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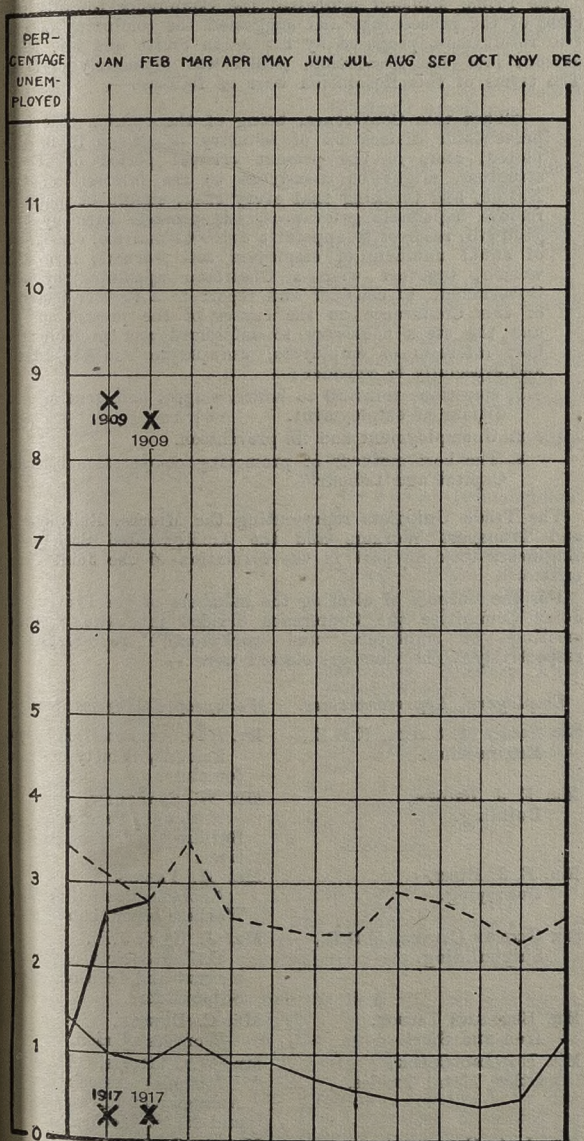
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1919. — Thin Curve = 1918.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1909-18.

x The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1909-18.



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.

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, AND RETAIL PRICES.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THE state of employment in February continued to be affected by the inevitable dislocation arising out of the enormous change over from war to peace conditions. The unemployment thus arising, however, is of a widely different character from that occurring at a time of trade depression caused by a general contraction in the demand for goods. At the present time the world generally is short of almost everything, and there will be an abundant amount of work to be done as soon as trade and industry have readjusted themselves to the new situation. It is satisfactory to observe from the statistics of the out-of-work donation that a large percentage of those who lodged out-of-work policies have now been absorbed in industry. The high percentage of demobilised men so absorbed is particularly noticeable. Wages continue to rise, and hours of labour are being reduced; at the same time the index number of retail prices of food and other items entering into the cost of living has fallen since the beginning of February from 120 to 115 per cent. above the pre-war level.

Employment.—Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,167,757, excluding those serving with the Forces, reported 2.8 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 2.5 per cent. at the end of January and 0.9 per cent. a year ago.

Of the 3,561,710 male and female workpeople insured against unemployment under the Acts of 1911 and 1916, the number unemployed at the end of February was 381,285 (or 10.71 per cent.), compared with 9.93 per cent. at the end of January, and 0.89 per cent. a year ago. The percentage for males was 8.05, and that for females was 18.00. In addition to these 381,285 workpeople, there were 567,335 persons (211,193 men and boys and 356,142 women and girls) in occupations not included under the National Insurance Acts, who were unemployed on 28th February.

Excluding demobilised members of H.M. Forces, the number of persons who were unemployed on each Friday in February, according to the statistics of the Government Out of Work Donation Scheme, was as follows: February 7th, 670,433; February 14th, 719,950; February 21st, 748,311; February 28th, 782,363. The number of demobilised members of H.M. Forces in receipt of out-of-work donation at the end of February was 166,257.

The number of men on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges on 28th February was 416,150 and the number of women was 549,261. The corresponding figures for 31st January were 273,876 and 453,912. The number of vacancies unfilled on 28th February was 51,369 for men and 63,698 for women, the corresponding figures for 31st January being 67,318 and 51,881.

Employment at coal-mines continued good in February. At collieries covered by the returns received, the pits were working 5.72 days per week in the fortnight ended 22nd February, as compared with 5.51 days per week in the corresponding period of 1918. The number of workpeople employed showed an increase of 5.6 per cent. as compared with the previous month,

and of 7.4 per cent. as compared with a year ago. At iron, shale and lead mines employment continued good, but at tin mines it was only moderate. Quarrying operations were interrupted by bad weather.

In the pig iron industry and at iron and steel works employment continued good. In the engineering trades there was a further decline, but skilled men continued to be fairly well employed. The shipbuilding trades were still affected by disputes in many districts, but otherwise employment continued fairly good. At tinplate and steel sheet mills employment was good, and showed a further improvement as compared with January, and a marked improvement as compared with a year ago. In most of the other metal trades employment was fairly good.

In the spinning branch of the cotton trade employment showed a decline as compared with the previous month; in the weaving branch it was very slack, and worse than in January. In the woollen and worsted and silk trades employment continued good; in the hosiery and jute trades it declined. In the lace trade it was fair in the plain net section, moderate in the curtain section, and bad in the fancy lace (levers) section. In the linen trade employment was slack in Scotland; in Ireland it was bad, and in the Belfast district 75 per cent. of the workpeople were working short time. In the textile bleaching industry employment continued slack; in the printing and dyeing sections it was bad. In the carpet trade employment continued fairly good.

In the leather trades employment showed a decline but was still fairly good; in the boot and shoe trades it was good on the whole. In the bespoke branch of the tailoring trade employment was fairly good, but in the ready-made branch there was a considerable decline. In the dressmaking, millinery, felt hat and wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, employment was fair; in the shirt and collar trade and in the corset trade it continued fairly good.

Employment continued good in the brick, cement, pottery and glass trades. There was a further decline in the building trade, and employment generally was slack. In the furnishing and woodworking trades employment was good with coachbuilders and coopers and fairly good with millers and in the furnishing section. In the paper, printing and bookbinding trades employment was also fairly good on the whole. The food preparation trades were well employed, and a considerable amount of overtime was worked in the sugar refining industry.

With fishermen and with dock labourers employment was fair on the whole. At most of the principal ports the supply of seamen was greater than the demand. In agriculture the labour shortage became less acute, but skilled workers were still needed.

Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour.—The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as having come into operation in February resulted in an increase of about £85,000 in the weekly wages of 550,000 workpeople. The workpeople chiefly affected were those employed in the woollen and worsted industry, in the textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing trades, and at gas undertakings.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by reductions in normal working hours were railway servants, for whom the principle of an eight-hour day was put into operation; iron and steel workers in certain districts, for whom a uniform eight-hour shift was adopted; and workers in the vehicle building and chemical industries, whose weekly hours were reduced to 47.

Retail Prices.—Since the beginning of February there have been reductions in the prices of meat, margarine and eggs, with the result that at 3rd March the average level of retail food prices (calculated on the basis of the pre-war standard of consumption) had fallen to 120 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 130 per cent. at 1st February. For all items ordinarily entering into working class family expenditure before the war, the average increase in retail prices at 3rd March was about 115 per cent., compared with 120 per cent. a month earlier.

THE INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

THE National Conference summoned by the Government to consider the present industrial situation was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on 27th February. Invitations to send representatives had been issued to Employers' Associations and Federations, Trade Unions and Federations of Trade Unions, Joint Industrial Councils, Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees, Trade Boards and certain other important interested bodies such as the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, the Parliamentary Committee of the Scottish Trade Union Congress, the Federation of British Industries, the National Alliance of Employers and Employed, &c. Altogether there were about 500 workpeople's and 300 employers' representatives present. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Labour, the President of the Board of Trade, the Postmaster-General, the Minister of Food and other members of the Government were also present, as well as the principal officials of the Ministry of Labour.

The Minister of Labour took the chair and opened the conference with a review of the industrial situation, with particular reference to the prevailing labour unrest. Other matters touched on in his speech were unemployment, hours of labour, minimum wages, the prevention of strikes, Whitley Councils, the redemption of War Pledges, and the general attitude of the Government to these and similar questions. In the course of his remarks he announced the proposed continuance of unemployment donation, at a reduced rate.

In the general discussion which followed, resolutions were proposed by Sir Allan M. Smith (Engineering and National Employers' Federations) and Mr. Arthur Henderson for the setting up of Committees to continue the work begun by the Conference.

The Prime Minister addressed the Conference towards the close of the proceedings and suggested the combining of the two resolutions, proposed by Sir Allan Smith and Mr. Henderson, into one Resolution, which was ultimately carried. The terms of this Resolution were as follows:—

"That this Conference, being of the opinion that any preventable dislocation of industry is always to be deplored, and, in the present critical period of reconstruction, might be disastrous to the interests of the Nation, and thinking that every effort should be made to remove legitimate grievances, and promote harmony and goodwill, resolves to appoint a Joint Committee, consisting of equal numbers of employers and workers, men and women, together with a Chairman appointed by the Government, to consider and report to a further meeting of this Conference on the causes of the present unrest and the steps necessary to safeguard and promote the best interests of employers, workpeople and the State, and especially to consider:—

1. Questions relating to hours, wages, and general conditions of employment.
2. Unemployment and its prevention.
3. The best methods of promoting co-operation between Capital and Labour."

The Trade Unionists representing the Miners, Railwaymen and Transport Workers and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers took no part in the formation of the Joint Committee.

For the purpose of electing the members of the Provisional Joint Committee the Conference divided into two separate meetings of employers' and workpeople's representatives respectively. The members elected were:—

Employers' Representatives.	Workpeople's Representatives.
SIR ALLAN M. SMITH, K.B.E., Engineering.	RT. HON. ARTHUR HENDERSON, Friendly Society of Ironfounders.
MR. E. J. BROWN, Building.	MR. W. BRADSHAW, National Federation of Building Trades Operatives.
MR. E. J. BURT, Quarrying.	MR. H. PARKER, National Council of Mine Workers other than Miners.
SIR GEORGE CARTER, K.B.E., Shipbuilding.	MR. J. HILL, J.P., United Society of Boiler-makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders.
MR. BENJAMIN TALBOT, Iron and Steel.	MR. C. DUNCAN, Workers' Union.
MR. EDWARD CLARK, Other Metal Trades.	MR. W. J. DAVIS, C.H., J.P., National Association of Amalgamated Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics.
MR. J. A. CREARAR, Clothing.	MR. A. CONLEY, United Garment Workers' Trade Union.
MR. W. HAMLIN HAMSHAW, Vehicle Building.	MR. J. COMPTON, United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers.
MR. A. F. BLADES, Printing.	MR. A. E. HOLMES, Printing and Kindred Trades Federation of the United Kingdom.

Employers' Representatives. Workpeople's Representatives.

MR. J. J. STARK, Laundries.	MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD, National Federation of Women Workers.
MR. SYDNEY PASCALL, Food Manufacture.	MR. W. BANFIELD, Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners, &c.
SIR W. RAEBURN, M.P., Shipping.	MR. W. F. PURDY, Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association.
SIR A. K. BUTTERWORTH, Railways.	MR. W. F. DAWTRY, M.B.E., Steam Engine Makers' Society.
MR. A. E. TANNER, Cable Manufacture.	MR. G. H. STUART BUNNING, O.B.E., J.P., Postal Workers.
MR. H. PADWICK, C.B.E., Agriculture.	MR. R. B. WALKER, National Agricultural Labourers and Rural Workers' Union.
MR. J. T. GOUDIE, Rubber.	MR. J. TURNER, National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks.
MR. ROSCOE BRUNNER, Chemicals.	MR. J. C. GORDON, National Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers.
MR. WALTER BIRCH, Furniture.	MR. A. A. PURCELL, National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades Association.
MR. DAVID MILNE WATSON, Gas.	RT. HON. J. R. CLYNES, M.P., National Federation of General Workers.
MR. F. J. FARNELL, Silk.	MR. J. CROSS, J.P., United Textile Factory Workers' Association.
MR. OWEN PARKER, Boots and Shoes.	MR. E. L. POULTON, O.B.E., J.P., National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives.
MR. THOMAS ROBINSON, M.P., Bleaching and Dyeing.	MR. GILBERT W. JONES, Operative Bleachers, Dyers and Finishers' Association.
MR. C. R. SEDDON, Paper.	MISS A. H. TYNAN, Society of Women Welders.
MR. T. B. JOHNSTON, Pottery.	MR. W. J. WENTWORTH, Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists of Great Britain and Ireland.
MR. RANDLE L. MATHEWS, Leather.	MR. J. MARSTON, National Union of Police and Prison Officials.
MR. G. A. DUTFIELD, Transport.	MR. A. LOGAN, Central Ironmoulders' Association.
MR. FRED HOLROYD, Cotton.	MR. J. WHITEHEAD, J.P., West of Scotland Brass Turners, Fitters, Finishers and Instrument Makers' Trade Union.
MR. HENRY CLOUGH, J.P., Wool.	MR. H. STANSFIELD, National Society of Copper-smiths, Braziers and Metal Workers.
SIR ALFRED BOOTH, BART., Dock and Riverside.	MR. C. G. AMMON, Port of London Docks and Wharves Staff Association.
(Vacancy) Mining.	MR. J. J. MALLON, Trade Board.
MR. J. MCKIE BRYCE, Secretary.	MR. G. D. H. COLE, Secretary.

It was arranged that the first meeting of the Provisional Joint Committee should be held on Tuesday, 4th March.

Sir Thomas Munro, K.B.E., was appointed Chairman, and Mr. C. S. Hurst, of the Ministry of Labour, Secretary of the Committee. The offices of the Committee are at 53, Parliament Street, London, S.W.1.

The Provisional Joint Committee held its first sitting at the Central Hall, Westminster, on 4th March. The Minister of Labour opened the proceedings and introduced the Prime Minister, who addressed the meeting. The Minister of Labour and the Prime Minister then withdrew, and Sir Thomas Munro, the Chairman appointed by the Government, took the chair. The Committee proceeded to consider the subjects of their inquiry and the methods of procedure.

After a full discussion, and on a report of a sub-committee, the following resolution, moved by Sir Allan Smith and seconded by Mr. Arthur Henderson, was unanimously agreed to:—

"That this Committee, in order that its work may be accomplished as expeditiously and thoroughly as possible, divide itself into three Sub-Committees, with the following terms of reference:—

SUB-COMMITTEE No. 1.
To make recommendations concerning:—

- (a) The method of negotiation between employers and Trade Unions, including the establishment of a permanent Industrial Council to advise the Government on industrial and economic questions with a view to maintaining industrial peace.
- (b) The methods of dealing with war advances, and
- (c) The methods of regulating wages for all classes of workers, male and female, by legal enactment or otherwise.

SUB-COMMITTEE No. 2.

To make recommendations as to the desirability of legislation for a maximum number of working hours and a minimum rate of wages per week.

SUB-COMMITTEE No. 3.

To consider the question of unemployment, and to make recommendations for the steps to be taken for its prevention, and for the maintenance of the unemployed in those cases in which it is not prevented, both during the present emergency period, and on a permanent basis.

Unrest and output were to be discussed by the whole Committee at its next meeting on statements previously submitted by the parties.

A time-table was arranged to permit of the report of the Joint Committee being circulated to all delegates to the Industrial Conference for consideration prior to a further meeting of the full Conference on 4th April.

The Chairman and Secretaries appointed to the Sub-Committees are as follows:—

SUB-COMMITTEE No. 1.

Chairman: Sir Thomas Munro, K.B.E.
Secretary: Mr. Robert Wilson.

SUB-COMMITTEE No. 2.

Chairman: Professor L. T. Hobhouse, D.Litt.
Secretary: Mr. G. T. Reid.

SUB-COMMITTEE No. 3.

Chairman: Sir David Shackleton, K.C.B.
Secretary: Mr. C. B. Hawkins.

The Sub-Committees met on 11th March to consider the preparation of reports which will be presented to the Provisional Joint Committee by 20th March for consideration on 25th March.

COAL INDUSTRY COMMISSION.

THE Commission appointed under the Coal Industry Commission Act "to inquire into the position of and conditions prevailing in the Coal Industry," held its first meeting on 3rd March, and daily sittings have since been held. The members of the Commission are:—

Chairman: The Hon. Mr. Justice Sankey, G.B.E.

Mr. Arthur Balfour.	• Sir A. Thomas Roynon, Bart.
Mr. R. W. Cooper.	Mr. R. S. Millie, J.P.
Sir A. Duckham, K.C.B.	Mr. Herbert Smith.
Mr. J. T. Forgie.	Mr. R. H. Tawney.
Mr. Frank Hodges.	Mr. Sidney Webb.
Sir Leo Chiozza Money.	Mr. Evan Williams.

The Commission has the assistance of Sir Richard Redmayne, K.C.B., Home Office; Mr. S. J. Chapman, C.B.E., Economics Department, Board of Trade; and Mr. H. J. Wilson, C.B.E., Ministry of Labour. The secretary is Mr. Arnold D. McNair, 2, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

WORKS COMMITTEES.

CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS.

In the February issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE extracts were given from the fourth of the Ministry of Labour's Series of Industrial Reports,* which has just been published. These extracts dealt with the constitution and functions of National Joint Industrial Councils and of District Councils of National Joint Industrial Councils. The greater part of the third section of the Report, which contains suggestions as to the constitution and functions of Works Committees in industries in which National Joint Industrial Councils are established, is given below.

The introductory paragraphs read as follow:—
"The differing circumstances of different industries make it impossible to devise any scheme suitable to every industry. Again, the type of Works Committee suitable will vary with the size of the firm and the form taken by organisation among the employees. In preparing a scheme, therefore, the machinery outlined in the following suggestions may require to be adapted in greater or less degree if the general objects

* "Industrial Reports" No. 4. Industrial Councils: Suggestions as to the Constitution and Functions of a National Joint Industrial Council, of District Councils of National Joint Industrial Councils, and of Works Committees in Industries in which National Joint Industrial Councils are established. Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. Price 1d.

for which Works Committees are recommended are to be attained. These general objects are:—

1. That the workpeople should be given a wider interest in, and greater responsibility for, the conditions under which their work is performed.
2. That the regulations contained in collective agreements drawn up by the District and National Authorities be enforced in the works.
3. That friction and misunderstanding be prevented so far as possible.

"The attainment of these objects demands the establishment of recognised means of consultation between management and workpeople. At the same time, anything that is done—whether or not it is embodied in the Works Rules drawn up by the Works Committee—must be consistent with the principles of the collective agreements accepted by the District and National Authorities. For this reason steps should be taken to secure the closest possible connection between the Works Committee and the District and National Councils."

CONSTITUTION.

The suggested constitution of Works Committees is as follows:—

"(1) The Works Joint Committee shall be composed of (a) representatives of the workpeople, and (b) representatives of the management.

"In considering questions of membership, it will be found more convenient to treat (a) and (b) separately.

"(a) Workers' Side of Joint Committee.

"(i) The number of representatives will vary with the size and the complexity of the particular works. Some number from 5 to 12 is suggested as likely to suit most circumstances.

"(ii) The members of the workers' side should be trade union representatives.

"The National and District Councils are based solely upon the representation of organisations. In the case of the works, in order to secure cohesion of policy as between the Works Committee and the District and National Councils, it is advisable that the Works Committee should normally be based on a recognition of the workpeople's organisations.

"But, in particular factories where the workmen are not strongly organised, or where the functions of the Works Committee are such as to require the presence of workers who are not organised, it may be found necessary to depart from the principle laid down above. In these circumstances, however, the shop stewards, or other trade union representatives in the works, should be consulted on all questions affecting district or national agreements. Any deviation from the general scheme should be adopted only after approval by the Industrial Council on a consideration of the merits of the case.

"(iii) The representation should normally be on the basis of departments, due allowance being made for the various sections of workers engaged in any department.

"In order that this may not sometimes necessitate a Committee of unwieldy size, it is suggested that for large or complex works the workers' side of the Joint Committee should be appointed by and from a larger body of workers' representatives elected from the various departments. (See also Notes (1) and (2) below.)

"(iv) The representatives should be appointed for a definite term of office—6 or at most 12 months—and should be eligible for re-election.

"(v) The election should be by ballot, or by departmental (or sectional) meetings especially convened for the purpose.

"(vi) The workers' side should appoint a chairman and a secretary.

"(vii) On any representative leaving the employment of the firm or resigning his position as member, a successor shall be appointed in the ordinary way by the department or section concerned, to hold office for the remainder of the term.

"(b) Management Side of Joint Committee.

"(i) Certain members of the managerial staff should form a constant nucleus of the management side. (See (4) below).

"(ii) The number required for (i) will vary, but, 2, 3, or 4 is suggested as a suitable number.

"To have an equal number of members on the two sides would in most works be impracticable, and, in view of the suggested procedure, is unnecessary. (See, in particular, para. (11) under Procedure.)

"(iii) This number should be made up of such individuals as a Managing Director, the Works Manager, and, where there is such an official, the Labour or Welfare Superintendent.

"(2) The Joint Committee will be composed of the individuals in (a) (i) and (b) (i) coming together in joint meeting.

"(3) The Joint Committee should appoint a chairman and a vice-chairman (one from each side). Each side should appoint its own secretary.

"(4) Either side shall have the right to add to its number representatives of the particular departments or sections of

* Para. (11) under Procedure reads: "Decisions shall be arrived at only by agreement between the two sides."

departments affected by a question under discussion and not directly represented on the Committee. The addition shall be made only for the period during which the question affecting the particular departments or sections of departments is before the Committee.

"(5) The recognised district official of any trade union or employers' association concerned may attend any meeting in an advisory capacity.

"NOTE (1).—It may be found necessary to leave certain questions to be settled not by the whole Works Committee, but by a sub-committee of it on which the workers' representatives are drawn only from the particular department or section directly concerned; for example, a piecework question in one department of works which is mainly on timework. The size of the works, also, is a factor which must be taken into account in considering the need for sub-committees. In some instances departmental sub-committees and in others functional sub-committees (e.g., a "Safety" Committee or a Welfare Committee) may best suit the circumstances. Even where definite sub-committees are not arranged for, work of the same kind as these would perform may often be carried out by consultation between the representatives of the management and the secretary of the workers' side, along with the representatives of a department.

"NOTE (2).—In large works it will probably be found desirable to establish departmental committees, with a Works Committee representative of all the departments chosen from the departmental committees. In such cases, the functions of the departmental committees will be confined to matters affecting the department only, whilst the Works Committee will consider questions affecting more than one department or the whole works. The workers' side of a departmental committee should be so elected as to give representation to each of the various sections of workers engaged in the department."

PROCEDURE.

Among the provisions made in the suggestions under procedure are: (1) that the meetings shall be held during working hours; (2) that the workers' representatives should be paid at their ordinary rate for time spent at meetings of the Joint Committee; and (3) that in the event of any matter arising which the Committee cannot agree upon, the officials of the trade union or unions concerned shall negotiate with the firm or, if desired, with the officials of the employers' association, and that the question may thereafter be referred by either side to the District Council.

FUNCTIONS.

The section dealing with the functions of Works Committees is as follows:—

"The list of functions outlined below is not meant to be exhaustive. Almost every industry has rules or customs which arise from the particular conditions under which the work of the industry is carried on (e.g., the payment of "dirty money," provision of tools, allowances for working away from the works or from home, allowances on standard district piece prices for deficiencies in material or machinery, &c.). In a well-regulated industry many such matters will be subject to district or national agreements, and the powers of a Works Committee will be limited in the same manner as they will be in regard to the more general questions of district or national agreement (standard rates, piece prices, normal hours, overtime, &c.). No attempt has been made to include such questions as arise only in some industries, for which each National Council concerned will have to decide upon a method of regulation, including the powers to be vested in Works Committees.

"In regard to any function, the powers of a Works Committee will be controlled in accordance with paragraph (13) under Procedure."

"(1) The issue and revision of works rules.

"(2) The distribution of working hours; breaks; time recording; &c.

"(3) The payment of wages (time, form of pay ticket, &c.); explanation of methods of payment; the adjustment of piece prices, subject to district or national agreements; records of piece prices; deductions; &c.

"(4) The settlement of grievances.

"(5) Holiday arrangements.

"(6) Questions of physical welfare (provision of meals, drinking water, lavatories and washing accommodation, cloak-rooms, ventilation, heating and sanitation; accidents, safety appliances, first aid, ambulance; &c.).

"(7) Questions of discipline and conduct as between management and workpeople (malingering; bullying; time keeping; publicity in regard to rules; supervision of notice boards; &c.).

"(8) Terms of engagement of workpeople.

"(9) The training of apprentices and young persons.

"(10) Technical library; lectures on the technical and social aspects of the industry.

"(11) Suggestions of improvements in method and organisation of work; the testing of suggestions.

"(12) Investigation of circumstances tending to reduce efficiency or in any way to interfere with the satisfactory working of the factory.

* Para. (13) under Procedure reads: "The Works Committee shall not have any power to come to an agreement inconsistent with the powers or decisions of the District or National Councils, or with any agreement between a trade union and the employers' association. Further, any agreement come to by a Works Committee may at any time be superseded by the District or National Councils, by agreement between a trade union and the employers' association."

"(13) Collections (for clubs, charities, &c.).

"(14) Entertainments and sports.

"(15) The provision of facilities for the workers' side of the Joint Committee (or of a departmental committee, if any) to conduct its own work."

In connection with the above Report attention may be drawn to "Industrial Reports, No. 2. Works Committees: Report of an Enquiry made by the Ministry of Labour." [Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office: Price 6d. net.]

CONFERENCE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT SCHEME FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE WHITLEY REPORT TO GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

A PRELIMINARY conference of representatives of Trade Unions having members directly employed in Government industrial establishments and officials of the Government Departments concerned was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Thursday, 20th February, to discuss a draft scheme for the application of the Whitley Report to industrial persons directly employed by the Government, which had been drawn up by an Inter-Departmental Committee, presided over by the Rt. Hon. G. H. Roberts, M.P., and approved by the War Cabinet. The Rt. Hon. Sir R. Horne, Minister of Labour, presided, and was supported by the Rt. Hon. T. J. Macnamara, LL.D., M.P., Parliamentary and Financial Secretary to the Admiralty. The following representatives of Government departments were also on the platform: Treasury: Sir Malcolm G. Ramsay, K.C.B., Mr. R. B. Howorth; Ministry of Labour: Sir D. J. Shackleton, K.C.B., Mr. Bertram Wilson, Mr. S. R. Todd, Mr. R. Wilson; Admiralty: Mr. C. W. Loveridge; War Office: Mr. W. P. Perry, C.B.; Ministry of Munitions: Sir W. Graham Greene, K.C.B., Sir H. Fowler, K.B.E., Brigadier-General C. P. Martel, C.B., Mr. W. Hayden; Air Ministry: Major-General E. L. Ellington, C.M.G., Mr. F. G. Nutt, O.B.E.; H.M. Office of Works: Mr. E. H. Bright, C.B., M.V.O., Mr. H. L. Davies, M.B.E.

In opening the proceedings, the Minister of Labour said he considered that conference one of the most important gatherings which could have been held at the present time and place. Continuing, he said: "The policy which is enunciated in the Whitley Scheme, as it is generally known, is a policy which probably offers the greatest possible hope for the future good relations between employers and employed. I think I am not wrong in saying that the keynote to that scheme is the idea of obtaining the best possible harmony between the managing side of the business and those who are at work in the business. The way by which that is to be obtained is by giving the workpeople a far greater share than they have ever had in the past in determining the conditions under which the work is to be carried out. That is a principle upon which we are all agreed, and I for one am perfectly clear in my mind that a great many of the troubles we have had to confront in the past, and which we are facing now, could have been avoided if only the workpeople could have been taken into consultation on the conditions on which business is to be run; and I am certain that in the future we can obtain greater harmony in the labour world if the brains, the intelligence and the advice of the men performing the functions in the yards and shops are made available to the men carrying on the business. Now, I want to assure you, because evidently it requires some assurance, that the Government is wholeheartedly supporting that principle, and that we agree that it shall be carried out in the most complete fashion in all the shops and yards for which the Government is responsible. I want you to know that wherever the Government is in the position of employers they are agreed that this principle which gives the workmen a share in the management shall be carried out, and what you have been brought here to-day to do is to arrange a scheme on which the necessary adjustments which are required in each organisation to carry out these great principles can be made."

In the course of the subsequent discussion Sir Robert Horne had to leave the conference in order to attend to urgent Government business, and at his suggestion the chair was taken by the Rt. Hon. T. J. Macnamara, Parliamentary and Financial Secretary to the Admiralty. Replying to questions with reference to what action could be taken in the event of the Treasury exercising a veto over recommendations of a Joint Council in regard to wages, Dr. Macnamara suggested that in any case where the Treasury vetoed such a recommendation the question should be referred by consent to arbitration. He thought that the conference would like to hear what Sir Malcolm Ramsay, of the Treasury, had to say on this question, and would therefore invite him to address the conference.

Sir Malcolm Ramsay said: "I want to remove what I think is very largely a misconception about the Treasury veto. Some speakers seem to be under the impression that the Treasury veto will go on just as before, and you rightly ask what is the good of having Whitley Councils if this state of things is to continue. Speaking deliberately for the Treasury I may say our only wish is to carry out the wishes

of the Government, that is, to have co-operation and avoid disputes. The Treasury is going wholeheartedly into this scheme. The Government is trying to set up a new state of things and the Treasury veto cannot be left in the state it has been. I do not think it will. What I think you are afraid of is, where there has been a meeting of the Joint Council, if there is a dispute, you seem to fear the position may arise by which some clerk or official of the Treasury can hold up the whole thing. Is that not so? That I can assure you is a misunderstanding. The officer who will speak for the Treasury will have power to agree within certain limits. If he cannot agree the Departmental Treasury is not going to turn the matter down without reference to the Treasury Ministers: we are not going to short circuit anything. If by any chance a proposal is turned down it will not be by the action of the Departmental Treasury. The Treasury would have to send the matter to their Ministers, who would have to consult their colleagues in the Cabinet, who would have to decide if it is to go before Parliament or not. That, as I understand it, will be the position of the Treasury in future, and I think that is the principal point on which you wish to hear me.

"With regard to the question of arbitration we are perfectly agreeable to go to arbitration. I do not think it will be necessary, but if it should be we will not object. We do intend to use every means in our power to get this scheme working fairly, and you will not have myself, or any other official in the Treasury, holding up anything. The whole point is to get on to this new state of affairs as fast as we can."

The following resolutions were adopted with practical unanimity by the conference:—

1. That this conference accepts the scheme as submitted by the Ministry of Labour as a basis for the formation of Whitley Councils in Government Departments on the lines laid down in H.Q.16/7 and hereby agrees to the appointment of a Committee consisting of representatives of Trade Unions, groups of Trade Unions and Government Departments represented at this conference for the purpose of setting up the machinery to put the Councils and Committees into operation.

2. That this meeting is in agreement with the proposals to set up Joint Industrial Councils for Government Departments, and recommends that provision will be made for reference to arbitration by a Standing Arbitration Council or other suitable body in any cases in which the Treasury or the employing Departments are not prepared to approve and adopt a recommendation of a Joint Council.

The conference appointed a Provisional Committee consisting of twenty members representing in equal proportions the engineering, shipbuilding, building, miscellaneous trades, and general labour, to co-operate with representatives of Government Departments, namely, the Treasury, the Admiralty, the War Office, the Ministry of Munitions, the Air Ministry, the Office of Works, and the Ministry of Labour, in drafting the constitutions of the various Departmental and Trade Joint Councils. The schemes drawn up by the Provisional Committee for the various Councils and Committees will be submitted to the Government Departments and Trade Unions concerned for their approval.

The following is a summary of the Inter-Departmental Committee's Report, which was discussed at the conference:—

Scope of Scheme.—In connection with each Government Department which has industrial establishments, the scheme provides for the setting up of two types of Councils, viz.: (a) Departmental Joint Councils; (b) Trade Joint Councils; and for local machinery by way of one or more of the following types of Committees:—(c) Works or Yard Committee; (d) Department Committee (covering a Department, including several shops, of a works or yard); (e) Trade Committee (covering a trade or a group of trades normally acting together on trade matters); (f) Shop Committee.

Departmental Joint Council.—It is proposed that there should be a Council of this type for each Government Department having an industrial establishment. Thus there will be a Departmental Council for the Admiralty, another for the War Office, another for the Office of Works, and so on. The official side of each Council will be composed of responsible officials appointed by the Department together with a representative of the Ministry of Labour. The employees' side will be composed of representatives of Trade Unions having members employed in the various establishments belonging to the Department.

It is not possible to formulate a definite list of matters with which these Departmental Councils will deal. This will be settled by joint action, and by the experience of the Councils. Among the subjects coming within their scope, however, will usually be those involving the common interests of all the employees of the Department, such as the consideration of the general principles laid down in the Department's establishments for the treatment of disciplinary questions, general organisation and management, accommodation and working conditions, welfare, education and technique, &c. In addition an important work of these Councils or of the Trade Joint Councils will be the consideration and provision of machinery for the ventilation and avoidance of grievances.

Trade Joint Councils.—Bearing in mind that it is common for Trade Unions to negotiate wages and certain other matters on a trade rather than on an industrial basis, it is

clear that Departmental Joint Councils composed of the employees' side of representatives of various trades may not be suitable bodies for this purpose, regarding which, further, it is very desirable to have uniformity of action by all Government Departments.

Hence it is proposed to set up *Trade Joint Councils to deal with wages and other matters customarily settled on a trade basis.* The official side of each of these Councils will be composed of representatives of the Government Departments employing the particular class of labour, while the employees' side will be composed of representatives of Unions in the trade concerned. Thus, for example, questions regarding building trade wages in Government establishments would be negotiated by a joint body composed on the official side of representatives appointed by the Ministry of Munitions, Admiralty, and other Departments having building trade operatives, together with Treasury and Ministry of Labour representatives, and on the workers' side of Trade Unionists representing building trade operatives in Woolwich Arsenal, Naval Dockyards, &c.

Works (or Yard), Department, Shop, and Trade Committees.—These Committees will form an integral part of the whole scheme. The precise form they may take, however, will depend on the size of the particular works or yard, and upon the nature of its organisation. It will be one of the early duties of Departmental and Trade Joint Councils to arrange for the setting up of these bodies.

Procedure.—Following the lines which have been indicated above, a question which arises in a shop would, according as it was of (a) a general, or (b) a trade character, be dealt with as follows:—

(a) *A General Question.*—For example, a question of welfare, a question of discipline, &c. If not capable of settlement between the workman or workmen concerned (with the assistance of the secretary of the Shop Committee or other shop steward) and the foreman, the question would be discussed by the Shop Committee in meeting with the representatives of the management or by the secretary of the Shop Committee and the shop superintendent or other official. If it could not be thus settled the question would be referred to the Works Committee for discussion, and if possible, settlement with the representatives of the management, or possibly the secretary of the Works Committee himself might be able to settle the matter with the management. If a solution could not be arrived at on the Works Committee, the question would be referred to the Departmental Council.

In large works it may be found necessary to establish an intermediate committee between the Shop and Works Committees, i.e., a Departmental Committee, on which the procedure will be similar, and where settlement of certain questions may be achieved.

(b) *A Trade Question.*—For example, a question of wages, &c. If not capable of settlement between the workman or workmen concerned (with one or more of their trade representatives in the shop) and the foreman, the question would be referred to the Trade Committee or its secretary for negotiation with the works management. If the question could not be so settled the district representative (or representatives) of the Union (or Unions) would take part in or wholly take over the negotiations; if a settlement could not then be agreed upon the matter would be referred to the Trade Joint Council.

It is important to recognise that, in dealing with trade questions, many of the most important Trade Unions have *district organisations* as an integral part of their structure, and that it is the practice for the district officials to negotiate with the management of all works (including Government establishments) in their district, on matters affecting the district rate of wages or other district arrangements. Provision has therefore been made above, that in the progress of a trade question from the shop upwards to the Trade Joint Council the position of the district organisation of the Trade Union should, where it exists, be recognised.

The Relation of the Treasury to the Trade Joint Councils.—On the official side of the Trade Joint Council all the departments employing the kind of labour with which the Council is concerned would be represented. As in the case of the Departmental Councils, the Ministry of Labour should be represented. The fact that the Trade Joint Councils will be concerned mainly with wages questions raises the problem of the relationship of the Treasury to these Councils. So far as it applies to wages negotiations, the Whitley Report appears to endorse what has for years been the recognised practice of well-regulated trades, viz.: the arrangement of terms between bodies representative of, and able to make final settlements for, the employers and the employed respectively.

There is a strong Trade Union desire that similar arrangements should be made so far as Government work is concerned. The only way in which this can be accomplished is by the Treasury being represented on the Trade Joint Councils. Unless the whole outlook of the Whitley Report is

wrong, it is to be presumed that the opportunity of discussion with Treasury officials would produce in the Trade Unions an understanding and an appreciation of the Treasury attitude which otherwise cannot be expected.

SHIPBUILDING IN 1918.

ACCORDING to Lloyd's Register Annual Summary of Mercantile Shipbuilding for the year 1918, the total output of mercantile shipbuilding* in Allied and neutral countries during the year 1918 was 5,447,444 tons (gross); the output in enemy countries is not stated. This total is over 63 per cent. higher than the output of 1913 (3,332,882 tons), which included the output of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

The world's total of 5,447,444 tons includes 3,033,030 tons in the United States, 1,348,120 tons in the United Kingdom, 489,924 tons in Japan, and 576,370 tons for all other countries (of which 279,904 tons were in British Dominions). The United States output in 1918 was greater than the whole output of that country during the ten years 1907-1916; it was more than three times the amount launched during 1917, and it exceeded by over 25 per cent. the combined output of the rest of the world (including the United Kingdom) during the year 1918. Thirty-one per cent. of the entire output in the United States consisted of wooden vessels, nearly all of them steamers.

In the United Kingdom, except for one oil-hulk of 3,845 tons, all the ships built were steamers. They were all built for registration in the United Kingdom, with the exception of four steamers for French owners.

The following Table shows the output of the principal ports during each of the last three years:—

	1916.		1917.		1918.	
	No.	Tons (Gross)	No.	Tons (Gross)	No.	Tons (Gross)
Clyde:						
Glasgow	26	79,508	41	185,551	41	183,736
Greenock	22	92,949	24	134,808	31	160,024
North-East Coast:						
Newcastle	35	133,336	52	231,907	55	266,494
Sunderland	35	134,472	48	204,398	58	270,543
Hartlepool	11	54,295	13	65,622	25	100,413
Middlesbrough, Stockton, and Whitby	27	31,342	23	109,306	24	109,288
Belfast and Londonderry	4	16,386	19	148,057	23	148,250
All other ports	146	66,217	66	83,747	44	114,243
TOTAL	306	608,235	286	1,162,896	301	1,348,120

The following Table shows the output of the United Kingdom, the United States, and all other countries in certain years. It will be seen that the output of the United Kingdom, which was 74.7 of the total output of the world on an average of the five years 1894-98, sank to 38.6 per cent. during the war years 1914-18. During the intervening period, 1899-1913, the United Kingdom's proportion of the total output varied very little from 60 per cent. from one quinquennium to another. The year 1908, which is included in the Table for purposes of comparison, was a minimum year, the output having been the lowest since 1893. On the other hand, the largest output ever recorded in the United Kingdom was in 1913:—

Year or Period.	United Kingdom.		United States.		All Other Countries.	
	No.	Tons (Gross)	No.	Tons (Gross)	No.	Tons (Gross)
Average of 1894-98	643	1,095,456	99	119,277	294	252,306
" 1908	593	929,669	238	374,543	444	599,074
" 1913	688	1,972,153	205	276,448	857	1,194,231
" 1914	656	1,638,553	94	200,762	569†	968,438†
" 1915	327	650,919	84	177,460	332†	373,239†
" 1916	306	608,235	211	504,447	447†	575,531†
" 1917	286	1,162,896	328	997,619	50†	776,971†
" 1918	301	1,348,120	929	3,033,030	636†	1,066,294†

WORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN 1918.

AN important development of the Employment Exchanges during 1918 arose out of the demobilisation and resettlement of civilian war workers, and of men and women in His Majesty's Forces. In order to tide over the inevitable dislocation of industry caused by the cessation of hostilities, the Government put into operation a scheme whereby persons becoming unemployed were entitled for a certain period to receive each week a payment from the State. The carrying out of the scheme was placed in the hands of the Exchanges, and at the present time (March, 1919) about one million persons are drawing donation at the Exchanges each week.

* Not including warships, or vessels built to Government order for other than mercantile purposes; also not including vessels of less than 100 tons gross. The figures relate to vessels launched in 1918, whether completed or not.
† Figures incomplete. Output for enemy countries not included.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

During the year ended 10th January, 1919, there was a notable increase in the number of schemes undertaken to obtain labour of the varying types required for the prosecution of the war, and specially for shipbuilding. As the result of these schemes the activities of the Exchanges were maintained at a very high level until the signing of the Armistice on 11th November, 1918. After that date the number of vacancies notified and of vacancies filled commenced to decline; while on the other hand the number of persons seeking employment through the medium of the Exchanges showed a rapid increase.

The number of registrations, of individuals registered and placed, and of vacancies notified and filled on the general register during 1918 are compared with those of the four previous years in the following Table:—

Department and Year.	Number of Registrations.	Number of Individuals Registered.	Number of Vacancies Notified.	Number of Vacancies Filled.	Number of Individuals Found Work.
Men	1914 ... 2,316,042	1,381,694	909,383	706,458	507,538
1915 ... 1,512,335	1,072,213	1,004,970	716,816	577,206	
1916 ... 1,229,171	954,172	909,721	636,095	539,564	
1917 ... 1,167,834	938,725	906,627	623,830	539,336	
1918 ... 1,363,690	1,111,905	977,999	669,732	582,899	
Women	1914 ... 707,071	476,926	312,344	232,935	160,145
1915 ... 1,232,891	920,638	493,515	385,101	306,192	
1916 ... 1,921,826	1,501,260	846,196	695,631	615,920	
1917 ... 1,873,706	1,487,738	814,735	706,034	638,269	
1918 ... 1,854,691	1,478,934	808,490	624,220	547,412	
Boys	1914 ... 211,898	157,093	157,278	103,280	85,068
1915 ... 194,364	150,559	161,459	106,716	90,237	
1916 ... 241,314	184,443	148,091	116,900	100,053	
1917 ... 265,668	204,283	146,103	120,525	105,547	
1918 ... 266,673	224,285	148,158	122,054	106,429	
Girls	1914 ... 207,441	148,310	100,019	74,236	61,320
1915 ... 246,047	183,393	137,702	99,504	84,701	
1916 ... 236,373	203,909	145,010	108,609	95,869	
1917 ... 268,142	206,914	131,927	104,834	93,986	
1918 ... 263,110	212,439	132,570	98,705	88,003	
TOTAL	1914 ... 3,442,452	2,164,023	1,479,024	1,116,909	814,071
1915 ... 3,186,137	2,326,803	1,797,646	1,308,137	1,058,336	
1916 ... 3,658,689	2,843,784	2,049,018	1,557,235	1,351,406	
1917 ... 3,575,280	2,837,650	1,999,442	1,555,223	1,375,193	
1918 ... 3,739,064	3,045,263	2,067,217	1,514,712	1,324,743	

The total number of registrations (3,739,064), including re-registrations of the same individual, was the highest recorded. For the first ten months of the year registrations continued at the high level of the previous year; with the cessation of hostilities and the consequent discharge of workpeople engaged in the manufacture of munitions, there was a rapid increase in the number of persons registering for fresh employment, and the daily average in January was more than double that of the month preceding the Armistice. The number of individuals registered was also the highest recorded. The average number of registrations per individual has steadily declined, and in 1918 was only 1.2, compared with 1.6 in 1914. Of the 3,045,263 individuals registered in 1918, 37 per cent. were men and 49 per cent. were women, compared with 33 per cent. men and 52 per cent. women in the previous year. Among men there was an increase in practically every industry; among women there were large increases in the building and engineering trades, but a considerable decrease in ammunition, chemicals and explosives. In addition to the numbers on the general register quoted above, there were 3,268 individual registrations on the casual register.

The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges in 1918 (2,067,217) was slightly in excess of the number for 1916, the highest figure previously recorded.

The number of vacancies filled was only slightly less than in the previous year. From February to April the daily average was somewhat below that of 1917; from May until October it continued at a higher level than in the previous year, reaching its highest point in September. With the signature of the Armistice, however, a considerable number of vacancies were no longer open, and consequently there was a great decrease in the number of persons placed in employment during the last two months of the year. It is satisfactory to note that in spite of this decline the average daily number of vacancies filled in 1918 amounted to 4,983, compared with 5,082 in the previous year. Of the vacancies filled during 1918, 44 per cent. were filled by men, 41 per cent. by women, 8 per cent. by boys, and 7 per cent. by girls. The corresponding percentages for the previous year were 40, 45, 8 and 7. The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified was 73 per cent. (men 68, women 77, boys 82, girls 74), compared with 78 per cent. (men 69, women 87, boys 83, girls 79) in 1917. These figures do not include 63,944 jobs of a more or less casual nature found for dock labourers, cloth porters, &c., nor 13,891 jobs filled through the clearing house system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

The number of individuals for whom work was found in 1918 (1,324,743), though greatly in excess of any recorded up to 1915, was somewhat below the figures for 1916 and 1917. The average number of times an individual was found work in 1918 was only 1.14, compared with 1.37 in 1914. Of the

individuals found work in 1918, 44 per cent. were men, 41 per cent. were women, 8 per cent. boys, and 7 per cent. girls. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 39, 46, 8 and 7. Among men the number of individuals placed in the ammunition, chemicals and explosives trades was considerably less than that recorded in the previous year, and there was also a decrease in the numbers placed in conveyance and as labourers; on the other hand there was a substantial increase in the number placed in building and works of construction and in shipbuilding. Among women the number placed in the ammunition, chemicals and explosives trades was nearly 50 per cent. lower than in 1917, and there was a decrease in the number placed in engineering, but there were considerable increases in the numbers placed in building, commercial and clerical employments, and domestic service. Among boys the most important feature was an increase on the previous year of 67 per cent. in the number placed in engineering, and in that industry there was also an increase of 13 per cent. in the number of girls placed.

Separate particulars were obtained for certain industries of the number of vacancies filled by skilled and unskilled men respectively. These are shown in the following Table:—

Trades.	Skilled.	Unskilled.
Building	66,316	57,809
Works of Construction	54	107,961
Sawmilling and Cabinet Making	4,471	3,183
Shipbuilding	18,176	23,966
Engineering	106,804	89,473
Construction of Vehicles	1,911	2,214
Manufacture of Metals	7,359	7,571
Manufacture of Electrical Apparatus	808	95
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	1,398	387
Precious Metals, &c.	689	8
Bricks and Cement	561	407
Chemicals, &c.	4,078	4,645
Rubber and Waterproof Goods	1,497	419
Ammunition and Explosives	4,802	15,151
Leather	569	74
Total	219,596	377,043

The proportion of vacancies filled by skilled men was highest in the leather, rubber, building, and engineering trades, and was lowest in works of construction.

WAR SCHEMES.

During the war, and particularly during the last year, a considerable portion of the energies of the staff of Employment Exchanges was devoted to various schemes of enrolment and transfers of labour on behalf of other Government Departments. Enrolments under these schemes are summarised in the following Table:—

Schemes.	Enrolments.
Men.	
War Munition Volunteers	81,179
War Work and War Agricultural Volunteers	33,675
Army Reserve Munition Workers	58,185
Substitution	27,427
Workpeople from Colonies and Dominions	12,704
Belgian Refugees	64,000
Mercantile Shipbuilding	47,386
Other Schemes	11,851
Women.	
Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps	43,731
Women's Royal Air Force	16,268
Women's Royal Naval Service	5,721
Women's Land Army	17,566
National Service Volunteers (Agriculture)	13,508
Navy and Army Canteen Board	7,152
Total	435,320

It should be noted that the above figures relate only to persons enrolled; the number of persons who were dealt with by the Exchanges in connection with these schemes was at least double this figure. The figures also relate only to special schemes, and important as they are, they form only a fractional part of the work involved in securing adequate supplies of labour for munitions work. Thus from the commencement of the war up to the Armistice the number of women and girls placed on munitions alone (i.e. engineering, metal, chemical, &c., trades) amounted to 1,108,930.

ADVANCES TO WORKPEOPLE.

An important feature of the work of the Employment Department is the exercise of the power of advancing railway fares to persons for whom employment is found by the Exchanges in a district other than that in which they were working or residing. Advances to workpeople proceeding to "work of national importance" were charged to employers or employees at the rate of five-eighths of the pre-war fare. During the year 150,000 railway warrants were issued, at a cost of £90,000. Of the £90,000 about £76,000 was in respect of reduced fares, and of this amount £32,000 is repayable to the Department. These figures do not include amounts issued for special services, e.g., women's war services, discharged munition workers, &c., the cost of which is not recoverable.

SEASONAL LABOUR.

The Department, as usual, recruited temporary labour for the General Post Office to cope with the Christmas pressure. The number of applications numbered 27,945, compared with 39,132 in 1917; while the number of vacancies filled was 21,512 (men 5,788, women 14,869, boys 778, and girls 77), compared with 26,906 in 1917.

During the months of June to October the number of vacancies filled through the Exchanges for pickers of fruit, hops, &c., was 7,939, compared with 6,699 in 1917.

WORK ARISING OUT OF DEMOBILISATION.

From November onwards the work of the Employment Exchanges was greatly increased in consequence of the arrangements made for the resettlement in industry of demobilised sailors, soldiers and airmen and discharged munition workers, and the payment of out-of-work donation to those who were out of work. In order to cope with the task, the number of Exchanges has been increased, while large additions are being made to the number of branch offices of the Exchanges. The functions of Local Advisory Committees and Juvenile Employment Committees have been extended and Divisional Councils have also been established.

IRISH DEPARTMENT OF MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

IN order to secure a more effective administration of the work in Ireland of the Ministry of Labour, its organisation is being extended into an Irish Department. The Irish Department will contain branches corresponding to each department of the Ministry in London, and will be responsible to the Minister for all such labour matters in Ireland within the province of the Ministry of Labour as are capable of being dealt with locally, including matters arising under the National Insurance (Unemployment) Acts, 1911 to 1918, the Conciliation Act, 1896, the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, and the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918. Mr. Gordon Campbell, of the Ministry of Labour, has been appointed secretary of the Irish Department. Communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Irish Department, Lord Edward Street, Dublin.

LEGAL RESTRICTIONS ON EJECTMENT FROM HOUSES.

THE increase of Rent, &c. (War Restrictions) Act, 1915, applies to any dwelling-house or part of a house let as a separate dwelling apart from any land, where the "standard rent" does not exceed £35 in London, £30 in Scotland, or £26 elsewhere. The "standard rent" means the rent at which the house was let on 3rd August, 1914, and if it was unlet on that date, the rent at which it was last let before that date. No order may be made by any Court for the recovery of possession of such a house or for the ejectment of a tenant therefrom so long as the tenant continues to pay the agreed rent as modified by the Act, except on certain grounds, one of which is that the landlord reasonably requires the premises for the occupation of himself, or on some ground which though not specified the Court considers satisfactory. By the Increase of Rent, &c. (Amendment) Act, 1918, it was provided that the expression "landlord" as used above should not include any person who since 30th September, 1917, had become landlord by the acquisition of the dwelling-house otherwise than under a settlement made before that date or under a will or intestacy; subject to an exception when the house is required by a person engaged in agricultural work of urgent national importance.

The landlord of a house to which the Act applied made an agreement to sell the house, it being a condition of the sale that the purchaser should have possession by a certain date in 1918. Notice to quit was accordingly given to the tenant who had rented the house continuously since 1917, duly paid his rent, and given no cause of complaint. The tenant refused to leave; and while he retained possession the landlord painted the house and removed a door for repairs. The landlord then took proceedings in the County Court to recover possession, and the tenant counterclaimed for damages for trespass. The County Court Judge gave judgment in favour of the landlord, holding that the discretion given to him by the principal Act was not limited by the Amending Act, and that a satisfactory ground had been established for granting an ejectment. The tenant appealed.

The High Court held that the County Court Judge had taken an erroneous view of the Acts. The discretion given to him was one which should be exercised judicially, and it had not been so exercised. The effect of the Act of 1918 was that a person who purchased a house after 30th September, 1917, should not be deemed a landlord under the Act of 1915, that is, that he should not have the rights and privileges of a landlord. Hence in this case the purchaser could not himself have succeeded in ejectment proceedings, nor could the landlord be said to require the premises for his own use or occupation. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Stovin v. Farebrass*.—King's Bench Division.—19th February, 1919.

RETAIL PRICES:

SUMMARY TABLE SHOWING PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDER-MENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Percentage Increase in Retail Food Prices since July, 1914				Latest Figures Available.	
	July, 1915.	July, 1916.	July, 1917.	July, 1918.	Rise.	Date.
UNITED KINGDOM...	32	61	104	110	120	Mar., 1919
ALLIED COUNTRIES.						
France (Paris) ...	22	32	83	106	137	Oct., 1918
„ (other Towns) ...	23	42	84	141	...	...
	(July-Sep)	(July-Sep)	(July-Sep)	(July-Sep)		
Italy ...	21	32	72	153	...	Feb., 1918
Portugal (Lisbon) ...	...	...	72	...	133	...
United States ...	2†	9	43	64	75	Sep., 1918
BRITISH DOMINIONS.						
Canada ...	5	14	57	75	84	Dec., 1918
Australia ...	31	30	26	32 (June)	31	Oct., 1918
New Zealand ...	12	19	27	39	42	Oct., 1918
South Africa ...	...	...	...	32	34	Dec., 1918
India (Calcutta) ...	8	10	16	31	35	Nov., 1918
				(Aug.)		
NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.						
Norway ...	...	60	114 (Aug.)	179	175	Nov., 1918
Sweden ...	...	43	81	165	220	Nov., 1918
Denmark ...	28	46	69	87	86	Jan., 1919
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	...	...	42	76	103	Dec., 1918
Switzerland ...	19	41	78	122	133	Dec., 1918
Spain ...	6	13	27	61	...	...
	(Apr.-Sep)	(Apr.-Sep)	(Apr.-Sep)	(Apr.-Sep)		

UNITED KINGDOM: PRICES AT 3RD MARCH.

BETWEEN the beginning of February and the 3rd March, there were substantial reductions in the prices of meat, margarine and eggs, with the result that, at the latter date, the average increase in retail food prices since the beginning of the war was 120 per cent., as compared with 130 per cent. a month earlier. The chief movements since 1st February were a fall of 9 to 15 per cent., according to cut, in the price of beef and mutton, due to a reduction of 2d. per lb. in the official maximum in Great Britain, a decline averaging 1½d. per lb., or 12 per cent., in the price of margarine (supplies of which were released from control at the beginning of March), and a fall in the price of eggs, averaging about 8½d. a dozen, or 13 per cent. The only other appreciable movements were a slight fall in the price of fish and a slight rise in the price of potatoes.

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 3rd March in relation to the prices of July, 1914:—

Article.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 3rd March, 1919.		
	Large Towns (populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	80	87	84
Thin Flank ...	101	94	98
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs ...	150	146	148
Thin Flank ...	172	153	165
Mutton, British—			
Legs ...	84	85	84
Breast ...	85	71	78
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs ...	186	167	177
Breast ...	174	163	169
Bacon (streaky) ...	146	135	141
Fish ...	178	159	159
Flour ...	50	54	52
Bread ...	58	52	55
Tea ...	78	69	73
Sugar (granulated) ...	252	231	242
Milk ...	158	158	158
Butter—			
Fresh ...	104	111	108
Salt ...	112	114	113
Cheese ...	132	127	130
Margarine ...	51	45	48
Eggs (fresh) ...	298	273	286
Potatoes ...	83	45	64

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

* For qualifications affecting the above figures see monthly notes in THE LABOUR GAZETTE under Retail Prices, and especially the article on p. 439 of the issue for November, 1918.

† Decrease.

have been published. The quantities consumed of the several articles have, however, undergone important changes, and 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 only two-thirds of 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. The expenditure percentages (2) are based on the consumption of the same articles, so far as ascertained, in February, 1919, in comparison with pre-war consumption. They are, therefore, subject to the fluctuations in the quantities of food available, and this point should be borne in mind when comparing the course of prices and the course of expenditure. The recent improvement in the supplies of some commodities, for example, has led to a slight increase in expenditure concurrently with a fall in prices.

	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	124	115	120
(2) Expenditure on such articles of food, allowing for changes in consumption	83	75	79

The average level of rents has only increased very slightly (as a result of increases in local rates), but the prices of other items have advanced so substantially that the general increase in the prices of all the items ordinarily entering into the working-class family budget (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, and light, &c.) between July, 1914, and 3rd March, 1919, is estimated at 115 per cent., taking for this calculation the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of the various items in March, 1919, as in July, 1914. If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted the increase is about 7 per cent. less.

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 90 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 food-stuffs, and the average increase in total family expenditure since the beginning of the war is therefore probably somewhat less than that stated, which allows for changes in the consumption of food, but not for any other changes in the standard of living.

FRANCE.*

The index number representing the general level of retail prices of food in French towns with over 10,000 inhabitants (but not including Paris) during the third quarter of 1918, showed a rise of 4.9 per cent. as compared with the preceding quarter, and of 144 per cent. as compared with the third quarter of 1914. As regards Paris, the latest data refer to the month of October, 1918, when the level of retail food prices was 15.5 per cent. higher than at the preceding computation (July, 1918) and 137 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. In both cases the computation of the change in the general prices level is based on the pre-war budget of a typical Parisian family of the working-class, and it is assumed that the standard of dietary has been identical at all three periods.

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 January, 1919. (The last period for which figures were previously available was July, 1918, for which see THE LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1918.) At the prices prevailing in July, 1914, the total annual sum (as ascertained by an inquiry carried out in 1909) required by the working-class family of five persons, selected as a type, to meet the cost of food, clothing, rent, fuel, lighting, taxation, &c., was 2,000 kroner (£111). The cost of maintaining the same standard was 3,094 kroner (£172) in July, 1917, 3,635 kroner (£202) in July, 1918, and 3,798 (£211) in January, 1919. In the computations made since the beginning of the year 1918 the Danish Statistical Office has made allowance for changes in the standard of living due to the practical disappearance from the market of certain fats (e.g., margarine), and the restricted consumption of

other foods (e.g., bread) under the system of rationing. These modifications, however, are slight, and on the whole the standard of living of the typical family remained practically unchanged throughout the period covered.

Group of Expenditure.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in expenditure in January, 1919, as compared with		
	July, 1914.	July, 1917.	July, 1918.
Food:—			
Beef and pork ...	+ 102.1	+ 27.8	— 21
Butter, milk, cheese, eggs, &c. ...	+ 81.0	+ 5.8	+ 5.2
Fish ...	+ 40.0	No change	No change
Bread ...	+ 52.3	— 18.0	— 11.8
Flour, oatmeal, &c. ...	+ 142.4	No change	— 2.5
Potatoes, vegetables and fruit ...	+ 129.6	+ 51.2	+ 3.3
Sugar, groceries, oil, &c. ...	+ 85.6	+ 28.3	+ 1.0
Total, Food ...	+ 86.0	+ 11.8	— 0.6
Clothes, boots and washing ...	+ 200.0	+ 57.9	+ 15.4
Rent and cost of repairs ...	+ 30.6	+ 14.9	+ 1.2
Fuel and lighting ...	+ 163.0	+ 21.8	— 2.5
Medical attendance, Trade Union subscriptions, taxes ...	+ 28.6	+ 28.6	+ 28.6
Other expenditure ...	+ 80.0	+ 28.6	+ 2.8
Total, Other Items ...	+ 83.4	+ 34.1	+ 9.3
Total, All Groups ...	+ 89.9	+ 22.8	+ 4.5

SWEDEN.*

At the prices prevailing in November the cost of maintaining the standard pre-war budget of a typical Swedish household in the matter of food, fuel and lighting represents an increase of about 3 per cent. upon the cost at the prices prevailing in the preceding month, and an increase of 220 per cent. in comparison with July, 1914. The "typical family" is one consisting of a man and wife and two children, and having a pre-war expenditure of about £111 per annum.

The above figures relate to the principal towns of Sweden, but if the same budget be taken to apply to Stockholm alone, November shows an increase of 5 per cent. as against October, 1918, and of 239 per cent. as against July, 1914.

NORWAY.†

The index number representing the total expenditure of a Norwegian family upon food, fuel, clothing, rent, taxation, &c., at the prices current in November last, showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, but a rise of 155 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. For food alone the cost in November was 175 per cent. greater than in July, 1914, for fuel 298 per cent., for clothing 281 per cent., while for house rent the increase was 16 per cent. only. These figures are based on the standard of living of an average urban family which in 1914 had an income of £94 per annum.

NOTE.—With respect to the foregoing it is to be observed that the Norwegian Department for Social Affairs, in the current issue of its journal, has introduced certain modifications, the combined effect of which is to render the percentages given above no longer strictly comparable with those given in previous issues of THE LABOUR GAZETTE. The "typical" family whose expenditure is taken as the basis of the computation is now one which had a total income in 1914 of about £94, instead of one in the £80 income-group as formerly. Further, the consumption of the family is no longer assumed to have been unvarying throughout the war period. While the scale of dietary taken is based on that prevailing in 1916-17, certain modifications have been introduced in consequence of the system of rationing of foods adopted in the latter part of 1918. The figures given above are, however, comparable *inter se* for the three periods.

ITALY.

The most recent available returns of the State Department of Labour (covering all the chief cities of Italy) relate to the month of July, 1918, when the percentage rise in retail food prices as compared with July, 1914, had reached 153 (see Table at the head of this article, on p. 84). More recent computations are, however, available for two cities, viz., Rome and Milan, and these are given below. They are based in each case on data collected by the municipal statisticians, but, it will be noticed, are widely divergent in their results.

(a) Rome.‡

The general level of food prices in Rome showed a rise of 2.2 per cent. in December as compared with the preceding month, and of 154 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. If the prices of other household necessities (clothing, fuel, lighting, rent, &c.) be also taken into account the general level of

* *Società Meddelanden*, No. 12 of 1918. Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm.

† *Societale Meddelelser* (the journal of the Norwegian Department for Social Affairs), No. 5-6 of 1918.

‡ *Bollettino dell'Ufficio Municipale del Lavoro*, Rome. February, 1919.

Bulletin de la Statistique générale de la France et du Service d'observation des Prix, October, 1918. Paris.

† *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 4th February, 1919. Statistical Department, Copenhagen.

prices in December was 4.4 per cent. above that of November, and 138 per cent. above the pre-war level.

The basis of the foregoing computation is the cost of satisfying the requirements of a family of the working class consisting of two adults and three children, and it is assumed that the standard of consumption was identical throughout.

(b) Milan.*

According to statistics published in the monthly journal of the Milan Municipality, the cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living in that city for one week in the case of a family consisting of five persons, at the prices current in January, 1919, was about 253 per cent. greater than in the pre-war period (i.e. the first half of 1914). The cost of food alone showed an increase of 299 per cent., clothing of 274 per cent., and heating and lighting of 120 per cent., while rent remained unchanged.

If allowance be made for the reduced scale of consumption in consequence of the introduction of rationing, the general increase in actual expenditure as compared with the early part of 1914 is computed at the lower figure of 169 per cent., the expenditure on food alone showing an increase of 163 per cent.

INDIA.

According to a return compiled by the Department of Statistics of India the general level of retail prices of articles of food at the end of November last, at the ports of Calcutta, Bombay, Karachi, Rangoon and Madras, was 51 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The greatest rise occurred at Bombay (82 per cent.) and the least at Calcutta and Rangoon (35 per cent. in each case); at Karachi it was 56 per cent. above the pre-war level and at Madras 46 per cent. The greatest increase in price is shown by potatoes and other vegetables, which on the average rose by 115 per cent.; salt increased by 73 per cent., dairy products 63 per cent., sugar 60 per cent., eggs 52 per cent., wheat flour and pulses 50 per cent., food grains 47 per cent., fowls 32 per cent., rice 25 per cent., meat and tea 23 per cent., and edible oils 14 per cent. The price of fish shows a decrease of 2 per cent.

If the cost of fuel and lighting be also taken into account the general rise is somewhat higher—viz., 55 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

It should be observed that the general percentages are based on unweighted index numbers of price changes, i.e., no allowance has been made for the relative quantities of the various articles consumed.

In the case of Calcutta alone a weighted average of food prices has been calculated by taking into consideration the relative cost of each article consumed in a representative month at 27 leading European and Indian hotels and in Calcutta. The rise shown as compared with July, 1914, amounts to 29 per cent. at the end of November.

NEW ZEALAND.†

The index number of retail prices of food in October, based on returns relating to twenty-five representative towns in New Zealand, shows an increase of 0.4 per cent. when compared with the corresponding figure for the previous month.

As compared with July, 1914, all three groups of articles were dearer, the combined index number for October being 41.6 per cent. above the pre-war level. In the computation of the general index numbers regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in household consumption before the war, and it is assumed that in this respect no change has taken place.

Group of Articles.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1918, as compared with	
	September, 1918.	July, 1914.
Groceries	Per cent. + 0.7	Per cent. + 50.0
Dairy produce	+ 0.3	+ 81.7
Meat	No change.	+ 38.0
ALL GROUPS COMBINED (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	+ 0.4	+ 41.6

SOUTH AFRICA.‡

According to data furnished by the Cost of Living Commission of South Africa, the estimated cost of the standard food budget for the typical family of five persons in Cape Town in December, 1918, was 0.8 per cent. more than in November, and about 44 per cent. higher than during the period immediately before the war. If rents be also taken into consideration, household expenditure shows an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with November and of 39 per cent. as compared with the pre-war period. At other principal centres the increase during the war in retail food prices and rents taken together in December amounted approximately to 28 per cent. at Kimberley, 29 per cent. at Pretoria, 31 per cent. at Johannesburg, 31 per cent. at Bloemfontein, 39 per cent. at Port Elizabeth, 40 per cent. at East London, 42 per cent. at Durban, and 43 per cent. at Pietermaritzburg.

* Bollettino Municipale Mensile della Città di Milano, January 31st, 1919.

† Monthly Abstract of Statistics, November, 1918. Wellington, New Zealand.

‡ The percentage increases are based on the cost of commodities in 1914 prior to the outbreak of war, except in the case of Pietermaritzburg, where the prices ruling in 1913 are taken.

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR OF COAL MINERS IN HOLLAND.

A PARAGRAPH in the Dutch journal *Algemeen Handelsblad* of 25th February gives particulars as to the earnings per shift of coal miners in South Limburg. The details are stated to be extracted from the report of an association established at Heerlen to watch over the interests of the miners. The average earnings per shift of underground workers is given as 9s. 11d., and of surface workers as 6s. 9d., the general average wage for all workers, both underground and surface, being 9s.

The following Table shows the average earnings per shift for each occupation:—

Occupation	s.	d.
Underground workers:		
Hewers	12	1
Timbermen	9	7
Hewers' labourers	10	3
Hauliers over eighteen years of age	7	11
Hauliers under eighteen years of age	4	10
Surface workers:		
Enginemmen	8	2
Stokers	8	1
Artisans	8	3
Other workers over sixteen years of age	7	1
Other workers under sixteen years of age	2	6

As regards hours of labour, according to a later issue of the same journal the 8-hour day is in operation in every mine for underground workers, but those employed above ground are still working ten hours per day. Government mines will introduce the shortened working hours for surface workers on 1st April.

South Limburg contains the most valuable of the three coalfields possessed by Holland. It is estimated to contain 1,700 millions of tons out of total Dutch coal deposits computed at 3,000 millions of tons. The two other coalfields are in the neighbourhood of Eindhoven and Winterswijk respectively. The annual output of the State and private coal mines in South Limburg is about 3,500,000 tons. The annual consumption of the country is about 8,000,000 tons.

THE FORTY-EIGHT HOUR WEEK MOVEMENT IN ITALY.

RECENT issues of *L'Avanti* and *Il Giornale d'Italia* contain particulars of steps taken by various Italian Trade Union organisations for obtaining an eight-hour day.

From these sources it appears that the movement was initiated at a congress of the most important federation of Trade Unions, the Confederazione del Lavoro, which was held at Milan in September, 1918. After the armistice in November last the executive of the above-named federation began to agitate for this reform. Meanwhile the Federation of the Iron, Steel and Engineering Trades decided to claim an eight-hour day without reduction of wages, and minimum rates of pay. Eventually a meeting was held on 3rd February at Genoa between representatives of the Federation of Italian Manufacturers and of the organisations of the metallurgical workers, at which it was agreed that a working week of 48 hours should be introduced from the 1st May for the engineering trade and from the 1st July for workers at continuous processes. The latter date was fixed because of the difficulties connected with the replacement of the two-shift by the three-shift system.

Further conferences were held for the settlement of various details, and finally on 20th February an agreement was signed, the principal provisions of which are as follows:—

In engineering establishments, shipbuilding yards and allied trades hours are to be reduced from 60 or 55 to 48 per week. In foundries where continuous work is carried on the hours are to be reduced from 72 to 48 per week by adopting the system of three shifts. Shifts in foundries are to be formed on the basis of the work which is at present divided between two shifts being performed where possible by the same number of workmen in three shifts. Care is to be taken that the actual hours worked under the new system shall not be greater than under the old system, save in exceptional cases. In works where seven days of uninterrupted work per week are required, the working hours in each period of three weeks are not to exceed 144. The time-rates of each workman are to be adjusted so that his earnings for 48 hours shall be equal to the present earnings for 55, 60 or 72 hours. Piece-work rates are to be increased by 16 per cent. in works where hours are reduced from 60 to 48, and by 10 per cent. where hours are reduced from 55. In foundries there are to be, in addition, extra percentage bonuses on output, in order to encourage workmen to contribute to the reduction of the number of hands employed on each shift. Works committees are to be formed whose functions are defined in a body of rules agreed between the parties. A committee is to be appointed, consisting of five representatives of the employers and five of the workpeople, which is to investigate the cost of living in relation to the question of minimum wages.

The period during which the agreement is to be operative will be definitely fixed when the last-mentioned committee has made its report.

The above agreement is said to affect a total of 500,000 workpeople.

Demands for the grant of a working week of 48 hours have also been put forward by workers in the textile, printing, chemical and paper-making trades. With regard to these trades, agreements appear to have been reached in the woollen branch of the textile industry and in the printing trade. In the woollen industry rates of wages per day are to remain unaltered and piece rates are to be increased in proportion to the reduction in hours of labour. A joint board of employers and workpeople is considering the question as to the method of giving effect to the 48-hour week, under conditions calculated to maintain the full efficiency of the factories and to enable the trade to meet foreign competition.

At a meeting of representatives of employers and workpeople in the printing trade from all the chief towns of Italy the principle of the eight-hour day was accepted, and both parties agreed that it should be introduced on 17th March. The employers also agreed to an increase in wages, so that no loss should accrue to the workpeople as the result of shorter working time.

CHAMBERS OF LABOUR FOR THE GERMAN MINING INDUSTRY: NEW DECREE.

THE *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger* of 22nd February publishes a Decree of the National Government issued on 8th February, establishing Chambers of Labour for the mining industry. The provisions of the Decree include the following: Until measures of a more comprehensive nature are in operation a Chamber of Labour shall be established for the coal mining industry of the Ruhr district and also for that of Upper Silesia. Similar Chambers may be established for other districts and other departments of the mining industry. It shall be the duty of the Chambers of Labour, each in its own district, to collaborate in the preparation of measures for exercising a comprehensive influence upon mining throughout Germany, and for securing to the whole community a share of the profits—i.e. for the socialisation of mining.

With this object the Chambers of Labour shall collect information, expert opinion and suggestions, and (within the scope of regulations which are to be issued later) shall take steps to secure representation on all associations for the control and disposal of the products of the mines. The Chambers of Labour shall pay due regard to the collective interests of the industry, as well as to the special interests of employers and workpeople. In this task they will have the advice and support of the State and communal authorities, and their co-operation in the carrying out of all socio-political and hygienic measures.

The number of members in a Chamber of Labour shall be at least twenty, of whom ten shall be elected by employers and ten by the workpeople. Germans of both sexes, who have completed their twentieth year and who are occupied in the district of the Chamber of Labour and in the branch of industry represented by the Chamber, shall have the right to vote.

For the election of employers' representatives the supervising authority shall fix the number of votes with due regard to the number of workpeople in the service of the employers in question. The elections shall be secret and carried out according to the principles of proportional representation.

The expenses of the establishment and working of the Chambers of Labour (where not otherwise defrayed) shall in the first instance fall upon the communal authorities of the district in which the works represented by the Chambers are situated. The cost shall then be calculated and apportioned equally between the employers and wage workers concerned.

A special section for clerks and salaried employees is to be established in connection with each Chamber of Labour.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN GERMANY DURING THE WAR.†

CERTAIN figures intended to illustrate the increase in female employment in Germany during the war period, taken from the journal of the National Department of Labour Statistics, were given in summary form in THE LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1917 (page 48). The figures were based on returns from sickness insurance societies which on 1st July, 1914, had an aggregate membership of 10½ million persons actually in employment for a wage or salary in industry (other than mining), agriculture, commerce, &c., or transport. Between that date and 1st July, 1916, the number of males employed had decreased by 37.6 per cent., while that of employed females had increased by 3.6 per cent.

The computation can now be carried down to 1st July, 1918. Since it may be taken that the number of women employed did not substantially increase after that date it follows that this can be looked upon as the highest point reached during the war in the matter of women's employment.

The following Table is based on returns from 5,135 sickness insurance societies:—

Date (July 1st).	Number of employed Persons covered by Returns.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with preceding date.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1914	6 473,392	3,466,731	Per cent.	Per cent.
1917	3,888,183	4,014,977	- 39.9	+ 15.8
1918	3,874,698	4,050,189	- 0.3	+ 0.3

During the whole period from 1st July, 1914, to 1st July, 1918, the number of men employed declined by 40.1 per cent., while that of women increased by 16.8 per cent.

The persons included in these computations comprise from half to three-quarters of the total number of persons employed for a wage or salary in Germany. The total number of women employed on 1st July, 1918, is estimated at between 7 and 8 millions.

In regard to the increase in women employed in individual trades some data are furnished by returns from the factory sickness insurance societies and similar societies established in connection with the handicraft guilds and the "local" sickness insurance societies.

The greatest significance in this respect attaches to the figures supplied by the factory sickness insurance societies. These show that the maximum increase in the number of women employed occurred in the munitions industry proper and the ore-smelting, metal and engineering industry (where the numbers rose by about 408 per cent. between 1st July, 1914, and 1st July, 1918), the electrical trades (288 per cent.) and the chemical industry (364 per cent.). In the building trades women workers increased by 225 per cent. between those two dates. Trades in which there was a decline in the number of women employed were the textile, clothing, food, and tobacco, in all of which work had to be restricted owing to the scarcity of raw materials during the war.

The employment of women in the handicraft (non-factory) trades was on a smaller scale, but certain of these experienced a relatively great influx of women workers, as for example smithing, miscellaneous metal working and plumbing (where the numbers employed rose from 4,175 on 1st July, 1914, to 18,800 on 1st July, 1918, an increase of 350 per cent.), the joinery trades (where they increased by 153 per cent.), and hairdressing, &c. (where the number of women rose by 67 per cent.).

EMPLOYMENT IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. GERMANY.

Employment in January, 1919.—As regards the month of January the *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger* of 26th February publishes the usual monthly statement prepared by the German Department of Labour Statistics, which is as follows:—

Reports received by the German Department of Labour Statistics indicate that the general industrial situation underwent further deterioration during January. Violent disputes concerning wages, which extend to wider and wider circles, often without any comprehension of the interdependence of economic interests, and which threaten ultimately to become disastrous for the nation, together with wanton strikes, which are partly political in nature, menace the economic foundation of the Empire. The various branches of industry are most heavily burdened by these things, and the very urgent economic reconstruction is more and more delayed. Reorganisation in industrial undertakings is rendered impossible, and in this way the spirit of enterprise is practically paralysed. In addition, there are also difficulties arising from the increasing unwillingness to work and the decline in production among a large part of the industrial population, which is to some extent due to insufficient nourishment and partly to other causes, as, for example, the transition from piece-wage to time-wage. Owing to these conditions, and also to the existing and increasing scarcity of coal, and to difficulties of transport, the state of employment continues to deteriorate, and restrictions of activity, stoppages, and reductions in the working hours continue to become more frequent. All the principal branches of industry, particularly the textile and metal trades, have these characteristics in common. In the iron trade the cessation of traffic between the right and left banks of the Rhine and the lack of the very necessary *minette* (oolithic) ore from Lorraine, together with the impossibility of importing Swedish ore, threaten to bring about a complete stoppage. Under such serious conditions considerable dismissals of workpeople on a large scale have had to be carried out, and the number of unemployed has consequently increased in an alarming degree. It is true that relief works have been undertaken in all parts of Germany, but these have been considerably hindered through the frost, while the disinclination of the workers of the large towns to take up employment in lignite mining or in agriculture must also be reckoned with. Some of this reluctance is due to the unsatisfactory conditions as regards food and housing accommodation, and, in the case of agriculture, to the low rates of wages. In spite of the various revisions of the Order of 13th November last concerning assistance to the unemployed, which was based on the principle of obligation to work, the number of persons without employment has largely augmented. In the whole of Germany it increased from about 500,000 at the beginning of January to over 900,000 at the beginning of February. In Westphalia the number exceeded 16,000, in the

† The workpeople employed in coal mining in these two districts comprise about 88 per cent. of the total employed in the industry throughout Germany. The Saar district, where the State-owned mine are situated, does not come within this Decree.

‡ *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger*, 25th February, 1919.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING FEBRUARY.

(1) SUMMARY TABLES.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED" TRADES.

It has been shown in the article on page 89, dealing with the out-of-work Donation Statistics, that 381,285 persons in receipt of that benefit at 28th February belonged to the trades insured under the Acts of 1911 and 1916. The following Tables show what percentage of this total belonged to each of the Insured Trades:-

(A).—TOTALS.

Table showing Unemployment in Insured Trades with columns for Trade, Numbers Insured (Males, Females, Total), Percentage Unemployed at 28th Feb. 1919, and Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a Month ago and Year ago.

(B).—PERCENTAGES FOR MALES AND FEMALES.

Table showing percentages for males and females in insured trades, with columns for Trade, Males, Females, and various percentage and increase/decrease metrics.

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

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

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 1,167,757 reported 32,892 (or 2.8 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of February, 1919, compared with 2.5 per cent. at the end of January, 1919, and 0.9 per cent. at the end of February, 1918.

Table showing Trade Union Percentage of Unemployed by Trade, including Membership at end of Feb. 1919, Unemployed at end of Feb. 1919, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a Month ago and Year ago.

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Table showing Employers' Returns for Mining and Metal Trades, including Trade, Workpeople included in the Returns for Feb. 1919, Days worked per week by mines, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago and Year ago.

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Table showing Employers' Returns for Textile and Other Trades, including Trade, Number employed, Earnings, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Week ended 22nd Feb. 1919, Month ago, and Year ago.

* In the case of certain Trade Unions, especially some of those in the cotton trade, this number excludes members receiving Government out-of-work donation. † This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.

‡ In some of the textile trades, especially cotton and linen, much short time was worked, which is not reflected in the figures.

§ Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

(2) EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during February. There was an increase of 29,653 (or 5.6 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed at the collieries making Returns as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 38,286 (or 7.4 per cent.) on a year ago.

Of the 557,225 workpeople included in the Returns for February, 285,353 (or 51.2 per cent.) were employed at pits working twelve days* during the fortnight to which the Returns relate, and a further 271,081 (or 39.0 per cent.) were employed at pits working eleven days or more, but less than twelve days. The total number employed at pits working eleven days or more was therefore over 90 per cent. of the total. The average number of days worked by the pits was 5.72 per week, compared with 5.56 in the previous month, and 5.51 a year ago. The improvement as compared with the previous month was mainly due to the effect of disputes upon employment in January.

In Scotland there was a further decline in the West of Scotland and in the Lothians; in Fifeshire the comparison is affected by disputes in January.

Table showing Coal Mining employment by District, including No. of Workpeople employed in Feb. 1919, Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in the fortnight ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb. 1919, on a Month ago and Year ago.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked by the collieries, distributed according to the principal kind of coal raised at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged:-

Table showing Coal Mining employment by Description of Coal, including No. of Workpeople employed in Feb. 1919, Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in the fortnight ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb. 1919, on a Month ago and Year ago.

The exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel during February, 1919, amounted to 2,946,026 tons, or 396,224 tons more than in January, 1919, but 3,028,582 tons less than in February, 1914.

The principal countries of destination of coal (similar

* The figures in this and the following article only show the number of days allowance being made in all the calculations for short days on which coal, iron or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the Returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day that the mines or works were open.

† The number of days worked was affected by disputes.



particulars cannot be given for coke and manufactured fuel) were as follows:-

Table showing coal exports to various countries, including Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands and Belgium, France, Spain and Canaries, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Greece, Roumania, Turkey, Egypt, Brazil, Argentina, and Other Countries.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT at iron, shale and lead mines continued good; at tin mines it was moderate. At quarries there was a general increase in the number of workpeople employed, but work was frequently interfered with by bad weather conditions, and there was again a decrease in the average number of days worked, except at slate quarries, which showed no change.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received, relating to the same mines and open works, show that 16,475 workpeople were employed in February, 1919, an increase of 1.2 per cent. on the previous month, but a decrease of nearly 7 per cent. on a year ago.

Table showing Iron, Shale, and Other Mining and Quarrying employment by District, including Workpeople employed in Feb. 1919, Average number of days worked per week by Mines in the fortnight ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb. 1919, on a Month ago and Year ago.

Shale.—The returns received show that in the fortnight ended 22nd February, 1919, the average number of days per week worked by the mines was 5.92, compared with 5.99 in January, 1919, and 6.00 in February, 1918.

Tin.—Employment continued moderate, there being some unemployment in all parts of the Cornish district.

Lead.—Employment was very good in Weardale and good in Flintshire.

QUARRYING.

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

Table showing Quarrying employment by Description of Stone, including Number of workpeople employed in Feb. 1919, Average number of days worked per week by Quarries in the fortnight ended, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb. 1919, on a Month ago and Year ago.

Limestone.—Employment continued good with limestone quarrymen, but bad weather resulted in some time being lost. Granite (Road Material, Setts, &c.).—Employment was fairly good generally, but weather conditions were bad. There was some shortage of labour, quarrymen in particular being in demand.

Slate.—In the North Wales quarries employment was fair. Sandstone.—There was again an increase in the number of workpeople employed in building stone quarries as compared with the previous month; in paving stone and grindstone quarries conditions remained practically as before. Considerable time was lost through frost and snow. There was a shortage of labour in several districts. Basalt and Whinstone (Road Material).—The number of workpeople employed showed an increase as compared with January, and employment was good in whinstone and fair in basalt quarries. China Clay.—Employment at Lee Moor was good, and some overtime was worked. At St. Austell it was moderate, showing a decline compared with the previous month.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during February, and in some cases a shortage of labour was reported; shortages of fuel, limestone and ironstone were also reported. At the works covered by the Returns received, 276 furnaces were in blast at the end of February, 1919, as compared with 279 in the previous month, and 295 in February, 1918. The corresponding number in February, 1914, was 275, almost exactly the same as this year; but in February, 1913, the number was as high as 332.

During February 7 furnaces were re-lit (4 in Lanarkshire, 2 in Cumberland and 1 in Cleveland), and 10 either damped down or blown out (5 in Lanarkshire, 1 in Ayrshire, 1 in South Wales, and 3 in the Midlands).

The imports of the iron ore in February, 1919, amounted to 409,610 tons, or 145,654 tons less than in January, 1919, and 102,265 tons less than in February, 1914. The imports of pig iron amounted to 27,601 tons, or 703 tons less than in January, 1919, but 14,892 tons more than in February, 1914.

The exports of pig iron in February, 1919, amounted to 21,804 tons, or 13,149 tons less than in January, 1919, and 38,028 tons less than in February, 1914.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1919, on a	
	Feb., 1919.	Jan., 1919.	Feb., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.					
Cleveland	71	70	75	+ 1	- 4
Cumberland and Lancs. ...	34	32	34	+ 2	...
S. and S.W. Yorks.	11	11	13	...	- 2
Derby and Nottingham ...	32	32	34	...	- 2
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	25	26	29	- 1	- 4
Staffs. and Worcester ...	27	29	28	- 2	- 1
S. Wales and Monmouth...	11	12	13	- 1	- 2
Other districts	4	4	4	...	...
TOTAL	215	216	230	- 1	- 15
SCOTLAND	61	63	65	- 2	- 4
TOTAL	276	279	295	- 3	- 19

The imports of the iron ore in February, 1919, amounted to 409,610 tons, or 145,654 tons less than in January, 1919, and 102,265 tons less than in February, 1914. The imports of pig iron amounted to 27,601 tons, or 703 tons less than in January, 1919, but 14,892 tons more than in February, 1914.

The exports of pig iron in February, 1919, amounted to 21,804 tons, or 13,149 tons less than in January, 1919, and 38,028 tons less than in February, 1914.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADES.

THERE was a further improvement in employment in these trades in February; as compared with February of last year the improvement was very marked. It is reported that an even larger number of mills would have been re-started if the employers had been able to secure their full complement of men, although a fair number of tinplate workers have already been demobilised. These trades are also still handicapped by an insufficient supply of steel bars.

Compared with February, 1914 (when the trades had declined considerably from the very high level of 1912 and the early months of 1913), the number of mills in operation shows a reduction of 169, or 30 per cent.

The following Table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of February, 1919, compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Works.	Number of Works open.		Number of Mills in operation.	
	At end of Feb., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	At end of Feb., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
		Month ago.		Year ago.
Tinplate	77	+ 4	317	+ 21
Steel Sheet	12	+ 1	74	+ 5
TOTAL	89	+ 5	391	+ 26

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works was good on the whole during February, and showed little change as compared with

the previous month. There was a decline as compared with a year ago, when conditions were abnormal owing to war pressure. Many employers still reported a shortage of all classes of labour; in Scotland puddlers were especially scarce. A scarcity of fuel and of raw materials was also frequently reported.

According to Returns relating to 108,449 workpeople the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended 22nd February was 613,084, showing an increase of 6,655 (or 1.1 per cent.) on the previous month, but a decrease of 51,836 (or 7.8 per cent.) on a year ago. The average number of shifts worked was 5.65, as compared with 5.70 in the previous month and with 5.75 a year ago.

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts worked.	
	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a
		Month ago.		Year ago.
TOTAL	108,449	+ 2.0	613,084	+ 1.1

UNITED KINGDOM 266,188 6.07 4.65 0.23 + 1.42 + 5.79

UNITED KINGDOM—Males ... 257,378 5.88 4.46 0.22 + 1.12 + 5.66

Females... 8,810 11.60 10.25 2.27 + 1.35 + 9.33

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued to decline during February, although there were some exceptional cases in which an improvement was reported. The cessation of war work and the process of reconverting works to meet civil requirements still caused a certain amount of dislocation.

On the whole, employment with members of Trade Unions in the engineering trades, who are mostly skilled men, continued to be fair, good, or very good, in most districts. Tool-makers, however, and (in some districts) brass moulders and finishers reported employment as quiet or bad. As in January, there was some improvement in certain branches of the textile engineering trades.

Practically no overtime was worked, except in some cases on repair work. On the other hand, there was very little short time.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act. The general percentage unemployed showed a further increase to 10.17 per cent. in the case of males. In the case of females there was a slight decrease, but the percentage was still high (23.69 per cent.).

The high percentage of unemployment in the West Midland Division is mainly due to the large proportion of women employed in the engineering trades in that Division.

Division	Number Insured.	Percentage of Out-of-Work Donation Policies lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
		28th Feb., 1919.	31st Jan., 1919.	22nd Feb., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
UNITED KINGDOM	1,412,693	14.18	13.06	0.84	+ 1.12	+ 13.34
UNITED KINGDOM—Males ...	998,169	10.17	7.61	0.35	+ 2.56	+ 3.88
Females...	414,524	23.69	25.95	2.03	- 2.26	- 21.66

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

THE percentage of workpeople unemployed in the shipbuilding trades at the end of February showed an increase over the corresponding percentage for January in all districts but one. The industry was, however, so much disturbed by disputes both in January and in February that the unemployment percentage figures must be interpreted with caution.

Most of the reports received describe the state of the industry as fair, or good, and some overtime was worked on the Mersey and on the Clyde. Shipwrights at Belfast described employment as very good. Some of the subsidiary trades at Glasgow, on the other hand, (sheet iron workers, sail makers), described employment as slack; and there was a decline at Dundee, repair work having greatly decreased.

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

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Out-of-Work Donation Policies lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
		28th Feb., 1919.	31st Jan., 1919.	22nd Feb., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
UNITED KINGDOM	266,188	6.07	4.65	0.23	+ 1.42	+ 5.79
UNITED KINGDOM—Males ...	257,378	5.88	4.46	0.22	+ 1.12	+ 5.66
Females...	8,810	11.60	10.25	2.27	+ 1.35	+ 9.33

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good. As a rule, full time was worked, instances of short time being rare. Trade Unions with 59,083 members had 3.0 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of February, compared with 2.0 per cent. in the previous month and 0.1 per cent. in February, 1918.

Brasswork.—Employment was fairly good on the whole, but showed a decline as compared with the previous month. No overtime was worked at Birmingham, and unemployment increased.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment continued good at Blackheath and Halesowen, fairly good at Darlaston, and fair at Birmingham and Smethwick. On the Tyne it was moderate, and showed a decline on the previous month. With wire nail and shoe rivet makers at Birmingham it continued fairly good.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—At Sheffield employment continued good in the cutlery and file trades. With edge tool makers it was again fair at Birmingham and good at Wednesbury. At Walsall employment with bit and stirrup makers continued fair, but saddle and harness furniture makers were reported as slack owing to a shortage of material.

Tubes.—Employment was fair at Wednesbury and Birmingham, and in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—At Cradley employment with anchor smiths and shackle makers was fair, showing, however, a decline compared with the previous month; with cable chain and block chain makers also it showed a decline, and was slack. Anchor smiths on the Tyne and Wear were fairly well employed. With anvil and vice makers at Dudley employment was fair, showing, however, a decline compared with January; short time was reported. With axle and spring makers at Wednesbury it was again fair.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment continued fairly good on the whole. Very little overtime was reported.

Wire.—Employment was fairly good, and conditions were generally the same as in January. At Halifax a slight shortage of material was reported.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—Employment in the Wolverhampton and Willenhall lock and latch trade continued good for those remaining in the industry, there being no short time. Overtime has been abolished in the district. In the galvanised hollow-ware and cast-iron hollow-ware trades employment was fairly good, the latter trade showing a slight improvement on the previous month, the tin and enamelled hollow-ware trade remained quiet.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment was moderate during February, and showed a slight decline on the previous month.

Exports.—The exports of cutlery during February, 1919, amounted to 1,775 cwts., or 386 cwts. less than in January, 1919, and 1,488 cwts. less than in February, 1914.

The exports of hardware during February, 1919, amounted to 16,781 cwts., or 3,759 cwts. less than in January, 1919, and 65,994 cwts. less than in February, 1914.

COTTON TRADE.

THE spinning branch showed a decline as compared with the previous month. In the weaving branch employment was very slack, and worse than in January, much short time and unemployment being reported.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.		Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Preparing	13,221	+ 2.7	+ 3.0	26,684	+ 2.1
Spinning	25,441	+ 2.5	+ 4.1	55,333	+ 2.8
Weaving	44,076	- 4.7	- 15.2	87,800	- 8.3
Other	9,800	- 3.0	- 7.3	25,818	- 3.0
Not specified	8,003	- 2.7	- 8.2	18,129	+ 4.4
TOTAL	100,541	- 1.7	- 7.3	213,264	- 3.4

In the Oldham district employment showed a decline on the previous month. About one-third of the machinery was not running owing to the unsettled state of trade, and demobilised men were consequently unable to return to their former situations. In the weaving section employment continued moderate. In the Bolton district employment was fair with spinners, but slack with both cardroom workers and weavers. A large amount of machinery was idle, unemployment being most pronounced in the weaving section, where there was also much short time. In the Preston district it was slack with weavers, and it was estimated that only about one-third of the Chorley weavers were fully employed.

In the Blackburn and Darwen district employment was bad in the weaving section and worse than in January. It was estimated that about half the looms were not working. In the Burnley district employment was bad with weavers, and production was stated to be only between 25 and 30 per cent. of the normal.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	Feb., 1919.	Jan., 1919.	Feb., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Feb., 1919, on a	
				Month ago.	Feb., 1914.
Imports of raw cotton (100 lbs.)	1,776,543	1,629,869	2,351,161	+146,674	-574,618
Exports:—					
Cotton yarn (1,000 lbs.)	9,167	9,913	18,074	- 746	- 8,907
Cotton thread for sewing (1,000 lbs.)	1,375	1,478	1,573	- 103	- 188
Cotton piece goods (1,000 yds.)	232,012	219,701	683,452	+ 12,311	-351,440

HOSIERY TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in February showed a decline as compared with the previous month, and was considerably worse than a year ago. At Leicester the decline was stated to be largely due to the cessation of Government contracts. The civilian trade was affected by the insufficient supply of yarns, needles, and coal. In Nottinghamshire it was reported as moderate with power-frame workers, with a good deal of short and irregular time, partly due to shortage of yarns and of coal.

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

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

Table with columns: District, Workpeople (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Leicester, Leicester County District, Nottingham and Derbyshire, Scotland, Other Districts, and UNITED KINGDOM.

Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1919, Jan., 1919, Feb., 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Feb., 1914. Rows include Cotton Hosiery (Stockings and Socks, Other Sorts) and Woollen Hosiery (Stockings and Socks, Other Sorts).

JUTE TRADE.

DURING February employment in Dundee and district showed a slight decline compared with the previous month, and was worse than a year ago, some short time being worked. There was a shortage of certain classes of labour, especially spinners.

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

Table with columns: DEPARTMENTS, Number Employed (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Wages paid (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, Other, and TOTAL.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, Feb., 1919, Jan., 1919, Feb., 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Feb., 1914. Rows include Imports of Jute and Exports of Jute Yarn and Jute Piece Goods.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued good. About 61 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were working 5 1/2 hours per week during the month, while 5 per cent. (mainly spinners, willeys and fettlers) were on overtime. Of the remaining 34 per cent., more than two-thirds were in Scotland, where 4 1/2 hours is frequently the normal full-time week.

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.

worse than in January. In Belfast 75 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on short time, while the corresponding figure for the rest of Ireland was about 45 per cent.

In Scotland employment continued very quiet, and a large amount of short time and unemployment was reported.

Table with columns: DEPARTMENTS, Workpeople (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS (Huddersfield, Leeds, Dewsbury & Batley, Other Parts of West Riding), TOTAL WEST RIDING, DISTRICTS (Belfast, Other places in Ireland), TOTAL IRELAND, DISTRICTS (Fife, Other places in Scotland), TOTAL SCOTLAND, and UNITED KINGDOM.

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, February, 1919, January, 1919, February, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, February, 1914. Rows include Imports of Flax and Tow and Exports of Linen Yarn and Linen Piece Goods.

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment during February continued good on the whole, and showed little change compared with the previous month. In the Macclesfield district employment on the whole was good, and showed little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

Forty per cent. of the firms making returns reported a shortage of labour, the shortage being most marked in the West Riding district; there were also again complaints of a shortage of coal.

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

Table with columns: BRANCHES, Workpeople (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Throwing, Retaining, Weaving, Other, Not specified, and TOTAL. Also includes DISTRICTS (Lancashire and W. Riding, Macclesfield, Congleton and District, Eastern Counties, Other Districts, including Scotland).

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

Imports and Exports.

Table with columns: Description, February, 1919, January, 1919, February, 1914, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Feb., 1914. Rows include Imports (Raw silk, Thrown silk, Spun silk, Silk broad-stuffs) and Exports (Thrown silk, Spun silk, Silk broad-stuffs).

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in this trade showed a further decline during February, and much short time and unemployment were reported at Nottingham and in the Long Eaton district. In the West of England and in Scotland employment on the whole was good.

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

Table with columns: BRANCHES, Workpeople (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Earnings (Week ended 22nd Feb., 1919, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Levers, Curtain, Plain Net, Others, and TOTAL. Also includes DISTRICTS (Nottingham City, Long Eaton and other outlying Districts, Other English Districts, Scotland).

CARPET TRADE.

DURING February employment continued fairly good. Firms employing nearly 30 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns reported short time, generally to the extent of about 5 hours per week.

Returns from firms employing 5,062 workpeople in the week ended 22nd February, and paying £8,065 in wages, showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number of wages employed but a decrease of 2.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month.

FELT HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued fairly good on the whole. At Denton it was reported as unsettled, and half the Trade Union operatives were still on short time.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades during February continued slack, and showed a further decline. Much short time was reported in all departments.

In the bleaching section employment continued slack. In the printing section employment was bad, both in England and in Scotland; it was reported that half time was being worked in England, and that the number of machines working was much reduced.

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

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The following Table summarises the work of the Employment Exchanges during the week ended 28th February, 1919 :-

Table with 5 columns: Category (Men, Women, Total), No. of fresh Registrations during week, No. on Live Register at end of week, Vacancies notified during week, Vacancies filled during week, Vacancies unfilled at end of week.

Compared with the previous week, the number of registrations showed a slight increase, due entirely to the increase in the number of men registering...

The following table shows the number of applicants placed, and vacancies notified, and the live register for men and for women in the principal occupations during the week ended 28th February, 1919.

Table with 6 columns: Occupation, On Live Register at end of week, Vacancies notified during week, Vacancies filled during week, On Live Register at end of week, Vacancies notified during week, Vacancies filled during week.

The usual monthly analysis for the four weeks ended 7th February is shown below :-

GENERAL REGISTER.

The number of workpeople on the register of the Employment Exchanges (409 in number) at some time or other during the four weeks ended 7th February, 1919, was 1,105,006 (men, 411,116; women, 570,352; boys, 62,315; and girls 61,223).

The number of vacancies notified during the period was 160,400, and the number of vacancies filled was 99,044. The total number of workpeople remaining on the register at 7th February, 1919, was 792,277.

Table with 5 columns: Category (On registers at 10th Jan., 1919, etc.), Men, Women, Boys, Girls, Total.

The average daily registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the month were 22,830, 6,683 and 4,127 respectively.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (contd.).

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

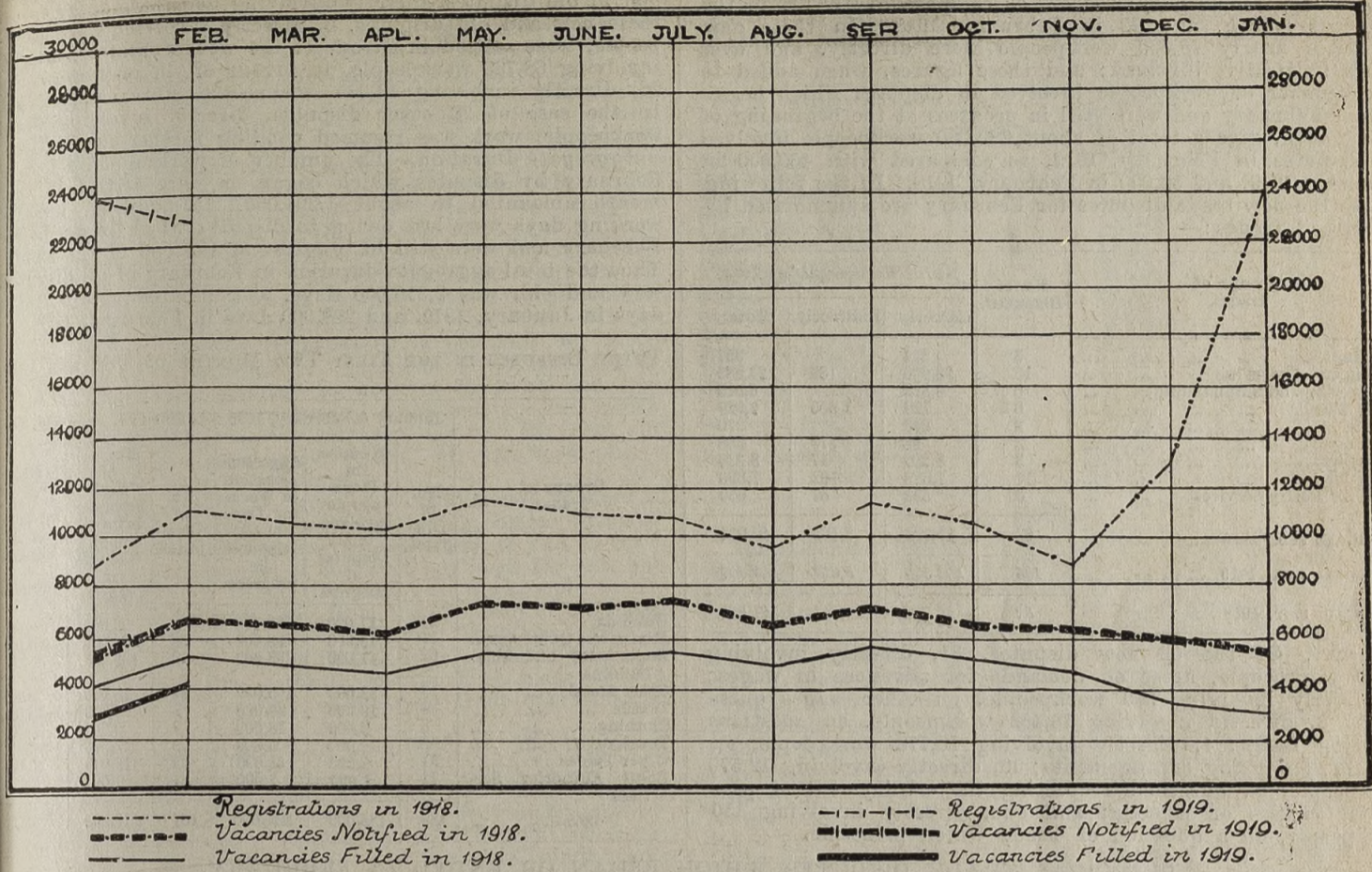


Table with 3 columns: Average Daily Registrations, Average Daily Vacancies Notified, Average Daily Vacancies Filled.

Compared with the previous month, the daily average of registrations showed a percentage decrease of 4.4; the daily average of vacancies notified and vacancies filled showed percentage increases of 18.7 and 40.0 respectively.

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

Table with 3 columns: Registrations, Vacancies Notified, Vacancies Filled, split by Males and Females for Insured and Uninsured Trades.

In the case of males, the insured trades accounted for 54.8 per cent. of the total registrations, 59.9 per cent. of the vacancies notified, and 63.6 per cent. of the vacancies filled.

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

Table with 5 columns: Category, Men, Women, Boys, Girls, Total.

Compared with the previous month there was an increase in the case of men, women, and girls, but a slight decrease in the boys' department. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease in all departments.

Table with 4 columns: Groups of Trades, 4 weeks ended 7th Feb., 5 weeks ended 10th Jan., 4 weeks ended 7th Feb., 5 weeks ended 10th Jan.

The largest proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for men was 88.9 per cent. in chemicals, and the lowest 23.4 per cent. in agriculture.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The above figures exclude casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers). The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations was 1,612, a daily average of 67, compared with 55 in the previous five weeks and with 227 in the four weeks ended 8th February, 1918.

INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED IN THE FOUR WEEKS ENDED 7th FEBRUARY, 1919.

NOTE.—Applicants are registered occupationally, according to the "work desired" by them, and for the purpose of this Table such occupations are grouped according to the industry with which they are mainly connected.

Large table with columns for Occupation Groups, Registrations, Vacancies, and Vacancies Filled, subdivided by Adults and Juveniles.

* These figures are those of the General Register for a period ended early in the month stated at the head of the Chart. † These are trades insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Acts, 1911-1916.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Building Trades, Quarrying, Pig Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Ship-building, and Other Metal Trades.

For Notes see page 108.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Wool and Worsted Industry, Mill Industry, and Textile, Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, and Traces.

For Notes see page 108.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for 'Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued)' and 'Furniture Trade'.

For Notes see page 108.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1919—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for 'Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued)' and 'Furniture Trade'.

For Notes see page 108.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1919—(continued)

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Hours of Labour.				
Building Trades	Tyne District (including Newcastle, Hebburn, Jarrow, North and South Shields, Wallsend and Blyth)	17 Feb.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plasterers, labourers and navvies	Decrease of 3 hours per week in summer (50 to 47). ¹⁵
	Wigan	Feb.	Bricklayers...	Decrease of 8 hours per week in summer (54½ to 46½). Decrease of 3 hours per week in summer (49½ to 46½). Decrease of 6 or 5½ hours per week in summer to a standard week of 50 hours, and an average decrease for the year of 5½ hours per week. ¹⁵
	Chesterfield	24 Feb.	Bricklayers	Decrease of 9½ hours in summer (56 to 46½). ¹⁵
Building Trades	Barnstaple	Feb.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 6½ hours per week in summer (53½ to 47) and a decrease of 1 to 3½ hours per week in winter, making an average decrease for the year of slightly over 5 hours per week. ¹⁵
	Exeter	24 Feb.	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 1 hour per week (summer hours 51 to 50). ¹⁵ Uniform 8-hour shift or day adopted. ²
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Kilkenny	1 Feb.	Painters	Decrease of 7 hours per week (54 to 47). ¹⁵
	Staffordshire, Shropshire, Lancashire, South Yorkshire, Wales (certain firms), Cheshire and Derbyshire	3 Feb.	Iron and steel workers	Uniform 8-hour shift or day adopted. ²
Engineering and Ship-building	Belfast	20 Feb.	All classes of workpeople in the engineering and shipbuilding trades	Decrease of 7 hours per week (54 to 47). ¹⁵
	Sheffield	First full pay week following 5 Feb.	Workpeople employed in the edge tool trade (including joiners' tools, brace bit and auger, machine knife, spades, forks, shovels, &c.)	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted. ¹⁵
Other Metal Trades	Midlands	3 Feb.	Galvanised hollow-ware, &c., workers	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in a decrease of 6 or 7 hours per week. ¹⁵
	Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Wednesbury districts	1 Feb.	Edge tool workers	Decrease of 6½ hours (54 to 48) and in some cases 7 hours (54 to 47) per week. ¹⁵
	Birmingham	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed in the jewellery, silver, electroplate and allied trades	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of from 2 to 3 hours per week. ¹⁵ Decrease of 7 hours per week (54 to 47). ¹⁵
Other Metal Trades	Bradford, Halifax and Keighley	1 Feb.	Textile comb-makers	Decrease of 6 hours per week (53 to 47). ¹⁵
	Aberdeen	1 Feb.	Smithy-workers and vicemen and general blacksmiths and benchmen	Decrease of 6 hours per week (52½ to 46½). ¹⁵ Decrease of 6½ hours per week (55½ to 49).
	Glasgow	1 Feb.	Wire-workers	Decrease of 3½ hours per week (52½ to 49).
Silk Industry	Brighouse and Congleton	7 Feb.	Workpeople employed in the silk trade	Decrease of 3½ hours per week (52½ to 49).
	Leek	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed in the silk trade—Mills (except twistlers)	Decrease of 3½ hours per week (52½ to 49) and in the case of tacklers of 7 hours per week (56 to 49).
Printing Trade	Macclesfield	1st week in Feb.	Workpeople employed in the silk trade (except dyers)	Decrease of 1½ hours per week (52½ to 51). ¹⁵
	Bournemouth	8 Feb.	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of, generally, 6 or 7 hours per week. ¹⁵
Chemical, &c., Trades	England and Wales	1 Feb. ¹¹	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of chemicals	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of 3 to 9 hours per week. ¹⁵
	United Kingdom	Feb.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of matches	Decrease of 6 hours per week (54 to 48).
Glass Manufacture	Birmingham, Stourbridge, Manchester and Warrington	17 Feb.	Flint glass cutters	Decrease of 3 hours per week (53 to 50). ¹⁵
	Bath	Pay beginning last week in Feb.	Furniture trade operatives	Decrease of 4 hours per week (54 to 50). ¹⁵
Furniture Trade	Cardiff and Swansea	1 Feb.	Furniture trade operatives	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of 3 to 7 hours per week. ¹⁵
	Various districts in Great Britain; and Belfast ¹³	10 Feb.	Workpeople employed in the vehicle building and wheelwright trades	Decrease of 1 hour per week (48 to 47). Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of from 4½ to 5 hours per week.
Other Wood-working, &c., Trades	Bradford	1st week in Feb.	Packing case makers	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of 5 to 6½ hours per week.
	Nottingham	1 Feb.	Picture frame makers	Decrease of 7 hours per week (54 to 47). ¹⁵
Food and Drink, &c., Trades	London	2nd pay in Feb.	Case makers, machinists, sawyers, labourers, &c., improvers, apprentices and females in box and packing case trade	Decrease of 6 hours per week (53 to 47). ¹⁵ Decrease of 6 hours per week (54 to 48). ¹⁵
	Glasgow and Paisley	3 Feb.	Coopers	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decrease of 6 or 7 hours per week.
	Hurton-on-Trent	1 Feb.	Brewery workers (except coopers)	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted. (See Award on p. 113.)
Electricity Supply	Cardiff and Barry	1 Feb.	Engineers employed in flour mills	Decrease of 8 hours per week (55 to 48) for shift workers and of 7 hours per week (54 to 47) for day workers. ¹⁵
	Glasgow and Paisley Districts	First full pay after 20 Feb.	Workpeople in the ham-curing, &c., trades (other than those already on a 45-hour week)	Decrease of 9 hours per week (53 to 44).
Local Authority Service	London and Suburban districts (for further details see p. 107)	1 Feb.	Workpeople employed in electricity undertakings (for further details see p. 107)	Decrease of 13 hours per week (69 to 56).
	Newcastle-on-Tyne	3 Feb.	All classes of workpeople connected with the car repair shops and power stations	Decrease of 12 hours per week (60 to 48).
Local Authority Service	Wallasey	7 Feb.	Workpeople employed on ferries, including seamen, firemen, collectors and inspectors	
	Newport (Mon.)	17 Feb.	Workpeople employed on tramways, including shed-firemen, inspectors, drivers, conductors and cleaners	

1 See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
 2 This rate is inclusive of the bonus of 12½ per cent. granted to men on munitions work.
 3 In some cases a re-adjustment of wages was made to meet the reduced hours, but full details are not yet available.
 4 This increase took effect from the date shown, under an arrangement made in February.
 5 This increase took effect from the date shown, under an Award issued in February.
 6 Under an Award issued in February, these increases were to be paid on the pay day in the week ending 7 December, in respect of the preceding pay period.
 7 Viz., Barnsley, Bradford, Halifax, Harrogate, Heckmondwike, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, and Todmorden.
 8 The increase was to be paid on the pay day in the first week in February, in respect of the preceding pay period.
 9 These rates were already in operation in the Huddersfield district.
 10 Including Bangor, Carnarvon, Colwyn Bay, Conway, Llandudno, Mold, Rhyl and Wrexham.
 11 In certain cases the change took effect from 1 January.
 12 The increases were adopted as a result of a decision of the Joint Industrial Council for the Vehicle Building Trades, from the terms of which, however, firms belonging to the National Master Wheelwrights' Association were excluded.
 13 The changes were adopted as a result of a decision of the Joint Industrial Council for the Vehicle Building Trades, and generally affected all members of the National Federation of Vehicle Trades, the National Master Wheelwrights' Association, and the Scottish Vehicle Builders' Association. Among the towns affected were the following: London, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Sheffield, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Manchester, Preston, Stockport, Birmingham, Bristol, Derby, Leicester, Nottingham, Norwich, Cardiff, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee; owing however, to a condition that weekly wages should not be reduced by the 47-hour week, the rates actually paid are higher in some of these towns.
 14 With few exceptions the increase was generally adopted, both at local authority undertakings and those owned by companies, throughout Great Britain.
 15 See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

Increases in Minimum Rates under the Trade Boards Act.—From 14th February the minimum time rate of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Act for workpeople employed in the lace and net finishing trade in Great Britain was increased from 4d. per hour to 4½d. Increases were also made in the minimum piece rates, and in the minimum time rates of learners.

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 February, 1919, in the thirty-five selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 126 per 10,000 of population, showing an increase of 2 on the previous month, but a decrease of 8 on a year ago. Compared with the previous month, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 3,869 (or 1·7 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers increased by 2,616 (or 2·4 per cent.), while the number of outdoor paupers increased by 1,253 (or 1·0 per cent.). Five districts showed decreases, seven showed no change, and every other district showed an increase. The increases and decreases were generally very small, the most marked change being an increase of 9 per 10,000 in the Central Metropolitan district. Compared with February, 1918, the total number of paupers decreased by 13,453 (or 5·4 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 10,752 (or 8·7 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 2,701 (or 2·1 per cent.). There was an increase of 12 per 10,000 in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district, and very small increases in four other districts. Nottingham district showed no change, and every other district showed a decrease. The most marked decrease was in the Central Metropolitan district (27 per 10,000), and eleven districts showed decreases of 10 per 10,000 or upwards.

Selected Urban Areas. ²	Paupers on one day in February, 1919.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
	ENGLAND & WALES, ¹	8,241	1,373		9,614	119	+ 3	- 8
Metropolis	10,004	4,367	14,371	144	+ 2	- 14
North District	2,947	943	3,890	202	+ 9	- 27
Central District	9,385	3,492	12,877	196	+ 5	- 18
East District	16,429	8,798	25,227	132	+ 4	- 9
South District	47,006	18,978	65,984	146	+ 3	- 12
West Ham	3,612	7,822	11,434	143	+ 5	- 10
Other Districts.	1,902	3,409	5,311	106	+ 3	+ 4
Newcastle District	86	1,958	2,044	108	+ 2	- 10
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	3,083	2,468	5,551	87	...	- 7
Wigan District	1,445	4,070	5,515	122	+ 2	- 4
Manchester District	7,007	8,515	15,522	190	+ 2	- 10
Liverpool District	3,125	8,134	11,259	138	+ 3	- 11
Bradford District	1,688	1,241	2,929	78	+ 4	+ 2
Halifax & Huddersfield	940	1,828	2,768	71	+ 1	+ 1
Leeds District	2,019	1,980	3,999	82	+ 1	- 4
Barnsley District	689	3,029	3,718	113	+ 3	+ 5
Sheffield District	2,110	2,032	4,142	81	- 1	- 7
Hull District	1,486	4,893	6,379	179	+ 1	- 15
North Staffordshire	1,590	3,785	5,375	123	+ 3	- 5
Nottingham District	1,689	8,438	10,127	106	+ 1	...
Leicester District	1,015	1,609	2,624	110	...	- 19
Wolverhampton District	2,794	4,185	6,979	98	+ 2	- 3
Birmingham District	5,359	2,585	7,944	92	+ 1	- 9
Nottingham & Leicester	2,319	2,491	4,810	121	...	- 7
Cardiff & Swansea	1,783	4,717	6,500	139	- 1	- 6
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	47,908	60,864	108,772	106	+ 2	- 6
SCOTLAND, ¹	2,689	14,383	17,072	177	+ 3	- 9
Glasgow District	639	1,688	2,327	118	- 1	- 7
Dumfries & Galloway District	1,033	3,693	4,726	116	...	- 13
Highland and Islands District	534	1,887	2,421	110	...	- 6
Aberdeen	383	1,863	2,246	131	+ 4	- 11
Perth, Dundee and Airdrie	242	1,324	1,566	147	+ 5	+ 12
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	5,500	24,608	30,108	147	+ 1	- 9
IRELAND, ¹	3,896	6,961	10,857	260	...	- 6
Dublin District	2,247	781	3,028	69	+ 2	- 4
Waterford and Wick District	2,626	3,653	6,279	253	- 1	- 18
Galway District	264	164	428	126	- 3	- 4
TOTAL for the above Irish Districts	9,033	11,559	20,592	181	+ 1	- 8
TOTAL for above 35 Districts in Feb., 1919	113,059	123,831	236,890	126	+ 2	- 8

¹ 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.
² Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Workhouses; and of persons receiving outdoor medical relief only.
³ Including 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 February, 1919, was 23, of which 13 were due to lead poisoning, 1 to mercurial poisoning, 2 to arsenic poisoning, and 7 to anthrax. Two deaths due to lead poisoning and 3 to anthrax were also reported. In addition, 2 cases (including 1 death) amongst house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

TWO MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY, 1919.

During the two months ended February, 1919, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 48, compared with 47 in the corresponding period of 1918. The number of deaths in 1919 was 10, as compared with 7 in 1918. In addition, 3 cases of lead poisoning (including 1 death) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during the year 1919, compared with 3 cases (including 1 death) during the year 1918.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Cases.		Deaths.	
	Month of Feb., 1919.	Two months ended Feb., 1919.	Month of Feb., 1919.	Two months ended Feb., 1919.
Lead Poisoning.				
AMONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN—				
Smelting of Metals	1	4	1	2
Brass Works	—	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	—	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering	1	3	4	—
Printing	—	2	2	—
File Cutting	—	—	—	—
Tinning of Metals	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works	—	—	—	—
Red Lead Works	1	1	—	—
Pottery	1	2	—	1
Glass Cutting and Polishing	—	—	1	—
Vitreous Enamelling	—	—	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	3	3	2	—
Paint and Colour Works	1	1	—	—
Coach and Car-Painting	1	2	2	1
Shipbuilding	—	—	2	—
Paint used in other Industries	4	5	4	1
Other Industries	—	4	5	—
TOTAL IN FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS	13	27	23	6
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	2	3	3	1
Other Forms of Poisoning.				
MERCURIAL POISONING—				
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes	—	—	—	—
Explosives Works	—	—	1	—
Other Industries	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	1	1	1	—
PHOSPHORUS POISONING	—	—	1	—
ARSENIC POISONING—				
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	2†	2†	—	—
TOTAL ARSENIC POISONING	2†	2†	—	—
TOTAL TOXIC JAUNDICE	—	—	11	—
TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISONING"	3	3	13	—
Anthrax.				
Wool	4	15	8	2
Handling of Horsehair	—	—	—	2
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fell-mongers, &c.)	1	1	3	—
Other Industries	2	2	—	2
TOTAL ANTHRAX	7	18	11	4
TOTAL REPORTED UNDER FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT	23	48	47	10
GRAND TOTAL	25	51	50	10

† The person affected in the Pottery Industry was a female.
 † Caused by arseniuretted hydrogen gas.

United Builders' Labourers' Union and Workers' Union. Award—The working week of men concerned to be reduced to 47 hours; the substituted rates to be such rates as will give to the time-workers concerned the same wages for 47 hours as they now receive for 54 hours. Issued 26th Feb., 1919. (271)

BRASSWORKERS AND METAL MECHANICS.—New Delaville Spelter Co., Ltd. v. National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, employed by the company at Bloxwich and Spring Hill, to receive an advance of 5s. a week and boys 2s. 6d. as from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, and are to be payable in respect of the pay period for which payment was made on that pay day. Issued 26th Feb., 1919. (272)

NEEDLE INDUSTRY.—Redditch and District Needle and Fishing Tackle Employers' Association v. Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists. Award—Men concerned, employed in engineering and fitting shops of establishments belonging to members of the Employers' Association engaged in the needle industry, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. and boys 2s. 6d. a week. These advances are to be paid from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, and are to be payable in respect of the period for which payment was made on that pay day. Issued 27th Feb., 1919. (276)

NEEDLE INDUSTRY.—Redditch and District Needle and Fishing Tackle Employers' Association v. National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. and boys 2s. 6d. a week. These advances are to be paid from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, and are to be payable in respect of the pay period for which payment was made on that pay day. Issued 27th Feb., 1919. (277)

SKILLED AND UNSKILLED MEN AND APPRENTICES.—The Admiralty v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association, Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, National Union of Government Employees, Federated Council of Government Employees and Workers' Union. Award—(1) Skilled labourers, engaged in riveting, caulking, drilling, &c., to be titularly described in accordance with the work upon which they are mainly engaged, the interchangeability of employment to continue without reduction in wages except where service is formally terminated by proper notice and other employment accepted as an alternative to discharge. (2) A scheme of apprenticeship should be introduced for the training of boys in H.M. dockyards to meet the case of boys who fail to pass the educational test under the scheme now obtaining, and of boys whose educational facilities do not qualify them for the existing competitive scheme of examination. Failure on the part of a boy to attend an approved course of study with a view to passing the lower grade apprenticeship scheme to render the apprenticeship liable to cancellation. The engineers' claims relating to the status of skilled labourers employed on milling, planning, slotting, sloping and grinding not established. Issued 26th Feb., 1919. (279)

Textile Trades.

ENGINEERS, FIREMEN, &c.—Woolen and Worsted Trades Federation v. National Amalgamated Union of Engineemen, Firemen, Motormen and Electrical Workers, and the National Engineers' Association. Award—Engine attendants concerned to receive an advance of 5s. a week from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 10th Feb., 1919. (209)

ENGINEERS, FIREMEN, &c.—Woolcombing Employers' Federation, Bradford and District Master Spinners' Association, and the Bradford and District Manufacturers' Federation v. National Amalgamated Union of Engineemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Award—Men concerned to receive an advance of 5s. a week from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 10th Feb., 1919. (210)

WEAVERS, WILLETERS, FETTLERS, &c.—Woolen and Worsted Trades Federation (West Riding of Yorkshire) v. General Union of Textile Workers. Award—Minimum base rate of 6d. an hour to certain male time-workers concerned; odd men and piecers employed at the outset on boys' jobs to receive not less than 6d. an hour on attaining the age of 22 years. Scribblers' feeders to be paid 17s. a week for two sets of two bobbin machines, an additional 6d. per bobbin over; 6d. a set for double doffers and 3s. extra a set of two bobbins over two sets. Female time-workers aged 18 years and over to be paid a minimum of 17s. a week of 55½ hours. The case of wages of weavers and workpeople engaged in winding, reeling, warping, twisting, &c., where wages are considered to be unduly low compared with similar occupations in the West Riding of Yorkshire, to be adjusted and revised with reference to schedule of weavers' wages appended to the award, the operatives having the right to require the adoption of this scale in districts where uniform district standard weaving scales do not obtain. With regard to overtime, piece-workers to be paid 1½d. an hour first two hours, and 3d. an hour after. Time-workers to be paid time and a quarter for first two hours and time and a half thereafter. The award to take effect from and including 21st Sept., 1918, except new rates not definitely fixed but to be agreed upon, such alterations to operate from date of agreement. The award does not apply to the worsted spinning section of the trade. Issued 18th Feb., 1919. (249)

Transport Trades.

WAREHOUSEMEN, LOCKGATEMEN, &c.—Ipswich Dock Employers' Association v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Decision—(1) The additions at present made to the piece rates and tonnage rates of the men concerned are sufficient to yield to them advances equivalent to the advances granted to time-workers under the awards of the Committee on Production, Nos. 1299 and 2567. (2) Lockgate-men are not covered by award No. 2567. (3) In the case of warehousemen concerned the Court are not prepared to rule that they should be covered by any award given to dock labourers. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (200)

HATCHWAY MINDERS, TIPPERS AND SLINGERS.—Tees Wharf Owners' Association v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—The hatchway minders, tippers and slingers concerned, aged 18 years and over, while employed loading and unloading ships, to be paid a further war advance of 1½d. an hour, and boys 9d. a day, from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 6th Feb., 1919. (202)

TRIMMERS AND TEAMERS.—River Wear Commissioners v. North of England Trimmers and Teamers' Association. Award—Teamers concerned to receive a war advance of 3s. a week as on and from 12th Dec., 1918. Issued 12th Feb., 1919. (213)

FLEET COALING SERVICE.—Admiralty v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, employed in the Fleet Coaling Service, Harwich, aged 21 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week from first pay after 1st Nov., 1918. Issued 19th Feb., 1919. (253)

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

AMMUNITION BOX REPAIRERS.—Ministry of Munitions (Explosives Department) v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, employed at H.M. Stores, Hackney Wick, repairing ammunition boxes, to receive an advance of 1d. an hour as from first pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (191)

SAWYERS, LABOURERS, &c.—Birmingham and District Timber Merchants' Association v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 3s. 6d. a week, and boys 1s. 9d., from and including 22nd Nov., 1918. Issued 12th Feb., 1919. (214)

SEMI-SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKERS.—National Federation of Building Trade Employers, National Federation of Furniture Manufacturers, London Master Builders' and Aircraft Industries Association, Yorkshire Aircraft Employers' Committee, Scottish Furniture Manufacturers' Association and Cabinet Trades Federation v. National Federation of General Workers and London Builders' Labourers' Council. Award—From first pay after 1st Dec., 1918, semi-skilled and unskilled workers concerned, aged 18 years and over, manufacturing and repairing aircraft, to receive an advance of 8s. 6d. a week, and youths 4s. 3d. a week, any general advances paid to the workpeople since 1st Aug., 1918, to merge therein. The award is not to apply to men employed in a shipbuilding or ship-repairing establishment, or to women, or to men whose wages are regulated by those of a similar class employed in building or other trades. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (227)

PACKING-CASE MAKERS.—Engineering and National Employers' Federation v. Workers' Union. Award—Rates of men concerned, employed in the packing-case section of the Federation in the Midland district, to be increased by 1s. 6d. per week, as from and including the pay period for which payment was made in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918. Issued 19th Feb., 1919. (256)

AIRCRAFT WOODWORKERS.—Engineering and National Employers' Federation v. Bristol District Woodworkers Aircraft Committee. Decision—The claim that the rate in Bristol to aircraft woodworkers under Order No. 187 (Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918) should be 1s. 1½d. not established. Issued 26th Feb., 1919. (274)

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Pottery and Glass Trades.

TELEGRAPHIC AND ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE MAKERS.—C. W. Outram & Co. (Woodville) v. National Society of Pottery Workers. Decision—The firm have correctly carried out the provisions of the Court of Arbitration award No. 122. The finding is without prejudice to any claim that the total advances to be paid by the firm should be on the basis of those paid to men and women in the trade generally. Issued 17th Feb., 1919. (247)

WOMEN PREPARING CHARGES.—Curtis & Harvey, Ltd. (Roslin) v. Workers' Union. Award—The terms and conditions of (Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918) Nos. 546 and 1073, dealing with women's wages, are not proper to be extended to work of this class, but in settlement of claim submitted, the women concerned, employed at the firm's gunpowder mills, aged 18 years and over, are to receive a further advance of 3s. per week, girls under 18 years 1s. 6d. per week. Overtime payments are to be calculated on the pre-war wage of 12s. 6d. a week, plus 20s. a week war advance in the case of women aged 18 years and over, and 10s. a week in the case of girls under 18 years of age. The award is to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 19th Feb., 1919. (255)

CLERICAL STAFF.—Ministry of Munitions (representing H.M. Factory, Greta) v. National Union of Clerks. Award—Clerical staff concerned, male and female, 18 years of age and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, and those under 18 years 2s. 6d. Issued 20th Feb., 1919. (261)

HEAVY CHEMICAL TRADE.—Spencer Chapman & Messel, Ltd. (with which is amalgamated William Pearce & Sons, Ltd.),

F. W. Berk & Co., Ltd., and West Ham Chemical Works, Ltd. v. National Union of General Workers and National Amalgamated Union of Engineemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d., calculated on the basis of a week of six days or six shifts. As regards Spencer Chapman & Messel, Ltd., and F. W. Berk & Co., Ltd., the amount (1s.) by which the present total weekly war advances exceed 23s. 6d. is to merge in the advances granted. This award is to take effect from and including the pay period for which payment was made on the pay day in the week ended 7th Dec., 1918. Issued 26th Feb., 1919. (273)

Food and Drink Trades.

PROVISION TRADE.—Scottish Provision Trade Association (wholesale section), and Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks. Award—The skilled men aged 21 years and over to be paid hourly rates as follows: hamcurers (qualified) 1s. 5½d. an hour, ham-boners (not being qualified hamcurers) 1s. 3½d. an hour, storemen (qualified) 1s. 4d. an hour. Unskilled workers to be paid 10d. an hour, with 1d. advance on 3 months' and a further 1d. at the end of 6 months' service. To women an advance of 5s. a week. Working week to consist of 47 hours, and overtime rate to be time and a half. In addition to recognised holidays, ten days to be allowed between June and September. To settle claim for retrospective payment, men to be paid 3s. and women 5s. a week from 1st Dec., 1918. Issued 20th Feb., 1919. (258)

Public Utility Services.

TRAMWAY WORKERS.—Falkirk and District Tramways Co. v. Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Award—From first pay after 28th Jan., 1919, men aged 21 years and over, and the grades of women aged 18 years 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, to receive such advance as will give 30s. a week over the pre-war rates of the grades concerned. Men aged 18 years and over, but under 21 years, to receive such advance as will give 25s. a week over pre-war rates. Women aged 18 years and over, except those already referred to, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, provided a total of 30s. a week is not exceeded. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (195)

ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKING.—Wolverhampton Corporation (Electricity Dept.) v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, 18 years of age and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d. a week, from the beginning of the first full pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (196)

SEMI-SKILLED AND UNSKILLED MEN.—Birmingham Corporation v. Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers. Award—All men concerned aged 18 years and over to receive a war advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d., as from the beginning of the first full pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (197)

GENERAL LABOURERS.—Corporation of Stafford (Health Dept.) v. Workers' Union. Award—Able-bodied men concerned aged 18 years and over to receive a war advance of 6s. 6d. a week, and boys 3s. 3d. a week, as from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Jan., 1919. The case of men who are not able-bodied is recommended to the favourable consideration of the Corporation. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (198)

ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKING.—Corporation of Stafford (Electricity Dept.) v. Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned aged 18 years and over to receive a war advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d. a week, as from the beginning of the first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. (199)

ROADMEN, BARROWMEN, LABOURERS AND CARTERS.—Paignton U.D.C. v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Roadmen, labourers, &c., to receive war advance of 8s. 6d. a week from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. The case of barrowmen (who are not able-bodied) to receive the favourable consideration of the Council. Issued 8th Feb., 1919. (207)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Lincoln Corporation v. National Union of General Workers. Award—War advance of 4s. a week to men concerned, and boys under 18 years of age 2s. a week, from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. The case of the men not able-bodied recommended to the favourable consideration of the Corporation. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. (211)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Rathmines and Rathgar U.D.C. v. Irish Municipal Employees' Trade Union. Award—War advances of 5s. a week to men and 2s. 6d. to women concerned, from first pay in January, 1919. Issued 13th Feb., 1919. (219)

CLERK AND INSPECTOR.—Dublin Corporation (School Attendance Committee, Glasnevin and Drumcondra Wards) v. Certain employees of the Corporation. Award—War advance of 5s. a week from first pay in January, 1919. Issued 13th Feb., 1919. (220)

ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—Dundalk U.D.C. (Electricity Dept.) v. Electrical Trades Union. Award—Claim that the men concerned shall be paid the minimum wage of the Dublin District not established. Men concerned, with the exception of the senior assistant, to receive war advance of 5s. a week. The case of the senior assistant the Court recommend for favourable consideration. Issued 15th Feb., 1919. (222)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Worthing Corporation v. Workers' Union. Award—From first pay after 1st Jan., 1919, able-

bodied men aged 18 years and over to receive an advance of 4s. a week, subject to a total maximum advance of 23s. 6d. a week. Men not able-bodied recommended to the favourable consideration of the Corporation. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (224)

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.—Dublin Corporation v. Certain of their employees. Award—Employees concerned engaged in the Town Clerk's and Architect's Departments, the Public Libraries and Lord Mayor's Court, aged 18 years and over, whose total earnings, exclusive of war bonuses, do not exceed £300 per annum, to receive a war advance of 23s. 6d. a week, in which shall merge any previous advances as may have been granted in accordance with the Corporation scale or otherwise, from the beginning of the first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (229)

Dublin Corporation (Land Cultivation Committee) v. Employees of the Land Cultivation Department. Award—Men aged 18 years and over whose earnings do not exceed £300 per annum are to be paid a total war advance of 23s. 6d. a week in which is to merge the war advances granted in accordance with the Corporation scale or otherwise. The award to date from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (230)

Dublin Corporation (School Meals Committee) v. Employees represented by John J. Martin. Award—The two men concerned to receive a total war advance of 23s. 6d. a week, in which is to merge previous war advances, from first pay in January, 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (231)

SENIOR OFFICIALS.—Dublin Corporation (Waterworks Committee) v. Certain employees represented by the engineer in charge of the Corporation Waterworks. Decision—The claim in respect of the senior officials concerned to the bonus on earnings of 12½ per cent. not established. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (232)

CLERICAL STAFF AND OVERSEERS.—Dublin Corporation (Cleansing Committee) v. Employees in the Cleansing Department. Award—The clerical workers concerned aged 18 years and over, and earning less than £300 per annum, to receive an advance above earnings, inclusive of previous war advances, of 23s. 6d. a week, from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. The overseers concerned an advance to 28s. 6d. a week above earnings, in which previous war advances are to merge, from and including 6th Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (233)

CLERICAL, NURSING AND MEDICAL STAFFS.—Dublin Corporation (Tuberculosis Committee) v. Clerical, Medical and Nursing Staff of the Corporation Tuberculosis Committee. Award—The war advance of men concerned aged 18 years and over, and earning less than £300 per annum, to total 23s. 6d. a week, and to women concerned 20s. a week, previous war advances merging in these amounts, from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (234)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.—Dublin Corporation (Electricity Supply Committee and the Waterworks Committee) v. Staff of the Law Agents' Department of the Dublin Corporation. Award—From beginning of first pay after 1st Jan., 1919, men concerned whose salary is below £300 per annum to receive a war advance of 23s. 6d. a week, all previous war advances granted in accordance with the Corporation scale or otherwise to merge therein. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (235)

Dublin Corporation (Waterworks Committee) v. certain employees of the Corporation Waterworks Department. Award—The foremen, caretaker, rain gauge reader, valveman, waterguard and labourers concerned, employed at the Vartry reservoir, co. Wicklow, to receive a total war advance of 23s. 6d. a week, all previous advances merging therein. The hundred employees concerned in the waterworks department, comprising clerks, caretakers, supervisors, superintendents and others to be paid an advance of 5s. a week. Two men concerned, employed in the City Accountant's and Rates Departments respectively, and a messenger in the City Treasurers' Office, all of whom are earning less than £300 per annum, are to receive a total war advance of 23s. 6d. a week, all the advances to date from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (236)

COMMERCIAL MANAGER.—Dublin Corporation (Electricity Supply Committee) v. commercial manager of the undertaking. Decision—Claim to increased war advance to the manager concerned not established. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (237)

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.—Dublin Corporation (Public Health Committee) v. employees of the Corporation Public Health Department. Award—The weekly war advances of men concerned, aged 18 years and over, and whose salary is less than £300 per annum, to total 23s. 6d., and the women concerned 20s., all previous war advances to merge in these amounts from first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (238)

TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL STAFFS.—Dublin Corporation (Paving Committee) v. Staff of Paving Department. Award—From first pay after 1st Jan., 1919, the men concerned, employed on the technical and clerical staffs of the committee, aged 18 years and over, earning less than £300 per annum, to be paid war advance of 23s. 6d. a week, any previous war advances granted in accordance with the Corporation scale or otherwise to merge therein. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (239)

WORKS SUPERINTENDENT.—Dublin Corporation (Municipal Workshops Committee) v. Works Superintendent. Decision—Claim to increased war advance to the superintendent concerned not established. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (240)

INSPECTORS, SECRETARY, TYPISTS, &c.—Dublin Corporation (School Attendance Committee) v. employees of the committee. Award—From first pay in January, 1919, the men concerned, secretary and inspectors, aged 18 years and over, to receive war advance of 23s. 6d., and the women (typist and cleaner) 20s. a week, all previous war advances to merge in these amounts. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (241)

SUPERINTENDENT.—Dublin Corporation v. Superintendent of Public Lighting. Decision—Claim to increase war advance to the superintendent concerned not established. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (242)

ENGINEER, CLERICAL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.—Dublin Corporation (Improvements Committee) v. employees in the Main Drainage Department. Award—From first pay after 1st Jan., 1919, men concerned, aged 18 years and over, whose earnings are less than £300 per annum, to be paid a total war advance of 23s. 6d. a week; the engineer concerned in the claim to receive an advance of 5s. a week. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (243)

CLERICAL STAFF.—Dublin Corporation (Workshops Committee) v. Workshops Staff. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war advance of 5s. a week as from the beginning of the first pay after 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (244)

TECHNICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL STAFF.—Dublin Corporation (Housing Committee) v. employees of the Dublin Corporation Housing Committee. Award—From first pay after 1st Jan., 1919, men concerned, aged 18 years and over, whose total earnings, exclusive of war bonus, do not exceed £300 per annum, to receive a total advance of 23s. 6d. a week, any advances as may have been granted in accordance with the Corporation scale or otherwise to merge therein. The painter concerned to receive the standard rate of wages and advances for painters in the Dublin district. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (246)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Sheffield Corporation v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—From pay day in week ending 4th Jan., 1919, able-bodied men and women concerned, aged 18 years and over, who are paid by the day or week, to receive a war wage advance of 3s. 6d. a week; boys, youths and girls under 18 years of age 1s. 9d. a week. In the case of workpeople paid by the hour, advances of 3d. and 3d. respectively. Employees not able-bodied recommended to the favourable consideration of the Corporation. Issued 18th Feb., 1919. (250)

ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—Luton Corporation v. Electrical Trades Union. Award—Claim for the extension of award No. 2772 of the Committee on Production to employees of the Corporation's electricity undertaking not established. Issued 20th Feb., 1919. (259)

GASFITTERS.—Leicester Corporation (Gas Department) v. National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Award—Gasfitters concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d. a week. Issued 20th Feb., 1919. (265)

ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—Manchester Corporation (Electricity Department) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—The Award (No. 2800) of the Committee on Production, dated 9th Nov., 1918 (Engineering and Foundry Trade) to be extended to the men and boys concerned in the Electricity Department of the Corporation as from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, and to be payable in respect of the pay period for which payment was made on such pay day. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. (268)

GAS WORKERS.—National Gas Council v. National Federation of General Workers (representing the Unions affiliated thereto). Award—5s. a week advance, payable at the rate of 10d. a day or shift to men and women, and 2s. 6d. a week to boys and girls under 18 years of age, from first pay after 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. (269)

TRAMWAY WORKERS.—Maidstone Corporation Tramways v. Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Award—Men aged 21 years and over to receive total war advance of 30s. a week, paid on a basis of six days or shifts, from first pay in Feb., 1919. Women to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and girls and youths under 18 years of age 2s. 6d. a week. Issued 27th Feb. (278)

Miscellaneous Trades.

STEEL HELMET LININGS MAKERS.—Albert C. Shoppee (London) v. National Federation of Women Workers, and Workers' Union. Award—From first pay after 22nd Nov., 1918, women time-workers employed on the manufacture of linings for steel helmets, aged 18 years and over, to be paid such rates as to guarantee them a minimum of 5½d. an hour, plus 11s. a week war advance, and girls on time-work aged 15, 16, 17 and 18 years a minimum of 2½d., 3d., 3½d. and 4½d. an hour respectively, plus 5s. 6d. a week war advance; the basis of piece-work prices to be such to enable women or girls to earn at least 25 per cent. over their time-rate, plus 11s. and 5s. 6d. a week respectively. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. (190)

ELECTRICIANS.—Wm. Coates & Son, Ltd., Edmundson's Electricity Corporation, Ltd., and various Government Departments v. Electrical Trades Union. Award—Men concerned, employed at the aerodromes in Ireland situated at Gormanston, Collinstown and Baldonnel, to receive an advance of 3d. an hour as from and included in pay received in the week ending 10th Aug., 1918. Issued 13th Feb., 1919. (218)

BOTTLERS AND VANMEN.—Londonderry and North-West Bottlers' Association v. National Amalgamated Union of

Labour. Award—Men concerned, employed as vanmen and in the bottling stores, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 6s. a week, and boys 3s. a week, as from beginning of first pay in January, 1919. In the event of vanmen receiving any advance within a period of three months from the date of this Award coming into effect, as the result of any general award or agreement affecting the carting industry, such further increase to merge in the advance hereby awarded. Claim that one youth only be allowed to every three adults employed in the bottling stores not established. Issued 13th Feb., 1919. (221)

CLERICAL STAFF.—India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works, Ltd. (London) v. National Union of Clerks. Award—Men and women aged 18 years and over are to receive war advances of 5s. and 4s. a week respectively, and boys and girls half the amounts, from first pay after 1st March, 1919. No order made relating to the claim for holidays, but the employers are recommended favourably to consider the granting of three days extra holiday during the current year. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. (228)

TELEPHONE OPERATORS, PAINTERS, MOTOR-DRIVERS, &c.—Admiralty v. Government Labourers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland. Award—Claim made on behalf of civilian employees in the Royal Naval Barracks, Portsmouth, for the payment of the 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings not established. Issued 20th Feb., 1919. (263)

OIL MILLERS.—Seed Crushers Association v. National Federation of General Workers, and National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Award—From first pay in January, 1919, advances to men aged 21 years and over to bring total war advance to 33s. 6d. a week, and from 18 to 21 years of age to 28s. 6d. a week, the amount to include the percentage advances of 7½ per cent. and 12½ per cent. Issued 23rd Feb., 1919. (280)

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND COURTS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Mining and Quarrying.

QUARRYMEN.—Llysfaen and Llandulas Limestone Quarry Proprietors v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—General increase in wages of 20 per cent. Overtime rates to be time and a quarter for first two hours, time and a half thereafter; double time for Sunday, Good Friday, and Christmas Day. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—(1) Overtime rates, by agreement, to time-workers (except kiln firemen) to be as claimed (see above). (2) As from 6th Jan., 1919, war advance of 10 per cent. to workmen over 18, 2s. 6d. per week to boys under 18. (3) An additional advance (not war advance) as from 10th Feb., 1919, of 10 per cent. to men over 18 and 1s. per week to boys under 18, whenever in any week piece-workers' earnings average more than £3 (counting first 10 per cent. advance above mentioned). Issued 8th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1263.

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

LABOURERS, PLATE LAYERS, &c.—South Wales Siemens Steel Association (representing Duffryn Steel and Tin Plate Works, Morriston) v. Workers' Union. Claim—(1) Double time for Sunday work to general labourers, semi-skilled labourers, and plate layers. (2) Ratio of difference between general labourers and other labourers receiving a higher rate should be the same as prior to the last advance of 3d. per hour to general labourers. (3) That clog money be granted to slag gang. Arbitrator—Sir William Robinson. Award—(1) Double time for Sunday work to semi-skilled labourers and plate layers concerned. (2) Not established. (3) Claim withdrawn. Effective as from 3rd Nov., 1918. Issued 3rd Feb., 1919. W.A. 1111.

MILLMEN, PORT TALBOT STEEL WORKS.—South Wales Siemens Steel Association v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, No. 6 Division. Claim—That the reduction amounting to 12½ per cent. of their rates conceded in 1913 by the men employed in the heavy bar mill of the Port Talbot Steel Co. to their employers (owing to structural improvements tending to increased output) should be discontinued. Arbitrator—Mr. W. J. Dunnachie. Award—Claim not established. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1171.

WOMEN WORKERS IN FITTING SHOPS, &c.—South Wales Siemens Steel Association v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, No. 6 Division. Claim—To decide which grades of the graduated war bonuses paid by members of above Association shall be applicable to the women employed in the test room, fitting shop, and those on breakers and the cold saw, at the Albion Steel Works of the Briton Ferry Steel Co., Ltd. Arbitrator—Mr. W. J. Dunnachie. Award—War bonuses of women in question to follow the scale of the Local Joint Board and not the Statutory Orders advances issued by the Ministry of Munitions. Percentage bonuses payable to the four grades of women shall be founded upon the following base rates per shift: First grade, 3s.; second grade, 3s. 1d.; third grade, 3s. 3½d.; fourth grade, 3s. 6d. in accord with practice in force in calculating the amounts due to male employees. Issued 6th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1191.

BRICKLAYERS.—Wigan Coal and Iron Co. v. Operative Bricklayers' Society. Claim—(1) Payment of district building trade rate of 1s. 8d. per hour as from 1st March, 1919. (2) 46½ hour week as in the building trade. (3) Overtime rate at time and a half; double time from Saturday noon to Monday morning.

ARBITRATOR—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Rates advanced by agreement to 1s. 8d. per hour. Hours to be 46½ per week throughout the year. Ordinary overtime to be time and a half. Saturday noon to Monday morning double time. Walking time of 20 minutes to continue. But these findings as to overtime and walking time are without prejudice to the right of the company to reopen the matter if they become the direct employers of the men (who are now employed by a Wigan firm of builders and contractors). Effective as from 1st March, 1919. Issued 17th Feb., 1919. W.A. (M) 1503.

RAIL STRAIGHTENERS, DRILLERS AND ENDERS.—Dorman & Long, Ltd. (Middlesbrough) v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Claim—Advance of 25 per cent. on present base rates of rail straighteners, enders and drillers employed on the rail bank of Port Clarence Works. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Revision of base rates and rail bank recommended, pending this, straighteners and drillers to receive 5 per cent. increase on their net tonnage wages and the assistant straighteners 7½ per cent. increase. Any increase to the enders is left to the firm's discretion. Increases are payable as from date of original application. Issued 20th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1729.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.

SMITHS AND STRIKERS.—Bolckow Vaughan & Co., Ltd. (Middlesbrough) v. Amalgamated Society of Smiths and Strikers. Claim—Application by three strikers employed at the firm's smith's shop, and working with smiths on piece-work rate, for 12½ per cent. bonus instead of the 7½ per cent. at present paid, to be made retrospective to Oct., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—(1) Men concerned being employed by smiths who are contractors and not by the firm, do not come under provisions of Clause 3 of Order 1301 of 1917. (2) Men to receive (as pure time-workers) bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings in lieu of bonus of 7½ per cent. at present being paid, as from beginning of first full pay in Sept., 1918. Payment of retrospective amounts shall be made as soon as reasonably convenient. Issued 7th Feb., 1919. W.A. 877.

BRAZERS AND SHEET METAL WORKERS.—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd. v. General Union of Braziers and Sheet Metal Workers. Claim—For the payment of the Liverpool rate of 71s. per week for 47 hours, equivalent to an advance of 4s. 6d. per week, to the members of the Union employed at the firm's works at Prescott. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—Rate increased by 1s. per week to 67s. 6d. per week (Warrington rate). A lump sum of 10s. to each man in lieu of retrospective payment. Effective as from 5th Feb., 1919. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1482.

ELECTRICIANS.—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd. v. Electrical Trades Union. Claim—That certain members of the Union employed at Helsby should be paid the rates and employed upon the conditions prevailing in the Widnes and Runcorn districts. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—1s. 7d. per hour (inclusive of all bonuses), to a certain electrician or wireman. No further alteration in prevailing rates and conditions. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1482/2.

BRASSMOULDERS.—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd. v. National Brass Workers and Metal Mechanics. Claim—That the wages of the brassmoulders in the employment of the firm at Prescott should be assimilated to those of the ironmoulders. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—Rates of plate or machine brassmoulders employed by the firm at Prescott shall be advanced by 2s. per week as from 5th Feb., 1919. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1482/3.

ENGINEERS, ELECTRICIANS, BRASSWORKERS, SMITHS, &c.—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd. v. Their employees (other than members of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners) and of the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. Claim—Reduction of the working week from 53 to 47 hours, and for revised overtime conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—47-hour week. Day shift and night shift hours set out in detail. Night work at time and a quarter. Overtime at time and a quarter for the first four hours, time and a half thereafter. Double time for Sundays and holidays. Before overtime is paid 47 hours in the week must be worked, except in case of sickness. Effective as from the commencement of the next complete working week after 8th Feb., 1919. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1426.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—City (of Bristol), Avonmouth, Royal Edward and Portishead Docks Committee v. United Trade Committee of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—That the Bristol, Avonmouth and Portishead Shipping rules should apply to carpenters and joiners in the employ of the Bristol Docks Committee. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claim not established, but wages of employees concerned shall be advanced to shipwrights' rates. Effective as from the commencement of the first full pay in Feb., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1442.

SHEARERS (OF COPPER SIDES)—Williams, Foster & Co. and Pascoe, Grenfell & Co., Ltd. (Landore, Glamorgan) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Claim—For payment to eight shearers at the Morfa Copper Works of 3d. per 100 for shearing copper sides. Arbitrator—Mr. W. J. Dunnachie. Award—Claim not established, but when tonnage of hand-sheared material per month exceeds 1 per cent. of the total sheared tonnage, the excess shall be paid

for at the rate of 16s. per ton; each month to be a distinct unit. Issued 15th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1495.

Clothing Trades.

MILITARY TAILORS.—J. G. Plumb & Co. (Woolwich and London) v. Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses. Claim—That the rate of wages for the contract uniforms for cadets at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, should be paid for at the same rate per hour as for officers' individual garments. Arbitrator—Mr. H. Courthope Munroe, K.C. Award—(1) Claim established. (2) For such clothing firm shall pay rates calculated at Woolwich district rate (9½d. per hour) on the respective time specified in Military Log 1914. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1188.

Transport Trades.

DOCKERS.—Clyde Shipping Co. (Waterford) v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Claim—(1) Working hours to be 55 per week, wages £2 14s. 4d. (2) Time worked before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. to be paid time and a half. (3) For time worked after 6 p.m. on Saturday nights or before 6 a.m. on Monday morning double time to be paid. (4) To men handling cement, slag, or whiting in ship or stowing it on quays, 1s. for 20 tons or under, 2s. for lots not exceeding 100 tons, 2s. for each additional 100 tons or part thereof. (5) Altered conditions re mealtimes, &c. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) Claim that men working Clyde boats on a 50-hour week basis be paid same weekly wages as men working Liverpool boats on a 55-hour week basis not established. (2) Overtime at rate of time and a quarter after 55 hours per week are worked; men engaged throughout a week day until midnight to be paid time and half, after 12 midnight, irrespective of above condition. (3) Double time rates for men working a boat between Saturday midnight and Sunday midnight. (4) Additional rates to men handling cement, slag and whiting and bales of bacon over 3 cwt. each. Rulings re mealtimes in detail. Effective as from first pay day or opportunity after 3rd Feb., 1919. Issued 3rd Feb., 1919. W.A. 1152.

DOCKERS.—Cork Employers' Federation (Coal Section), City of Cork Steam Packet Co., Clyde Shipping Co., John Wallis & Sons (all of Cork), Irish Timber Merchants' Federation (Dublin), R. H. Hall (South Mall), E. Macdonald & Co. (South Mall), Green & Co. (all of Cork) v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Claim—Altered working conditions, rates for overtime, &c. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Ruling in great detail re hours, overtime and conditions of work. Additional rates to men loading, discharging or carting cement, soot, slag and barytes. Effective as from first pay day or convenient opportunity after 3rd Feb., 1919. Issued 3rd Feb., 1919. W.A. 1138.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES, ENGINEERS.—London and South Western Railway Co. Running Sheds at Nine Elms (Eastleigh and Exmouth Junction) v. Their Employees. Claim—Certain advances in rates and alterations in working conditions. Court of Arbitration—Mr. A. B. Pilling (Chairman), Mr. William Bishop (Employers' Representative), Mr. John Thomson (Labour Representative). Award—(1) Minimum rates at each of these sheds in respect of turners, fitters, brass finishers, &c., shall be 4s. a week above the rate for the same grade from time to time paid in the loco. shops at Eastleigh. (2) Conditions of Schedule C to award of 13th March, 1918, shall apply to the running sheds at Eastleigh and Exmouth Junction with certain variations—viz., 47-hour week; 3 shifts (a day shift and 2 night shifts). Overtime, time and a quarter for time worked before ordinary hour of starting. (3) (By agreement). Men are not required to enter the fire box of engines under steam pressure. (4) Other claims not established. Effective as from commencement of first full pay week after 21st Nov., 1918. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1157.

SIGNALMEN.—Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co. Conciliation Board (No. 2). Claim by two signalmen: by one, that for week ended 4th July, 1918, he has not been paid in accordance with the regulations; by the other, for overtime payment for duty performed during certain weeks. Independent Chairman of the Board—His Honour Judge Mellor. Award—That the Signalmen have been paid in accordance with the regulations and are not entitled to overtime payment. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. W.A. 480/2.

VEHICLE WORKERS.—Joseph Tomlinson & Sons, Ltd., Reuben Thompson, Ltd., and John Heath & Sons (cab and funeral carriage proprietors, Sheffield) v. Amalgamated Society of Tramway and Vehicle Workers (Sheffield Branch). Claim—Increase of wages. Conference presided over by an officer of the Ministry of Labour. Agreement—(1) That Heath & Sons shall pay the same allowances as were paid by Tomlinson & Sons and Thompson, Ltd., during the period from 26th Oct., 1918, till the date when the latter two firms discontinued the allowances, provided that in cases where Heath & Sons had made extra payments those payments shall merge into the aforesaid allowances, and the allowances shall be paid pro rata for the work performed during that period. (2) That in the event of a man being called upon to work on his Sunday off on other than his ordinary duties he shall be paid an extra day's wages for that work. Signed 7th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1261-9963.

DOCK LABOURERS AND OTHERS.—Galway Employers' Federation v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Claim: Permanent men—(a) Whether the advance of 12s. 6d. per week paid as from 21st Jan., 1919, should be

retrospective, and if so as from what date and for what period. (b) Whether an increase of 3d. per hour or any less amount should be allowed in respect of the overtime rate. (c) Whether an increase of 3d. per hour or any less amount should be allowed in respect of each meal hour worked. Permanent men and dock section.—(d) Whether the ordinary hour of stopping work on Saturdays should be 2 o'clock. Arbitrator—Mr. J. Andrews, K.C. Award—Permanent men's advance of 12s. 6d. per week shall be retrospective from 23rd Nov., 1918, to 14th Dec., 1918. They shall receive 1½d. per hour increase in overtime rate. Double rates on Sunday. 3d. per hour for each meal hour worked. Permanent men and dock section shall usually work till 2 o'clock on Saturdays, but shall continue to a later hour at overtime rates if required. Casuals working between dock and stores shall be paid 9s. per day; other casuals 8s. per day. By agreement, other conditions to continue as at present. Operative as from 8th Feb., 1919; to be binding for six months. One month's notice to be given thereafter. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1739.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

SAWMILL EMPLOYEES.—Management of No. 7 National Sawmilling Factory (Hamworthy) v. Workers' Union. Claim—That the rate of pay for male employees be increased to minimum rate of 1s. per hour, checkers 1s. 3d. per hour, boys under 18 doing men's work to get men's rate of pay, those under 21 and therefore not participating in 12½ per cent. to be allowed 5s. per week war bonus. Bridge tolls to be paid for. That the storekeeper be paid 1d. per hour more than labourers. Arbitrator—Mr. E. Page, K.C. Award—(1) Labourer's rate increased to 11d. per hour, as from first pay day after 7th Sept., 1918, or from date of engagement if engaged thereafter; no increase to labourers not now employed. (2) Checker's rate increased to 1s. 1d. per hour, and storekeeper's to 1s. per hour. (3) Boys under 18 doing men's work to receive men's rates, as from 7th Feb., 1919. (4) Free passage over bridge. (5) Claim on behalf of those under 21 to war bonus not established. Issued 7th Feb., 1919. W.A. 970/2.

FURNITURE MAKERS.—High Wycombe and District Furniture Manufacturers' Federation v. National Amalgamated Furnishing Trade Association. Claim—Alteration in working rules in order to secure certain advances, to date from 10th Aug., 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Parties should meet early and discuss proposed alterations in working rules. Some advisable amendments indicated. As from 30th Sept., 1918, war advances as follows on rates scheduled to agreement of 23rd Feb., 1914: To male time-workers over 18, 23s. 6d. per week of 53 hours worked (with 12½ per cent. on earnings in the case of men over 21); to male time-workers under 18, 11s. per week; similar advances to piece-workers (with 7½ per cent. on earnings in the case of men over 21). To female workers over 18, 11s. per week; under 18, 5s. 6d. per week. Also advances (not war advances) of 1½d. per hour to female time-workers (except upholsteresses and machinists and their learners), and 40 per cent. to female piece-workers; 1½d. per hour to upholsteresses and machinists, and 2s. per week to their learners. Special arrangements in the case of workers over 70 and indentured apprentices. Issued 7th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1218.

CARPENTERS, JOINERS AND WOODCUTTING MACHINISTS.—W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society and General Union of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—Application by the Union for the adoption of a code of rules. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—Working rules and conditions as between the firm and their carpenters, joiners, and woodcutting machinists, members of the Society. Rule 1. Working Hours: (a) From April to September, 6.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on the first five days of the week; 6.30 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays, less meal times (half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner). (b) From October to March, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the first five days of the week; 7 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays, less meal times. (c) These hours may be varied by mutual arrangement. Rule 2. Rates of Wages: 1s. 2½d. per hour with merger of existing 12½ per cent. bonus. Rule 3. Overtime: Monday to Friday, time and a quarter for first two hours, time and a half thereafter; Saturday, time and a half until midnight. Each day to stand by itself, but no overtime until a full day's ordinary time has been made, unless loss of time was unavoidable. Rule 4. Holidays: Double time rate for work on Sundays, Christmas Day and Good Friday; time and a half rate for Bank or other recognised holidays. Rules 5 and 6. Walking time and out-working allowances. Rules 7, 8, and 9 deal with payment of wages (within 15 minutes of stopping time), termination of engagement (2 hours' notice), mess-room and conveniences. Rule 10 provides for settling disputes by conciliation. Rule 11 prescribes that three months' notice, expiring on 30th April in any year, be given (in writing), of any proposed alteration to these rules. Effective as from 3rd April, 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1449.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

CEMENT WORKERS.—Aberthaw and Bristol Channel Portland Cement Co., Ltd. v. Navvies, Builders' Labourers and General Labourers' Union and National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen. Claim—Advance in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—A further war advance of 1s. per day or shift to men in receipt of the existing war bonus of 3s. 4d. per day or shift, including piece-workers, and to women over 21; 6d. per day or shift to other men

and to women under 21. In the event of any general settlement as to wages or war advances in the cement trade, any of the parties to this award may apply for its termination or modification. Effective as from the first pay day following the 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 14th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1454.

Food, Drink, and Tobacco Trades.

BUTCHERS.—Taunton and District Master Butchers' Association v. Journeymen Butchers' Federation of Great Britain. Claim—For reduction of working hours and for fixing of minimum rates of wages and rates for overtime. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—Specified hours of work for each day of the week, one hour to be allowed for dinner, half an hour for tea on Friday and Saturday. Overtime: Time and a quarter for first two hours, time and a half thereafter; on Bank Holidays time and a half. Minimum rates of pay in detail for different classes of men, youths and women. Definition of trade test of skill. Effective as from 3rd Feb., 1919. Issued 3rd Feb., 1919. W.A. 1384.

BUTCHERS.—S. J. Wright & Co., Ltd. (Taunton) v. Journeymen Butchers' Federation of Great Britain. Claim—For reduction of working hours and for fixing of minimum rates of wages and for overtime in connection with the slaughtering of pigs in the firm's factory. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—Working week to consist of 48 hours, overtime time a half (except for office staff and engine men). Ordinary wages for Bank Holidays, time and a half additional for work on these days. Rates fixed for various classes and individual employees, including women. Effective as from 19th Dec., 1918. Issued 3rd Feb., 1919. W.A. 1384/2.

FLOUR MILL OPERATIVES.—Irish Flour Millers' Association v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Claim—(1) In view of advance made (in award W.A. 338, of 8th Jan., 1919) to men employed at the mills of firms in above association, and belonging to above Union, a corresponding increase should be made to women and boys employed at the mills and belonging to above Union, their case not having been dealt with in aforesaid award. (2) (Referred at conference.) Whether sustenance and other allowances paid to men working at night should be dropped. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) As from 1st Jan., 1919 advances of 5s. per week to youths between 18 and 21, and to women over 18; 3s. 9d. per week to boys under 18; 2s. 6d. per week to girls under 18. (2) Sustenance and other allowances to men working at night are over and above any general advances made to employees (men, boys and women), and cannot be merged in or dropped in consequence of such advances. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. W.A. 338/5.

STORE HANDS.—The Dublin Granaries Co., Ltd. (Dublin), Merchants' Warehousing Co., Ltd. (Dublin) v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for such an advance on present wages as will produce a rate of 9s. per day for men engaged as store hands, permanent and casual. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Advances of 1s. 2d. per day to men (store hands, permanent or casual, and weighmen), 5s. per week to youths between 18 and 21; 2s. 6d. per week to boys under 18. Effective as from first pay day following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 4th Feb., 1919. W.A. 328/2.

CARTERS.—Bolands (Flour Millers), Johnston, Mooney & O'Brien (Flour Millers), and the Dock Milling Co. (all of Dublin) v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application by carters for increases on their present tonnage or load rates. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Increases of 2d. per ton to carters employed by Bolands, 6d. per load to those employed by Johnston, Mooney & O'Brien, 2d. per ton to those employed by the Dock Milling Co. Delays at railways to be dealt with equitably by the firms. Men engaged in discharging and storing into lofts to be paid current carriers' rates for such work. Effective as from 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 5th Feb., 1919. W.A. 338/6.

CIGAR MAKERS.—Hudden & Co. (Tobacco Manufacturers, Bristol) v. National Cigar Makers' Union. Claim—That all workers in the factory of the above firm should be compelled to join the National Cigar Makers' Union. Conference presided over by an officer of the Ministry of Labour. Agreement—An undertaking having been given that the question of team work would not be raised unless similar action was taken against every firm in Bristol, and that individual workers in the firm would not in any way interfere with the workers who remained in employment during the strike, the firm agree to recommend all the team workers to join that Union, and to post a notice in the works to that effect. Dated 5th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1262. W.A. 9359.

Public Utility Services.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL STAFF PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY.—Leyton Urban District Council v. National Association of Local Government Officers. Claim—That when the war bonus at present payable to the applicants does not amount to or exceed that payable in terms of the recent Awards of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees, such members of the staff of the Council shall, as from 1st Nov., 1918, receive war bonuses in accordance with the scale fixed for permanent civil servants by the Board. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Claim granted, subject to certain conditions re merger and date of appointment. Issued 6th Feb., 1919. W.A. 207/2.

POOR LAW OFFICERS.—Brighton Board of Guardians v. Their Staff. Claim—War bonuses in accordance with the scale payable to civil servants. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Board shall pay advances in accordance with the terms of the scales of war bonus fixed by the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees in Awards of 9th July, 1918, and 8th Nov., 1918. Temporary members of the staff engaged for the period of the war to receive the whole bonus if appointed prior to 31st Dec., 1916, seven-eighths if appointed during 1917, six-eighths if appointed during 1918, provided in the last two cases their salary has been partially adjusted by the Board to war conditions. A day's rations counts as one-fourteenth of a week's bonus. Residence does not affect bonus due. Part-time officers, if giving not less than half their time to the service of the Board, to receive a due proportion of the bonus; if giving less, to receive only what the Board may choose to give them. Amounts of bonus due shall be payable as from the respective dates on which the scales applied for come into operation, and shall be for the period of the war, as defined by the Local Government Board. Issued 6th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1279.

POOR LAW OFFICERS.—Ashton-under-Lyne Board of Guardians v. Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—Extension of Award of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees dated 9th July, 1918, to the Poor Law officers at the Ashton Institution. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—That the Board shall pay advances in accordance with the terms of the scale of war bonuses fixed by the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Civil Servants in their Award of 9th July, 1918. [Details are similar to those of Award W.A. 1279 (above) (Brighton Board of Guardians v. Their Staff). In this case all the officers concerned are whole-time officers whose remuneration does not exceed 60s. per week; the value of each whole day's rations is taken as 1s. 5d.] Issued 6th Feb., 1919. W.A. (M) 3/2.

POOR LAW OFFICERS: CLERK AND MEDICAL OFFICER.—Islington Board of Guardians v. Their Clerk and whole-time Medical Officer. Claim—That the Board grant to them the amounts of war bonus assigned by the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees (of date 2nd Aug., 1918) to officers with salary between £500 and £1,000 per annum. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—War bonus to each officer of £40 for period 1st Jan., 1918, to 30th June, 1918, and of £32 10s. for period 1st July, 1918, to 31st Dec., 1918. Payable as from the first convenient date following date of Award. Issued 10th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1311.

POOR LAW OFFICERS (STAFF).—Islington Board of Guardians v. National Poor Law Officers' Association, and Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—War bonuses in accordance with Award of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees, dated 9th July, 1918, to be paid as from 1st July, 1918, to officers on the staff, whether permanent or temporary, male or female, resident or non-resident. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Claim granted subject to certain conditions as to merger, &c., and save as to date of operation. Rulings as to this, and all other details, are as set out in Award W.A. 1279 (above) (Brighton Board of Guardians v. Their Staff). Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1311/2.

POOR LAW OFFICERS.—Medway Board of Guardians v. Their Staff. Claim—That war bonuses in accordance with the scale payable to civil servants be paid to the resident and non-resident officers of the staff. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Subject to certain conditions as to merger, &c., Board shall pay to their staff whose remuneration does not exceed £500 per annum advances in accordance with the terms of the scale of war bonuses fixed by the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees in their Award of 9th July, 1918; and to their staff whose remuneration exceeds £500, but does not exceed £1,000 per annum, advances in accordance with the Award of 2nd Aug., 1918. [Details are similar to those of Award W.A. 1279 (above) (Brighton Board of Guardians v. Their Staff).] Medical officer with salary between £500 and £1,000 per annum to receive a bonus of £72 10s. for 1918. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1362.

GAS-PRODUCER MEN.—The South Staffordshire Mond Gas (Power and Heating) Co. v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—(1) That the hours of shiftmen employed at the company's works at Dudley Port, Tipton, be reduced from seven shifts of twelve hours each per week to seven shifts of eight hours each per week, without any reduction in wages; (2) that all time over 56 hours per week should be paid for at the rate of time and a half, (3) with the preservation of the present time-and-a-half rate for week-end work, although forming part of the 56-hour week now claimed. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claim granted, subject to the producer men drawing out and wheeling all ashes, and upon the terms of the men foregoing four hours or half a new shift's pay per week. Effective as regards adjustments in pay as from 1st Feb., 1919; to start as in practical operation on 17th Feb., 1919. Issued 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 903/2.

DUST-DESTRUCTOR MEN.—Brighton Corporation v. Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—Increase of 8s. per week on the war bonus now paid to men employed at the dust-destructor works, so as to produce a total war bonus of 20s. per week. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Claim not established, as the total general advances since 4th Aug., 1914, now amount to not less than 20s. per week. Issued 12th Feb., 1919. W.A. 7/2.

SCAVENGERS AND ROAD SWEEPERS.—Corporation of Carlisle v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Increase of war advance to scavengers and road sweepers sufficient to bring the amount of advances to the employees concerned to a level with the advances granted to other Corporation employees. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—War advance of 5s. per week in full settlement of claims up to date of Award. Effective as from commencement of first full pay following 18th Sept., 1918. Issued 19th Feb., 1919. W.A. (M) 506.

MEDICAL OFFICER AND SURVEYOR AND INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.—Ringwood Urban District Council v. Their Medical Officer and their Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances. Claim—War bonuses. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—War bonuses of 10 per cent. on present salary to part-time Medical Officer, and 20 per cent., plus £16, to Surveyor Inspector. Effective as from 1st Nov., 1918. Issued 19th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1513.

WORKHOUSE STAFF.—Wandsworth Board of Guardians v. Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—(1) Application of Awards Nos. 65 and 66 of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees to the non-resident staff (permanent and temporary, male and female); (2) that the resident staff should receive as from 1st Nov., 1918, 50 per cent. of the scale fixed in aforesaid Awards in lieu of the present bonus of £18 per annum. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(By agreement) claim conceded. Effective as from 1st Nov., 1918. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1342/2.

DOCK LABOURERS, STREET CLEANERS, &c.—Galway Urban District Council v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Claim—(1) Whether the advance of 12s. 6d. per week paid as from 21st Jan., 1919, should be retrospective, and, if so, from what date and for what period; (2) whether the ordinary hour of stopping work on Saturdays should be two o'clock. Arbitrator—Mr. James Andrews, K.C. Award—The advance of 12s. 6d. per week shall be retrospective from 23rd Nov., 1918, to 14th Dec., 1918. Ordinary hour for stopping work on Saturday (market day) shall be four o'clock, the men agreeing to work at overtime rate thereafter in order to leave the streets clean. In return they may stop work some other day two hours early. By agreement, other conditions to continue as at present. Operative as from 8th Feb., 1919; to be binding for six months; one month's notice to be given thereafter. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. W.A. (M) 186/2.

ELECTRICAL POWER ENGINEERS.—In the matter of an application by the Electrical Power Engineers' Association to Municipal and other Electric Undertakings in Great Britain. Claim—Application made on behalf of technical engineers on the staffs of electricity undertakings for the payment, as from 31st March, 1918, to technical engineers on the staff of the undertakings, from and including the grade of junior charge engineers to and including the deputy chief officials (that is to say, excluding all the grades for which basic rates were settled by the Award 2772, Electricity Undertakings (General), London District), of the salary paid at 31st July, 1914, plus merit and grade increases between that date and 31st March, 1918, plus 20 per cent., plus an additional sum at the rate of £90 per annum. War advances and war bonuses to be merged in the above. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claim established as regards the staffs of various municipalities and undertakings set out in the schedule. The allowance of £90 per annum is a war advance. Merger therein and in the 20 per cent. increase, of other war advances. The 20 per cent. is to apply to grade, merit or scale incremental advances accruing subsequently to (as well as to those prior to) 31st March, 1918. Method of determining what part of a composite advance represents war allowances outlined. Issued 27th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1838.

Miscellaneous Trades.

LABOURERS IN MUNITION STORES.—Ministry of Munitions (in respect of Munition Stores, Wetmoor, Burton-on-Trent) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for the terms and conditions of the Committee on Production award No. 1920 from 10th Aug., 1918, and of award No. 2800 from 7th Dec., 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. Clegg Mellor. Award, by agreement, follows the agreement made by the Burton brewers with their labourers, viz., advance of 6s. per week to men, 2s. to 4s. per week to youths between 13 and 21, according to age, 12½ per cent. on earnings to piece-workers. Overtime, time and a quarter for first two hours, time and a half afterwards and on Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Holidays, twelve working days in the year (including four Bank Holidays, Good Friday and Christmas Day) to be paid for. 48-hour week. Overtime rates shall not apply till full 48 hours have been worked. Other working conditions unaltered. Effective as from the pay day in the week beginning 3rd Feb., 1919. Issued 12th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1410.

LAUNDRY WORKERS (FEMALE).—Employers' Association of the Port of Liverpool v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Claim—For advance under Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918, No. 1073, of 5s. per week to women over 18 and 2s. 6d. per week to girls under 18 employed in the laundries of the White Star Co. and the Cunard Co. Arbitrator—Sir William Robinson. Award—Additional war advance of 3s. 6d. per week to women over 18 and 1s. 9d. per week to girls under 18. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 15th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1509.

TANNERS.—John Williamson & Son, Ltd. (The Tannery, Maryport) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—

(a) That Committee on Production Award No. 2077 (Tanning Industry) should be put into operation at the works of the firm. (b) Re merger. Arbitrator—Sir Richard Lodge. Award—Committee on Production Award No. 2077 shall apply to this firm as from 26th Dec., 1918. No merger for advances since 1st Feb., 1918. Issued 17th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1518.

CO-OPERATIVE AND COMMERCIAL EMPLOYEES.—Falkirk and District Co-operative Hours and Wages Board v. Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial and Allied Workers. Claim—To have a uniform scale of minimum rates of wages fixed for different classes of male and female employees. Arbitrator—Mr. J. Macdonald. Award—War advances of 5s. per week to male and female employees over 18, and 2s. 6d. per week to those under 18. Effective as from the first payment of wages in Jan., 1919. Issued 18th Feb., 1919. W.A. (M) 850/2.

CO-OPERATIVE WORKERS.—Cleator Moor Co-operative Society, Ltd. v. Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and Allied Workers. Claim—All voluntary increases, merit advances, and promotion emoluments compulsorily made during the stress of war conditions shall be altogether disregarded in connection with the increase of the war bonus of 25s. per week to adult male and 15s. per week to adult female employees. Arbitrator—Mr. J. Macdonald. Award by agreement—(1) (a) Individual merit advances and promotion emoluments granted to employees concerned between 4th Aug., 1914, and 4th Aug., 1915, and (b) all general voluntary advances granted since 4th Aug., 1914, to the present date, as distinct from merit advances, &c., shall merge in the war bonus of 25s. or 15s. (2) This war bonus shall be additional to merit advances, &c., granted since 4th Aug., 1915. Issued 22nd Feb., 1919. W.A. (M) 746/2.

TENT MAKERS (WOMEN).—J. H. Brown & Co. (Limehouse) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Bonus of 11s. per week to women employed on tent making. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—War bonus of 11s. per week to women over 18 and 5s. 6d. per week to girls under 18. Merger of existing percentage bonus. No retrospective payment to former employees who have left the firm. Effective as from the first pay day following 11th Nov., 1918. Issued 24th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1700.

STAFF OF THEATRES.—Management of Theatres and Music Halls of Dublin v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Claim—Interpretation and amplification of former award of 18th Dec., 1918. Arbitrator—Sir Plunket Barton. Award—"Daymen" and "per performance" explained; 4s. per week advance to employees over 18, 2s. per week to those under 18 forming the winter garden staff at the Theatre Royal. Additional payment for Sunday work to cleaners, viz., 2s. grade I., 1s. grade II. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. W.A. 212/2.

AGREEMENTS APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

Building and Allied Trades.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES.—North-Western Federation of Building Trade Employers and the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives (including fifteen Trade Unions). Agreement—(1) That the whole scheme be called "The North-Western Area Joint Council for the Building Trades." (2) That the whole area be divided into ten district areas, and that there be four grades of wages, A, B, C and D, as follows: Grade A craftsmen, 1s. 8d.; labourers, 1s. 4½d. and 1s. 4d. Grade B craftsmen, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s. 3½d. and 1s. 3d. Grade C craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 2½d. and 1s. 2d. Grade D craftsmen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d. and 1s. 1d. These rates shall be the standard rates and merge all bonuses, and shall not be altered except through the machinery as set up under the scheme. All advances up to and including 3d. to operate from 1st March, 1919, this being the date when the summer working hours commence, and the balance of those over 3d. on 1st May, 1919. The grading of various towns in the ten district areas follows. The objects of the Council shall be the establishment and control of uniform real wages, uniform hours of labour and working conditions in the building trades throughout the area covered by the North-Western Federation. In each of the district areas a Joint District Area Council shall be set up, and there shall be a Centre Joint Area Council. The constitution and duties of these Councils are then outlined. Present working rules are adopted. The agreement is terminable by either party on six months' notice expiring on 1st May of any year. There shall be an annual review of wages in January of each year. Provision is made for regrading of towns. Signed, 19th Feb., 1919.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES.—London Master Builders and Aircraft Industries' Association. Decision of the London Conciliation Board in the matter of rates in the London district. Rates are set out in detail, and include all percentages and allowances awarded or agreed to by any Government arbitrator, Government department or official tribunal to and on behalf of building trade operatives engaged on Government work and extended by the consent and agreement of the Association to work of all kinds. Operative as from 15th Feb., 1919. Rates payable on 22nd Feb., 1919.

PAINTERS, TESSIDE.—Agreement arrived at at joint conference on Feb. 5th between the local organisations of master

and operative painters for rate of 1s. 7d. per hour on the one-break system as from 1st Feb., 1919.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.

SPELTER WORKERS.—The Spelter Manufacturers' Association, and the Dockers' Union, Workers' Union, and National Union of General Workers. Agreement—That in the case of all workmen not employed as piece-workers or taskmen the working week shall consist of 47 hours in lieu of 54 hours as heretofore, without any corresponding reduction in wages. Signed, 21st Jan., 1919. W.A.(M.) 807.

SPELTER WORKERS.—The Spelter Manufacturers' Association and Workers' Union. Agreement—Advances of 5s. per week to men over 18, 2s. 6d. per week to boys under 18, as from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918. Agreed, 11th Feb., 1919. W.A.(M.) 807.

SPELTER WORKERS.—The Spelter Manufacturers' Association, and Workers' Union and National Union of General Workers. Agreement—That in the case of all workmen employed as process men the work shall consist of an average shift of not more than eight hours per day, with nine men to each furnace, the arrangement of the respective duties of the men in each works to be left to the management, Union official and the Works Committee. Signed, 22nd Feb., 1919. W.A.(M.) 807.

SPELTER WORKERS.—The English Crown Spelter Co., Ltd. (Swansea) and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Agreement for the introduction of a system of 8-hour shifts for furnacemen. Signed, 11th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1412.

ENGINEERS IN SPELTER WORKS.—Spelter Manufacturers' Association and Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Agreement—That members of the Society in the employment of the members of the Association should be paid the wages and have the same conditions of employment as are now ruling in the Welsh Engineers and Founders' Association. Signed, 24th Feb., 1919. W.A.(M.) 985.

WROUGHT IRON PIPE FITTERS.—Sheffield District Engineering Employers' Association and National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Agreement—The minimum base rate for wrought iron pipe fitters in the employ of the engineering firms of the Sheffield district, as distinct from those in the employ of master heating and domestic engineers, shall be 38s. per week of 53 hours, without prejudice to any existing agreement or awards as between the members of the Union and the Master Heating and Domestic Engineers. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay week in October, 1918. Agreed, 13th Dec., 1918. W.A. 1196.

BRASS MACHINEMEN.—Scottish Brassfounders and Finishers Employers' Association and the Workers' Union. Agreement—Advance of ¼d. per hour to brass machinemen in the employ of Shanks & Co., Ltd., Barrhead, so as to bring them into line with the majority rate at present paid in the district to brass machinemen in brass shops. Agreed, 24th Feb., 1919. C.E. 4950/4.

Textile Trades.

WEAVERS.—Jonathan Harris & Sons, Ltd., and National Federation of Women Workers, on behalf of the weavers at Derwent Mills, Cockermouth. Agreement—Weavers' piece-work rates with bonus and hours allowed set out in detail. A bonus of 2d. per hour will be paid on all time saved from this scale. 9s. per week war bonus in addition. Five per cent. will be paid quarterly on all wages earned during the previous quarter. The system of tying in warps formerly in existence will be discontinued. No girls of 17 years and upwards will be employed on one loom only, with the exception of the 72-inch looms or over, except in the case of a learner within nine months of starting. Other working conditions are set out. Signed, 13th Feb., 1919. W.A. 805.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

UPHOLSTERERS AND UPHOLSTERESSES.—Upholstery Trades Federation and Cabinet Trades Federation v. Amalgamated Union of Upholsterers. Award by National Conciliation Board (Interim Committee) appointed by the Joint Industrial Council of the Furniture Trade. (1) For upholsterers an increase of 1½d. per hour and 8½ per cent. increase on task- and piece-work rates respectively (these advances also to apply to Government upholstery contract work), making the standard rate 1s. 8½d. (2) For upholsteresses the standard rate to be 10d. per hour; the distinction between hand workers and machinists to cease. For women piece-workers an advance of 12½ per cent. Qualifying period for the full rate of pay to be four years of service in the trade. (3) Proportionate increase for junior labour and improvers. (4) Outdoor and country expenses: Increase by 25 per cent. Effective on pay day for week ending 1st Feb., 1919. Signed, 29th Jan., 1919. W.A. 1026.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 to 1918.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Decision 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 questions whether contributions are payable:—

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

2449. Warehousemen and packers employed by manufacturers of solid and fancy leather goods and engaged wholly

or mainly in fitting up dressing-cases and similar goods with articles not manufactured on the premises or in packing such goods after fitting.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: COURTS OF REFEREES.

Constitution of Panels to represent Employers and Workmen.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Courts of Referees) Regulations, 1919, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

2. Regulation 20 of the Unemployment Insurance Regulations, 1912, the Unemployment Insurance (Courts of Referees) Emergency Regulations, 1915, and Regulation 2 of the Unemployment Insurance (Supplementary No. 2) Regulations, 1916, are hereby repealed.

3. Subject and without prejudice to the provisions of Regulation 3 (v) hereof, the panels of persons to represent employers and workmen respectively required to be constituted under sub-section (2) of Section 90 of the National Insurance Act, 1911, shall be constituted as follows:—

(i) The number of the members of the panel shall be such as the Minister of Labour thinks fit.

(ii) The members of the panels to represent the employers and workmen respectively in a district shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour, but the Minister, before making the appointment, shall take into consideration the names of any persons suggested for appointment by the Advisory Committees, if any, constituted for that district under sub-section (5) of Section 2 of the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909.

Provided that if in any district an Advisory Committee, as aforesaid, is not in existence, the Minister, before making the appointments, shall take into consideration the names of any persons suggested for appointment by or on behalf of any employers or workmen or any associations of employers or workmen who appear to him to be interested.

(iii) The term of office of the members of a panel shall be for one year or such longer term as the Minister may direct.

(iv) Casual vacancies on a panel representing either employers or workmen may be filled by the Minister of Labour in like manner as above, and any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office until the expiration of the period during which the person in whose place he is appointed would have held office.

Provided that the Minister shall not be bound to fill any casual vacancy unless he think fit to do so, and a panel shall not be deemed to be improperly constituted by reason only that a casual vacancy on a panel has not been filled.

(v) Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations the members of the first panels of Referees constituted under the National Insurance Act, 1911, shall continue to hold office until such time as their office is terminated by the Minister of Labour.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour this 5th day of February, 1919.

(Sgd.) D. J. SHACKLETON,
Secretary to the Ministry of Labour.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

VARIATION OF GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES FOR MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS.

The Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain) have varied the general minimum time-rates of wages for male workers of 24 years of age and upwards from 8d. to 11d. an hour, and for female workers of 18 years of age and upwards from 5d. to 6½d. an hour, with corresponding increases in the general minimum time-rates for male workers under 24 years of age, and for female workers under 18 years of age; and the Minister of Labour, in pursuance of his statutory powers, has made an Order Under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, dated the 28th February, 1919, confirming these general minimum time-rates as varied, and specifying the 1st March, 1919, as the date from which these rates shall become effective, in cases in which they are applicable, in respect of all persons employing labour, and of all persons employed in the trade. Where, however, the date specified does not correspond with the beginning of the period for which wages are paid by the employer, the rates become effective as from the beginning of the next full pay period following the date specified, but in no case later than the 1st March, 1919.

The penalty for paying wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence; but in certain circumstances the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates. Further particulars regarding the above-mentioned variations of the minimum rates may be obtained from the

Secretary, Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain), 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

PROPOSAL TO FIX MINIMUM RATES FOR OVERTIME.

The Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued a notice, dated 3rd March, 1919, stating that they propose to fix minimum rates for overtime for male and female workers, of all ages, and to declare that for the purpose of the payment of overtime rates the normal number of hours of work per week shall be 48.

Objections to the proposal may be lodged with the Trade Board within two months from 3rd March, 1919. Objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain), 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

IRELAND.

PROPOSAL TO VARY GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES FOR MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS.

The Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Ireland), having obtained the consent of the Minister of Labour under Section 3 (5) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to the issue of a notice of proposal, have issued a notice, dated 24th February, 1919, stating that they propose to vary the general minimum time-rates for male workers of 22 years of age and upwards from 8d. to 10d. an hour, and for female workers of 18 years of age and upwards from 4½d. to 5½d. an hour, with corresponding increases in the general minimum time-rates for male workers under 22 years of age and female workers under 18 years of age.

Objections to the proposed variation may be lodged with the Trade Board within two months from the 24th February, 1919. Objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Ireland), 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

LINEN AND COTTON EMBROIDERY TRADE.

IRELAND.

VARIATION OF GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES AND GENERAL MINIMUM PIECE-RATES, AND FIXING OF CERTAIN ADDITIONAL GENERAL MINIMUM PIECE-RATES FOR FEMALE WORKERS.

The Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland) have varied the general minimum time-rates for female workers for certain processes from 2½d.-3½d. an hour to 3½d.-4½d. an hour, and have varied the general minimum piece-rates for female workers for certain processes, and fixed certain additional general minimum piece-rates for female workers; and the Minister of Labour, in pursuance of his statutory powers, has made an Order, under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, dated 25th February, 1919, confirming these general minimum time-rates and general minimum piece-rates as fixed and varied, and specifying the 1st March, 1919, as the date from which these rates shall become effective, in cases in which they are applicable, in respect of all persons employing labour, and of all persons employed in the trade. Where, however, the date specified does not correspond with the beginning of the period for which wages are paid by the employer, the rates become effective as from the beginning of the next full pay period following the date specified, but in no case later than the 7th March, 1919.

The penalty for paying wages at less than the above-mentioned rates is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence, but in certain circumstances the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

Further particulars regarding the above-mentioned variations and fixing of minimum rates may be obtained from the Secretary, Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland), 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE SPECIAL ORDERS.

Rope, Twine and Net Trade.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the trade specified in the appendix to this notice.

Copies of the draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within forty-two days from 28th February, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- The specific grounds of objection; and
- The omissions, additions or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The Rope, Twine and Net Trade, that is to say:—

- The making or re-making of (a) rope (including driving rope and banding), (b) cord, (including blind and window cord, but excluding silk, worsted, and other fancy cords), (c) core for wire ropes, (d) lines, (e) twine, (including binder and trawl twine), (f) lanyards, (g) net and similar articles;
- The bleaching, teasing, hackling, carding, preparing and spinning of the materials required for the making or re-making of any of the articles (a) to (g) above when carried on in the same factory or workshop as such making or re-making.

War Office—continued.

Bradbury, Earl Shilton; W. Raven & Co., Ltd., Leicester; H. J. Riddlestone & Co., Leicester; St. Martin's Underwear Co., Leicester; P. Scott & Co., Ltd., Hawick; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Glasgow; Stapley & Smith, Ltd., Nottingham; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Thornton & Mawby, Ltd., Leicester; Toller & Lankester, Leicester; Turner, Rutherford & Co., Hawick; Two Steeples, Ltd., Wigston, Leicester; C. Verwee, Maidenhead; R. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; A. Wayne & Co., Leicester; Wills & Hutchinson, Leicester.—**Ironwork for Forms:** C. Hufton, Birmingham.—**Knives, Clasp:** W. & S. Butcher, Ltd., Sheffield; Harrison Bros. & Howson, Sheffield; H. G. Long & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; J. Milner & Co., Sheffield.—**Lamps, Oil:** Reform Lighting Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Sherwoods, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Machines, Chaff Cutting:** E. H. Bentall & Co., Ltd., Maldon, Essex; R. Hunt & Co., Ltd., Earls Colne, Essex.—**Medicines:** Lister Institute of Preventive Medicines, London, S.W.—**Methylated Spirit:** S. Bowley & Son, London, S.W.; British Distillery Co., Ltd., Bristol; J. Burrough, Ltd., London, S.E.; Jones & Co., London, E.; J. & D. McNair & Co., Glasgow; Sutton, Carden & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Nails:** J. C. Hill & Co., Ltd., Cwmbran, Mon; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Oils:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet; Newcastle Benzol Co., Ltd., Newcastle; Scottish Oil Agency, Ltd., Broxburn.—**Paint:** Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pumps:** Worthington-Simpson, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Razors:** J. Watts, Sheffield.—**Ribbon, Silk:** J. & J. Cash, Ltd., Coventry; G. Kenning & Son, London, E.C.; H. Spencer & Co., Coventry; M. Wright & Sons, Loughborough.—**Safes:** S. Withers & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Shirts, Cotton:** Light & Co. (1918), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Shoes, Leather:** T. Bird & Son, Ltd., Kettering; T. Brown & Co., Ltd., Leicester; Crockett & Jones, Northampton; Ekin, Son & Percival, Wellingborough; G. T. Hawkins, Ltd., Northampton; R. Taylor & Son, Northampton; G. M. Tebbutt & Sons, Ltd., Northampton.—**Shoes, Pony:** W. L. Tildesley, Willenhall.—**Soap:** W. Gossage & Sons, Ltd., Widnes; J. Kay & Sons, Ramsbottom; J. Knight, Ltd., London, E.; Lever Bros., Ltd., Port Sunlight; J. L. Thomas & Co., Ltd., Exeter; J. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; R. Wheen & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Spoons:** F. Whitehouse, Birmingham.—**Stands, Cruet:** Lee & Wigful, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steelwork, Constructional:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Powers & Deanes & Ransomes, Ltd., London, E.—**Tools:** Peacock Bros., Sheffield.—**Towels:** J. Ainscow & Co., Ltd., Bolton; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Manchester; W. M. Christy & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; D. Dickie Towel Co., Stockport; J. S. Hargreaves & Co., Ltd., Manchester; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. Holt & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Mothersall & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Isherwood Bros., Ltd., Radcliffe, Manchester; J. Johnson, Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester; W. R. Lee, Heywood; Lochleven Linen Co., Kinross; H. Lomas & Son, Manchester; Rylands & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; J. & R. Seddon, Ltd., Radcliffe; Stott & Smith, Ltd., Manchester; R. Stott's Sons, Rochdale; W. T. Taylor & Co., Ltd., Horwich; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Veils, Mosquito:** F. Lane, London, E.C.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.—**Wood Preservative:** Dussek Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Yarn:** R. H. Barker & Co., Ltd., Wakefield; J. Holdsworth & Co., Halifax; J. Whitmore & Co., Leicester.—**Works Services:** Maintenance of W.D. Buildings: F. A. Alp, Shoeburyness; Rowlands Bros., Horsham.—**Miscellaneous:** E. Deane & Beale, Ltd., London, E.C.; D. H. Elliott, Bradford; North Metropolitan Electric Power Supply Co., London, N.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Printing, Ruling and Binding: 600,000 Posters; 500,000 Lists of Forms: Howard & Jones, London, E.C. 300,000 Forms: Causton & Sons, London, S.W. 4,000 Portfolios: Willmott, Ltd., London, E.C. 1,995 Books: Woolnough & Sons, London, N. 2,000 Books; 2,000 Books: Fisher Bookbinding Co., Ltd., London, S.E. 9,650 Books; 8,000 Books; 1,000 Books; 3,600 Books; 2,000 Books; 1,500 Books: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton, Bucks. 40,000 Pads: Alf Harrison & Sons, Leeds. 2,500,000 Forms; 2,500 Diaries: John Rissen, Ltd., London, E. 400 L/L Metals: British L/L Manufacturers, Ltd., London, S.E. 15,000 Blotting Pads; 10,000 Books; 20,000 Books: Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., London, E.C. 2,000 Books, 3,000 Books: J. Dickinson & Co., Hemel Hempstead, Herts. 40,000 Covers; 45,000 Books; 1,000 Portfolios: Waterlow & Sons, London, E.C. 1,000 Books; 5,000 Books; 7,000 Books: Clements, Newling & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 400 L/L Binders: Burrup, Mathieson & Sprague, Ltd., London, S.E. 20,000 Books: Chapman & Co., London, S.W. 8,000 Small Note Books; 10,000 Books: W. Collins, Sons & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 1,000 Books: Willmott & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 1,000,000 Labels: Simpson Label Co., Edinburgh. 250,000 Labels: Straker Bros., London, E.C. 1,700 Journals; 250,000 Sets of Forms: J. Truscott & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. 875 Books; 10,000 Books; 6,000 Covers: Harrison & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C. 20,000 Books: A. W. Bain & Co., Ltd., London, E. 2,500,000 Forms: Wightman & Co., London, S.W. 2,000 Yards Paper on Carbon: S. C. A. P. Harding & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. 500,000 Sets of Forms: Howitt & Sons, Nottingham. 2,000 Books: J. Adams, London, E.C. 100 Attaché Cases: The Att Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 1,000 Boxes: J. Barley & Son, Ltd., London, N. 500,000 Forms: J. Dickens & Co., Northampton. 75 Bags: Weeks & Sons, Ltd., London, E. 400,000 Manilla Labels: Millington & Sons, London, E.C. 2,000,000 Flimsy No. 6: L. Bloomeley, Manchester.—**Paper, Various Descriptions:** Carbon Papers: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Cardboards & Pasteboards: A. M. Peebles & Sons,

H.M. Stationery Office—continued.

Ltd., Oswaldtwistle, Lancs; Northfleet Paper Mills, Northfleet; J. Dickinson & Co., Hemel Hempstead.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Bicycles:** Sun Cycle and Fittings Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Buttons:** Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Clothing, Uniform:** J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., London, E., and Swindon, Wilts; J. Hammond & Co. (1918), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs; Hazel & Co., London, N.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.; C. & J. Webb & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cords for Telephones:** London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., London, E.; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ducts, Stoneware:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville, Derbyshire; Doulton & Co., Ltd. St. Helens; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax.—**Insulators:** Bullers, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Macintyre & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Taylor, Tunncliffe & Co., Ltd., Hanley, Staffs.—**Mouthpieces for Telephones:** Crystalate Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Tonbridge.—**Pipe, Wrought Iron:** Wellington Tube Works, Ltd., Great Bridge, Staffs.—**Rope, Hemp:** I. N. Lyons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Spindles for Insulators:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**String:** Hanson, Scott & Co., Ltd., Stockport; W. Waites, Sons & Atkinson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Tarpaulins:** Edinburgh Roperie and Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Leith.—**Telephones:** Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Twil:** J. Cawthra & Co., Ltd., Bradford, Yorks; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Wire, Copper, Binding:** British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Wire, Copper, Enamelled and Silk Covered:** Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., New Sawley, Derbyshire.—**Laying Conduits:** Liverpool: R. M. Parkinson, Bedford; Grimsby-Immingham: O. C. Summers, London, N.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Kew, Claims and Records Office, Ministry of Labour, Erection of an Extension: Walter Jones & Sons, Westminster, S.W. London District Ordinary Works and Repair (1919): John Mowlem & Co., Ltd., Westminster, S.W.—**Engineering Services:** East Greenwich, H.M. Fuel Research Station, Steel Tubes, Drying Pans, and Air Heating Tubes: Samuel Cutler & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Fire Extinguishers: British Fire Appliance Co., London, S.W. Flax Factories, Scotch Wheels: Mackenzie & Moncur, Ltd., Edinburgh. Manchester, 37, Peru Street, H.M. Stationery Office, Electrical Lifts: Etchelle, Congdon & Muir, Ltd., Manchester.—**Furniture:** Cabinets for U.I. Books: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E. Chairs, W.7: W. H. Healey, Ltd., High Wycombe. Desks: Frazer's Joinery Co., Ltd., Norwich. Pigeonholes (open cases of), Tables, Shelves, and Two-Tread Steps: Sharp Bros. & Knight, Burton-on-Trent. Racks, Desk (double-sided): W. B. & F. T. Archer, Birmingham. Tables, Kitchen: Heggie & Aitchison, Edinburgh. Tricycles, Hand-propelled: Chas. Day Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Shoreditch, E.; The Trusty Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Miscellaneous:** Cloths (Table), Serviettes, and Pudding Cloths: McCrum, Watson & Mercer, Ltd., London, E.C. Crockery: Mc. D. Mann & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Powder, Soap: Pavitt & Co., Ltd., Walworth, S.E. Removal of Hotel Cecil Furniture from Royal Opera House, Covent Garden: Furniture Warehousemen and Removers Association, Ltd., Charing Cross, W.C.

INDIA OFFICE: STORE DEPARTMENT.

Boilers: Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Newton-le-Willows.—**Bridge-work:** Horsehay Co., Horsehay.—**Buffers:** Stableford & Co., Coalville; Tees-Side Bridge, &c., Co., Middlesbrough.—**Canvas:** Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Cloth:** Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Manchester.—**Copper Wire:** T. Bolton & Sons, London, E.C.; Elliott's Metal Co., Selly Oak; Shropshire Iron Co., Hadley, Salop.—**Engines:** Hunslet Engine Co., Leeds.—**Flues:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Glasgow.—**Iron Bar:** Lilleshall Co., Shifnal.—**Joists:** Dorman, Long & Co., Middlesbrough.—**Lathes:** Dean, Smith & Grace, Keighley.—**Levels:** T. Cooke & Sons, York.—**Locomotives:** Kitson & Co., Leeds.—**Machine, Slotting:** J. Butler & Co., Halifax.—**Paper:** J. Dickinson & Co., London, E.C.—**Pipes:** McDowall, Steven & Co., London, E.C.—**Saws:** R. Ibbotson & Co., Sheffield.—**Spikes:** J. Price, Halesowen; W. Kelway Bamber, London, S.W.—**Steel, Cast:** Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Openshaw.—**Steel Sheets:** F. Braby & Co., London, E.C.; Smith & McLean, Gartcosh.—**Steel Bar:** Steel Company of Scotland, Glasgow; D. Colville & Sons, Motherwell.—**Steel Piles:** Horsley Bridge, &c., Co., Tipton.—**Tank Engines:** Vulcan Foundry Co., Newton-le-Willows.—**Telephones:** Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., London, W.C.; Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Salford.—**Underframes:** Stableford & Co., Coalville.—**Wagons:** Metropolitan Carriage, &c., Co., Saltley; P. & W. Maclellan, Glasgow; Head, Wrightson & Co., Thornaby-on-Tees; Blake Boiler, &c., Co., Darlington.—**Web:** R. Bird & Co., Crewkerne.—**Wheels and Axles:** J. Baker & Co., Rotherham; Beardmore & Co., Glasgow; Glasgow Ry. Engineering Co., Glasgow; Owen & Dyson, Rotherham.—**Wire:** Bruntons, Ltd., Musselborough.

H.M. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

Cloth for C. and E. Uniforms: Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; R. Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Farsley, nr. Leeds; R. H. Rudd, Bradford.