Committees without the co-operation of the Trade Unions and the Employers' Associations in the trade or branch of trade concerned would stand in the way of the improved industrial relationship which it is now endeavoured to further. The Works Committees are regarded as the broad base of the industrial structure recommended, and as the means of enlisting the interest of the workers in the success both of the industry to which they are attached and of the workshop or factory where so much of their life is spent; the Committees should not, in constitution or methods of working, discourage trade organisations.

Opinions are expressed that Works Committees should have regular meetings at fixed times, and, as a general rule, not less frequently than once a fortnight. They should always keep in the forefront the idea of constructive co-operation in the improvement of the industry to which they belong. Suggestions of all kinds tending to improvement should be frankly welcomed and freely discussed. Practical proposals should be examined from all points of view. There is an undeveloped asset of constructive ability—valuable alike to the industry and to the State—awaiting the means of realisation; problems, old and new, will find their solution in a frank partnership of knowledge, experience and good-will. Works Committees would fail in their main purpose if they existed only to smooth over grievances. It is recognised that, from time to time, matters will arise which the management or the workmen consider to be questions they cannot discuss in these joint meetings, and it is anticipated that when this occurs nothing but good will come from the friendly statement of the reasons why the reservation is made.

The Committee regard the successful development and utilisation of Works Committees in any business on the basis recommended in this Report as of equal importance with its commercial and scientific efficiency; and they think that in every case one of the partners or directors, or some other responsible representative of the management, would be well advised to devote a substantial part of his time and thought to the good working and development of such a Committee.

A report of an Enquiry made by the Ministry of Labour into the constitution and functions of existing Works Committees will be published shortly.

* These were published as Cd. 8606 and Cd. 9002, and were noticed in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1917, and March, 1918.

† Cd. 9001. Price 1d.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES BOARD.

THE Agricultural Wages Board, established for England and Wales under the Corn Production Act of 1917, have given notice that they propose to fix minimum time rates of wages for male workers of 18 years of age and over in Norfolk and in Northamptonshire, on the basis of a minimum rate of 30s. for 54 hours (exclusive of meal times) in respect of the period commencing on the first Monday in March and terminating on the last Sunday in October, and of a minimum rate of 30s. for 48 hours (exclusive of meal times) in respect of the remaining period of the year. The Wages Board, as required by the Corn Production Act, will consider any objections to the above rates which may be lodged with them within one month from the date of the notice (2nd April), and no minimum rates can be actually fixed by the Wages Board before the expiration of the month's interval allowed for objections. Further particulars are given on page 172.

Having regard to the fact that it is not possible for all the District Wages Committees, established or to be established by the Wages Board, at once to meet and settle the recommendations they wish to make regarding minimum rates of wages applicable to their areas, the Wages Board have expressed the opinion that by mutual agreement between employers and workers it is desirable that any minimum rates which may be fixed should be made retrospective as from the end of March.

On 28th March the Board considered a Report from the Committee on "Cottage Rents," relating to the basis on which it is suggested that recommendations should be made by District Wages Committees as to minimum rates of wages, so far as these are affected by the question of the value of cottage rents. The Committee expressed the view that a worker should be in a position, should he so desire, to provide himself with a proper and reasonable standard of accommodation for himself and his family, and that any minimum rates fixed for adult male workers should accordingly be such as will enable an "economic rent" for such standard of accommodation to be paid by the worker. The standard laid down by the Committee includes a five-roomed dwelling in a proper state of repair, provided with satisfactory sanitary arrangements and with an adequate water supply, together with garden ground of not less than one-eighth of an acre, and they have suggested, for the guidance of District Committees, how the "economic rent" of such standard accommodation may be calculated in relation to the circumstances of any particular district. The Wages Board adopted the report and decided to forward it to the various District Wages Committees as they are established.

Sir Henry Rew presented the final report from the Committee on "Allowances," which was appointed to consider and report upon the general principles which should be adopted as a basis for determining the value of allowances or benefits (other than cottages supplied to workers, which subject is referred to the "Cottage Rents" Committee), which may be reckoned in part payment of wages. The Committee reported that while in their opinion payment of wages wholly in cash should be adopted, so far as possible, as a general principle, it appeared from evidence which had been placed before them that any attempt to abolish all allowances in kind would, in view of the difficulties connected with the supply and distribution of food at the present time, be unwise. They recommended that a General Order be made by the Wages Board defining milk and potatoes as allowances which may be reckoned as part payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash for the purpose of any minimum rates of wages fixed under the Corn Production Act, and defining the value at which these commodities should be so reckoned as the current wholesale price in the district—in the case of potatoes, such price to be reckoned as the price at the time the maincrop potatoes are lifted, the actual price to be settled on this basis from time to time by the District Wages Committees for their districts. The Report was approved and adopted, and the Wages Board decided, on the recommendation of the Committee, to invite the various District Wages Committees to report upon the question of defining any other allowances in addition to milk and potatoes in their districts. The Board decided similarly to invite the District Wages Committees, in whose areas the provision by the employer to his workers of board and lodging or of meals is prevalent, to consider and report upon the question of the manner in which these forms of allowances should be dealt with under the Act.

At meetings of the Wages Board held in March, District Wages Committees were formally established for Lincolnshire, Oxfordshire, Somersetshire, Leicester and Rutland, Berkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Glamorgan and Monmouth, Shropshire, Wiltshire, Kent, Hampshire (including the Isle of Wight), Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Herefordshire, Devonshire, Denbigh and Flint, Merioneth and Montgomery, Radnor and Brecon, and Anglesey and Carnarvon.

A Committee, consisting of six members of the Wages Board and three co-opted members, has been appointed to enquire into the financial results of the occupation of agricultural land and market gardens in view of present conditions, and into the cost of living as affecting workers in rural districts, to collect data and receive evidence on these subjects, and to report to the Wages Board as soon as possible.

JUTE CONTROL.

IN pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by the Defence of the Realm Regulations, the Army Council have made an Order—the Jute (Restriction of Consumption) Order, 1918—dated 23rd March, providing that no person shall, without a permit issued by or on behalf of the Director of Raw Materials, put into any process of manufacture any raw jute or any yarn or other article or material wholly or partly manufactured therefrom.

Following upon conferences which have taken place, between representatives of the employers and workpeople in the jute trade in Dundee, to consider the situation arising from the shortage of jute (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1918, page 94), a scheme has now been adopted providing for the payment of benefit to workers who were discharged between 6th December, 1917, and 15th March, 1918 (both dates inclusive), owing to the stoppage of machinery with a view to reducing the consumption of raw jute to 10 per cent. below the limit of 1916. The scale of benefit pay, to have effect from 14th March, 1918, is as follows: Males over 18 years of age, 25s. per week; females over 18 years of age, 15s. per week; young persons under 18 years of age, 10s. per week.

The benefits are limited to those discharged workers who have been unable to find other employment. A joint committee comprising four representatives of the employers and four representatives of the workers has been appointed to administer the scheme, and this committee is to endeavour to provide suitable work for those out of work. No applicant who has been offered and has refused suitable work without reasonable cause is to receive further benefit. Casual workers are not entitled to benefit.

COURSE OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

UNITED KINGDOM.

THE level of retail prices of the principal articles of food at 2nd April was very little different from that at 1st March, both as regards the articles as a whole and the individual items, with the exception of meat, tea and eggs.

The introduction of a uniform schedule of maximum retail prices of butchers' meat for England and Wales occurred during the month; on the whole there was not much change in the average price of British beef and mutton, but there was some increase in that of imported meat. A decrease of 2d. per lb. (or 6 per cent.) in the average price of tea was the effect of the introduction of National Control Tea at 2s. 8d. per lb. in place of the graded teas formerly sold, while a reduction of about 4d. per dozen (or 8 per cent.) in the price of eggs was due to seasonal causes.

As compared with July, 1914, three of the four cuts of British meat included in the Returns showed an increase in price at 2nd April averaging about 80 to 85 per cent., the other increase being nearly 100 per cent.; imported meat averaged nearly 150 per cent., and bacon 140 per cent. dearer, while eggs and fish were more than three times and sugar was nearly three times as dear as before the war. Milk, butter and cheese were, roundly, double the pre-war prices, and tea was nearly 80 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914. With margarine the advance in price averaged about 70 per cent. The prices of flour and bread were over 50 per cent. higher than before the war, while those of potatoes were higher than in July, 1914, by about 50 per cent. in large towns and 25 per cent. in smaller places.

In the following Table is given a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 2nd April in relation to the normal prices of July, 1914:—

Article.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 2nd April, 1918.		
	Large Towns (populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	81	88	84
Thin Flank	103	95	99
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs	134	133	133
Thin Flank	153	145	150
Mutton, British—			
Legs	85	86	86
Breast	87	75	81
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs	168	155	162
Breast	151	143	147
Bacon (streaky)	145	134	140
Fish	245	194	219
Flour	50	54	52
Bread	57	52	54
Tea	78	80	79
Sugar (granulated)	192	181	187
Milk	105	98	101
Butter—			
Fresh	104	106	105
Salt	110	108	109
Cheese	91	92	91
Margarine	76	62	69
Eggs (fresh)	228	195	211
Potatoes	49	25	37

The foregoing Table shows the average percentage rise in the price of each article. When it is desired to obtain the combined effect of all these increases it is necessary to assign

a certain relative importance to each of the articles in accordance with the quantities consumed. For the purpose of a continuous record of the movement of prices it must be assumed that this relative importance has been the same throughout the whole period during which these statistics have been published. Owing, however, to the rise in prices and the shortage of supplies, the quantities consumed of the several articles have undergone important changes. When allowance is made for such changes in dietary as are estimated by the Ministry of Food to have taken place the increase in the average expenditure on the above articles is less than half the rise in prices. This is brought out in the following Table, which compares the general percentage increase in (1) prices, and (2) expenditure. The prices percentages (1) are based on the same quantities now as in July, 1914, a basis which affords a measure of the increased cost of maintaining a pre-war standard of living, so far as the articles included in the statistics are concerned; and the expenditure percentages (2) are based on the actual consumption of the same articles, so far as ascertained, in recent months in comparison with pre-war consumption.

	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914.		
	Large Towns.	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
(1) Level of retail prices of foregoing articles of food, assuming same quantities at both dates	110	102	106
(2) Expenditure on such articles of food, allowing for changes in consumption	47	42	44

Although there has been a slight reduction in the level of prices of the principal articles of food in each of the past two months (from 108 per cent. above the July, 1914, level on 1st February to 106 per cent. at 2nd April) there have been advances in the prices of clothing and other items which have slightly raised the general percentage increase in the prices of all the items ordinarily entering into the working-class family budget (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c.). The amount of such increase between July, 1914, and April, 1918, is estimated at between 90 and 95 per cent., taking for the purpose of this calculation the same quantities of the various items in April, 1918, as in 1914.*

It is not possible to supplement this comparison of the level of prices generally by a comparison of expenditure similar to that given above with regard to food. Combination of the average increase in expenditure on the specified principal articles of food with the average increase in retail prices of other items (including rents) yields a resultant increase of about 55 per cent. It is, however, a matter of general knowledge that there have been considerable reductions in the quantities purchased of some commodities other than foodstuffs, and this figure would therefore be somewhat in excess of the average increase in family expenditure since the beginning of the war.

PORTUGAL.

In continuance of the inquiry concerning the cost of living in Portugal (see THE LABOUR GAZETTE for January, 1918, p. 8), the Portuguese Ministry of Labour in the last issue of their journal† publish index numbers intended to show the rise in the prices of articles of prime necessity consumed by working-class families in Lisbon during the four months July to October (inclusive), 1917. The general level of prices in Lisbon in the year 1913 being taken as 100, the level prevailing in each of the months referred to was as follows:—July, 172; August, 178; September, 189; October, 200.

These figures are computed according to the method which assumes a fixed standard of working-class family consumption, and calculates the changes in the cost of maintaining that standard according to the retail prices returned as prevailing at different dates.

DENMARK. ‡

The periodical computation of the Danish Statistical Department as to the effect of the rise in prices during the war upon the cost of maintaining a family in Copenhagen has now been brought down to February, 1918. At the prices prevailing in July, 1914, the total annual sum§ required by the Copenhagen family selected as a type, to meet the cost of food, clothing, rent, fuel, lighting, taxation, &c., was 2,000 kroner (£111). It was shown (see LABOUR GAZETTE, September, 1917, p. 320), that the cost of maintaining the same standard would have been 2,922 kroner (£162) in February, 1917, and 3,094 kroner (£172) in July, 1917.

In carrying the computation down to February, 1918, the Danish Statistical Office for the first time makes allowance for changes in the standard brought about by the practical disappearance from the market of certain articles (margarine, vegetable fat, and hog's fat), and the restricted consumption of others under a system of rationing (especially bread, butter and petroleum).

* If advances arising from increased taxation of commodities are eliminated the percentage increase is about 5 per cent. less.
† Boletim da Previdencia Social, September-December, 1917. Lisbon, 1918.
‡ Statistiske Efterretninger, 28rd March, 1918. Statistical Department. Copenhagen.
§ The proportionate expenditure upon the various items by a family taken as the standard was ascertained by an inquiry carried out in 1909.

In the following Table the increase or decrease under the various heads in February, 1918, as compared with the dates above mentioned, is shown in the form of percentages:—

Group of Expenditure.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Expenditure in February, 1918, as compared with		
	July, 1914.	Feb., 1917.	July, 1917.
Food:—			
Beef and pork	+ 71.8	+ 5.8	+ 8.6
Butter, milk, cheese & eggs	+ 69.7	+ 1.6	+ 0.8
Fish	+ 36.7	+ 20.6	+ 2.4
Bread	+ 72.5	+ 4.8	+ 7.0
Flour, oatmeal, &c.	+ 142.4	+ 14.3	No change
Potatoes, vegetables & fruit	+ 75.9	+ 39.7	+ 15.9
Sugar, groceries, oil, &c.	+ 71.8	+ 35.4	+ 18.6
Total Food	+ 72.8	+ 9.3	+ 3.9
Clothes, boots and washing	+ 110.0	+ 23.3	+ 10.5
Rent and cost of repairs	+ 22.4	+ 11.3	+ 7.7
Fuel and lighting	+ 175.0	+ 39.8	+ 25.0
Medical attendance, Trade Union subscriptions, taxes	No change	No change	No change
Other expenditure	+ 60.0	+ 17.9	+ 14.2
Total Other Items	+ 60.1	+ 13.3	+ 11.0
Total All Groups	+ 66.1	+ 13.7	+ 7.4

Thus the total cost of living in Copenhagen, among families of the class selected as a type, was about 66 per cent. higher in February, 1918, than in July, 1914, after allowing for changes in the standard of living necessitated by the war. For food alone the increase in expenditure was about 73 per cent.

CANADA.*

The cost of food—a week's supply for a typical family—in Canada in January, as computed from returns of retail prices in sixty towns in the Dominion, showed an increase of 1.5 per cent. as compared with the cost in the preceding month, and of 67.4 per cent. as compared with July, 1914, assuming the family dietary to have been maintained at the same standard throughout. If the total family requirements in food, fuel, lighting, etc., be considered, the January figures show a rise of 1.6 per cent. as compared with those of December, and of 38.5 per cent. as compared with those of July, 1914. The difference in the extent of the rise since July, 1914, between food on the one hand and the total family requirements on the other, is due to the fact that while food, fuel and lighting have become dearer, a reduction amounting to 6.8 per cent. has taken place in house rent.

UNITED STATES. †

The index number representing the general level of retail food prices in the United States rose by about 1 per cent. in December as compared with the preceding month, and was 53 per cent. above the corresponding figure for July, 1914. Eight of the 27 articles for which prices are received by the Bureau of Labour Statistics decreased in price, 3 remained as in November, and 16 rose in price. Onions fell in price by 14 per cent., bread 5 per cent., and potatoes 3 per cent. Eggs show the greatest increase—9 per cent. As compared with July, 1914, all articles were dearer in December, the greatest increases recorded being for lard (116 per cent.), eggs (111 per cent.), flour (109 per cent.), sugar (81 per cent.), and bacon (78 per cent.)

Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Average Price on 15th Dec., 1917, as compared with		Article.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Average Price on 15th Dec., 1917, as compared with	
	15th Nov., 1917.	15th July, 1914.		15th Nov., 1917.	15th July, 1914.
Beef—					
Sirloin steak	+ 1	+ 19	Cheese	No change	
Round steak	+ 1	+ 22	Milk	+ 2	
Rib roast	+ 1	+ 22	Bread	- 5	
Chuck roast	+ 2	+ 23	Flour	- 2	
Plate boiling beef	+ 1	+ 23	Maize meal	No change	
Pork chops	- 2	+ 52	Rice	+ 2	
Bacon	+ 1	+ 78	Potatoes	- 3	
Ham	+ 2	+ 56	Onions	- 14	
Lard	+ 2	+ 116	Beans, navy	- 1	
Hens	+ 3	+ 39	Prunes	- 2	
Salmon, tinned	+ 1	+ 111	Raisins, seeded	+ 1	
Eggs, strictly fresh	+ 9	+ 111	Sugar	- 1	
Butter, creamery	+ 3	+ 58	Coffee	No change	
			Tea	+ 1	
			General (weighted) percentage increase.	+ 1	
				+ 53	

* The Labour Gazette, February, 1918. Published by the Canadian Labour Department, Ottawa.
† Monthly Review of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, February, 1918 Washington.
‡ Not included in the official prices statistics at this date.

The relative importance of the various articles in working-class dietary before the war is allowed for in computing the general index number, and it is assumed that in this respect no changes have since occurred.

RENTS IN WAR TIME: NEW FRENCH LAW.

THE issue of the *Journal Officiel de la République Française* for 12th March contains the text of a law dated 9th March relating to the cancelling or modifying of leases and to the payment of rents in France during the war period.

Among the principal provisions of the new law is one stating that tenants of small dwellings who are serving in the Army, or who have been discharged on account of wounds or illness, or who are in receipt of military or certain other specified allowances, poor relief, or assistance in accordance with the law of 14th July, 1905,* are entitled to claim exemption from payment of rent during the war and during the six months following its termination. "Small dwellings" in this connection are those the rent of which does not exceed the following limits:—

	Rent per Annum.	
	Unmarried Tenants.	Married Tenants.
Paris and District	£ 20	£ 24
Communes of over 100,000 inhabitants	14	16
Communes of 20,000 to 100,000 inhabitants	10	12
Communes of 5,000 to 20,000 inhabitants	6	8
Communes of 1,000 to 5,000 inhabitants	4	6
Communes of less than 1,000 inhabitants	3	4

If a tenant who is mobilised is killed during the war or dies while serving with the colours, the lease may be cancelled without indemnity on a declaration of his widow or his heir made within a certain period. Questions as to compensation for fixtures, etc., will be determined by the arbitration committee concerned (see last paragraph). A lease may likewise be cancelled when, owing to wounds or illness arising out of the war, the tenant can no longer carry on his former occupation, or if his business capacity is permanently reduced. During the war, and for a further period of six months, all proceedings at law against mobilised tenants are prohibited. For twelve months from the promulgation of the law, this prohibition also applies to widows and dependants of soldiers killed since 1st August, 1914, to wives of soldiers officially reported as missing, and to soldiers discharged owing to wounds or illness due to the war. It also applies to the wives and families of men retained by the enemy in invaded districts or interned in enemy or neutral countries.

House owners and landlords whose tenants have been freed from liability, wholly or in part, under this Act, or by mutual agreement, are entitled to an indemnity from the State not exceeding 50 per cent. of their losses if their net annual income does not exceed £200 in small towns (under 100,000 inhabitants), £320 in large towns, and £400 in Paris and the Seine department.

An owner who has been deprived of a considerable part of his resources and is in consequence unable to pay mortgage instalments will be granted the delay considered necessary by the arbitration committee to meet the case, not exceeding a period of three years after the conclusion of the War. At the demand of the tenant leases may be extended for a period equal to that from the tenant's mobilisation up to the end of the war in the case of business premises and for two years in case of dwellings.

All disputes arising out of the operation of the law are to be settled by special arbitration committees to be set up in each district, upon which owners and tenants will be represented in equal numbers.

RISE IN WHOLESALE PRICES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1913 TO 1917.

THE great increase that has taken place in the wholesale prices of important commodities in the United States since 1913, the year preceding the outbreak of war in Europe, is shown by information collected by the Bureau of Labour Statistics at Washington, and summarised in the issue of the *Monthly Review* of the Bureau for February. This increase has been particularly great among farm products, foods, clothing, metal products, and drugs and chemicals.

During 1914 the prices of most commodities increased between January and September, but declined rapidly in the closing months of the year, owing to the prevailing business stagnation brought about by the war. Among articles classed as fuel and lighting, metals and metal products, and lumber and building materials, prices declined throughout the year.

In 1915 a reaction occurred and prices again rose, reaching high levels late in the year. Since January, 1916, the rise in wholesale prices has been unprecedented. The Bureau's weighted index number, based on 292 separate

* The law referred to relates to assistance from public funds (communal, departmental or State) which may be claimed by persons without means who are over 70 years of age or who are suffering from an incurable illness. This measure was described in the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for 1905, page 228.

articles or price series, stood at 181 in December, 1917, as compared with 110 in January, 1916, and 100 as the average for the twelve months of 1913. In the same period (January, 1916, to December, 1917) the index number of farm products increased from 108 to 204 (or 89 per cent.), that of food articles from 114 to 185 (62 per cent.), and that of cloths and clothing from 110 to 206 (87 per cent.).

EMPLOYMENT IN BRITISH DOMINIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

GERMANY.*

Employment in February.—The following is the general conclusion arrived at by the German Department of Labour Statistics as to the course of employment during February:—

"This year as last the month of February failed to show any appreciable change in the activity of German industry as a whole in comparison with January. The situation remained practically the same as in previous months. As the entire national economy is adjusted to war conditions, there is little room for violent fluctuations. Employment, too, continued at about the same level as last year, but certain branches of industry on which the war is making particularly heavy demands had an increase of work."

"Reports from the mining and smelting industries indicate that the upward tendency of recent months was fully maintained in February. A noteworthy feature of these industries was their absorption of fresh labour-power, chiefly men. The metal and engineering trades continued very busy, as in past months, and equally good employment was reported in the electrical industry. The chemical trades underwent a further improvement, and a considerably larger number of workpeople were employed, the majority of the new entrants being men. In the building trades, on the other hand, employment was quieter than in preceding months."

Returns from Trade Unions.—Returns relating to employment during February were furnished by 34 Trade Unions, the membership covered being 1,126,768. Of these 9,308, or 0.8 per cent., were out of work on the last day of the month, as compared with 0.9 per cent. in the preceding month, and with 1.6 per cent. in February, 1917.

	Applications for employment to every 100 situations vacant.		
	February, 1918.	January, 1918.	February, 1917.
Men	58	62	62
Women	93	99	112

Returns from Sickness Insurance Societies.—According to returns giving the situation of these societies on 1st March the total membership showed a slight decline amounting to 0.1 per cent. as compared with the preceding month. The number of males showed an increase of 0.1 per cent., but this was more than offset by a decline of 0.3 per cent. in the number of female members.

HOLLAND. †

Employment in December.—Returns relating to employment in December were received by the Dutch Statistical Office from Trade Union and other employment funds with a total insured membership of 154,109. Of these 17,164 were performing military service, on strike, locked out, sick, etc., leaving 136,945 as the number concerning whom returns could be utilised. The percentage of such members out of work during the month was 11.4, as compared with 9.5 in the preceding month and with 6.8 in December, 1916.

Group of Trades.	Number of Members insured against Unemployment in Dec., 1917.	Percentage actually Unemployed.			Average Days Lost per Week per Member Unemployed.		
		Dec., 1917.	Nov., 1917.	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Nov., 1917.	Dec., 1916.
All Unions paying Unemployment Benefit, and other Unemployment Funds making Returns	136,945	11.4	9.5	6.8	4.4	4.1	4.3
<i>Do. do. excluding Diamond Workers</i>	126,429	9.2	8.2	5.1	3.9	3.4	3.5
Working in diamonds, &c.	10,516	37.7	31.6	24.4	5.9	5.9	5.9
Printing, lithography, &c.	13,095	0.8	1.0	0.4	5.6	5.8	5.4
Building trades (including roadmaking)	25,423	16.7	8.7	9.1	5.0	4.9	5.2
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	24,898	8.5	6.2	2.5	2.7	3.2	3.7
Textile	7,315	33.5	39.7	8.9	3.0	2.5	1.4
Food, drink, and tobacco	22,114	3.6	2.5	9.1	4.0	3.5	2.2
Woodworking, &c.	6,899	3.9	2.7	1.5	5.6	5.5	5.1

* *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger*, 25th March, 1918.
† *Maandscrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 28th February, 1918. The Hague.

The comparison between December, 1917, and the previous month yields slightly different results when based upon data furnished by Trade Unions only (irrespective of whether they pay unemployment benefit or not), and when further limited to information received from Unions making returns for both months. On this basis the percentage of unemployment is found to be 10.8 in December, as compared with 9.0 in November. Among the members of these Unions the average number of working days lost owing to unemployment was in December 8.0 per cent., and in November 6.1 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days during the month.

NORWAY.*

Employment in January.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of January, in certain Trade Unions making returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for January, 1917:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Jan. 31st, 1918.	Dec. 31st, 1917.	Jan. 31st, 1917.	Jan. 31st, 1918.	Dec. 31st, 1917.	Jan. 31st, 1917.
	Brickmakers and masons (Christiania)	781	778	811	11.7	37.0	9.2
Carpenters, &c. ...	1,461	1,519	1,440	2.0	2.0	0.4
Painters (Christiania) ...	460	467	437	12.0	16.7	17.6
Metal workers ...	9,990	10,807	9,880	1.6	1.5	0.3
Boot and shoe makers ...	881	970	879	0.7	0.7	0.6
Printers ...	2,849	2,215	2,203	0.8	0.2	0.7
Bookbinders (Christiania) ...	780	768	732	2.4	1.6	1.4
Cabinetmakers ...	650	670	6.9	0.1	0.1	0.5
Bakers (Christiania) ...	430	473	480	24.7	7.4	5.2
TOTAL ...	17,785	18,167	17,021	2.7	3.4	1.5

DENMARK.†

Employment in December.—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office, 24.4 per cent. of the 169,300 members of the Trade Unions reporting were unemployed at the end of December. In the previous month the corresponding figure was 14.8 per cent., and in December, 1916, 6.0 per cent. The average time lost through unemployment in December was 4.6 days per member reporting, as compared with 3 days per member in November and one day in December, 1916.

It is stated that at the end of December the proportion of unemployed in the building trade was about two-fifths of the total number of workers included in the returns; among labourers it was a third, and in factory trades a sixth. Unemployment has steadily risen since June in consequence of the increasing difficulty of obtaining raw materials from abroad. The industries most affected by these conditions have been the building and furnishing trades, in which unemployment has doubled from month to month since September, the percentages having been 5, 10, 21 and 39 respectively. Among labourers during the last two months the proportion unemployed rose from 21 to 34 per cent., and among factory workers from 11 to 17 per cent.

CANADA.‡

Employment in January.—“In January there was some falling off in employment in steel plants; the large works at the Sydneys reported decreased production due mainly to transportation difficulties. Employment in the metals, machinery and conveyances group was generally good, although some instances of slackness on account of fuel shortage were reported, mainly in the Maritime Provinces. At Toronto machinists and munition workers were wanted, and machinists, moulders and stove-mounters were in demand at many other points in Ontario. Workers in shipyards were especially busy, both in the East and on the Pacific Coast, slackening being reported only from Sorel and Quebec City because of adverse weather conditions.

“In foods employment in sugar refineries was well maintained in the East, except for dullness in beet sugar refineries in Western Ontario; in the West the refinery at Vancouver was operating steadily. Flour and feed mills were brisk, operations continuing day and night in most of the large mills in the West, and the only instances of slackness in cereal mills was reported from Niagara Falls. Employment in meat packing plants was generally good. In confectionery establishments there was some falling off in employment after the Christmas trade, and dullness in the tobacco trade continued in the West, but there was improvement in the East, with workers in demand at the large cigar factories in Hamilton.

“In all branches of the textile industry employment was very good; staffs were increased and much overtime was worked. Seasonal quietness, however, was reported in some of the garment trades at Toronto, Ottawa, Hull, Windsor, Winnipeg, and Vancouver. Workers on caps and gloves were

fairly busy. Employment in pulp and paper mills continued good, although the large mills at Ottawa were hampered by fuel shortage and freight congestion. In the East, workers on beaver board were well employed on orders for Halifax. Employment in printing was good. Many workers in sash, door and planing mills in the Maritime Provinces were well employed on material for reconstruction at Halifax. Employment at woodwork and furniture was good on the whole in the rest of the country except in the Prairie Provinces, where planing mills were quiet. Fairly active conditions prevailed in boot and shoe factories in the Maritime Provinces, but in Quebec there was quietness, except at St. Hyacinthe and Sorel. There was also some improvement for shoe workers in Western Ontario, and leather workers in the West had a fair month.

“In chemicals there was a demand for nitrators and powder hands at Trenton. Lumbering was hampered by heavy snowfalls, especially in the Maritime Provinces. Bushmen were in demand at Montreal, Ottawa, Port Arthur, and Fort William, Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Calgary. The lumber camps, sawmills and shingle mills in British Columbia were generally working to capacity. With the further curtailment of passenger traffic, there was some transfer of passenger trainmen to freight service. Large forces were engaged in clearing the lines of snow, track labourers being reported in demand at Port Arthur and Fort William, Winnipeg and Edmonton. Longshoremen were well employed at Atlantic ports, and were also fairly brisk on the Pacific Coast.

“In metalliferous mining, employment in the Cobalt, Porcupine and Kirkland Lake camps was well maintained except at one or two mines. Copper miners and muckers were in demand at Port Arthur and Fort William. Metal mining in British Columbia was again practically normal after the resumption of operations at the Trail smelter. In coal mines, employment was good in Nova Scotia and production increased, but at Westville there was dullness following a disastrous explosion in one of the mines. Coal miners in the Alberta and British Columbia fields were well employed, and at many points miners were in demand. Employment in the building trades, as indicated by the value of building permits issued in 35 cities, increased 78.68 per cent. as compared with December, and 11.46 per cent. as compared with January, 1917. At Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto there was a demand for carpenters, bricklayers and electricians for work at Halifax. There was some demand for farm labour at the provincial employment bureau at Toronto, and workers for stock farms were wanted at several points in the West.”

Returns received from 1,264 labour organisations, with a total membership of 139,046, or about 87 per cent. of the total trade union membership of the country, report 2.4 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 1.7 per cent. in September and 2.2 per cent. in December, 1916. Trade unionists unemployed on account of trade disputes or disability are not included in these figures.

UNITED STATES.*

Employment in December.—The following Tables, giving comparisons as to the change in the volume of employment in manufacturing establishments in the United States in December, 1917, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) December, 1916, are summarised from data compiled by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics on the basis of reports received from representative establishments in thirteen industries:—

(a) December, 1917, as compared with November, 1917.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.†		
		Nov., 1917.	Dec., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Nov., 1917.	Dec., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
				Per cent.	\$	\$	Per cent.
Iron and steel ...	104	190,985	190,445	- 0.3	2,176,100	2,032,256	- 3.4
Car building and repairing	16	23,464	24,608	+ 4.9	200,049	204,968	+ 2.5
Automobile manufacturing	42	97,216	96,682	- 0.5	520,396	493,256	- 5.2
Cotton manufacturing	52	41,912	42,259	+ 0.8	106,333	111,253	+ 4.6
Cotton finishing	17	12,610	12,875	+ 2.1	42,276	43,988	+ 4.0
Hosiery & underwear	51	29,094	29,693	+ 2.1	74,449	76,642	+ 2.9
Woolen ...	45	39,912	40,559	+ 1.6	140,455	146,048	+ 4.0
Silk ...	34	11,405	11,506	+ 0.9	59,266	59,149	- 0.1
Men's ready-made clothing	34	18,163	18,595	+ 2.4	61,888	65,421	+ 5.7
Boots and shoes	66	52,430	52,465	+ 0.1	164,931	194,742	+ 18.1
Cigar manufacturing	57	20,978	21,081	+ 0.5	66,215	66,029	- 0.3
Leather manufacturing	32	11,526	11,806	+ 2.4	41,804	45,901	+ 9.8
Paper making ...	47	23,555	24,133	+ 2.5	85,574	85,263	- 0.4

In ten of the thirteen industries there were thus more persons on the pay-roll in December, 1917, than in the previous month. Car building and repairing shows the largest relative increase (4.9 per cent.), while silk, automobile manufacturing, and iron and steel show decreases of 0.9, 0.5 and 0.3 per cent. respectively. Eight of the thirteen industries

* *Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics*, February, 1918, Washington.

† The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, car building and silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

reporting show increases and five decreases in the aggregate wages paid in December. Boots and shoes and leather manufacturing show increases of 18.1 and 9.8 per cent. respectively. The greatest decrease indicated (5.2 per cent.) is in automobile manufacturing. The decrease of 3.4 per cent. in the iron and steel industry is stated to be due to a shortage of fuel experienced by many plants during the period under consideration.

(b) December, 1917, as compared with December, 1916.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.*		
		Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
				Per cent.	\$	\$	Per cent.
Iron and steel ...	104	170,431	179,703	+ 5.4	1,457,015	1,974,485	+35.5
Car building and repairing	17	25,482	24,859	- 2.4	188,420	207,300	+10.0
Automobile manufacturing	47	104,638	101,415	- 3.1	451,243	520,198	+15.3
Cotton manufacturing	43	37,165	36,814	- 0.9	78,766	98,341	+24.9
Cotton finishing	17	13,056	12,875	- 1.4	37,360	43,988	+17.7
Hosiery & underwear	58	30,994	31,052	+ 0.2	67,916	79,249	+16.7
Woolen ...	45	37,059	40,599	+ 9.6	105,477	145,496	+37.9
Silk ...	34	10,682	9,710	- 9.1	47,455	48,173	+ 1.5
Men's ready-made clothing	33	15,997	18,540	+15.9	47,159	65,256	+38.4
Boots and shoes	67	57,192	52,674	- 7.9	171,609	176,385	+ 2.8
Cigar manufacturing	57	19,451	20,988	+ 7.9	48,195	56,276	+16.8
Leather manufacturing	34	12,264	12,057	- 1.7	38,115	46,560	+22.1
Paper making ...	47	25,606	25,485	- 0.1	77,865	90,448	+16.2

In five industries out of the thirteen shown in the Table there was an increase in the number of persons employed and in eight a decrease. Men's ready-made clothing shows an increase of 15.9 per cent., and silk a decrease of 9.1 per cent. Each of the industries shows an increase in the aggregate wages for December, 1917, as compared with December, 1916. The greatest increase (38.4 per cent.) took place in men's ready-made clothing; the woolen and iron and steel industries show increases of 37.9 and 35.5 per cent. respectively.

New York State.†

Employment in Manufacturing Industries in January.—“January Returns as to manufacturing activity in New York State, when measured by the number of employees, showed but little difference from December. The change from the latter month to January, 1918, was a decrease of almost 1 per cent. in the number of workers. This is indicated by reports received from a large number of leading factories, including all of the important manufacturing industries and localities in the State. Three of the industry groups—metals and machinery, clothing, and water, light and power—had more employees than during December.

“In securing reports from the representative list of factories the request is made that the pay-roll period should include the 15th of the month. Obviously, the determination of the pay-roll dates rests with the various firms. A majority of the reports cover a period from the Monday preceding the 15th to the following Saturday, which, in January, included two days of the Fuel Administrator's Order, requiring industrial plants to be closed from January 18th to 22nd, inclusive. Due to two factors—that firms with 31 per cent. of the workers included in these reports gave pay-roll dates terminating before 18th January, and that exemptions were granted to firms manufacturing war goods, or deriving power from a source other than fuel—there was a decrease of only 6 per cent. in the aggregate of wages paid when compared with the corresponding figure for December. As compared with January, 1917, the increase in employees was almost 1 per cent., while wages advanced 11 per cent. Corresponding increases over January, 1916, were 12 per cent. in employees and 40 per cent. in wages, and over January, 1915, they were 32 per cent. and 78 per cent. respectively.

“The average weekly per capita earnings of all employees, including both men and women in shops and offices, for one week in January, was £3 10s. 1d., or 3s. 9d. less than that for the previous month. In January, 1917, this figure was £3 3s. 8d., and for January of two and three years ago it was £2 16s. 5d. and £2 11s. 10d. respectively.”

WAR LABOUR ADMINISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

A NEW PROGRAMME.

The Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics for February, 1918, reports that, as the result of a series of conferences between the Federal Department of Labour (Labour Ministry) and the Council of National Defence, a programme of war labour administration has been drawn up and has received the approval of the President.

* The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, car building and silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

† *The Bulletin*. The Journal of the New York State Industrial Commission. February, 1918. Albany, N.Y.

The purpose in view is to secure uniformity in labour policy amongst the various agencies for the provision, distribution, housing and general welfare of workpeople in war industries. For this purpose all such agencies have been centred in the Ministry of Labour, and the Minister has been made in effect the Labour Administrator of the Government.

To assist him in formulating the scheme proposed, the Minister has appointed a council comprising representatives of the employers, the workpeople, and the general public. To these have been added representatives of the War and Navy Departments and of the Shipping Board. The task of the advisory council is to assist the Minister in formulating and efficiently executing policies which will command the approval and support of employers, workpeople and the public throughout the United States. The council was appointed early in January, and on the 28th of that month issued a programme of labour administration which has been approved by the Minister of Labour.

The Council proposes the utilisation of the public agencies or services which are already in existence, and which are appropriate for the purposes in view, and contemplates the organisation of six new agencies to be set up under the Ministry of Labour. The existing agencies include the system of employment exchanges, machinery for the adjustment of labour disputes, and the Bureau of Labour Statistics. The new services to be created will provide for controlling the conditions of labour in business undertakings (safety, sanitation, &c.); for promoting local machinery and policies in individual firms; for safeguarding conditions with regard to the employment of women and children; for the adequate training of workpeople and the dilution of skilled workers; and for securing proper living conditions, including housing, transportation, &c. “Industrial service” sections similar to the above which are already in existence under other Government departments will be organised under the same general scheme that governs the new services, but their activities are to be centralised and cleared through the appropriate controlling sections of the Ministry of Labour. The new administration is to be directed by the Minister, who will be assisted by a board, which will consist of the advisory council, the heads of the industrial service sections of other Governmental departments or bureaus, and the heads of the existing bureaus of his own department.

THE INDUSTRIAL SITUATION IN AUSTRIA.

The following account of the industrial situation produced in Austria by the war is taken from *Die Zeit* of 3rd March:—

“A general yearning for peace pervades industry; there is probably not a single group, indeed, hardly a solitary firm which is not filled with the desire to see a speedy end to the war. High war profits belong to the past; the war market reached its zenith in 1916; it began to fall early in 1917, and is at present approaching collapse. As the war goes on difficulties with regard to production increase and other drawbacks become apparent, the effect of which is to diminish profits. The industries are few which are working to full capacity. Lack of raw materials and half-manufactured goods is very much felt; it is becoming more and more difficult to procure the necessary supplies of coal, coke, iron, and textile materials; the provisioning of the workpeople is a matter of the greatest anxiety; the railway service is in an abnormal condition, and the stoppages of traffic are more frequent and for longer periods. For the last six months orders from the War Office have much decreased, military operations, with the exception of the Italian offensive last autumn, having been only a fraction of their former extent. The military stores have supplies of many articles sufficient for several months; in some cases they are over-stocked, so that, notwithstanding the continuance of the war, many of the armament factories are compelled to reduce production for weeks at a time; in some cases, indeed, they have to close down. Others, in consequence of the meagre supplies of raw materials, are compelled to limit their output to what is absolutely indispensable. Prices are very high, having rapidly risen during 1917. The Government have accordingly been compelled repeatedly to grant increased prices, while cost of production and other charges have risen even more rapidly. The profits of many firms have been decreasing for some time, and with some companies must already have reached a level below that of peace times. Certain concerns are working without profits, the diminished output representing not half the capacity. Dividends for the year 1917 are generally high, most of the concerns drawing on their reserves; with many firms in the heavy iron industries, however, reductions are contemplated, and the year 1918 will see lower dividends.

“Industry sees peace is approaching and is preparing itself for new activities. . . . The war will now be waged on a single front, and manufacturing circles are asking that the production of war materials shall be confined to a portion of the industry, the other part being then free to take in hand the reorganisation of industry for purposes of production in peace time. . . . Numerous complaints have been made with regard to the unequal distribution of raw materials. It is stated that the shortage would not have been so great if Government factories had not so lavishly secured their own supplies for months ahead, while private concerns could not obtain the quantities necessary to keep their works going.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Department of Labour.

† *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 7th March, 1918. Statistical Department, Copenhagen.

‡ *The Labour Gazette*, February, 1918. Published by the Canadian Labour Department, Ottawa.

Provision must be made for those undertakings—especially locomotive and wagon factories—whose output it is necessary to maintain in the interests of the general public and the State. During four years of war the rolling stock of the railways has suffered great wear and tear, and new stock is absolutely necessary. The lack of wagons is very marked in the coal districts, and in other industries it hinders the supplies of raw materials and the delivery of manufactured articles. At the same time locomotive and wagon factories are suffering from the want of iron and coal, and are only able to fill their contracts incompletely and with much delay. In all the industries the greatest importance is attached to improving and regulating the supply of foodstuffs. Conditions in this respect have become worse during January and February, and many difficult weeks must still be experienced. Peace with the Ukraine and later with Rumania will, it is hoped, form an avenue through which imports, which have been barred out for the last four years, will again be let in, whereby the present time of privation will be terminated."

STATE RAILWAY SERVANTS IN HUNGARY: RESTRICTION OF RIGHT TO COMBINE AND TO STRIKE.*

THE Director-General of State Railways in Hungary has issued an Order containing the following provisions, among others:—

Employees of State railways of Hungary may not belong to any associations the aims of which are hostile to the nation, or which, in the view of the Minister of Commerce, are irreconcilable with the interests of the railway service.

Employees taking part in strikes or in systematic neglect of the railway service, with the object of hindering traffic, will be liable to immediate dismissal. In addition, as every member of the staff is a public official, these offences will be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN CANADA IN 1917.†

THE number of disputes which began in Canada in 1917 was 141. In addition 7 were carried over from 1916, making a total of 148 in progress in the course of the year. Four remained unterminated on 31st December. The number of workpeople involved in the 148 disputes was 48,329, and the number of employers 714. The total time lost was estimated at 1,134,970 working days. There are only three years out of the seventeen during which departmental records have been kept in which the days lost exceeded this total, viz., 1903, 1911 and 1913.

The most serious disputes in the year occurred in the coal mining areas in British Columbia and Alberta, known as District No. 18 of the United Mine Workers of America. One dispute in this district involved a loss of 512,075 days, or 45 per cent. of the total time lost in the year.

A large number of disputes were of minor importance. In about 32 per cent. of the cases not more than 650 workpeople were affected, and in about half of these the number did not exceed 100. In a large proportion of the disputes also the time lost was comparatively small. In 42 per cent. of the disputes the number of working days lost was under 500. The great majority of the disputes were of short duration; in one-third of the cases the dispute was terminated in 5 days or less, in 56 per cent. in less than 10 days, and in 69 per cent. in less than 15 days. Twenty-two of the disputes, or 15 per cent. of the total, continued for more than 30 days.

A demand for higher wages was the dominant cause in 65 per cent. of the disputes. In 15 cases, or 10 per cent. of the total, the dispute was due to a demand for shorter hours. In about 3 per cent. of the disputes it was a demand for recognition of the Union, "closed shop," or other Trade Union principles.

The figures show that 82 disputes, or 55 per cent. of the total number, terminated in favour of the workpeople, while 31 disputes, or 21 per cent. of the total, terminated in favour of the employers. In 29 disputes, or 20 per cent. of the total, the disputes ended in a compromise, and in 6, or 4 per cent., were indefinite or still in progress. Of the total number of workpeople concerned, 62 per cent. were involved in disputes which resulted in favour of the workers, 13 per cent. in disputes which terminated in favour of employers, and 23 per cent. in disputes which were compromised.

As to methods of settlement, 89 disputes, or 60 per cent. of the total, were settled by direct negotiations between the parties, and 13 disputes, or about 9 per cent., by conciliation or mediation, while in 11 cases, or about 7 per cent. of the total, settlement was effected by arbitration. Four disputes were settled by reference to Boards of Conciliation under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act.

* Pester Lloyd, March 5th, 1918.

† The Labour Gazette, February, 1918. Published by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

FRANCE.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPING CO-OPERATION.

A FRENCH decree* dated 22nd February, 1918, establishes a permanent council, attached to the Ministry of Labour and Social Thrift, whose functions shall be to study all questions relating to the development of the co-operative movement. The Council is to consist of forty-three members, as follows: Fifteen members selected from the Legislature, Government Departments, the Bank of France, and the University Professors of Law; twelve members elected by co-operative distributive societies or federations thereof; a representative of groups of purchasers other than co-operative distributive societies; a person chosen by the Minister from a list put forward by distributive societies; twelve members elected by co-operative productive societies of working-men, a representative selected by the Minister from names put forward by such productive societies; and a representative, also selected by the Minister, from a list supplied by co-operative banks of working-men. Each member is elected for a period of three years. The Council is to be divided into two independent sections, one representing productive, and the other distributive co-operation. Each section is to meet separately at least once in each year, or on dates fixed by the chairman, or on demand of half the number of its members. The duty of the Council or of each section is to examine questions which shall be submitted to it by the Minister. The Council is to meet in full session on dates to be fixed by ministerial decree. The subjects in respect of which the Council will be asked to give its opinion comprise the following: legislation or administrative regulations directly or indirectly affecting co-operation; the relations of co-operative societies for production and distribution with public authorities generally and with vocational groups; the relations of such societies with other forms of co-operation, and with industry and commerce; and the position of co-operation with respect to the defence of the interests of consumers and of producers.

COURSE OF WAGES IN THE GERMAN MINING INDUSTRY.

THE issue of *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger* for 25th March contains the periodical statistics relating to the Prussian mining industry—the numbers employed, shifts worked, and earnings, the figures in this case relating to the fourth quarter of 1917. By comparing the statement with the similar report for the second quarter of 1914 it is possible to compute the percentage rise in earnings in each district and for each of the principal classes of workers between the two periods. In the following Table the comparison has been confined to men.

It has not been possible to take into account the changes in composition of the body of workpeople in each of the three groups distinguished in the Table (as to which see THE LABOUR GAZETTE for January, page 10), and to that extent the comparison between the earnings per shift in the two periods is subject to some qualifications.

The following Table shows the average sum earned per shift worked by men employed in various branches of the mining industry in Germany in the last quarter of 1917, and the percentage increase in earnings between the second quarter of 1914 and that period:—

Mining District.	Underground Workers.				Surface Workers.			
	Hewers and Trammers.		Others.					
	Net Earnings per shift 4th Qr. of 1917.	Increase over 2nd Qr. of 1914.	Net Earnings per shift 4th Qr. of 1917.	Increase over 2nd Qr. of 1914.	Net Earnings per shift 4th Qr. of 1917.	Increase over 2nd Qr. of 1914.	Net Earnings per shift 4th Qr. of 1917.	Increase over 2nd Qr. of 1914.
	s. d.	Per cent.	s. d.	Per cent.	s. d.	Per cent.	s. d.	Per cent.
Coal.								
Upper Silesia	9 3	93.2	6 8	90.4	6 0	88.0		
Lower Silesia	7 2	85.0	6 4	84.0	5 2	68.2		
Dortmund	11 4	85.9	7 7	70.6	7 2	67.5		
Saarbrücken (State Mines)	10 2	102.8	7 9	90.8	7 7	99.2		
Aix-la-Chapelle	10 1	88.2	7 1	48.7	6 3	54.4		
Lower Rhine, Left Bank ...	11 7	92.3	7 11	60.7	7 0	62.1		
Lignite.								
Halle	7 0	71.7	6 0	69.1	5 10	70.5		
Rhine, Left Bank	8 10	93.1	7 4	69.5	8 3	104.2		
Metalliferous Ores.								
<i>Copper.</i>								
Mansfeld	8 2	116.7	7 4	97.4	6 7	86.4		
<i>Other.</i>								
Oberharz	8 7	110.9	7 9	98.0	6 4	100.3		
Siegen	9 6	92.8	6 10	68.8	6 7	64.6		
Nassau and Wetzlar	6 4	74.3	5 2	50.9	5 3	53.9		
Rhine, Right Bank	7 11	79.1	6 0	54.6	6 0	73.1		
Rhine, Left Bank	6 2	71.0	5 1	63.7	5 4	78.4		
Salt.								
Halle	7 2	54.7	6 1	49.4	5 10	54.4		
Clausthal	7 4	49.8	6 3	52.5	5 10	50.5		

* The text of the decree is given in the *Journal Officiel* of 15th March.

If the number of men employed above and below ground in each district be taken into consideration, the mean increase is computed to be about 87 per cent. for hewers and trammers, 76 per cent. for other underground workers, and 74 per cent. for surface workers. The mean increase in earnings for all men together, taking into consideration the respective numbers of each category of workers, is calculated to be about 81 per cent. above the level of the second quarter of 1914. The rise during the last quarter of 1917 alone amounted to 4 per cent.

Since, however, the latest available data as to the number of men employed in the various districts relate to 1912, these general percentages can only be regarded as approximately correct.

WAGES IN THE PRUSSIAN RAILWAY SERVICE, 1913-1916.

THE following particulars are taken from a summary (published in the *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger* of 12th March, 1918) of the report on the working of the Amalgamated Prussian and Hessian State Railways in 1916, which has recently been laid before the Prussian Diet.

The mean number of railway servants of the working-class and subordinate "official" categories employed in the course of 1916 on the Prussian and Hessian railway systems was 548,872, an increase compared with the previous year of 14,623, or 2.7 per cent. This increase took place in spite of a reduction of the male staff from 511,459 to 493,327 (3.7 per cent.), and was effected by expanding the female staff from 22,700 to 55,545 (145 per cent.).

The following Table shows the progressive rise in pay recorded since 1913 and 1915 for each of the principal categories of railway servants distinguished in the report. For each category the average earnings per shift is arrived at by dividing the total number of shifts worked by the group in the course of the year into the total wage-bill of the group for that year:—

Service Category.	Average Wage per Shift Worked.			Increase in 1916 compared with	
	1913.	1915.	1916.	1913.	1915.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Intermediate grade technical staff (paid monthly)	7 5	8 2	8 11	26.7	10.0
Stores and material branch subordinate indoor staff, including ticket printers, messengers, store-keepers and clerks	3 10	3 11	4 2	9.8	8.1
Station staff subordinate grades, including wagon loaders, goods guards, booking clerks, telegraphists, pointmen, points-women, shunters	3 7	3 10	4 3	16.9	10.9
Permanent way signalmen, watchmen, flagmen, linekeepers, level crossing keepers, &c.	3 0	3 3	3 8	20.5	13.5
Permanent way maintenance, including platelayers' gangers, gravel getters, telegraph line repairers and workers at sleeper impregnating works, &c.	3 2	3 4	4 0	29.2	21.2
Locomotive staff, including drivers and firemen	3 5	4 7	5 2	51.2	11.5
Travelling staff, other than drivers and firemen (guards, conductors, &c.)	3 3	4 1	4 5	38.1	8.6
Head office staff, subordinate grades (including lithographers, file-binders of official papers, messengers, firelighters and charwomen)	3 9	4 0	4 5	17.9	10.3
Various workers at and about stations, other than those forming group 3 above (including luggage porters, workers in goods sheds, coal loaders, water pumpers, shunters, carriage cleaners, engine cleaners, workers at electric light and power stations and at gas works, &c.)	3 9	4 0	4 7	22.2	13.5
Workshops:—					
Subordinate officials and foremen	4 5	5 0	5 11	34.1	18.2
Skilled artisans:—					
Time-work	5 1	6 1	7 6	47.4	23.5
Piece-work	5 7	6 5	7 11	41.9	23.3
Semi-skilled artisans:—					
Time-work	4 9	5 6	6 10	45.9	24.2
Piece-work	5 3	5 11	7 2	37.5	21.3
Unskilled:—					
Time-work	4 0	4 5	5 0	23.5	12.8
Piece-work	4 7	4 10	6 0	30.9	24.0

For all classes taken together the average wages per shift in 1916 worked out at 4s. 11d., as compared with 3s. 9d. in 1913, a rise of 31 per cent. It may be assumed that a somewhat greater rise would have had to be recorded but for the considerable substitution of women for men in various branches of the railway service since 1913. The full extent of that substitution is not manifest from the figures given above, which relate to the years 1915 and 1916 only. According to *Soziale Praxis* of 10th January, the number of women employed by the Prussian-Hessian State Railways before the outbreak of war was barely 10,000, but by the beginning of the present year had reached 100,000; a still more extended use of woman labour was, moreover, in contemplation. On the

authority of the Prussian Minister of Railways, the same journal states that "where mental capacity has to be combined with manual skill and activity, women cannot take the place of men in the railway service. . . . Where it is particularly a question of physical qualities being required, as in the workshops, repair of the line, and the like, the labour output of women does not exceed 50 to 75 per cent. of that of men."

COAL SHORTAGE IN GERMANY: COMPENSATION TO WORKPEOPLE: A TREASURY GRANT.

THE *Correspondenzblatt* for 16th February, 1918, reports the results of "difficult and protracted conferences" between representatives of Trade Unions, of Employers' Associations, and of Government Departments in regard to the payment of compensation to workpeople for loss of wages consequent upon the shortage of coal.

Ultimately, an understanding was reached as to the method and the amount of the compensation. This is to be restricted to establishments deemed to be important for the production of munitions or the preparation of food. The Federal Council on 21st January approved proposals submitted by the Imperial Economic Office, and stipulated that grants from the Imperial Treasury for compensation shall be available only when such compensation is made in accordance with the principles recommended as a result of the conferences.

The compensation will be payable only in respect of stoppages occurring between 2nd January and 31st December, 1918, in direct or indirect consequence of the shortage of coal. If at any establishment there occurs a stoppage caused by the non-delivery of some semi-manufactured product, such non-delivery being due to the shortage of coal, the workpeople affected in that establishment will be entitled to compensation. In cases of doubt, the War Department is to decide whether any particular stoppage was or was not due to the shortage of coal.

The representatives of the employers have assumed the obligation of ensuring that all the establishments concerned shall recognise the agreement and co-operate in carrying it out. The War Department has expressed its intention of exerting its influence to enforce the general payment of compensation in accordance with the agreement.

The Trade Unions are urged by the *Correspondenzblatt* to take prompt steps to see that the agreement shall be carried out efficiently and promptly.

Amongst the conditions laid down for making Treasury grants to employers in order to enable them to pay compensation are the following:—

Compensation will be payable whenever the total hours worked in any one week fall short of the normal working hours, and will accrue in respect of the hours so lost. In a given week, however, compensation will not, as a rule, accrue in respect of a loss of more than five normal working days (without overtime). This proviso does not apply to cases in which the stoppage of work extends beyond a week.

The workpeople must be prepared to perform, for suitable wages, work other than that on which they are usually engaged; and if they refuse to do so, compensation will not be payable.

For workers whose average earnings fall below a specified limit, the compensation will be at the full rate of such earnings. The more highly paid workers will be compensated at the rate of 70 per cent. only of their average earnings.

In respect of loss of work to the extent of five normal working days in any week, the employer alone is to be responsible for the payment of compensation. In respect of time lost in excess of that limit, the Imperial Treasury will reimburse five-sevenths of the amount of the compensation payable to the workpeople.

RECENT CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN CANADA.

ACCORDING to a statement published in the February issue of *The Labour Gazette*, the journal of the Canadian Department of Labour, 33 changes in rates of wages and hours of labour, affecting approximately 21,400 workpeople, were reported to the Department as having occurred during the last quarter of 1917. In the preceding quarter 41 changes were reported, by which approximately 22,000 workpeople were affected. Twenty-six of the 33 changes were wage increases, without other changes; 5 were increases accompanied by a reduction in hours of labour; one a reduction in hours of labour; and one a reduction in wages. In the manufacturing and mechanical group of industries 8 changes were reported, by which approximately 6,363 workpeople were affected, the great majority of whom were employed in the metals, machinery and conveyances trades. In the transportation group 7 changes were reported, affecting 5,920 workpeople. Only 3 changes occurred in the mining industry, but the number of workpeople affected, viz., 8,100, was greater than that in any other group.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING MARCH.

(1) SUMMARY TABLES.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED" TRADES.

(a) The following Table shows the number insured and percentage unemployed among workpeople covered by the National Insurance Acts, 1911 to 1916:

Trade.	Numbers Insured.			Percentage Unemployed at end of Mar., 1918.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
	Males.*	Females	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	454,290	3,203	457,493	0.54	+ 0.10	- 0.27
Construction of Works	100,766	1,677	102,443	0.41	+ 0.01	+ 0.03
Shipbuilding	237,325	7,563	244,888	0.28	...	- 0.02
Engineering & Ironfounding	937,621	383,644	1,321,265	0.97	+ 0.13	+ 0.36
Construction of Vehicles	156,818	16,966	173,784	0.47	...	+ 0.10
Sawmilling	8,684	474	9,158	0.55	- 0.05	+ 0.25
Other Insured Workpeople	40,029	138	40,167	0.08	- 0.02	- 0.02
Total Insured under Act of 1911	1,935,536	418,665	2,354,201	0.74	+ 0.06	+ 0.16
Iron and Steel Manufacture	144,248	7,040	151,288	0.30	+ 0.07	+ 0.09
Tinplate Manufacture	13,955	4,139	18,094	0.13	+ 0.01	+ 0.05
Wire Manufacture	16,789	8,036	24,825	1.06	+ 0.04	+ 0.75
Anchors, Chains, Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Rivets, &c.	11,938	14,578	26,516	0.61	+ 0.05	+ 0.19
Brass	16,051	6,936	22,987	0.72	- 0.08	+ 0.50
Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc, &c.	23,107	12,521	35,628	0.45	+ 0.01	+ 0.10
Hardware and Hollow-ware	46,680	48,400	95,080	1.07	+ 0.05	+ 0.37
Tools, Files, Saws, Implements, Cutlery	18,343	6,811	25,154	0.31	...	+ 0.03
Clocks, Plate, Jewellery	7,771	7,213	14,984	0.14	+ 0.01	- 0.13
Needles, Pins, Typefounding, Dies, &c.	2,666	7,069	9,735	0.23	+ 0.01	+ 0.06
Electrical, Scientific, &c., Appliances and Apparatus	30,417	28,030	58,447	0.78	+ 0.13	+ 0.17
Miscellaneous Metal	2,359	7,265	9,624	0.71	+ 0.13	- 0.03
Ammunition and Explosives	53,122	226,603	279,725	2.91	+ 0.56	+ 1.70
Chemicals	69,852	33,776	103,628	1.19	+ 0.32	+ 0.66
Leather and Leather Goods	28,546	26,273	54,819	0.81	+ 0.05	+ 0.38
Brick, Tile, and Artificial Building Materials	19,191	7,937	27,128	0.40	+ 0.02	+ 0.02
Sawmilling, Machined Wood-work and Wooden Casest	48,435	30,649	79,084	2.38	+ 0.35	+ 1.20
Rubber and Manufactures thereof	19,283	33,355	52,638	1.04	+ 0.08	+ 0.09
Other Insured Workpeople	36,536	182,572	219,108	1.94	+ 0.29	+ 0.23
Total Insured under Act of 1916	609,259	699,213	1,308,472	1.49	+ 0.24	+ 0.63

(b) The following Table shows for males and females separately the numbers and percentages of workpeople unemployed:

Trade.	Numbers Unemployed at end of March, 1918.		Percentage Unemployed at end of March.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a month ago.	
	Males.*	Females	Males.	Females	Males.	Females
Building	2,387	93	0.53	2.90	- 0.11	+ 1.21
Construction of Works	377	47	0.37	2.80	+ 0.02	+ 0.59
Shipbuilding	500	177	0.21	2.34	- 0.01	+ 0.07
Engineering & Ironfounding	3,53	9,344	0.31	2.40	+ 0.03	+ 0.37
Construction of Vehicles	551	274	0.35	1.61	- 0.01	+ 0.13
Sawmilling	39	11	0.45	2.32	- 0.11	+ 0.42
Other Insured Workpeople	34	...	0.08	...	- 0.02	- 0.72
Total Insured under Act of 1911	7,441	9,946	0.38	2.38	- 0.02	+ 0.37
Iron and Steel Manufacture	134	314	0.09	4.46	+ 0.02	+ 0.91
Tinplate Manufacture	6	17	0.04	0.41	+ 0.02	- 0.02
Wire Manufacture	22	241	0.13	3.00	+ 0.02	+ 0.08
Anchors, Chains, Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Rivets, &c.	17	145	0.14	0.99	+ 0.01	+ 0.08
Brass	72	93	0.45	1.34	+ 0.05	- 0.39
Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc, &c.	45	116	0.19	0.93	+ 0.03	- 0.02
Hardware and Hollow-ware	157	861	0.34	1.78	- 0.02	+ 0.13
Tools, Files, Saws, Implements, Cutlery	16	61	0.09	0.90	+ 0.01	- 0.02
Clocks, Plate, Jewellery	11	10	0.14	0.14	+ 0.01	...
Needles, Pins, Typefounding, Dies, &c.	7	20	0.26	0.28	+ 0.07	- 0.02
Electrical, Scientific, &c., Appliances and Apparatus	114	342	0.37	1.22	+ 0.01	+ 0.25
Miscellaneous Metal	14	54	0.59	0.74	+ 0.17	+ 0.11
Ammunition and Explosives	957	7,172	1.30	3.17	+ 0.77	+ 0.50
Chemicals	405	826	0.58	2.45	+ 0.11	+ 0.73
Leather and Leather Goods	127	317	0.45	1.21	- 0.04	+ 0.15
Brick, Tile, and Artificial Building Materials	45	63	0.23	0.79	+ 0.07	- 0.13
Sawmilling, Machined Wood-work and Wooden Casest	395	1,486	0.82	4.85	+ 0.06	+ 0.81
Rubber and Manufactures thereof	91	454	0.47	1.38	- 0.13	+ 0.20
Other Insured Workpeople	439	3,820	1.20	2.09	+ 0.24	+ 0.31
Total Insured under Act of 1916	3,074	16,412	0.50	2.35	+ 0.10	+ 0.36

* Exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.

† Excluding workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,068,154 reported 12,397 (or 1.2 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of March, 1918, compared with 0.9 per cent. at the end of February, 1918, and 0.3 per cent. at the end of March, 1917.

Trade.	Membership at end of Mar., 1918, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces	Unemployed at end of Mar., 1918.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-centage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building*	85,334	197	0.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Coal Mining	118,656	16	0.0	...	...
Iron and Steel	19,844	37	0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Engineering	318,322	370	0.1	...	...
Shipbuilding	84,149	118	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Miscellaneous Metal	51,217	62	0.1	...	...
Textiles:—					
Cotton	81,834	10,513	12.8†	+ 3.9	+ 12.0
Woolen and Worsted	7,855	186	2.4	+ 2.3	+ 2.4
Other	81,459	361	0.4	...	+ 0.3
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	51,557	168	0.3	...	- 0.2
Furnishing	16,688	63	0.4	- 0.4	- 1.1
Woodworking	32,470	115	0.4	...	+ 0.1
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe	53,348	64	0.1	...	...
Other Clothing	40,461	3	0.0	...	...
Leather	4,772	114	2.4	- 0.1	+ 1.5
Glass	789	2	0.3	...	+ 0.2
Pottery	17,265	6	0.0	...	- 0.1
Tobacco	2,143	2	0.1	...	- 0.4
Total	1,068,154	12,397	1.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.9

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Mar., 1918.	March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining	547,632	5.62	+ 0.14	+ 0.24
Iron	17,462	5.92	- 0.06	- 0.01
Shale	5,072	6.00	...	+ 0.06
Pig Iron	31,200	Days worked per week by mines.	No.	No.
		5.62	...	...
		5.92	...	...
		6.00	...	...
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	18,000	Furnaces in Blast. 295	+ 1	+ 5
Iron and Steel	118,708	Mills Working 815 Shifts Worked (one week). 680,134	- 1.3	+ 4.7

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number employed.				Wages paid.				
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Textiles:—									
Cotton	114,428	- 2.6	- 13.6	163,846	- 2.2	+ 1.0			
Woolen	19,540	- 0.2	- 4.5	31,061	+ 0.9	+ 11.8			
Worsted	31,821	- 1.1	- 4.5	43,404	- 0.4	+ 8.6			
Linen	41,284	- 0.5	+ 2.9	46,339	- 0.7	+ 30.4			
Jute	9,563	- 0.8	- 6.0	12,891	- 6.7	+ 8.3			
Hosiery	22,153	+ 0.1	- 2.7	29,155	+ 0.6	+ 21.1			
Lace	8,049	- 0.3	- 3.9	11,882	+ 1.4	+ 12.2			
Other Textiles	11,620	+ 0.7	- 1.0	14,107	+ 0.8	+ 14.9			
Bleaching, &c.	23,312	- 0.6	- 4.3	50,468	- 0.6	+ 10.9			
Total Textiles	281,750	- 1.3	- 7.3	403,153	- 1.2	+ 9.0			
Boot and Shoe	47,888	- 0.8	- 6.3	82,097	- 0.6	+ 14.9			
Shirt and Collar	14,430	+ 0.6	- 4.7	15,598	+ 4.7	+ 19.4			
Ready-made Tailoring	23,639	+ 0.5	+ 5.1	39,614	+ 4.9	+ 36.4			
Printing & Bookbinding	29,031	- 0.1	- 2.5	51,130	+ 0.6	+ 18.1			
Pottery	15,678	- 0.5	- 3.3	23,908	+ 3.7	+ 15.5			
Glass	9,240	+ 1.9	- 2.5	19,767	+ 2.5	+ 13.1			
Brick	5,370	+ 1.2	+ 2.3	11,066	+ 0.7	+ 24.0			
Cement	5,270	+ 1.5	+ 1.0	12,739	+ 3.1	+ 28.2			
Food Preparation	47,373	- 0.6	- 11.1	75,688	+ 2.4	+ 15.2			
Grand Total	484,669	- 0.8	- 6.2	731,760	+ 0.2	+ 13.1			

* This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.
† This percentage is high because it includes some of those in receipt of Control pay. Such persons are not discharged, but merely "play off" in rotation one week out of four or more according to circumstances. It is a kind of organised short time.

(2) EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

[NOTE.—The numbers given in the following Tables represent the totals of workpeople covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries.]

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during March continued good. Compared with February there was a decrease of 1,024 (or 0.2 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed at collieries making returns, and an increase of 4,274 (or 0.8 per cent.) on a year ago. Of the 547,632 workpeople included in the returns for March, 271,948 (or 49.7 per cent.) were employed at pits working twelve* days during the fortnight to which the returns relate, and a further 178,551 (or 32.6 per cent.) were employed at pits working eleven but less than twelve days.

District.	No. of Work-people employed in Mar., 1918, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1918, on a	
		23rd Mar., 1918.	23rd Feb., 1918.	24th Mar., 1917.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	39,107	5.38	5.15	3.70	+ 0.21	+ 1.66
Durham	95,983	5.23	5.16	4.82	+ 0.07	+ 0.41
Cumberland	6,478	5.58	5.71	5.67	- 0.13	- 0.09
South Yorkshire	58,969	5.93	5.89	5.91	+ 0.04	+ 0.02
West Yorkshire	22,273	5.86	5.89	5.88	- 0.03	- 0.02
Lancashire and Cheshire	51,749	5.96	5.90	5.91	+ 0.06	+ 0.05
Derbyshire	32,279	5.83	5.85	5.83	- 0.02	...
Nottingham and Leicester	30,227	5.70	5.66	5.68	+ 0.04	+ 0.02
Staffordshire	28,729	5.93	5.93	5.80	...	+ 0.13
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop	8,066	5.87	5.87	5.84	...	+ 0.03
Gloucester and Somerset	5,747	5.97	5.97	5.92	...	+ 0.05
North Wales	10,475	5.98	6.00	5.94	- 0.02	+ 0.04
South Wales and Mon. ...	109,744	5.53	5.03	5.56	+ 0.50	- 0.03
ENGLAND AND WALES...	499,831	5.64	5.49			

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works was very good, but showed a slight decline on a month ago; it was better than a year ago. Shortage of labour continued to be reported from every district.

According to returns relating to 118,708 workpeople, the number of shifts worked during the week ended 23rd March, 1918, was 680,134, showing a decrease of 9,121 (or 1.3 per cent.) on a month ago, and an increase of 30,409 (or 4.7 per cent.) on a year ago.

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts worked.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Month ago.	
					Month ago.	Year ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	12,744	+ 2.1	75,503	+ 1.8	+ 10.3	
Crucible Furnaces	640	- 2.6	3,685	- 1.1	- 0.2	
Bessemer Converters	1,728	- 0.5	9,301	- 2.2	- 8.4	
Puddling Forges	7,400	+ 0.6	39,198	+ 2.4	+ 4.1	
Rolling Mills	82,725	- 0.3	477,349	+ 1.3	+ 1.4	
Forging and Pressing	5,883	+ 1.2	33,719	+ 1.2	+ 10.6	
Founding	17,161	- 3.4	102,321	- 3.6	+ 3.1	
Other Departments	14,590	+ 0.6	84,915	+ 0.1	+ 7.8	
Mechanics, Labourers, &c.	25,837	+ 3.7	154,141	- 3.4	+ 5.3	
TOTAL	118,708	- 1.0	680,134	- 1.3	+ 4.7	

ENGINEERING TRADES.

THESE trades continued to be extremely busy during March, and a great amount of overtime was worked.

Trade Unions with 318,322 members (mostly in skilled occupations) reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, compared with 0.1 per cent. a month ago and 0.1 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act:

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1918, on a	
		29th Mar., 1918.	22nd Feb., 1918.	30th Mar., 1917.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties	110,301	0.41	0.35	0.27	+ 0.06	+ 0.14
North-Western	235,973	1.55	1.24	0.75	+ 0.31	+ 0.80
Yorkshire	159,100	0.65	0.54	0.37	+ 0.11	+ 0.28
East Midlands	80,848	1.04	1.12	0.44	- 0.08	+ 0.61
West Midlands	180,925	0.54	0.41	0.40	+ 0.10	+ 0.14
Eastern and S.E. Counties	97,647	1.01	0.90	0.44	+ 0.11	+ 0.57
South-Western	56,432	0.65	0.56	0.31	+ 0.09	+ 0.31
Wales	27,457	1.20	0.60	0.37	+ 0.60	+ 0.83
Scotland	181,257	0.61	0.48	0.35	+ 0.13	+ 0.26
Ireland	25,402	2.28	2.45	1.55	- 0.17	+ 0.73
UNITED KINGDOM	1,326,265	0.97	0.84	0.61	+ 0.13	+ 0.36

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, with overtime in operation to a large extent.

Trade Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and shipwrights with 84,149 members reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, compared with 0.2 per cent. a month ago and 0.3 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured under Part II. of the National Insurance Act:

* Figures not available.

Divisor.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1918, on a	
		29th Mar., 1918.	22nd Feb., 1918.	30th Mar., 1917.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties	54,893	0.20	0.19	0.27	+ 0.01	- 0.07
North-Western	36,061	0.15	0.15	0.25	...	- 0.10
Yorkshire	6,687	0.24	0.15	0.30	+ 0.09	- 0.06
East Midlands	2,180	0.69	0.93	0.53	...	- 0.54
West Midlands	1,105	0.27	0.13	0.16	+ 0.09	- 0.01
Eastern and S.E. Counties	7,067	0.24	0.23	0.33	...	+ 0.11
South-Western	21,904	0.15	0.20	0.23	- 0.05	- 0.03
Wales	11,855	0.62	0.40	0.37	+ 0.22	+ 0.25
Scotland	72,931	0.09	0.10	0.08	- 0.01	+ 0.01
Ireland	19,909	1.08	1.14	1.07	- 0.06	+ 0.01
UNITED KINGDOM	244,891	0.23	0.23	0.30	...	- 0.02

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

THE following Table shows the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of March, 1918, at the works covered by the returns received:

Works.	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate	73	...	- 1	254	+ 1	+ 2
Steel Sheet	11	...	...	61	...	+ 3
TOTAL	84	...	- 1	315	+ 1	+ 5

The number of tinplate mills working at the end of March showed an increase of one compared with the previous month and of two on a year ago. Difficulties in securing supplies of raw materials continued to be reported.

The number of mills making steel and galvanised sheets working at the end of March showed no change from a month ago, but there was an increase of three on a year ago.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in nearly all of these trades, and showed no change as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with 51,217 members had 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of March and February, 1918.

Brasswork.—Employment with brassworkers continued very good, and much overtime was reported to be worked.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment on the Tyne was fairly good; it was very good at Blackheath and Halesowen, and good at Birmingham, Smethwick and Darlaston. Employment continued very good with shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham and Smethwick.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—At Sheffield employment in the cutlery trades was not quite so good as in the previous month; in the file trades it was very good. With edge tool makers it was good at Birmingham and Wednesbury. With bit and stirrup makers and saddle and harness furniture makers at Walsall employment continued fair.

Tubes.—Employment continued good at Birmingham and Wednesbury, and in South Wales.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—Employment was good with anchor makers and very good with cable and block chain makers; it continued good with anvil and vice makers at Dudley, and with axle and spring makers at Wednesbury.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Sheet metal workers were well employed, with a large amount of overtime worked.

Wire.—Employment continued good. Hollow-ware, &c.—In the Midlands galvanised hollow-ware trade employment continued very good, with a considerable amount of overtime worked; it was very good in the tin and enamelled ware trade, and continued good in the cast-iron hollow-ware trade.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment continued very fair, with a shortage of labour.

COTTON TRADE.

OWING to further restrictions on the use of machinery, imposed by the Cotton Control Board during March (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1918, page 94), employment was worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the spinning department employment was moderate in districts using American cotton, but good in those using Egyptian; in the weaving department it was on the whole moderate. About 10 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns received were on control pay towards the end of March, as

* Figures not available.

compared with about 7 per cent. towards the end of February.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing	13,593	- 0.9	- 11.1	18,389	- 0.8	+ 1.2
Spinning	25,640	- 2.6	- 11.0	36,702	- 1.1	- 0.1
Weaving	13,713	- 3.2	- 15.7	73,518	- 3.1	+ 0.3
Other	11,008	- 2.2	- 10.2	19,560	- 1.1	+ 3.4
Not specified	10,469	- 2.1	- 16.0	15,677	- 2.4	- 1.2
TOTAL	114,428	- 2.6	- 13.6	163,846	- 2.2	+ 1.0

In the Oldham district employment on the whole was moderate in the spinning department, and worse than a month ago. An average of about 14 per cent. of the workpeople in this section were on control pay each week during March as compared with 12 per cent. in February. With weavers employment continued fair. In the Bolton district employment was good with spinners and card-room workers; with weavers it was fair, and not so good as a month ago or a year ago, about 13 per cent. being on control pay. In the Preston and Great Harwood districts employment with weavers continued fair, in Blackburn and Darwen it was reported as slack. In the Burnley district over 20 per cent. of the weavers were on control pay at the end of March, as compared with about 14 per cent. at the end of February.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during March showed little change compared with a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago. About 50 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns worked less than 55½ hours per week (chiefly 50 hours) during both February and March, about 6 per cent. worked overtime at both periods, while the remainder were on full time. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Wool Sorting	557	- 3.0	- 1.9	969	- 0.8	+ 16.5
Spinning	5,023	- 0.4	- 6.1	8,327	+ 1.7	+ 9.0
Weaving	7,433	+ 0.2	- 4.5	10,719	+ 1.2	+ 13.3
Other Departments	5,222	- 0.4	- 4.3	9,044	+ 0.4	+ 13.6
Not specified	1,335	- 0.3	+ 0.5	2,002	- 0.5	+ 10.2
TOTAL	19,540	- 0.2	- 4.5	31,061	+ 0.9	+ 11.8

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.



WORSTED TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate, and was not so good as a year ago. About 80 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns worked less than 55½ hours per week (chiefly 50 hours) during both February and March, about 2 per cent. were on overtime, and the remainder were on full time.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Wool Sorting and Combing	3,873	- 1.2	- 7.1	7,203	- 2.8	+ 5.4
Spinning	14,932	- 0.7	- 3.5	16,092	- 0.2	+ 8.4
Weaving	7,312	- 1.0	- 6.0	11,161	+ 2.3	+ 9.5
Other Departments	3,325	- 1.5	- 3.0	5,800	- 2.0	+ 10.9
Not specified	2,379	- 2.4	- 3.9	3,148	- 2.1	+ 9.3
TOTAL	31,821	- 1.1	- 4.5	43,404	- 0.4	+ 8.6

HOSIERY TRADE.

DURING March employment continued good, with some overtime, on Government contracts, and on the whole showed little change compared with a year ago. In some cases, however, some slackness was reported, chiefly due to difficulties connected with the supplies of yarn.

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

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester	11,377	- 0.1	- 3.9	16,181	+ 0.2	+ 23.5
Leicester Country District	1,653	+ 0.7	- 6.3	2,020	+ 2.1	+ 8.9
Notts and Derbyshire	4,707	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	5,594	+ 0.7	+ 21.8
Scotland	3,325	- 0.4	+ 0.2	4,322	+ 0.6	+ 23.5
Other Districts	1,091	+ 1.3	- 4.1	1,128	+ 4.7	+ 13.8
TOTAL, United Kingdom	22,153	+ 0.1	- 2.7	29,155	+ 0.6	+ 21.1

JUTE TRADE.

OWING to the reduction of working hours agreed upon in order to restrict the consumption of jute (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1918, p. 94) employment was worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Dundee and Forfar employment was reported as fair; at the former place there was some unemployment in addition to the short time; at Kirkcaldy employment continued slack.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd March, 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing	2,148	- 1.9	- 9.6	2,699	- 8.2	+ 4.9
Spinning	2,492	- 1.6	- 10.3	2,943	- 8.5	+ 2.0
Weaving	3,216	+ 0.4	- 3.1	4,326	- 4.1	+ 9.4
Other	1,707	- 0.2	+ 0.7	2,823	- 7.1	+ 17.1
TOTAL	9,563	- 0.8	- 6.0	12,891	- 6.7	+ 8.3

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

LINEN TRADE.

In Ireland employment continued very slack, with much short time and some unemployment; it was worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the Belfast district about 70 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on short time during both March and February; for the rest of Ireland the corresponding figures were about 40 per cent. and about 35 per cent. respectively. At Dunfermline and in other parts of Scotland employment on the whole continued good, but was handicapped by shortage of material. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns for Workpeople (Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago) and Earnings (£, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include DEPARTMENTS (Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), DISTRICTS (Belfast, Other places in Ireland), and TOTAL IRELAND, SCOTLAND, ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM.

SILK TRADE.

DURING March employment in this trade continued fairly good, and was about the same as a year ago. About half the firms making Returns reported an insufficient supply of labour. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, similar structure to the Linen Trade table, covering DEPARTMENTS (Throwing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), DISTRICTS (Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire, etc.), and TOTAL.

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT generally was fair in this trade, and showed little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago. The plain net section continued well employed on Government contracts, while in the curtain branch employment continued fair. In the levers section employment in Nottingham continued bad, with much short and irregular time; in the Long Eaton district it continued good and the shortage of labour was especially marked in this district. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, similar structure to the Linen Trade table, covering BRANCHES (Levers, Curtain, Plain Net, etc.), DISTRICTS (Nottingham City, Long Eaton and other outlying Districts, etc.), and TOTAL.

CARPET TRADE.

DURING March employment showed little change compared with a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago. Returns from firms employing 4,338 workpeople in the week ended 23rd March, and paying £5,644 in wages, showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole during March, but was not so good as a year ago. In the bleaching section employment was slack and worse than a month ago; in the printing section short time was reported. In the dyeing and finishing sections it continued good with woollen and worsted dyers, and more overtime than short time was reported, but with cotton dyers and finishers employment was slack. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, similar structure to the Linen Trade table, covering TRADES (Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.), DISTRICTS (Yorkshire, Lancashire, etc.), and TOTAL.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, with a scarcity of labour, and in several districts overtime was worked. Trade Unions with 4,772 members reported 2.4 per cent. as unemployed at the end of March, compared with 2.5 per cent. in February, and 0.9 per cent. a year ago. A scarcity of saddlers and general leather workers was reported, except in certain branches at Walsall and Birmingham, where unemployment and short time were reported; some short time was also worked by curriers in this district. In London a number of curriers and saddlers were unemployed at the end of the month.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

DURING March employment on the whole continued good in this trade, but was not quite so good as a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was little change for the somewhat reduced number of workpeople now employed. In certain districts some slackness was reported among the

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

women workers, partly owing to the scarcity of skilled men, and employment in some cases was hampered by the shortage of leather. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, similar structure to the Linen Trade table, covering DISTRICT (London, Manchester, etc.), ENGLAND AND WALES, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, and UNITED KINGDOM.

TAILORING TRADE. BESPOKE.

London.—Employment showed a seasonal improvement, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms paying £10,350 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 23rd March showed an increase of 11.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 29.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Other Centres.—In all the principal provincial centres employment was good, and on the whole was better than a month ago and a year ago.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment continued good, and was above the level of a year ago. About 60 per cent. of the firms covered by the Returns reported a shortage of labour; about 5 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on short time, and about 13 per cent. worked overtime during the month. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns for Indoor Workpeople (Number Employed, Earnings) and District (Leeds, Manchester, etc.), similar structure to the Linen Trade table.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

DURING March employment continued fairly good, and was up to the level of a year ago for the somewhat smaller number of workpeople now employed. More than half the firms making Returns reported a shortage of labour. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, similar structure to the Linen Trade table, covering DISTRICT (London, Manchester, etc.), ENGLAND AND WALES, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, and UNITED KINGDOM.

HAT TRADE.

Silk.—Employment in London and the provinces was reported as brisk; it was about the same as a month ago. Felt.—In this branch employment was slightly better than a month ago. At Denton employment was reported as quiet, with 25 per cent. of the operatives on short time; at Stockport and in Warwickshire it was reported as good.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

RETURNS from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,562 dressmakers in the week ended 23rd March showed an increase of 2.2 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with a month ago, and of 4.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment on the whole was fair with dressmakers and with milliners. With court and private dressmakers employment showed a seasonal improvement and was also fair.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, &c., TRADES.

In this section employment continued fairly good in London and Manchester, and was good at Glasgow. Firms in London employing 3,955 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 23rd March showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 5.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. At Manchester firms employing 4,362 workpeople in the week ended 23rd March showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 4.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. At Glasgow firms employing 1,994 workpeople in the week ended 23rd March showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 6.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

CORSET TRADE.

Employment in this trade continued fairly good. Returns from firms (mainly in England) employing 5,549 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 23rd March showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 8.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

MEN remaining in the building trade were very well employed, largely owing to Government requirements, and overtime was reported in many cases. Private building work (except maintenance and repairs) continued slack, but there was a further considerable reduction in the number of painters and plasterers out of employment. The following Table shows the general percentages of State-insured workpeople in all building occupations:—

Table with columns for Occupations, Number Insured at end of March, 1918, Percentage Unemployed at end of March, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago. Rows include Carpenters, Bricklayers, Masons, etc., and ALL OCCUPATIONS.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

The next Table shows in detail the percentage unemployed in each geographical division. Except in London and Ireland, the percentage unemployed was less than 0.5 in all districts, while in Scotland it was less than 0.1. In Ireland the percentage remained much higher than in other districts.

Division.	Number Insured at end of March, 1918.	Percentage Unemployed at end of March.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
London	105,576	0.92	- 0.21	- 0.48
Northern Counties	29,438	0.10	+ 0.02	...
North Western	70,754	0.43	+ 0.05	- 0.19
Yorkshire	43,773	0.11	- 0.02	- 0.09
East Midlands	27,249	0.20	- 0.07	- 0.13
West Midlands	42,046	0.15	+ 0.08	- 0.05
E. & S. Eastern Counties	62,552	0.27	- 0.03	- 0.31
South Western	55,501	0.34	- 0.02	- 0.10
Wales	32,187	0.24	- 0.08	- 0.16
Scotland	60,723	0.08	- 0.02	- 0.16
Ireland	30,457	3.13	- 0.64	- 0.96
United Kingdom	559,936	0.21	- 0.03	- 0.52

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

Mill Sawing and Machining.—Employment continued fairly good on the whole. The percentage unemployed at the end of March among workpeople engaged in saw-milling and insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 0.55, as compared with 0.63 in the previous month, and 0.30 in March, 1917.

Furnishing.—Employment was good and better than a month ago, except in London, where it was only very fair. With cabinetmakers it continued good at the principal centres. With upholsterers it was fair at Glasgow, and good elsewhere. French polishers in London reported an improvement compared with a month ago.

Coach Building.—For those remaining in the industry employment continued good, and much overtime was still worked. Some short time was worked at Coventry.

Coopers.—Coopers continued well employed on the whole, and overtime was worked in some districts. Employment was dull, however, at Burton-on-Trent and fair at Belfast.

Miscellaneous.—With brushmakers employment continued good, with overtime being worked in most districts. Wheelwrights and smiths continued well employed. With packing-case makers it was fairly good. With skip and basket makers employment was very good in London and Leicester, and was good on the Tyne and at Oldham and Manchester.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good for those remaining in the industry; a general scarcity of labour was reported, and in many cases overtime was worked.

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

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	2,579	+ 0.4	- 0.2	5,498	+ 0.6	+ 17.2
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,357	+ 1.2	+ 3.8	2,520	- 2.3	+ 32.7
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	846	+ 3.7	+ 3.9	1,757	+ 2.9	+ 23.4
Other Districts	588	+ 1.7	+ 7.5	1,291	+ 4.4	+ 42.0
TOTAL	5,370	+ 1.2	+ 2.3	11,063	+ 0.7	+ 24.0

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment continued good, with a shortage of labour, and much overtime was reported. Returns from firms employing 5,270 workpeople in the week ended 23rd March showed an increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 3.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed and of 28.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good for those remaining in these trades. Very little short time was reported, and few men were out of employment. In London a large amount of overtime was worked by compositors and bookbinders.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

The following Table summarises the Returns received from Trade Unions:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of March, 1918.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		March, 1918.	Feb., 1918.	March, 1917.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Paper	3,822	0.8	0.5	1.1	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Printing	40,377	0.3	0.3	0.4	...	- 0.1
Bookbinding	7,358	0.1	0.1	0.2	...	- 0.1
TOTAL	51,557	0.3	0.3	0.5	...	- 0.2

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

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Paper	13,007	- 1.0	- 1.9	23,509	+ 0.4	+ 20.4
Printing	9,122	+ 0.0	- 5.3	18,016	+ 0.3	+ 12.3
Bookbinding	6,902	+ 1.4	- 0.0	9,575	+ 1.6	+ 24.6
Grand Total	29,031	- 0.1	- 2.5	51,150	+ 0.6	+ 18.1

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and overtime was worked by certain classes of men in consequence of the shortage of labour.

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

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture	1,815	...	- 3.1	3,144	+ 5.1	+ 19.1
Earthenware Manufacture	11,604	- 0.2	- 3.5	17,835	+ 3.5	+ 14.4
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,259	- 2.3	- 2.3	2,929	+ 3.4	+ 18.3
TOTAL	15,678	- 0.5	- 3.3	23,908	+ 3.7	+ 15.5
Potteries	12,054	- 0.8	- 2.5	16,384	+ 4.1	+ 15.0
Other Districts	3,624	+ 0.4	- 6.0	7,524	+ 2.7	+ 16.4
TOTAL	15,678	- 0.5	- 3.3	23,908	+ 3.7	+ 15.5

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT remained good, with a general shortage of labour, and in a number of cases overtime was worked by some of the men.

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

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Glass Bottle	7,232	+ 2.0	- 3.8	15,936	+ 2.3	+ 9.7
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,308	+ 2.2	+ 3.1	2,818	+ 2.3	+ 32.9
Other Branches	610	...	+ 0.5	1,013	+ 5.0	+ 29.2
TOTAL	9,240	+ 1.9	- 2.5	19,767	+ 2.5	+ 13.1
North of England	792	- 0.6	- 12.5	1,854	+ 2.0	+ 3.7
Yorkshire	4,842	+ 3.0	+ 0.4	10,267	+ 4.2	+ 13.2
Lancashire	1,074	+ 2.5	+ 2.0	2,001	+ 0.1	+ 22.1
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	635	+ 1.8	- 10.6	1,354	+ 3.6	+ 15.6
Scotland	881	- 1.6	- 7.6	1,920	- 3.0	+ 5.0
Other Parts of the United Kingdom	1,016	+ 1.6	- 1.6	2,371	+ 1.4	+ 19.1
TOTAL	9,240	+ 1.9	- 2.5	19,767	+ 2.5	+ 13.1

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

In the chocolate and sugar confectionery trades employment continued to be restricted owing to the shortage of sugar and other materials, and was only moderate on the whole; short time was worked in many cases. In all the other trades employment was good, with a scarcity of men, though the biscuit and bacon trades were affected by shortage of materials. In the preserved meat trade a considerable amount of overtime was worked.

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

Trade.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.*
Sugar Refining, &c.	5,170	- 4.4	+ 5.7	11,610	+ 1.2	+ 35.0
Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery	18,373	+ 0.0	- 22.0	30,542	+ 4.1	+ 9.5
Biscuits, Cakes, &c.	11,500	- 1.3	- 14.0	16,637	- 0.9	+ 3.9
Jams, Marmalade, &c.	6,330	+ 1.6	+ 13.5	8,275	+ 0.3	+ 35.6
Bacon and Preserved Meats	5,281	+ 2.2	+ 5.7	7,606	+ 7.0	+ 22.8
Pickles and Sauces, &c.	719	- 13.8	- 18.0	988	+ 3.5	+ 10.5
TOTAL	47,373	- 0.6	- 11.1	75,688	+ 2.4	+ 15.2

AGRICULTURE.†

England and Wales.—The weather in March was everywhere favourable for farming operations. Cultivation for the spring crops proceeded without interruption, the land working well, and much of the spring corn was sown under excellent conditions. In the chief potato districts of the Fens and Lancashire the planting of this crop was in full swing at the end of the month, and work generally was very well forward for the time of year. The supply of labour, especially of skilled hands, was still short, but with the assistance of soldiers, women, and other help in many places, and with the favourable weather allowing work to be continued throughout the month without a break, the situation has been much relieved.

Scotland.—Except for a day or two at the beginning of the month, the weather during March was in all parts of Scotland unusually favourable, and rendered it possible to utilise all available labour to the utmost. Work was carried on continuously without interruption from frost or rain; substantial progress was made with the growing of cereals, and cultivation for the later crops was well advanced. The labour supply remained much the same as in the previous month. The scarcity of ordinary farm labourers was most felt in the northern counties, the other districts having been fairly well supplied with soldier labour. There was, however, a deficiency of casual workers in the majority of districts reported on.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good on the whole.

East and South Coasts.—Employment in the Tees and Hartlepool district continued moderate. It was good at Grimsby, and fair at Hull and Brightlingsea. At Lowestoft it showed an improvement. Employment continued bad at Great Yarmouth. Off the coasts of Devon and Cornwall fishing was irregular owing to unfavourable weather.

Scotland.—Employment at Dundee showed a further improvement. It was fair at Arbroath, Montrose, Aberdeen and Macduff. It was good at Peterhead, and moderate at Fraserburgh with fishermen, but continued bad with dock labourers and fish curers.

FISH LANDED IN MARCH, 1918.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Mar., 1917.	Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Mar., 1917.
Fish (other than shell):				
England and Wales	214,547	- 5,176	1,072,320	+ 489,914
Scotland	332,758	+ 154,561	706,527	+ 416,934
Ireland	17,968	+ 4,911	41,419	+ 23,583
TOTAL	565,273	+ 154,296	1,838,163	+ 930,491
Shell Fish	...	...	32,818	+ 7,292
TOTAL VALUE	...	...	1,856,014	+ 937,783

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

† Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair generally except at certain ports on the East Coast and in Ireland.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Mar. 2nd	4,964	2,473	7,437	5,684	13,121
" " " 9th	5,047	1,187	6,234	5,875	12,109
" " " 16th	5,042	1,180	6,182	5,887	12,069
" " " 23rd	4,978	1,350	6,328	5,872	12,200
" " " 30th	4,996	1,073	6,069	5,801	11,870
Average for 5 weeks ended 30th Mar., 1918	4,998	1,465	6,463	5,825	12,288
Average for Feb., 1918	4,658	2,413	7,071	5,478	12,549
" " Mar., 1917	6,503	2,746	9,249	6,535	15,784

London.—Employment generally was fair; it was rather better than a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago.

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during March was 1,669, compared with 1,468 in February and 1,938 in March, 1917.

East Coast.—Employment with quayside workers and trimmers and teamers on the Tyne was fair generally. At Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Stockton it was moderate. At Hull and Grimsby employment was still fair, and at Goole, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft it continued slack.

Southern and Western Ports.—Employment at Plymouth and Dartmouth showed a decline; it continued good at Falmouth. At Bristol it was fairly good, and at Gloucester it was good. At Liverpool employment was fair at the beginning of the month, good in the middle, and bad at the end; with canal workers in the Midland area it continued very good.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Dundee employment was rather slack at the beginning of the month, but showed an improvement later, and was good at the end of the month. At Ayr it was fair; it was quiet with sugar porters at Greenock. Employment was fairly good at Cork and bad at Waterford and Londonderry.

SEAMEN.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped.				
	Mar., 1918.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Three months ended Mar., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Mar., 1917.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
East Coast—					
Tyne Ports	1,925	+ 326	+ 227	5,253	4,804 - 449
Sunderland	267	+ 71	+ 123	529	618 + 89
Middlesbrough	163	- 6	- 54	1,069	605 - 464
Hull	713	- 252	- 251	2,942	2,421 - 521
Grimsby	94	- 78	+ 85	125	3.6 + 271
Bristol Channel—					
Bristol	442	- 231	- 400	2,472	1,696 - 806
Newport, Mon	711	- 95	- 645	3,645	2,094 - 1,551
Cardiff	3,185	+ 342	+ 2,060	14,218	9,513 - 4,715
Swansea	250	- 25	+ 22	631	944 + 313
Other Ports—					
Liverpool	8,269	- 841	- 3,552	33,103	26,623 - 6,480
London	5,103	+ 1,184	- 969	19,015	13,564 - 5,451
Southampton	786	- 76	+ 291	2,000	2,554 + 434
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	118	- 184	- 264	901	600 - 291
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	55	+ 24	+ 35	81	233 + 152
Glasgow	2,038	+ 101	+ 23	7,376	6,077 - 1,599
IRELAND:					
Dublin	100	+ 24	+ 15	273	257 + 16
Belfast	491	+ 206	+ 250	591	900 - 309
TOTAL	24,766	+ 487	- 7,141	94,368	73,819 - 20,549

* 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 INSURANCE IN MARCH.*

INSURANCE CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS

The number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Employment Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during each of the five weeks ended 29th March, 1918, was 5,311, 5,156, 5,100, 5,128 and 4,138; a total of 24,833 claims, of which 12,034 were made in the trades insured under the National Insurance (Unemployment) Act, 1911, and 12,799 were made in the trades insured under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916. The weekly number of claims during the period for direct payment of benefit to workpeople insured under the Insurance Act of 1911 was 2,019, and for payment through associations of workpeople claiming under Section 105 of the Act was 388. The corresponding claims by workpeople insured under the Act of 1916 were 2,511 and 49 respectively.

The weekly amounts paid to workpeople under the Acts of 1911 and 1916 respectively were £829 and £1,118. The corresponding payments made through associations were £144 and £14.

The following Table shows the average weekly number of claims made in the various districts:—

Division.	Males.		Females.		Total.		
	Mar., 1918.	Feb., 1918.	Mar., 1918.	Feb., 1918.	Mar., 1918.	Feb., 1918.	Mar., 1917.
	Under the Act of 1911.						
London ...	322	389	159	152	481	541	516
South-Eastern ...	48	48	97	115	145	163	97
South-Western ...	47	59	47	23	94	82	70
West Midlands ...	57	79	61	30	118	109	33
East Midlands ...	39	50	36	40	75	90	70
Yorkshire ...	102	86	129	116	231	202	105
North-Western ...	162	191	430	321	592	512	151
Northern ...	15	24	63	46	78	70	19
Scotland ...	30	26	166	115	196	151	62
Wales ...	38	24	49	7	87	31	17
Ireland ...	298	300	12	12	310	312	217
United Kingdom...	1,158	1,286	1,249	977	2,407	2,263	1,357
Under the Act of 1916.							
London ...	176	125	622	459	798	584	441
South-Eastern ...	25	20	202	200	227	220	27
South-Western ...	14	15	76	82	90	97	13
West Midlands ...	34	54	87	49	121	103	43
East Midlands ...	9	10	22	20	31	30	23
Yorkshire ...	36	16	328	297	364	313	46
North-Western ...	42	38	440	254	482	292	49
Northern ...	4	5	121	77	125	82	6
Scotland ...	12	9	138	65	150	74	24
Wales ...	5	80	76	30	81	110	10
Ireland ...	67	35	24	27	91	62	23
United Kingdom...	424	407	2,136	1,560	2,560	1,967	685

The following Table shows the average weekly amount of benefit paid in the various industries†:—

Industry.	Males.		Females.		Total.		
	Mar., 1918.	Feb., 1918.	Mar., 1918.	Feb., 1918.	Mar., 1918.	Feb., 1918.	Mar., 1917.
	Under the Act of 1911.						
Building ...	£ 167	£ 343	£ 4	£ 4	£ 171	£ 847	£ 347
Construction of Works	13	9	1	1	14	10	3
Shipbuilding ...	26	33	12	13	38	46	16
Engineering ...	146	155	545	451	692	606	112
Construction of Vehicles	40	43	13	13	53	56	28
Sawmilling ...	2	2	1	...	3	2	1
Other Insured Industries	2	2	...	...	2	2	3
Total ...	396	587	577	482	973	1,039	515
Under the Act of 1916.							
Ammunition and Explosives	£ 41	£ 18	£ 537	£ 290	£ 518	£ 308	£ 25
Chemicals ...	9	6	47	21	56	27	7
Metals ...	20	26	98	89	118	115	19
Leather ...	3	9	13	10	21	19	4
Brick, Tile, &c. ...	1	...	5	3	6	3	1
Sawmilling and Machined Wood-work	19	14	88	53	107	67	11
Rubber ...	2	1	19	18	21	19	4
Other Workers in Non-scheduled Trades	16	13	209	282	225	295	43
Total ...	116	87	1,016	766	1,132	853	119

* The percentages unemployed in the Insured Trades will be found on page 142. † The figures for Association Payments relate to periods terminating one week earlier than the periods to which the Direct Payments relate.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

I.—GENERAL REGISTER.

The number of workpeople on the register of the Employment Exchanges (389 in number) at some time or other during the four weeks ended 8th March, 1918, was 353,848 (men 125,646, women 170,150, boys 30,201, girls 27,851). These figures comprise workers in professional, commercial and clerical, as well as in industrial, occupations.

The number of vacancies notified during the period was 162,878, and the number of vacancies filled was 120,168.

The total number of workpeople remaining on the registers at 8th March, 1918, was 103,650.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
On registers at 8th February, 1918	31,174	58,105	8,687	8,862	106,828
Number of individuals registered during period	94,472	112,045	21,514	18,939	247,020
Total ...	125,646	170,150	30,201	27,851	353,848
Re-registrations during period ...	4,000	4,271	540	419	9,230
On registers at 8th March, 1918	31,483	56,377	7,697	8,093	103,650
Vacancies notified during period	83,049	56,497	12,403	10,929	162,878
Vacancies filled during period ...	55,981	45,727	10,059	8,401	120,168
Applicants placed in other districts	17,212	8,276	1,412	1,472	28,372

The average daily registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the month were 10,677, 6,787, and 5,007 respectively. A Chart showing the fluctuations since February, 1917, is given on p. 151.

	Average Daily Registrations.		Average Daily Vacancies Notified.		Average Daily Vacancies Filled.	
	4 Weeks ended 8 Mar., 1918.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a Month ago.	4 Weeks ended 8 Mar., 1918.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a Month ago.	4 Weeks ended 8 Mar., 1918.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a Month ago.
	1918.	Year ago.	1918.	Year ago.	1918.	Year ago.
Men ...	4,103	+ 5	3,461	+ 170	2,333	+ 12
Women ...	4,846	- 335	2,711	- 230	1,905	- 262
Boys ...	919	- 71	517	- 23	419	- 33
Girls ...	89	- 73	455	- 33	27	- 36
Total	10,677	- 475	6,787	- 116	5,007	- 306

Compared with a month ago the daily average of registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled, showed percentage decreases of 4.3, 1.7, and 5.8 respectively. Compared with a year ago there were percentage decreases of 18.0, 8.7, and 16.1 respectively.

The following Table shows the comparative volume of work done in insured and in uninsured trades during the month:—

	Registrations.		Vacancies Notified.		Vacancies Filled.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	Under the Act of 1911.					
Insured Trades ...	74,255	60,190	61,210	24,067	49,093	23,032
Uninsured Trades	46,271	75,634	26,242	43,359	16,841	31,066
Total ...	120,526	135,724	87,452	67,426	66,040	54,128

In the case of males the insured trades accounted for 61.6 per cent. of the total registrations, 72.5 per cent. of the vacancies notified, and 74.3 per cent. of the vacancies filled. Among females the percentages in the insured trades were 44.3, 35.7, and 42.6 respectively. Of the 48,037 vacancies filled in uninsured trades, 4,518 were known to be for less than a week's employment, while of the 18,460 vacancies filled in the same trades by boys and girls, 21.6 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The following Table shows the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified (excluding those on the registers at the beginning of the period):—

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Insured Trades ...	69.5	93.7	80.3	87.2	77.3
Uninsured Trades ...	69.9	71.2	76.2	73.7	69.0
All Trades ...	67.4	80.9	81.1	76.9	73.8
Do, a month ago ...	70.5	83.9	83.7	76.4	78.9
Do, a year ago ...	71.4	83.3	80.5	80.1	80.3

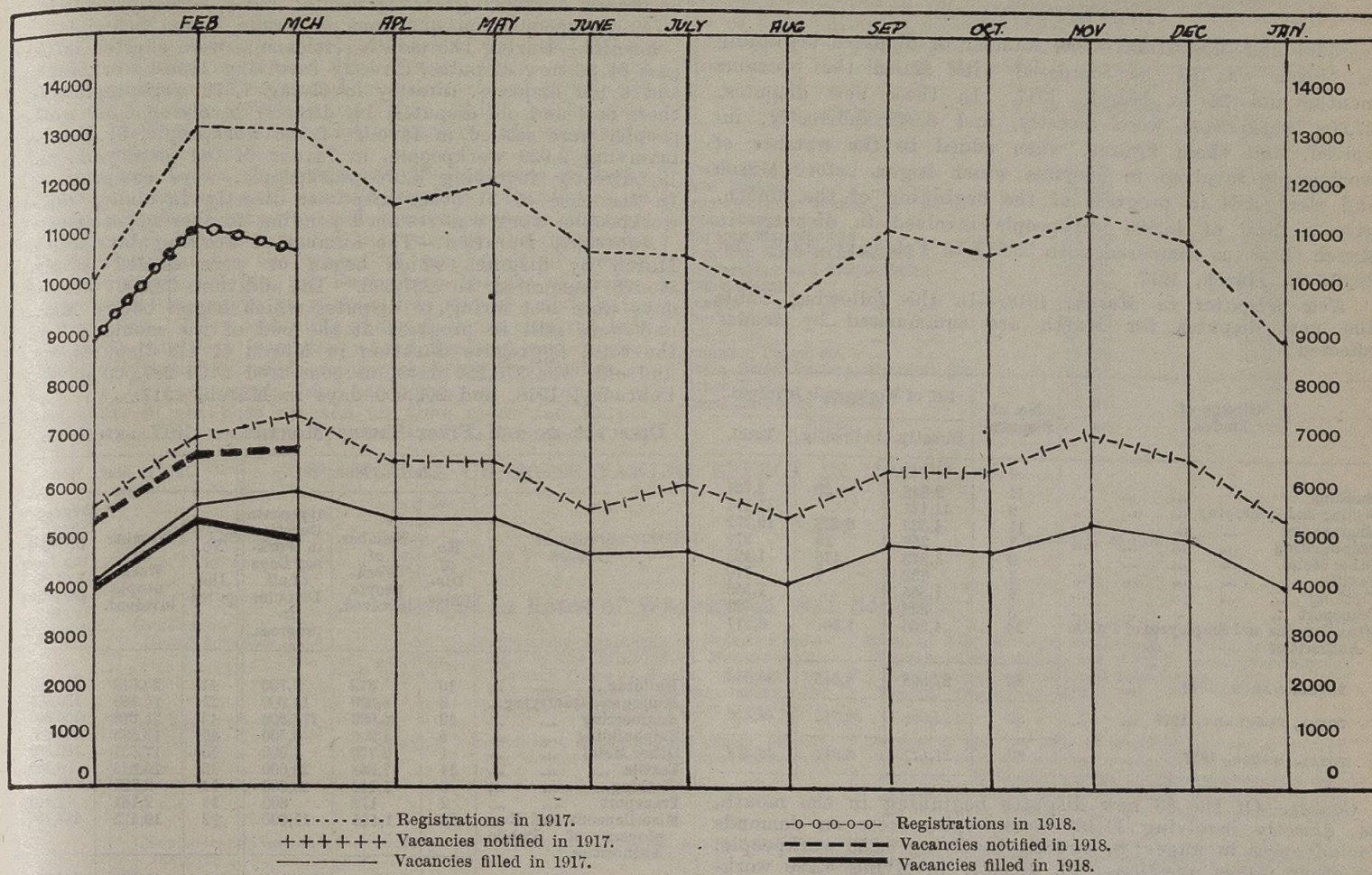
Compared with a month ago there was a decrease in all departments except with girls, for whom the figures showed a slight increase. Compared with a year ago there was a slight increase in the boys' department, but a decrease in the other departments.

II.—CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The number of men who obtained employment through the exchanges was 1,150, and the number of casual jobs found for them was 8,199, a daily average of 343, compared with 227 in the preceding four weeks and 167 in the four weeks ended 9th March, 1917. During the four weeks there were also 1,323 cases in which men were given employment through the clearing house system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (contd.).

AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED.*



INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED, VACANCIES FILLED AND VACANCIES NOTIFIED IN THE FOUR WEEKS ENDED 8th MARCH, 1918 (GENERAL REGISTER).

OCCUPATION GROUPS.†	ADULTS.										JUVENILES.			
	REGISTRATIONS.					VACANCIES.					VACANCIES.			
	On Register at Beginning of Period.		Individuals Registered during Period.		On Register at End of Period.		Notified during Period.		Filled during Period.		Notified during Period.		Filled during Period.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
A.—INSURED TRADES. ‡														
Building ...	4,080	424	15,431	768	3,967	491	14,843	424	9,925	379	424	28	342	25
Works of Construction ...	2,405	9	9,072	9	2,461	5	11,621	12	8,819	7	30	—	27	—
Sawmilling ...	395	727	1,133	1,594	417	817	993	532	762	569	331	83	309	86
Shipbuilding ...	935	219	4,849	410	838	243	7,262	145	3,850	141	629	4	330	3
Engineering ...	6,180	12,413	25,726	10,731	6,478	12,475	21,830	12,292	16,083	12,065	3,387	854	3,050	688
Construction of Vehicles ...	238	127	869	345	287	110	471	439	225	428	73	11	63	10
Cabinet Making, &c ...	96	96	339	218	170	165	305	110	83	97	132	30	111	21
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ...	491	1,105	1,767	1,925	474	981	2,036	1,110	1,319	926	404	491	372	419
Precious Metals, &c. ...	54	103	167	233	67	126	86	204	66	204	99	176	92	146
Bricks and Cement ...	13	32	52	10	30	205	117	62	86	22	3	23	3	
Chemicals, &c. ...	213	515	953	1,157	284	573	1,021	879	748	707	92	184	87	161
Rubber and Waterproof Goods ...	39	239	191	770	56	294	351	484	183	478	28	70	33	66
Ammunition and Explosives ...	1,261	15,492	3,640	27,598	1,513	14,786	1,864	4,487	1,700	4,518	345	438	333	435
Leather—Excluding Boots & Shoes	92	185	248	437	103	165	114	212	39	207	73	174	63	157
TOTAL INSURED TRADES ...	16,492	31,686	61,377	56,247	17,125	31,206	63,141	21,521	43,864	20,312	6,169	2,546	5,235	2,229
B.—UNINSURED TRADES.														
Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c. ...	13	65	16	65	6	39	43	67	9	63	43	60	34	46
Domestic ...	735	7,754	1,499	19,201	742	7,442	1,498	18,623	735	12,742	493	1,843	330	1,060
Commercial and Clerical ...	2,591	5,550	3,646	9,205	2,888	5,310	1,668	3,842	1,102	2,966	938	1,527	694	1,327
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c.—	3,900	1,747	9,054	3,171	3,979	1,331	7,238	1,750	4,916	1,559	2,648	1,114	1,998	771
Agriculture ...	339	303	653	722	315	3.3	940	753	273	468	127	34	79	19
Mining and Quarrying ...	159	8	429	31	139	18	1,092	24	255	27	—	—	—	—
Brushes, Brooms, &c. ...	1	5	17	25	3	10	12	13	6	6	14	31	29	—
Pottery and Glass ...	40	112	96	242	47	110	141	181	50	112	63	82	56	33
Paper, Prints, Books & Stationery	85	210	126	564	68	213	421	437	72	326	229	457	181	356
Textile ...	243	1,229	772	2,549	210									

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

DISPUTES IN MARCH.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in March was 83, as compared with 82 in the previous month, and 29 in March, 1917. In these new disputes, 27,508 workpeople were directly, and 8,045 indirectly, involved, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 46,886 workpeople involved in disputes in March, 1918, as compared with 55,822 in February, 1918, and 28,916 in March, 1917.

New Disputes in March, 1918.—In the following Table the new disputes for March are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	11	2,648	59	2,707
Mining and Quarrying	9	11,174	...	11,174
Engineering	11	4,533	6,239	10,772
Shipbuilding	7	257	13	270
Other Metal	9	1,319	178	1,495
Textile	4	733	7	740
Clothing	4	1,555	...	1,555
Transport	5	323	...	323
Miscellaneous and Employees of Public Authorities	23	4,966	1,551	6,517
TOTAL, MARCH, 1918	83	27,508	8,045	35,553
TOTAL, FEBRUARY, 1918	82	21,508	20,314	41,822
TOTAL, MARCH, 1917	29	21,417	6,921	28,338

Causes.—Of the 83 new disputes beginning in the month, 54, directly involving 11,467 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 8, directly involving 8,250 workpeople, on other wages questions; 10, directly involving 4,299 workpeople, on disputes respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 4, directly involving 1,752 workpeople,

on details of working arrangements; and 7, directly involving 1,740 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 36 new disputes, directly involving 11,940 workpeople, and 6 old disputes, directly involving 1,578 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 14, directly involving 6,519 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople, 9, directly involving 2,929 workpeople, in favour of the employers, and 19, directly involving 4,070 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 31 other disputes, directly involving 15,593 workpeople, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in March by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 237,300. In addition 38,900 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total aggregate duration in March of all disputes, new and old, was 276,200 days, as compared with 287,500 days in February, 1918, and 202,000 days in March, 1917.

DISPUTES IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1917 AND 1918.†

Groups of Trades.	Jan. to Mar., 1917.			Jan. to Mar., 1918.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building... ..	10	873	7,700	41	23,649	214,700
Mining and Quarrying... ..	6	4,300	14,000	21	24,359	130,500
Engineering	12	26,096	177,500	45	25,688	150,000
Shipbuilding	5	1,900	8,500	45	12,585	205,930
Other Metal	1	2,776	4,000	35	17,501	180,500
Textile	14	7,952	29,000	15	20,625	10,400
Clothing... ..	5	1,112	25,600	14	3,790	36,500
Transport	2	172	600	14	2,161	12,400
Miscellaneous and Employees of Public Authorities	25	1,495	11,600	72	19,475	123,700
TOTAL	80	46,676	278,500	302	146,831	1,144,600

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN MARCH.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Number of Workpeople Involved		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡				
BUILDING —						
Joiners, bricklayers, labourers, &c.—Bristol	835	...	14 March	12	For removal of a foreman on account of alleged objectionable conduct	Foreman removed.
Building trades workpeople—Manchester (near)	994	...	18 March	1	For bonus of 12½ per cent.	Bonus granted.
COAL MINING —						
Miners, &c.—Maryport (near)	1,043	...	18 March	2	For reinstatement of a workman who had been discharged for bad time-keeping	Workman reinstated upon certain conditions.
Colliery workers, &c.—Ebbw Vale	5,000	...	14 March	1	Dispute as to wages	Work resumed.
Coal miners, &c.—Rhondda Valley	2,000	...	27 March	1	Against alleged stoppages from payments due to certain men who had left work to attend the funeral of a fellow workman	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Colliery workers—Glasgow (near)	932	...	16 March	7	For employment of additional pit head workers	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Cokemen, by-product workers, &c.—South Yorkshire	1,200	...	13 March	7	For advance in wages and other concessions	Work resumed pending enquiry.
METAL, ENGINEERING & SHIPBUILDING —						
Engineers, &c.—Southport	1,000	...	7 March	11	Against dismissal of a workman	Workman reinstated.
Skilled engineers, semi-skilled and unskilled workpeople, &c.—Leeds	754	6,239	19 March	8	For reinstatement of certain dismissed men	Dismissed men apologised and were reinstated.
Aluminium workers—Stoke-on-Trent	525	...	25 Feb.	18	For reinstatement of suspended workpeople and for dismissal of certain officials	Suspended workpeople to be reinstated, short time being worked where necessary.
Wire drawers, &c.—Doncaster	738	25	28 Feb.	5	Dispute arising out of proposed introduction of piece-work	Work resumed pending arbitration.
AIRCRAFT —						
Wood and metal workers, painters, labourers, &c.—London (near)	911	...	28 Feb.	3	Objection to a lady welfare superintendent	Lady welfare superintendent asked to resign.
Skilled woodworkers and labourers—Leeds	651	35	9 March	11	For bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings and for advance of 5s. per week on the rates of wages prevailing in November, 1917	Bonus of 12½ per cent. (piece-workers 7½ per cent.) granted as from Jan., 1918, with advance in wages of 5s. per week as from Dec., 1917.
Joiners—Coles	700	...	13 March	2	For reinstatement of a joiner discharged for refusing to sharpen tools of women workers	Man reinstated.
CLOTHING —						
Tailors—Belfast	500	...	18 March	6	For advance in wages	Advance granted.
Clothing operatives—Leeds	735	...	20 March	15	Dispute respecting wages	Work resumed on advice of Trade Union officials.
OTHER TRADES —						
Licensed trade assistants—Dublin	1,000	...	17 March	6	For advance in wages and other concessions	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Enginemen, firemen, &c., and other workpeople (sugar refineries)—Liverpool	10	1,500	23 March	6	For payment of recently granted bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings from Jan. instead of from March, 1918	Work resumed pending settlement.
EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES —						
Tram drivers and conductors, &c.—Bradford	1,201	...	16 March	4	Claim that a recent arbitration award should be so interpreted as to give women tram conductors the same total advance as men over pre-war rates of wages	Arbitrators decided against the workpeople.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—42 disputes, involving about 7,500 workpeople, were in progress at the time of going to press.

* 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, &c.) exceeded 100 days. † In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e. thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

(Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.)

The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as having been granted during March (to take effect either in that month or from earlier dates in 1918), resulted in a net increase of over £67,000 in the weekly wages of more than 220,000 workpeople. The only decreases reported resulted from the withdrawal of certain increases and bonuses, affecting less than 10,000 workpeople, which had been granted in the latter part of 1917 to operate during the winter months.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected were tramway and omnibus workers and aircraft workers. Employees in the traffic sections of tramway and omnibus undertakings received war wage advances, under an award by the Committee on Production, raising the wages of men (and of women paid at men's rates) to 20s. per week above the pre-war rates, and increasing the wages of women not paid at men's rates by 4s. per week. Boys and girls under 18 years received half the advances resulting from the award for men and women respectively. Skilled aircraft woodworkers were awarded an advance of 5s. per week, and a bonus on earnings of 12½ per cent. in the case of men on time rates and 7½ per cent. in the case of men paid by results. The bonuses of 12½

and 7½ per cent. were also further extended, principally to workmen employed in various metal industries, and in a number of local authority undertakings.

Changes in January-March, 1918.—The following Table summarises the changes for which particulars are available.

Groups of Trades.	No. of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Net Increase per week.
Building	163,000	52,950
Coal Mining	21,000	500
Iron and Other Mining	8,000	2,200
Quarrying	5,500	1,000
Big Iron Manufacture	32,500	6,200
Iron and Steel Manufacture	59,000	18,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding	392,000	73,700
Other Metal	76,000	21,400
Textile	124,000	15,900
Clothing	150,000	32,100
Transport	98,000	40,000
Printing, Paper, &c.	43,000	10,500
Glass, Brick, Pottery, Chemical, &c.	127,000	22,500
Other Trades	94,000	27,400
Local Authority Services	72,000	24,000
TOTAL	1,387,000	318,000

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1918.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.†
GENERAL —				
United Kingdom... ..		1st full pay after 1 Jan.‡	Woodcutting machinists employed on buildings by the Ministry of Munitions, Air Ministry, Office of Works, Admiralty and War Office, or by contractors engaged in the erection of buildings for those Departments	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers (men 21 years and over) and of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men (21 years and over) paid on any system of payment by results. (See also p. 166.)
NORTHERN COUNTIES —				
Darlington		March §	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plasterers, woodcutting machinists and labourers	Increase of ½d. per hour in standard rate and a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers aged 21 and over. Rates after change: bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plasterers, and woodcutting machinists, 1s. 1½d. per hour plus bonus of 12½ per cent.; labourers, 10½d. per hour plus bonus of 12½ per cent. (See also p. 166.)
Newcastle and Gateshead District		30 March	Plumbers, gasfitters, and sanitary engineers	Increase of 3d. per hour in standard rate (1s. to 1s. 3d.) in substitution for previous war bonuses of 4s. per week and 1d. per hour; also a bonus of 12½ per cent. added to earnings. Increase of ½d. per hour (9d. to 1½d.).
Kendal and District		1 March	Painters	Increase, as war wages, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers and masons, 1s. 2½d.; carpenters and joiners, 1s. 2d.; labourers, 1s.
YORKSHIRE —				
Bradford and Shipley		1 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, and labourers	Increase, as war wages, of 1d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2½d.). Increase, as war wages, of 1½d. per hour (1s. to 1s. 1½d.). Increase, as war wages, of 1d. per hour (10d. to 11d.). Increase of 2d. per hour in standard rate (1s. to 1s. 2d.); chemical plumbers to receive 3d. per hour more.
Bradford		1 March	Plasterers	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rate after change: bricklayers, masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, and slaters, 1s. 3d.; masons (fixers), 1s. 3½d.
Brighouse		2 March	Masons and bricklayers	Increase, as war wages, of 1d. per hour (10d. to 11d.). Increase of 2d. per hour in standard rate (1s. to 1s. 2d.); masons (fixers) to receive 3d. per hour more.
Huddersfield		1 March	Plumbers	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rate after change: bricklayers, masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, and slaters, 1s. 3d.; masons (fixers), 1s. 3½d.
Hull		4 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, and slaters	Increase from a rate of 1s. 3d. per hour plus a war bonus of 10 per cent. to a rate of 1s. 3d. per hour without bonus. Increase of 2d. per hour. Rate after change: plasterers, 1s. 3d.; labourers, navvies, &c., 1s. 1d.
Spen Valley and Mirfield Todmorden		1 March	Labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour (9d. to 10d.).
Wakefield		1 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1d. per hour (11d. to 1s.).
Wakfield		20 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase, as war wages, of ½d. per hour (11½d. to 1s.). Increase of 2d. per hour (10d. to 1s.).
LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE —				
Altrincham, Sale and District		23 March	Plumbers	Increase of 2d. per hour in standard rate and a war increase of 1d. per hour. Total rate after change, 1s. 4d.
Ash-ton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, Hyde and District		9 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers, hod carriers, leading scaffolders, navvies and labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers and masons (banker hands), 1s. 3d., (fixers), 1s. 3½d.; carpenters and joiners and woodcutting machinists, 1s. 2½d.; slaters and plasterers, 1s. 2d.; plasterers' labourers, 11½d.; slaters' labourers, hod carriers, leading scaffolders, &c., 11d.; navvies, bricklayers' labourers and general labourers, 10½d.
Co'ne		1 March	Painters	Increase of 1d. per hour (10d. to 11d.).
Darwen		5 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1¾d.).
Littleborough		1 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d.).
Liverpool and District		1 March	Painters	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1½d.).
Macclesfield		9 March	Painters	Increase of 1½d. per hour (10½d. to 1s.).
Manchester and surrounding District ¶		1 March	Painters**	Increases (varying from 3d. to 5d. per hour) to a uniform rate of 1s. 3d. per hour.
Middleton		16 March	Bricklayers	Increase of 2½d. per hour (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 3d.).
1 March		16 March	Masons	Increase of 1d. per hour (11d. to 1s.).
2 March		16 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d.).
3 March		16 March	Bricklayers and masons	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.).
4 March		16 March	Plasterers' labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour (10d. to 11d.).
5 March		16 March	Other builders' labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour (9½d. to 10½d.).
6 March		16 March	Bricklayers	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. to 1s. 1d.).
7 March		16 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, cabinet makers, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers	Increase, as war wages, of 2½d. per hour to men over 21 years of age employed on private work; and to men employed on buildings under the authority of the Ministry of Munitions, Air Ministry, Office of Works, Admiralty or War Office, such an increase as will, with the 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings already granted, make a total increase of 2½d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, 1s. 3½d.; plasterers, 1s. 3½d.; carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, cabinet makers and plumbers, 1s. 3d.; painters, 1s. 2d.; spadesmen, 11d.; bricklayers' labourers, 11½d.
MIDLAND AND EASTERN COUNTIES —				
Bristol		1 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters, stone sawyers, scaffolders, engine drivers and labourers	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings.

* Exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees, and also of changes under the Trade Boards Act. † War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and increases not thus limited. ‡ This increase was granted under an award issued in March to have effect from the date shown. § The increase in standard rate took effect from 1 March and the bonus on earnings from the first full pay after 22 March. ¶ Including Manchester and Salford, Alderley Edge, Altrincham, Ashton-on-Mersey, Ashton-under-Lyne, Atherton, Bolton, Bury, Denton, Droylsden, Dukinfield, Eccles, Fanworthing, Glossop, Heywood, Hyde, Leigh, Marple, Middleton, Mossley, Oldham, Pendleton, Prestwich, Ramsbottom, Radcliffe, Rochdale, Royton, Sale, Shaw, Staly ridge, Stockport, Swinton, Tyldesley, Walkden, Whitefield, Wigan and Wilmslow. ** See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1918—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)

* War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and increases not thus limited.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1918—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)

* War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and increases not thus limited.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1918—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.*
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued).				
Cotton Industry	Lancashire (except Bolton District) and parts of Yorkshire, Cheshire and Derbyshire	3rd pay day in Feb.†	Male workers in card and blowing rooms in spinning mills, other than those in the hard waste trade:— Strippers and grinders Blowing-room men Apprentices	Increase of 1½d. per card (equivalent to about 5 per cent.) on base prices of 1903. Increase of 5 per cent. on list prices. Commencing rate fixed at 19s. per week, with advances of 1s. per week after each year of service up to 20 years. Increase of 5 per cent. in current wages of men, and commencing rate of wages of apprentices fixed at 19s. per week, with advances of 1s. per week after each year of service up to 20 years.
	Haslingden, Ramsbottom, Bury and adjacent Districts	4th pay-day in Feb.†	Male workers in blowing and breaker rooms, and strippers, grinders and lap carriers, in the hard waste trade	Revised price list adopted, and allowance for tubing increased, estimated to have resulted in a total average increase of about 10 per cent. in earnings.
Woolen Industry	Yorkshire (except Huddersfield)	Week ending 1 March	Cop twiners (cotton doubling)	Increase on pre-war average earnings of 60 per cent. to time-workers and 55 per cent. to piece-workers, subject to a minimum increase of 17s. per week to men 18 years and over, and 12s. per week to women, previous war wage advances being merged into these amounts. (See also p. 163.)
	Peebles, Galashiels, Slateford, Earlston, Selkirk, Dumfries, Dalry, Hawick, Jedburgh and Innerleithen	1st pay day after 4 Feb.†	Woolen operatives	War bonuses previously granted to men 21 years and over increased from 25 per cent. to 35 per cent. for those earning 35s. per week and under; from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. for those earning over 35s. per week and up to 45s., and from 15 per cent. to 25 per cent. for those earning over 45s. per week.
Elastic Web Manufacture	Leicester	Week ending 8 March	Elastic web weavers	War bonuses previously granted to men 21 years and over increased from 25 per cent. to 35 per cent. for those earning 35s. per week and under; from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. for those earning over 35s. per week and up to 45s., and from 15 per cent. to 25 per cent. for those earning over 45s. per week.
Textile, Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing and Finishing	Nottingham	1st pay day in March	Lace, &c., dyers	Increase of 1d. per hour.
	Scotland	16 March	Workpeople (other than machine calico printers) in bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades	Increase, as war wages, of 4½d. per hour to men 18 years and over; of 2½d. per hour to women 18 years and over; of 2½d. per hour to youths and girls of 16 and under 18 years, and of 1½d. per hour to boys and girls under 16 years, in substitution for previous war advances of 16s. per week to men, 10s. per week to women, and 8s. 6d. per week to youths and girls.
Tailoring	London (West End)	16 March	Tailors (bespoke trade)	Increase of 1d. per hour in "log" rates, and of 2d. per "time" hour for time-workers, (in substitution for previous war bonus of 5 per cent. to men earning under £4 per week). Increase of 1d. per hour in "log" rate.
	Belfast	25 March	Tailors Clickers, pressmen, lasters and finishers Rough stuff cutters	Increase of 1s. per week in minimum time rate (32s. to 33s., excluding war bonus), and of 2½ per cent. on piece rates. Increase of 1s. per week in minimum time rate (30s. to 31s., excluding war bonus), and of 2½ per cent. on piece rates. Increase of 1s. per week in graduated scale rates, making rates 14s. at 18 years, 15s. or 16s. at 19 years, and 17s. or 18s. at 20 years (excluding war bonus).
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	Norwich	1st pay day in March	Women in closing departments and in boxing or trimming rooms	Increase of 16 per cent. to sole-makers, of 17½ per cent. to seatmen, and of 6s. 6d. per week to day-wage men.
Clogmaking	North-East Lancashire	18 March	Clog makers	Existing bonuses converted into war wages, and additional war wages granted to make the total advance over pre-war rates 20s. per week of six days or six shifts. (See also p. 170.)
	United Kingdom	Week previous to pay day in week commencing 1 Mar.	Motormen, conductors, car cleaners, inspectors, ticket examiners, timekeepers, and other workpeople employed in the traffic sections of tramway and omnibus undertakings: (a) Men aged 18 and over, and women aged 18 and over whose terms of employment include an undertaking that they shall be paid the same rates as the grades of men whose places they have filled. (b) Women, aged 18 and over, not included above. (c) Boys and girls, under 18 years of age	Existing bonuses converted into war wages, and additional war wages granted to make the total advance over pre-war rates 20s. per week of six days or six shifts. (See also p. 170.)
Transport Trades	Bristol Channel Ports	14 March	Pitwood workers	Increase to a minimum of 60 per cent. above pre-war rates. (See also p. 163.)
	Swansea	1 Jan.†	Dock labourers (excluding pitwood workers)	Additional war bonus of 15 per cent., making total bonus 50 or 55 per cent. (See also p. 163.)
Printing and Allied Trades	Aberdeen	18 March	Dock labourers	Increase, as war wages, of 1d. per hour (regular coastwise steamers, 9½d. to 10½d., tramp steamers, 10d. to 11d.).
	Certain towns in Lancashire and Cheshire||	1st pay day after 20 March	Compositors, machinemen, and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper) and bookbinders and machine rulers	Increase of 8s. 6d. per week in standard rate, with an equivalent increase on piece rates, and at Bolton an additional war bonus of 1s. 6d. per week in the case of compositors, &c. Rates after change for jobbing compositors: Bolton, 48s. 6d. plus 8s. war bonus; other towns, 48s. 6d. plus 6s. 6d. war bonus.
Printing and Allied Trades	Birmingham	22 Feb.†	Lithographic printers	Increase of 10s. per week in the minimum rate (49s. to 59s.) in substitution for previous war bonus of 8s. per week; and such additional increase granted as will make a total net advance of 8s. 6d. per week for all workpeople.
	Bristol	18 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper), and electrotypers, stereotypers and assistants Bookbinders and machine rulers	Increase of 8s. per week in minimum rate in substitution for previous war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change; jobbing compositors, electrotypers and stereotypers, 50s.; stereotypers' assistants, 48s. Increase of 10s. per week (40s. to 50s.) in substitution for previous war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week.
Printing and Allied Trades	Nottingham	March	Bookbinders and machine rulers Bookfinishers and gilders	War bonus of 6s. per week increased to 7s. Rate after change, including bonus, 47s. War bonus of 6s. per week increased to 7s. Rate after change, including bonus, 49s.
	Norwich	Pay day in week ending 9 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype operators (book and jobbing) Cutters, binders, head warehousemen and packers, &c. Assistants to the above and machine-room labourers Letterpress and litho. machine layers-on, ruling layers-on, and bindery stab workers (females) Workpeople employed on daily and Sunday newspapers:— Compositors and linotype and monotype operators Machine managers, platen machine miflers, stereotypers and assistants, process workers, proof readers, assistants on rotary presses, linotype and monotype assistants, copyholders, revisers, proof pullers, &c.	Increase of 2s. per week in minimum rate. (Jobbing compositors, 36s. to 38s.). Increase of 2s. per week (34s. to 36s.). Increase of 1s. per week (30s. to 31s.). Scale of wages fixed, varying from 6s. or 8s. per week up to a minimum of 20s. per week, and increases in piece rates varying from 12½ to 30 per cent.
Printing and Allied Trades	London	Week ending 16 Mar.	Warehousemen, cartmen, motor drivers, cyclists, roundsmen, &c.	War bonus of 13s. per week increased to 28s. per week and 2d. per hour added to overtime rates. Increase of 5s. per week in the permanent wage and previous war bonus of 13s. per week increased to 18s. per week for regular hands; jobbing and Saturday night workers to receive an increase of 10d. per day in wages and an additional war bonus of 10d. per day; juniors to receive an increase of 4s. per week in wages and an additional bonus of 4s. per week.

* War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and increases not thus limited. † This increase was arranged in March, to have effect from the date shown. ‡ This increase was granted under an award issued in March, to have effect from the date shown. § Including Accrington, Burnley, Blackburn, Bacup, Colne, Darwen, Great Harwood, Haslingden, Nelson, Preston and Padiham. || Including Accrington, Ashton, Barrow, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Darwen, Hyde, Ligh, Macclesfield, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Rossendale, Southport, Stockport, Warrington and Wigan.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1918—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.*
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued).				
Glass Trades...	Yorkshire, Lancashire, Sunderland, Seaham Harbour, Bristol, Scotland and Dublin	18 March	Glass bottle gatherers, blowers, finishers, &c.	Increase, under sliding scale, of 8 per cent. on basis wages, making wages 55 per cent. above the standard of 1910.
	Stourbridge, Birmingham, Manchester and Warrington Districts	1st full pay after 25 March	Flint glass cutters	Increase of 4s. per week.
Salt Industry	Tees-side	4 March	Saltworkers	War bonus increased by 5s. per week.
	Hull	1st full pay after 7 March	Engineers, firemen, &c., in oil-seed mills	Increase, as war wages, of 5s. per week to men 18 years and over and of 2s. 6d. to boys, youths and apprentices under 18 years, and in addition a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men 21 years and over. (See also p. 171).
Furnishing Trades	Barrow-in-Furness	1st pay in March	Cabinet makers, upholsterers, french polishers and machinists	Increase of 1½d. per hour (11d. to 1s. 0½d.).
	Liverpool	20 March	Upholsterers	Increase to a rate of 1s. 3d. per hour, with the addition of 12½ per cent. previously granted.
Aircraft Manufacture	Manchester and District	1 March	Cabinet makers, chair makers, carvers, upholsterers (with 4 years' experience), and mattress makers (males) in wholesale and retail sections Labourers Upholsterers and polishers (women) Glassworkers	Increase of 1d. per hour (10d. to 11d.). Increase of ½d. per hour (9d. to 9½d.). Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bevellers, silvers, cutters and brilliant cutters, 1s. 3d.; fitters, 1s. 1d.; packers, 1s.
	Glasgow, Beith, Lochwinnoch, Renfrew, Dundee, Aberdeen and Kirkcaldy Districts	1st full pay in Mar.	Cabinet makers, chair makers, carvers, french polishers, machinemen, upholsterers, upholsteresses, and sand paperers	Increase to piece-workers of 10 per cent., and to time-workers of 1d. per hour to men and ½d. per hour to women.
Coachbuilding	United Kingdom	†	Skilled aircraft woodworkers (other than those employed in shipbuilding and ship-repairing establishments, &c.)	Increase, as war wages, of 5s. per week and, in the case of men 21 years and over, a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and of 7½ per cent. on earnings to piece-workers and men on systems of payment by results.
	Certain firms in various towns in Yorkshire and Lancashire, & at Newcastle, Leicester and Nottingham	Week ending 23 Mar.	Wheelwrights, smiths, and coach and motor body builders	Increase, as war wages, of 5s. per week, making a total increase of 20s. on pre-war rates.
Other Wood-working Trades	Cork	9 March	Coach bodymakers, smiths, trimmers, wheelers, vicemen and painters Sawyers and machinists	Increase of 5s. per week (40s. to 45s.).
	Sheffield	1st full pay after 7 Feb.||	Packing case makers, boxmakers, machinists, sawyers, labourers, &c. (men 21 years and over)	Increase, as war wages, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: machinists, 1s. 0½d.; band and circular saw, 1s.; horizontal saw, 11½d.; deal and frame saw, 11d. (See also p. 169.)
Miscellaneous Trades	London	1st pay after 8 March	Boiler coverers	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men on systems of payment by results. (See also p. 169.)
	London	†	Boiler coverers	Bonus of 12½ per cent. to men 21 years and over, engaged as plain time-workers, and increases of 5s. per week to men 18 years and over, and of 2s. 6d. per week to boys, youths and apprentices under 18. (See also p. 171.)
Local Authority Services	London	18 March	Tooth brush fashioners and cutters	War bonus of 2d. in the shilling increased to 4d. in the shilling.
	Liverpool and District (including Bootle, Birkenhead and Wallasey)	4 March	Bakers and confectioners **	Adults: Increase of 5s. per week to regular men (table hands 45s. to 50s.), and of 1s. per day to jobbers. Juniors: Rates of wages to be 27s. per week for those 18 to 19 years of age, 31s. for those 19 to 20 years, and 35s. for those 20 to 21 years. For particulars of these increases see under Transport Trades, p. 156.
Building	United Kingdom	See p. 156	Employees in traffic sections of tramway and omnibus undertakings	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and of 7½ per cent. to men on systems of payment by results.
	London	1st full pay after 15 Feb.||	Men, 21 years and over, employed in the repair and maintenance of plant, &c., in the main drainage, asylums, fire brigade, chief engineer's electrical branch, Woolwich Ferry, Thames tunnels and tramways departments of the London County Council (excluding tradesmen such as building trade operatives whose wages are usually regulated by movements in their own trades)	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and of 7½ per cent. to men on systems of payment by results. (See also p. 171.)
Printing	Birkenhead, Leigh, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Wallasey, and Wigan	1st full pay after 21 March	Gas workers (males)	War wages increased from 16s. to 20s. per week for men 18 years and over, and a further war wage of 2s. per week for boys and youths under 18; and in the case of men 21 years and over a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men on systems of payment by results. (See also p. 171.)
	Stockport	1st full pay after 21 March	Gas workers (males)	War wages increased from 12s. to 16s. per week for men 18 years and over, and a further war wage of 2s. per week for boys and youths under 18; and in the case of men 21 years and over a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men on systems of payment by results. (See also p. 171.)
Baking and Confectionery	Manchester	1st full pay after 28 Feb.||	Men, 21 years and over, employed in connection with hydraulic pressure in the water-works department, and men employed in gas works and depots and permanent way, &c., sections of the tramways department	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers, and of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men on systems of payment by results. (See also p. 170.)
	Belfast	1st full pay after 7 March	Motormen, conductors, and other employees in the traffic section of the tramways department, and firemen, greasers, boiler cleaners, &c. and labourers in the electricity department	War wages increased to 20s. per week for men, 18 years and over, and war wage increased by 2s. per week or 4d. per day or shift for boys and youths under 18 years. (See also p. 171.)

Changes in Hours of Labour.

Building	Manchester and surrounding District††	1 March	Painters ††	Decreases (usually amounting to from 5 to 7½ hours per week in summer) to a uniform week of 40½ hours in summer and 41½ to 44 hours in winter.
Printing	Coleraine	6 March	Painters ††	Decrease of 2½ hours per week in winter (58½ to 56).
	Maidstone	1st week in March	Compositors and machinemen (book and jobbing)	Decrease of 1 hour per week (54 to 53).
Baking and Confectionery	Liverpool and District (including Bootle, Birkenhead, and Wallasey)	4 March	Bakers and confectioners †† (hand bakeries)	Decrease of 4 hours per week (54 to 50).

* War bonuses and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between these and increases not thus limited. † These increases were granted under an award issued in March, to have effect from 1 December, 1917, in the case of the increase of 5s. per week, and from the 1st full pay after 1 January in the case of the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. ‡ Any bonus or war advance merged into the bonus of 12½ per cent. given to time-workers on munitions work in engineering, &c., establishments to merge into this 7½ per cent. § Including Ashton, Barnsley, Bradford, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Blackpool, Dewsbury, Garstang, Halifax, Huddersfield, Lancaster, Leeds, Manchester, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Stockport, Southport, Warrington, Wigan. ¶ Under an award issued in March, the bonus of 12½ per cent. took effect from the 1st full pay after 1 January, and the increases of 5s. and 2s. 6d. per week from the 1st full pay after 26 March. ** See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour." †† For list of towns, see footnote ¶ on p. 153. ††† See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

Increases in Minimum Rates under the Trade Boards Act.—Increases were made during March in the minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Act for (a) the chain-making trade in Great Britain, (b) the shirt-making trade in Great Britain, and (c) the tailoring trade in Great Britain. Particulars relating to these increases were given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for March (p. 132).

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE COAL AND IRON TRADES.

The results of recent ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given below:—

Table with columns for Product and District, Price according to last Audit, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit on, and Average selling price per ton. Rows include COAL (Northumberland, Cleveland), MANUFACTURED IRON (North of England, Midlands, West of Scotland).

Coal.—No change in miners' wages took place as a result of the ascertainment for Northumberland. Pig Iron.—The ascertained selling price of Cleveland pig iron for the quarter ended March, 1918, involved a reduction of 1.25 per cent. in wages, which took effect from 7th April. Manufactured Iron.—No change in rates of wages in the North of England, Midlands, and the West of Scotland resulted from the audit for the months of January and February.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES. QUARTERLY RETURNS OF SALES.

Table with columns for Names of Societies and Nature of Business, Sales in Fourth Quarter of (1917, 1916, 1912), Percentage Increase compared with (A Year ago, Five Years ago). Rows include ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY, SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY, ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES, IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY, and GRAND TOTAL.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN MARCH.

The total number of Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, whose registers were open at the end of March, 1918, was 11, compared with 13 at the end of March, 1917. The total number of persons who received employment relief during March was 9, as compared with 35 a year ago, a decrease of 26 persons. The aggregate duration of employment relief during March, 1918, was 163 days, as compared with 886 days in March, 1917, and the average duration of employment was 18.1 days, compared with 25.3 days a year ago. The total amount of wages paid in March, 1918, was £23, compared with £119 in March, 1917; the average earnings per head were 5s. 1d., compared with 68s. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the information from various Distress Committees as to their operations in March, 1917, and 1918.

Table with columns for Districts, No. of Applicants given Employment Relief, Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief, Total Amount of Wages Paid. Rows include England and Wales, Scotland, and GREAT BRITAIN.

* Stated to the nearest farthing. † The figures given for the productive departments represent sales and transfers to distributive departments. ‡ Revised figures. § Decrease.

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

The number of paupers relieved on one day in March, 1918, in the thirty-five selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 132 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of two on a month ago, and of 17 per 10,000 on a year ago. Compared with a month ago, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 3,174 (or 1.3 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 1,823 (or 1.5 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 1,351 (or 1.1 per cent.). The most marked changes were an increase in the Galway district (4 per 10,000), and decreases of 4 per 10,000 in the Leicester and Glasgow districts. Compared with March, 1917, the total number of paupers decreased by 29,801 (or 10.8 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 13,510 (or 10.0 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 16,291 (or 11.5 per cent.). Every district showed a decrease, except in the Galway district, where there was an increase of 6 per 10,000. The most marked decreases were in the Central Metropolitan district (31 per 10,000) and in the Stockton and Tees district (25 per 10,000). Twelve other districts showed decreases of 20 and under 30 per 10,000, and in 20 others the decreases ranged from 5 to 19 per 10,000.

Table with columns for Selected Urban Areas, Paupers on one day in March, 1918, (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a (Month ago, Year ago). Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, METROPOLIS, West Ham, Other Districts, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, and TOTAL for above 35 Districts in Mar., 1918.

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

† Exclusive of Vagrants; 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 outdoor medical relief only.

‡ Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS

IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, 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 total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during March, 1918, was 24, of which 10 were due to lead-poisoning, 1 each to mercurial and phosphorus poisoning, 2 to toxic jaundice, and 10 to anthrax. One death due to toxic jaundice and 2 to anthrax were also reported. In addition, 3 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

During the three months ended March, 1918, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 71, compared with 213 in the corresponding period of 1917. The number of deaths in 1918 was 10, as compared with 20 in 1917. In addition, 6 cases of lead poisoning (including 3 deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during the three months ended March, 1918, compared with 16 cases (including 6 deaths) during the corresponding period of 1917.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Table with columns for Industry, Cases (Month of March, 1918, March, 1917, Three months ended March, 1917), Deaths (Month of March, 1918, March, 1917, Three months ended March, 1917). Rows include AMONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN (Smelting of Metals, Brass Works, Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, etc.), LEAD POISONING, OTHER FORMS OF POISONING, ANTHRAX, and GRAND TOTAL.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED.

[Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

The Table shows the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during March, in comparison with the numbers for the previous month and for March, 1917.

The number reported as killed in March, 1918, was 314, an increase of 31 on a month ago, and of 28 on a year ago. The mean number in March during the five years 1913-1917 was 259, the maximum being 286, and the minimum 229.

Fatal accidents in the railway service during March, 1918, numbered 32, compared with 36 in February, 1918, and March, 1917.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 114, an increase of 17 on a month ago, and of 5 on a year ago. There were 11 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 4 a month ago, and 4 a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in March, 1918, was 155, an increase of 11 on February, 1918, and of 21 on March, 1917.

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH, 1918.

During the three months ended March, 1918, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment was 1,066, as compared with 914 in the corresponding period of 1917, an increase of 152.

The total number of fatal accidents in the railway service numbered 116, as compared with 112, an increase of 4 on the three months ended March, 1918.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 476, as compared with 319, an increase of 157 on 1917. There were 18 fatal accidents at quarries, compared with 15, an increase of 3 on the corresponding period of 1917.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in 1918 was 452, as compared with 460 in the corresponding period of 1917, a decrease of 8.

Table with columns for Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (March, 1918, Feb., 1918, March, 1917, Month ago, Year ago), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in March, 1918, on a (Month ago, Year ago). Rows include RAILWAY SERVICE, MINES, QUARRIES OVER 20 FEET DEEP, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, and TOTAL (including Seamen).

* In addition two cases among dock labourers were reported.

BUILDING PLANS.

Returns received by the Department from 91 of the principal urban districts in the United Kingdom (exclusive of the County of London), giving the estimated cost of the buildings for which plans were passed during the first quarter of 1918, show that there was a net increase of £722,170 (or 43·1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1917.

The population of the districts included in the Returns was nearly 13,000,000 at the Census of 1911.

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	TOTAL
First Quarter of 1917.						
Outer London (1,682,000)	...	81,590	3,620	...	46,039	131,249
Northern Counties (837,000)	...	13,190	70	30,000	9,646	52,906
Yorkshire (1,926,000)	4,850	440,244	12,250	...	54,077	511,451
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,323,000)	3,060	54,570	8,780	2,130	78,044	116,584
Midlands (2,045,000)	91,158	361,650	9,350	2,943	82,253	547,359
Other Districts in England (1,073,000)	17,175	6,495	200	...	7,371	31,231
Wales & Mon. (432,000)	250	1,560	200	3,000	2,805	7,755
Scotland (1,833,000)	920	127,856	2,950	...	24,933	156,719
Ireland (695,000)	25,515	4,500	18,580	...	40,710	89,305
TOTAL	142,958	1,091,595	56,690	38,078	345,838	1,674,559
First Quarter of 1918.						
Outer London (1,682,000)	1,000	15,310	19,270	...	72,750	108,330
Northern Counties (837,000)	...	70,110	20,450	27,000	18,409	135,969
Yorkshire (1,926,000)	7,390	779,348	42,397	2,557	56,519	888,181
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,323,000)	2,260	95,708	32,256	750	87,515	121,489
Midlands (2,045,000)	10,030	303,123	23,770	803	252,780	590,506
Other Districts in England (1,073,000)	250	55,800	984	...	11,499	68,533
Wales & Mon. (432,000)	900	350	300	...	1,560	3,110
Scotland (1,833,000)	...	185,875	1,810	1,000	25,836	214,521
Ireland (695,000)	14,540	50,000	46,150	15,000	43,400	169,090
TOTAL	36,340	1,555,624	187,387	47,110	570,268	2,396,729

Compared with the corresponding period of 1917, there was an increase in the value of all classes of building, except dwelling-houses, which showed a decrease of £106,618 (or 74·6 per cent.). The largest increases were in shops and other business premises (234·1 per cent.) and in other buildings, additions and alterations (64·9 per cent.). There were increases in the value in all districts except in Outer London, where there was a decrease of 17·5 per cent., and in Wales and Monmouthshire, which showed a decrease of 59·9 per cent. The largest increases were in the Northern Counties (157·0 per cent.), in other districts in England (119·4 per cent.), and in Ireland (89·3 per cent.).

The following Table shows for each class of building and for each district the increase or decrease in the quarter ended March, 1918, compared with the corresponding period of 1917:—

CLASS OF BUILDING:	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling Houses	- 106,618	- 74·6
Factories and Workshops	+ 494,629	+ 42·5
Shops and Other Business Premises	+ 131,297	+ 234·1
Churches, Schools and Public Buildings	+ 9,032	+ 23·7
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations	+ 224,430	+ 64·9
TOTAL	+ 722,170	+ 43·1
DISTRICTS:		
Outer London	- 22,919	- 17·5
Northern Counties	+ 83,063	+ 157·0
Yorkshire	+ 376,730	+ 73·7
Lancashire and Cheshire	+ 71,905	+ 49·1
Midlands	+ 43,147	+ 7·9
Other Districts in England	+ 37,302	+ 119·4
Wales and Monmouthshire	- 4,645	- 59·9
Scotland	+ 57,102	+ 36·9
Ireland	+ 79,785	+ 89·3
TOTAL	+ 722,170	+ 43·1

LEGAL CASE AFFECTING LABOUR.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: INJURY BY BOMB FROM HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

Compensation is payable to a workman under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1907, where he is incapacitated by injury caused by an accident arising out of, as well as in the course of, his employment.

A potman employed at a public-house was told by his employer to clean the brass plate on the outside of the street door. Whilst he was in the act of carrying out this work a bomb from a German aeroplane fell in the street and he was injured by the concussion of the explosion and incapacitated from work for several weeks. He claimed compensation under the Act. At the hearing there was no dispute as to the facts, but the employer contended that the accident did not arise out of the employment and that therefore compensation was not payable. The County Court Judge, however, made an award in favour of the claimant, and from this decision the employer appealed.

The Court of Appeal overruled the decision and allowed the appeal. The claimant appealed to the House of Lords. They held that if it were shown that the risk of being struck by a bomb was a risk of the streets in the sense that there was a special danger to a person in a street as distinguished from a person in a house or elsewhere, there might be some question; but there was no evidence of that. It was impossible, therefore, to say that there was any special danger attached to the spot to which the claimant had been sent as distinguished from the public-house itself. It was impossible also to say here that the danger of being struck by a bomb was a street risk at all, in the sense that it specially attached to persons in streets. The decision of the House in this case determined no principle of general application. It depended simply on the fact that there was neither evidence nor finding that this was a street risk to which the appellant was exposed by the nature of his employment.—*Alcock v. Rogers*.—House of Lords.—21st March, 1918.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND COURTS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Building and Allied Trades.

BRICKLAYERS, CARPENTERS, PAINTERS, PLASTERERS, LABOURERS, &c.—H. Boot & Sons, Ltd. (Westminster), Parkinson & Sons, and W. E. Blake, Ltd. (Winchester) v. Operative Bricklayers' Society, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Operative Plasterers' National Association, National Association of House and Ship Painters and Decorators, and United Builders' Labourers' Union. Claim—Application for specified increase in wages. Arbitrator—Sir W. Robinson. Award—(1) At Messrs. Boot & Sons, Ltd., bricklayers, carpenters, joiners and plasterers shall receive 1s. 3d. per hour, and labourers, scaffolders, and painters 11½d., 1s. 0½d., and 1s. 0½d. per hour respectively. (2) At Parkinson & Sons and W. E. Blake, Ltd., bricklayers, joiners and plasterers shall receive 1s. 2½d. per hour, and labourers 11½d. London men working on the said jobs in the employ of firms concerned are entitled to present London rates. Issued 4th March. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following 23rd Feb. I.C. 1064/2.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Luton Master Builders' Association v. Luton and District Building Trades Committee. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Present war wage of 1½d. per hour shall be increased to 4d. per hour. (2) Bona-fide scaffolders shall receive 1d. per hour above rate of ordinary labourers when working as scaffolders. (3) Saturday afternoon (1 to 4 p.m.) shall be paid at rate of time and a half, and work legitimately done before ordinary hours of starting shall be paid for at double time rate. (4) Claims for general wet time allowance and conversion of present war wage into part of the permanent standard rate have not been established. Issued 23rd March. Effective as from commencement of first full pay subsequent to date of award. I.C. 1634/2.

BRICKLAYERS AND LABOURERS.—E. & H. F. Higgs, Ltd. v. Operative Bricklayers' Society and United Order of General Labourers. Claim—For travelling expenses, good time-keeping bonus, and wet time. Arbitrator—Sir W. Robinson. Award—(1) Men concerned shall be paid special allowance of 6d. per day. (2) Claim for a good time-keeping bonus and other broken time not established. (3) Wet time allowance of one hour when minimum of two hours in one day is lost through bad weather; two hours when minimum of four and a half hours is lost; and three hours when a full day is lost, to all men who book on at usual time in the morning, stay on the job all day ready to receive work if weather permits, and book off at usual time, unless released by order. Issued 12th March. Effective as from beginning of first full pay in Feb. 1918. I.C. 1547/3.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—Coventry and District Master Builders' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and working conditions. Arbitrator—Sir William

ROBINSON. Award—(1) As from 1st Jan. time rates of wages of men concerned shall be advanced 1½d. per hour. (2) Claims for recognition of Federation, alterations of working hours and overtime, further lodging allowance, alteration of certain other rules have not been established. (3) Certain other alterations of working rules made. Issued 5th March. I.C. 40/3.

PLUMBERS.—An award in somewhat similar terms was given in a difference between the Coventry and District Master Builders' Association and the United Operative Plumbers Association. I.C. 40/5.

BUILDERS AND GENERAL LABOURERS.—An award in somewhat similar terms was given in a difference between the Coventry and District Master Builders' Association and the Navvies, Builders' Labourers, and General Labourers. I.C. 40/6.

PAINTERS AND DECORATORS.—An award in somewhat similar terms was given in a difference between the Coventry and District Master Builders' Association and the National Amalgamated Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators. I.C. 40/4.

TRADESMEN AND LABOURERS.—The Warrington and District Master Builders' Association v. Warrington and District Building Industries Federation. Claim—Application for increase of 2½d. per hour to men concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. C. Doughty. Award—Claim established. Issued 4th March. Effective as from 2nd March. I.C. 377/268B.

REPAIR WORKERS AT SHREWSBURY.—J. Parkinson & Sons, Ltd. (Blackpool) v. Operative Bricklayers' Society and the Navvies' Union. Claim—Application for 9s. per week as subsistence allowance, to be paid to all men who are compelled to live away from home. Arbitrator—Sir W. Robinson. Award—Claim established; to be paid from beginning of first full pay following date of award. Issued 25th March. I.C. 1204/2.

CARPENTERS.—Meville, Dundas & Whitsun (Glasgow) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—That Glasgow rates, raised 7s. 6d. per week by the award of 18th Jan. for joiners engaged on munition work in the Glasgow district, shall apply to Glasgow carpenters engaged at Wolverhampton Electricity Power Station. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim established in terms of the said award. Issued 18th March. I.C. 216/2.

MASONS.—Edinburgh, Leith and District Building Trades Association v. The United Operative Masons' Association of Scotland. Claim—Application for 2d. per hour increase on the present rate of wages, the increase to date from 25th Jan., 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim established with regard to increase and date thereof. Issued 4th March. I.C. 1288.

MARBLE MASONS AND FIXERS.—Galbraith & Winton (Glasgow) and Others v. Glasgow and District Marble Masons and Fixers' Society. Claim—Application for advance of 3d. per hour on present rates to men concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Present rate of 11½d. per hour shall be raised to 1s. 1d. per hour as from first pay day in Feb., and shall be payable for the week preceding that pay day and thereafter. Issued 11th March. I.C. 344/2.

CARPENTERS, PAINTERS, LABOURERS.—At H.M. Factory (Gainsborough), F. Pitcher, Ltd. (Hornsey) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—Application for advance of (1) 3d. per hour; (2) war bonus to 5s.; (3) that one hour per day be allowed for walking time. Arbitrator—Sir W. Robinson. Award—(1) Time rates of wages of said men to be advanced 1d. per hour, as from beginning of first full pay following date of this award. (2) Claim not established. (3) Firm agree to allow men one hour walking time if not living sufficiently near railway terminus to travel by train provided. Issued 18th March. I.C. 1439/2.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—Ritchie & Anderson, T. Millar, Muirhead & Ferguson, Hurst, Nelson & Co., Ltd., D. & W. Nimens, J. C. Burns & Co., Shanks & McEwan, W. Bain & Co. v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—Application for war bonus of 5s. per week to date as from 1st Sept., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim established, but as from first full pay day in Jan., 1918. Issued 30th March. I.C. 2522.

CRANEMEN, LOCOMOTIVE DRIVERS, &c.—Shanks & McEwan (Glasgow), and Brand & Sons (Coatbridge) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase of 3s. per week from 1st Aug., 1917, and 5s. as from beginning of first full pay in Dec., 1917. Arbitrator—Sheriff Hay Shennan. Award—Claim established, and to apply also to navy drivers, winch drivers, and rope runners. Issued 26th Feb. I.C. 1716.

Coal Mining, Quarrying, &c.

OVEN WORKERS.—Baldwin & Co. (Carnarvon) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for an advance in wages and other concessions. Arbitrator—Mr. W. Dodd. Award—(1) Percentage to count on 6½ instead of 7 days or more. (2) Advance of ½d. per ton to washery men. (3) Specified classes of workmen to receive 5d. per day advance. (4) Boys up to 18 years 3d. per day advance. (5) Present Sunday turn to count as time and a half. (6) Basis tonnage on new block to be 770 tons fortnightly. Issued 7th March. Effective as from 10th Nov., 1917. I.C. 1857.

COLLIERS.—J. & G. Wells, Ltd. (Eckington Collieries) v. Derbyshire Miners' Association. Claim—Application on behalf of men working at Hornthorpe Colliery for a "getting price" of 2s. 2d. per ton when the thickness of coal is 4 feet or over. Arbitrator—Sir Harry Hale. Agreement made by which "getting price" "end on" is to be 2s. 2d. per ton, and "face on" 2s. 1d. per ton. These prices are to continue until the end of the war, then to be reconsidered. Issued 28th March. I.C. 898/2.

QUARRY WORKERS.—(1) Clay Cross Co., Ltd.; (2) Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co., Ltd.; (3) Butterley Co., Ltd.; (4) J. Smart & Son; (5) Greatorex & Son; (6) A. Hickman, Ltd., Mr. G. Lovegrove, T. W. Ward, Ltd.; (7) Constable Hart & Co., Ltd.; (8) Mr. G. Boden v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for advance in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Awards.—Wages of men concerned at (1) shall be advanced 6s. per week. Wages of those who are employed by (2) at Royston Grange Limestone Quarry shall be advanced 18½ per cent. Piece-workers employed by (3) at Bull Bridge Quarry and Dale Quarry shall receive advance of ½d. per ton and of 55 per cent. over rates existing on 4th Aug., 1914, respectively; the wages of day-workers at both these quarries shall be advanced 3s. per week. Present time bonus of 8s. per week of men at Matlock Quarry in employ of (4) shall cease, and in substitution thereof wages of men to whom such bonus was paid, shall be increased by 10s. per week, as from 4th March, 1918. Wages of men concerned at (5) shall be advanced 6s. per week, and those employed by (6), working at various quarries, shall be advanced 18½ per cent. Wages of quarrymen in employ of (7), working at Cawdon Quarries, shall be advanced 2s. per week from 4th Dec., 1917, to 8th March, 1918, and from the latter date by a further 2s. per week. Wages of engine driver and loco-driver shall be increased by 1s. 6d. and 2s. per week respectively, as from and including 8th March. Wages of men concerned shall be increased by 1½d. per hour as from 9th March, and a further ½d. as from first pay day in June, 1918. The awards are subject to certain specified qualifications. Issued (1), (2), (3), 12th March; (4), (6), 15th March; (5), 16th March; (7), (8), 27th March. Effective as from and including 1st Dec., 1917, with exception of (4), (7), (8). I.C. 1987/2/3/4/5/6/7/8.

CLAY PIT WORKERS.—John Knowles & Co., Ltd., Donnington Sanitary Pipe and Firebrick Co., Ltd., Ensor & Co., Ltd., T. Ragg & Co., Ltd., J. Woodward & Co., Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for an advance of 3s. per week in addition to 6s. advance already granted. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 15th March. I.C. 929/2.

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

PLATERS, RIVETTERS, HOLDERS-UP, DRILLERS, PUNCHERS.—The Frodingham Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. v. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Claim—Application for an advance of 10 per cent. in the piece-work rates for men concerned in firm's constructional department. Arbitrator—Mr. W. Dodd. Award—Claim established. Issued 15th March. Effective as from first full pay day following 1st Jan. I.C. 1286/2.

SHEET WORKERS.—Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Claim—Application for payment of double time to men concerned when working from 12 o'clock Saturday night to 12 o'clock Sunday night. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—Claim not established. Issued 16th March. I.C. 1078/2.

LOADERS AND UNLOADERS OF IRON ORE AND LIMESTONE.—Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron and Coal Co., Ltd. v. Iron and Steel Trades Federation. Claim—Application for 6d. per day increase on present base rate of 3s. 8d. per day. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim established. Issued 16th March. Effective as from first full pay day following date of award, and shall be payable for the week preceding that pay day and thereafter. I.C. 891/2.

BRICKLAYERS.—Government Rolling Mills (Southampton) v. Operative Bricklayers' Society. Claim—Question as to whether men concerned are entitled to receive as from 1st Aug., 1917, the whole of the engineering advances awarded by the Committee on Production either before, on, or after that date, or only such as were payable on or after that date. Arbitrator—Mr. E. Page, K.C. Award—Claim established. These advances shall be subject to all terms and conditions which affect engineering advances, and all building advances already granted shall be deducted therefrom, and in future the men concerned shall forfeit their claim to participate in any advance that may be awarded or agreed in the building trade. Issued 8th March. I.C. 1129/3.

MALE AND FEMALE CLERKS.—Redbourn Hill Iron and Coal Co., Ltd. v. National Union of Clerks. Claim—Application for total bonus of 25s. per week, 5s. thereof to be payable from 1st Dec., 1917, 5s. from 12th Oct., 1917, and balance from 1st Aug., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Male clerks, who have received during period of their employment by the company since commencement of war, increases amounting to less than 14s. per week, exclusive of the amount accruing from the 12½ per cent. bonus, that the employers had already decided to grant, shall receive war bonus of 5s. per week. Claim on behalf of female clerks not established. Issued 15th March. Effective as from week commencing 4th Feb., 1918. I.C. 2193.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.

FARRIERS, &c.—Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire District Committee of the National Master Farriers' Association v. Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire District Committee of the Amalgamated Society of Farriers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. A. J. Ashton, K.C. Award—(1) Minimum rates of wages for firemen and doormen shall be 55s. and 51s. respectively per week of 53 hours. (2) In Manchester branch minimum rate shall continue to be 2s. higher than rate prevailing in the rest of district. Issued 2nd and 28th March. Effective as from 11th Feb., 1918. I.C. 67/4.

FORGEMEN.—Mitchell & Shackleton (Patricroft, Manchester) v. Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society. Claim—That men concerned should be included in and have full benefit of various awards made by the Committee on Production as from date of issues thereof. Arbitrator—Mr. A. C. Forster Boulton. Award—Forgemen in question are entitled to general awards issued by the Committee on Production to the engineering and foundry trades for 1917, from dates fixed therein for such advances to take effect. Issued 5th March. I.C. 1870.

FURNACE AND PRESSMEN.—The Phoenix Dynamo Manufacturing Co., Ltd (Thornbury Works, Bradford) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for revision of piece-work prices for heating and piercing billets. Arbitrator—Mr. W. Dodd. Award—As from beginning of first full pay after 25th March, men concerned shall be paid at rate of 85 forgings per 10 hour shift, whether on light or heavy billets. Issued 25th March. I.C. 1502/2.

IRON MOULDERS.—E. Manistay & Co., Ltd. v. Friendly Society of Iron Founders. Claim—Application for Belfast rate of wages and conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. J. M. Whitaker. Award—Claim not established. Issued 11th March. I.C. 2035.

FOUNDRY LABOURERS.—The Fulwood Foundry Co., Ltd. v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for payment of time and a half for overtime and double time for Sunday labour in accordance with finding of the Committee on Production dated 31st July, 1917, in respect of the light castings trade, Scotland. Arbitrator—Mr. W. K. Dickson. Award—Claim established. Issued 22nd March. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following date of award. I.C. 877/2.

IRON CARRIERS.—A. Danks, Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for restoration of: (1) allowance of 1s. per week for clothes; (2) 2d. per morning for work in connection with ladles; (3) 3s. per ton bonus for man who carries over 25 tons per week. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—Claim (1) established, and back payments to be paid from time when they were suspended, but this is not to be taken as a precedent for other works in the Gloucester district where conditions of working are not identical. (2) and (3) not established. Issued 25th March. I.C. 2306.

MOULDERS.—R. C. Whipp & Co. (Tividale) v. Iron Founders' Society. Claim—Application on behalf of men concerned for advances awarded by finding of the Committee on Production dated 6th Nov., 1917, in respect of the engineering and foundry trades. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—Claim, as made, not established, but as from first pay following 19th March, 1918, wages of men concerned shall be advanced by 5s. per full week, and the advance of 4s. per week granted by the firm on 23rd Feb. to merge therein. This award shall apply only to members of the Union who were in the employ of the firm on the said 19th March. Issued 27th March. I.C. 315/2.

MOTORMEN, &c.—Sheffield and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association v. Electrical Trades Union. Claim—Application that full standard rate of district for skilled men be paid to motormen concerned, being employees of Messrs. Vickers, Ltd. Arbitrator—Mr. C. M. le Breton, K.C. Award—(1) Understood duties of a motor attendant and of an electrician given in detail. (2) Twenty-four specified men shall be raised to district rate for qualified electricians of 62s. per week of 53 hours (including 20s war advance), plus 12½ per cent. Issued 27th March. Effective as from beginning of first full pay in March, 1918. I.C. 1087/2.

ENGINEERING OPERATIVES.—Cradley Heath Manufacturing Co., Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society of Gas Municipal and General Workers. Claim—(1) Application for (1) advance of 3s. per week, payable as from 1st Aug. last. (2) Further advance of 5s. as from 1st Dec. last. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—(1) and (2) Claim established, but in (2) advance payable as from third pay day in Dec. last or such other date in that month as the 5s advance was given to certain workmen in the same company. Issued 1st March. I.C. 1809.

ENGINEERING OPERATIVES.—Dublin Engineers Employers' Association, representing Messrs. Tonge & Taggart, Spence & Sons, and Hammond Lane Foundry Co. (Dublin) v. Ironfounders' Society. Claim—Application for payment of 12½ per cent. bonus to time-workers granted by Order 1301 of the Ministry of Munitions, 11th Dec., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Claim established with regard to workmen concerned who have been or are engaged on or have actively assisted in work which is technically munition work, or contract work for the Government or for a certified

undertaking in the Dublin area, or work required for maintaining the efficiency of railways in Ireland. (2) This bonus to be paid to munition workers as from 12th Oct., 1917, or for such periods when engaged on said work. Those whose work falls under other classes of work specified in (1) shall be paid as from first full pay day following 1st Jan., 1918, or for such periods when engaged on said work. (3) This grant is subject to qualification made in the Order of the Ministry of Munitions above referred to. Issued 30th March. I.C. 377/305A.

ENGINEERS.—Richardson, Westgarth & Co., Ltd. (Hartlepool) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—Application that men concerned shall be allowed, when working overtime until 7 p.m., 15 minutes tea-time without deduction of wages, whether working after that hour or not. Arbitrator—Mr. T. F. Wilson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 20th March. I.C. 2156.

FITTERS, TURNERS, SMITHS, &c.—Philip, Pierce & Co., Ltd. (Wexford) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. Andrews, K.C. Award—(1) Men concerned, who have received advances in their time rates of at least 15 per cent., and in their piece rates of at least 10 per cent., since 28th Nov., 1917, shall continue to receive them, and those who have not received such advance, shall be paid the same, as from 28th Nov. in lieu of smaller increases that may have been granted to them since the said date. The award is applicable only to men who are engaged in munition work. Issued 1st March. Effective as from and including first pay payable next after 1st March. I.C. 1749.

SHIFT-FITTERS.—Mond Nickel Co., Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—Application that men concerned shall be paid, in addition to their present earnings, double time for Saturdays from noon, and also for Sundays and Bank Holidays. Arbitrator—Mr. E. Page, K.C. Award—Claim not established; no opinion given as to whether or not rates paid are adequate for work performed. Issued 2nd March. I.C. 169/2.

GRINDERS, PLANERS, CHOPPERS, SAWYERS.—F. Morton & Co., Ltd. (Garston) v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Claim—Application for 20s. per week above pre-war earnings. Arbitrator—Mr. A. C. Forster Boulton. Award—Claim established; previous advances and bonuses given since the beginning of war to merge therein. Issued 27th March. Effective on and after 15th March. I.C. 1822/2.

ELECTRICAL FITTERS.—Williams, Harvey & Co., Ltd. (Booth) v. Electrical Trades Union. Claim—Application as to whether men concerned are entitled to participate in clause (1) of the award of the Committee on Production, to engineering and foundry trades, dated 6th Nov., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—Claim not established. Issued 27th March. I.C. 1881/2.

SHIPYARD WORKMEN.—Caird & Co., Ltd. (Greenock) v. Certain Shipyard Workmen. Claim—Application for an extension of period allowed for meal hours. Arbitrator—Mr. T. F. Wilson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 12th March. I.C. 1604/2.

PAINTERS, RED-LEADERS, &c.—Yarrow & Co., Ltd. v. Scottish Painters' Society. Claim—(1) To decide whether priming of woodwork in the joiners' shop was executed by painters or red-leaders prior to Aug., 1914. (2) That change of practice in employing women on skilled men's work should be recorded. Arbitrator—Sheriff T. A. Fyfe. Award—(1) That work in question was mainly executed by red-leaders. (2) That women are now doing their work, but this does not constitute a change of practice within meaning of Schedule II. of the Munitions Act, 1915, and accordingly no record is necessary. Issued 13th March. I.C. 779/2.

PAINTERS.—North-East Coast Ship Repairers' Association v. National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators. Claim—That the painting of the outside of vessels in various colours (known as Dazzle Painting) should be considered skilled work, and should be done by skilled painters. Arbitrator—Mr. C. Doughty. Award—Claim not established. Issued 18th March. I.C. 892/2.

MALE AND FEMALE CLERICAL STAFF.—Manning, Wardle & Co., Ltd. (Leeds) v. National Union of Clerks. Claim—Application for (1) total bonus of 25s. per week to be paid from certain specified dates; (2) 12½ per cent. bonus. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Male clerks concerned to have further advance of 5s. per week, and female clerks 2s. 6d. (2) Men concerned to have in addition 12½ per cent. bonus on their present earnings. Issued 11th March. Effective on and from first pay day after 4th Feb., 1918. I.C. 446/2.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.—London and South Western Railway Co. v. Their Employees. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Court of Arbitration—Mr. A. B. Pilling (chairman), Mr. W. Bishop and Mr. J. Thomson. Award—(1) Southampton district rate and conditions shall not apply to locomotive and carriage and wagon shops of London and South Western Railway Co. situate at Eastleigh. (2) "Eastleigh district rates" shall be established, and shall be the minimum rates of wages for able-bodied men of ordinary skill and ability, and shall be paid as from beginning of first full pay week after date of this award. Overtime payment and allowance shall be paid "out of the office" over and above piece-work earnings as from date of this award. (3) Journeymen's rates per week of

fifty and fifty-four hours at Eastleigh locomotive and carriage and wagon shops respectively fixed in detail; also the conditions of journeymen's rates, hours of labour, overtime, night-shift rate, charge hands and out of shops. (4) If a majority of men employed in running sheds where "inclusive system" of pay prevails, state in writing their desire and on their behalf "inclusive system" shall cease. Issued 13th March. I.C. 893/2.

Textile Trades.

CARPET OPERATIVES.—Blackwood Morton & Sons, Ltd. (Kilmarnock) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for 5s. increase per week. Arbitrator—Mr. T. F. Wilson. Award—Men over, and youths under, 18 years of age to receive 3s. and 2s. increase per week respectively, as from beginning of first full pay following 6th March. Issued 7th March. I.C. 1103/2.

FEMALE HOSIERY WORKERS.—Hodgkinson & Gillibrand, Ltd. (Bolton) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for an advance of 30s. on present rates for all classes of work, so far as munitions work is concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. C. M. Le Breton, K.C., O.B.E. Award—Claim not established. Issued 20th March. I.C. 2170.

MALE AND FEMALE WOOLLEN WORKERS.—Scottish Woollen Trade Employers' Association v. National Union of General Workers and The Workers' Union. Claim—Application for alteration in rates of wages and other working conditions. Chairman of Conference—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Pre-war general district average earnings in a given class of operations, adjusted in terms of an appended schedule, shall be increased by 60 per cent. in case of time-workers, and 55 per cent. in case of piece-workers, and, as so increased, shall be regarded as the minimum average earnings in the respective class of operations in each mill at Dec., 1917. (2) Each time-worker of 18 years or over, shall be guaranteed minimum increase of 17s. or 12s. in case of a man or woman, respectively, over individual pre-war weekly earnings, and this increase shall merge all advances given since Aug., 1914, on account of increased cost of living. (3) Other working conditions fixed in detail. Issued 29th March. Effective as from date hereof. Increases in clauses (1) and (2) to take effect as on and from first pay day after 4th Feb., 1918, and shall be payable for the week preceding and thereafter. I.C. 666/3.

MALE AND FEMALE CLOTHWORKERS.—Clothworkers and Allied Trades Society, Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for advance of 25 per cent. on existing wages. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Employees concerned whose wages are at rate of 40s. per week and upwards shall receive 6s. advance; those whose wages are less than 40s., but not less than 30s. per week, shall receive 5s., and those whose wages are less than 30s. shall receive 3s. per week. These increases are to be based on full working week of 53 hours, and are to take effect as from 1st April, 1918. Issued 26th March. I.C. 1520/2.

Clothing Trades.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES.—The Federated and Non-Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers v. National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives. Claim—Application for a revision of the National Uniform Scale of War Bonus Rates. Chairman of Conference—Alderman T. Smith. Agreement made by which, subject to specified conditions, females of 20 years and over, and those of 18 years and under 20 years, shall receive 8s. and 6s. 6d. per week; youths of 18 years and under 21 years, and males over that age shall receive 6s. 6d. and 15s. per week. These to be paid additional to the day or piece-work weekly earnings of the operatives, respectively, and in substitution for the war bonus rates in operation at the date of this agreement. Adult males unable to earn 30s. per week to be paid war bonus of 6d. in shilling on actual earnings. Issued 18th Feb. Effective as from commencement of first working week in Feb. I.C. 2124.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES.—Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Leicester. Claim—Application for a general statement of piece-work prices for press department. Independent Chairman of Conference—Alderman T. Smith, J.P. Agreement made by which a piece-work statement for adult male operatives employed in the press room or rough stuff department was drawn up and given in detail. Working conditions also fixed. Issued 18th March. Effective as from commencement of working week ending 11th, 12th, or 13th April, 1918, and shall continue in operation for a period of three years from 8th April, 1918, and thenceforward subject to three months' notice from either side, claiming revision or termination of same, which notice may be given on or after 8th April, 1921. I.C. 2423.

FEMALE BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES.—Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Leicester. Claim—Application for advance in wages. Independent Chairman of Conference—Alderman T. Smith, J.P. Agreement made by which advance of 15 per cent. shall be paid to day workers and piece-workers on the rates of wages as set out in the statement of prices for clickers, dated 23rd March, 1903, for women's and girl's civil work. The question as to the 15 per cent. applying to clickers cutting men's and boy's civilian work referred back to Board. Issued 27th March. Effective as from commencement of working week ending 18th, 19th and 20th April, 1918, and shall continue in operation for the period of the present war. I.C. 2245/2.

Transport Trades.

TRANSPORT WORKERS.—London, Brighton and South Coast Railway v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers'

Union. Claim—Application for (1) increase in wages; (2) alteration in rates for night work, Sundays and Bank Holidays for men concerned. Arbitrator—Sir Cyril Jackson. Award—(1) Men employed at Newhaven Harbour shall be paid increase of 1d. per hour on morning and afternoon shifts, and 1½d. per hour on night shifts. Those at Littlehampton shall be paid 1d. per hour increase up to 6 p.m. and 1½d. per hour after 6 p.m., and 1½d. per hour on overtime rates after 10 hours from time of booking on. (2) Claim for alterations of rates for Sundays and Bank Holidays not established. Issued 4th March. Effective as from 28th Feb. I.C. 907/3.

TIN-LINERS, HOOPERS, BOXERS AND PACKERS.—Swansea and Newport Samplers' Association v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for further war bonus of 35 per cent. on behalf of men employed at Swansea docks. Arbitrator—Mr. A. W. Tyler. Award—Further war bonus of 15 per cent. to be paid to men concerned, this amount to be inclusive of any advance made since 15 per cent. bonus granted on June 16, 1917, and to be retrospective as from 13th Feb. Issued 1st March. I.C. 1241/2.

TRANSPORT WORKERS.—Swansea Employers' Union v. Dockers' Union. Claim—(1) Application for additional 35 per cent. on all present existing rates. (2) Alteration in payments for night and Saturday work of hatchwaymen and tallymen. Arbitrator—Mr. E. Page, K.C. Award—(1) Transport workers, including hatchwaymen and tallymen, shall receive, in addition to any existing war bonus, 15 per cent. advance on pre-war rates, i.e. those made on or before 1st Sept., 1914. Rates paid for the discharge of pit wood not affected by this award. (2) Claim not established. Issued 2nd March. Effective on and from 1st Jan. I.C. 698/2.

DOCK WORKERS.—Milford Dock Co. v. National Amalgamated Labourers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Chairman—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Settlement—(1) Increase of 4s. per week to men concerned, and 2s. per week to those under 18 years of age. (2) In future war advances in wages should be regulated by awards or agreements which may be come to hereafter with regard to railway workers. Issued 8th March. Effective as from 1st Dec., 1917, if company agree hereto. I.C. 241/2.

DOCK LABOURERS AND GUYMEN.—Employers of Dock Labour, Aberdeen v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers in Great Britain and Ireland. Claim—Application for increase in wages and alterations in working conditions. Arbitrator—Sheriff Louttit-Laing. Award—(1) Time rates of men concerned shall be increased 1d. per hour, making them 10½d. and 1s. 1½d. per hour ordinary and overtime respectively for regular coastwise steamers, and 11d. and 1s. 2d. per hour ordinary and overtime respectively for general cargo and tramp steamers. (2) Claims with regard to guymen and double time not established. Issued 12th March. Effective as from and including first Monday following date of this award. I.C. 271/2.

PITWOOD WORKERS.—Incorporated South Wales and Monmouthshire Coal Freighters' Association, Swansea Harbour Trust, Cardiff and Bristol Channel Pitwood Importers' Association, Swansea Pitwood Importers, Pitwood Committee of the Admiralty Collieries, Port Talbot Chamber of Commerce, Newport Cargo Labour Conciliation Board v. National Transport Workers' Federation. Claim—Application for an advance of 75 per cent. over pre-war rates for handling pitwood. Chairman of Conference—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Agreement made by which rate for pitwood workers in the whole of Bristol Channel ports shall be, from date of this agreement, not less than 60 per cent. above pre-war rates in the respective ports; but this not to be made a precedent for other traffic, and no rates actually higher than these awarded are to be thereby reduced. The increase shall not apply to ships which have commenced discharging prior to date of this agreement. (2) Central wages and general conciliation board appointed. Issued 14th March. I.C. 1052/2.

COALMEN, NORWICH.—R. Colter & Sons, Ltd., Norwich Co-operative Society, Ltd., and E.D.S. and P.S.A. Coal Supply v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. A. J. Ashton, K.C. Award—Claim not established. Issued 21st March. I.C. 1070/2.

Printing, Paper and Kindred Trades.

FIREMEN.—J. W. Stewart & Co., (Westfield Paper Mills, Bathgate) v. Firemen in their employ. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Advance of 15 per cent. and 20 per cent. to those whose wages are 40s. and more, or under 40s., respectively, for full week, in accordance with a recent grant of the Ministry of Munitions to workmen employed by this firm to be given to firemen. This increase to be taken into account in the calculation of overtime of the said firemen. Issued 25th March. Effective on pay day of week commencing 4th Feb., 1918. I.C. 1615/2.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

HORIZONTAL SAWYERS.—J. Cameron & Co. (Govan) v. Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. Claim—Required requisition of the district rate paid to specified classes of woodcutters. Arbitrator—Sheriff T. A. Fife. Award—There is no district rate for woodcutting machinists, but 1s. 1½d. per hour to be paid to men concerned. Issued 9th March. Effective from first pay day after 1st March. I.C. 1894.

COACHMAKERS.—R. & J. Shinnie, Ltd. and all other employers covered by the Scottish Vehicle Builders' Association (Northern

district) v. United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers. Claim—Complaint by Union of non-recognition of supplementary agreement of 24th Oct., 1917, which involves advance of 1½d. per hour on minimum rates. Arbitrator—Mr. T. F. Wilson. Award—(1) Said agreement to apply to all members of above society engaged on munition work, and to all firms covered by the above association in accordance with agreement of 10th July, 1917. (2) Any advances which may have been given since 24th Oct., 1917 by firm concerned shall merge into advance given under agreement of 24th Oct., 1917, and advances covered by this award. Issued 16th March. I.C. 2075.

CARTERS, YARD AND SAW MILL LABOURERS.—Jewson & Sons (Norwich) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application (1) that men should be paid 40s. per week; (2) That present weekly war bonus of 7s. 6d. should be merged into wages; (3) For payment at rate of time and a half for all overtime worked over the 56 hour ordinary week. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—(1) Wages of men concerned to be advanced to 25s. per week. (2) Present bonus to be converted into war wage of 12s. 4d. per week of 56 hours and reckoned as part of wages for purpose of overtime payment. (3) Claim established. Issued 30th March. Effective as from 31st Dec., 1917. I.C. 628/2.

Chemical, Glass, Brick and Pottery Trades.

DRUG AND FINE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—An agreement has been arrived at, under the chairmanship of Sir G. Askwith, between the Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association and the National Union of General Workers, the National Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, the National Warehouse and General Workers' Union, the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. It was settled that every February, June and October the Committee on Production should hear and consider the cases of representatives of employers and workpeople in the trades of the manufacturing and wholesale distribution of fine chemical, drugs, druggists' sundries, proprietary medicines and essences on the subject of general alterations of war grants. Method for dealing with alterations in rates of wages or conditions also settled. Issued 6th March. I.C. 2054.

STOKERS AND FEMALE WORKERS.—Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for settlement of questions with regard to (1) position of stokers; (2) Christmas week bonus; (3) position of females in printing department. Arbitrator—Sir Cyril Jackson. Award—(1) Stokers excluded from last award; their week shall continue to be 67 hours, but after 1 p.m. on Saturday they shall be paid at rate of time and a quarter for first two hours and time and a half for subsequent hours, and double time on Sundays. (2) War bonus to be paid for Christmas week. (3) Claim of females concerned for further increase in wages not established. Issued 13th March. I.C. 2026.

COOPERS.—Kynoch, Ltd. v. Mutual Association of Coopers. Claim—Application for standard rate of wages of district, 1s. per hour to be paid to men concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. R. Willoughby. Award—(1) Full week to consist of 54 hours. (2) Overtime to be paid at rate of time and a quarter, Sundays double time. (3) Present rate of 1s. 0½d. per hour, plus 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings, to continue. (4) Coopers in company's employ to be termed simply coopers, not wet or dry. Issued 9th March. I.C. 640/2.

Food, Drink and Tobacco Trades.

MALE AND FEMALE OPERATIVE BAKERS AND CLERKS.—Aerated Bread Co. v. Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners, and Allied Workers. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Subject to stated qualifications, wages of female workers shall be on basis of the agreement arrived at for the Birmingham district on 21st Nov., 1917; adult male workers shall receive weekly wages as represents increases of 18s. per week over pre-war rates; payments now being made to juvenile male workers shall be continued as wages, in accordance with conversion of their bonuses into wages. (2) Working hours and other regulations fixed in detail. (3) All existing bonuses shall be converted into war wages. Issued 13th March. Effective as from and after beginning of first full pay in Jan., 1918. I.C. 1193/2.

MALE AND FEMALE CLERKS.—Irish Food Control Committee (Dublin) v. Irish Clerical Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase in wages to clerical staff of Messrs. Bolands, Ltd., millers and bakers. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Adult male clerks concerned, who have been employed by the firm for not less than three years, and whose weekly salary is not more than 30s. and is over 30s. and less than 35s., shall receive increases of 40 per cent. and 35 per cent. respectively on their present weekly salary. The latter advance shall be granted also to those who have been employed by the firm less than three years and whose salary does not exceed 32s. per week. Female clerks and youths under 21 years shall receive 30 per cent. increase on their present weekly salary. All these advances shall be retrospective as from 1st Jan., 1918. (2) War bonus of 10 per cent. on total yearly salary, granted in June, 1917, to be repeated in June, 1918. (3) Any advances given by the Food Controller since taking over the bakery shall be merged in the increases hereby granted. Issued 25th March. I.C. 1055/3.

DISTILLERY WORKERS.—Distillers' Co., Ltd., Phenix Park Distillery, Dublin, v. Irish Transport and General Workers'

Union. Claim—Application for advance in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Men concerned of 21 years and over and youths under 21 years of age shall receive advances of 5s. and 2s. 6d. respectively per full ordinary week. These advances shall be taken into account in calculation of all overtime. Issued 25th March. Effective as from pay day of week commencing 4th March, and shall be payable for week preceding that pay day and thereafter. I.C. 1209/2.

MALE AND FEMALE DISTILLERY EMPLOYEES.—The Distillers' Co., Ltd. (Liverpool) v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase of 10s. per week to employees concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Present time-keeping bonus of 5s. per week in case of men shall be converted into a war wage and shall be added to the other war advances amounting to 12s. and shall bear overtime. (2) Further war advance of 3s. and 1s. per ordinary week shall be paid to men and women respectively. These advances shall bear overtime also. Issued 30th March. Effective as from first full pay day in March and shall be payable for the week preceding that pay day and thereafter. I.C. 1607/2.

Leather Trades.

MALE AND FEMALE TANNERY OPERATIVES.—Tremlett Bros., Ltd. (Exeter) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for advance of 7s. per week on rate of wages as obtaining on 3rd Nov., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—(1) Wages of men and women concerned shall be advanced by 4s. 6d. and 3s. per week respectively. (2) Present war bonus shall continue to be paid, and any advances that have been given to workers concerned since 3rd Nov., 1917, shall merge in advances hereby granted. Issued 15th Feb. Effective as from and including 14th Jan., 1918. I.C. 1464.

TANNERY OPERATIVES.—Parker Bros., Ltd. (representing Bristol Master Tanners) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for (1) an advance of 5s. per week on present earnings; (2) the conversion of all existing bonuses into wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Claim not established. (2) It shall be in the option of each firm's workmen, as a body, to decide whether they as a whole shall convert their present bonus into wages. If effected, this conversion shall come into operation on first full pay day following date of this award. (3) Claim for 7½ per cent. to piece-workers made in course of the proceedings to be placed before tribunal appointed to deal with such claims. Issued 18th March. I.C. 1596/2.

CURRIERS.—Walsall and Birmingham District Master Curriers' Federation v. United Society of Journeymen Curriers. Claim—Application for further bonus of 20 per cent. to be added to present bonus of 30 per cent. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim not established. Arbitrator of opinion that it would be in the interest of both parties to complete the revision of the new bill of prices as soon as possible. Issued 8th March. I.C. 705/2.

FEMALE LEATHER AND CANVAS WORKERS.—Hepburn, Gale and Ross, Ltd. (Bermondsey) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for specified alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Women of 18 years and over and girls under that age shall receive war advance of 5s. and 2s. 6d. respectively for ordinary week of 54 hours. These advances shall be calculated in the payment of all overtime as ordinarily understood by the firm. Other claims not established. Issued 15th March. Effective on and from first full pay day following date of award. I.C. 1215/2.

Public Utility Services.

DISTRICT COUNCIL EMPLOYEES.—Bridgwater Rural District Council v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Claim—Question as to whether 3s. advance should be paid to non-Union as well as Union men. Arbitrator—Mr. C. Doughty. Award—Arbitrator satisfied that Council should not be asked to show either favour or disfavour to Unionists and non-Unionists, and should be allowed to use their own discretion in the matter of payment of wages. Issued 28th Feb. I.C. 1473/2.

DISTRICT COUNCIL EMPLOYEES.—Cockermouth Urban District Council v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for a further advance of 10s. per week on present wages of men concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Employees whose present wages are not more than 35s. 6d., are less than 37s. 6d., and are 40s. per week or over shall receive further advance of 4s., 3s. 6d., and 3s. respectively per full ordinary week. Issued 5th March. Effective as from first pay day in Feb., 1918, and shall be payable for the week preceding that pay day and thereafter. I.C. 1282/2.

GASFITTERS, LABOURERS, AND SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS.—The Dunfermline Corporation v. Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—Application for increases of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Gasfitters to receive further advance as will, with advances already given, make total advance of 16s. per ordinary week over pre-war weekly wages. (2) Labourers and semi-skilled workers in specified departments of the Corporation to receive further advance of 3s. per ordinary week, with exception of those paid by the district rate for their respective class of work. Issued 7th March. Effective as from the pay day in week commencing 18th Feb., 1918, payable for the week preceding and thereafter. I.C. 1301/2.

PAVIORS.—Corporation of Manchester (Tramways Committee) v. Amalgamated Operative Street Masons, Paviors and Stone

and Sett Dressers' Society. Claim—Application on behalf of men concerned that present war bonus of 12s. be increased to 20s. per week. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Claim established, but must not be treated as a precedent for other cases. Issued 15th March. Effective as from 1st March. I.C. 523/2.

BLACKSMITHS.—Merthyr Tydfil Corporation v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—Application for further advance in wages to men concerned. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—The blacksmiths concerned shall receive further increase of 5s. per ordinary week on their present weekly wages. Issued 18th March. Effective from the first full pay day in March, and shall be payable for the week preceding that date and thereafter. I.C. 677/2.

SETTMAKERS, &c.—Glasgow Corporation v. Amalgamated National Union of Quarry Workers and Settmakers. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Introduction of time rates instead of piece rates for tramway settmakers not advisable. (2) Increased piece rate of 3s. 3d. instead of 2s. 11d. per 110 stones, as offered by the Corporation to men concerned, shall be accepted as from 1st Sept., 1917. (3) Corporation shall pay war bonus of 5s. per week of not less than 44 hours over and above increased piece rate, which shall not be affected thereby. This increase shall date as from first full pay day after New Year holidays of 1918. Issued 25th March. I.C. 1591/2.

EMPLOYEES IN HIGHWAYS, SANITARY AND TRANSPORT SECTIONS, &c.—Ilkley Urban District Council v. Amalgamated Association of Carters and Motormen. Claim—Application for advance in wages of £1 per week on all pre-war rates. Arbitrator—Mr. C. M. le Breton, K.C. Award—Claim established with regard to men and youths under 18 years of age who are doing men's work; the 8s. advance already made to merge in such advance. Other youths to be paid half the amount of above increases. Issued 27th March. Effective as from 19th Dec., 1917, excluding the days when the men were out on strike since that date. I.C. 605/2.

CARTERS, CARRIERS AND ASSISTANTS.—Corporation of St. Helens v. Amalgamated Carters, Lorrymen and Motor Men's Union. Claim—Application for £1 over pre-war rates, similar to that granted by the award of Sir George Askwith, dated 8th Jan. to the carters. Arbitrator—Mr. C. M. le Breton, K.C. Award—Claim established with regard to men concerned and youths under 18 years of age who are doing men's work, other youths to be paid such increases of wages as shall bring them up to 10s. per full week above pre-war rates. Issued 27th March. Effective as from beginning of first full pay in Jan., 1918. I.C. 87/37A.

Miscellaneous.

EMPLOYEES OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.—The Co-operative Union, Ltd. v. Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and Allied Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages on behalf of Union's members other than departmental managers employed by certain co-operative societies in the Oldham district. Independent Chairman—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—(1) Males and females of 21 years and over shall receive further advance of 8s. and 5s. per week, respectively. All employees under 21 years shall receive 3s. per week. These advances payable as from and on the second pay day in Dec., 1917. (2) Craft workers shall be paid all current advances settled by award or agreement and which are recognised in their respective trades and districts. Issued 2nd March. I.C. 1534/2.

TINSMITHS.—The Boatowners Stores, Ltd. and the Yarmouth Stores, Ltd. v. General Union of Braziers and Sheet Metal Workers. Claim—Application for 5s. advance granted by the Committee on Production, dated 6th Nov. last, in respect of the engineering and foundry trades. Arbitrator—Mr. H. Courthope Munroe, K.C. Award—Claim not established. Issued 1st March. I.C. 1713.

STORE WORKERS.—No. 35 Munition Store (Horley) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for an advance of wages of male employees on time rates to 1s. per hour, and an increase in piece-work rates which will guarantee minimum rate earnings of time and a half. Arbitrator—Sir Cyril Jackson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 8th March. I.C. 701/2.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.—The War Office Ordnance Department (Stirling) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Further war advance of 8s. and 4s. per full ordinary week to be given to men and women respectively in the various grades concerned. (2) Women engaged on outside work, doing effectively men's work, shall be paid at the same rate as the men. (3) Young persons under 18 years of age shall receive 2s. advance per full ordinary week. Issued 30th March. Effective as from first full pay day in February and shall be payable for the week preceding and thereafter with regard to men's advances. Women's and young persons' increases shall take effect as from first full pay day following date of this award and shall be payable for the week preceding and thereafter. I.C. 2508.

THEATRICAL EMPLOYEES.—Teaside Managers' Association v. National Association of Theatrical Employees. Claim—Application for settlement of questions arising out of Mr. Ashton's award, dated 18th December. Arbitrator—Mr. A. I. Ashton, K.C. Award—Certain advances, hours of working week, overtime and holiday payments, &c., fixed for day and evening staff. Issued 5th March. I.C. 1036/2.

MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS.—J. A. Hunter & Co., Ltd., v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Claim—Application for an advance in wages based on percentage of increased cost of living since 2nd August, 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Upon the basis of statistics published in this Gazette, there has been increase of 15 per cent. in cost of living (as defined in the application of the parties) since 2nd Aug., 1917, until 1st March, 1918, and advance of wages should be calculated in accordance therewith. Issued 28th March. I.C. 1533/2.

Correction.

The summary given in the March issue of this Gazette of an award granted by Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., in respect of a difference between the National Federation of Blastfurnacemen, Quarrymen, Ore Miners and Kindred Trades, and Messrs. Guest, Keen and Nettelfolds, Ltd., should be amended to read that the basic wages for headers engaged on pans and oilcans screws be increased to 4s. per ton, plus 35 per cent., and for beaters to 2½d. per gross, plus 30 per cent. In both cases present war bonus and war wages of 5s. and 10s. per week respectively to continue. The increases to take effect as from 18th Feb. I.C. 1172/2.

SPECIAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL.

(For Women Employed on Munitions Work.)

FEMALE CARPENTERS AND OUTDOOR WORKERS.—National Cartridge and Box Repair Factory v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application that women employed as carpenters shall be paid rates of men employed on similar work, and that outdoor workers other than these shall receive minimum rate of 9d. per hour. Award—(1) Wages of women in question employed on loading trucks shall be advanced by ¼d. per hour as from date of this award. (2) Wages of women employed on repairing boxes shall be advanced 1d. per hour as from date of this award. This award shall not prejudice the position of any who have higher rates than those stated herein. Issued 1st March. I.C. 224.

BALLOON TENT MAKERS.—Ratsey & Laphorn, Ltd., Cowes v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Award—That as from date of this award wages of women concerned shall be increased by 3s. 6d. per full working week, and those of girls under 18 by 1s. 9d. per full working week. Issued 7th March. I.C. 1308/2.

SHELL AND AERO-ENGINE WORKERS.—Guthrie & Co., Motherwell v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—Women concerned (1) when employed on time, shall be rated in accordance with Statutory Rules and Orders, 1917, No. 489, Para. 1A (1), and when employed on piece-work shall be guaranteed their time rates as prescribed by the said Order. (2) Overtime, Sunday and holiday allowances shall be paid to time- and piece-workers in accordance with district custom for men in engineering establishments, and shall be calculated on women's time rates as above awarded. (3) When employed on night shift, shall receive 1s. per night. Issued 6th March. Effective as from date of application of said Statutory Rules and Orders to the establishment. I.C. 1897.

MUNITION WORKERS.—Willey & Co., Exeter v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application respecting night work. Award—As from date of this award women concerned, when employed on night shift, shall be paid at rate of time and a quarter of their day rate. Issued 7th March. I.C. 966/2.

ROUGH TURNERS, ROUGH AND FINISHED BORERS AND RECESSORS.—Administrators of the "Aisne" National Projectile Factory, Renfrew v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for restoration of former rates per shell given in detail; that all deductions made be refunded to workers from date of change, and the action of firm be declared illegal. Award—(1) Piece-work price for rough boring shall be, as from date of this award, increased from 1d. to 1½d. per shell. (2) Other claims not established. Issued 14th March. I.C. 2402.

BUFFING OPERATORS, FURNACE WORKERS AND LABOURERS.—Sir W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd. v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for increases of wages for women concerned. Award—(1) Wages of furnace workers and labourers to be increased to 36s. and 30s. per week respectively, plus war advances. (2) Claims with regard to buffing operators not established. Issued 16th March. Effective as from date of this award. I.C. 72/2.

WOMEN (1) TURNING AND MIXING OXIDE; (1) LEVELLING TIP; (3) LOADING COKE AND BREEZE; (4) BAGGING AND LOADING SULPHATE.—The Bournemouth Gas and Water Co. v. The Workers' Union. Claim—Application that where women are doing same work as men they should be paid at the same rate. Award—(1) Wages of women mentioned above to be advanced by ¼d. per hour, as from 1st March. (2) Other claims made by Union at the hearing not established. Issued 20th March. I.C. 630/3.

MACHINE OPERATOR AND CORE MAKERS.—T. M. Birkett & Sons, Ltd. v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Award—(1) Women over 18 years of age employed on machine operations and core making shall be paid at rate of 6d. and 5½d. per hour respectively. (2) With specified qualifications girls of 17, 16, and

15 years and under 15 years shall be paid 4d., 3d., 3d., 2d. per hour respectively. (3) In addition to these rates women over 18 years and girls under 18 years shall receive further payment of 6s. and 3s. per week respectively, in accordance with the Statutory Rules and Orders of 1917 and 1918. Issued 20th March. Effective as from 1st Jan., 1918. I.C. 1401/2.

DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS.—Corporation of Glasgow v. Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—Application for increase in wages. Award—Wages of women concerned from date of this award to be advanced by such sum as added to present war advances will raise total war advances to 15s. per week. Such advances to be taken into account in the calculation of payment for overtime. Issued 16th March. I.C. 190/2.

AEROPLANE WORKERS.—A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd. (Manchester) v. National Federation of Women Workers and Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—List of work given in detail and claimed to apply in conformity with Order 489 and paragraphs dealing specifically with women employed upon skilled men's work. Award—Makers of front and back V's, control shafts, spring spruts, stem posts, and B.E. skids to be paid in accordance with Statutory Rules and Orders, 1917, No. 888, par. i. (b) iii. to viii. Other claim not established. Issued 27th March. I.C. 1509/2.

COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

Building and Allied Trades.

Holloway Brothers, (London) Ltd., Robert McAlpine & Sons, (Middlesbrough), Edmund Nuttall & Co., (Middlesbrough) v. Employees of the firms. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time workers as from the first full pay following 1st Jan. (2) In any case where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 4th March.

Poster Brothers, Ltd., (Wednesbury) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time workers. (2) War wage advance of 5s. per week to men aged 18 and over. Issued 12th March.

Master Masons' and Brickbuilders' Association of Glasgow and Neighbourhood, Scottish Reinforced Concrete Contractors' Association, Glasgow and West of Scotland Master Slaters' Association, Glasgow Master Plasterers' Association, Asphalt Trades' Association v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time workers (excluding allowances such as travelling time, lodging money, &c.). (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece workers, &c. (excluding allowances such as travelling time, lodging money, &c.) (3) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked, or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. (5) This award shall only apply to men who were in the employ of the firms affected at the time of the hearing. Issued 19th March.

Shanks & McEwan (Cambuslang), Charles Brand & Son (Coatbridge) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) To men aged 21 and over who are paid as plain time-workers as from the first full pay following 4th Feb., 1918; a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings (exclusive of travelling time, lodging money, &c.). (2) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (3) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 18th March.

Shanks & McEwan (Cambuslang), Charles Brand & Son (Coatbridge) v. Workers' Union. Award—War wage advance of 1d. an hour. Issued 18th March.

Mitchell Brothers (Contractors), Ltd. (Glenarnock) v. Cranemen, loco-drivers, labourers and navvies in the firm's employ. Award—(1) War wage advance to men of 5s. a week. (2) The present allowance of one hour a day walking time to be abolished. Issued 19th March.

Mitchell Brothers (Contractors), Ltd., Steel Works Extensions, (Glenarnock) v. Cranemen, loco-men, navvies and labourers in the firm's employ. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time workers as from the first pay week following 12 Feb. (2) This award shall not apply to workmen paid a wage or a salary not dependent on time worked, or a wage covering overtime. (3) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 19th March.

Henry Boot & Sons, Ltd., J. W. Falkner & Sons, Griggs & Son v. United Builders' Labourers' Union. Claim advance of wages and alterations in working conditions. Award—Claims not established. Issued 20th March.

John Lewis Son & Co., C. M. Moxham & Co., (Swansea) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, United Trade Committee of Carpenters and Joiners, General Union

of Carpenters and Joiners. Award—That as from 1st March 1918 the men shall be paid a war wage advance of 1d. per hour. Issued 22nd March.

Boyd & Forrest, (Kilmarnock) v. Workers' Union. Award—Plain time workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent., and piece workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings as from first pay in January 1918. Issued 23rd March.

Beeston & Stevenson, Rainey Brothers v. Operative Bricklayers' Society. Award—Plain time workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from the first full pay following 1st January. Issued 23rd March.

National Federation of Building Trade Employers v. Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. Award—Plain time workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings as from 1st January 1918. Issued 27th March.

Darlington and District Master Builders and Allied Trades' Association v. Joint Building Trades' Committee. Award—(1) Plain time workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. after 22nd March. (2) That as from 1st March 1918 the standard rate of wages for the men shall be 1s. 1½d. per hour (labourers 10½d. per hour). Issued 27th March.

Mining and Quarrying.

West Cumberland Limestone Quarry Owners' Association v. Workmen employed in the Limestone Quarries in West Cumberland Districts. Claim advance of 2s. per day. Award—Claim not established. Issued 23rd March.

J. S. Cowell, Acting for Lord Londonderry, Owner of Dawdon Colliery v. North Wales Quarrymen's Union. Claim advance of 1s. 6d. per day. Award—Claim not established. Issued 26th March.

Iron and Steel Trades.

William Beardmore & Co., Ltd., (Glasgow) and The Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society of Steel and Iron Workers. Claim—That 65 per cent. on base rates be paid to certain members of the Society. Award—Claim not established. Issued 6th March.

Consett Iron Co., Ltd. (Durham) v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—(1) That men on the sliding scale specified in subsection (a) clause (1) of the Committee's award of 16th Aug., 1917, shall receive a war wage advance of 5s. per week as from the first full pay in Dec., 1917, subject to a maximum of 20s. over pre-war rates. Issued 12th March.

Thermo-Electric Ore Reduction Corporation, Ltd. (Luton) v. Workers' Union, Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and the Electrical Trades Union. Decision—(1) That the men are not plain time-workers within the meaning of Order No. 1301, and are not entitled to the bonus of 12½ per cent. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the first full pay week following 1st Jan. (3) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 13th March.

Tredegar Iron & Coal Co., Ltd. (Monmouthshire) v. National Union of Clerks. Claim—Advances of wages and alterations in working conditions. Award—Claim not established. Issued 19th March.

The Lilleshall Co., Ltd. (Salop) v. The Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time workers. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece workers. (3) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked, or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such bonus shall merge (except in the case of men covered by orders 1061 and 1301) in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 5th March.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.

English Crown Spelter Co., Ltd. (Swansea) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Claim (1) Not established. (2) Work done from 4 p.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Sunday to be paid for at time and a half, the sum of 4s., &c., now paid for Sunday work to cease. (3) This extra pay for week-end work is subject to the men's working a minimum of 48 hours in the week, unless absent by leave of the firm or through illness. (4) War wage increase of 10d. per shift. Issued 1st March.

Engineering Employers' Federation v. Various Trade Unions signatory to the special agreement for the adjustment of wages in the Engineering and Foundry Trades. Award—That the conditions at the present time do not warrant any further general alteration of wages. Issued 5th March.

Shipbuilding Employers' Federation v. Shipbuilding Trades agreement Standing Committee, Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, National Federation of General Workers. Claim—Advances of wages. Award—Claims not established. Issued 5th March.

Newcastle Alloy Co., Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—(1) Claims as submitted not established. (2) War bonuses of 3s. and 3s. 6d. per week to be converted into war wages. (3) That the parties meet to determine certain individual advances so as to bring them up to a total

of 20s. per week or 3s. 4d. per day or shift, apart from payment for overtime. Issued 5th March.

Boulton & Paul, Ltd. (Norwich) v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers. (3) Time-workers shall receive an advance of 1d. an hour as from 6th Dec., 1917. (4) Piece-workers shall, as from the same date, receive 4s. 6d. per week. (5) Day rates of piece-workers shall be increased by 1d. an hour as from the same date. (6) Day rates shall be guaranteed to piece-workers if they make 54 hours or more (shortage of work or sickness shall not disqualify). (7) The advances awarded are war advances. Issued 5th March.

National Association of Master Heating and Domestic Engineers v. National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Claim—Advance of wages. Award—Claim not established. Issued 6th March.

North British Locomotive Co., Ltd. (represented by the North West Engineering Trades Employers' Federation), v. Associated Blacksmiths' and Ironworkers' Society. Claim—Payment of 15 per cent. extra on a repeat order of 1912. Award—Claim not established. Issued 6th March.

Mersey Ship Repairers' Federation and Employers' Association of the Port of Liverpool v. Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades. Claim—Advances of wages. Award—Claim not established. Issued 6th March.

Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd. (Falkirk) (represented by the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation), v. Operative Bricklayers' Society. Award—(1) War wage advance of 1½d. an hour. (2) In the event of any further increase being given in the local building trade, the advance now given shall merge in such increase. Issued 6th March.

Henry Wood & Co., Ltd. (Saltney) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time workers as from the first full pay after 1st Jan. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to plain time-workers (if any) within the terms of Order 1061. (4) This award shall not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (5) If payment has been made to the workmen pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 6th March.

Machine Knife and Allied Trades' Association v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—The Committee sanction the agreement submitted by the parties, granting an advance of 5s. per week, a further special advance of 8½ per cent. on the gross to all male jobbing and slacks machine grinders aged 21 and over, subject to the condition that the advances specified shall be in lieu of any claim for the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. Issued 7th March.

Master Silversmiths' Association v. National Union of Gold, Silver and Allied Trades. Award—The Committee sanction the agreement submitted by the parties in regard to munition workers, subject to the condition that the advances specified shall be in lieu of any claim for the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. Issued 7th March.

File Manufacturers' Association v. Amalgamated Union of File Trades, the File Grinders' Trade Society and File Cutters' (By Hand) Society. Award—The Committee sanction the agreement submitted by the parties, granting an advance of 10 per cent. on the present sliding scale bonus, subject to the condition that the advance specified shall be in lieu of any claim for the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. Issued 7th March.

Edge Tool Manufacturers' Association v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—The Committee sanction the agreement submitted to them by the parties, granting an advance of 5s. per week, on condition that the advance shall be regarded as in lieu of any claim by the men to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. Issued 7th March.

Vivian & Sons, Ltd. (Swansea) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week following 1st Jan. (2) If payment has been made to the workmen concerned pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus, such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 7th March.

Saw Manufacturers' Association v. Associated Societies in the Saw Trade. Award—The Committee sanction the agreement submitted to them by the parties, granting an advance of 5s. per week, on condition that this advance shall be regarded as in lieu of any claim by the men to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. Issued 7th March.

Mond Nickel Co., Ltd. v. chemical plumbers in the firm's employ. Award—War wage advance of 5s. to men aged 18 and over as from the first full pay in December, 1917. Issued 8th March.

Palmers' Shipbuilding and Iron Co., Ltd. (Yarrow-on-Tyne) v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Decision—That 23s. 7½d. per week of 53 hours is the portion of the aggregate advances of 25s. 10d., which should be regarded as war advances in applying the terms of the lines of settlement to the men concerned. Issued 12th March.

National Employers' Federation v. Iron Founders' Society. Award—That the rates of fully skilled adult green sand and loam moulders in West Bromwich and Oldbury shall be increased 2s. a week as from the first full pay following 7th March, without prejudice to any question which may be hereafter raised for consideration as to a permanent agreed relation between rates in Birmingham, West Bromwich, and Oldbury. Issued 12th March.

Thomas Wainwright & Sons (Stalybridge) v. Workers' Union. Award—The Committee do not feel justified in coming to a definite conclusion without affording to the firms in Stalybridge, other than Messrs. T. Wainwright & Sons, an opportunity of being heard. Issued 12th March.

National Employers' Federation (Welded Tube Section) v. Midland Counties Tube Trade Federation Workers' Union, Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers' Union, Amalgamated Tube Trade Society, National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers, National Union of General Workers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (2) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (3) Time and a quarter to be paid for work after the usual hours, time and a half for work done on Saturday afternoon and Sunday. (4) An allowance shall be paid to men working night shifts, and the parties shall meet to discuss and determine an equitable amount. (5) The parties shall meet with a view to discussing certain piece prices. (6) Claims (iii.) and (vi.) not established. Issued 13th March.

Newcastle Alloy Co., Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first full pay following 22nd Feb. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime, &c. Issued 13th March.

The Mond Nickel Co. (Clydach) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid at plain time rates as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. Issued 13th March.

William Turner & Co., Ltd. (Sheffield) v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 27th Feb., 1918. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage or salary covering overtime. (4) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. (5) War wage advance of 5s. a week to men aged 18 and over as from the first full pay following 27th Feb. Issued 13th March.

Callender's Cable Construction Co., Ltd. (London, E.C.) v. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Electrical Trades Union and Workers' Union. Decision—(1) That fully qualified skilled engineers rated at or above the current district time rate for fitters or turners while employed on munitions work, and paid at plain time rates, shall receive the bonus of 12½ per cent. under Order No. 1061. (2) Men employed by the firm in their capacity of electrical contractors on munitions work shall receive the bonus of 12½ per cent. under Sir G. Askwith's decision. (3) Bonus of 12½ per cent. to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers (other than those covered by Clauses (1) and (2)) as from the first full pay after 1st Jan. (4) This award shall not apply to classes of workmen (such as building trades operatives) whose wages have customarily been regulated by movements in the wages of the trades in which workmen of the same classes are ordinarily employed. (5) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (6) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment (except to workmen covered by Orders 1061 or 1301) shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 13th March.

Thermal Syndicate, Ltd. (WallSEND-on-Tyne) v. Amalgamated Union of Labour. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings of men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 14th March.

Planet Foundry Co., Ltd. (members of the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation) v. National Union of Grate, Fender and General Light Metal Workers. Claim—The rate of pay of patternmakers to be increased by 2s. a week. Award—Claim not established. Issued 14th March.

Nevill, Druce & Co. (Llanelly) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside

and General Workers' Union. Claim—Advance of 2s. a day. Award—Claim not established. Issued 14th March.

Watford Electric and Manufacturing Co., Ltd. v. Workers' Union and Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Award—War wage advance of 5s. a week as from 1st March, 1918. Issued 15th March.

Cape Copper Co., Ltd. (Briton Ferry), Nevill, Druce & Co. (Copper Works), Vivian & Sons (Swansea), William, Foster & Co., Pascoe, Grenfell & Sons, Ltd. (Swansea), Rio Tinto Copper Co. (Port Talbot) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Decision—(1) That the men are not within the terms of Order 1301. (2) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (3) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (4) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage or salary covering overtime. (5) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in regard to the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 15th March.

London Small Arms Co., Ltd. (Old Ford, E.) (members of the London and District Association of Engineering Employers) v. National Union of General Workers and National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics. Claim—Special output bonus of 7½d. per 100 finished rifles. Award—Claim not established. Issued 15th March.

Watford Electric and Manufacturing Co., Ltd. v. Workers' Union and Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Award—(1) War wage advance of 5s. a week as from the first full pay following 1st March, 1918. Issued 15th March.

Motor Car Coppersmithing Co. (Walham Green) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage or salary covering overtime. (4) If any payment has been made to the workmen pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 15th March.

William Denny & Bros. (Dumbarton) v. Shipbuilders' and Shipwrights' Association. Award—That no sufficient reasons have been adduced for discontinuing the system of working which has been in force for a number of years and that that system shall be the system on which shipwright work shall proceed, the men to have the right to submit for arbitration any cases of prices which they consider call for revision. Issued 18th March.

Palmer's Shipbuilding & Iron Co., Ltd. (Hebburn-on-Tyne) v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—Plain time workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from 1st Jan., 1918. Issued 19th March.

Barclay, Curle & Co., Ltd. (Glasgow) (represented by the Clyde Shipbuilders' Association) v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Award—That in cases in which it is agreed that prices cannot be arranged for repair work the squads concerned are to proceed at piece work speed, and the rates shall be 4s. 9d. an hour, plus 2½ per cent. to holders up, plus the special war wage of 13s. a week and the 7½ per cent. bonus to piece workers. Issued 19th March.

Engineering Employers' Federation v. National Federation of General Workers. Decision—The Committee record their approval of the payment of the bonus. Issued 19th March.

Guest, Keen & Nettlesolds, Ltd. (Dowlais) v. National Union of Clerks. Claim—Advances of wages. Award—Claim not established. Issued 19th March.

Palmer's Shipbuilding & Iron Co. (Jarrow) v. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Award—1s. per day to men while engaged on or in connection with boiler repairs (including flues but excluding the item of making charging boxes, and the items for which the men already receive special rates) as from and after 6th June, 1917. Issued 19th March.

Henry Wiggin & Co., Ltd. (Birmingham) v. workpeople in the firm's employ. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over, paid as plain time workers, as from the first pay week following 1st Jan. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked, or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) If any payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 19th March.

Gas Meter Making Employers' Federation v. National Amalgamated Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over, paid as plain time workers, as from the first pay week following 1st Jan. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply

to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked, or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall (in the case of workmen not covered by Orders No. 1061 and No. 1301) merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 19th March.

Gas Meter Making Employers' Federation v. Navvies, Builders' Labourers and General Labourers' Union. Award—That as from the first full pay after 25th Feb. the war advances now paid to the piece workers aged 18 years and over are to cease, and in place thereof they shall receive a war wage increase of 10 per cent. with the addition of 13s. over and above the week's earnings. These increases shall be limited to commercial work. Issued 19th March.

Tyne Electric Steel Foundries, Ltd. v. Ironfounders' Society. Difference in respect of a loss of overtime. Award—Claim not established. Issued 20th March.

Redditch and District Needle and Fishing Tackle Employers' Association v. National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics. Award—Plain time workers shall receive a bonus of 12 per cent. and piece workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings. Issued 20th March.

Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Workman, Clark & Co., Ltd. (Belfast) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—Advance of 4s. a week. Award—Claim not established. Issued 20th March.

Vidal Engineering Co., Ltd. (Croydon) (represented by London and District Association of Engineering Employers) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Amalgamated Society of General Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, and Steam Engine Makers' Society. Award—That there should be a conference between the unions and all the firms in the district who have a regular nightshift, so that the parties may arrive at some agreement. Issued 20th March.

North-East Coast Engineering Trades Employers' Association (representing the Darlington Forge Co., Ltd.) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Advances of wages and alterations in working conditions. Award—Claims not established. Issued 20th March.

Birmingham and District Brass Masters' Association v. National Brass Workers and Metal Mechanics. Award—(1) In the case of plain time-workers on commercial work the arrangement with regard to certain scheduled trades shall be applicable, and also that the 12½ per cent. bonus shall be payable to the men concerned as from 1st Jan. (2) Piece-workers shall receive a bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings as from 1st Jan. Issued 20th March.

National Employers' Federation, London (Machine Trade Section) v. Amalgamated Society of Scale Beam and Weighing Machine Makers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over, paid as plain time-workers, as from the first full pay week following 1st March. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked, or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such amount shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 20th March.

East of Scotland Association of Engineers and Ironfounders v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Claim—Advance of wages. Award—Claim not established. Issued 20th March.

North-East of Scotland Sheet Metal Workers Masters' Association v. Aberdeen and District Sheet Metal Workers Branch of the National Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers. Claim—Certain alterations in the agreement dated 8th March between the parties. Award—Claim not established. Issued 21st March.

C. S. Milne & Co., Ltd. v. London, Erith, Southall and Kingston District Allied Engineering Trades Joint Committee. Award—War wage advance of 5s. per week to men aged 18 years and over; 2s. 6d. to boys, youths and apprentices under 18 years as from the first full pay in December, 1917. Issued 21st March.

Pennycock Patent Glazing and Engineering Co., Ltd. (Glasgow) v. Workpeople in the Firm's employ. Award—Advances paid since 1st Jan., 1917, shall be cancelled, and in lieu thereof they shall receive a war wage advance of 13s. per week. Issued 21st March.

North-East of Scotland Sheet Metal Workers' Masters' Association v. National Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers. Award—Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to plain time-workers and 7½ per cent. to piece-workers as from 1st Jan. Issued 21st March.

John Rogerson & Co., Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Steam Engine Makers' Society, Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers, Ironfounders' Society, National Union of General Workers. Award—That the firm shall pay the wages weekly, as soon as conveniently possible. Issued 22nd March.

Midland Lock and Latch Manufacturers' Association v. Lock, Latch and Key Operatives' Society. Award—(1) Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers of 7½ per cent. as from 1st Feb. (2) Advance of 3s. 6d. per week to women aged 18 and over and 1s. 9d. to

those under 18 years as from 5th March, 1918. Issued 22nd March.

Aberdeen and District Engineering Employers' Association v. Associated Blacksmiths' and Ironworkers' Society. Award—Advance of 2s. per week to smiths and 3s. per week to hammermen. Issued 22nd March.

Alexander Stephen & Sons, Ltd. (Govan) (represented by the North-West Engineering Trades Employers' Association) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—That battleship allowances should be paid for trial trips of a certain vessel. Award—Claim not established. Issued 22nd March.

National Employers' Federation (Steel Casement and Sash Window Trade Section) v. National Union of Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics, National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers and Workers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, and piece-workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. as from 1st March. Issued 22nd March.

Negretti & Zambra (Barnsbury) v. Certain of their Workmen. Award—Terms of the award of 26th Feb., 1918, to all grades of scientific glass workers, to be applied to the men concerned. Issued 23rd March.

Surgical Instrument Manufacturers' Association, Scientific Instrument Makers' Trade Society. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent., and piece-workers a bonus of 7½ per cent., as from the 1st Feb., 1918. Issued 23rd March.

Walsall Malleable Ironfounders' Association, National Employers' Federation (representing G. B. Parkes & Co., H. W. Lindop, J. Maddocks & Co.) v. Midland Counties Trades Protection Federation, National Union of General Workers, Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers, National Brassworkers & Metal Mechanics, Workers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. as from the first full pay following 12th March. Issued 23rd March.

River Thames Dry Dock Proprietors & Ship Repairers' Association v. Electrical Trades Union. Award—Certain working rules established. Issued 23rd March.

Woolcombing Employers' Federation, the Bradford Master Wool Comb Makers' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Woolcomb, Hackle & Gill Makers. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Issued 23rd March.

Engineers & Shipbuilders' Association v. Shipbuilders' and Shipwrights' Association. Claim—Advance of wages. Award—Claim not established. Issued 23rd March.

James Allan, Sen., & Son, Ltd. (Glasgow) v. Associated Ironmoulders of Scotland. Claim—Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Award—Claim not established. Issued 25th March.

Carron Co. (Falkirk) v. Boilermakers & Iron & Steel Shipbuilders' Society. Award—The rate of pay of the men concerned shall be increased to 10½d. an hour. Issued 25th March.

Fairbairn, Lawson, Combe, Barbour, Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society of Wool Comb, Hackle & Gill Makers. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from 16th Jan., 1918. Issued 25th March.

Palmer's Shipbuilding & Iron Co., Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—(1) Advance of 1d. per ton. (2) Men concerned shall be paid double time from 10 p.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday when discharging iron ore. Issued 26th March.

Walker Brothers, Ltd. (Walsall) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside & General Workers' Union. Award—Bonus of 12½ per cent. to plain time-workers and 7½ per cent. to piece-workers as from the first full pay after 14th Feb. Issued 27th March.

Aircraft Manufacture.

Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd. (Cheltenham) v. National Union of Clerks. Claim—Advance of wages. Award—Claim not established. Issued 1st March.

Caffyns Ltd. (Eastbourne) v. Workers' Union. Award—Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from the first full pay after 12th Oct., 1917. Issued 25th March.

Textile Trades.

Robert Wemyss & Co., Ltd. (Kirkcaldy) v. Scottish Textile Workers' Union. Award—War wage advance of 4s. a week to males over 18, 3s. to females over 18, 1s. 6d. to youths and girls under 18, as from the first full pay following 15th Nov., 1917. Issued 7th March.

Clothing Trades.

War Office (Army Clothing Department) v. Royal Army Clothing Employees' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings and piece-workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. as from 1st Jan. Issued 22nd March.

Joseph Hunter & Son., Ltd., v. United Garment Workers' Trade Union. Award—That the piece rates shall be continued for the time being. Issued 22nd March.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

Sheffield and District Saw Mill Proprietors' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. Award—War wage advance of 1d. an hour as from the first full pay following 7th Feb. Issued 7th March.

Metropolitan Box and Packing Case Manufacturers' Federation and Export Packing Case Manufacturers' Benevolent As-

sociation of London v. National Union of Packing Case Makers (Wood and Tin), Box Makers, Sawyers and Millworkers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are plain time-workers. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c. (3) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage or salary covering overtime. Issued 8th March.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Pottery and Glass Trades.

Coppée Co. (Great Britain), Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Decision—Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers. Issued 11th March.

The United Alkali Co., Ltd. (Liverpool), William Gossage, Ltd. (Widnes), Castner-Kellner Alkali Co. (Runcorn) v. National Amalgamated Union of Coopers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, etc., as from the same date. (3) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 12th March.

Doulton & Co., Ltd. (Lambeth) v. National Society of Pottery Workers. Award—(1) War wage advance of 1½d. per hour to throwers, turners (lathers), handlers, plasterers, moulders, box hands (steam press), large machine making, large machine shaving, grinders, stickers and finishers, stokers, tile department and carpenter, aged 18 and over, 3d. per hour to boys under 18 (with a maximum of 20s. per week advance on his pre-war rate). (2) War wage advance to the labourers concerned of the same weekly amount as paid by the firm to general labourers in their employ. (3) In the event of piece prices for box hands being revised, the advances hereby awarded may be taken into account in such revision. (4) The amounts awarded are to be paid as from the first full pay following 25th Feb. (5) The fire moulders in the pipe department who signed a memorandum dated 23rd Feb., and the burners who received an advance of 5s. a week in January, 1918, are not included in this award. Issued 18th March.

Whitwood Chemical Co. (Normanton) v. National Union of Cokemen and Bye-Product Workers. Award—(1) War advances now paid to the men concerned shall be increased to 3s. 4d. per shift over pre-war rates. (2) Men concerned shall be paid week-end work at the rate of time and a quarter from 2 p.m. Saturday to 6 a.m. Monday. (3) Where a man has completed a shift and is put on work other than shift work he shall be paid an overtime rate of time and a quarter. (4) Time and a quarter for Bank Holidays, but claim to extend colliery holidays to the firm's work not established. Issued 20th March.

South Wales Portland Cement and Lime Co., Ltd. (Penarth) v. National Amalgamated Labourers' Union. Award—That as from the beginning of the first full pay in February, 1918, the bonus at present paid to the men shall be increased to 3s. 4d. per day or shift, and is to be regarded as war wages. Issued 20th March.

Eglinton Silica Brick Co., Ltd. (Glasgow) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—That the payment of 5d. shall be restored. Issued 21st March.

Scottish Committee of Chemical Manufacturers v. National Union of General Workers, Workers' Union, Operative Bricklayers' Society, Scottish Union of Dock Labourers, employees of the Scottish Acid and Alkali Co., Ltd., and the Glasgow and District Journeymen Coopers' Protective Society. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent., and piece-workers of 7½ per cent. as from 1st Jan., 1918. Issued 21st March.

British Dyes, Ltd., L. B. Holliday & Co., J. W. Leitch & Co., Ltd., E. Bould & Son, H.M. Factory (Bradley) v. United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association. Claim—(1) A flat rate of 1s. 6d. per hour. (2) Adjustment of overtime rates. Decision—Claim (1) not established. [The parties agreed that claim (2) should be the subject of further discussion.] Issued 21st March.

Sulphide Corporation, Ltd. (Durham) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Plain time-workers are to receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from the first full pay after 1st Jan., 1918. Issued 26th March.

Avon Manure Co., Ltd. (Bristol) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent., and piece-workers of 7½ per cent. on earnings as from 1st Jan., 1918. Issued 26th March.

Leather Trades.

Master Leather Traders' Association v. Midland Leather Trades Federation. Decision—That for item 342 the prices on future contracts shall be: Repairing, 8s. 6d. per dozen; stitching, 10s. per dozen. Issued 11th March.

Tullibody Tanning Co. (Tullibody) v. National Union of General Labourers. Award—War wage advance of 3s. per week to men aged 18 years and over, 1s. 6d. to boys, youths, and apprentices under 18 years of age, as from the first full pay day in March, 1918. Issued 21st March.

Transport Trades.

Trams and Light Railways Association and London General Omnibus Co., Ltd. v. National Transport Workers' Federation and Municipal Tramways' Association. Decision—(1) Such advance to men aged 18 and over, and to women aged 18 and over whose terms of employment include an undertaking that they shall be paid the same rates as the grades of men whose places they have filled as shall give £1 per week over pre-war rates of the grades concerned, payment to be made on the basis of a week of six days or six shifts. (2) In the case of women aged 18 and over not covered by clause (1) the advance now being paid shall be increased by 4s. per week, subject to a maximum of 20s. per week over pre-war rates of the grades concerned. (3) In the case of girls, boys and youths under 18 the advances now being paid shall be increased by such amount per week as shall give the girls, boys and youths concerned half the additional advances given by this award to men or women (as the case may be) in the same undertaking. (4) The advances hereby awarded shall operate as from the beginning of the pay period for which payment is made on the pay day in the week commencing 1st March. (5) All existing bonuses shall be taken into account in the calculation of payment for overtime, &c. (6) The advances are to be regarded as war advances. (7) This award shall apply only to women to whom the provisions of the orders made by the Minister of Munitions do not apply. Issued 8th March.

William Cory & Son, Ltd. v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—War increase of 2s. 6d. per man per 100 tons on all classes of coal as from 21st Dec., 1917. Issued 8th March.

Canal Control Committee, Manchester Ship Canal Co. v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Associated Blacksmiths, and Ironworkers' Society. Decision—(1) The Canal Co. is not a shipbuilding or ship-repairing establishment within the meaning of Order 1308. (2) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over, paid at plain time rates as from the first pay week following 1st Jan. (3) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (4) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage or salary covering overtime. (5) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall (in the case of workmen not covered by Order 1308) merge into the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 13th March.

Employers' Association of the Port of Liverpool v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Claim—(1) Advance of wages. (2) Alterations in working conditions. Award—(1) Claim not established. (2) That the practice of paying double time for work done on Sunday shall apply also to the war advances, and the overtime rates now paid on Sundays shall be calculated on the war advances as well as the ordinary wages. Issued 19th March.

Clyde Navigation Trust, Greenock Harbour Trust, Ship-constructors and Shipwrights' Association. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from 1st Jan. Issued 21st March.

Railway Executive Committee v. Electrical Trades' Union and National Union of Railwaymen. Award—That the extra payment for Sunday work should not be merged into the 12½ per cent. bonus. Issued 21st March.

Tees Wharf Owners' Association v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers of 7½ per cent. on earnings as from 21st Jan., 1918. Issued 21st March.

Irish Railway Executive Committee v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Award—That the advance of 2s. should not be regarded as a war wage advance, but should be paid in addition to the total war advance of 20s. per week due to the men concerned. Issued 23rd March.

Swansea Harbour Trust v. National Amalgamated Labourers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from the first full pay after 20th March, 1918. Issued 23rd March.

Railway Executive Committee v. National Union of Railway Men, Railway Craft, Organisation Committee of Craft Union, Workers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers of 7½ per cent. as from 1st Jan. Issued 26th March.

Public Utility Services.

Birmingham Corporation v. Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers, Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers, Birmingham District Engineering Trades' Joint Committee. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 years and over paid at plain time rates as from the first pay week following 14th Feb. (2) This award does not apply to motormen, conductors or other employees on the traffic staff of the tramway undertaking. (3) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. (4) This award shall not apply to classes of workmen whose wages have customarily been regulated by the movements in the wages of the trades in which

workmen of the same classes are ordinarily employed. Issued 2nd March.

Brighthouse Corporation v. Workers' Union. Award—War wage advance of 8d. per shift to male shiftworkers aged 18 and over; 4s. per week to other male workers aged 18 and over; and 2s. per week to boys and youths under 18 as from the first full pay in Jan. Issued 5th March.

Merthyr Tydfil Gas Co. v. Workers' Union. Award—War wage advance of 16s. per week to men aged 18 and over as from the first full pay in Jan., payable at the rate of 2s. 8d. per day or shift, all previous war wages or bonus granted since the outbreak of war to merge in the said 16s. Issued 8th March.

Merthyr Town Council v. Municipal Employees' Association. Award—(1) War wage advance of 20s. a week to men aged 18 and over as from the first full pay after 26th Feb., payable at the rate of 3s. 4d. per day or per shift for each day or shift worked, all previous war wages or bonuses to merge in the said 20s. (2) That the Corporation should consider the position of men not able-bodied. (3) War wage advance of 2s. a week to female employees aged 18 and over who are employed full time as from the first full pay in Jan. (4) The Committee make no order in respect of women not employed on full time. Issued 15th March.

North Metropolitan Electric Power Supply Co. (Westminster) v. Electrical Trades' Union. Award—War wage advance of 5s. per week to men aged 18 years and over; 2s. 6d. to boys, youths and apprentices as from the first full pay in Dec., 1917. Issued 21st March.

Birkenhead Corporation Waterworks, Birkenhead Corporation Electricity Works v. National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers and Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first full pay following 28th Feb. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) This award does not apply to plain time-workers within the terms of Orders No. 1061 and 1301, or Sir G. Askwith's decision applicable to electric generating stations. (4) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge on the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 22nd March.

Birmingham Corporation v. Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Decision—The Committee make no award pending an application being made on a national basis through the National Transport Workers' Federation. Issued 22nd March.

Manchester Corporation v. Workers' Union, Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists, Operative Bricklayers' Society, Municipal Employees' Association, National Association of Bricklayers' Labourers, Manchester Corporation Generating Station, Sub-Station and Mains Department Joint Working Committee. Decision (1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid at plain time rates as from the first full pay following 28th Feb. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (3) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment (in the case of workmen not covered by Orders No. 1,061 or 1,301) shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. (4) The bonus hereby awarded shall not apply to minor officials, &c. (to whom the Council have given an equivalent to the bonus) and to classes of men, such as building trades operatives, whose wages have customarily been regulated by the movements in the wages of the trades in which workmen of the same classes are ordinarily employed; and to gasworkers. Issued 22nd March.

Potteries Electric Traction Co., Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Award—(1) Men concerned aged 18 years and over, and to certain grades of women aged 18 years and over shall receive such advances as shall make their war advances £1 per week. (2) Women aged 18 years and over not covered by the above award shall receive a war advance of 4s. per week. Girls, boys and youths shall receive half the advances given to the men or women as from 4th March. Issued 22nd March.

Manchester Corporation v. United Kingdom Society of Amalgamated Smiths and Strikers, and United Society of Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders. Decision (1) That the men concerned are not within the terms of Orders No. 1,061 and 1,301. (2) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid at plain time rates as from the first full pay following 28th Feb. (3) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, &c., as from the same date. (4) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall (in the case of workmen not covered by Orders No. 1,061 and 1,301) merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 22nd March.

Birkenhead Corporation, Wallasey Corporation v. Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades' Federation. Decision—(1) That the men are not within the terms of Order 1,308. (2) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid at plain time-workers as from the first full pay following 28th Feb. (3) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the

bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the amount hereby awarded. Issued 22nd March.

Potteries Electric Traction Co., Ltd. v. Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Award—Time and a quarter shall be paid for any time worked over 10 hours in one day (spread-over time and any break not to be included in the computation of these 10 hours). Issued 22nd March.

Midland Electric Corporation for Power Distribution, Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Claim—12½ per cent. bonus to labourers. Award—Claim not established. Issued 23rd March.

Brentford Urban District Council v. Municipal Employees' Association. Award—(1) That as from the first full pay after 11th Feb. the war wage advances and bonuses shall be increased to 16s. per week in the case of men aged 18 years and over. (2) Leaving-off time on Saturdays shall be 1 p.m. instead of 2 p.m. (3) The Council shall consider the case of the four women concerned. Issued 26th March.

Liverpool Corporation v. Municipal Employees' Association. Award—Men concerned (except those employed in the hospitals and tramways department) shall receive such advances as shall give £1 per week over pre-war rates. Issued 26th March.

Belfast Corporation v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour, Municipal Employees' Association. Award—(1) Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. as from 7th March. (2) Men aged 18 years and over employed in the tramways and electricity departments shall receive such war advance as shall give them £1 a week over pre-war rates; boys and youths shall receive a war advance of 2s. per week as from 7th March. Issued 27th March.

Gas Undertakings (represented by the National Gas Council) v. National Federation of General Workers. Award—(1) Men aged 18 years and over whose war advances amount to 16s. per week and over but are under 20s. shall receive such further war increase as shall make the advances up to 20s. per week; men receiving under 16s. shall receive a war increase of 4s. per week; boys and youths shall receive a war increase of 2s. per week as from 21st March, 1918. (2) Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers of 7½ per cent. as from 21st March. Issued 27th March.

Miscellaneous.

Henry Tate & Sons, Ltd., Macfie & Sons, Fairrie & Co., Ltd. (Liverpool) v. National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 years and over paid at plain time rates. (2) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (3) Where payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., this payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 1st March.

Frederick Smith & Co. (Salford) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Feb. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men (if any) aged 21 and over who are piece-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Feb. (3) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage or salary covering overtime. (4) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. (5) Payment for work done on Sunday shall be at the rate of double time. Issued 5th March.

West's Gas Improvement Co. Ltd. (Manchester) v. National Union of Clerks. Award—(1) That as from the first full pay following 15th Feb., the men shall receive such further bonus as shall bring the total bonus up to 20s. per week, the increases hereby awarded to be regarded as war advances. (2) Claim for advances to female clerks not established. (3) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to the men concerned. Issued 5th March.

Ironhurst Peat Factory (Ruthwell) v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over, paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week following 1st Jan. Issued 5th March.

Lynton Wheel and Tyre Co., Ltd. v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Decision—(1) The men concerned are not within the scope of Order No. 1301. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 years and over as from the first full pay week after 15th Feb. Issued 5th March.

Dick's Asbestos Co. v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union and National Union of General Workers. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers. (3) This award does not apply to men paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime. (4) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their claims in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonuses hereby awarded. Issued 7th March.

Hull Seed Crushers Committee v. National Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Decision—(1) The men are not employed in engine-shops, boilershops or foundries as provided by Order No. 1301. (2) War wage advance of 5s. a week to men aged 18 and over; 2s. 6d. to boys, youths and apprentices. (3) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over. Issued 7th March.

Leyland and Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd. (Leyland) v. Workers' Union. Award—(1) War wage advance of 5s. a week to the men concerned (except firemen). (2) Claim (1) not established. (3) This award shall come into force as from the first full pay in Jan., 1918. Issued 13th March.

India Rubber Manufacturers' Association v. Amalgamated Society of India Rubber, Cable and Asbestos Workers. Decision—(1) War wage advance of 5s. a week to men aged 18 and over; 2s. 6d. to boys and youths as from the first full pay in Jan. Issued 13th March.

India Rubber Manufacturers' Association v. Joint Committee representing the National Union of Labour, National Union of General Workers, Workers' Union. Award—(1) War wage advance of 5s. a week to men aged 18 and over; 2s. 6d. to boys and youths. (2) This award shall not apply to members of the staff of the firms belonging to the Association. (3) This award shall not apply to piece-workers in the employ of firms in Edinburgh (the Committee recommend the parties to meet to consider what adjustments, if any, are necessary). (4) This award is to operate as from the first full pay in Jan. Issued 13th March.

Castleton Steam Packing Co., Ltd. (Manchester) v. Workers' Union. Award—Plain time-workers shall receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. and piece-workers a bonus of 7½ per cent. from 1st Feb., 1918. Issued 23rd March.

Tyne Boiler Cleaning & Covering Association v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—(1) The men in question do not come within the terms of Order No. 1,308. (2) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 years and over who are plain time-workers as from first full pay after 1st Jan., 1918. Issued 25th March.

Master Boiler Coverers' Federation v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—(1) Plain time-workers are to receive a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings as from the first full pay following 1st Jan., 1918. (2) War wage advance of 5s. per week to men aged 18 years and over; 2s. 6d. per week to boys, youths and apprentices under 18 years. (3) Existing country allowances paid to men and boys shall be increased by 4d. per day. Issued 26th March.

Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd. (Southampton) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—War wage advance of 3s. 9d. per week as from first full pay in Jan., 1918. Issued 26th March.

*SPECIAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL.**For Men Employed on Munition Work.*

G. F. Wake (Darlington) v. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders. Decision—That the men are not entitled to the bonus payable under Order No. 1301. Issued 19th March.

William Beardmore & Co., Ltd. (Glasgow) v. Non-union labourers employed at the company's machine shops at Parkhead. Decision—The men concerned do not come within the terms of Order No. 1301. Issued 21st March.

John Brown & Co., Ltd. (Clydebank) (represented by the Clyde Shipbuilders' Association) v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Decision—That the men concerned are plain time-workers within the meaning of Order No. 1308, and are entitled to the bonus payable under that Order. Issued 21st March.

Sanderson & Robinson, Ltd. (Mansfield) v. Workers' Union. Decision—(1) Men concerned who are plain time-workers are entitled to the 12½ per cent. on their earnings under Order 1301. (2) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to piece-workers. Issued 23rd March.

Phoenix Dynamo Manufacturing Co. v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—That the men concerned are not entitled to the bonus payable under Order 1301, except as provided in Section 3 (b). Issued 25th March.

Loders & Nuoline, Ltd. (Hammersmith and Silvertown) v. semi-skilled and unskilled workmen in the firm's engineering and repairs departments. Decision—(1) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (2) If payment has been made to the men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonus of 12½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 7th March.

W. Roberts & Co., "Garston," Ltd., John Bibby, Sons & Co. (Garston), Ltd. (Garston) v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Decision—(1) That the men do not come within the terms of Order 1061. (2) Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over, paid as plain time-workers as from the first pay week after 1st Jan. (3) Bonus of 7½ per cent. on earnings to men aged 21 and over who are piece-workers, etc., as from the same date. (4) This award does not apply to workmen paid a wage or salary not dependent on time worked or an upstanding wage covering overtime, etc. (5) Where payment has been made to the

men pending the general consideration of their position in relation to the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent., such payment shall merge in the bonus hereby awarded. Issued 19th March.

Forder & Sons, Ltd. (Kempston) v. Workers' Union. Award—That the offer made by the firm of an advance of 3s. per week to men and 2s. to women shall be the subject of further consideration by the parties. Issued 19th March.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 to 1916.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Application to the Umpire.

IN pursuance of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire has received application for decision as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following class of persons:—

505x. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of leather stiffeners, socks and similar leather goods used in the making of boots and shoes.

Decisions by the Umpire.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Minister of Labour hereby gives notice of the following decision by the Umpire on a question whether contributions are payable:—

B. The Umpire has decided that contributions are not payable in respect of:—

2416. Messengers and porters who are employed in connection with insured trades, but are not employed mainly on the premises on which such trades are carried on or in yards immediately connected with such premises.

NOTE.—Decisions in which the Umpire has decided that contributions are payable under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, are indicated by the letter x at the end of the number, e.g., 1554x. Contributions under these decisions are payable as from the 4th September, 1916.

Where no reference is given to an application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.

CORN PRODUCTION ACT, 1917.

PROPOSAL TO FIX MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FOR WORKMEN EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE.

THE Agricultural Wages Board, established for England and Wales under the Corn Production Act of 1917, have given notice (dated 2nd April, 1918), that they propose to fix the following minimum rates of wages for workmen employed in agriculture for time-work (a) in the area comprising the administrative counties of Northampton and Soke of Peterborough and the county borough of Northampton, and (b) in the area comprising the administrative County of Norfolk and the county boroughs of Norwich and Great Yarmouth:—

1. The wages payable for employment in summer (as hereinafter defined) of male workmen in agriculture of 18 years of age and over shall be not less than wages at the minimum rate of 30s. for 54 hours (exclusive of meal times).

2. The wages payable for employment in winter (as hereinafter defined) of male workmen in agriculture of 18 years of age and over shall be not less than wages at the minimum rate of 30s. for 48 hours (exclusive of meal times).

3. The above minimum rates shall apply to all male workmen of 18 years of age and upwards while employed in agriculture within the meaning of Section 17 (1) of the above Act, in the area specified, whether employed in agriculture during the whole or part only of their time.

4. For the purpose of the above minimum rates employment in summer shall be deemed to be employment during the period commencing on the first Monday in March and terminating on the last Sunday in October; and employment in winter shall be deemed to be employment during the rest of the year.

The Agricultural Wages Board, as required by Section 5 (4) of the above Act, will consider any objections to the above minimum rates which may be lodged with them within one month from the date of this notice. All objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, The Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales), 80, Pall Mall, London S.W.1. The objections should state precisely, and so far as possible with reasons, what is objected to.

NOTE.—The above-mentioned notice is a proposal to fix minimum rates, and no minimum rates can be fixed by the Wages Board before the expiration of one month from the date of the notice.

The Agricultural Wages Board will in due course proceed to fix differential rates for overtime, and to define for the purposes of such differential rates the employment which is to be treated as overtime employment. Before doing so, however, they will give due notice, as required by the Act, of the differential rates which they propose to fix, and of any

Order defining the employment which is to be treated as overtime employment, and they propose to provide in such notice, as regards the areas of the Norfolk District Wages Committee and of the Northamptonshire District Wages Committee, that where the contract of employment of a workman does not provide that the working hours on one day in the week (not being a Sunday) shall be limited to 6½ hours or less, a differential rate for overtime shall apply in lieu of the minimum rates set out above. Until, however, differential rates for overtime have been fixed by the Wages Board, the above minimum rates will apply to all employment of workers as specified above.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

OBLIGATORY ORDER.

IN pursuance of his statutory powers, the Minister of Labour has made an Order, dated 8th April, 1918, making obligatory, in cases in which they are applicable, the minimum rates of wages for male and female workers, as varied by the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain), which came into limited operation on 6th October, 1917.*

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in accordance with the National Insurance Acts), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages after 8th April at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Minister of Labour is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

TIN BOX TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

OBLIGATORY ORDER.

IN pursuance of his statutory powers, the Minister of Labour has made an Order, dated 9th April, 1918, making obligatory, in cases in which they are applicable, the minimum rates of wages for male and female workers, as varied by the Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain), which came into limited operation on 8th October, 1917.*

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in accordance with the National Insurance Acts), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages after 9th April, at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Minister of Labour, is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for October, 1917, page 392.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

MARCH, 1918.

District.	Certifying Surgeons.	Place and time for examination.*
Biggleswade (Beds.)	Dr. C. K. Crowther, Biggleswade	Surgery, Tuesday, 8.30-9.30 a.m.
Burghead (Elgin)	Dr. A. L. Grant, Dunbar Street, Burghead	Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m.
Farnborough (Hants)	Dr. C. E. Paterson, Albany House, Alexandra Road, South Farnborough	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Holywell (Flint)	Dr. J. O. Jones, Bodowen, Holywell	Surgery, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Newport (Isle of Wight)	Dr. E. F. W. Buckell, 19, West End Terrace, Newport	Weekdays, 9-9.30 a.m.
Stirling (Stirling)	Dr. J. H. Murray, 10, Abercromby Place, Stirling	Weekdays, except Saturdays, 9-10 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.

* Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

THE Board of Trade Journal and Commercial Gazette, which is published weekly, gives authoritative information on all the activities of the Board of Trade and of the new Department of Overseas Trade, special attention being paid to plans for assisting trade restoration after the war. The Journal is purchasable from the same sources as the LABOUR GAZETTE (see front page of cover), at the price of 6d.

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Supplement to the LABOUR GAZETTE

for APRIL, 1918.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

List of New Contracts, March, 1918.

WAR OFFICE.

Apparatus, Bacteriological: Baird & Tatlock, London, E.—**Apparatus, X-Ray:** H. W. Cox & Co., Ltd., London, W.; A. Lyon & Wrench, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Badges, Metal:** S. J. Rose, London, W.—**Bags, Dowlas, &c.:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, N.; Carpenter Bros., London, S.E.; Cranfield & Carter, Burnham-on-Crouch; T. Dobbin & Co., London, E.; Fleming, Birkby & Goodall, Ltd., Halifax; C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.; F. Lane, London, E.C.; Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.; J. Lyons & Son, London, E.C.; Maple & Co., Ltd., London, W.; W. Peters & Sons, London, E.; Piggott Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; P. Smith & Co., London, E.; W. D. Talbert & Co., London, E.C.; J. Trumble & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.; G. J. Young & Co., Ltd., High Wycombe.—**Basils:** T. Bayley & Co., Lenton, Nottingham; Brewer & Hardy, Ltd., Bulwell, Nottingham; J. Garner & Sons, London, S.E.; H. Gibbs & Son, London, E.C.; S. H. & W. Hart, London, S.E.; J. Meredith-Jones & Sons, Ltd., Wrexham; R. Noblett, Audenshaw, Manchester; Nuneaton Leather Co., Nuneaton; Parry & Jones, Oswestry; Pavlova Leather Syndicate, Ltd., London, W.C.; H. Price & Co., Wrexham; T. Pryce-Hamer, Llanidloes, Mon.; E. & J. Richardson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; W. & J. Sagar, Colne, Lancs; S. Smith & Sons (Colne), Ltd., Colne, Lancs; Staynes & Smith, Leicester; C. F. Stead & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Turney Bros., Ltd., Hertford.—**Bedding:** R. P. Gorman & Co., Belfast; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Horrocks, Crewdson & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. S. Minchin, London, W.—**Belting, Leather, &c.:** Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Blankets:** Braithwaite & Co., Ltd., Kendal; R. Brearley & Son, Ltd., Batley; J. Casson, Elland, Yorks; City of Galway Woollen Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Galway; Clough & Pickles, Bury, Lancs; H. Dickinson, Huddersfield; J. Dinsmore & Sons, Ballymena, Co. Antrim; Dodgson & Hargreaves, Ltd., Leeds; J. Fenton & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury Moor; J. France & Co., Dewsbury; Gibson & Lungair, Ltd., Selkirk; W. Gledhill & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth, Yorks; J. Glover, Ltd., Ossett; W. C. Gray & Sons, Ayr; Greenwood & Son, Earlsheaton; J. Greenwood & Son, Ltd., Sowerby Bridge; Hardman Bros. & Co., Ltd., Rawtenstall; L. Harwood & Co., Luddendenfoot; Henderson & Eadie, Ltd., Lisbellaw, Fermanagh; Hepworths & Haley, Ltd., Dewsbury; G. H. Hirst & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; J. Kaye & Son, Huddersfield; Kyle, Aitken & Gardiner, Dalry, N.B.; D. Lee & Sons, Earlsheaton; G. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; Marriot & Sons, Ltd., Witney; A. Murdoch & Co., Glasgow; Newsome & Spedding, Ltd., Dewsbury; Newsome, West & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; M. Oldroyd & Son, Dewsbury; Pickering, Greaves & Co., Dewsbury; S. Porritt & Sons, Ltd., Rochdale; Priestley Bros., Halifax; J. W. & F. N. Priestley (1911), Ltd., Liversedge, Yorks; R. Rawlinson, Waterfoot, Lancs; J. Reade, Kilkenny, Ireland; R. T. Riley & Son, Luddenden, Yorks; Robinson & Cleaver, Ltd., Belfast; C. & J. Sharman & Co., Huddersfield; Singleton & Co., Ltd., Kirkburton, Yorks; W. Smith & Co. (Witney), Ltd., Witney; Springhead Mill Co., Guiseley, Yorks; Stephenson Bros. & Co., Ltd., Kilmeadon, Co. Waterford; R. Talbot & Sons, Ltd., Batley; J. T. & J. Taylor, Ltd., Batley; J. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Mirfield, Yorks; G. E. & W. Wike, Ltd., Bury, Lancs; Wilcock & J. Rhodes, Ltd., Leeds; Wilford & Johnson, Ltd., Dewsbury; J. J. & W. Wilson, Kendal; Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Boilers, Locomotive:** Robey & Co., Ltd., Lincoln.—**Boilers, Portable and Spares:** Callendar Iron Co., Falkirk; Watson, Gow & Co., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Bogies:** R. Hudson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Bolts and Nuts, &c.:** F. W. Cotterill, Ltd., Darlaston; J. Gadd & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Horton & Son, Ltd., Darlaston; W. Miller & Son, Wolverhampton; T. Pittaway & Sons, Birmingham; J. C. Prestwich, Ltd., Atherton, Lancs; C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich; Wilkes, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Boots, ankle:** Adams Bros., Raunds; A. & W. Arnold, Northampton; A. Barker & Sons, Earls Barton; T. Bird & Sons, Ltd., Kettering; E. Bostock & Co., Ltd., Stafford; F. Bostock, Ltd., Northampton; G. B. Britton, Bristol; T. Brown & Co., Ltd., Leicester; J. Cave & Son, Ltd., Rushden; Church & Co., Northampton; R. Coggins & Son, Raunds; S. Collier, Ltd., Northampton; F. Cook, Ltd., Long Buckley; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Rushden; Crick & Co., Northampton; Crockett & Jones, Northampton; B. Denton & Son, Ltd., Rushden; Eaton & Co., Rushden; Ekins, Son & Percival, Wellingborough; G. E. Emerson, Leeds; W. Evans, Leicester; Frederick & Co., North-

War Office—continued.

ampton; Freeman, Hardy & Willis, Ltd., Kettering; W. & J. Gray, Leeds; W. Green & Son, Rushden; G. T. Hawkins, Ltd., Northampton; D. Henderson & Sons, Leicester; Hornby & West, Ltd., Northampton; C. W. Horrell, Rushden; Loake Bros., Ltd., Kettering; Manfield & Son, Northampton; J. Marlow & Sons, Ltd., Northampton; Midland Boot Manufacturers, Ltd., Wellingborough; T. Miles & Co., Ltd., Kingswood, Bristol; L. Morrison, Ltd., Aberdeen; W. Nicholl & Son, Kettering; Nurrish, Pallett & Co., Rushden; Oakshott & Finemore, Northampton; Padmore & Barnes, Ltd., Northampton; C. Parker, Ltd., Higham Ferrers; T. Peel & Co., Leeds; Pollard & Son, Northampton; E. W. Pratt & Co., Bristol; Public Benefit Boot Co., Leeds; J. Robinson, Northampton; Saxone Shoe Co., Kilmarnock; Scottish Co-operative Society, Ltd., Govan, N.B.; G. Selwood & Co., Rushden; H. Sharman & Sons, Northampton; J. Shortlands, Irthingborough; Smith & Foster, Kettering; Somerville Bros., Kendal; J. Spencer & Co., Ltd., Irthingborough; Sutor, Ltd., Northampton; G. M. Tebbutt & Son, Ltd., Northampton; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Raunds; Tecnic Boot Co., Rushden; H. Walker & Son, Ltd., Leeds; Wilson & Watson, Ltd., Kettering.—**Boots, Gum:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Bottles, Leather:** Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Braces:** T. Baxenden & Co., London, E.C.; W. Blenkiron & Son, London, E.C.; J. Butler & Co., London, E.C.; Haley Bros., Cleckheaton; Halifax Brace Co., Ltd., Halifax; Hookway, Sons & Cook, Ltd., London, E.; R. Kew & Sons, Manchester; McBryde & Orr, Ltd., London, E.C.; D. Power & Sons, Ltd., Walsall; A. F. Tallent, Ltd., London, N.—**Braid and Binding:** G. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley.—**Bricks:** Fireclay Products, Ltd., Liverpool; Smead, Dean & Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne.—**Bridges, Portable and Parts:** Kryn & Lahy Metal Works, Ltd., Letchworth.—**Brushes:** S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd., Norwich; Rigby Batcock, Ltd., London, E.; Star Brush Co., Ltd., London, N.; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.—**Bunting and Shalloons:** W. Bancroft & Sons, Ltd., Halifax; C. B. Brook & Co., Drighlington, Bradford; J. Clough & Son, Shipley; G. H. Eady & Co., Bradford; Morton & Holcroft, Halifax; J. Murgatroyd & Sons, Luddenden, Yorks; T. Riley & Co., Bradford.—**Buttons:** Bristol Furniture Nail and Button Co., Ltd., Bristol; Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Grove & Sons, Ltd., Halesowen; C. H. Parsons, Ltd., Birmingham; Sutcliffe (Crumpsall), Ltd., Manchester.—**Candles:** Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Canvas:** Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Corsar Bros., Arbroath; Horrockses, Crewdson & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. Lumsden & Son, Freuchie, Fife; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—**Canvas, Waterproof:** Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath; Gourcock Ropework Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Port Glasgow and Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Woods, Sons & Co., Manchester.—**Cases, Leather:** R. A. Blair & Co., London, S.E.; J. Cliff & Co., Walsall; Cole Bros., London, W.C.; W. & H. Gidden, London, W.C.; Lavender & Overton, Ltd., Walsall; Leatheries, Ltd., Birmingham; D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; D. W. Orr & Co., Huddersfield; R. Stafford, London, E.C.; D. Stocks, Edinburgh.—**Cases, Wood, Packing, &c.:** Anglo-Scandinavian Box Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Capjon & Hoare, London, E.; C. J. Cole, London, N.; T. Ginder & Son, Walsall; J. Glover & Co., London, E.C.; Harrison & Rogers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Hill, Egginton & Gopill, Birmingham; Jones & Leach, Ltd., Newtown, N. Wales; T. J. Land & Son, Ltd., London, E.; M. M. Lilley & Co., Birmingham; E. Lockett & Sons, Manchester; W. Lusty & Sons, London, E.; J. E. McMillan, Ltd., London, E.; J. Newman, Ltd., London, E.; F. J. West & Co., London, N.E.—**Castors, Roller:** Gem Castor Co., Leicester.—**Chalk, Prepared:** S. Guiterman & Co., Ltd., Letchworth.—**Chemicals:** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Clogs:** Blakemore & Son, Oldbury; G. Gregory & Son, London, S.W.; J. Miller & Sons, London, S.E.—**Cloth (Piece Goods):** T. & M. Bairstow, Keighley; Barraclough, Crowther & Woodhead, Bradford; Batty & Dracup, Bradford; J. Beaumont & Son, Ltd., Huddersfield; J. Benn, Junr., Idle, Bradford; J. H. Binns & Co., Ltd., Keighley; G. Birbeck & Co., Halifax; S. Blezard & Co., Bradford; Boardman & Smith, Bradford; Booth & Mann, Ltd., Keighley; S. Bottomley & Bros., Ltd., Bradford; Bradley & Bradley, Leeds; E. Bradleys Successors, Ltd., Armlay, Leeds; H. Bradley, Morley; Bramley Tweed Co., Ltd., Bramley; Briggs, Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bradford; C. B. Brook & Co., Drighlington; J. Brooke & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; Caledon Woollen Mills Co., Ltd., Caledon, Co. Tyrone; Calverley Commission Manufacturers,

War Office—continued.

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Hyde & Co., Oxford; Johnson & Sons, Yarmouth; Moore, Taggart & Co., Glasgow; Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge; Sindall Bros. & Co., London, N.E.; H. Wheeler & Co., Ltd., London, E.; P. Williams, Ltd., Liverpool; Wood, Harris & Co., Halifax.—Cloths, Sponge: J. White (Wigan), Ltd., Wigan.—Cogs, Frost: B. Priest & Sons, Ltd., Old Hill.—Composition, Boiler: J. Harris, London, S.E.—Containers, Stoneware: C. Carder & Sons, Brierley Hill.—Converters, Motor: B. Peebles & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Cordage, Lines and Twines: Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, N.; Craven & Speeding Bros., Sunderland; Frost Bros., London, E.; Gourcock Ropework Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Jameson & Co., Ltd., Hull; Todd & Son, Ltd., Glasgow; H. W. Tucker & Co., Bridport; S. Whitham & Sons, Ltd., Bridport.—Cotton, Linen, Duck, &c. (Piece Goods): Armitage & Rigby, Ltd., Manchester; J. Barker & Co., Ltd., London, W.; T. Barnes & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. Bethell & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; E. 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Morris, Ltd., Loughborough; Whitakers (Engineers), Ltd., Horsforth, Leeds.—Curtains, Helmet: M. Abeles, London, E.C.—Destructors: New Destructor Co., Ltd., Pershore.—Disinfectors and Spares: Grampian Engineering Co., Ltd., Stirling; Thresh Disinfecter Co., Keighley.—Dowels: J. Norman & Sons, Dysart, Fife; A. N. Thomson, Strathmiglo, Fife; W. Thomson & Son, Strathmiglo, Fife.—Duck, Tent: D. & R. Duke, Brechin, N.B.; J. Laing, Glasgow; T. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; R. Stocks & Co., Kirkcaldy; Tavanagh Weaving Co., Ltd., Portadown.—Duck, Tent, Proofing of: T. E. Marchington & Co., Droylesden.—Dynamo: H. T. Boothroyd, Ltd., Bootle; City Electrical Co., London, W.C.; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Earthenware: G. Ashworth & Bros., Hanley; British Anchor Pottery Co., Ltd., Longton; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Mintons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; West Lothian Pottery Co., Ltd., Bo'ness, N.B.; F. Winkle & Co., Stoke-on-Trent.—Emery Cloth, &c.: J. 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War Office—continued.

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Gray & Sons, Ltd., Cambridge.—Harness and Saddlery: Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.; E. Stubbs, Walsall.—Head-Dresses: E. S. Cartledge, London, W.; Hall & Phillips, Ltd., Nuneaton; N. Jacobson, Ltd., Manchester; G. H. Leavey & Co., London, W.C.; Reese & Bonn, Ltd., London, E.; Vero & Everitt, Ltd., Atherstone.—Heads, Broom: Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind, Birmingham; F. R. Bradbeer, Exeter; Hollinworth & Pickard, Sheffield; Laurie & McConal, Ltd., Cambridge; Richmond National Institution for the Blind, Dublin; Yates & Co., Boothtown, Halifax.—Hides: J. & F. J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Colyton, Devon; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Tullis & Son, Ltd., Alloa, N.B.—Hooks, Fire: Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—Hose, I.R. and Canvas: Irwell and Eastern Rubber Co., Ltd., Sal-ford; Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—Hosiery: Aberdeen Glove Co., Ltd., Aberdeen; A. Alderson & Co., Ltd., Sunderland; H. Allsop & Co., Ltd., Nottingham; H. E. Allsopp & Co. (Leicester), Ltd., Leicester; Bainbridge & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; F. J. Bamkin & Sons, Notting-ham; H. Bates & Co., Ltd., Wigston, Leicester; Beale & Her-ber, Ltd., Leicester; G. Bedford & Son, Hinckley; Bedford Hosiery Co., Belfast; Belvoir Manufacturing Co., Leicester; T. Billson, & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Bird & Yeomans, Hinckley; Blackrock Hosiery Co., Ltd., Blackrock, Co. Dublin; Bolesworth & Jennings, Hinckley; J. Bonsor & Co., Hawick; G. Bott & Son, Hinckley; J. Bowler & Co., Leicester; S. Brocklehurst, Hinckley; Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek; A. H. Broughton & Co., Gt. Wigston; J. D. Broughton & Sons, Wigston; R. Broughton & Co., Gt. Wigston; J. Brown & Co. (Lanark), Ltd., Lanark; E. W. Bryan, Leicester; W. Buckler & Co., Ltd., Leicester; Cooper & Roe, Nottingham; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Huthwaite; N. Corah & Sons, Leicester; J. & J. Crier, Ltd., Littleborough; A. Cunning-ham, Ltd., Stewarton, N.B.; M. & A. Currie, Kilmarnock; R. Currie & Son, Selkirk; S. Davis & Sons, Derby and Hinckley; J. Davy, Ltd., Burnley; Dixon & Moore, Leicester; H. L. Driver, Ltd., Leicester; H. Edgar & Co., Nottingham; Elder & Watson, Strathaven, N.B.; Fraser, Frasers & Co., Kilmarnock; Freeman & West, Syston, Leicester; J. G. Glover & Co., Wigston, Leicester; C. E. Gosling, Leicester; J. Haines & Co., Leicester; Hall & Earl, Leicester; Hanford & Miller, Loughborough; F. W. Harmer & Co., Horwich; Harrison & Hayes, Leicester; J. Hearth & Co., Leicester; J. Henderson & Co., Hawick; A. E. Hill, Wigston, Leicester; G. Hogg & Sons, Hawick; W. Holmes & Sons, Wigston, Leicester; Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Irvine, N.B.; Howes & Jessop, Ltd., Leicester; W. & H. Howe, Leicester; Hubbard & Kenning, Leicester; Humphreys & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; A. P. Innes & Co., Hawick; Johnson & Son, Loughborough; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; Jones, Evans & Co., Ltd., Newtown, N. Wales; A. Kemp, Leicester; Langley & Tory, Leicester; J. Leeson & Co., Leicester; Leicester Jersey Co., Ltd., Leicester; Leicester Knitting Co., Ltd., Leicester; C. Lewin, Wigston, Leicester; J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham; Longford Hosiery Co., Longford; Lyle & Scott, Ltd., Hawick; A. MacDougall & Co., Lanark; McIntosh & Ferguson, Ltd., Glasgow; MacKinnon & Co., Glasgow; R. Marsden, Blackburn; Mason & Blakesley, Hinckley; G. Mee, Leicester; Miller & Cooke, Ltd., St. Albans; Moore, Eady & Murcott-Goode, Ltd., Leicester; I. & R. Morley, London, E.C.; J. L. Morley (Leicester), Ltd., Leicester; T. Morley & Son, Leicester; Morton & Bradbury, Earlshilton; Munro & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh; R. W. Myhill & Co., Leicester; Newby, Groves & Meakin, Ltd., Leicester; North Lancashire Hosiery Co., Preston; Norton & Bradbury, Earlshilton; Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough; Oak Tree Hosiery Co., Ltd., Man-chester; F. Parker & Co., Leicester; D. Payne & Son, Ltd., Hinckley; R. H. Payne & Co., Kibworth; C. Pegg & Co., Ltd., Leicester; Pool, Lorrimer & Tabberer, Leicester; R. Popple-ton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Pudan & Burridge, Ltd., Leicester; Reeve & Hubberd, Leicester; S. Resdaile & Co., London, W.; H. J. Riddlestone & Co., Leicester; Robinson Bros. (Burbage), Ltd., Hinckley; R. Rowley & Co., Ltd., Leicester; B. Russell &

War Office—continued.

Sons, Leicester; Scarborough War Industry, Scarborough; P. Scott & Co., Ltd., Hawick; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Glasgow; R. Seddon & Sons, Wigan; Shepshead Hosiery Co., Ltd., Leicester; J. Smedley, Ltd., Matlock; C. Smith Bros., Leicester; J. Smith & Co., Keighley; Stevenson & Co., Newtownards, Co. Down; Strathclyde Hosiery Co., Ltd., Glasgow; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; H. G. Swift & Co., Leicester; F. & E. Tarratt, Leicester; Taylor & Stansfield, Littleborough; Templecrone Co-operative Agricultural Society, Ltd., Dungloe, Co. Donegal; J. Toon & Sons, Earlshilton; Towle & Co., Loughborough; Trafford Hosiery Co., Leicester; Turner & Jarvis, Ltd., Leicester; Uneedus Hosiery Co., Ltd., Leicester; C. Verwee, Maidenhead; R. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; W. Walker & Sons, Kirby-in-Ashfield; Ward, Sturt & Sharp, Belper; Watson & Murdock, Ltd., Leicester; A. Wayne & Co., Leicester; Wills & Hutchinson, Leicester; Women's Work-rooms United Club, Rhyd; Woodford & Wormleighton, Leicester; Wooding & Teasdale, Leicester; A. Yates & Co., Leicester; A. S. Yates, Leicester.—Huts, Sectional: G. Blay, New Malden, Surrey; J. Chapman & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; London, Provincial and Export Building Co., London, S.W.; J. Mead, Ltd., Chesham; Thornborough & Co., Ltd., London, N.—Ink, Mark-ing: A. H. Uppington, London, S.E.—Instruments, Musical: H. Band & Co., Brentford; G. Potter & Co., Aldershot.—Joinery: Austins (East Ham and Ilford), Ltd., London, E.; W. E. Chivers & Sons, Devizes.—Lace, Silk: J. Perkins & Sons (1909), Ltd., Coventry.—Lamps and Lanterns, Oil: T. E. Bladon & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; E. Griffiths & Sons, Birmingham.—Leather, Dressed: F. Armfield & Son, London, S.E.; H. Barrow & Co., London, S.E.; J. Beach & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; W. Beale & Co., London, S.E.; Blackmore & Co., Ltd., Kettering; Chees-man, Braid & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; T. Cocker, Junr., Ltd., Stockport; J. C. Coldicott, Wellingborough; Crotty & Palsue, London, W.; A. Davies, Ltd., Audenshaw, Manchester; Dean & Co., Ltd., Stockport; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; W. Doggett, London, S.E.; I. Dootson, Bolton; Dunn Bros., London, S.E.; East, Kinsey & East, London, S.E.; Epstein Bros., London, E.C.; P. E. Fisher, Basingstoke; French, White & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; George & Co., London, W.; H. Gibbs & Son, London, E.C.; H. Goodman, Kettering; W. Haynes, Manchester; J. Hewit & Sons, Edinburgh; W. Heywood, Bolton; Horsfield, Sons & Mackrill Bros., Ltd., Leeds; Jacobs & Josephs, London, S.E.; E. Kipps & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Lowe Bros., Stockport; Manton Bros., Harrold, Beds; Nicholson, Sons & Daniels, London, S.E.; Nickerson Bros., London, S.E.; G. Nixon & Co., Stockport; S. Patrick, Kettering; W. Pearce & Co., Northampton; C. Pettit & Co., Harrold, Beds; R. & J. Pullman, Ltd., Godalming; F. R. Reynolds & Sons, London, S.E.; W. Ruttenan & Co., Ashton-under-Lyne; J. Saloman & Co., London, S.E.; A. E. Spafford, Denton, Manchester; Stimp-son Bros., Ltd., Northampton; G. Stock & Son, Kettering; Tebbitt Bros., London, S.E.; Wells & Co., Ltd., Harrold, Beds; Wesley Bros., Odell, Beds.—Leggings, Leather: Brown & Sons, Wellingborough; F. C. Chamberlain & Co., Wellingborough; Hilton, Curtis & Perkins, Wellingborough; G. Knight, Finedon; L. Lilley, Ltd., Wellingborough; R. Thompson & Co., Ltd., Wellingborough.—Linoleum: M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Tayside Floorcloth Co., Ltd., Newbury, Fife.—Locomotives and Spares: Manning, Wardle & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Machines, Laundry: T. Bradford & Co., Manchester; D. & J. Tullis, Ltd., Glasgow.—Machines, Stamping and Type: Grover & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Machines, Threshing: Marshall, Sons & Co., Ltd., Gainsborough.—Mallets: H. Lebus, London, N.—Masks, Eye and Parts: British Metal and Toy Manufacturers, Ltd., London, N.; British Optical Lens Co., Birmingham; G. Culver, Ltd., London, N.; J. & R. Fleming, Ltd., London, E.C.; W. Gowland, Ltd., Croydon; Heath & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Miller & Co., London, E.C.; Newbold & Bulford, London, E.C.; Precision Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; United Lens Co., Lon-don, W.C.—Medals: W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., Rawdon, Leeds.—Medicines: J. Bell & Croymen, Ltd., London, W.; Burgoyne, Bur-diges & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; London Chemical Works, Ltd., Southall; C. M. & C. Woodhouse, London, E.C.—Magnetos: Fellows Magnetos Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Methylated Spirit: Bristol Distilling Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Motors, &c.: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; E. Brook, Ltd., Huddersfield; City Electrical Co., London, W.C.; Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; F. Parkinson & Co., Guiseley.—Muslin: T. Williamson & Co., Manchester.—Nails, Spikes, Washers, &c.: D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Rogerston, Mon.; C. James & Co., London, E.C.; W. Mills & Co., Old Hill; D. Moore, Halesowen; T. Parish & Son, Halesowen; Perry & Brooks, Lye, Stourbridge; J. Price, Halesowen; H. Rudge, Halesowen; T. Williams & Sons, Ltd., Halesowen.—Netting, Mosquito: Taylor Bros. (Sandiacre), Ltd., Nottingham.—Netting, Wire: F. H. Ayers, Ltd., London, E.C.; Barnards, Ltd., Norwich; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; Foggin, Ltd., New-castle-on-Tyne; N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., Warrington; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; R. Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Manchester; H. A. Joyner, London, S.E.; Proctor Bros. (Wireworks), Ltd., Leeds.—Oils: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet; W. B. Dick & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. & D. Hamilton, Ltd., Glasgow; London Lubri-cants, Ltd., London, E.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., Birkenhead; H. Wells Oil Co., Salford; Youngusband, Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—Paint and Putty: Blyth, Heald & Langdale, Ltd., Hull; N. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder, Ltd., London, E.; Hornes Luminous Co., Ltd., North Cheam, Surrey; Pilchers, Ltd., London, S.E.—Panniers: Dryad Works, Leicester.—Photographic Stores: J. G.

War Office—continued.

Avery, London, W.; Foxcroft & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Kodak, Ltd., London, W.C.—Pins, Locking: Picker & Son, Birmingham.—Pipes, Canvas Hose: A. W. Martin & Co., Ltd., Aberdeen.—Piping and Fittings, Metal: J. Oakes & Co., Alfreton; Patersons Lighting, Ltd., Glasgow; Russell Bros., Ltd., Walsall; J. Russell & Co., Ltd., Walsall; Windsor Sheet Metal Works, Glasgow; G. Wright, Ltd., Rotherham and London, E.C.—Plant, Bakery: J. Baker & Sons, Ltd., London, N.W.; A. Hunt, Ltd., Leicester; Melvin, Ltd., Glasgow; T. H. Tonge, Ltd., Manchester.—Plant, Ice Making: Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Derby.—Plant, Water Purifying: United Water Softeners, Ltd., London, W.C.—Powder, Clarifying: Adcocks, London, N.—Presses, Baling: J. & F. Howard, Ltd., Bedford.—Pumps: Bovine & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Gwynnes, Ltd., London, W.; Hathorn, Davey & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—Ranges, Stoves, &c.: Callendar Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk; Carron Co., Carron, N.B.; Dobie, Forbes & Co., Larbert, N.B.; Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk; Forth and Clyde and Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk; Jones & Campbell, Ltd., Larbert, N.B.; McDowall, Stevens & Co., Ltd., Falkirk; Park Foundry Co., Ltd., Belper; Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge, N.B.—Ridging, Steel: Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port.—Rivets, Steel: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Smethwick; Rivet, Bolt and Nut Co., Glasgow; Rollason & Slater (1909), Ltd., Birmingham.—Rollers, Gravity: British Mathews, Ltd., London, E.C.—Rope, Manila: Hawkins & Tipson, London, E.—Ropes, Halter, &c.: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, N.; J. Hawley & Co., Ltd., Walsall; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.—Rubber-Proofed Goods: Campbell, Achnach & Co., Glasgow; Cohen & Wilks, Cheetham; I. Frankenburg & Sons, Ltd., Salford; P. Frankenstein & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Gutta Percha Co., London, N.; J. Kinder & Co., Manchester; Leyland and Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland; Northern Rubber Co., Retford; R. W. Stewart & Co., Dunfermline.—Screws, Brass and Iron: H. Cox Sewer Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Smethwick; A. Stokes & Co., Birmingham.—Sewings: Albion Sewing Cotton Co., Ltd., London, N.; Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Leek; J. & P. Coats, Ltd., Paisley; Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd., Johnstone, N.B.; Imperia Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Leicester; Leek Silk Twist Manufacturing Society, Ltd., Leek.—Sheets, Cotton: Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Manchester; R. Haworth & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Horrockses, Crewdson & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sheets, Steel, Plain and Corrugated: Baldwin's, Ltd., London, E.; Bowsfield Steel Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; Pontnewynydd Sheet & Galvanizing Co., Ltd., Pontypool; Raven Tinplate Co., Ltd., Glanammog; J. Summers & Sons, Ltd., Chester; Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall.—Shirts and Drawers, Cotton: Atkins Bros., Hinckley; G. Braund, Ltd., Belper; J. Clarke & Co. (Arnold), Ltd., Nottingham; N. Corah & Sons, Leicester; Drewry & Edwards, Ltd., Nottingham; J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham; Lloyd, Attree & Smith, London, E.C.; Manchester Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Hinckley; Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough; R. H. & S. Rogers, Ltd., London, E.C.; Young & Rochester, Ltd., London, E.C.—Slabs, Fibrous Plaster: Leeds Fibrous Plaster Co., Leeds; S. Wright & Co., London, N.E.—Soap: J. Kay & Sons, Ramsbottom; J. L. Thomas & Co., Ltd., Exeter.—Soda, Crystals: Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., London, E.; United Alkali Co., London, E.—Soles, &c.: C. H. Rawson, Leicester.—Steelwork, Constructional: W. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge; Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; British Luxfer Prism Syndicate, Ltd., London, N.W.; Davies Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; District Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Smethwick; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Fleming Bros., Glasgow; Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill; E. C. & J. Keay, Ltd., Birmingham; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; A. & J. Main & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; W. Miller & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Norton Hart Engineering Co., Tipton; Shaw & Carter, Ltd., Birmingham; Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall; J. Westwood & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Sterilizers: Rosebery Metal Works, London, E.C.—Stoves, Portable: S. J. & E. Fellows & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; R. Hookham, Ltd., Birmingham; O'Brien, Thomas & Co., London, E.C.; G. Wright, Ltd., London, E.C.—Stoves, Sovers and Parts: Bratt, Colbran & Co., London, N.W.; Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk; S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; S. Flavel & Co., Ltd., Leamington; W. Goodyear & Sons, Ltd., Dudley; A. Wiseman, Ltd., Birmingham.—Strappings, Leather: Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.—Straps, Leather: Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.—Studs, &c., Brass: W. H. Briscoe & Co., Ltd., Walsall; Butler & Spragg, Ltd., Birmingham.—Surgical Appliances, Instruments and Materials: R. Bailey & Son, Stockport; Barton, Gibbs & Co., Ltd., Oldbury; J. Bury & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. L. Hatrick & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; G. Haynes & Co., Stockport; B. Lees & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. Lingard, Ltd., London, E.C.; S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Platts Mill Co., Ltd., Wigan; Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Salford; Springfield Mill Co., Darwen, Lancs; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston.—Switchboards and Spares: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Tanks, Oil: Westwood & Wrights, Brierley Hill.—Tape: J. & N. Phillips & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Woolf & Higham, Cornbrook, Manchester.—Targets, Instructional: Eyre & Spottiswoode, London, N.E.; J. McQueen & Son, Galashiels.—Tents: T. Dobbin & Co., London, E.; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; P. Smith & Co., London, E.—Tetanus Anti-Toxin: Lister Institute of Preventive

War Office—continued.

Medicines, London, S.W.—Tinware: Barclay & Fry, Ltd., London, S.E.; Bradley & Co., Ltd., Bilston; A. Lloyd & Sons, London, S.E.—Tools: J. Bedford & Son, Sheffield; H. Brindley, Birmingham; Brooks Bros., Stourbridge; J. Brown & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Drabble & Sanderson, Ltd., Sheffield; E. Elwell, Ltd., Wednesbury; J. C. Hoyer, London, N.; Lawson & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham; E. & W. Lucas, Ltd., Sheffield; J. H. Peace & Son, Sheffield; Pearson & Baker, Stourbridge; Perkin, Mackintosh & Co., St. Albans; T. Williams & Sons, Halesowen.—Trans-formers: Foster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Tubes, Steel: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Valves, Cocks, &c.: Beck & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Guest & Chrimes, Ltd., Rotherham; Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Hayward-Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Wax, Paraffin: Burmah Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; E. F. Mayer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Pumpherson Oil Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Co., Ltd., Uphall, N.B.—Whistles: J. Hudson & Co., Birmingham.—Wire, Iron and Steel: J. C. Hill & Co., Ltd., Cwmbran, Mon.—Woodware (Miscellaneous): Goodearl Bros., Ltd., High Wycombe; R. Maynard, Cambridge; Messenger & Co., London, S.W.; Page & Taylor, Ltd., Preston.—Worsted: J. & J. Baldwin & Partners, Ltd., Halifax.—Works Services: Camps: J. Cartmell & Sons, Ltd., Preston; Hutting: W. H. Gaze & Sons, London, W.; Water Supply: J. C. Vaughan & Son, Hereford.—Erection of: Buildings: J. Booth & Sons, Bolton; J. W. Goodrich, Purley; Holloway Bros. (London), Ltd., London, S.W.; J. W. Woolnough, Eastbourne.—Maintenance of War Department Buildings: J. Crowley, Mallow; L. T. Dadds, Canterbury; J. Gallagher & Sons, Londonderry; S. R. Horton & Sons, Lincoln; H. Joyce, St. Annes-on-Sea; Rowlands Bros., Horsham; J. Whittle, Ormskirk.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Paper of Various Descriptions: John Allen & Sons, Ltd., Ivy-bridge, Devon; Jas. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd., King's Norton; Caldwell & Co., Ltd., Fife; A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik, N.B.; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie, N.B.; J. A. R. Crompton & Sons, Ltd., Bury, Lancashire; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; Culter Mills, Paper Co., Aberdeen; Y. Duxbury & Sons, Ltd., Bury; R. Fletcher & Sons, Ltd., Stoneclough, Manchester; Ford Paper Works, Ltd., Hylton; C. Townsend Hook & Co., Snel-land, Kent; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend; London Paper Mills, Ltd., Dartford; C. Marsden & Sons, Ltd., Wakefield; Northfeet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfeet; Ramsbottom Paper Mills, Ltd., nr. Manchester; A. E. Reed & Co., Ltd., South Darenth; Reed & Smith, Ltd., Cullompton; St. Neots Paper Mills Co., Ltd., St. Neots; T. H. Saunders & Co., Ltd., High Wycombe; Team Valley Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Thomas Bros. & Co., Ltd., Marlow; Towgood & Beckwith, Ltd., Crickhowell; Ulverston Paper Co., Ltd., Ulverston; Wiggins, Teape & Co., Ltd., Woburn, Bucks; J. Wild & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Millington & Sons, Ltd., S. Tottenham; McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton, Bucks; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead; Cooke & Nuttall & Co., Ltd., Horwich; Star Paper Mills Co., Blackburn; W. Howard & Sons, Canterbury; Smith, Stone & Knight, Bristol; Waterlow & Sons, Dunstable; Swallow Manufacturing Co., Kilburn; A. Pirie & Sons, Bucksburn; J. Spicer & Sons, London, E.C.; Kodak, Ltd., Wealdstone; A. E. Mallandain, Park Royal; D. Gestetner, Tottenham Hale; P. Garnet & Sons, Otley; G. Church & Co., Nunhead Lane; Pegamoid Co., Lower Edmonton; Allott, Jones & Co., Liverpool; Butterfield & Renton, Bishop's Monkton; Thomas & Green, Woburn; British Crepe Paper Manufacturing Co., London, N.W.; H. & L. Slater, Bullington; Chapman & Co., London, S.W.; T. Owen & Co., Cardiff; Olive and Partington, Broughton Bridge.—Envelopes: Smith & Young, London, E.C.; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Chapman & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Millington & Sons, Ltd., London, N.; Thorburn, Bain & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead; Culross & Sproston, Ltd., Holbeck, Leeds; Fenner, Appleton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; The Craigside Envelope Co., Edinburgh; Butt Bros. and Cooke, Ltd., Manchester; Kenrick & Jefferson, Ltd., Bromwich.—Cards: J. Dickinson & Co., Hemel Hempstead; J. Wrigley & Sons, Bury; Spicer Bros., Watergate House; Culter Mills Co., Aberdeenshire.—Millboards and Strawboards: Thames Paper Co., Purfleet.—Ruling, Printing and Binding, &c.: Printing, &c., 7,000 Books; printing 15,000 Books; printing, &c., 2,500 Books; printing 1,750,000 Cards; ruling, &c., 5,000 Diaries; ruling 1,000 Books; printing 1,000,000 Forms; 1,000,000 Forms; 2,000,000 Forms; 92,500 Books; ruling, &c., 1,000 Postmaster, &c.; printing 500,000 Forms; McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton, Bucks. Printing 800 Books; 1,250,000 Books; 2,000,000 cards; ruling, &c., 600 Books; ruling 1,000,000 F'cap Folio Sheets; making 9,000 Portfolios; printing 7,750,000 Forms; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Printing 45,000 4to Books; 500,000 Returns; 1,000,000 Cards; 3,000,000 Forms; 60,000 Books; 1,000,000 Pamphlets; 1,250,000 Forms; 3,225 Books; Hazell, Watson & Viney, London, E.C. Printing 500,000 Pads; 5,000 Books; 705,600 Forms; 5,000 Books; Bemrose & Sons, Derby. Printing 1,000,000 Cards; 60,000 Books; Waterlow Bros. & Layton, London, E.C. Printing 500,000 Forms; ruling 2,000,000 Demy 4to Sheets; 2,000,000 F'cap Folio Sheets; Willmott & Sons, London, E.C. Printing 120,000 Sheets; 250,000 Forms; 50,000 Books; 2,000,000 Forms; 20,000 Books; 1,000,000 Forms; Howard & Jones, London, E.C. Printing 500,000 Pamphlets; 250,000 Books; 556,668 Sheets of Forms; 2,000,000 Forms; Hayman, Christy & Lilly, London, E.C. Printing 1,250,000

H.M. Stationery Office—continued.

Cards; 1,750,000 Forms: John Parry & Co., London, E.C. Printing 40,000 Army Books; making 650 Books; printing 1,000,000 Forms: J. Rissen, Ltd., London, E.C. Printing 58,400 Books; 1,000,000 Sets of Notes: J. Corah & Sons, Loughborough. Printing 40,000 Books; 1,000,000 Forms: Harrison, Jehring & Co., London, W.C. Printing 50,000 Army Books: Sir Joseph Causton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.9. Printing 6,000 Books; Drake, Driver & Leaver, London, E.C. Printing 100,000 Books; 500,000 Booklets: Oxford University Press, Oxford. Printing 12,000 Covers: S. J. Weeks & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Printing 1,000,000 Cards: Harrison & Sons, London, W.C. Printing 10,000 Hangers; T. M. Storer, Sons & Co., Nottingham. Making 230 L/L Bdrs.; 1,000 L/L Ledgers: Burrup, Mathieson & Sprague, London, S.E. Printing 1,000 Labels: Simpson Label Co., Edinburgh. Printing 350,000 Labels: Straker Bros., London, E.C. Printing 60,000 Sets of Sheets: The Copeland-Chatterton Co., Ltd., Stroud, Glos. Binding 2,000 Books: A. W. Bain & Co., Ltd., Cambridge Heath. Printing 147,500 Labels; 3,309,000 Labels: Fisher, Clarke & Co., Boston. Printing 500,000 Books; 12,000 Pads; Arthurs Press, Woodchester. Printing 1,113,336 Sheets of Forms; 8,000,000 Forms: Cassell & Co., London, E.C. Printing 1,113,336 Sheets of Forms; 50,000 Books; 2,000,000 Forms: Hudson & Kearns, London, S.E. Printing 5,500,000 Labels: Tags, Ltd., Liverpool. Printing 500,000 Labels: Millington & Sons, Tottenham. Printing 2,000,000 Cards: Adlard & Co., London, E.C. Printing 50,000 4to Books: Pulman & Sons, London, W. Printing 70,000 4to Books: J. D. Hunter, Armley, Leeds. Printing 70,000 4to Books: Petty & Sons, Ltd., Reading. Printing 15,000 4to Books: Menpes Press, Weston-super-Mare. Printing 91,000 Books: Educational Publishing Co., Cardiff. Printing 20,000 Books: F. Steel & Co., Stroud, Glos. Printing &c., 15,000 Books: J. Truscott & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Printing 1,500,000 Forms: Fell & Sons, London, S.E. Printing 10,000 Army Book 72: Rutland Printing and Binding Works, Ltd., London. Printing 4,000,000 Labels: Cooper, Dennison & Walkden, London, S.E. Printing 2,000,000 Cards: Chapman & Co., London, S.W. Printing 130,000 Post Cards: Clarke & Sherwell, Northampton. Printing 50,000 Posters: Dangerfield Printing Co., St. Albans. Printing 1,000,000 Sheets: Wightman & Co., London, S.W. Printing, &c., 4,000 Books: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead. Printing 200 Reels of Targets: Glasgow Numerical Co., Glasgow. Printing 60,000 Pads: R. Clay & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E. Making 100 Sets of Dividing Sheets: Moore's Modern Methods, London, E.C. Printing 200,000 Sets of Forms: Lawrence Bros., Weston-super-Mare. Making 800 Books: Charles & Sons, London, S.E. Binding 144 Vols. Police Orders: Eyre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., London, W.C. Printing 1,000,000 Forms: W. J. Pollock, London, W.1. Printing 2,000,000 Forms: Whitwell Press, London, E. Splicing 1,000 Ledger Metals: C. H. Hare & Son, Birmingham. Printing 50,000 Posters: J. Weiner, Ltd., London, W. Printing 35,000 Sets of Forms: Alf. Cooke, Leeds. Printing of "Board of Trade Journal and Gazette": J. G. Hammond & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Printing 250,000 Pamphlets: Premier Press, London, S.E. Printing 2,000,000 Labels: Suttley & Silverlock, London, S.E. Printing 25,000 Books: Rankin Bros., Bristol. Printing 2,330,000 Cards: Merritt & Hatcher, London, E.C. Printing Bookwork and Jobwork Printing Group 41 (1916): W. F. Parrott, Teddington. Printing 500,000 Books: Langley & Sons, London, N.W.

INDIA OFFICE: STORE DEPARTMENT.

Armature: General Electric Co., London, E.C.—Buffers: Stafforad & Co., Coalville.—Cards: C. Goodall & Son, London, E.C.—Casters: Lanstone Monotype Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Copperplates: Vivian, Sons & Co., London, E.C.; J. Bibby, Sons & Co., Liverpool.—Locomotives: W. G. Bagnall, Ltd., Stafford.—Printing Forms: Waterlow & Sons, London, E.C.—Springs: Turton Bros. & Matthews, Sheffield.—Steel Plates: Conselt Iron Co., Conselt; J. Dunlop & Co., Glasgow.—Steel Die: Edgar Allen & Co., Sheffield; Sanderson Bros. & Newbould, Sheffield.—Tracing Cloth: R. Clay, Ltd., Cheadle, Manchester; Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Manchester.—Zinc Plates: A. W. Penrose & Co., London, E.C.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Bramley O.W. Stores, Asphalte Work: Ragusa Asphalte Co., Ltd, Bow, E. Bristol and Cardiff (Equipment for Emergency Medical Board) Cubicles: B. Maggs & Co., Bristol. Burton's Court, Chelsea, Ministry of Pensions, Erection of Temporary Building: G. Godson & Sons, Ltd., Kilburn, W. Burton's Court, Chelsea, Ministry of Pensions, Lavatories and Sinks: W. R. Pickup & Co., Ltd., Horwich, Lancs. Burton's Court, Chelsea, Steel: Trussed Concrete Steel Co., Ltd., Westminster, S.W. Chorley Employment Exchange, Adaptation: Baxendale Bros., Chorley. Cradley Heath Employment Exchange, Adaptation: E. Crowder, Birmingham. Craigend, Edinburgh, Erection of a Neurasthenic Hospital: J. Millar & Son, Edinburgh. Greenwich Coal Fuel Research Station, Erection (Building Work): Thomas & Edge, Woolwich. New Science Museum, Adaptation for War Purposes, Asphalte Work: Engert & Rolfe, Ltd., Poplar, E. Leeds, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Wm. Thompson & Son, Leeds. London District, Erection of Sectional Huts: Hill, Richards & Co., London, W. St. Ermin's

H.M. Office of Works—continued.

Hotel, Ministry of Munitions Trench Warfare, Erection of Temporary Buildings on Roof: W. J. Maddison, Canning Town, 10, Smith Square, Admiralty Airship Construction Department, Erection of Temporary Building at Rear: J. E. Whiter, Newington Butts, S.E. War Office, Whitehall, Erection of a new Lavatory Block: Wm. Lacey, Hounslow.—Engineering Services: Grain Stores Generally, Spare Plant Spares: Spencer & Co., Melksham, Wilts. Plymouth Grain Stores, Extra Grain Handling Apparatus: Spencer & Co., Melksham, Wilts. Regent's Park, Aircraft Stores Depot Office Block Extension, Heating and Hot Water Service: Cannon & Hefford, Peckham, S.E. Regent's Park, Aircraft Stores Depot, Electric Wiring: Samuel Reed & Sons, London, E.C. Regent's Park, Aircraft Stores Depot, Runways: The Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Furniture: Cabinets, Card Index: The Aston Cabinet Co., Birmingham; Edward Fisher, Ltd., Preston; Bath Cabinet Makers Co., Ltd., Bath; North of England School Furnishing Co., Ltd., Darlington; D. Meredith, Letchworth; Kingfisher, Ltd., West Bromwich; Sharp Bros. & Knight, Burton-on-Trent; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich; D. Doctors, Bethnal Green, E. Cabinets, Card Index (Cloth Covered): North of England School Furnishing Co., Ltd., Darlington. Cabinets, Vertical (3 Drawer): Dale & Co., Ltd., Hoxton, N. Cabinets, Filing (Foolsap): North of England School Furnishing Co., Ltd., Darlington; J. Parnell & Son, Rugby; Sharp Bros. & Knight, Burton-on-Trent; E. Bean, Ltd., London, E.C.; Richard Stone & Sons, Ltd., Wellington, Salop; Treasure & Son, Shrewsbury; Geo. Blakey & Son, Ltd., Wakefield; Johnson, Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Chairs (Windsor), &c.: Richard Smith, High Wycombe. Desks (Slope Top), &c.: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.; Lazenby Bros., Leeds; Wm. Moss & Sons, Ltd., Loughborough; G. M. Hammer & Co., Ltd., South Lambeth, S.E.; Wilkins & Sons, Bristol. Drawers, Chests of: J. Gaddes & Sons, Bermondsey, S.E. Forms, 5 ft.: Heggie & Aitchison, Edinburgh. Forms, 6 ft.: Austins (East Ham and Ilford), Ltd., East Ham. Lounges, Couches and Chairs: Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W. Mirrors (Hanging): John Hall & Sons, Bristol. Pigeonholes, Cases of, Shelving, Cases of: J. & J. H. Boothman, Brierley, nr. Burnley; James Wheelodon & Sons, Salford, Manchester; Dawson & Jones, Sheffield; The Lord Roberts' Memorial Workshops, Colchester; The Ely Steam Joinery and Timber Co., Llantrissant, Glamorgan; Vickers, Ltd., Westminster, S.W. Presses, Plan: North of England School Furnishing Co., Ltd., Darlington; Sharp Bros. & Knight, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; J. Dorey & Co., Ltd., Brentford; C. 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H.M. Office of Works—continued.

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