

THE WHOLESALE BOTTLING TRADE

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

Introductory

This trade comprises firms that were engaged wholly or mainly in the bottling of beer, wines, spirits, and other liquors. The particulars given are confined to firms that bottled for the wholesale trade. Retail dealers that bottled liquors for their own trade were not required to make returns.

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

At both Censuses, some brewing firms that maintained bottling departments were unable to furnish separate returns for the latter and, therefore, included their bottling department in the general returns for the breweries, valuing their output of beer as in bottle. A larger number of separate returns for bottling work carried out by brewers was, however, obtained for 1930 than for 1924, the additional returns obtained at the later Census representing about 1,900 persons employed, or 9 per cent. of the total number recorded for 1930.

Particulars	Unit	1930	1924
Value of products and work done (Gross output)...	£'000	48,051	33,590
Cost of materials used	"	36,872	25,415
Paid for work given out to other firms	"	38	*
Net output	"	11,141	8,175
Average number of persons employed	No.	20,737	17,054
Net output per person employed	£	537	479
Power available :—			
Prime movers	H.P.	1,952	2,561
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	14,988	6,791
Number of returns	No.	449	412
Number of establishments	"	529	†

* Not ascertained.

† Not available.

Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates.—The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by firms that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average was 3,739, the corresponding figure for 1924 being 2,427. The figure shown for 1930 probably

includes certain employees engaged in the merchanting side of the business; while no precise estimate of the number of persons concerned can be made, it is improbable that the number of such employees was very large, since the average number of the employees of the small firms was 5.17 in 1924 and 5.63 in 1930. Making allowance for the firms to which schedules were sent and which furnished no information (58 in 1930 and about 100 in 1924), it is evident that the small firms were of considerably greater importance in 1930 than in 1924. The increase in respect of the small firms was roughly 38 per cent., while for the larger firms the increase was little more than 10 per cent. if account be taken of the 1,900 employees mentioned above.

The value of the gross output of the small firms in 1924 was £2,911,000, and particulars of the items included in this figure are given below:—

	Th. galls.	£'000
Liquors bottled:—		
Beer, ale, stout and porter	6,593	1,739
Spirits	166	772
Wines	531	356
Cider and perry... ..	159	26
Other liquors	28	9
Other products*		9
TOTAL		2,911

* Including bottling done on commission (£1,000).

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

Size of firm (average numbers employed)	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24	198	4,820	1,082	3,375	321
25-49	150	9,475	2,251	5,237	430
50-99	57	8,076	1,965	3,742	525
100-199	30	12,214	3,166	4,264	742
200-299	8	4,562	869	1,929	451
300-749	6	8,904	1,808	2,190	825
TOTAL	449	48,051	11,141	20,737	537

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

Area	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed	
				No.	£	
1 ...	1930	82	15,279	3,202	6,438	497
	1924	82	12,575	2,906	5,882	494
2 ...	1930	73	4,057	1,074	2,332	461
	1924	66	2,441	646	1,851	349
3 ...	1930	34	1,338	340	863	394
	1924	29	896	216	718	301
4 ...	1930	19	683	167	659	254
	1924	13	340	86	308	279
5 ...	1930	31	2,655	508	1,173	433
	1924	28	1,150	259	847	306
6 ...	1930	130	7,150	1,954	4,241	461
	1924	121	4,107	1,006	3,212	313
7 and 8...	1930	17	809	229	779	294
	1924	12	452	102	353	289
9 ...	1930	26	4,753	1,122	1,880	597
	1924	20	3,342	689	1,550	445
10 ...	1930	37	11,327	2,545	2,372	1,073
	1924	41	8,287	2,265	2,333	971
TOTAL	1930	449	48,051	11,141	20,737	537
	1924	412	33,590	8,175	17,054	479

Northern Ireland.—The following table summarises the particulars recorded at the Census of Production taken by the Government of Northern Ireland for 1930, together with those furnished at the 1924 Census. The 1930 figures relate to firms that employed an average of more than five persons, while those for 1924 relate to all firms.

Particulars	Unit	1930	1924
Value of products and work done (Gross output)...	£'000	1,249	594
Cost of materials used	"	1,058	482
Net output	"	191	112
Average number of persons employed	No.	546	248
Net output per person employed	£	350	452
Power available:—			
Prime movers	H.P.	64	46
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	193	13

* For particulars see page xviii.

The items included in the gross output values shown in the above table were as follows :—

Products	1930		1924	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Th. galls.	£'000	Th. galls.	£'000
Liquors bottled :—				
Beer, ale, stout and porter ...	430	127	282	83
Spirits	293	1,043	111	424
Wines	65	62	53	75
Cider and perry	10	3	1	*
Beers, wines, spirits and other liquors, not separately distinguished	—	—	...	12
Table waters made	85	14	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	...	1,249	...	594

* Less than £500.

Production

Principal products.—The following table shows the quantities and values of the different kinds of liquors bottled during 1930 and 1924 :—

Kind of products	1930						1924	
	Returned on schedules for						Total	
	The Wholesale Bottling Trade			All trades				
	Quantity	Value	Ent-ries	Quantity	Value	Ent-ries	Quantity	Value
Liquors bottled :—	Th. galls.	£'000	No.	Th. galls.	£'000	No.	Th. galls.	£'000
Beer, ale, stout and porter	86,457	19,032	342	110,288	25,898	689	60,201	14,492
Spirits	8,644	24,129	144	8,812	24,727	205	10,647	17,065
Wines	4,337	4,072	242	4,637	4,332	320	3,402	2,999
Cider and perry	1,506	221	151	1,972	292	240	727	162
Aerated and mineral waters	348	46	21	348	46	21	435	104
Other liquors (including cocktails)	194	84	49	239	95	82		
Liquors not separately distinguished	—	—	—	62	152	11	*	8,450
TOTAL—Liquors bottled ... ..	...	47,584	...	...	55,684	...	...	43,272

* Quantity not stated.

In both years Customs and Excise duties were included in the recorded value of dutiable liquors bottled for home consumption and in the cost of materials; bottled liquors exported were valued less drawbacks.

Prices.—The average selling values of the different kinds of liquors bottled in 1930 and 1924, as calculated from the Census returns, are shown in the following table :—

Kind of liquors bottled	Average value		1930 as a percentage of 1924
	1930	1924	
	£ per 100 galls.	£ per 100 galls.	Per cent.
Beer, ale, stout and porter	23·48	24·07	97·5
Spirits	280·60	160·28	175·1
Wines	93·44	88·13	106·0
Cider and perry	14·81	22·27	66·5
Other liquors (including aerated and mineral waters and cocktails)	23·99	24·06	99·7

The comparatively low average value recorded for bottled spirits for 1924 is in part due to the fact that a considerable quantity of spirit bottled in bond in that year was recorded at the duty-free price; for 1930 all firms that bottled wines and spirits in bond were instructed to state the value of such liquors inclusive of Customs and Excise duties. It should also be borne in mind that the values shown for all dutiable liquors are affected by the inclusion of goods exported and subject to drawback.

Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.—The following table compares the volume of production of liquors bottled in 1930 and 1924 :—

Kind of liquors bottled	Total production			1930 as a percentage of 1924
	1930	1924		
	As returned	As returned	At 1930 average values	Per cent.
Beer, ale, stout and porter	£'000	£'000	£'000	183
Spirits	25,898	14,492	14,130	83
Wines	24,727	17,065	29,881	136
Cider and perry	4,332	2,999	3,179	270
Other liquors (including aerated and mineral waters and cocktails)	292	162	108	136
Liquors not separately distinguished	141	104	104	136
TOTAL—Liquors bottled	294	8,450*	8,239	†
TOTAL—Liquors bottled	55,684	43,272	55,641	100

* Of this amount, £8,021,000 was returned on schedules for the Brewing and Malting Trades and the revaluation has, therefore, been calculated on the average values of beer, ale, stout and porter bottled.

† This figure would have no significance.

Work done on commission.—The total amount recorded for bottling done on commission in 1930 was £347,000, the corresponding total for 1924 being £503,000.

Exports and imports.—Exports and imports of liquors are dealt with in the reports on the Brewing and Malting Trades, the Spirit Distilling Trade, and the Aerated Waters, Cider, etc. Trades (see pages 174, 186 and 208).

Separate figures relating to the overseas trade in bottled beer are not available.

Other products.—In addition to the output shown in the table of principal products on page 218, the following goods were produced in 1930 and 1924 by firms that made their returns on schedules for the Wholesale Bottling Trade. These goods are dealt with in the reports on those trades in which the principal output was recorded.

Kind of goods	1930		1924	
	Value	Value	Value	Value
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Table waters made	85	} 32	} 37	} 2
	(876,000 galls.)			
Other non-alcoholic drinks made	16			
Cases, crates and boxes made or repaired	14			
Other goods made	5			
TOTAL	120	71		

Employment and Wages

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

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
1930						
Operatives (average for the year)	1,350	9,210	1,126	7,043	2,476	16,253
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	224	3,565	99	919	323	4,484
TOTAL	1,574	12,775	1,225	7,962	2,799	20,737
1924						
Operatives (average for the year)	1,024	7,360	1,046	6,201	2,070	13,561
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	227	2,720	71	773	298	3,493
TOTAL	1,251	10,080	1,117	6,974	2,368	17,054

Wages.—The available information as to the amount of wages paid in 1930 and 1924 is given on pages 18 and 19.

Power

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

Power equipment	1930			1924		
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total
PRIME MOVERS						
Reciprocating steam engines	H.P. 271	H.P. 103	H.P. 374	H.P. 486	H.P. 177	H.P. 663
Steam turbines	22	—	22	—	—	—
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	931	348	1,279	1,066	353	1,419
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils	20	2	22	466	10	476
Heavy oils	175	80	255	3	—	3
TOTAL	1,419	533	1,952	2,021	540	2,561
ELECTRIC GENERATORS						
Driven by	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
Reciprocating steam engines	22	36	58	26	1	27
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	238	118	356	304	72	376
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils	3	—	3	45	1	46
Heavy oils	104	48	152	—	—	—
TOTAL	367	202	569	375	74	449
ELECTRIC MOTORS						
Driven by	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Electricity generated in same works	409	56	465	312	54	366
Electricity generated in other works under same ownership	204	—	204	—	—	—
Purchased electricity	13,758	1,230	14,988	6,094	697	6,791
TOTAL	14,371	1,286	15,657	6,406	751	7,157

Consumption of fuel

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

Kind of fuel used	For power (driving engines)	For other purposes (so far as recorded)
	Tons	Tons
Coal	2,008	9,761*
Coke	452	7,057*
		B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Electricity used for all purposes :—		'000
Generated in same works		378
Generated in other works under same ownership		195
Purchased		10,310
TOTAL—Electricity		10,883

* These figures were recorded by firms representing 99.3 per cent. of the net output of the whole trade.

TABLES

I. Summary of results

Particulars	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Value of products and work done (Gross output)	£'000	31,971	16,080	48,051
Cost of materials used	"	24,481	12,391	36,872
Paid for work given out to other firms... ..	"	16	22	38
Net output	"	7,474	3,667	11,141
Average number of persons employed... ..	No.	16,485	4,252	20,737
Net output per person employed	£	453	862	537
Power available :—				
Prime movers	H.P.	1,369	583	1,952
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	13,059	1,929	14,988

II. Production

Kind of products and work done	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Liquors bottled :—				
Beer, ale, stout and porter	<i>Th. galls.</i>	82,269	4,188	86,457
	£'000	18,211	821	19,032
Spirits	<i>Th. galls.</i>	3,039	5,605	8,644
	£'000	9,382	14,747	24,129
Wines	<i>Th. galls.</i>	4,139	198	4,337
	£'000	3,883	189	4,072
Cider and perry	<i>Th. galls.</i>	1,443	63	1,506
	£'000	211	10	221
Aerated and mineral waters	<i>Th. galls.</i>	348	—	348
	£'000	46	—	46
Other liquors (including cocktails)	<i>Th. galls.</i>	188	6	194
	£'000	77	7	84
TOTAL—Liquors bottled	£'000	31,810	15,774	47,584
Table waters made	<i>Th. galls.</i>	839	37	876
	£'000	80	5	85
Other non-alcoholic drinks made	"	16	*	16
Cases, crates and boxes made or repaired	"	1	13	14
Other goods made	"	5	*	5
Bottling done on commission	"	59†	288†	347†
TOTAL VALUE OF PRODUCTS AND WORK DONE (GROSS OUTPUT)	£'000	31,971	16,080	48,051

* Less than £500.

† Amount received for work done.

III. Employment

A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1930

Persons employed	Males		Females		Males and females	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
<i>England and Wales :—</i>						
Operatives	1,223	7,818	918	5,209	2,141	13,027
Administrative, etc.*	173	2,804	81	666	254	3,470
TOTAL	1,396	10,622	999	5,875	2,395	16,497
<i>Scotland :—</i>						
Operatives	142	1,491	220	1,910	362	3,401
Administrative, etc.*	51	761	18	253	69	1,014
TOTAL	193	2,252	238	2,163	431	4,415
<i>Great Britain :—</i>						
Operatives	1,365	9,309	1,138	7,119	2,503	16,428
Administrative, etc.*	224	3,565	99	919	323	4,484
TOTAL	1,589	12,874	1,237	8,038	2,826	20,912

* Administrative, technical and clerical staff.

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

Week ended	Males and females			Week ended	Males and females		
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain		England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Jan. 18 ...	12,898	3,342	16,240	July 19 ...	13,247	3,229	16,476
Feb. 15 ...	12,653	3,119	15,772	Aug. 16 ...	13,332	3,141	16,473
Mar. 15 ...	12,530	3,007	15,537	Sept. 13 ...	13,303	3,169	16,472
April 12 ...	12,856	3,081	15,937	Oct. 18 ...	13,027	3,401	16,428
May 17 ...	12,902	3,196	16,098	Nov. 15 ...	12,977	3,446	16,423
June 21 ...	13,132	3,208	16,340	Dec. 13 ...	13,319	3,520	16,839
AVERAGE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS	...	...	...	...	13,015	3,238	16,253

IV. Power

PARTICULARS OF PRIME MOVERS, ELECTRIC GENERATORS AND ELECTRIC MOTORS

Power equipment	England and Wales		Scotland		Great Britain	
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle
PRIME MOVERS						
Reciprocating steam engines	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Steam turbines	257	103	14	—	271	103
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	647	288	284	60	931	348
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils ...	20	2	—	—	20	2
Heavy oils	15	15	160	65	175	80
TOTAL	961	408	458	125	1,419	533
TOTAL OF PRIME MOVERS INSTALLED	1,369		583		1,952	
ELECTRIC GENERATORS						
Driven by	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
Reciprocating steam engines	22	36	—	—	22	36
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	158	118	80	—	238	118
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils	3	—	—	—	3	—
Heavy oils	4	4	100	44	104	48
TOTAL	187	158	180	44	367	202
TOTAL OF ELECTRIC GENERATORS INSTALLED	345		224		569	
ELECTRIC MOTORS						
Driven by	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Electricity generated in same works ...	153	40	256	16	409	56
Electricity generated in other works under same ownership	204	—	—	—	204	—
Purchased electricity	11,955	1,104	1,803	126	13,758	1,230
TOTAL	12,312	1,144	2,059	142	14,371	1,286
TOTAL OF ELECTRIC MOTORS INSTALLED	13,456		2,201		15,657	

V. Consumption of fuel

Kind of fuel used	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Coal used for power	1,978	30	2,008
Coke used for power	452	—	452
	B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)	B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.)
Electricity used for all purposes :—	'000	'000	'000
Generated in same works	135	243	378
Generated in other works under same ownership	195	—	195
Purchased	8,973	1,337	10,310
TOTAL—Electricity ...	9,303	1,580	10,883