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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

THERE was a further improvement in employment between 23rd April and 14th May. The improvement affected most of the principal industries.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed was 16.3 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 16.7 at 23rd April, 1934, and 20.4 at 22nd May, 1933. For males alone the percentage at 14th May, 1934, was 19.0, and for females 9.2. At 23rd April, 1934, the corresponding percentages were 19.3 and 9.6, and at 22nd May, 1933, they were 23.6 and 12.0.

Insured Persons in work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that at 14th May, 1934, there were approximately 10,187,000 insured persons aged 16-64 in employment in Great Britain. This was 47,000 more than at 23rd April, 1934, and 570,000 more than at 22nd May, 1933.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 14th May, 1934, there were 1,658,677 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 70,565 less than at 23rd April, 1934, and 339,890 less than at 22nd May, 1933. The total on 14th May, 1934, included 1,372,540 men, 47,441 boys, 200,584 women and 38,112 girls. It was made up of 455,571 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 872,434 applicants for transitional payments, 195,122 other insured persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments, and 135,550 uninsured persons.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 14th May, 1934, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 245,350 men, 5,049 boys, 87,387 women and 3,242 girls who were on short time or otherwise suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 341,028 was 11,115 more than at 23rd April, 1934, but 149,215 less than at 22nd May, 1933. It included 295,809 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 21,081 applicants for transitional payments, and 24,138 persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 14th May, 1934, there were on the registers in Great Britain 88,907 men, 70 boys, 1,693 women and 6 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are largely employed in dock and harbour service. The total of 90,676 was 1,636 more than at 23rd April, 1934, but 3,393 less than at 22nd May, 1933. It included 65,253 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 24,518 applicants for transitional payments, and 905 persons not in receipt of benefit or transitional payments.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—The industries showing the most marked improvement,

between 23rd April and 14th May, were building and public works contracting, and certain allied trades, engineering and ironfounding, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, tinplate manufacture, the cotton industry, the clothing trades (except boot and shoe manufacture), the distributive trades, most of the transport services, and hotel and boarding-house service.

Employment showed a further decline, however, in the coal mining industry, and in the wool textile industry. There was also some decline in the jute industry, and in dock and harbour service.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in May resulted in an increase of nearly £5,300 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 104,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of about £900 in those of about 32,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople whose wages were increased consisted of steel workers in various districts in England and Scotland, and of workers employed by various electricity supply undertakings in Great Britain. The principal groups of workpeople whose wages were reduced were coal miners in North Staffordshire, and most classes of railway employees in Northern Ireland.

The changes so far reported in the five completed months of 1934 have resulted in a net increase of nearly £24,000 per week in the full-time rates of wages of 325,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of nearly £11,500 in those of nearly 186,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st June the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 38 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 37 per cent. at 1st May, 1934, and with 36 per cent. at 1st June, 1933. For food alone the corresponding percentages at these three dates were 17, 16 and 14, respectively.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined proportionately to the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in May was 44. In addition, 17 disputes which began before May were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in May (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 18,700, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in May was about 133,000 working days.

UNEMPLOYED BRICKLAYERS, PLASTERERS, SLATERS AND TILERS.

SPECIAL ANALYSIS FOR 9th APRIL, 1934.

A SPECIAL analysis has been made of unemployed men, aged 18 years and upwards, registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain on 9th April, 1934, as applicants for work as bricklayers, plasterers, and slaters and tilers. The total numbers aged 18 and over on the registers at that date were as follows:—

Occupation.	Claimants for Unemployment Benefit or Transitional Payments.		Non-claimants.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	
Bricklayers	4,987	497	174
Plasterers	2,573	204	78
Slaters and Tilers	1,171	158	45
Totals	8,731	859	297

Information, based on the records at Employment Exchanges, was obtained as to the ages of these men, and as to the numbers in various sub-occupational groups; while as regards wholly unemployed men in the three main classes, particulars were obtained as to the length of their current spell of unemployment, their suitability for employment in the occupation for which they were registered, and their availability for work beyond daily travelling distance from their homes.

Analysis according to Age.

The analysis according to age reveals considerable variations between different parts of the country. The following Table, in which the figures for the three occupations have been combined for each of the administrative Divisions into which the country is divided for the purposes of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, shows the percentage of the total in each of four age groups:—

Unemployed Bricklayers, Plasterers, Slaters and Tilers.

Division.	Number registering for employment.	Percentage of the total who were aged			
		18-24.	25-44.	45-54.	55 and over.
London	1,114	15	37	20	28
South-Eastern	559	10	38	24	28
South-Western	960	13	41	19	27
Midlands	1,272	16	37	19	28
North-Eastern	1,775	26	34	16	24
North-Western	1,548	22	36	18	24
Scotland	1,927	31	39	15	15
Wales	732	22	37	18	23
Great Britain	9,887	22	37	18	23
Claimants for Benefit, etc.:					
Wholly unemployed	8,731	21	37	18	24
Temporarily stopped	859	25	38	21	16
Non-claimants	297	15	28	24	33

In London and the Southern and Midlands Divisions, where the rate of unemployment in these occupations is relatively low, the proportions aged 45 years and over were noticeably higher than in the Northern Divisions, Wales and Scotland, where the rate of unemployment is relatively high. In the former areas the percentages of men in that age-group ranged from 46 in the South-Western Division to 52 in the South-Eastern Division, while in the latter they ranged from 30 in Scotland to 42 in the North-Western Division. The numbers under 25 years of age, on the other hand, were a considerably higher percentage of the total in the latter areas than in the former.

Analysis of Wholly Unemployed Claimants by Ages.

The following Table shows the age distribution of wholly unemployed claimants for unemployment benefit or transitional payments, within each of certain sub-occupational groups:—

Occupation.	Number of wholly unemployed claimants.	Percentage of the total who were aged			
		18-24.	25-44.	45-54.	55-64.
Bricklayers:—					
Bricklayer (general hand)	2,571	17	33	20	30
Retort, oven, furnace, or kiln builder	198	11	26	25	38
Steeplejack	111	6	63	19	12
House pointer	136	17	43	17	23
Jobbing bricklayer	956	13	36	21	30
Improver bricklayer:—					
Ex-trainee*	370	51	48	1	—
Non-trainee*	213	73	25	1	1
Other wholly-unemployed claimants	432	20	38	19	23
Totals	4,987	21	35	18	26

* Throughout this article "trainee" denotes a man who has passed through a course at a Ministry of Labour training centre.

Occupation.	Number of wholly unemployed claimants.	Percentage of the total who were aged			
		18-24.	25-44.	45-54.	55-64.
Plasterers:—					
Plasterer (general hand)	1,648	16	39	21	24
Falence (glazed earthenware tile) or mosaic worker	121	14	47	26	13
Fibrous plasterer or fixer	118	21	40	13	26
Floor or wall tiler	119	28	33	17	22
Improver plasterer:—					
Ex-trainee	165	31	67	2	—
Non-trainee	114	65	29	3	3
Other wholly-unemployed claimants	288	17	37	22	24
Total	2,573	20	40	19	21
Slaters and Tilers:—					
Slater, tiler (general hand)	1,043	24	41	15	20
Other wholly-unemployed claimants	128	37	31	12	20
Total	1,171	26	40	14	20
TOTAL (all occupations combined)	8,731	21	37	18	24

The highest proportions in the lower age-groups occur, naturally, in the "improver" classes, the proportion under 25 years of age being 73 per cent. among improver bricklayers (other than those who had passed through training courses at centres conducted by the Department) and 65 per cent. among improver plasterers. The highest proportions among men, aged 55 and over, on the other hand, occur among retort, oven, furnace or kiln builders (38 per cent.), bricklayers (general hands) and jobbing bricklayers (30 per cent.). Among the three main occupations, the percentage aged 45 and over was highest among bricklayers, while the percentage under 25 years of age was highest among slaters and tilers.

Analysis of Wholly Unemployed Claimants according to the length of their last spell of Unemployment.

The variations in the rate of unemployment in various districts are also reflected in the following Table, showing the percentage of wholly unemployed bricklayers, plasterers, slaters and tilers who had been continuously on the registers for less than 6 months, 6 months but less than 12 months, and 12 months or more, respectively (the figures for the divisions again representing the three occupations combined). It should be observed that, of the men who have been on the registers for extended periods, a proportion will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each.

Division or Occupation.	Number of Wholly Unemployed Claimants.	Percentage of total who had been on the Register		
		Less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.
London	1,048	96	3	1
South Eastern	522	98	2	—
South Western	912	94	3	3
Midlands	1,090	88	7	5
North Eastern	1,471	80	9	11
North Western	1,386	82	10	8
Scotland	1,624	84	10	6
Wales	678	74	10	16
Great Britain	8,731	86	7	7
Bricklayers	4,987	85	8	7
Plasterers	2,573	90	5	5
Slaters and Tilers	1,171	87	7	5
Total	8,731	86	7	7

In London and the Southern Divisions the proportion who had been continuously on the registers for 12 months or more was very small—1 per cent. in London, nil in the South-Eastern Division, and 3 per cent. in the South-Western Division; whereas in the North-Eastern Division the figure was 11 per cent., in the North-Western Division 8 per cent., and in Scotland 6 per cent., while in Wales it was as high as 16 per cent. The separate figures for the three occupations (for the country as a whole) show that bricklayers had, on the whole, the worst record in this respect, the proportion in that occupation who had been continuously on the registers for 12 months or more being 7 per cent., compared with 6 per cent. among slaters and tilers and 5 per cent. among plasterers.

The following Table shows the proportions of the wholly unemployed claimants, in each age group, who had been continuously on the Register for twelve months or more.

Occupation.	Percentage of number unemployed in each age-group who had been on the Register for twelve months or more.			
	18 to 24 years.	25 to 44 years.	45 to 54 years.	55-64 years.
Bricklayers	8	7	5	9
Plasterers	6	6	2	5
Slaters and Tilers	6	5	7	7
All the above... ..	7	6	4	8

REPORT ON COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND WORKPEOPLE.

A REPORT by the Ministry of Labour on Collective Agreements between Employers and Workpeople in the Mining and Quarrying Industries, the Engineering, Shipbuilding, Iron and Steel and Other Metal Industries, and the Building, Woodworking and Allied Industries, is being published by H.M. Stationery Office on 19th June.

The Report contains a comprehensive survey of the provisions of the principal collective agreements and other arrangements governing the conditions of employment of the workpeople engaged in these three important groups of industries, which account for over one-third of the total of nearly 13 million workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In addition to collective agreements voluntarily arrived at by employers' organisations and trade unions, particulars are included of Trade Board Orders, arbitration awards, and the decisions of Joint Industrial Councils, conciliation boards and other joint bodies.

In some industries, collective bargaining between the employers' organisations and the trade unions concerned has long been the recognised method for determining the rates of wages to be paid to the workpeople employed, and the length of their normal working week. In 1910, when a previous Report on the subject was issued by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, there were known to be in existence in the United Kingdom approximately 1,700 collective agreements, regulating the conditions of labour of about 2,400,000 workpeople.

Since the date of that Report, there has been a further wide extension of the system of regulating conditions of labour by means of formal agreements between employers and workpeople: numerous industries in which collective bargaining was then practically unknown now work under well-established agreements, and many others have replaced agreements of a local and restricted character by national agreements dealing exhaustively with numerous aspects of conditions of employment. Having regard to the importance of these agreements in relation to present-day industrial problems, the Committee on Industry and Trade (the "Balfour Committee") recommended that the Ministry of Labour should keep experiments in wage regulation under close and continuous observation, and suggested that a new Report on the subject of collective agreements between employers and workpeople should be compiled and published. In view of recent proposals that steps should be taken to make the provisions of collective agreements legally enforceable on all employers and workers in particular industries, the information given in the Report, showing the great number of such agreements now in operation, the wide range of subjects with which they deal, the variations in the methods adopted to meet the special requirements of different industries, and, in general, the extent of the influence exercised by the agreements in regulating industrial conditions, is of special interest at the present time.

In a general introduction to the Report the principal provisions of the agreements are briefly reviewed, with special reference to the diverse methods adopted, in different industries, in dealing with questions as to rates of wages, hours of labour, the procedure for the avoidance of disputes between employers and workpeople, etc. The main part of the Report, however, is devoted to a descriptive analysis, industry by industry, of the details of the collective agreements (or analogous arrangements) in operation, under a wide variety of headings, including the following:—

Wages; including time rates of wages, piece-work prices, and other systems of payment by results.

Procedure for effecting changes in rates of wages; including sliding scale arrangements based on changes in cost of living or on selling prices of the products of the industry, or on the proceeds of the industry.

Methods of settling differences arising between employers and workpeople, and provisions for avoiding disputes; including conciliation and arbitration procedure.

Regulation of hours of labour; including the arrangements for and conditions of overtime work.

Apprenticeship conditions.

Information is also given as to the conditions laid down by the agreements on a variety of other matters, such as the period of notice required to terminate employment, the provision of tools, mess-rooms and accommodation, extra payment for dirty or dangerous work, restriction of female labour, the arrangements for the enforcement of the agreements, the position of non-union workers and of non-associated employers in relation to the agreements, and other aspects of industrial relations so far as dealt with in the agreements. Numerous extracts from the principal agreements, giving the actual terms of their main provisions, are included.

The Report thus constitutes a comprehensive survey of the elaborate system of codes mutually agreed upon by employers and workpeople for the regulation of conditions of employment, the scope, extent, and nature of which are almost unknown except by the parties immediately concerned. It is hoped that the publication of the Report will prove of special value in making readily accessible to employers and workpeople, and their organisations, who may be confronted with difficulties in the field of industrial relations, information as to the solutions which have been found for similar problems in other industries.

The Report, which contains 454 pages dealing in detail with the collective agreements in operation in each of the individual industries, with an introductory section, in addition, of 22 pages, and a table of contents, is obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, either directly or through any bookseller, price 7s. net (7s. 6d., post free).

Investigations which have been made from time to time have shown that, in many industries and occupations, the older men, when they become unemployed, find it more difficult than younger men to obtain further employment, and consequently have longer periods of unemployment. This general tendency does not appear to any very marked extent in the figures given in the above Table. In the case of those bricklayers, slaters, and tilers who were wholly unemployed at 9th April, 1934, the proportions in the higher age groups who had been continuously unemployed for twelve months or more were not greatly in excess of the corresponding proportions at lower ages. As regards the plasterers, the proportions among those wholly unemployed who had been continuously unemployed for twelve months or more were rather lower among those aged 45 years and over than among the younger men. It should be observed that the figures given relate only to wholly unemployed men claiming unemployment benefit or transitional payments, and exclude small numbers of non-claimants.

Analysis of Wholly Unemployed Claimants according to their Industrial Qualifications.

For the purpose of this analysis, the employment record of each wholly unemployed claimant was examined, and a decision recorded on the returns as to whether, if a vacancy were available, he would be considered suitable for submission to an employer for work in the occupation in which he was registered. The following Table gives the results of the analysis from this point of view, separate figures being given for each Division:—

Division.	Bricklayers.		Plasterers.		Slaters and Tilers.	
	Number of Wholly Unemployed Claimants.	Percentage considered suitable for submission for vacancy.	Number of Wholly Unemployed Claimants.	Percentage considered suitable for submission for vacancy.	Number of Wholly Unemployed Claimants.	Percentage considered suitable for submission for vacancy.
London	367	92	580	97	101	97
S. Eastern	376	96	128	95	18	100
S. Western	597	89	288	94	27	85
Midlands	694	92	328	91	68	94
N. Eastern	1,074	89	272	90	125	93
N. Western	876	93	236	92	214	96
Scotland	638	97	332	98	604	96
Wales	365	91	299	90	14	100
Great Britain	4,987	92	2,573	94	1,171	96

The Table shows that the great majority of the men covered by the enquiry were considered to be suitable for submission to an employer for work in the occupation for which they were registering, the percentages being 96 among slaters and tilers, 94 among plasterers and 92 among bricklayers. The figures for the administrative Divisions do not reveal any wide divergencies, and the lowest proportions were 89 per cent. among applicants for work as bricklayers in the South-Western and North-Eastern Divisions, and 85 per cent. among those seeking work as slaters and tilers in the South-Western Division. The numbers concerned in the latter case, however, were very small.

An analysis of the information recorded on the documents of the wholly unemployed claimants also showed that, of the men who were considered suitable for submission for vacancies in these occupations, 42 per cent. among bricklayers, 36 per cent. among plasterers, and 35 per cent. among slaters and tilers would be unlikely to accept work beyond daily travelling distance from their homes.

COMMITTEE ON THE TWO-SHIFT SYSTEM.

THE Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to inquire into the working of the temporary provisions contained in section 2 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act, 1920, and Orders made thereunder, whereby women and young persons of the age of 16 years and upwards may be employed in a factory or workshop on a system of two day-shifts, and to advise whether or not this system should be continued on a permanent basis, either with or without alteration of the existing law and procedure.

The members of the Committee are:—Sir Malcolm Delevingne, K.C.B., K.C.V.O. (Chairman); Brig.-General A. C. Baylay, D.S.O.; Charles Brown, Esq., M.P.; Miss Winifred Cullis, C.B.E.; A. B. Howitt, Esq., C.V.O., M.D., M.P.; Miss Megan Lloyd George, M.P.; and Arthur Shaw, Esq., J.P. The Secretary of the Committee is Miss M. D. Symonds, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

UNEMPLOYMENT BILL: EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM.

A MEMORANDUM has been published,* explaining the provisions of the Unemployment Bill in the form in which it was passed by the House of Commons, and introduced into the House of Lords. It brings up to date the explanatory memorandum on clauses issued when the bill was introduced into the House of Commons (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1933, page 440.)

The memorandum takes each of the 64 clauses of the Bill, and each of the nine schedules, and explains its provisions. Where necessary, the exact nature of the alteration which the clause or schedule is intended to make in the present law is explained.

* Unemployment Bill: Explanatory Memorandum on Clauses. Cmd. 4602. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net (10d., post free).

PROFIT-SHARING AND CO-PARTNERSHIP IN 1933.

The following article is based on inquiries made by the Department, in continuation of similar inquiries made in previous years, as to the operation, in 1933, of schemes of profit-sharing and co-partnership. Statistics are given for previous years, which have been revised, where necessary, in accordance with the information now available. The figures throughout relate only to definite schemes under which employees participate in profits on some pre-arranged basis; arrangements for giving bonuses or gratuities at the discretion of the employer, without any specified basis, and schemes providing for bonuses which depend only on output, sales, etc., and not on profits, are outside the scope of the statistics.

ALL SCHEMES IN OPERATION.*

According to the latest available information, the total number of undertakings in Great Britain and Northern Ireland practising profit-sharing at the end of 1933 was 447. Seven firms had each two separate schemes in operation, so that the total number of schemes was 454. About 377,000 workpeople were employed in the businesses concerned, of whom about 217,000 participated, or were entitled to participate, in the benefits of the schemes.

The following Table gives comparative figures for the years 1925-33, showing the number of schemes in operation, the number of employees covered, and also, so far as the information is available, the bonuses paid under these schemes:—

Year.	Number of undertakings practising profit-sharing.	Number of schemes in operation.	Approximate number of employees entitled to participate.	Bonuses paid under schemes for which details are available.†		
				Number of schemes.	Average amount per head.	Average percentage addition to earnings.
1925	471	478	219,000	368	£ s. d. 9 0 11	Per cent. 5.1
1926	482	489	228,000	376	8 16 10	4.4
1927	495	504	236,000	380	8 11 11	4.0
1928	493	502	253,000	414	8 17 9	4.4
1929	502	510	260,000	419	9 9 11	4.8
1930	492	500	240,000	427	10 2 2	5.7
1931	475	483	233,000	413	10 6 0	5.4
1932	457	464	220,000	391	9 10 3	5.2
1933	447	454	217,000	385	10 17 8	5.5

It will be seen that there were further reductions, in 1933, both in the number of schemes in operation and in the total number of employees entitled to participate.

The figures in the above Table include schemes in co-operative societies as well as those in other businesses. Detailed particulars for each of these two groups are given below.

I.—SCHEMES OTHER THAN THOSE IN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.*

Number of Schemes.

According to the returns received, 273 firms were practising profit-sharing or co-partnership at the end of 1933; seven of these firms had each two separate schemes, so that the number of schemes in operation was 280. In addition, there were nine schemes as to which the Department was unable to obtain a return in respect of the year 1933; all of these schemes are believed to be still in operation, and accordingly they have been included in the statistics.

The following Table analyses, according to the industry or business concerned, the total number of schemes known to have been started, and the number still operating, at the end of 1933:—

Industry or Business.	Schemes in operation at end of 1933.		Number of schemes still in operation at end of 1933.
	Total number of schemes known to have been started.	Number of schemes discontinued by end of 1933.	
Agriculture	32	29	3
Glass, Chemical, Soap, Paint, etc.	33	22	11
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	92	54	38
Textile	42	18	24
Food and Drink Manufacture	61	33	28
Paper, Printing, Bookbinding, Publishing, etc.	68	39	29
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	91	21	70
Banking, Insurance and Finance	13	2	11
Merchants, Warehousemen and Retail Traders	108	71	37
Other Businesses	115	77	38
Total	655	366	289

For those firms whose schemes were in operation at the end of 1933, particulars are given in the following Table as to the number of persons employed and the number of these employees participating in the schemes. In the case of the nine schemes as to which returns were not received for 1933, the numbers of employees has been estimated on the basis of the information supplied in previous years.

* The figures previously published for 1932 and earlier year have been revised, where necessary, in accordance with the latest information available. † Including schemes under which no bonus was earned. (See * note in second column on page 195).

Industry or Business.	Schemes in operation at end of 1933.			
	Number of firms.	Number of schemes.	Total number of employees.	Approx. number of employees entitled to participate.
Agriculture	3	3	200	100
Glass, Chemical, Soap, Paint, etc.	11	11	15,600	12,600
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	35	38	52,100	17,200
Textile	24	24	27,500	16,100
Food and Drink Manufacture	27	28	37,600	26,300
Paper, Printing, Bookbinding, Publishing, etc.	28	29	15,000	8,200
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	70	70	58,200	50,400
Banking, Insurance and Finance	11	11	30,700	22,600
Merchants, Warehousemen and Retail Traders	36	37	45,900	12,500
Other Businesses	37	38	57,100	16,000
Total	282	289	339,900	182,000

From the figures given it will be seen that profit-sharing has been tried in a wide variety of industries; in nearly every industry, however, the number of schemes known to have been started is very small in comparison with the total number of firms engaged in the industry; and, in all industries taken together, over one-half of the schemes started have come to an end. The most conspicuous exception is the gas industry, in which a considerable proportion of the principal company-owned undertakings have introduced schemes; comparatively few of these schemes have been discontinued, and a number have been in operation for twenty years or longer.

The number of employees of the 282 firms with schemes in operation at the end of 1933 was approximately 340,000, of whom about 182,000 were eligible to participate in the benefits conferred by the schemes. In the previous year the number participating, or entitled to participate, in the schemes then in operation was approximately 185,000, out of a total of about 343,000 persons employed.

The large proportion of employees of the firms concerned who did not come within the profit-sharing arrangements is in part due to the fact that participation in many schemes rests upon certain qualifications, such as the attainment of a certain age, or employment with the firm for a minimum number of years; but to a much greater extent it results from the fact that the figures given include a considerable number of schemes which admit employees to participation in the profits only to the extent that they are able and willing to deposit savings with the firm, or to purchase shares in the undertaking.

Types of Schemes.

The following Table shows the number of schemes of various types in operation, together with the number of employees covered by each type of scheme. The number of discontinued schemes of each type is also given:—

Type of scheme.*	Schemes in operation at end of 1933.			Number of schemes discontinued by end of 1933.
	Number of schemes.	Total number of employees.	Approx. number of employees entitled to participate.	
"Share issue" schemes, i.e., schemes consisting in the issue to employees of share capital, either free, or on specially favourable terms	56	113,500	22,800	39
"Deposit" schemes, i.e., schemes under which interest, varying with the profits, is allowed on deposits made by employees	21	50,200	8,300	15
Other schemes, analysed by methods of paying bonus: (a) Bonus paid in cash, or credited to a savings or deposit account	110	81,600	69,900	223
(b) Bonus retained in a provident, superannuation, or other similar fund	12	9,400	8,800	14
(c) Bonus paid in shares or invested in capital of the undertaking	33	30,400	24,800	24
(d) Bonus paid in other ways; combinations of above systems; and method of payment unknown	57	54,800	47,400	51
Total	289	339,900	182,000	366

* Where a scheme has been modified since its introduction, it has been classified according to its latest form.

† In some of these schemes employees may receive part or the whole of their subsequent bonuses in cash, etc., after a given period or after they have accumulated a given amount of capital.

Particulars of the duration of schemes of the various types operative at the end of 1933 are shown below:—

Type of scheme.	Total number of schemes in operation at end of 1933.	Number of schemes which were started—					
		Before 1901.	1901 to 1910.	1911 to 1918.	1919 and 1920.	1921 to 1930.	1931 to 1933.
"Share issue" schemes	56	2	5	9	18	22	...
"Deposit" schemes ...	21	3	2	4	4	8	...
Other schemes:—							
(a) Bonus paid in cash, or credited to a savings or deposit account	110	11	9	21	25	43	1
(b) Bonus retained in a provident, superannuation, or other similar fund	12	1	...	...	4	7	...
(c) Bonus paid in shares or invested in capital of the undertaking	33	...	6	5	6	15	1
(d) Bonus paid in other ways; combinations of above systems; and method of payment unknown	57	7	9	9	7	24	1
Total	289	24	31	48	64	119	3

It may be noted that, of the 289 schemes in operation at the end of 1933, only 24 were started before the year 1901; and that 186 of the schemes are of post-war origin. On the other hand, of the 366 schemes which have been discontinued, only 94 (just over a quarter) were started after the end of the war, and a large proportion were of relatively early origin.

Share-Issue and Deposit Schemes.—In the case of the "share issue" schemes the employee is usually offered shares on terms more favourable than those open to the ordinary investor. The mere holding of shares by an employee is not in itself regarded, for the purpose of the Department's statistics, as an example of profit-sharing, since the shares may have been purchased in the open market, on the same terms as by the ordinary investor; and in that case the dividends on the shares have no element of special advantage to the employee, as such. But where specially favourable terms are accorded to the employee-investor, and it is, moreover, apparent that the object of the scheme is to enlist and retain the interest of employees in their employer's business,† the scheme is included in the statistics as being an example of profit-sharing, although of a rather special and limited kind. Similarly those schemes which give to employees who deposit money with the firm a guaranteed minimum rate of interest, together with a further dividend varying with profits, are treated as examples of profit-sharing, although not of the normal type. These two special types of arrangement account for 77 of the existing schemes, included in the Table, and for 54 of the defunct schemes.

Other Schemes.—Cash bonus schemes (including schemes where the bonus is placed to the credit of the employee in a savings account from which he may freely withdraw) represent nearly 40 per cent. of the existing and slightly over 60 per cent. of the discontinued schemes. In contrast with these schemes are those under which the whole, or part, of the employee's bonus is not distributed in cash; bonuses retained in such schemes are either placed in a provident, superannuation, or similar fund, or, more frequently, are invested on behalf of the employee in the capital of the undertaking.

Co-partnership Provisions in Schemes.—Schemes which encourage employees to acquire shares or other capital in the undertakings with which they are connected, and in this and in other ways to obtain some share in the control of the business, are frequently referred to under the description "co-partnership." Among the 289 schemes in operation there are 124 which provide for some form of shareholding by employees; while of the 366 defunct schemes, 77 provided such arrangements.

One form of shareholding has already been mentioned, that in which shares are issued to employees on specially advantageous terms. Ninety-five such schemes are known to have been introduced, of which 56 are still in force, 40 of these having been started since the war. Although the firms with these schemes in operation employ about 114,000 workers, only about 23,000 participate. The smallness of the proportion of participants to all employees is mainly due to the fact that in many cases only a minority of the employees have been able, or have wished, to take advantage of the facilities offered.

An entirely different type of shareholding scheme, and one in which a substantial majority of the workers employed normally participate, is that in which a share of profits is set aside for the employees, but is wholly retained for investment on their behalf in the firm's capital, or is so retained for a prescribed period or until the employee has acquired a prescribed amount of capital. Of such schemes 57 are known to have been started; 33 of these are still in operation, including 11 started before the war. Gas companies provide much the largest section of these bonus-capitalisation schemes, accounting for 26 out of the 33 schemes of this type in operation; practically all the earlier schemes of this type were introduced by gas companies.

* See note † in second column on previous page. † A single issue of shares, particularly if there were no restrictions on the subsequent sale of the shares to persons outside the business, would not usually come within the scope of the statistics.

In addition to the above schemes, which may be regarded as wholly of co-partnership character, a further 49 schemes are known to have been started in which some definite part (usually one-half) of the bonus is capitalised, the other part being paid in cash, or retained in a provident fund, etc. Of these 49 schemes, 14 have been terminated and 35 are still in operation; 26 of the 35 schemes are in operation in gas companies.

Bonuses Paid.

In the case of 224 schemes in operation in 1933, particulars are available as to the bonuses paid or credited to employees in that year, and are summarised in the following Table. A few firms were unable to supply particulars of bonuses paid or credited, and some schemes—particularly of the share-issue type—do not lend themselves to calculation in this respect. Further, there is a group of schemes—those described as "deposit" schemes—for which the profit-sharing bonus can usually be stated, but is of a different character from that in other types of schemes. In these cases the guaranteed minimum interest on sums left on deposit with the employing firm is not regulated by profits, but the supplementary interest which is determined by the level of profits is regarded as the profit-sharing bonus and is included in the figures given below. Where such cases occur a second series of figures is given, in italics, in order to show the effect of excluding these "deposit" schemes from the statistics.

Industry or Business.	Number of schemes to which particulars relate.*	Number of employees entitled to participate.*	Average amount of bonus per head in 1933.*		Average percentage addition to earnings in 1933.*
			£ s. d.	Per cent.	
Agriculture	2	100	17	7	1.4
Glass, Chemical, Soap, Paint, etc.	9	12,400	14	16	10.0
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	22	13,600	2	2	1.0
Textile	18	11,700	1	14	1.7
Food and Drink Manufacture	20	11,000	3	3	3.0
Paper, Printing, Bookbinding, Publishing, etc.	17	10,300	3	2	3.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	24	25,800	6	10	3.8
Banking, Insurance and Finance	20	24,800	6	13	3.8
Merchants, Warehousemen and Retail Traders	21	5,400	5	8	3.6
Other Businesses	20	5,200	5	11	3.6
Total	68	49,900	9	6	4.8
	7	14,700	56	10	16.0
	26	8,300	8	19	6.4
	25	14,600	3	17	2.8
	21	11,500	4	15	3.5
Total	224	155,800	12	0	5.8
	207	148,700	12	0	5.9

The results of the same schemes, classified according to the rates of bonus paid, are shown below:—

Percentage addition made by bonus to earnings.	Number of schemes to which particulars relate.	Total number of employees.	Number of employees entitled to participate.	Amount of bonus paid (or credited) in 1933.
Nil	63	50,400	25,100	£ —
Under 2 per cent.	56	25,500	27,800	14,300
2 and under 4 per cent.	17	11,900	7,900	13,000
4 " " 6 " "	16	8,000	6,700	196,400
6 " " 8 " "	33	47,200	39,000	194,400
8 " " 10 " "	31	45,700	38,600	161,200
10 " " 12 " "	31	23,800	22,700	143,500
12 " " 14 " "	26	16,500	13,500	137,200
14 " " 16 " "	25	15,700	12,700	148,300
16 " " 18 " "	11	10,500	8,500	101,900
18 " " 20 " "	9	7,100	6,100	158,800
20 per cent. or over	4	9,000	7,700	794,600
Percentage not stated	5	2,100	1,800	96,700
	20	24,900	10,900	58,300
	14	12,900	9,500	52,000
Total	224	216,100	155,800	1,874,000
	207	173,000	148,700	1,858,100

The average rate of bonus in 1933 was above the level of the preceding year—5.8 per cent. addition to earnings as against 5.3 per cent. in 1932; excluding "deposit" schemes the percentages were 5.9 in 1933 as compared with 5.4 in 1932. Owing to insufficient profits, no bonus was earned in a considerable proportion of the schemes included in these averages. Rather more than one-quarter of the schemes yielded no bonus in 1933; and in each of the past ten years a large proportion, ranging from one-fifth to one-third of the schemes covered, have failed to yield a bonus.

As was the case in 1932, the highest amount of bonus per head in 1933 was in the relatively small banking, insurance and finance group, the bonuses averaging £56 10s. 9d. per head in 1933 and £37 3s. 6d. in 1932. A high rate of bonus was also paid in the glass, chemical, etc. group, the amount per head being £14 16s. 7d. in 1933 as compared with £14 6s. 8d. in 1932. For gas, water and electricity supply undertakings the figures were £9 6s. 5d. in 1933, and £9 17s. 2d. in 1932; while in the merchants, warehousemen, etc. group, the rate per head fell from £10 13s. 2d. in 1932 to £8 19s. 6d. in 1933. At the other end of the scale the average

* Including schemes under which no bonus was earned. It should be noted that the figures showing the average amounts of bonus are not strictly comparable with those representing the average percentage additions to earnings, because some firms were able to give only the amount, but not the rate, of bonus.

bonus in the metal group was £2 2s. 1d. in 1933, compared with £2 19s. 7d. in 1932. In the textile group the average amount rose from 13s. 4d. per head in 1932 to £3 3s. 2d. in 1933. The average rate of bonus—taking all industries together, and all types of schemes for which this figure can be given—shows comparatively little variation from year to year. In the twenty-four years from 1910 to 1933 inclusive, a period which covers years both of great prosperity and of severe depression, the average rate has never fallen below 3.6 per cent. (in 1921) and never risen above 6.7 per cent. (in 1914). In eighteen out of the twenty-four years the rate has varied only between 4.5 and 5.9, and the average rate for the whole period has been 5.1 per cent.

New Schemes.

No scheme has come to the notice of the Department as having been introduced in 1933.

Schemes Discontinued.

Five schemes were reported to the Department as having been discontinued during 1933. Particulars of these schemes are given in the Table below:—

Industry or Business.	Scheme began.	Approximate number of employees at date of discontinuance.	Cause of discontinuance.
Musical instrument manufacture.	1907	10	Liquidation of company.
Engineering ...	1913	1,200	Dissatisfaction of employers with working of scheme.
Linoleum manufacture	1920	110	Liquidation of company.
Gas manufacture ...	1922	80	Amalgamation with another gas company also practising profit-sharing.
Generation and distribution of electricity.	1927	800	All shares reserved for employees allotted.

The following Table analyses, by cause of discontinuance, and by duration, all the schemes known to the Department to have been discontinued:—

Cause of discontinuance.	Number of schemes which lasted—							Total number of schemes discontinued by end of 1933.
	Under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 years or over.	Period not known.	
Apathy of employees, or dissatisfaction of employers with results ...	9	26	23	12	6	6	3	85
Dissatisfaction of employees ...	2	4	3	3	2	2	...	16
Diminution of profits, losses or want of success	6	22	14	24	7	9	1	83
Enterprise abandoned; death of employer; liquidation or dissolution of business, etc. ...	9	12	4	9	8	6	1	49
Changes in, or transfer of business ...	3	10	18	10	5	12	...	58
Substitution of increased wages, or shorter hours, or other benefits ...	...	12	12	8	2	5	...	39
Other causes; cause not known or indefinite ...	6	4	10	6	2	2	6	36
Total ...	35	90	84	72	32	42	11	366

Comparison with Previous Years.

There was an almost continuous increase in the number of profit-sharing schemes during the years 1910 to 1929, though the progress was very much more rapid in some years than in others; since 1929, however, the number of schemes in operation has declined each year. The years of greatest progress in the establishment of new schemes during the period were 1919 and 1920, when there was a net addition of 96 schemes and of 33,000 participating employees. The following Table shows the general position of profit-sharing schemes in the years 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1933:—

	1910.	1920.	1930.	1933.
Schemes in operation ...	123	271	328	289
Approximate number of employees entitled to participate ...	57,000	136,000	207,000	182,000
Schemes for which particulars are available as to bonuses paid or credited* ...	76	153	256	224
Number of employees entitled to participate ...	52,000	112,000	176,000	156,000
Average amount of bonus per head ...	†	£9 18s. 3d.	£10 18s. 6d.	£12 0s. 7d.
Average percentage addition to earnings ...	5.0	6.4	5.9	5.8

II.—SCHEMES IN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.‡

At the end of 1933, 165 co-operative societies are known to the Department to have had in operation definite profit-sharing schemes. Employees of these societies totalled nearly 37,000, of whom nearly 35,000 participated, or were entitled to participate, under the schemes.

* See * note in next column.

† Figures not available.

‡ The figures previously published for 1932 and earlier years have been revised, where necessary, in accordance with the latest information available.

Many other societies are understood to pay to their employees additional remuneration in the form of bonuses on output, commission on sales, etc.; but such arrangements are not regarded as coming within the scope of the Department's statistics of profit-sharing, and are accordingly excluded from the figures given below. The following Table gives particulars of the schemes in operation in 1933, showing separately the figures for the different types of societies:—

	Agricultural societies.	Industrial productive societies.	Retail distributive societies.	All societies.
Schemes in operation ...	61	51	53	165
Approximate number of employees entitled to participate	800	10,500	23,400	34,700
Schemes for which particulars are available as to bonuses paid or credited* ...	59	50	52	161
Average amount of bonus per head ...	£3 13s. 5d.	£6 3s. 0d.	£5 12s. 7d.	£5 14s. 11d.
Average percentage addition to earnings ...	2.9	5.5	4.3	4.6

Agricultural Societies.—The schemes in force with all of these societies provide for a bonus to employees consisting of a fixed proportion of the net profits; in all cases the bonus is paid in cash. The rates of bonus paid in recent years have been noticeably small, amounting to less than 2 per cent. on wages in each of the years 1925 to 1929. Since then the rate has been somewhat above this level, though still relatively low: it reached 2.1 in 1930; 2.3 in 1931; and 3.1 in 1932. In 1933 the rate fell to 2.9 per cent. Twelve of the agricultural societies paid no bonus in 1933.

Industrial Productive Societies.—The schemes adopted by the majority of productive societies provide for a specified proportion of the profits to be set aside for the workers; but in a number of cases the employees receive a bonus on wages at a rate which varies with the rate of dividend declared upon customers' purchases. A large proportion of the schemes in the productive societies are of the co-partnership type; of the 51 schemes, nine provide that the employees' bonuses are to be wholly retained for investment in the society's share capital, while 26 schemes provide for the whole bonus to be so retained until the employee has a stated amount of capital to his credit. In the case of five other societies some part of the bonus is retained for investment, and in three other cases the whole or part of the bonus is used for provident, etc., purposes; in only eight of the 51 societies is the bonus paid out wholly in cash.

The productive societies are mainly engaged in the printing, boot and shoe, other clothing, and textile industries. The following Table shows the number of societies in each of these industry groups in 1933, together with particulars of the bonuses paid in each group in that year:—

Industry.	Number of schemes in operation.	Approximate number of employees entitled to participate.	Bonuses paid or credited in 1933.*	
			Average amount per head.	Average percentage addition to earnings.
Textile ...	5	900	£ 3 10 7	4.0
Boot and Shoe ...	15	1,600	4 7 0	3.6
Other Clothing ...	4	4,300	4 10 5	5.5
Printing, Bookbinding, etc. ...	15	1,100	2 15 2	1.7
Other Industries ...	11	2,500	12 7 1	8.7
Total ...	51	10,500	6 3 0	5.5

No bonuses were available under 25 of the 51 schemes in 1933; in 8 of these societies no bonus has been paid or credited during the whole of the nine years 1925–1933. When bonuses are payable, however, they are usually higher in this than in either of the other co-operative groups.

Retail Distributive Societies.—The type of scheme which is most common among these societies consists in paying the employees, out of such profits as may remain after meeting various specified charges, "not less than ½d. in the £ on gross sales and ¼d. in the £ on net profits"; but a number of societies pay a bonus on wages at a rate which is regulated by the rate of dividend declared upon customers' purchases, and a smaller number pay a bonus which is based on a fixed proportion of the net profits. Where the first arrangement is in force, it will be obvious that a part—and usually by far the larger part—of the supplementary payment is merely a collective commission on sales, and is therefore outside the scope of these statistics. In such cases only that part of the bonus which is regulated by the amount of profits is included in the figures shown in this article.

The average rate of bonus in this group showed a steady increase throughout the period 1925–1923, and thereafter little change, the percentage additions to earnings in recent years being 4.2 in 1929, 4.3 in 1930, 4.5 in 1931 and in 1932, and 4.3 in 1933. Only three of these societies paid no bonus in 1933.

* Including schemes in operation under which no bonus was earned. It should be noted that the figures showing the average amounts of bonus are not strictly comparable with those representing the average percentage additions to earnings, because some societies were able to give the amount but not the rate of bonus.

All Societies.

Statistics are given in the following Table relating to all schemes in operation with co-operative societies in each of the years 1925 to 1933:—

Year.	Number of schemes in operation.	Approximate number of employees entitled to participate.	Bonuses under schemes for which details are available.*			Per cent.
			Number of schemes to which particulars relate.	Number of employees entitled to participate.	Average amount of bonus per head.	
1925	175	24,200	156	23,400	£ 4 12 9	3.8
1926	176	25,500	157	25,000	4 15 11	4.0
1927	177	26,500	155	26,200	4 16 9	4.2
1928	178	29,500	162	28,800	5 8 9	4.6
1929	177	30,800	164	30,600	5 10 3	4.4
1930	172	33,000	171	32,900	5 14 11	4.6
1931	170	34,000	169	34,000	5 11 5	4.7
1932	170	35,100	164	34,000	5 10 1	4.7
1933	165	34,700	161	34,700	5 14 11	4.6

SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

The sixty-sixth Annual Congress of delegates from co-operative societies in the United Kingdom was held at Rhyl on 21st, 22nd and 23rd May, 1934, and was attended by 1,734 delegates, representing 603 societies. There were also representatives of co-operative organisations from Norway, Sweden, and Russia. The Congress was convened by the Co-operative Union of Great Britain and Ireland, a federation of 1,195 societies, with an aggregate membership of 6½ millions. The President of the Congress was Mr. Arthur Piekup, a director of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.

The President, in his inaugural address, referred to the difficulties confronting the co-operative movement as a result of recent economic and political developments at home and abroad. He urged that internal competition within the co-operative movement should be eliminated, and that co-operative policy and trading activities should be developed on the basis of a considered plan. In a review of the progress of the movement he claimed that, during the recent years of depression, the position of the employees of co-operative societies had actually improved. As regards the consumers, in the five years since 1928 the co-operative societies as a whole had distributed nearly £120 millions, as dividends on purchases and interest on share capital.

The Report of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union was presented to Congress and discussed by the delegates. In reviewing the work of the National Co-operative Authority since the previous Congress, its chairman described the steps which had been taken in connection with the new taxation placed upon the societies by the Finance Act, 1933, with marketing schemes, and with attacks on the movement in a section of the press. The Report contains the views and advice given to societies by the Authority on these and other matters.

The work of the Labour Department of the Union was discussed upon a motion by a member of the Executive Committee of the Union, for the adoption of the section of the Report dealing with that Department. He said that the relations between the societies and their employees were on the whole satisfactory, though the relations between some of the trade unions and some of the movement's negotiating bodies were not equally cordial. He referred to the work of the Co-operative National Conciliation Board, and said that cases affecting over 46,000 workers had been settled either by awards of the Board or by agreement, and cases affecting 1,300 workers had been left unsettled; of these, cases affecting about 1,000 workers had been settled by subsequent direct negotiation. The Report shows that the Co-operative Hours and Wages Boards now embrace 641 societies, with over 5 million members, as compared with 502 societies, with 1,654,000 members, not affiliated to the Boards, and that superannuation schemes now cover about 68 per cent. of the workers employed by the co-operative movement.

The adoption of the Report of the National Education Council of the Union was moved by the Chairman of the Council, who said that, although the educational work of the movement was giving some satisfaction, the increase in the number of students was not in harmony with the large increase in co-operative membership. The number of classes was 2,083, with 53,465 students.

The Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, in moving the adoption of the Committee's Report, reviewed its work during the past year, and referred to the effects on the movement of the various marketing schemes and subsidies. A resolution, proposed by the secretary of the Committee, was carried, protesting against schemes under the Agricultural Marketing Acts, "which gave to the producers the sole control of all marketing arrangements," and demanding that in all marketing schemes the principle of co-operation between all the interests affected should operate.

The Report of the Co-operative Party was presented to Congress by the Chairman of the Party; it shows that the number of societies now subscribing to the Party is 462, with a membership of over four millions, compared with 792 societies, with a membership of 2,663,000, not subscribing. The Chairman, speaking on the relationship between the Co-operative Party and the Labour Party, stated that negotiating machinery had been built up to settle any differences that might develop. Resolutions, sponsored by the Party, were carried regarding the development of the political activities of the movement, the Unemployment Bill, and the policy of the Party regarding national finance.

Other matters discussed by the Congress included the work and

* See note * in second column of previous page.

present position of the International Co-operative Alliance; the co-operative press; and wages and conditions in the distributive trades, in which the setting up of Trade Boards was advocated.

POOR RELIEF: FIRST QUARTER OF 1934.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

ACCORDING to a statement* issued by the Ministry of Health, the total number of persons† in receipt of poor relief (domiciliary and institutional) in England and Wales at the end of March, 1934, was 1,409,089. This compares with 1,368,972 at the end of December, 1933, and with 1,357,236 at the end of March, 1933.

The statement gives figures for the various administrative counties and county boroughs. Forty-three of the administrative counties, and 63 of the county boroughs, showed increases between the end of March, 1933, and the corresponding date in 1934; the greatest increases were in the West Riding of Yorkshire (13,764, or 27.5 per cent.), in Liverpool (9,454, or 12.4 per cent.), and in the administrative county of Lancashire (4,576, or 12.5 per cent.). On the other hand, 19 administrative counties, and 20 county boroughs, showed reductions; of these the greatest were in London (12,358, or 8.7 per cent.) and in Middlesex (4,331, or 11.5 per cent.).

The totals given above include large numbers returned as persons who would ordinarily be employed. Nearly all the relief given to these persons is domiciliary (i.e., given to them while resident in their own homes). The following Table gives figures for persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in England and Wales at the end of March, 1934, with comparative totals for December, 1933, and for March, 1933; these figures represent averages of the numbers in receipt of relief on each Saturday of the respective months:—

Classes of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief.‡	England and Wales.	
	Numbers.	Numbers per 10,000 of the estimated population.
1. (a)—Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	95,746	24
(b)—Wives and dependent children of above persons ...	218,108	54
2. (a)—Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange ...	49,453	12
(b)—Wives and dependent children of above persons ...	78,588	20
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants...	189,465	47
4. Totals of above three classes:—		
March, 1934 ...	631,360	157
December, 1933 ...	594,668	148
March, 1933 ...	602,059	151
5. All other persons:—		
March, 1934 ...	590,169	147
December, 1933 ...	681,250	145
March, 1933 ...	576,327	144
6. Totals (all persons):—		
March, 1934 ...	1,221,529	304
December, 1933 ...	1,275,918	293
March, 1933 ...	1,178,386	295

SCOTLAND.

The following Table shows the numbers of persons§ in receipt of outdoor relief in Scotland, on the 15th of each month, in the first quarter of 1934. The corresponding total figures for each month in the first and fourth quarters of 1933 are also given:—

Classes of persons in receipt of outdoor relief.‡	First month.	Second month.	Third month.
1. (a) Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	36,335	37,111	50,106
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	66,638	67,147	97,563
2. (a) Unemployed persons not insured but registered at Employment Exchanges ...	11,237	11,423	11,481
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	11,589	11,535	11,621
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation:—			
I. (a) Able-bodied unemployed ...	4,328	4,267	4,294
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	6,580	6,470	6,506
II. (a) Other persons ...	17,665	18,137	18,615
(b) Wives and dependent children ...	43,330	44,274	45,662
4. Totals of above three classes:—			
First quarter, 1934 ...	197,802	200,364	245,848
Fourth quarter, 1933 ...	173,415	179,340	186,348
First quarter, 1933 ...	177,870	178,481	178,695
5. All other persons:—			
First quarter, 1934 ...	105,171	106,333	107,370
Fourth quarter, 1933 ...	102,128	102,904	104,160
First quarter, 1933 ...	98,854	100,064	100,810
6. Totals (all persons):—			
First quarter, 1934 ...	302,973	306,697	353,218
Fourth quarter, 1933 ...	275,541	282,244	289,508
First quarter, 1933 ...	276,724	278,546	279,505

* Statement showing the Number of Persons in receipt of Poor Relief in England and Wales in the Quarter ending March, 1934. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net (7d. post-free).

† Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals, who numbered 19,805 and 14,736, respectively, at the end of March, 1934. Rate-aided patients in mental hospitals are also excluded.

‡ Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only. § Excluding lunatics, mental defectives, persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals.

CENSUS OF SCOTLAND, 1931: OCCUPATIONS AND INDUSTRIES.

VOLUME III of the Report on the Census of Scotland, 1931, dealing with the occupations of the people, and the industries in which they are engaged, has been published.*

The population of Scotland of working age (14 years and upwards) at the date of the Census (26th April, 1931) was 3,617,783, and showed an increase of 78,731, or 2.2 per cent., as compared with the previous Census (relating to 1921), although the total population at all ages had declined by 39,517, or 0.8 per cent. Of the total population of 14 years and upwards, 2,201,310 were returned as normally following a gainful occupation (including those out of work at the date of the Census). The number of males gainfully occupied was 1,542,253, or 90.3 per cent. of the male population aged 14 and upwards; and the number of females gainfully occupied was 659,057, or 34.5 per cent. of the female population at those ages. As compared with 1921 the figures showed a decrease of 435 males, and an increase of 23,236 females, normally following gainful occupations; but the two sets of figures are not strictly comparable, many students having in 1921 been included among the gainfully occupied, whereas in 1931 students in educational institutions were included among those "occupied (not gainfully)."

Among males gainfully occupied (including persons out of work) there were remarkable changes, between 1921 and 1931, in occupational distribution. There were increases of 34,764 (or 2.8 per cent.) in commercial occupations (excluding clerks); of 12,266 (or 7.2 per cent.) in transport and communication; of 11,892 (or 37.5 per cent.) in personal service occupations; and of 37,952 (or 26.0 per cent.) in "other and undefined" occupations: these last are largely unskilled labourers, and the increase was partly due to a change in classification. There were decreases of 55,615 (or 22.7 per cent.) among metal workers; of 27,853 (or 18.3 per cent.) in mining and quarrying occupations; and of 9,713 (or 13.5 per cent.) among workers in wood and furniture. There were also considerable reductions among clerks, etc., in public administration and defence occupations, and among makers of articles of clothing, fishermen, and workers in agricultural occupations. Taken generally, the figures indicate a marked decline in numbers in productive occupations, and increases in commercial, transport, and personal service occupations.

Among females normally engaged in gainful occupations, there were increases, between 1921 and 1931, of 26,850 (or 16.0 per cent.) in personal service occupations; of 12,313 (or 14.7 per cent.) in commercial occupations; and other considerable increases among textile workers, in professional occupations, and among clerks, typists, etc. There were decreases of 14,515 (or 27.1 per cent.) among makers of articles of dress, etc.; of 8,571 (or 35.2 per cent.) in agricultural occupations; and of 8,910 (or 27.3 per cent.) in "other and undefined" occupations. This latter group may, however, have been affected by changes in classification. Among clerks, typists, etc., an increase of 3,421 females was concurrent with a decrease of 6,514 males.

Figures are given in the Report showing the numbers of persons, normally engaged in gainful occupations, who returned themselves as out of work at the date of the Census. For males the number was 283,398, or 18.4 per cent. of the total gainfully occupied, and for females it was 74,310, or 11.3 per cent. Detailed tables are given showing the distribution of these totals by occupations and by industries. The Report points out that in considering these figures in relation to other information relating to numbers unemployed, it is important to keep in mind the basis on which the Census figures are founded and the ground which they cover. In the case of every person normally occupied, but unemployed at the time of the Census, the householder was expected to indicate both the normal occupation and the fact of being out of work. The statistics of unemployment obtained by the Ministry of Labour are compiled on a different basis. They refer to persons registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed, whether in receipt of unemployment benefit or not. Thus the Census figures relating to persons returned as "out of work" will include a number who, although unemployed, were not registered at an Employment Exchange, and accordingly not available for inclusion in the Ministry of Labour statistics. These will be mainly persons not covered by the State scheme of Unemployment Insurance, such as agricultural labourers, private domestic servants, out-workers, and non-manual workers employed at a rate of remuneration exceeding £250 a year. On the other hand it is likely that the statistics of the Ministry of Labour, including as they do persons temporarily stopped from the service of their employers, as well as those wholly unemployed, may embrace a certain number not shown in the Census figures as "out of work," since a person whose working time had been limited might well be included in the Ministry of Labour statistics as unemployed at a particular date about Census time, though not returning himself in the Census schedule as "out of work." It is further possible that there may have been a reluctance on the part of some persons to state that they were out of work. For example, in some cases females engaged in domestic duties pending re-employment in their own particular occupation may have been returned as occupied in "Home Duties." It should also be remembered that it is difficult to draw the line in the case of elderly persons between those who are "out of work" and the "Retired," as many persons willing to accept work if offered may have included themselves in the latter category because of the absence of any reasonable prospect of employment in future; and this, together with the payment of old age contributory pensions

* Report on the Fourteenth Decennial Census of Scotland. Vol. III: Occupations and Industries. H.M. Stationery Office; price 25s. net (25s. 9d., post free.)

at age 65, may help to explain the considerable increase observed in the numbers of the Retired, especially at the higher ages. For these various reasons, therefore, the Census figures of persons returned as "out of work" cannot be regarded as strictly comparable with the unemployment statistics published by the Ministry of Labour; but, having regard to the different basis of compilation, the variation between them is not greater than might have been expected. The Census figures are 283,398 males and 74,310 females, while those of the Ministry of Labour for the date nearest to that of the Census were (for Scotland) 264,742 males and 78,060 females.

The Report also classifies the occupied population of Scotland at the Census of 1931 by industries, i.e., according to the business or trade of the employers. The following Table, taken from the Report, shows the numbers of persons engaged in the various industries at the Censuses of 1931 and 1921, and the increase or decrease between the two dates. For the purpose of the Table the numbers for 1921 are adjusted, as far as possible, to allow for changes of classification between the two dates. The totals include persons who were out of work at the date of the Census.

Industry.	Census of 1931.			Census of 1921. Total.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1931 as compared with 1921.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Number.	Per cent.
Fishing ...	21,585	262	21,847	25,011	-3,164	-12.7
Agriculture ...	160,545	16,187	176,732	183,086	-6,354	-3.5
Mining and quarrying ...	144,179	2,218	146,397	178,897	-32,500	-18.2
Manufacture of bricks, pottery, glass, etc. ...	12,468	2,575	15,043	12,275	+2,768	+22.5
Manufacture of chemicals, etc. ...	17,177	4,023	21,200	18,307	+2,893	+15.8
Manufacture of metals, machines, etc. ...	263,481	16,839	280,320	368,610	-88,290	-24.0
Textile manufacture ...	51,711	100,663	152,374	151,166	+1,208	+0.8
Manufacture of leather and leather goods ...	4,299	1,517	5,816	6,021	-205	-3.4
Clothing manufacture ...	18,808	27,778	46,586	66,888	-20,302	-30.4
Manufacture of food, drink and tobacco ...	53,179	39,372	92,551	87,345	+5,206	+6.0
Wood working ...	39,830	4,988	44,818	42,065	+2,753	+6.5
Paper and stationery manufacture; printing ...	30,972	21,188	52,160	46,078	+6,082	+13.2
Building and contracting; decorating ...	98,362	3,380	101,742	67,829	+33,913	+50.0
Other manufacturing industries ...	16,541	7,953	24,494	20,067	+4,427	+22.1
Gas, water and electricity ...	16,807	689	17,496	16,433	+1,063	+6.5
Transport and communication	146,350	9,453	155,803	155,421	+382	+0.2
Commerce and finance ...	228,350	134,840	363,190	283,561	+79,629	+28.1
Public administration and defence	102,072	50,212	152,284	143,352	+8,932	+6.2
Professions ...	39,146	38,659	77,805	65,792	+12,013	+18.3
Entertainments and sport ...	11,992	5,149	17,141	10,689	+6,452	+60.4
Personal service ...	54,351	168,603	222,954	199,955	+22,999	+11.5
Other industries, or industry not stated ...	21,821	10,801	32,622	42,460	-9,838	-23.2
Total in Industries	1,554,026*	667,349*	2,221,375*	2,191,308	+30,067	+1.4

It will be seen that there were large increases in commerce and finance, and in building and contracting and decorating; and considerable increases in personal service, in the professions, and in public administration and defence: the increase in this last group was entirely in local government service (including the education service under local authorities).

On the other hand, there were large reductions in the manufacture of metals, machines, etc., and in mining and quarrying; and a considerable reduction in clothing manufacture. In the metal and machinery group there were reductions, among individual industries, of 13,891 (or 33.4 per cent.) in iron and steel smelting, rolling, etc.; of 25,916 (or 28.4 per cent.) in engineering, other than marine or electrical engineering; and of 45,918 (or 37.1 per cent.) in shipbuilding and marine engineering. A reduction of 11,610 (or 21.3 per cent.) was also shown in metal founding, but this was largely due to a change of classification.

Among males, the principal increases, between 1921 and 1931, were in commerce and finance; building, etc.; personal service; entertainments and sport; paper and stationery manufacture, printing, etc.; public administration etc.; and professional services. The principal decreases were in the manufacture of metals, machines etc.; mining and quarrying; clothing manufacture; and fishing.

Among females, the principal increases were in commerce and finance; personal service; professional services; public administration, etc.; and transport and communication. The decreases occurred chiefly in clothing manufacture; agriculture; mining and quarrying; and the manufacture of metals, machines, etc.

Tables are also given in the Report showing the numbers of males and of females, classified by occupations and by conjugal condition, who returned themselves as having the right to medical benefit under the National Health Insurance Acts.

† These totals differ slightly from those given in the text, showing the number of persons "gainfully" occupied, because they include 20,065 persons (11,773 males and 8,292 females) occupied, but not gainfully. These were nearly all students in educational institutions.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

REDUCTION OF HOURS OF WORK.

A WHITE Paper* has been issued containing the text of the reply of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom to a questionnaire† issued to Governments by the International Labour Office in preparation for the discussion of the subject of the reduction of hours of work, at the eighteenth session of the International Labour Conference which opened at Geneva on 4th June.

The letter of reply, sent by the Minister of Labour to the Director of the International Labour Office on 14th March, 1934, stated that H.M. Government had given the most serious consideration to this important subject, and had proceeded to enquire into the relevant facts and considerations and to consult the interests most directly concerned with a view to reaching a sound judgment on the main issues set forth in the questionnaire. The enquiries and consultations had not yet been concluded, but the facts and opinions so far elicited were sufficiently comprehensive to enable H.M. Government to reach a definite conclusion on the pivotal point of the questionnaire, viz., the desirability or otherwise of adopting, in June, 1934, an international Convention designed to reduce hours of work. On this point H.M. Government, on the information before it, was of opinion that the adoption of a Convention likely to be effective was impracticable. It was added that H.M. Government does not take the view that weekly hours of work are immutably fixed at their present levels. A continuous review of the problem industry by industry will, in the opinion of H.M. Government, reveal the scope for useful action and where this exists, and it is contended that the question of the limitation of hours can only be dealt with, either nationally or internationally, industry by industry in the light of the special characteristics of each industry.

The letter was accompanied by a statement of relevant facts and considerations which had contributed to the conclusion reached by H.M. Government, and a note with regard to the points contained in the preamble to the questionnaire, the full texts of which are given in the White Paper.

WAGES, WORKING HOURS, AND COST OF FOOD IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

In the "International Labour Review"‡ for May, 1934, the International Labour Office have published the results of a further inquiry into wages, working hours and the cost of food in a number of towns in various countries. This inquiry, which related to the month of October, 1933, was in continuation of previous inquiries, and, in particular, that of October, 1932, the results of which were published in the numbers of the "International Labour Review" for April, June, July and August, 1933.

The statistics presented are based on information supplied by the competent statistical services (national or municipal) in the various countries. So far as wages and hours are concerned, they cover 67 towns in 20 countries, viz., Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Great Britain, Hungary, the Irish Free State, Italy, Latvia, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. At the time of publication, no data regarding wages and hours had been received from Germany and Yugoslavia, countries previously represented in these statistics. In the statistics relating to the cost of food, figures are published for the countries named above as well as for Czechoslovakia, Finland and Germany.

As regards the statistics of wages and working hours, particulars are given, so far as they were obtainable, in respect of 29 occupations (in the 67 towns of the 20 countries named above) in the mechanical engineering, building, furniture making, printing and bookbinding, food, transport, and electric power distribution industries, as well as of the wages and hours of unskilled labourers employed by local authorities.

Special efforts have been made by the International Labour Office to make clear the exact nature of the wage data collected, which are presented in the form of hourly rates (hourly time rates and hourly piecework basis time rates) and of hourly earnings, when the latter were obtainable. In some cases, particulars of hourly earnings only were supplied. The wage data so assembled are subject to numerous reservations as regards their comparability; and international comparisons based on the figures can be attempted only with the greatest caution. The data relating to working hours refer to normal hours of labour. They do not necessarily indicate the actual working hours, especially as short time is very prevalent in many industries and countries at the present time. Information is given in the notes to the Tables concerning the hours actually worked, in the industries or occupations covered by the inquiry, in Estonia, Hungary and Poland.

* International Labour Conference, Eighteenth Session. Reply of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom to the questionnaire on the subject of the reduction of hours of work. Cmd. 4584. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (2½d. post free.)

† See the International Labour Conference, Seventeenth Session. Report to the Minister of Labour by the delegates of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. (Appendix IV.) H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net (10d. post free.)

‡ Published in the United Kingdom by Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd. 40, Museum Street, London, W.C.1. Price 2s. 6d. (post free.)

The investigation into the cost of food in October, 1933, in the 23 countries named above, was carried out in a similar way to the inquiry of October, 1932, a summary of the results of which was published in this GAZETTE for May, 1933 (page 165). Prices of 14 important foodstuffs were obtained from the competent national or municipal statistical services; a quantity, representing to some extent the average consumption habits of the principal countries considered, was assigned to each article of food; and the total cost of these quantities of the 14 foodstuffs was calculated for each town and country.

Subject to certain qualifications, the data presented as a result of this inquiry provide a basis on which broad comparisons may be made of the relative levels of money wages, and of wages expressed in terms of purchasing power, so far as food is concerned, in the various countries and towns covered. In view, however, of the limitations of the available material, no actual comparisons of this kind are given in the "International Labour Review," such as have on previous occasions been published as a result of similar inquiries.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INDEX NUMBERS OF THE GENERAL LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

In the "International Labour Review"* for April, 1934, the International Labour Office have published the results of a series of calculations designed to show the relative fluctuations, since the beginning of the year 1929, in the general level of unemployment in 16 of the principal industrial countries of the world. The data are presented in the form of index numbers, having as their basis the average level of unemployment in the year 1929, taken as = 100. For fourteen of the countries represented, viz., Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America, the index numbers are based on unemployment percentages, taken for the most part from trade union returns or from unemployment insurance statistics. For the remaining two countries, viz., Germany and Italy, the index numbers are based on the numbers of persons registered as unemployed. As regards the principal country omitted, France, it was not found possible to utilise the available statistics for this particular purpose.

In the case of each country, two Tables are given, one showing the index numbers unadjusted and the other the index numbers adjusted for seasonal variations. A final Table is also published in which the various index numbers are weighted according to the industrial importance of each country, and combined to form two series of international index numbers of unemployment, one unadjusted and the other adjusted for seasonal variations. The unadjusted series of international index numbers is reproduced below:—

International Index Numbers of Unemployment, 1929-1933.
(Base: 1929 = 100.)

Month.	Unadjusted Series.				
	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
January ...	128	147	233	287	303
February ...	131	155	235	289	302
March ...	103	146	228	281	290
April ...	86	141	214	275	277
May ...	75	138	203	272	268
June ...	70	138	202	269	255
July ...	72	148	208	277	246
August ...	73	155	215	274	241
September ...	74	157	221	269	230
October ...	85	164	227	266	228†
November ...	98	183	243	275	232†
December ...	124	209	268	289	247†
Index number for the year ...	100	168	241	297	279

It will be seen from this Table that in the 16 countries represented, taken together, the trend of unemployment, apart from seasonal fluctuations, was continuously upwards from the summer of 1929 until January and February, 1933, when the highest point was reached. After these two months, unemployment began to decline, and from May, 1933, to December, 1933, was less each month than in the corresponding month of the previous year. The index number for the year 1933 was less than the index number for the year 1932, though still greater than the index numbers for the years 1929, 1930 and 1931.

As the Tables of national index numbers show, however, this movement was not uniform in all countries. In Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United States of America, the average level of unemployment was higher in 1933 than in 1932.

The number of the "International Labour Review" in which these index numbers are produced also contains diagrams illustrating the figures, as well as articles explaining both the scope and limitations of the index numbers and of the statistics on which they are based, and the method by which the index numbers were calculated.

* See note † at the foot of the first column on this page.
† Provisional figure.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY IN GERMANY, 1933-1934.

Wirtschaft und Statistik for 31st May, 1934, the official journal of the German Federal Statistical Office, contains a summary of the results for April, 1934 (with corresponding figures for the previous month), of a monthly survey of industrial activity in Germany, compiled from reports supplied by industrial undertakings. The survey covers 23 industries, and the results are presented in a Table, reproduced below, showing the number of manual and non-manual workers in employment expressed as a percentage of the total number for which working accommodation exists; the total number of hours actually worked by all manual workers in employment expressed as a percentage of the maximum number of hours which could be worked in the working time permitted by collective agreement if the entire plant of all the undertakings covered were in full operation; and the average daily number of hours worked by manual workers:—

Industry.	Number of manual workers employed expressed as a percentage of the total number for which working accommodation exists.		Number of hours actually worked by manual workers expressed as a percentage of the maximum with plant in full operation.		Average daily working hours of manual workers.	
	March, 1934.	April, 1934.†	March, 1934.	April, 1934.†	March, 1934.	April, 1934.†
Mining ...	62.3	64.1	57.2	60.3	7.51	7.74
Iron and steel ...	60.9	64.1	55.6	60.3	7.51	7.74
Non-ferrous metal smelting and rolling ...	66.3	69.0	54.1	56.9	7.43	7.51
Iron and steel goods ...	54.0	55.9	48.9	51.4	7.42	7.51
Tin-plate working... Non-ferrous metal goods ...	46.5	49.1	42.2	45.4	7.48	7.58
Machine construction	58.5	60.5	49.0	50.4	6.94	6.94
Construction of vehicles ...	53.7	57.2	49.9	53.4	7.58	7.57
Electrical engineering ...	53.5	58.1	49.5	53.9	7.58	7.57
Scientific instruments, etc. ...	56.4	...	49.9	...	7.08	...
Building materials	53.2	54.8	48.8	50.9	7.37	7.39
Building ...	51.9	60.1	46.3	56.2	7.34	7.53
Saw milling and planing ...	36.7	43.7	...	...	...	...
Woodworking, furniture making, etc. ...	52.4	55.9	50.2	55.1	7.67	7.94
Leather ...	43.3	45.1	38.8	42.1	7.31	7.55
Paper making ...	67.2	68.3	64.1	65.6	7.54	7.59
Paper goods ...	31.2	33.0	31.2	33.0	7.70	7.85
Printing ...	68.6	69.4	59.0	61.3	7.65	7.86
Textile ...	51.0	52.0	46.7	48.8	7.18	7.34
Clothing ...	69.3	71.4	63.7	64.0	7.72	7.69
Boots and shoes (leather) ...	51.6	53.3	47.6	48.7	7.61	7.41
Food ...	69.5	71.2	59.9	60.8	7.45	7.85
Drink and tobacco...	62.9	61.1	57.6	56.1	7.62	7.59
	72.0	73.0	65.2	67.9	7.17	7.39
Producers' goods industries ...	51.9	55.5	48.2	52.3	7.48	7.56
Consumers' goods industries ...	57.6	59.0	52.3	53.9	7.39	7.40
Total ...	54.4	57.0	50.0	53.0	7.44	7.49

In the following Table, a summary is given of the general results of these monthly surveys of industrial activity in Germany since they have appeared in *Wirtschaft und Statistik*:—

Year and month.	Number of manual workers employed expressed as a percentage of the total number for which working accommodation exists.			Number of hours actually worked by manual workers expressed as a percentage of the maximum with plant in full operation.			Average daily working hours of manual workers.		
	Producers' goods industries.	Consumers' goods industries.	All Industries.	Producers' goods industries.	Consumers' goods industries.	All Industries.	Producers' goods industries.	Consumers' goods industries.	All Industries.
1933.									
May ...	40.6	51.8	45.5	36.9	47.8	41.7	7.31	7.54	7.41
June ...	41.9	52.4	46.5	37.8	46.7	41.7	7.26	7.25	7.26
July ...	43.0	52.8	47.3	38.2	45.7	41.5	7.19	6.98	7.10
August ...	44.3	53.5	48.3	39.3	47.1	42.7	7.19	7.06	7.13
September ...	46.1	54.5	49.7	40.9	48.6	44.3	7.19	7.16	7.18
October ...	47.0	55.5	50.7	42.3	49.7	45.5	7.24	7.22	7.23
November ...	47.5	56.1	51.2	43.6	50.6	46.6	7.38	7.33	7.36
December ...	44.8	56.3	49.7	41.4	50.8	45.4	7.31	7.34	7.33
1934.									
January ...	45.3	55.7	49.8	40.9	48.9	44.4	7.19	7.11	7.15
February ...	47.7	56.7	51.6	43.3	50.7	46.5	7.30	7.26	7.28
March ...	51.9	57.6	54.4	48.2	52.3	50.0	7.48	7.39	7.44
April† ...	55.5	59.0	57.0	52.3	53.9	53.0	7.56	7.40	7.49

* The particulars relating to non-manual workers have not been reproduced in the Table.
† In part, provisional figures.
‡ Based on shifts worked, not hours.

It should be noted that the figures in the Table may not be strictly comparable vertically, since the statistics for May, 1933, cover 12 industries or industry groups, whilst those for April, 1934, cover 23 industries or industry groups, and no information is available to show how far the increase in the number of industries is the result of (a) adding fresh industries or (b) dividing industry groups into smaller component parts. Subject to this qualification, it would appear that, during the period under review, activity in industry in general has markedly increased, both as regards the total number of manual workers employed and the total number of hours actually worked by them. The average daily working hours declined on the whole between May and July, 1933, from 7.41 to 7.10, and increased thereafter slowly to 7.36 in November, 1933. The decline during December, 1933, and January, 1934, was followed by an increase, and at April, 1934, the figure was 7.49 hours a day, the highest recorded since May, 1933. Nevertheless, German industry is still working far below its actual capacity.

WAGES IN DENMARK, 1928-1933.

Statistiske Efterretninger for 19th May, 1934, the official journal of the Danish Statistical Department, contains information regarding the average hourly earnings of workers employed by members of the Danish Employers' Association during each quarter of 1933 and the last quarter of 1932. The details of occupational earnings usually furnished have been omitted, because, it is explained, in most cases they were the same in 1933 as in the previous year.

The following Table, extracted from the above journal over a number of years, shows for male, female and all workers combined employed by members of the Danish Employers' Association in Copenhagen, and in Denmark as a whole, the number of workers covered by the statistics at 31st December, 1933, and their average hourly earnings during the last quarter of 1933, with comparable information for the years 1928 to 1932:—

Locality, class of worker and sex.	Number of workpeople at 31st December, 1933.	Average hourly earnings during the last quarter of					
		1933.	1932.	1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.
Copenhagen.		Kr.	Kr.	Kr.	Kr.	Kr.	Kr.
Males:							
Skilled ...	20,256	1.76	1.72	1.81	1.81	1.77	1.73
Unskilled ...	18,154	1.42	1.41	1.45	1.43	1.39	1.36
Females:							
All workers ...	15,794	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.89	0.88
Male and Females:							
All workers ...	54,204	1.39	1.37	1.44	1.44	1.41	1.37
Denmark.							
Males:							
Skilled ...	37,539	1.60	1.58	1.64	1.65	1.61	1.58
Unskilled ...	44,123	1.31	1.32	1.33	1.32	1.27	1.27
Females:							
All workers ...	25,595	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.87	0.86	0.85
Male and Females:							
All workers ...	107,257	1.31	1.30	1.34	1.35	1.31	1.29

From the above Table, it appears that little change occurred during the whole period under review in the average hourly earnings of the classes of workers enumerated.

Supplementary payments and overtime earnings are not included in the statistics given above. For the year 1933, these amounted, on an average, to 2.7 ore an hour for all persons, thus increasing the average hourly earnings to 1.337 kr. for the fourth quarter of 1933.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

BELGIUM.

Coal Mining.—After conferences with the Prime Minister and other members of the Belgian Government, the coal-owners, after having previously postponed until 3rd June, 1934, the proposed wage reduction of 5 per cent.,* agreed to a further temporary suspension of its application. According to an official communiqué issued to the press, following upon the conference held on 28th May, 1934, at which this decision was reached, the coal-owners emphasized the gravity of the present position of the industry, and urged upon the Government the necessity for immediate and general remedial measures. The owners were prepared to negotiate a new formula for the regulation of wages and the methods of transition to this formula. (The present regulation of wages is effected by a combination of certain fixed proportions of the index figures of retail prices and the price of coal.)

Iron and Steel and Metal and Engineering.—The recommendations of the National Joint Committees with regard to the reduction of wages in the iron and steel and constructional engineering industries* have been accepted by the workers. Wages in the iron and steel industry will, therefore, be reduced by 5 per cent. as from 15th June, 1934; but, in the case of the constructional engineering industry, the successive reductions of 2½ per cent. are to be applied as from 1st June and 1st July, 1934, instead of 15th May and 15th June, as originally proposed.

* See the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1934, page 160.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

There was a further improvement in employment between 23rd April and 14th May. The improvement affected most of the principal industries, and was most marked in building and public works contracting and certain allied trades, engineering and ironfounding, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, tinplate manufacture, the cotton industry, the clothing trades (except boot and shoe manufacture), the distributive trades, most of the transport services, and hotel and boarding-house service.

Employment showed a further decline, however, in the coal mining industry and in the wool textile industry. There was also some decline in the jute industry and in dock and harbour service.

All the Administrative Divisions of the Country, except the North-Eastern, participated in the improvement in employment. In London and the South-East employment was fairly good. In the South-West and Midlands it was fair. In the North of England, in Scotland, and in Northern Ireland it was bad; while in Wales it was very bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,883,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 14th May, 1934 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 16.3, as compared with 16.7 at 23rd April, 1934, and with 20.4 at 22nd May, 1933. The percentage wholly unemployed at 14th May, 1934, was 13.6, as compared with 14.1 at 23rd April, 1934; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2.7, as compared with 2.6. For males alone, the percentage at 14th May, 1934, was 19.0 and for females, 9.2; at 23rd April, 1934, the corresponding percentages were 19.3 and 9.6.

At 14th May, 1934, the number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,658,677 wholly unemployed, 341,028 temporarily stopped, and 90,676 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,090,381. This was 57,814 less than at 23rd April, 1934 and 492,498 less than at 22nd May, 1933. The total included 1,706,797 men, 52,560 boys, 289,664 women and 41,360 girls.

The persons on the Registers included 816,633 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit (consisting of those who (a) had paid at least 30 contributions during the preceding two years; (b) had received less than 156 days' benefit in their current benefit years; and (c) if 156 days' benefit had become payable in a previous benefit year ending on or after 12th November, 1931, had paid at least 10 contributions since the 156th day of benefit); 918,033 insured persons with applications for transitional payments; 220,165 insured persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments, and 135,550 uninsured persons.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 14th May, 1934, was 2,148,488.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal mining industry employment showed a further decline. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 19th May, 1934, showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. compared with 21st April, 1934, but an increase of 1.1 per cent. compared with 27th May, 1933. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 19th May, 1934, was 4.61, a decrease of 0.47 of a day compared with the fortnight ended 21st April, 1934, but an increase of 0.42 of a day compared with the fortnight ended 27th May, 1933.

In the iron mining industry employment showed some slight improvement. In the West Lothian shale mines it continued fair. In the limestone quarries in the Cleveland area employment remained slack; in the Clitheroe and Buxton areas it continued fair, though showing a slight decline in the latter area. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment remained fairly good. At chalk quarries it continued very slack. At china clay quarries it was slack. At tin mines it remained bad. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries there was a further slight improvement, but employment was still bad.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—In the pig iron industry employment showed a further improvement, but was still bad. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of May was 101, compared with 98 at the end of April, and 72 at the end of May, 1933.

In the iron and steel industry employment showed a further slight improvement. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 25.0 at 14th May, 1934, compared with 26.4 at 23rd April, 1934, and 39.8 at 22nd May, 1933.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement, but was still very bad. It was very bad also in steel sheet manufacture.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In the engineering industry employment showed a further slight improvement in most sections, but was still slack on the whole. In marine engineering and in constructional engineering employment was a little better, but remained very bad in the former and slack in the latter. There was a slight improvement in general engineering, but employment in that section was still slack, and it continued slack

also in textile engineering. In motor vehicle manufacture it showed little change and remained fair. In electrical engineering it improved slightly and was fair. In cycle and aircraft manufacture it continued good.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment continued to improve but was still very bad.

In the other metal trades employment showed a slight improvement in some sections and was fair on the whole. It was fairly good in the brasswork, hollow-ware, ironfounding (other than engineers' ironfounding), needle and fishing tackle, jewellery and plated ware, and nut, bolt, nail, rivet, etc., trades; fair in the wire manufacturing, sheet metal, tube and file trades; and moderate in the edge tool, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment continued bad, though it showed a slight improvement both in the spinning and in the weaving departments. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 21.0 at 14th May, 1934, compared with 22.1 at 23rd April, 1934, and 26.4 at 22nd May, 1933.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a further slight decline both in the worsted and in the woollen sections. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 15.8 at 14th May, 1934, compared with 14.1 at 23rd April, 1934, and 15.0 at 22nd May, 1933. In the carpet industry employment continued good.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed little change and continued fair on the whole. In the lace trade it continued fairly good. Employment in the silk and artificial silk industries showed little general change; in silk manufacture it was moderate, and in artificial silk yarn manufacture it was fair. In the linen trade employment continued to improve, but was still slack on the whole. In the jute industry it showed a further decline and was very bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment showed a slight improvement, but was still very slack, with much short time working.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade showed a further improvement and was good on the whole. In the dressmaking and millinery trade there was also a further improvement and employment generally was good. In the shirt and collar trades employment showed a slight improvement and was fair. In the corset trade employment was good; and it was good also in the glove trade. In the felt hat trade employment showed a slight improvement and was good.

In the boot and shoe industry employment showed little general change and was only moderate. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 16.8 at 14th May, 1934, compared with 16.5 at 23rd April, 1934, and 13.5 at 22nd May, 1933.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning, currying and leather dressing sections of the leather trades showed little change and was slack on the whole. There was a slight improvement in other sections, and employment was fair.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building industry employment showed an improvement in all divisions and was moderate. As regards individual occupations, employment remained good with bricklayers, and in some areas an unsatisfied demand for skilled men was reported; with carpenters, plasterers and painters employment was fair, while with most other sections it was slack. The improvement during the month affected all classes of operatives, and was most marked with painters. In brick manufacture employment showed a further slight improvement and continued fair on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with coachbuilders continued to improve and was moderate. It improved also with mill-sawyers, but was still slack generally.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper-making industry continued good generally. With letterpress printers it showed little change and remained fair. With electrotypers and stereotypers it was good on the whole. With lithographic printers it continued to improve and was fair generally. With lithographic artists it continued fair to moderate. With bookbinders employment declined somewhat and was moderate.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire showed little change and continued slack on the whole. At Bristol employment continued good; at Derby it was fair; at Worcester it was fairly good.

Employment in the glass trades showed a slight improvement, but it was still slack in the bottle-making section and moderate in other sections.

Fishing.—Employment with fishermen showed little change and was bad on the whole.

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers showed a slight decline and continued slack. With seamen it was very slack on the whole, though there was an improving demand for ratings.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during May are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of these statistics are briefly summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries, and (b) for

various other industries:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Workpeople included in the Returns for May, 1934.	May, 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.	
Coal Mining ...	780,790	4.61	- 0.47	+ 0.42	
Iron " ...	6,115	5.45	+ 0.14	+ 0.62	
Shale " ...	2,095	5.85	- 0.02	+ 0.02	
		Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.	
Pig Iron ...	—	101	+ 3	+ 29	
		Mills working.	Number.	Number.	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	—	38	+ 5	- 5	
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Iron and Steel ...	60,934	335,911	+ 1.2	+ 25.5	

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
			£	Per cent.
Textiles:—				
Cotton ...	66,267	+ 3.2	104,192	+ 1.6
Woolen ...	53,867	+ 2.3	100,834	+ 4.4
Worsted ...	73,850	- 2.5	122,128	- 3.4
Carpet ...	11,328	+ 0.6	22,315	+ 1.7
Boot and Shoe ...	58,251	- 1.3	121,396	- 1.3
Pottery ...	9,952	- 2.6	18,066	- 0.3
Brick ...	11,446	+ 1.2	30,786	+ 2.7

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows, for each of the main areas into which the country is divided for the purposes of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the proportions unemployed among insured workpeople and the number of unemployed persons (insured and uninsured) on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc.:

Divisions.	Percentages unemployed amongst Insured Workpeople at 14th May, 1934.			Unemployed Persons on Registers of Employment Exchanges at 14th May, 1934.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Number.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month before.
					a year before.
London ...	10.5	5.1	8.4	205,381	- 11,185
South-Eastern ...	8.8	4.9	7.9	85,307	- 8,494
South-Western ...	14.5	6.1	12.6	122,150	- 6,993
Midlands ...	14.3	7.0	12.2	230,750	- 6,154
North-Eastern ...	25.2	9.7	22.8	471,170	+ 10,151
North-Western ...	22.8	14.5	20.0	447,012	- 16,945
Scotland ...	26.6	13.0	22.9	325,972	- 9,160
Wales ...	33.8	12.3	31.5	202,639	- 9,034
Northern Ireland	26.9	15.8	22.7	58,107	- 2,365
Special Schemes ...	3.7	0.7	2.7	—	—
Total ...	19.0	9.2	16.3	2,148,488	- 60,179

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from May, 1933, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, and the number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Date.	Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople.				Total.	Number of Unemployed Persons (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.
	Males.	Females.	Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.		
1933.						
22 May ...	23.6	12.0	16.5	3.9	20.4	2,653,852
26 June ...	22.7	10.8	15.8	3.6	19.4	2,503,898
22 July ...	22.7	10.9	15.5	4.0	19.5	2,507,215
21 August ...	22.4	10.5	15.3	3.8	19.1	2,474,062
25 September ...	21.6	10.0	15.3	3.1	18.4	2,398,718
23 October ...	21.4	9.5	15.3	2.8	18.1	2,359,763
20 November ...	21.1	9.4	15.3	2.6	17.9	2,341,693
18 December ...	20.8	9.0	15.1	2.5	17.6	2,287,466
1934.						
22 January ...	21.6	11.0	15.9	2.8	18.7	2,457,207
19 February ...	21.0	10.7	15.5	2.7	18.2	2,383,663
19 March ...	20.1	9.8	14.8	2.5	17.3	2,263,807
23 April ...	19.3	9.6	14.1	2.6	16.7	2,208,667
14 May ...	19.0	9.2	13.6	2.7	16.3	2,148,488

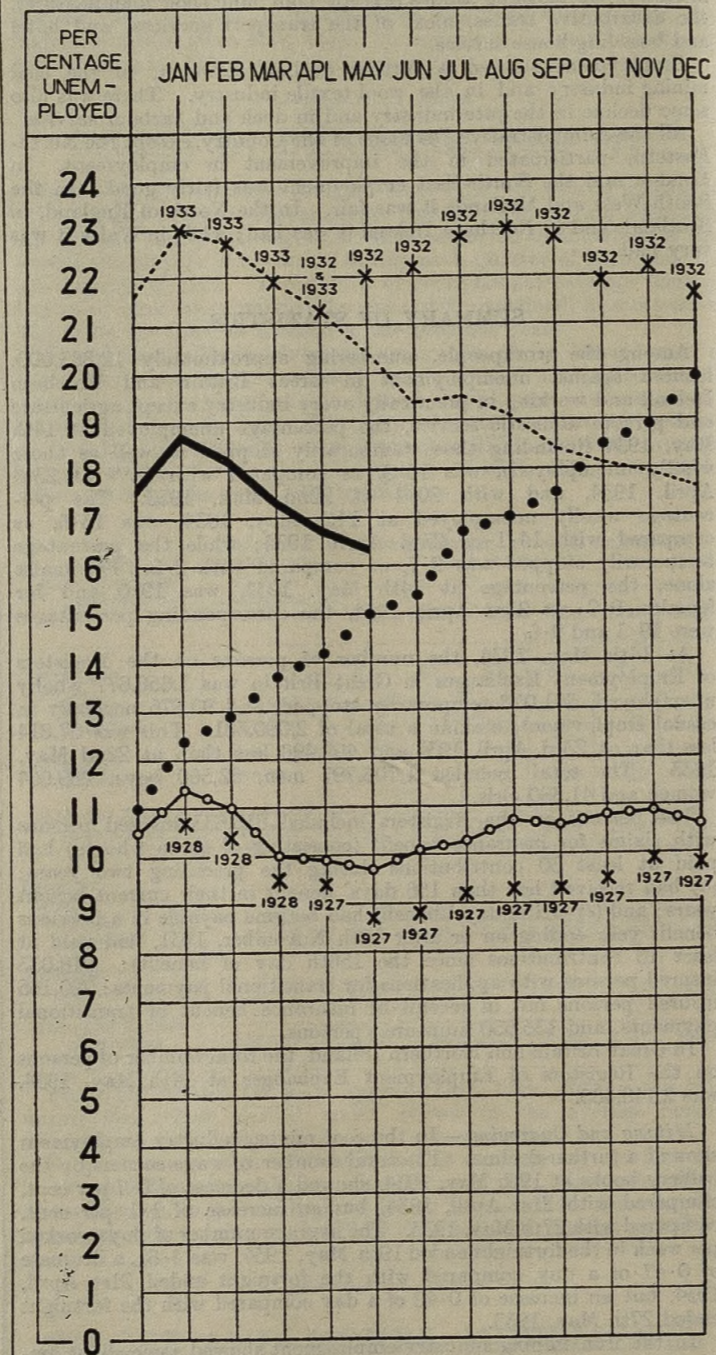
* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.
 † Up to and including June, 1933, these percentages, and those used for the purpose of the Chart in the next column, are revised figures calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at the dates referred to; those for later months are based on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1933, and are subject to slight revision when information becomes available as to the changes in the insured population since that date.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.*

PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:—

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1934.
 Broken Curve - - - - - = 1933.
 Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1930.
 Chain Curve - - - - - = Mean for 1924-29†.

X The crosses indicate the minimum and maximum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1924-1933†.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.‡

MAY, 1934.

Area.	Men.				Women.				Total.	
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Numbers.	Per centage of numbers Insured at July, 1933.
London ...	2,417	3,700	2,526	3,535	12,178	0.51				
South-Eastern ...	1,783	1,912	1,315	1,610	6,620	0.65				
South-Western ...	1,133	1,785	966	1,464	5,349	0.59				
Midlands ...	1,085	3,265	978	2,917	8,246	0.43				
North-Eastern ...	1,299	3,802	1,183	2,750	9,034	0.43				
North-Western ...	1,263	3,150	1,124	2,795	8,332	0.38				
Scotland ...	1,283	2,584	808	2,131	6,806	0.51				
Wales ...	541	1,337	542	582	3,002	0.48				
GREAT BRITAIN ...	10,804	21,537	9,442	17,784	59,567	0.48				

* See footnote † in previous column.
 † Excluding the period April, 1926, to March, 1927.
 ‡ The figures now include men to whom unemployment books have been issued on discharge from H.M. Forces, who were excluded from the figures published for dates prior to January, 1934.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. In the comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates the figures relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries. In connection with the comparative percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons given in the following articles, attention is drawn to the last paragraph of the text at the head of the Table on page 210 giving the numbers unemployed in insured industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a further decline as compared with the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 28.6 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 26.8 at 23rd April, 1934, and 37.9 at 22nd May, 1933. The percentage wholly unemployed increased by 0.1 (from 19.4 to 19.5), and the percentage temporarily stopped by 1.7 (from 7.4 to 9.1).

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 19th May, 1934, showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. as compared with 21st April, 1934, but an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with 27th May, 1933.

The average number of days worked per week* in the fortnight ended 19th May, 1934, was 4.61, a decrease of 0.47 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 21st April, 1934, but an increase of 0.42 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 27th May, 1933.

The following Table shows, for the principal coalmining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 19th May, 1934, and the average number of days worked per week* during the preceding fortnight, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books.		Average Number of Days worked per week* by the Mines.		
	19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Fortnight ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Northumberland ...	42,784	+ 0.5	4.6	5.44	- 0.06
Durham ...	106,846	- 0.9	6.8	5.10	- 0.09
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	6,775	- 1.9	8.1	5.51	+ 0.01
South Yorkshire ...	97,466	- 0.5	0.7	4.05	- 0.79
West Yorkshire ...	43,919	- 2.4	0.9	3.85	- 0.55
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	61,830	- 1.5	4.2	4.47	- 0.54
Derbyshire ...	47,199	- 0.8	1.9	3.26	- 0.92
Notts. and Leicestershire ...	55,903	- 0.7	0.5	3.83	- 0.85
Warwick ...	16,837	- 0.7	1.9	5.00	- 0.49
North Staffordshire ...	23,008	- 0.7	1.1	4.27	- 0.66
South Staffs., Worcs. and Salop ...	29,572	- 0.2	0.9	4.29	- 0.70
Glos. and Somerset ...	9,551	- 0.3	1.8	4.56	- 0.39
Kent ...	6,917	+ 0.6	6.8	5.56	+ 0.45
North Wales ...	10,699	- 0.8	- 10.6	5.56	+ 0.03
South Wales and Mon.	138,314	- 0.3	2.0	4.89	- 0.41
England and Wales	697,620	- 0.7	0.7	4.51	- 0.49
SCOTLAND:					
Mid and East Lothians	12,570	- 0.2	1.7	5.53	- 0.25
Fife and Clackmannan	20,602	+ 0.3	6.3	5.61	- 0.02
Rest of Scotland ...	49,998	- 1.5	5.6	5.35	- 0.37
Scotland ...	83,170	- 0.8	5.2	5.45	- 0.26
GREAT BRITAIN ...	780,790	- 0.7	1.1	4.61	- 0.47

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 19th May, 1934, was 1.18 days per week, of which 1.03 days were due to want of trade. The figure for the fortnight ended 21st April, 1934, was 0.71 of a day per week, of which 0.65 of a day was due to want of trade; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 27th May, 1933, were 1.61 and 1.59 days per week, respectively. The average non-winding time, for each of the three periods under review, was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 26th May, 1934 (which included the Whitsuntide holidays), was reported to the Mines Department as 15,827,600 tons, as compared with 17,007,200 tons in the four weeks ended 21st April, 1934 (which included the Easter holidays), and 15,666,800 tons in the four weeks ended 27th May, 1933.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 14th May, 1934, and the increases or decreases as compared with 23rd April, 1934, and 22nd May, 1933, are shown in the following Table:—

* The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc., were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.
 † Including Cannock Chase.

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 14th May, 1934.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.	Percentages.	Total.	Month before.
				Year before.
Great Britain ...	199,780	93,424	19.5	9.1
England and Wales ...	173,610	89,778	19.2	9.9
Scotland ...	26,170	3,646	22.3	3.1
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—				
Northumberland ...	8,752	496	17.1	1.0
Durham ...	34,472	4,667	23.9	3.2
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	3,660	205	33.2	1.9
Yorkshire ...	25,272	36,518	14.6	21.1
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	16,204	10,377	19.1	12.3
Derbyshire ...	7,007	5,790	10.9	9.1
Notts. and Leicestershire	9,041	4,908	14.2	7.8
Warwickshire	992	35	7.6	0.3
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	7,788	5,653	11.4	8.2
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,282	2,143	11.4	19.2
Kent ...	342	86	5.0	1.2
Wales and Monmouth ...	57,632	18,891	27.0	8.8

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 4,931,500 tons in May, 1934, as compared with 4,152,100 tons in April, 1934, and with 5,007,900 tons in May, 1933.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed some slight improvement. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 26.7 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 27.4 at 23rd April, 1934, and 43.5 at 22nd May, 1933.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fortnight ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Fortnight ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
Cleveland ...	2,502	- 0.5	57.0	5.05	+ 0.45
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,918	+ 0.8	33.4	5.59	- 0.17
Other Districts ...	1,695	+ 8.2	8.2	5.89	+ 0.03
ALL DISTRICTS	6,115	+ 0.1	33.0	5.45	+ 0.14

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 19th May, 1934, by firms making returns, was 2,095, showing an increase of 1.4 per cent. as compared with April, 1934, and of 2.2 per cent. as compared with May, 1933. The average number of days worked per week* by the mines making returns was 5.85 in May, 1934, as compared with 5.87 in April, 1934, and 5.83 in May, 1933.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a further improvement, but was still bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 25.4 at 14th May, 1934, compared with 25.8 at 23rd April, 1934, and 39.4 at 22nd May, 1933.

* See footnote * in previous column.

According to information received from the British Iron and Steel Federation, 101 furnaces were in operation at the end of May, 1934, compared with 98 at the end of April, 1934, and 72 at the end of May, 1933. In the case of 69 firms, employing 13,042 workpeople at the end of May, 1934, there was an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with April, 1934, and an increase of 27.1 per cent. compared with May, 1933.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of May, 1934, April, 1934, and May, 1933 :-

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		May, 1934.	Apr., 1934.	May, 1933.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	87	28	27	19	+ 1	+ 9
Cumberland and W. Lancs.	36	7	7	5	...	+ 2
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	24	10	9	5	+ 1	+ 5
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	42	19	18	16	+ 1	+ 3
Lincolnshire ...	23	12	11	9	+ 1	+ 3
Staffs., Shropshire, Woxs. and Warwick	35	6	7	7	- 1	- 1
South Wales and Mon.	20	4	4	4	...	...
England and Wales	267	86	83	65	+ 3	+ 21
SCOTLAND ...	77	15	15	7	...	+ 8
GREAT BRITAIN ...	344	101	98	72	+ 3	+ 29

The production of pig iron in May, 1934, amounted to 527,900 tons, compared with 496,300 tons in April, 1934, and 339,900 tons in May, 1933.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a further slight improvement as compared with the previous month, and a marked improvement as compared with a year ago. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 26.0 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 26.4 at 23rd April, 1934, and 39.8 at 22nd May, 1933.

At certain firms, employing 60,934 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 19th May, 1934, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts* during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 1.2 per cent. as compared with the week ended 21st April, 1934, and by 25.5 per cent. as compared with the week ended 27th May, 1933. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.5 in the week ended 19th May, 1934, the same as in April, 1934, compared with 5.3 in May, 1933. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods :-

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns.				Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.		
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	6,468	+ 2.1	+ 32.1	38,048	+ 2.5	+ 32.8		
Puddling Forges ...	1,221	+ 14.1	+ 77.7	5,325	+ 15.2	+ 99.6		
Rolling Mills ...	21,998	+ 0.8	+ 17.0	117,678	+ 1.2	+ 25.4		
Forging & Pressing	1,242	+ 2.3	+ 15.4	6,609	+ 1.3	+ 15.9		
Founding ...	6,279	+ 1.4	+ 15.4	33,632	+ 1.3	+ 18.1		
Other Departments	11,197	+ 3.4	+ 22.1	62,571	+ 3.0	+ 22.2		
Mechanics, Labourers ...	12,529	+ 2.3	+ 22.7	72,048	+ 2.1	+ 25.8		
TOTAL ...	60,934	+ 1.6	+ 21.2	335,911	+ 1.2	+ 25.5		
DISTRICTS.								
Northumberland, Durham, and Cleveland ...	12,214	+ 1.5	+ 24.9	68,355	+ 1.5	+ 27.3		
Sheffield, Rotherham, Leeds, Bradford, etc.	17,379	+ 0.5	+ 17.1	95,456	+ 0.4	+ 21.5		
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	372	+ 18.1	+ 10.7	1,802	+ 14.1	+ 32.3		
Staffordshire ...	5,158	+ 4.8	+ 17.0	27,295	+ 3.9	+ 16.1		
Other Midlands Counties ...	5,756	+ 2.0	+ 16.0	32,183	+ 0.7	+ 17.9		
Wales and Mon. ...	3,595	+ 2.4	+ 24.9	19,806	+ 2.6	+ 30.5		
Wales and Mon. ...	7,538	+ 1.2	+ 12.6	42,324	+ 1.9	+ 13.7		
Total, England and Wales ...	52,012	+ 1.7	+ 18.5	287,221	+ 1.2	+ 21.3		
Scotland ...	8,922	+ 1.0	+ 39.9	48,690	+ 1.3	+ 57.6		
TOTAL ...	60,934	+ 1.6	+ 21.2	335,911	+ 1.2	+ 25.5		

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the British Iron and Steel Federation, amounted to 780,000 tons in May, 1934, as compared with 716,800 tons in April, 1934, and 599,600 tons in May, 1933.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement, but still continued very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 32.8 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 35.4 at 23rd April, 1934, and 32.3 at 22nd May, 1933. In the week ended 19th May, 1934, 308 mills were in operation at works for which information was available, as compared with 303 in the week ended 21st April, 1934, and 326 in the week ended 27th May, 1933.

In steel sheet manufacture employment showed little change, and continued very bad. In the week ended 19th May, 1934, 80 mills were in operation at works for which information was available, the same number as in the week ended 21st April, 1934, as compared with 67 in the week ended 27th May, 1933.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at works covered by the returns :-

Works.	Number of Works Open.			Number of Mills in Operation.		
	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	56	+ 2	- 2	308	+ 5	- 18
Steel Sheet ...	8	+ 1	+ 1	80	...	+ 13
TOTAL ...	64	+ 2	- 1	388	+ 5	- 5

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in May, 1934, amounted to 52,517 tons, or 5,879 tons more than in April, 1934, but 14,107 tons less than in May, 1933.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a further slight improvement in most sections, but was still slack, on the whole. In marine engineering and in constructional engineering employment, although a little better, remained very bad in the former and was slack in the latter. There was a slight improvement in general engineering, but employment in that section, as in textile engineering, was still slack; it showed little change in motor vehicle manufacture and was again fair; it continued good in cycle and aircraft manufacture. Employment improved slightly and was fair in electrical engineering.

Compared with a year ago employment showed a substantial general improvement, particularly in marine and constructional engineering.

The following Table shows the number and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 14th May, 1934, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before :-

Divisions.	Numbers of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 14th May, 1934.									
	General Engineering; Engineers, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Per cent.	Per cent.
							Month before.	Year before.		
London ...	5,953	947	176	430	2,508	10,014	- 414	- 7,895		
South-Eastern ...	2,960	546	216	169	1,340	5,231	- 337	- 4,454		
South-Western ...	2,497	270	503	176	2,018	5,464	- 351	- 4,201		
Midlands ...	7,549	1,716	61	1,159	9,403	19,888	- 251	- 21,569		
North-Eastern ...	21,879	1,398	7,130	1,866	1,664	33,937	- 655	- 18,729		
North-Western ...	26,553	2,606	289	670	3,163	33,281	- 1,499	- 19,857		
Scotland ...	15,156	463	5,030	2,039	1,875	24,363	- 1,546	- 13,977		
Wales ...	1,451	91	85	285	576	2,488	- 112	- 541		
Northern Ireland ...	1,538	115	1,709	111	334	3,807	- 61	- 1,706		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	85,536	8,152	15,199	6,905	22,681	138,473	- 5,226	- 92,929		
Percentages Unemployed at 14th May, 1934.										
London ...	7.5	6.0	36.7	11.8	5.2	6.8	- 0.3	- 5.6		
South-Eastern ...	7.0	6.3	11.4	22.5	4.5	6.2	- 0.4	- 5.4		
South-Western ...	7.4	9.9	8.4	23.5	7.1	7.6	- 0.5	- 5.5		
Midlands ...	9.6	6.3	4.5	16.1	9.0	9.1	- 0.1	- 9.7		
North-Eastern ...	21.5	13.0	43.0	25.1	10.9	22.3	- 0.5	- 10.8		
North-Western ...	23.3	12.8	24.7	22.4	16.1	21.0	- 1.0	- 11.1		
Scotland ...	22.8	12.2	35.7	39.7	14.8	24.2	- 1.5	- 12.2		
Wales ...	28.2	15.4	53.1	31.0	23.3	26.8	- 5.3	- 5.3		
Northern Ireland ...	23.2	21.7	38.2	28.5	13.7	26.4	- 0.4	- 11.3		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	16.2	9.0	32.9	23.6	8.7	14.5	- 0.5	- 9.2		
Ditto, Apr., 1934	16.9	9.7	33.5	24.6	8.7	15.0	...	...
Ditto, May, 1933	25.7	16.7	48.9	35.1	15.5	23.7	...	...

On the North-East Coast employment in general and marine engineering continued very bad. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment in general engineering was bad on the whole. In Lancashire and Cheshire employment in general engineering again showed a slight improvement at some centres, but was still bad; it improved with electrical engineering and was moderate; in textile

engineering it continued very slack. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment again improved a little in general engineering, but fell back slightly in motor vehicle manufacture; in both sections, however, it was generally fair; it remained good in the cycle section; and improved, and was fairly good, in electrical engineering. Employment in the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district continued moderate to fair on the whole; it was again fair to fairly good in London and the Southern Counties. Employment remained good at the principal centres of aircraft manufacture.

In Scotland employment showed a slight improvement in general and marine engineering; it was, however, bad in the former, and continued very bad in the latter. Employment remained very bad in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT at 14th May was very bad, but showed an improvement, on the whole, as compared with April. The improvement was most pronounced in South-Western and North-Western England, in Scotland, and in Northern Ireland. As compared with a year ago, there were marked reductions in the numbers unemployed in Scotland, the North of England, and Northern Ireland.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 14th May, 1934, and the increase or decrease as compared with 23rd April, 1934, and 22nd May, 1933* :-

Division.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 14th May, 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 14th May, 1934.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,086	- 288	- 513	24.4	- 3.4	- 4.8
South-Eastern ...	767	- 63	- 499	11.2	- 1.0	- 7.0
South-Western ...	5,171	- 624	- 849	22.1	- 2.7	- 6.0
Midlands ...	111	15	78	34.7	+ 4.7	- 38.0
North-Eastern ...	29,885	- 265	- 6,414	63.7	- 0.6	- 6.8
North-Western ...	10,249	- 628	- 3,586	42.8	- 2.6	- 10.7
Scotland ...	24,730	- 1,133	- 9,985	54.9	- 2.5	- 14.6
Wales ...	3,204	- 216	- 1,038	54.8	- 3.7	- 9.5
Northern Ireland ...	4,360	- 398	- 3,279	51.1	- 4.7	- 21.7
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	80,563	- 3,600	- 26,241	47.6	- 2.1	- 11.1

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in the spinning department showed a slight improvement; mills were reported to be running to the extent of approximately 80 per cent. of full time in the section spinning Egyptian cotton, and of about 75 per cent. in the section spinning American cotton. There was also a slight improvement in the weaving department, taken as a whole; but employment in this department was still bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the cotton industry as a whole, was 21.0 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 22.1 at 23rd April, 1934, and with 26.4 at 22nd May, 1933. The corresponding percentages in the preparing and spinning departments were 20.6, 22.1 and 25.1; and in the manufacturing department 21.3, 22.0 and 27.6.

At Ashton-under-Lyne there was little change in the spinning department, or in the doubling mills; in the weaving department there was a slight improvement. At Stalybridge the position was slightly better. At Stockport there was little change with spinners, and a decline with card-room workers; at Glossop a slight improvement was recorded. At Hyde there was still a fair amount of unsystematic short-time working in all sections, but the recent improvement was maintained.

At Oldham ring spinners continued to be fairly busy, and there was a slight improvement in the spinning department generally; but the general position in that department remained bad, with much short time. Employment continued very bad with weavers of velvets, fustians and sheetings. At Middleton short time continued to be worked in the American spinning section, but employment in the Egyptian section remained good. At Shaw employment was again well maintained in the Egyptian section, and was slightly more regular generally.

At Bolton employment remained bad in the spinning department; there was a slight decline with cardroom workers, and employment was slack, with 50 per cent. of the operatives on short time. It was bad with weavers. At Leigh employment with spinners declined slightly and was bad. At Rochdale little change was reported. At Heywood employment showed a further decline.

At Preston employment continued to be unsteady; sectional stoppages in the preparing and spinning departments were more frequent, and under-employment increased. At Chorley employment in the spinning department was described as satisfactory on the whole; in the weaving department operatives engaged on fine and fancy goods were fairly well employed, but those on plain and coarse goods were subject to frequent stoppages. At Accrington sectional stoppages were reported in the weaving department, and employment was less steady than in April until the end of the month, when a slight improvement took place. At Blackburn employment remained

* As regards the qualifications to which these percentages are subject, reference should be made to the last paragraph of the text preceding the Table on page 210.

generally bad, but there was some improvement with firms engaged in the dhootie trade, less short time being worked; on the other hand, there was a decline (partly seasonal) with firms making fancy goods and goods for the home trade. At Great Harwood the weaving department continued to show a slight improvement. At Darwen there was little change; irregular short time was still worked in the preparatory departments, and under-employment continued in the weaving department. At Burnley there was a slight improvement immediately before the Whitsuntide stoppage, partly due to the employers' practice of giving as full employment as possible on the eve of a holiday. At Nelson employment in the weaving department was worse than in April, and employers were compelled to "play off" many of their workers. In the Rossendale Valley employment continued very bad, and was slightly worse than in April; several mills closed down for extended periods at Whitsuntide, some for as much as ten days.

In Yorkshire employment continued bad generally, although a slight improvement was reported in some centres. At Huddersfield employment in the doubling section was described as fair. At Todmorden the majority of the firms worked full time; in the Keighley, Skipton and Silsden district also, all the firms were reported to be on full time.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.		
Preparing ...	11,367	+ 5.5	+ 1.4	17,189	+ 3.7	+ 0.8		
Spinning ...	23,990	+ 5.4	- 0.4	34,686	+ 2.7	- 0.6		
Weaving ...	23,893	0.8	- 2.5	37,190	0.3	- 1.2		
Other ...	7,107	+ 0.7	+ 1.5	15,127	+ 0.1	- 0.5		
TOTAL ...	66,267	+ 3.2	- 0.7	104,192	+ 1.6	- 0.6		
DISTRICTS.								
Ashton ...	4,916	- 0.3	- 8.8	7,541	+ 4.1	- 8.2		
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	6,033	+ 22.0	+ 20.8	9,016	+ 17.8	+ 23.7		
Oldham ...	9,124	+ 4.9	+ 3.6	15,214	+ 3.0	+ 1.4		
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,494	- 1.8	- 4.1	19,119	- 3.7	- 5.9		
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, and Todmorden	6,758	+ 5.7	+ 4.2	11,166	+ 6.0	+ 3.4		
Manchester ...	4,493	+ 6.0	- 14.7	6,519	+ 7.9	- 5.5		
Preston and Chorley ...	4,702	- 1.0	- 4.6	7,154	- 5.8	- 8.4		

Employment in Scotland showed little general change; it remained good at Kilmarnock, slack at Edinburgh, and very bad at Maybole.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 53 Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 14th May, 1934:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 14th May, 1934.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	231	46	277	138	59	197	474
Rough Stuff Department	537	16	553	332	7	339	892
Clicking Department	1,088	7	1,095	1,435	6	1,441	2,536
Closing Department	26	691	717	24	1,386	1,410	2,127
Making Department	2,651	46	2,697	1,868	50	1,918	4,615
Finishing Department	1,711	286	1,997	1,006	159	1,165	3,162
Slipper Making	307	129	436	916	787	1,703	2,139
Clog Making	29	1	30	12	—	12	42
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work	917	1	918	63	—	63	981
TOTAL	7,497	1,223	8,720	5,794	2,454	8,248	16,968

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd April, 1934:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	- 28	+ 10	- 18	- 2	- 6	- 8	- 26
Rough Stuff Department	- 31	- 5	- 36	+ 32	- 6	+ 26	- 10
Clicking Department	+ 41	...	+ 41	+ 289	- 3	+ 286	+ 327
Closing Department	- 17	...	- 17	+ 4	+ 130	+ 134	+ 97
Making Department	- 168	- 7	- 175	+ 35	+ 23	+ 58	- 117
Finishing Department	- 150	- 27	- 177	- 76	- 37	- 113	- 290
Slipper Making	- 43	- 29	- 72	- 8	- 82	- 90	- 162
Clog Making	- 3	- 1	- 4	+ 5	- 1	+ 4	...
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work	- 110	...	- 110	- 13	- 1	- 14	- 124
TOTAL	- 509	- 79	- 588	+ 266	+ 17	+ 283	- 305

The exports of boots, shoes and slippers (not rubber) in May, 1934, amounted to 42,652 dozen pairs, as compared with 45,440 dozen pairs in April, 1934, and with 55,460 dozen pairs in May, 1933.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during May continued fair on the whole, and showed a further slight improvement. In the Peterborough district it continued very good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 12.5 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 13.2 at 23rd April, 1934, and 17.6 at 22nd May, 1933.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,783	+ 1.4	+ 7.2	4,555	+ 2.5	+ 9.5
Midlands and Eastern Counties	7,681	+ 1.2	+ 10.2	21,352	+ 2.5	+ 15.3
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,795	+ 1.2	+ 6.6	4,376	+ 3.3	+ 7.9
Scotland	187	+ 0.5	+ 5.6	503	+ 4.8	+ 15.9
TOTAL	11,446	+ 1.2	+ 9.1	30,786	+ 2.7	+ 13.3

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 11,446 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 4 1/2 per cent. were working on an average nearly 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 19th May, 1934. On the other hand, 6 1/2 per cent. were working overtime to the extent of 5 1/2 hours each on the average.

* Comparison of earnings is affected in some cases by changes in rates of wages.

BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT was moderate during May, but compared with the previous month showed an improvement in all divisions. At some centres it was reported as fairly good or good. Compared with a year ago there was a slight decline in Scotland, but in all other divisions there was an improvement.

As regards individual occupations, employment remained good with bricklayers, and in some areas an unsatisfied demand for skilled men was reported; with carpenters, plasterers and painters it was fair, and in most other branches it was slack. The improvement during the month affected all classes of operatives, and was most marked in the case of painters. Compared with May, 1933, there was an improvement in all occupations, slight in the case of slaters and tilers, but considerable with plasterers, carpenters and bricklayers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were recorded as unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 14th May, 1934, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages unemployed as compared with the previous month and with May, 1933:—

Occupations.	Estimated Numbers of Insured Workpeople at July, 1933.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 14th May, 1934.	Numbers included in Previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Per-centage Unem-ployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.
Carpenters	137,830	14,169	496	10.3	- 1.8	- 6.6
Bricklayers	85,190	4,284	285	5.0	- 1.4	- 6.7
Masons	22,380	3,528	228	15.8	- 1.4	- 2.7
Slaters and Tilers	7,650	1,185	115	15.5	- 2.0	- 1.0
Plasterers	29,670	2,702	169	9.1	- 1.9	- 9.0
Painters	118,940	9,898	202	8.3	- 2.9	- 5.0
Plumbers	38,460	5,312	344	13.8	- 2.0	- 4.5
Labourers to above	248,640	45,850	1,205	18.4	- 1.9	- 4.6
All other occupations	195,020	50,474	1,245	25.9	- 0.7	- 3.0
TOTAL	883,780	137,402	4,289	15.5	- 1.7	- 5.0

Building Plans approved in May. For statistics, see page 225.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed little change and continued slack on the whole. At Bristol employment continued good; at Derby it was fair; at Worcester it was fairly good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 20.3 at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 20.8 at 23rd April, 1934, and 29.2 at 22nd May, 1933.

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

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 19th May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
China Manufacture	1,793	+ 0.4	+ 20.5	3,036	+ 1.8	+ 27.0
Earthenware Manufacture	6,261	+ 4.7	+ 2.7	11,519	- 1.3	+ 13.7
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,898	+ 1.5	- 19.4	3,511	+ 1.2	+ 22.5
TOTAL	9,952	- 2.6	- 8.5	18,066	- 0.3	- 17.4

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 9,854 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 1,706, or nearly 17 1/2 per cent., were working on an average about 12 1/2 hours less than full time in the week ended 19th May, 1934; on the other hand, 672, or nearly 7 per cent., were working overtime to the extent of nearly 8 hours each on the average.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry during May continued good generally, and was much better than in May, 1933.

Employment in the letterpress printing industry remained fair on the whole and showed little change compared with the previous month. In London, and at Liverpool and Newcastle, it was reported as slack; but at Derby, Reading and Watford, and at some of the smaller towns, employment was described as fairly good or good. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was good on the whole.

In the lithographic printing industry employment improved further during the month, and was fair generally. It was, however, reported as bad in London, and at Liverpool and Manchester. With lithographic artists employment was again fair to moderate.

In the bookbinding industry employment declined somewhat and was moderate on the whole.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the paper and paper-board industries was 7.3 at 14th May, 1934, compared with 7.4 at 23rd April, 1934, and 10.0 at 22nd May, 1933. The corresponding percentages unemployed in the printing and bookbinding industries were 8.6, 9.0 and 10.3; and in the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries, 6.1, 6.7 and 9.4.

The following Table summarises the returns received from certain trade unions which furnished information as to the extent of unemployment amongst their members:—

Unions.	No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1934.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		May, 1934.	April, 1934.	May, 1933.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	33,390	5.9	5.9	8.6	...	- 2.7
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	13,979	8.8	8.9	9.2	- 0.1	- 0.4
Midlands and Eastern Counties	7,673	6.0	5.8	7.9	+ 0.2	- 1.9
Scotland	5,508	9.7	9.9	11.9	- 0.2	- 2.2
Other Districts	9,228	5.4	5.3	7.7	+ 0.1	- 2.3
TOTAL	69,778	6.7	6.7	8.8	...	- 2.1
Lithographic Printing	11,788	8.8	9.7	10.9	- 0.9	- 2.1
Bookbinding	8,142	10.0	9.3	12.9	+ 0.7	- 2.9
Printing and Book-binding (branches not distinguished)	25,307	3.4	2.7	5.9	+ 0.7	- 2.5

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT at 14th May was slack, and rather worse than in the previous month. Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 34.5 per cent. were unemployed at 14th May, 1934, as compared with 33.2 per cent. at 23rd April, 1934, and with 33.9 per cent. at 22nd May, 1933. The estimated total of 160,260 insured workpeople in this classification in Great Britain at July, 1933, included 23,090 in river, canal, conservancy and lighthouse service, and 137,170 in the dock, wharf and lighterage section. On the basis of these figures, the percentage unemployed among insured workpeople in river, canal, etc., service at 14th May, 1934, was 14.2, as compared with 14.3 at 23rd April, 1934. In docks, wharves, and lighterage, the corresponding figures were 37.9 at 14th May, 1934, and 36.3 at 23rd April, 1934.

London.—Employment was slack and worse than in April. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received; the figures exclude stevedores, lightermen, etc., and do not purport to indicate the total number of dock labourers employed in the port:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total, Docks and Principal Wharves.
Week ended—					
5th May, 1934	3,361	1,650	5,011	6,186	11,197
12th " "	3,404	1,556	4,960	6,341	11,301
19th " "	3,655	1,777	5,432	4,734*	10,166*
26th " "	3,824	1,912	5,736	4,632*	10,368*
Average for 4 weeks ended 26th May, 1934	3,549	1,716	5,265	5,509*	10,774*
Average for Apr., 1934	3,521	1,672	5,193	6,478	11,671
Average for May, 1933	3,887	1,751	5,638	6,201	11,839

* Affected by a local stoppage of work owing to a trade dispute (see page 222 of this GAZETTE).

Tilbury.—The average number of dock labourers employed during May was 713, compared with 846 in April, and with 789 in May, 1933. East Coast.—Employment was moderate on the whole at the North-East Coast ports. At Middlesbrough employment improved slightly; it also improved in the West Hartlepool area, due to increased activity in the timber import trade. At Grimsby it remained bad. Improved conditions were reported at Boston. At Ipswich employment remained fair.

Mersey.—Employment at Liverpool remained moderate. At Garston, and at Manchester and Salford, it was fair on the whole.

The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 1st June, 1934, was 11,186, compared with 11,341 in April, 1934, and with 10,272 in May, 1933. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £24,492 in the five weeks ended 1st June, 1934, compared with £24,345 in April, 1934, and with £21,977 in May, 1933.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment remained good at Swansea. It was bad with transport workers at Cardiff and Newport. At Penarth improved conditions were maintained, though employment was poor with coal trimmers. Employment remained fair at Plymouth. At Southampton and Falmouth it continued slack and good respectively.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Glasgow remained fair. It was fair at Dundee during the first week of the month, but declined later. The renewal of activity in the timber import trade provided rather more work at Bonness and Grangemouth, and employment was moderate. Employment improved somewhat at Leith and Burntisland, and was moderate and good respectively. At Belfast employment remained fair.

SEAMEN.

DURING May employment among seamen remained very slack on the whole. Though still on a very low level there was an improving demand for ratings compared with the previous month; the number available, however, was in excess of the requirements at most ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 14th May, 1934, was 31.0, compared with 31.2 at 23rd April, 1934, and 33.6 at 22nd May, 1933.

The demand for men on the Thames was very poor, particularly towards the end of the month. On the Tyne the demand was very slack; on the Wear it was moderate, and showed some improvement in the last two weeks of the month. At the Hartlepoons it was moderate but improving. At Hull it was moderate, but there was a slight falling-off in demand in the middle of the month. The demand at Southampton improved to moderate. At Bristol, apart from a fair demand in the third week of the month, it remained very slack; at Avonmouth the demand was fair, but not so good as during the previous month. At Cardiff the demand was moderate in the early part of the month, but improved and was fair at the end of May; at Newport it was slack, with slightly less activity in the second week of the month. At Swansea there was a slight decline, but at the end of the month the demand was still fair. At Manchester there was a fair demand during the first half of the month, but at the end it was slack; on the Mersey it was moderate. On the Clyde the demand fluctuated, but on the whole it was quiet throughout the month; at Leith it was slack. At Belfast the demand was slack, with a tendency to improve at the end of the month.

The following Table shows the number of seamen* shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during May:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	May, 1934.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Five Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	May, 1934.	May, 1933.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Liverpool	10,620	+ 3,472	+ 2,450	42,621	38,139
Manchester	600	+ 109	- 170	3,362	2,858
London	8,272	+ 2,750	- 67	36,734	38,358
Southampton	5,528	- 114	+ 1,457	28,308	27,957
Tyne Ports	1,880	- 25	+ 447	9,230	7,000
Sunderland	345	+ 122	- 10	1,109	1,266
Middlesbrough	272	10	+ 109	1,212	1,948
Hull	913	- 11	+ 52	3,987	3,687
Bristol	680	+ 48	+ 85	3,950	3,451
Newport, Mon.	200	- 113	+ 47	1,279	1,492
Cardiff	1,907	+ 45	+ 486	8,844	6,726
Swansea	946	- 744	- 449	5,171	5,067
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	239	+ 9	- 42	1,011	1,108
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	467	+ 40	+ 148	1,528	1,385
Glasgow	3,029	+ 607	+ 1,002	10,753	8,743
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	144	- 157	- 60	1,104	735
TOTAL for above Ports	36,042	+ 6,028	+ 2,571	160,203	148,920

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

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 14th May, 1934, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year before, and two years before, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are excepted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded, *inter alia*, the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and

are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

The numbers unemployed given in the following Table relate only to persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. They include insured persons who are maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 214 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file.

A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 214.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the comparative percentage figures for individual industries* given in the following Table, and in the articles on specific industries on earlier pages of this GAZETTE, it should be borne in mind that the percentage rates of unemployment at each date in 1934 have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at the beginning of July, 1933; while the figures for May, 1933 and 1932, are calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1932 and 1931, respectively. In an industry in which a relatively large change occurs during one or more years in the estimated number of insured workpeople, this change may have an important effect on the relative percentage rates of unemployment.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 14th MAY, 1934.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.						GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.					
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	7,783	99	7,882	91	27	118	7,874	126	8,000	7,840	126	7,966
Mining —												
Coal Mining	199,258	542	199,800	93,178	246	93,424	292,436	788	293,224	292,416	788	293,204
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	2,756	1	2,757	237	1	238	2,993	2	2,995	2,982	2	2,984
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	995	3	998	34	—	34	1,029	3	1,032	1,028	2	1,030
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	8,019	18	8,037	1,802	1	1,803	9,821	19	9,840	9,269	17	9,286
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	725	—	725	78	—	78	803	—	803	797	—	797
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	1,766	103	1,869	969	7	976	2,735	110	2,845	2,707	110	2,817
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	2,090	16	2,106	372	5	377	2,462	21	2,483	2,390	21	2,411
Non-Metallic Mining Products —												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	2,289	6	2,295	196	—	196	2,485	6	2,491	2,485	6	2,491
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	3,698	66	3,764	1,087	14	1,101	4,785	80	4,865	4,728	80	4,808
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	1,734	45	1,779	516	6	522	2,301	51	2,352	2,186	48	2,234
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	8,717	481	9,198	1,875	144	2,019	10,592	625	11,217	10,353	625	10,978
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	4,386	2,574	6,960	3,347	5,052	8,399	7,733	7,626	15,359	7,684	7,613	15,297
Glass Trades —												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	2,850	301	3,151	777	71	848	3,627	372	3,999	3,622	372	3,994
Glass Bottles	2,864	172	3,036	917	36	953	3,781	208	3,989	3,781	208	3,989
Chemicals, etc. —												
Chemicals	9,254	960	10,214	597	173	770	9,851	1,133	10,984	9,788	1,130	10,918
Explosives	670	333	1,003	35	61	96	705	394	1,099	705	394	1,099
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	1,245	191	1,436	50	10	60	1,295	201	1,496	1,295	200	1,495
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	5,920	1,000	6,920	2,074	146	2,220	7,994	1,146	9,140	7,966	1,130	9,096
Metal Manufacture —												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	3,633	6	3,639	466	7	473	4,099	13	4,112	4,097	13	4,110
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	25,915	182	26,097	16,573	87	16,660	42,488	269	42,757	42,487	269	42,756
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	3,903	122	4,025	1,005	24	1,029	4,908	146	5,054	4,892	146	5,038
Tin Plates	4,398	292	4,690	4,795	400	5,195	9,193	692	9,885	9,193	692	9,885
Iron and Steel Tubes	3,956	59	4,015	1,714	10	1,724	5,670	69	5,739	5,670	69	5,739
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	1,981	190	2,171	1,148	35	1,183	3,129	225	3,354	3,128	223	3,351
Engineering, etc. —												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	70,033	1,736	71,769	13,103	664	13,767	83,136	2,400	85,536	81,612	2,386	83,998
Electrical Engineering	6,632	561	7,193	834	125	959	7,466	686	8,152	7,354	683	8,037
Marine Engineering, etc.	14,189	34	14,223	969	7	976	15,158	41	15,199	13,449	41	13,490
Constructional Engineering	5,802	51	5,853	1,044	8	1,052	6,846	59	6,905	6,735	59	6,794
Construction and Repair of Vehicles —												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	17,986	741	18,727	3,744	210	3,954	21,730	951	22,681	21,401	946	22,347
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	1,837	160	1,997	177	19	196	2,014	179	2,193	1,956	179	2,135
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	4,544	29	4,573	917	9	926	5,461	38	5,499	5,356	38	5,394

* See, however, footnote † on page 213, as to the general percentages for all industries combined.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Metal Trades —												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	9,356	338	9,694	2,873	122	2,995	12,229	460	12,689	12,172	460	12,632
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	3,991	60	4,051	522	—	522	4,513	60	4,573	4,397	60	4,457
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	7,061	3,803	10,864	1,062	1,048	2,110	8,123	4,851	12,974	8,101	4,851	12,952
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	4,014	827	4,841	1,649	266	1,915	5,663	1,093	6,756	5,648	1,090	6,738
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	1,576	458	2,034	608	208	816	2,184	666	2,850	2,184	666	2,850
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	1,636	334	1,970	347	110	457	1,983	444	2,427	1,983	444	2,427
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus ...	1,023	28	1,051	152	4	156	1,175	32	1,207	1,170	32	1,202
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	2,048	855	2,903	690	412	1,102	2,738	1,267	4,005	2,721	1,266	3,987
Metal Industries not separately specified	14,573	3,618	18,191	3,699	1,168	4,867	18,272	4,786	23,058	18,040	4,778	22,818
Textile Trades —												
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	16,072	11,522	27,594	9,473	13,293	22,766	25,545	24,815	50,360	25,545	24,815	50,360
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	12,319	25,733	38,052	4,408	12,013	16,421	16,727	37,746	54,473	16,719	37,746	54,465
Total Cotton	28,391	37,255	65,646	13,881	25,306	39,187	42,272	62,561	104,833	42,264	62,561	104,825
Woolen and Worsted	7,629	4,316	11,945	10,160	14,396	24,556	17,789	18,712	36,501	17,701	18,669	36,370
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving	1,411	948	2,359	1,182	2,650	3,832	2,593	3,608	6,201	2,589	3,566	6,155
Artificial Silk Yarn	1,147	477	1,624	447	393	840	1,634	870	2,504	1,634	869	2,503
Linen	4,139	5,503	9,642	606	1,610	2,216	4,745	6,507	11,252	4,745	6,507	11,252
Jute	3,506	5,311	8,817	575	1,706	2,281	4,081	7,017	11,098	4,081	7,016	11,097
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	1,087	1,147	2,234	219	576	795	1,306	1,723	3,029	1,306	1,723	3,029
Hosiery	1,454	3,945	5,399	1,676	6,768	8,444	3,130	10,713	13,843	3,100	10,582	13,682
Lace	476	338	814	511	492	1,003	927	830	1,757	927	830	1,757
Carpets	476	465	941	257	320	577	733	785	1,518	733	785	1,518
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,473	2,156	3,629	316	1,339	1,655	1,789	3,495	5,284	1,554	2,560	4,114
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	8,374	2,617	10,991	10,400	3,125	13,525	18,774	5,742	24,516	17,807	4,447	22,254
Leather and Leather Goods —												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	3,697	1,083	4,780	1,338	483	1,821	5,035	1,566	6,601	5,033	1,565	6,598
Leather Goods	1,296	825	2,121	268	331	599	1,564	1,156	2,720	1,542	1,148	2,690
Clothing Trades —												
Tailoring	8,025	4,478	12,503	543	1,625	2,168	8,568	6,103	14,671	8,211	5,873	14,084
Dress Making and Millinery	846	2,504	3,350	38	564	602	884	3,068	3,952	867	2,729	3,596
Hats and Caps (including Straw Hats)	907	636	1,543	523	712	1,235	1,430	2,778	4,209	1,348	2,777	4,125
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	796	4,474	5,270	67	1,940	2,007	863	6,414	7,277	676	2,300	2,976
Dress Industries not separately specified	722	530	1,252	112	362	474	834	882	1,726	827	887	1,714
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	11,088	2,138	13,226	7,335	3,348	10,683	18,423	5,486	23,909	18,119	5,488	23,577
Food, Drink and Tobacco —												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	12,927	4,016	16,943	675	364	1,039	13					

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1933.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 14TH MAY, 1934.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH			GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 14TH MAY, 1934.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			23RD APR. 1934.	22ND MAY. 1933.	23RD MAY. 1932.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.					
Fishing	51,190	1,000	32,190	25.0	9.9	24.5	0.2	2.7	0.4	25.2	12.6	24.9	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	+ 1.9	24.9	
Mining —																	
Coal Mining	1,019,140	4,770	1,023,910	19.6	11.4	19.5	9.1	5.1	9.1	28.7	16.5	28.6	+ 1.8	- 9.3	- 3.7	28.6	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	11,150	50	11,200	24.7	2.0	24.6	2.1	2.0	2.1	26.8	4.0	26.7	- 0.7	- 16.8	- 16.1	26.7	
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	3,570	30	3,600	27.9	10.0	27.7	0.9	—	1.0	28.8	10.0	28.7	- 1.6	- 25.9	- 29.8	28.6	
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	46,360	370	46,730	17.3	4.9	17.2	3.9	0.2	3.9	21.2	5.1	21.1	- 2.3	- 4.9	- 2.3	20.7	
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	10,070	10	10,080	7.2	—	7.2	0.8	—	0.8	8.0	—	8.0	+ 0.1	- 6.3	- 10.4	7.9	
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	12,610	1,440	14,050	14.0	7.2	13.3	7.7	0.4	6.9	21.7	7.6	20.2	- 1.1	- 3.0	- 3.6	20.3	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	16,300	220	16,520	12.8	7.3	12.7	2.3	2.2	2.3	15.1	9.5	15.0	- 1.2	- 7.7	- 11.6	14.7	
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products —																	
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	12,120	100	12,220	18.9	6.0	18.8	1.6	—	1.6	20.5	6.0	20.4	- 0.9	- 13.4	- 12.1	20.4	
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	20,770	1,500	22,270	17.8	4.4	16.9	5.2	0.9	4.9	23.0	5.3	21.8	+ 0.4	- 2.2	- 6.2	21.7	
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	14,940	580	15,520	11.6	7.8	11.5	3.5	1.0	3.3	15.1	8.8	14.8	+ 0.1	- 7.6	- 10.9	14.8	
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	83,320	6,330	89,650	10.5	7.6	10.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	12.7	9.9	12.5	- 0.7	- 5.1	- 9.9	12.4	
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	34,700	41,130	75,830	12.6	6.3	9.2	9.7	12.2	11.1	22.3	18.5	20.3	- 0.5	- 8.9	- 10.8	20.2	
Glass Trades —																	
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	22,010	6,150	28,160	12.9	4.9	11.2	3.6	1.1	3.0	16.5	6.0	14.2	- 0.5	- 5.7	- 5.5	14.2	
Glass Bottles	16,870	2,400	19,270	17.0	7.2	15.8	5.4	1.5	4.9	22.4	8.7	20.7	- 0.9	- 2.6	- 4.8	20.7	
Chemicals, etc. —																	
Chemicals	75,140	26,250	101,390	12.3	3.7	10.1	0.8	0.6	0.7	13.1	4.3	10.8	- 0.2	- 4.3	- 6.5	10.8	
Explosives	10,740	5,050	15,790	6.2	6.6	6.4	0.4	1.2	0.6	6.6	7.8	7.0	+ 0.6	- 1.7	- 5.5	7.0	
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	15,930	5,150	21,080	7.8	3.7	6.8	0.3	0.2	0.3	8.1	3.9	7.1	- 0.3	- 1.7	- 3.1	7.1	
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	60,170	22,180	82,350	9.8	4.5	8.4	3.5	0.7	2.7	13.3	5.2	11.1	+ 0.3	- 2.2	- 2.1	11.1	
Metal Manufacture —																	
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	16,100	100	16,200	22.6	6.0	22.5	2.9	7.0	2.9	25.5	13.0	25.4	- 0.4	- 14.0	- 15.7	25.4	
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	160,380	4,290	164,670	15.2	4.2	15.8	10.3	2.1	10.2	26.5	6.3	26.0	- 0.4	- 13.8	- 25.0	26.0	
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. Tin Plates	35,660	3,220	38,880	10.9	3.8	10.4	2.9	0.7	2.6	13.8	4.5	13.0	- 0.4	- 7.7	- 13.3	13.1	
Iron and Steel Tubes	27,010	3,100	30,110	15.3	9.4	15.6	17.7	12.9	17.2	34.0	22.3	32.8	- 2.6	+ 0.5	- 10.7	32.8	
Wire and Steel Tubes	26,360	1,720	28,080	15.0	3.4	14.3	6.5	0.6	6.1	21.5	4.0	20.4	+ 0.3	- 15.9	- 24.9	20.4	
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	18,910	3,740	22,650	10.5	5.1	9.6	6.0	0.9	5.2	16.5	6.0	14.8	- 0.2	- 8.6	- 13.1	14.8	
Engineering, etc. —																	
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	486,520	41,670	528,190	14.4	4.2	13.6	2.7	1.6	2.6	17.1	5.8	16.2	- 0.7	- 9.5	- 12.4	16.1	
Electrical Engineering	71,340	19,250	90,590	9.3	2.9	7.9	1.2	0.7	1.1	10.5	3.6	9.0	- 0.7	- 7.7	- 7.4	8.9	
Marine Engineering, etc.	45,460	760	46,220	31.2	4.5	30.8	2.1	0.9	2.1	33.3	5.4	32.9	- 0.6	- 16.0	- 18.9	32.3	
Constructional Engineering	28,000	1,200	29,200	20.7	4.3	20.0	3.8	0.6	3.6	24.5	4.9	23.6	- 1.0	- 11.5	- 10.5	23.6	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles —																	
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Carriages, Carts, etc.	235,630	26,090	261,720	7.6	2.8	7.2	1.6	0.8	1.5	9.2	3.6	8.7	- 2.0	- 6.8	- 12.4	8.6	
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Trams	14,580	2,640	17,220	12.6	6.1	11.6	1.2	0.7	1.1	13.8	6.8	12.7	- 0.6	- 4.8	- 8.6	12.6	
Tramcars	43,810	1,370	45,180	10.4	2.1	10.1	2.1	0.7	2.1	12.5	2.8	12.2	- 0.6	- 11.5	- 12.6	12.0	
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	166,980	2,330	169,310	46.6	8.5	46.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	48.1	10.0	47.6	- 2.1	- 11.1	- 11.4	47.4	
Metal Trades —																	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	83,390	8,160	91,550	11.2	4.1	10.6	3.5	1.5	3.3	14.7	5.6	13.9	- 1.4	- 9.2	- 16.5	13.8	
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	25,890	1,720	27,610	15.4	3.5	14.7	2.0	—	1.9	17.4	5.6	16.6	+ 0.8	- 2.2	- 3.8	16.4	
Electric Cable, Apparatus, Lamps, etc.	73,780	51,790	125,570	9.6	7.3	8.7	1.4	2.1	1.6	11.0	9.4	10.3	- 0.3	- 6.2	- 3.9	10.3	
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	23,670	9,990	33,660	17.0	8.3	14.4	6.9	2.6	5.7	23.9	10.4	20.1	- 1.3	- 9.4	- 15.7	20.1	
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	14,750	10,210	24,960	10.7	4.5	8.1	4.1	2.0	3.3	14.8	6.5	11.4	0.4	9.3	- 13.7	11.4	
Brass and Allied Metal Wares	15,770	9,470	25,240	10.4	3.5	7.8	2.2	1.2	1.8	12.6	4.7	9.6	- 0.1	- 7.5	- 11.9	9.6	
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	9,190	660	9,850	11.1	4.2	10.7	1.7	0.6	1.6	12.8	4.8	12.3	- 0.1	- 6.7	- 7.6	12.4	
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	23,490	18,640	42,130	8.7	4.6	6.9	3.0	2.2	2.6	11.7	6.8	9.5	- 0.7	- 7.2	- 10.7	9.5	
Metal Industries not separately specified	136,820	73,540	210,360	10.7	4.9	8.6	2.7	1.6	2.4	13.4	6.5	11.0	- 0.4	- 6.2	- 9.2	10.9	
Textile Trades —																	
Cotton Preparing, Spinning, etc. ...	98,840	145,160	244,000	16.3	7.9	11.3	9.5	9.2	9.3	25.8	17.1	20.6	- 1.5	- 4.5	- 20.6	20.6	
Cotton Manufacturing (Weaving, etc.)	80,920	175,010	255,930	15.2	14.7	14.9	5.5	6.9	6.4	20.7	21.6	21.3	- 0.7	- 6.3	- 21.3	21.3	
Total Cotton	179,760	320,170	499,930	15.8	11.6	13.1	7.7	7.9	7.9	23.5	19.5	21.0	- 1.7	- 5.4	- 12.4	21.0	
Woolen and Worsted	95,690	135,190	230,880	8.0	3.2	5.2	10.6	10.6	10.6	18.6	13.8	15.8	+ 1.7	+ 0.8	- 9.7	15.8	
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk																	
Weaving	16,190	28,940	45,130	8.7	3.3	5.2	7.3	9.2	8.5	16.0	12.5	13.7	- 0.4	- 6.5	- 7.0	13.7	
Artificial Silk Yarn	13,640	10,890	24,530	8.7	4.4	6.8	3.3	3.6	3.4	12.0	8.0	10.2	- 0.5	- 5.3	- 6.6	10.2	
Linen	22,940	49,920	72,860	18.0	11.0	15.2	2.7	2.0	2.2	20.7	13.0	15.4	- 0.8	- 10.8	- 6.9	18.0	
Jute	11,960	22,990	34,950	29.3	23.1	25.2	4.8	7.4	6.6	34.1	30.5	31.8	+ 1.1	- 5.7	- 16.9	31.8	
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	6,970	11,180	18,150	15.6	10.3	12.3	3.1	5.1	4.4	18.7	15.4	16.7	- 0.2	- 4.3	- 9.3	16.7	
Hosiery	25,260	88,790	114,050	5.8	4.4	4.7	6.6	7.7	7.4	12.4	12.1	12.1	- 0.1	- 4.1	- 3.2	12.1	
Lace	6,360	9,990	16,350	6.5	3.4	4.6	8.1	4.9	6.1	14.6	8.3	10.7	+ 0.2	- 6.5	- 3.7	10.7	
Carpets	11,100	16,610	27,710	4.3	2.8	3.4	2.3	1.9	2.1	6.6	4.7	5.5	+ 0.3	- 4.3	- 4.6	5.5	
Textiles not separately specified ...	14,740	33,060	47,800	10.0	6.5	7.6	2.1	4.1	3.5	12.1	10.6	11.1	- 0.8	- 4.4	- 4.3	9.2	
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	79,900	33,240	113,140	10.5	7.9	9.7	13.0	9.4	12.0	23.5	17.3	21.7	- 0.8	- 4.5	- 6.7	21.2	
Leather and Leather Goods —																	
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	34,090	10,590	44,680	10.8	10.2	10.7	4.0	4.6	4.1	14.8	14.8	14.8	+ 0.2	- 1.9	- 4.3	14.8	
Leather Goods	12,030	13,500	25,530	10.8	6.1	8.3	2.2	2.5	2.4	13.0	8.6	10.7	- 0.2	- 4.3	- 7.3	10.6	
Clothing Trades —		</															

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

On page 210 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published in the Press, and in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives an analysis relating to the 14th May, 1934, of the composition of these statistics. Lines 1 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 4) and including lines 5 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained:—

Table showing composition of unemployment statistics for Great Britain, including categories like Claims admitted, Insured persons not entitled to benefit, etc.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

ANALYSIS OF FIGURES FOR 14TH MAY, 1934, AND 23RD APRIL, 1934.

Table comparing numbers on registers of employment exchanges for 14th May 1934 and 23rd April 1934, categorized by sex and employment status.

VACANCIES NOTIFIED TO, AND FILLED BY, EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)

Table showing vacancies notified and filled by employment exchanges, comparing 14th May 1934 with the period 23rd May 1933 to 14th May 1934.

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities, which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 14th May, 1934. In certain cases (e.g., Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, Edinburgh, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Large table showing numbers on registers in principal towns across various divisions like London, South-Eastern, Midlands, etc.

[Percentage rates of unemployment for each of 747 towns in Great Britain are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 14TH MAY, 1934.

Table showing numbers of juveniles aged 14 and under 18 on registers of employment exchanges and juvenile employment bureaux at 14th May 1934, categorized by sex and insurance status.

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. THREE WEEKS ENDED 14TH MAY, 1934.

Table showing juveniles placed in employment (three weeks ended 14th May 1934), categorized by sex and insurance status.

PERCENTAGE RATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT* AMONG INSURED JUVENILES AGED 16 AND 17.

Table showing percentage rates of unemployment among insured juveniles aged 16 and 17, categorized by sex and insurance status.

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

Table showing juveniles in attendance at approved courses of instruction, categorized by sex and insurance status.

There were 71 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 27 for girls and 22 mixed Centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition there were 11 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 4 for girls and 3 mixed. The number of other Institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted was 8 for boys, 5 for girls and 24 mixed. The attendances at these Institutions are mainly in the evening.

* Based on the numbers of juvenile unemployment books lodged at local offices, which exceed the numbers of insured juveniles on the Register.

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons applying for insurance benefit or transitional payments who were on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 14th May, 1934. While the figures give an indication of the extent to which these persons have had recent employment, they do not purport to show in every case the extent to which they have experienced unemployment over an extended period. Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods, a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment, lasting not more than three days each. The persons who had been on the register for less than three months included 341,023 temporarily stopped, 90,676 normally in casual employment, and 504,472 wholly unemployed. Of the wholly unemployed claimants who had been on the register for less than three months, 235,255 (or 14.2 per cent. of all the wholly unemployed on the register) had been on the register less than four weeks, 140,099 (or 8.4 per cent.) four weeks but less than eight weeks, and 129,118 (or 7.8 per cent.) eight weeks but less than thirteen weeks.

Table showing analysis of persons applying for insurance benefit or transitional payments, categorized by sex and duration of unemployment.

Table showing percentages of persons applying for insurance benefit or transitional payments, categorized by sex and duration of unemployment.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED.

POSITION UNDER PROVISIONS AS TO INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

The following Table gives an analysis of the numbers of insured persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 14th May, 1934, relative to their title to insurance benefit and the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (National Economy) (No. 2) Order, 1931, which deals with transitional payments.

The First Statutory Condition requires the payment of not less than 30 contributions in the preceding two years. In cases where this condition is satisfied, insured persons may receive insurance benefit, subject to the fulfilment of the statutory conditions, for not more than 156 days in a benefit year; but in cases where benefit has been drawn for 156 days in a benefit year ending on or after the 12th November, 1931, insurance benefit does not become payable until 10 contributions have been paid after the 156th day of benefit. In cases where benefit has been received for 156 days in a benefit year, or where the 10 contributions rule is not satisfied, and in all cases in which the First Statutory Condition is not fulfilled, adults, but not boys and girls, may make application for transitional payments; and if the special transitional conditions are fulfilled, all such applications are referred to Public Assistance Authorities, or to Commissioners in certain areas, for determination of the amount of payment to be made having regard to the needs of the applicant.

In item 4 in the Table relating to adults, the term "insured non-claimants" includes all those adults on the register whose claims had been disallowed on the ground that they were not normally insurable and would not normally seek to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment, together with those who had not made claims for insurance benefit or transitional payments.

The Table shows that of the 1,322,320 wholly unemployed insured men on the register at 14th May, 1934, there were 357,879 with claims to insurance benefit, and 822,255 with applications for transitional payments; while 142,186 were either not entitled to benefit or payments, or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 245,350 men temporarily stopped were 210,010, 18,387 and 16,953 respectively.

Among the 175,578 wholly unemployed insured women, 86,729 had claims for insurance benefit, 50,179 were applicants for transitional payments, and 38,670 either were not entitled to benefit or payments or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 87,387 women temporarily stopped were 78,486, 2,694 and 6,207 respectively.

ADULTS (AGES 18 TO 64, INCLUSIVE).

	Section of Register.	Men.	Women.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	357,879	86,729
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	210,010	78,486
	Total	567,889	165,215
2. Applications for Transitional Payments.	Wholly Unemployed	822,255	50,179
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	18,387	2,694
	Total	840,642	52,873
3. Total applications for Transitional Payments:—	(a) Authorised for payment	811,273	43,537
	(b) Needs of applicant held by Local Authorities not to justify payment	53,674	9,549
	Total	864,947	53,086
4. Insured Non-claimants	Wholly Unemployed	121,013	32,551
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	21,173	6,119
	Total	142,186	38,670
5. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	21,173	6,119
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	16,953	6,207
	Total	38,126	12,326
6. Total Insured Adults on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	1,322,320	175,578
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	245,350	87,387
	Total	1,567,670	262,965

JUVENILES (AGES 16 AND 17 YEARS).

	Section of Register.	Boys.	Girls.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	7,354	3,609
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	4,451	2,862
	Total	11,805	6,471
2. Not entitled to Insurance Benefit:—	(a) First Statutory Condition not satisfied	7,232	5,212
	(b) First Statutory Condition satisfied	556	175
	Total	7,788	5,387
3. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	641	450
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	598	380
	Total	1,239	830
4. Total Insured Juveniles on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	15,783	9,446
	Temporarily Stopped Casuals	5,049	3,242
	Total	20,832	12,688

APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

DETERMINATIONS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AUTHORITIES
 THE following Table gives the number of determinations made by Public Assistance Authorities (and, in the case of Rotherham County Borough and the Administrative County of Durham, the Commissioners appointed by the Ministry of Labour) on applications for transitional payments submitted to them during the period 9th April, 1934, to 5th May, 1934, analysed so as to show separately the determinations given on initial applications on the one hand and renewed and revised determinations on the other:—

Nature of Determination.	Men.		Women.		Total.	
	Initial Applications.	Renewals and Revisions.	Initial Applications.	Renewals and Revisions.	Initial Applications.	Renewals and Revisions.
Transitional payment allowed at:—						
Maximum benefit rates	24,722	282,021	2,661	13,596	27,383	295,617
Lower rates	16,361	171,171	1,845	9,900	18,206	181,071
Needs of applicants held not to justify payment	6,383	12,271	1,765	2,022	8,148	14,293
Total	47,466	465,463	6,271	25,518	53,737	490,981

ADJUDICATIONS UNDER STATUTORY CONDITIONS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

PERIOD 1ST TO 31ST MAY, 1934. GREAT BRITAIN.

THE following Table gives, for the period from 1st to 31st May, 1934, inclusive, an analysis of the decisions of Courts of Referees and of the Umpire on claims for insurance benefit and transitional payments, the number of cases disallowed by Insurance Officers under the trade dispute disqualification, and the number of appeals against such disallowances dealt with by Courts of Referees:—

A.—Decisions of Courts of Referees.

Ground on which referred.	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Contributions conditions* ...	124	217	341
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	5,347	6,877	12,224
Anomalies Regulations†:—			
Class (b) ...	167	413	580
Class (c) ...	35	74	109
Class (d) ...	1,217	2,852	4,069
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	1,766	3,083	4,849
Employment lost through misconduct ...	1,407	2,334	3,741
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	261	572	833
Not unemployed ...	315	2,134	2,449
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	140	504	644
Other grounds ...	1,049	2,258	3,307
Total	16,061	33,414	49,475

B.—Trade Dispute Cases.†

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	604	2,545	3,149
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	20	125	145
Total Appeals ...	22	129	151

C.—Decisions by Umpire.‡

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	203	385	588
Appeals by Associations ...	39	71	110
Appeals by Claimants ...	102	384	486
Total ...	344	840	1,184

* In the case of juveniles the condition in question was the full first statutory condition, viz., the payment of 30 contributions in the preceding two years. For men and women the figures relate mainly to applications for transitional payments, referred on the ground that less than 8 contributions had been paid in the past two years and less than 30 at any time.
 † See note * in first column on page 217. There were no cases under Class (a).
 ‡ See note † in first column on page 217.

CUMULATIVE FIGURES: 1ST JUNE, 1933, TO 31ST MAY, 1934.

	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Decisions of Courts of Referees.			
Contributions conditions ...	1,787	7,253	9,040
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	83,571	102,877	186,448
Anomalies Regulations* ...	5,869	20,095	25,964
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	33,979	67,330	101,309
Employment lost through misconduct ...	23,608	40,015	63,623
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions ...	8,744	30,006	38,750
Not unemployed ...	5,284	35,005	40,289
Not capable of work, or not available for work ...	4,926	19,928	24,854
Other grounds ...	7,660	45,022	52,682
Total ...	191,058	404,900	595,958
Trade Dispute Cases.†			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	2,587	5,926	8,513
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees ...	342	1,132	1,474
Decisions by Umpire.‡			
Appeals by Insurance Officers ...	2,768	3,886	6,654
Appeals by Associations ...	875	1,784	2,659
Appeals by Claimants ...	1,333	4,061	5,394
Total ...	4,976	9,731	14,707

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND. GREAT BRITAIN.

THE following Table shows, approximately, the income and expenditure of the Fund for the periods of four weeks ended 26th May, 1934, 28th April, 1934, and 27th May, 1933:—

	Four weeks ended 26th May, 1934.	Four weeks ended 28th April, 1934.	Four weeks ended 27th May, 1933.
I. Insurance Account.			
Contributions received from:—			
Employers ...	1,627,000	1,640,000	1,392,000
Employed persons ...	1,603,000	1,600,000	1,364,000
Exchequer ("Equal thirds") ...	1,614,000	1,616,000	1,378,000
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Income ...	4,846,000	4,858,000	4,136,000
Expenditure:			
Insurance Benefit ...	2,600,000	2,676,000	3,465,000
Cost of Administration ...	280,000	280,000	308,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances ...	—	—	413,000
Accrued Charge for Debt Services ...	384,000	385,000	—
Miscellaneous Payments ...	8,000	8,000	10,000
Total Expenditure ...	3,272,000	3,349,000	4,196,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding||	105,840,000	106,280,000	115,000,000
II. Transitional Payments Account.			
Transitional Payments and Cost of Administration thereof¶	3,630,000	3,725,000	4,220,000

* Class (a). Persons who habitually work for less than a full week, and by the practice of the trade in which they are employed nevertheless receive earnings or similar payments of an amount greater than the normal earnings for a full week of persons following the same occupation in the same district. There were no cases under class (a).
 † Class (b). Persons whose normal employment is employment for portions of the year only in occupations which are of a seasonal nature.
 ‡ Class (c). Persons whose normal employment is employment in an occupation in which their services are not normally required for more than two days in the week or who owing to personal circumstances are not normally employed for more than two days in the week.
 § Class (d). Married women who, since marriage or in any prescribed period subsequent to marriage, have had less than the prescribed number of contributions paid in respect of them. This class does not include married women whose husbands are incapacitated from work or are unemployed and not in receipt of benefit.
 ¶ The figures may include a number of test cases and the total number of individuals affected by such decisions may be considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.
 || A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper, No. 13 of 1934, for the period ended 31st March, 1933.)
 ¶ Provision is made in the Unemployment Bill for a half-yearly payment of £2,500,000, commencing on 30th September, 1934, in respect of interest on, and part repayment of, Treasury advances outstanding.
 § Since 1st November, 1933, out of the surplus accrued on insurance account, repayment of debt has been effected as the various items of the debt fall due for repayment, and this arrangement is continuing until the relative provisions of the Unemployment Bill become operative.
 ¶ The cost of transitional payments (including their administration) is repaid to the Fund in full by the Exchequer.

POOR RELIEF IN MAY.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and the Department of Health in Scotland.)

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in May, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 920,619, or 1.1 per cent. more than in the previous month and 17.2 per cent. more than in May, 1933. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 553, 546 and 470 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in May was 667,912, a decrease of 0.4 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, but an increase of 5.6 per cent. as compared with May, 1933. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 252,707, or 5.6 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 65.0 per cent. more than in May, 1933.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in May numbered 89,560, or 2.0 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 3.9 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 831,059, or 1.5 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 20.0 per cent. more than in May, 1933.

Of the forty-seven areas twenty-nine showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in May, as compared with April; twelve showed increases, including Glasgow (126 per 10,000); while in six areas there was no change. Compared with May, 1933, thirty-eight showed increases, including Glasgow (865 per 10,000), Liverpool (168 per 10,000), Gateshead (121 per 10,000), Aberdeen (108 per 10,000), Oldham (106 per 10,000), and Bolton (104 per 10,000); eight showed decreases, including Derby (95 per 10,000); while in one area there was no change.

ENGLAND AND WALES.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in May, 1934.			Rate per 10,000 of estimated population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
County of London	30,810	102,769	133,579	307	+ 7	- 2
Birkenhead ...	834	7,652	8,486	575	- 13	+ 71
Birmingham ...	4,554	17,388	21,942	217	- 3	+ 1
Blackburn ...	803	5,725	6,528	534	+ 25	+ 61
Bolton ...	843	5,313	6,156	346	+ 26	+ 104
Brighton ...	1,168	10,030	11,198	378	- 1	+ 34
Bristol ...	1,061	2,259	3,320	228	- 7	+ 15
Burnley ...	2,129	11,380	13,509	334	- 20	- 24
Cardiff ...	404	3,800	4,204	402	+ 8	+ 80
Coventry ...	1,296	10,609	11,905	535	- 23	+ 49
Croydon ...	440	1,853	2,293	128	- 3	- 3
Derby ...	771	3,794	4,565	192	- 8	- 7
East Ham ...	584	5,238	5,822	409	- 15	- 95
Gateshead ...	610	4,052	4,662	329	- 16	+ 121
Huddersfield ...	666	9,749	10,415	850	+ 4	+ 20
Kingston-upon-Hull ...	536	2,033	2,569	225	...	...
Leeds ...	1,593	19,204	20,797	654	- 3	+ 64
Liverpool ...	2,822	19,547	22,369	461	- 4	+ 168
Manchester ...	864	4,925	5,789	240	- 8	+ 158
Middlesbrough ...	5,847	81,829	87,676	1,020	+ 1	+ 55
Newcastle-upon-Tyne ...	3,444	55,400	58,844	771	- 8	+ 54
Norwich ...	413	5,241	5,654	404	- 8	+ 54
Nottingham ...	896	21,726	22,622	793	+ 2	+ 63
Oldham ...	800	10,204	11,004	869	- 24	+ 51
Plymouth ...	1,889	13,681	15,570	575	+ 25	+ 60
Portsmouth ...	952	4,325	5,277	380	+ 1	+ 40
Reading ...	525	6,531	7,056	339	...	...
Sheffield ...	1,236	3,007	4,243	168	- 5	+ 2
Southampton ...	532	1,801	2,333	197	...	+ 45
St. Helens ...	457	5,806	6,263	582	+ 18	+ 51
Salford ...	1,495	8,137	9,632	437	- 36	+ 56
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,706	53,838	55,544	1,083	- 33	+ 53
Sunderland ...	1,326	4,270	5,596	315	+ 3	+ 31
Swansea ...	532	1,801	2,333	197	...	+ 45
Walsall ...	457	5,806	6,263	582	+ 18	+ 51
West Ham ...	1,495	8,137	9,632	437	- 36	+ 56
Wolverhampton ...	2,363	17,313	19,676	680	- 16	- 9
Total for the above County Boroughs ...	538	2,598	3,136	235	- 5	+ 10
Total, County of London and 42 Selected County Boroughs ...	82,879	585,033	667,912	453	- 2	+ 26
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow ...	5,137	211,382	216,519	1,957	+ 126	+ 865
Edinburgh ...	723	19,478	20,201	454	- 17	+ 25
Dundee ...	406	7,470	7,876	444	+ 21	+ 54
Aberdeen ...	415	7,696	8,111	481	- 8	+ 108
Total for the above Scottish Burghs ...	6,681	246,026	252,707	1,332	+ 71	+ 525
Total for above 47 areas ...	89,560	831,059	920,619	553	+ 7	+ 83

* The figures include dependants, but exclude persons in receipt of outdoor medical relief only, and casuals. In England and Wales, rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, and, in Scotland, lunatics and mental defectives, are also included.
 † 19th May in London, 26th May in the rest of England and Wales, and 15th May in Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country: and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 201-202 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries.]

GERMANY.*

UNEMPLOYMENT showed a further decrease during May. The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 31st May, 1934, was 2,528,876 (provisional figure), as compared with 2,608,621 reported for the end of April, 1934. The total for the end of May, 1933, was 5,038,640, but this is not strictly comparable with the foregoing totals.

At 31st May, 1934, 231,614 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 822,127 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 1,053,741 (provisional figures), as compared with 1,060,021 at the end of April, 1934, and 1,801,930 at the end of May, 1933.

The total number of unemployed given above includes 832,683 able-bodied persons (provisional figure) who were in receipt of poor relief at 31st May, 1934, as compared with 882,766 at the end of April, 1934, and 2,056,445 at the end of May, 1933.

Of 6,909,040 members of the German Labour Front covered by returns, 15.4 per cent. were recorded as unemployed at the end of April, 1934. At the end of the previous month the corresponding percentage, based on a reporting membership of 6,755,815, was 16.3.

FRANCE.†

Unemployment continued to decrease during May. The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month (2nd June) was 352,312 (275,997 men and 76,315 women). At the end of April the corresponding total was 369,100, and at the end of May, 1933, 307,725.

At the beginning of May, 1934, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport, and commercial undertakings covered by the special official monthly investigation showed a decline of 2.64 per cent. as compared with May, 1933. The percentage of workpeople in these undertakings on short time to such an extent as to bring their weekly hours below 48 was 42.38, as compared with 38.85 at the beginning of May, 1933. At 1st May, 1934, 20.97 per cent. were working more than 40 and less than 48 hours, and 21.41 per cent. 40 hours or less a week.

BELGIUM.‡

Unemployment declined during March, 1934. Returns received by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare from approved unemployment insurance funds with a total membership of 975,378, show that 18.8 per cent. of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 20.3 per cent. at the end of February and 20.1 per cent. at the end of March, 1933. In addition, 16.7 per cent. were employed intermittently during the month, as compared with 18.6 per cent. during February, 1934, and 19.2 per cent. during March, 1933. In March, 1934, 23.2 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days were lost through unemployment; in the preceding month the percentage was 25.4 and in March, 1933, 24.1.

HOLLAND.§

Unemployment again decreased during March. According to figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, out of 592,906 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 31st March, 1934, 22.7 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 6.2 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month, the percentages were 24.7 and 6.8 respectively, and in the last week of March, 1933, 27.3 and 6.4. At the end of March, 1934, 356,189 applicants for employment were registered at public Employment Exchanges, of whom 332,907 were unemployed; at the end of the previous month, the corresponding figures were 382,770 and 358,023, and at the end of March, 1933, 365,754 and 342,152.

SWITZERLAND.||

Unemployment again showed a considerable decrease during April. At the end of the month 54,210 applications for employment were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 70,109 at the end of the previous month and 60,894 at the end of April, 1933. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 4,049, 3,539 and 3,786 respectively.

Returns from 196 unemployment insurance funds show that, out of a total of 534,345 members, 10.6 per cent. were wholly unemployed and 6.4 per cent. partially so at the end of March, 1934, as compared respectively with 15.8 per cent. and 7.1 per cent. at the end of December, 1933, and 12.0 per cent. and 10.4 per cent. at the end of March, 1933.

ITALY.¶

Unemployment continued to decline during April. According to statistics furnished to the Ministry of Corporations by Employment Exchanges, 995,548 workpeople were registered as out of work at the end of the month, as compared with 1,056,823 at the end of March. The total for the end of April, 1933, was 1,025,754, but this is not strictly comparable with the foregoing totals.

* Statistical Supplement to the Reichsarbeitsblatt, 5th June, 1934, and Arbeit und Arbeitslosigkeit, 8th June, 1934. Berlin.
† Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 1st and 8th June, 1934. Paris.
‡ Revue du Travail, May, 1934. Brussels.
§ Maandbericht van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 30th April, 1934. The Hague.
|| La Vie Economique, May, 1934. Berne.
¶ Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, May, 1934. Rome.

AUSTRIA.*

An appreciable drop in unemployment is recorded in the statistics for April, 1934. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 295,814 (125,758 in Vienna), a decrease of 9.2 per cent. as compared with the previous month and of 15.6 per cent. as compared with April, 1933.

HUNGARY.†

Unemployment decreased during April. The number of applications for work registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 52,575, as compared with 60,821 at the end of the previous month, and 65,793 at the end of April, 1933.

POLAND.‡

Unemployment fell during March. The number of applicants registered at Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 388,297, as compared with 408,792 at the end of February, 1934, and 279,779 at the end of March, 1933.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.§

Unemployment showed a considerable decline during May. The total number of persons remaining on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 620,000 (provisional figure), as compared with 703,500 at the end of April, 1934, and 726,629 at the end of May, 1933.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment decreased in Denmark during May, in Norway during March, and in Sweden during April.

Denmark.—Particulars supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by unemployment insurance societies show that, out of 361,302 organised workpeople covered by the returns, 17.4 per cent. (provisional figure) were unemployed at the end of May, 1934, as compared with 22.8 per cent. (provisional figure) at the end of April, 1934, and 24.3 per cent. at the end of May, 1933.

Norway.—Out of 23,812 members of trade unions making returns, 30.8 per cent. were unemployed at the end of March, 1934, as compared with 33.8 per cent. at the end of February, 1934, and 31.4 per cent. at the end of March, 1933.

Sweden.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed at the end of April, 1934, was 19.2, as compared with 23.3 at the end of March, 1934, and 24.3 at the end of April, 1933.

JAPAN.††

Unemployment decreased during December, 1933—the latest date for which figures are available. According to official estimates, 378,921 workpeople (5.11 per cent. of the estimated total number of industrial wage-earners covered by the returns) were unemployed in that month, as compared with 383,582 in the previous month and 463,403 in December, 1932.

UNITED STATES.†††

There was a further increase in the volume of employment and total wages paid during April, 1934. According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics from a large number of representative establishments in 90 of the principal manufacturing industries, covering about 50 per cent. of the total number of wage-earners employed in all manufacturing industries, the number of workpeople on their payrolls during April showed an increase of 1.9 per cent. as compared with March, 1934. Aggregate weekly earnings in these establishments during the same period showed an increase of 3.9 per cent. If the average monthly index of employment in manufacturing industries for the three years 1923-1925 be taken as 100, the corresponding index for April, 1934, was 82.3, as compared with 80.8 for March, 1934, and 59.9 for April, 1933. It is estimated by the Bureau of Labour Statistics that, in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries, 224,000 more people were at work in April, 1934, than a month before.

Reports received by the American Federation of Labour from affiliated trade unions in 24 cities show that in April, 1934, 25 per cent. (preliminary figure) of the membership of these unions covered by the returns were unemployed, as compared with 25 per cent. also in March, 1934, and 33 per cent. in April, 1933.

CANADA.||||

Employment at the beginning of May showed a slight improvement. Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 8,591 leading employers gave an aggregate of 856,316 workpeople on their pay-rolls at 1st May, 1934, as compared with 848,799 at 1st April. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index of employment for 1st May, 1934, was 92.0, as compared with 91.3 at the beginning of April, and 77.6 at the beginning of May, 1933.

At the end of March, 1934, 19.5 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 20.0 per cent. in February, 1934, and 25.1 per cent. in March, 1933.

* Statistische Nachrichten, 27th May, 1934. Vienna.
† Magyar Statisztikai Szemle, May, 1934. Budapest.
‡ Wladomosci Statystyczne, 15th May, 1934. Warsaw.
§ Prager Tagblatt, 5th June, 1934. Prague.
|| Statistiske Efterretninger, 6th June, 1934. Copenhagen.
¶ Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics, Oslo.
** Information supplied by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Stockholm.
†† The Monthly Report on Current Economic Conditions, March, 1934. Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tokyo.
††† Employment in April, 1934: Press release of the United States Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics and American Federationist, May, 1934. Washington.
|||| Owing to alteration of the base period of these index numbers from 1926 to 1923-1925, the figures given here are not comparable with those published in issues of this GAZETTE previous to that for May, 1934.
||||| The May Employment Situation, 1934, and information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN MAY.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in May in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £5,280 in the weekly full-time wages of 103,800 workpeople and in a decrease of £925 in those of 32,100 workpeople. The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	2,700	22,500	£ 230	£ 350
Metal ...	71,750	3,000	2,450	150
Electricity Supply ...	24,300	...	2,200	...
Service ...	5,050	6,600	400	425
Other ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	103,800	32,100	5,280	925

In the mining and quarrying group the principal change was a slight reduction in the percentage addition to the basis rates of coal miners in North Staffordshire, representing a decrease of rather less than 1 per cent. in current rates, except in the case of the lower paid men, whose minimum rates remained unchanged. The increases in this group affected slate quarryworkers employed by certain firms in North Wales.

In the metal group the principal increase affected workpeople employed in steel melting shops and in steel rolling mills in various districts in England and Scotland, whose wages were increased, in accordance with a sliding scale based on selling prices, to the extent generally of 1 per cent. on current rates. The decreases in this group mainly affected iron puddlers and millmen on the North-East coast and in the West of Scotland.

In the electricity supply service the workpeople whose wages were increased were those employed by a large number of electricity supply undertakings in various districts of Great Britain. The increase was granted in restoration of reductions that had been imposed in January and February, 1932, and amounted in most cases to an advance of ¼d. per hour.

In other industrial groups the principal increases in wages affected stock brickmakers in Kent and Essex and municipal employees at Edinburgh. The main reductions affected railway employees in Northern Ireland and machine calico printers.

Of the estimated total increase of £5,280 per week, about £2,200 took effect under settlements made by Joint Industrial Councils; over £2,000 was due to the operation of sliding scales based upon

selling prices; and the remaining sum was almost entirely due to direct negotiations between employers and workpeople.

Of the estimated total decrease of £925 per week, nearly £500 was due to the operation of sliding scales based upon the proceeds of the industry or upon selling prices; nearly £160 took effect under sliding scales based on the cost of living; and the remainder was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or of independent action on the part of the employers.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-MAY, 1934.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the five completed months of 1934, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes:—

Industry Group.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by Net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Coal Mining ...	38,500	100	£ 2,075	£ 20
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	13,000	...	900	...
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	18,600	100	1,580	5
Iron and Steel ...	77,750	14,550	2,520	760
Engineering ...	6,800	...	1,040	...
Other Metal ...	8,250	200	860	30
Textile ...	1,050	150,700	105	9,010
Clothing ...	...	8,550	...	575
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	1,500	1,700	130	205
Woodworking, Furniture, etc. ...	1,400	250	200	45
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	34,450	400	3,100	35
Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply ...	27,850	...	2,660	...
Transport ...	74,650	3,000	6,820	180
Public Administration Services ...	16,300	1,000	1,610	50
Other ...	4,900	5,200	250	560
Total ...	325,000	185,750	23,850	11,475

In the corresponding five months of 1933, there were net increases of £16,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 1,302,200 workpeople, and net decreases of £82,750 in those of 912,300 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

The hours of labour on Saturdays of slate quarrymen employed by certain firms in North Wales were made uniform at 4½ throughout the year, resulting in an average decrease over the year of ¼ hour per week.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1934.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Durham ...	14 May	Horsemen 21 years of age and over	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: householders, 32s., plus 7s. for time spent in attention to horses; those receiving board and lodging, 31s.†; others, 31s., plus 3s. 6d. for time spent in attention to horses.
			Stockmen and shepherds 21 years of age and over.	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 11½d. or 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change: householders, 43s.; those receiving board and lodging, 35s.†; others, 36s. 10½d.
	Northumberland ...	13 May	Stewards, horsemen, cattlemen, stockmen and shepherds.	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 1s. per week for those 19 and under 21 years, the rates for those under 19 and those 21 and over remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: householders—14s. 6d. at under 15, increasing each year to 37s. 6d. at 21 and over; other workers—10s. 6d. at under 15, increasing to 34s. 6d. at 21 and over.
			Other male workers (except casual workers).	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 1s. per week for those 19 and under 21 years, the rates for those under 19 and those 21 and over remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 9s. 6d. at under 15, increasing each year to 30s. 6d. at 21 and over.
Coal Mining	North Riding of Yorkshire.	1 May	Male casual workers 18 years of age and over.	Increase in the minimum rate fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 1d. per hour. Minimum rate after change: 7d. per hour.
	Holland Division of Lincolnshire.	1 May	Male workers ...	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of from 2d. to 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 8s. 8d. at under 14 years, increasing each year to 35s. at 21 and over; cattlemen and shepherds 21 and over to receive 6s. per week extra, and horsemen amounts varying from 3s. 4d. at 14 to 10s. at 21 and over, to cover employment on the care of animals in excess of the normal hours.
	Oxfordshire ...	6 May	Male workers ...	Increase in the minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, of 6d. or 1s. per week for those 15 years and over, the rate for those under 15 remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 9s. at 14, increasing each year to 23s. at 18 and to 30s. at 21.
Coal Mining	North Staffordshire	1 May	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Decrease of 1 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages 37 per cent. above basis rates, subject to a subsistence allowance for lower-paid day-wage workers.‡

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, the details of changes in the current rates of wages of these classes are shown in the list of principal changes recorded. The estimates of the effects of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.
† In addition to the numbers quoted wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 6,200 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts.
‡ This rate is subject to a deduction of 15s. per week for board and lodging.
§ The maximum allowances are 1s. per shift for workers 21 years and over, 9d. per shift for those 18 and under 21 years, and 6d. per shift for those 15 and under 18 years, and the total wage beyond which no allowance is paid is 7s. 9d. per shift for workers 21 years and over, 7s. per shift for those 18 and under 21 years, and 5s. per shift for those 16 and under 18 years. A minimum gross wage of 7s. per shift for adult day-wage men is also fixed.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1934 (continued.)

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)	
Slate Quarrying	North Wales (certain firms in the Festiniog and Caernarvon Districts).	22 May	Slate quarryworkers	Increase* of 4d. per day in the day wage and letting standard. Rates per day after change: slate quarrymen—day wage, 8s. 7d.; letting standard, 9s. 7d.; rock labourers—day wage, 8s. 1d.; letting standard, 9s. 1d.; labourers—day wage, 7s. 10d.; letting standard, 8s. 10d.	
Brickmaking	North-East Kent and South-East Essex.	Pay day in week ending 11 May.	Stock brickmakers	Increase of 5 per cent. on rates paid prior to October, 1933, making a total increase of 7½ per cent. on those rates.	
Paint, Colour and Varnish Manufacture.	Glasgow and district†	1st pay day in May.	Adult workers	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week for adult male workers and of 6d. per week for adult female workers. Minimum rates after change: men 21 years and over, 50s. 6d.; women 21 and over, 27s. 6d.	
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	North - East Coast Area.	28 May	Iron puddlers and millmen ...	Decrease† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 14½ and 12 per cent. above the standard for puddlers and millmen respectively.	
	West of Scotland ...	28 May	Iron puddlers and millmen and sheet millmen.	Decrease† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving a minimum percentage addition of 30 per cent. on standard rates.	
	England§ and West of Scotland.	6 May	Men employed in steel melting shops (melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladle-men, furnace helpers, gas producermen, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.).	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 25½ per cent. above the standard (basic process) and 1½ per cent. above the standard (acid process).	
	North - East Coast Area.	6 May	Semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at puddling furnaces and in rolling mills, whose wages are based on a 47-hour week (excluding those in receipt of base rates of 6s. and under per shift); also boys under 21 years of age.	Increase† of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
	North - East Coast Area (except certain men employed at Gateshead).	6 May	Men employed on direct production in steel rolling mills.	Increase† of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
	Workington ...	6 May	Steel millmen and labourers (dual workers).	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 2½ per cent. above the standard.	
	Scunthorpe ...	6 May	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers.	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 2½ per cent. above the standard.	
	West of Scotland ...	6 May	Millmen, gas producermen, engine-men, crane-men, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers employed in steel rolling mills.	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 17½ per cent. above the standard.	
	Barrow-in-Furness ...	6 May	Merchant millmen, engine-men, crane-men, etc.	Increase† of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
	Barrow-in-Furness ...	6 May	Roll turners	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 17½ per cent. above the standard.	
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Cleveland, Cumberland and North Lincolnshire.	6 May	Bricklayers employed at blast-furnaces.	Increase† of 1½ per cent. Rate after change: 12½d. per hour, plus 2½ per cent., plus a tonnage bonus.	
	England§ and West of Scotland.	6 May	Bricklayers employed in iron and steel works in England and steel works in West of Scotland.	Increase† of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
	North - East Coast Area.	6 May	Bricklayers' labourers employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works.	Increase† of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
	North - East Coast Area.	6 May	Skilled and semi-skilled craftsmen 21 years of age and over (engineers, electricians, etc.), employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works.	Increase† of 1½ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of 1½ of such advance.	
	North - East Coast Area.	6 May	Joiners, wagonwrights and wagon repairers employed at certain iron and steel works.	Increase† of 1 step (3-98d. per week) under the "stepping scheme."	
	North - East Coast, West Midlands and South Coast Districts.	1st full pay day in May.	Plumber-jointers, jointers, etc., employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Increase|| of ½d. per hour.	
	Tube Manufacture.	West of Scotland ...	7 May	Adult male timeworkers	(i) Adoption of a minimum rate of 41s. per week of 47 hours. (ii) Time rates of workpeople in receipt of 40s. 1d. to 42s. per week increased to 43s., from 42s. 1d. to 43s. increased to 44s., and from 43s. 1d. and under 43s. increased to 45s. per week of 47 hours.
	Elastic Web Manufacture.	Leicester	18 May	Weavers and braid hands (male workers).	Bonus on earnings reduced¶ from 10s. to 9s. 6d. in the £.
	Fustian Cutting	Great Britain ...	28 May	Workpeople employed in:— Hand cutting section	General minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for male and female learners at 6s. per week for a period of one month only and, for workers other than learners, at 5½d. per hour for female workers and for male workers under 18 years, and at 10d. per hour for male workers 18 and over. (See Notice of Order on page 225.)
				Power machine cutting section ...	General minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for female learners at 6s. per week during first month and 8s. per week during second month, and for female workers other than learners at 7d. per hour. (See Notice of Order on page 225.)
Ending and mending section ...				Scale of general minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for female learners, starting at 6s. per week during first month, increasing each month to 17s. during twelfth month, and for female workers other than learners at 7d. per hour; piecework basis time rate for all female workers fixed at 7½d. per hour. (See Notice of Order on page 225.)	
Machine Calico Printing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1st pay day in June**.	Machine calico printers	Supplementary cost-of-living wage reduced¶ from 18-45 per cent. to 16-65 per cent. on basis wages, and flat-rate bonuses of 17s. per week for journeymen and 11s. per week for apprentices reduced¶ to 16s. and 10s. respectively.	

* This increase applied to workpeople employed at the quarries affected by an increase in January, 1934. (See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1934, page 68). The minimum wage remained unchanged at 7s. 6d., 7s. 1d. and 6s. 11d. per day for slate quarrymen, rock labourers and labourers respectively. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
 † This increase affected mainly workers employed by firms affiliated to the Paint and Oil Section of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.
 ‡ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.
 § Principally the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South and West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and the Midlands.
 ¶ These increases took place in accordance with an arrangement whereby fluctuations in wages of the workpeople mentioned are governed by wages movements in the Electricity Supply Industry, and consisted of the restoration of reductions made in January and February, 1932.
 ¶ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 ** In respect of the preceding pay period.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1934 (continued.)

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Silk Dyeing and Finishing.	Macclesfield ...	Pay day in week ending 12 May.	Male workers	Decreases* of from 4d. to 11d. per week. Rates after change: 12s. 11d. at 14 years, increasing each half-year to 43s. 6d. at 21. Decrease* of 5d. per week (26s. 2d. to 25s. 9d.).
Mill Sawing.	King's Lynn ...	26 April	Female workers 18 years and over	Decrease* of 1d. per hour for machinists and sawyers, 3d. per hour for labourers and 1d. per hour for boys. Minimum rates after change: machinists and sawyers, 1s.; labourers, 9½d.
Road Vehicle Building.	Certain towns in England and Wales; also Belfast, Edinburgh, and Dumfries.†	1st pay week after 23 May.	Those engaged in the manufacture of private bodywork of the highest class.	Minimum rates adopted which are 2d. per hour above the basic minimum rates for bodymakers, wheelwrights, coach joiners and finishers, smiths, painters, trimmers, brush hands and cellulose machinists, sawyers and coach fitters, and 1½d. per hour above basic minimum rates for vicemen, hammermen or strikers, brush hands, cellulose polishers and labourers.†
			Those engaged in the manufacture of individual private bodywork (second grade) and on batch production; and in the manufacture and repair of buses, coaches, and other vehicles licensed to carry passengers.	Minimum rates adopted for the classes of workers mentioned above which are 1d. per hour above the basic minimum rates.†
Building.	Fort William	23 April	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters and plumbers.	Increase of ½d. per hour.
	Various undertakings in the North-East Coast Area.‡	7 May 1st full pay in May.	Adult male workers	Further increase of ½d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 5½d. Increase of ½d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers:—indoor—Zone A, 13-67d.; Zone B, 12-98d.; Zone C, 12-70d.; outdoor—Zone A, 14-17d.; Zone B, 13-47d.; Zone C, 13-17d.‡
	Various undertakings in the West Midland Area.‡	1st pay day in May.	All workpeople	Increase of ½d. per hour for adult workers, of 9d. per week for youths and apprentices of 16 and 17 years, and of 1s. 4d. per week for those 18 to 20 years, inclusive. Scheduled minimum rates after change for general labourers:—Zone A, 13-28d.; Zone B, 12-78d.; Zone C, 12-28d.‡
Electricity Supply Undertakings.	Various undertakings in the South Coast Area.‡	1st pay day in May.	Adult male workers	Increase of ½d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for indoor and outdoor labourers—Zone A, 13-30d.; Zone B, 12-96d.; Zone C, 12-54d.; Zone D, 12-30d.‡
	Various undertakings in the Yorkshire, North-Western, South Wales and Monmouthshire, West of England, Home Counties, and Scotland Areas.‡	1st full pay in May.	Adult male workers	Increase, for those rated at over 11½d. per hour, of amounts varying up to ½d. per hour.† Scheduled minimum rates after change for labourers:—YORKSHIRE AREA—indoor—Zone A, 14d.; Zone B, 13-25d.; Zone C, 12-25d.; outdoor—Zone A, 14-25d.; Zone B, 13-5d.; Zone C, 12-5d. NORTH-WESTERN AREA—indoor—Zone A, 13-14d.; Zone B, 12-8d.; Zone C, 12-48d.; Zone D, 12-15d.; outdoor—Zone A, 13-66d.; Zone B, 13-32d.; Zone C, 12-98d.; Zone D, 12-64d. SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE AREA: 13-5d. WEST OF ENGLAND AREA: Zone A, 14-48d.; Zone B, 13-68d.; Zone C, 12-88d. HOME COUNTIES AREA (Stations over 800 k.w.): 13-5d. SCOTLAND: Grade A, 13-21d.; Grade B, 12-93d.; Grade C, 12-37d.
Railway Service.	Northern Ireland (excluding the Belfast and County Down Railway).	1 May	Conciliation grades (excluding road motor passenger staff).	Deduction of 7½ per cent. from earnings previously in operation increased to 10 per cent.‡
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Camberwell ...	Week commencing 25 May.	Manual workers (except road paviers and masons and road paviers' labourers).	Decreases of 10d. per week for road scavengers or sweepers, and of 11d. per week for yardmen, refuse collectors and road labourers. Rates after change: road scavengers or sweepers, 5s. 2d.; yardmen, 6s. 1d.; refuse collectors and road labourers, 6s. 7d.
	Dumbarton ...	15 May	Manual workers (except road paviers and masons).	Restoration of temporary reduction of 5 per cent. made in November, 1931. Rates after change: general yard labourers, 1s. 0-9d. per hour; road scavengers or sweepers, 1s. 2-875d.; refuse collectors, 1s. 4-625d.; road labourers, 1s. 3d.
	Edinburgh ...	1st pay on or after 29 May.	Manual workers	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week in the minimum and maximum rates for paviers and masons, and of 6d. in the minimum rate and 9d. in the maximum rate for other classes. Rates after change: general yard labourers, road scavengers and road labourers, 5s. 6d. to 54s. 3d. per week; refuse collectors, 50s. 6d. to 54s. 3d. or 52s. 6d. to 56s. 3d.; road paviers and masons, 67s. 6d. to 71s. 6d.
Skip and Basket Making.	Lancashire and Cheshire.	16 May	Road labourers employed by County Council.	Restoration of 1s. per week to men whose wages had been reduced from 51s. to 50s. on 16th May, 1931. Rate after change: 42s. to 51s. per week.
	Scotland||	7 May	Skip and basket makers	Decrease* of 1 per cent. on list prices, leaving wages 66½ per cent. and 56½ per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively.
Retail Distribution.	Scotland||	1st pay day in May.	Workpeople employed by retail co-operative societies.	New general scales of rates adopted, resulting in increases for workers with more than six years' experience varying from 1s. 1d. to 3s. per week for male workers and from 9d. to 1s. 11d. per week for female workers; revised and extended scales adopted for branch managers (with new rates for sales below £50 per week for butchery branches and £60 for other branches), resulting in increases varying from 1s. 9d. to 4s. 5d. per week; increases for drug branch managers and tailors' cutters of 2s. 1d. or 4s. 3d. per week, and for head warehousemen of 1s. 8d. or 3s. 5d. per week; the rates for porters, caretakers and cellarmen remained unchanged. Rates after change include: male workers (general scale)—Glasgow district and Perth: 12s. 7d. in first year, increasing each year to 60s. in tenth year; other districts: 12s. 5d. in first year, increasing to 58s. in tenth year; Glasgow district and Perth: 11s. 7d. in first year, increasing to 40s. in tenth year; other districts: 11s. 6d. in first year, increasing to 38s. 6d. in tenth year; head warehousemen—Glasgow district and Perth: 68s. 5d.; other districts, 65s. 7d.; porters, caretakers, and cellarmen—Glasgow district and Perth: 23s. at 16, increasing each year to 59s. 3d. at 21; other districts, 22s. at 16, increasing to 48s. 3d. at 21.

CHANGE IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING MAY, 1934

Industry.	District.	Date	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Slate Quarrying	North Wales (certain firms in the Festiniog and Caernarvon districts).	22 May	Slate quarryworkers	Hours of labour on Saturdays made uniform at 4½ throughout the year, resulting in an average decrease over the year of ½ hour in the weekly hours of labour.†

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † This change took effect under an agreement made between the United Kingdom Joint Wages Board of Employers for the Vehicle Building Industry, the National Union of Vehicle Builders, and the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. The basic minimum rates remain unchanged and are, for Grade 1 and Grade 2 towns respectively, as follows:—bodymakers, wheelwrights, coach joiners and finishers, smiths, painters, trimmers, mounters, general machinists and sawyers, 1s. 5d., 1s. 4d.; coach fitters, 1s. 4d., 1s. 3d.; vicemen, 1s. 2d., 1s. 1d.; hammermen or strikers, brush hands and cellulose polishers, 1s. 0½d., 1s. 0½d.; labourers, 1s., 11½d.; London area (20 miles from Charing Cross), ½d. per hour more than the basic minimum rates had already as shown on page 239 of the GAZETTE for June, 1931, with the addition of Edinburgh to Grade 1. Rates higher than the basic minimum rates had already been paid in some districts in those sections of the industry specified above, but had not hitherto been included in the national agreements. The effect of the new agreement is to standardise these excess rates, but it is stipulated that the special rates applicable to certain firms in London engaged on high-class coach work agreed upon in January, 1934 (see page 69 of the GAZETTE for February, 1934) shall be maintained until 31st March, 1935.
 ‡ These increases are in accordance with decisions of the District Joint Industrial Councils, who adopted a recommendation of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry that the reductions agreed or awarded in these areas in 1932 should be restored, and wages stabilised for a period of 12 months from 1st May, 1934.
 § For employees whose earnings, based on the rates of pay in operation prior to May, 1931, were 40s. per week or less in Group 1 railways, and 36s. per week or less in Group 3 railways, the deduction is to remain at 7½ per cent., and a scale is agreed upon for cases where a 10 per cent. deduction from earnings of over 40s. per week (Group 1 railways) or 36s. per week (Group 3 railways) would reduce these to a lower amount than a 7½ per cent. deduction from earnings of 40s. per week (Group 1 railways) or 36s. per week (Group 3 railways). Payment for annual holidays, which had been discontinued for the year 1933, was resumed.
 ¶ This increase affected mainly workers employed by societies affiliated to the Scottish National Co-operative Wages Board in the Ayrshire, Central, East of Scotland, Falkirk, Glasgow, Perth, Renfrewshire, Southern Counties, Stirling and Clackmannan, and West Lothian districts.
 ¶ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

TRADE DISPUTES IN MAY.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in May in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 44, as compared with 36 in the previous month, and 32 in May, 1933. In these new disputes about 11,300 workpeople were directly involved and 1,300 workpeople indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 6,100 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 17 disputes which began before May and were still in progress at the beginning of that month.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in May.

Industry Group.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	5	15	20	6,900	49,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	...	3	3	200	1,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	5	6	11	3,800	10,000
Clothing ...	...	3	3	300	1,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	3	2	5	1,200	27,000
Transport ...	1	6	7	4,400	24,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	...	1	1	600	3,000
Other ...	3	8	11	1,300	18,000
Total, May, 1934 ...	17	44	61	18,700	133,000
Total, April, 1934 ...	11	36	47	10,700	71,000
Total, May, 1933 ...	8	32	40	7,800	54,000

Causes.—Of the 44 disputes beginning in May, 7, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 5, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, out of proposed wage reductions; and 9, directly involving 2,900 workpeople, on other wage questions; 16, directly involving 4,500 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 7, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, on other questions.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING MAY.

Occupations† and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
COAL MINING — Underground and surface workers—near Rotherham (one firm).	2,319	...	1934. 25 Apr.‡	1934. 15 May‡	Dissatisfaction regarding wages paid to seam conveyor men, and other alleged grievances.	Work resumed on new terms offered by Company, for a trial period of two months; any disputes in the meantime to be referred, if necessary, to arbitration.
BRICK MANUFACTURE — Brickmakers—Buckinghamshire and Middlesex (five firms).	175	...	30 May	11 June	Workpeople's demand for payment of an extra 2s. 6d. per 1,000 bricks.	Work resumed pending negotiations on a modified claim.
ENGINEERING — Workpeople in motor body building and trimming shops, tinsmiths, etc.—Coventry (one firm).	555	185	11 May	15 May	Workpeople's objection to system of timing of operations with reference to piecework rates.	Work resumed on conditions prevailing prior to stoppage.
BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURE — Closers and other workpeople—Kettering (one firm).	25	157	2 May	7 May	Allegation by a section of the closers that output required on day work was in excess of piecework quantity for corresponding wages; and against the attitude of a supervisor.	Work resumed on advice of trade union officials; matter subsequently referred to Arbitration Board and amicable settlement reached.
BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC. — Plasterers and labourers—principal towns in Scotland.	2,000	...	1 Mar.	...	For an increase of 1d. per hour in wages.	No settlement reported.
TRANSPORT — Wharf labourers and stevedores—London (one firm).	2,000	...	14/15 May	25 May||	Against transfer of five clerks, displaced from office staff, to permanent labour staff, as agreed between Company and employees' trade union (which did not sanction the stoppage).	Work resumed under terms agreed upon between Company and trade union, involving the continuance of the transfer system by mutual arrangement between the parties, as previously.
Omnibus and tram drivers and conductors, etc.—Swansea and district (including Neath, Llanelli and Pontardawe).	849	...	24 May	26 May¶	For the restoration in full of a reduction of 2s. per week which was made in the wages of omnibus drivers and conductors in 1932.	Work resumed on advice of employees' trade union; one-half of the reduction to be restored immediately, the remainder to form the subject of joint negotiations between the Company and the trade union.
DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES — Co-operative society employees—Warrington and district (one society).	600	50	1 May	5 May	For reinstatement of two dismissed employees in their former positions and departments.	Dismissed employees taken back at their full former rates of pay, but in other departments.
RUBBER MANUFACTURE — Workpeople employed in the manufacture of rubber tyres, etc.—Melksham (one firm).	684**	...	12 Apr.	26 May	Against the introduction of a new system of piecework in certain departments, alleged to involve reductions in earnings.	System in question to receive a month's trial subject to adjustment of any individual earnings which might be temporarily affected on account of the stoppage, and further discussions after that period concerning any rates still in dispute.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.
† In making up these totals the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, very slight.
‡ The occupations printed in Italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
§ Work ceased at the beginning of the night shift on 24th April; full resumption was delayed until 23rd May.
¶ Work was resumed on 23rd May.
|| Work was resumed on the afternoon of 26th May.
** The number of workpeople involved was originally 50, but gradually increased later and reached the above total at the beginning of May.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 32 new disputes, directly involving 10,300 workpeople, and 13 old disputes, directly involving 5,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 11, directly involving 3,200 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 19, directly involving 6,100 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 15, directly involving 6,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 1 dispute, directly involving 100 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1934 AND 1933.†

Industry Group.	January to May, 1934.			January to May, 1933.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	No. of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Coal Mining ...	65	25,700	118,000	47	21,400	114,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	4	400	5,000	3	300	8,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	8	800	10,000	4	200	2,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	24	4,700	13,000	12	7,800	22,000
Other Metal ...	14	1,800	12,000	21	4,100	63,000
Textile ...	28	7,100	52,000	17	3,900	36,000
Clothing ...	6	400	4,000	8	800	2,000
Woodworking, Furniture Manufacture, etc. ...	17	600	6,000	7	1,400	26,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	20	3,100	108,000	9	400	6,000
Transport ...	19	6,500	32,000	16	18,700	245,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	1	800	4,000	2	100	1,000
Other ...	11	1,500	31,000	5	400	7,000
Total ...	217	53,400	395,000	151	58,600	532,000

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st JUNE.

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included 38%
Food only 17%

FOOD.

At 1st June the general level of the retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland showed a very slight advance as compared with 1st May, chiefly owing to small increases in the average prices of mutton, tea and salt butter.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 17 per cent. at 1st June, 1934, as compared with 16 per cent. at 1st May, 1934, and 14 per cent. at 1st June, 1933.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st May, 1934, and 1st June, 1934:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest 1d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) at 1st June, 1934, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st May, 1934.	1st June, 1934.	July, 1914.	1st May, 1934.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 2	1 2	+ 4	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7½	0 9	0 9	+ 1½	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	— 0½	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10½	1 3	1 3½	+ 5	+ 0½
Breast ...	0 6½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1½	+ 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 3	+ 0½
Breast ...	0 4	0 3½	0 3½	— 0½	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 1½	1 1½	+ 2	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 0	1 0	+ 1½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 7½	0 7½	+ 1½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 5½	+ 0½
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 2½	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2½	1 0½	1 0½	— 2	...
Salt ...	1 2½	0 10½	0 11	— 3½	+ 0½
Cheese† ...	0 8½	0 8½	0 8½	— 0½	— 0½
Margarine ...	0 7	0 5½	0 5½	— 1½	— 0½
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1	0 1	— 0½	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 5	0 5	+ 0½	...

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of retail prices at the same dates:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (–) at 1st June, 1934, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st May, 1934.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	40	38	39	40
Thin Flank ...	12	11	11	12
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	23	24	23	24
Thin Flank ...	–10	–1	–6	–5
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	50	46	48	44
Breast ...	22	14	18	15
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	47	35	41	39
Breast ...	–7	–1	–4	–4
Bacon (streaky)*	18	19	19	19
Fish ...	116	86	101	101
Flour ...	11	13	12	13
Bread ...	28	27	28	28
Tea ...	32	29	26	26
Sugar (granulated) ...	25	11	14	14
Milk ...	16	69	64	65
Butter—				
Fresh ...	–17	–11	–14	–13
Salt ...	–24	–22	–23	–25
Cheese† ...	–5	–2	–4	–1
Margarine ...	–22	–21	–22	–20
Eggs (fresh) ...	–9	–18	–13	–15
Potatoes ...	16	–8	4	5
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	17	16	17	16

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.
† The description of cheese for which prices are quoted is in most cases Canadian or New Zealand, but in some districts the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st June, 1934, was approximately 48 per cent. When decontrolled rents are also included, the combined average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in controlled and decontrolled working-class rents (including rates) is approximately 56 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase shown below for "all items."

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, woollen and cotton materials, underclothing and hosiery, boots and shoes, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st June the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes, and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was between 85 and 90 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal at 1st June showed reductions in a number of towns, and were on the average about 75 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st June, as compared with July, 1914, was between 65 and 70 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging between 70 and 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st June, 1934, is approximately 38 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 37 per cent. at 1st May, 1934, and 36 per cent. at 1st June, 1933.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken now as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). In view of the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, the standard of living has doubtless risen in many cases in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1934.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1934:—

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1920	125	130	130	132	141	150	152	155	161	164	176	169
1921	165	151	141	133	128	119	119	122	120	110	103	99
1922	92	88	86	82	81	80	84	81	79	78	80	80
1923	78	77	76	74	70	69	69	71	73	75	75	77
1924	77	79	78	73	71	69	70	71	72	76	80	81
1925	80	79	79	75	73	72	73	73	74	76	76	77
1926	75	73	72	68	67	68	70	70	72	74	79	79
1927	75	72	71	65	64	63	66	64	65	67	69	69
1928	68	66	64	64	64	65	65	65	65	66	67	68
1929	67	65	66	62	61	60	61	63	64	65	67	67
1930	66	64	61	57	55	54	55	57	57	56	57	55
1931	53	52	50	47	45	47	45	45	45	45	46	48
1932	47	47	46	44	43	42	43	41	41	43	43	43
1933	42	41	39	37	36	36	38	39	41	41	43	43
1934	42	41	40	39	37	38						

NOTE.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," has been published, and may be purchased, price 3d. net (3½d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. In every case the percentage calculation is based on the cost of a fixed list of commodities taken in identical quantities.

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	Rise.	Date.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	Per cent. 41	Per cent. 30	Per cent. 25	Per cent. 18	Per cent. 17	1934. 1 June
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Austria (Vienna) ...	19	10	10	4	0	May
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	714	638	567	562	520	Apr.
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	32	16	8	1	7	Feb.
Finland ...	837	718	756	777	726	Apr.
France (Paris) ...	506	525	449	408	399	May
(other towns) ...	518**	508**	431**	392**	393	Feb.
Germany ...	46	30	14	11	14	Apr.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	52§	41§	19§	17§	26	Mar.
Italy ...	407	342	318	293	269	May
Norway ...	51	40	34	32	30	Apr.
Spain (Madrid)†† ...	80	93	79	80	85	Oct., '33
Sweden† ...	40	30	28	23	22	Mar.
Switzerland ...	52	40	24	16	15	Apr.
United States ...	44	19	1	5	8	8 May
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.						
Australia ...	47	25	23	18**	22	Apr.
Canada ...	49	10	-8††	-5††	6	Apr.
India (Bombay) ...						
Native families ...	36	0	2	-5††	-17††	May
Irish Free State ...	56	43**	34**	29**	33	Feb.
New Zealand ...	43	18†	8	4	11	Apr.
South Africa ...	9		-6††	-2††		

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.*

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.†	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1930.	July, 1931.	July, 1932.	July, 1933.	Rise.	Date.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 55	Per cent. 47	Per cent. 43	Per cent. 38	Per cent. 38	1934. 1 June
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Austria (Vienna) ...	A,B,C,D,E	12	7	8	5	4	May
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	769	689	608	595	562	May
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	665	629	597	596	579	Apr.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	65	54	54	60	65	Apr.
Egypt (Cairo) ...	A,B,C,E	48	34	24	24	24	Feb.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,008	904	894	883	857	Apr.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	492¶	465¶	417¶	416¶	426	1st Qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	49	37	22	19	21	Apr.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	62§	54§	41§	37§	42	Mar.
Italy ...	A,B,C,D,E	282‡‡	265‡‡	250‡‡	250	250	July-Dec., '33.
(Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	431	386	365	347	348	Mar.
(Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	400	352	336	314	309	Jan.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	61	52	49	48	47	Apr.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	64	58	55	53	53	Apr.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	59	50	38	31	30	Apr.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	67§	50§	36§	28§	35	Dec., '33.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	41¶	25¶	20¶	18¶	18	1st Qr.
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	56	37	25	20	25	Apr.
India (Bombay) ...							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	39	8	9	3	-6††	May
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	68	57**	53**	49**	49	May
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	58	45†	31**	27	29	Apr.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	28	22	17	14	17	Apr.

* Exceptions to this are: Egypt, January 1913 to July 1914; France (other towns), August, 1914; Italy (all items), Milan and Rome, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States, Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are weighted averages for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, in Austria, on prices converted at the rate of 1.44 Schilling equals one pre-war Krone, and, in the other countries, on prices in the ordinary currency.
 † Fuel and light are also included in these figures.
 ‡ New series.
 § Figure for June.
 ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.
 ** Figure for 3rd Quarter.
 †† Figure for December.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment occurred or were reported in May was 147, as compared with 143 in the previous month, and with 141 in May 1933. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in May numbered 36, as compared with 28 in the previous month, and with 23 in May, 1933.

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued).	
Brakemen, Goods Guards	1	Cotton	1
Engine Drivers, Motormen	1	Wool, Worsted, Shoddy ...	2
Firemen ... ..	...	Other Textile Manufacture	1
Guards (Passenger) ...	...	Textile Printing, Bleaching	...
Permanent Way Men ...	9	and Dyeing	5
Porters ... ..	...	Tanning, Currying, etc. ...	...
Shunters ... ..	...	Food and Drink	3
Mechanics	2	General Woodwork and	...
Labourers ... ..	...	Furniture	4
Other Grades	2	Paper, Printing, etc. ...	4
Contractors' Servants ...	...	Rubber Trades ... ..	...
		Gas Works	2
		Electric Generating Stations	...
		Other Industries ... ..	...
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	15		
		PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
MINES.		Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	7
Underground	60	Buildings	10
Surface	3	Warehouses and Railway	...
		Sidings ... ..	...
TOTAL, MINES	63	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS	67
		USE OR WORKING OF TRAMWAY	1
QUARRIES OVER 20 feet deep	1	Total (excluding Seamen)	147
		SEAMEN.	
Factories and Workshops.		Trading Vessels, Sailing ...	1
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass	4	" " Steam and	30
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. ...	1	" " Fishing Vessels, Sailing ...	1
Metal Extracting and Refining ... ..	...	" " Motor	4
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making)	8	TOTAL, SEAMEN	36
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc.	8	Total (including Seamen)	183
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and other Vehicles, and Aircraft Manufacture ...	3		
Shipbuilding	2		
Other Metal Trades	2		

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

The total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during May under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 50; the total number of deaths* reported was 11.

I. Cases.		I. Cases (continued).	
(a) LEAD POISONING.		(d) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Among Operatives engaged in—		Pitch	8
Smelting of Metals ... ..	...	Tar	5
Plumbing and Soldering ...	...	Oil	8
Shipbreaking	4	TOTAL	21
Printing ... ..	...	
Tinning of Metals ... ..	...	(e) CHROME ULCERATION.	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ... ..	...	Chrome Tanning	1
White and Red Lead Works	2	Chromium Plating	9
Pottery ... ..	...	Other Industries ... ..	...
Vitreous Enamelling ... ..	...	TOTAL	10
Electric Accumulator Works	2	Total, Cases	50
Paint and Colour Works ...	...	
India-rubber Works ... ..	...	II. Deaths.	
Shipbuilding	1	LEAD POISONING.	
Other Industries ... ..	...	Painting of Buildings ...	1
Painting of Buildings ...	5	TOTAL	1
TOTAL	14	OTHER POISONING.	
		Chronic Benzene	1
(b) OTHER POISONING.		TOTAL	1
Aniline	2	EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Chronic Benzene	1	Pitch	1
TOTAL	3	Tar	5
		Oil	3
(c) ANTHRAX.		TOTAL	9
Wool	2	Total, Deaths	11

* Cases include all attacks reported 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.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

MAY, 1934.

RETURNS have been received from 144 of the 146 Local Authorities which regularly supply such information to the Department, as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during May. The returns received from these 144 Authorities (representing towns with a total population of 17,435,000 in 1931) are summarised in the following Table, in which are also given comparisons with the corresponding month of 1933, in respect of the same 144 Authorities as are covered by the recent returns:—

District.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and Other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings; and Additions and Alterations to existing Buildings.	Totals; and Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with May, 1933.
ENGLAND AND WALES:—						
Northern Counties	£ 291,000	£ 10,000	£ 14,100	£ 29,900	£ 41,700	£ 386,700 + 2.3
Yorkshire*	916,500	22,500	56,500	74,200	80,300	1,150,000 - 12.9
Lancs. & Cheshire	993,900	51,200	74,200	25,600	74,700	1,219,600 + 10.9
North and West-Midland Counties	1,189,600	86,600	59,700	331,000	205,200	1,872,100 + 43.9
South-Midland & Eastern Counties*	293,000	20,200	31,800	11,900	13,700	370,600 - 25.6
Outer London†	1,197,000	154,800	87,300	28,100	184,500	1,651,700 - 28.8
South-Eastern Counties	626,800	500	21,600	130,900	104,500	884,300 - 8.3
South-Western Counties	87,600	4,600	8,800	21,700	12,300	135,000 + 38.2
Wales and Mon.	87,100	2,100	10,000	100	12,700	112,000 - 2.0
SCOTLAND	557,400	43,900	57,600	174,100	100,200	933,200 + 198.1
TOTAL, May, 1934	6,239,900	396,400	421,600	827,500	829,800	8,715,200 + 3.6
Total, May, 1933	6,391,800	283,100	484,500	656,300	607,500	8,423,200

APRIL, 1934.

In last month's issue of this GAZETTE figures were given for 142 Local Authorities in respect of plans approved during April, 1934. Returns for the latter month are now available for 146 Local Authorities, and these show that the total estimated cost of the buildings covered by the returns was £8,080,800, compared with £8,437,800 in March, 1934, and £6,249,100 in April, 1933. Of the total for April, 1934, dwelling houses accounted for £6,051,800; factories and workshops, £348,200; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises, £289,900; churches, schools and public buildings, £649,100; other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, £741,800.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

A question arose under section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, whether a clerk-typist employed by the British Provident Association for Hospital and Additional Services (Incorporated) of 30, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2, was a person to whom the Special Scheme for the Insurance Industry applied; the decision of the Minister was to the effect that the employee was a person to whom the Special Scheme applied.

The Association appealed against the Minister's decision to the High Court of Justice, and the case was heard by Mr. Justice Roche, who allowed the appeal. The decision of the learned judge was that the person in question is not within the Special Scheme. *King's Bench Division. Appeal by British Provident Association for Hospital and Additional Services re Edith Wilson, 19th April, 1934.*

Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

HAT, CAP AND MILLINERY TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

Three partners in a firm were charged with underpaying three male workers. One partner appeared and pleaded guilty, admitting full responsibility. He was fined £1 on each of the three charges, with £3 3s. costs. The charges against the two other partners were withdrawn on payment of 12s. Court fees.—*Res v. Emmanuel, Lewis and Morris Zeman, otherwise Hyatts, partners in E. M. Hyatts & Co.—Old Street Police Court. 4th May, 1934.*

LAUNDRY TRADE (GREAT BRITAIN).

An employer, and her son as agent, were charged with underpaying one male worker and failing to keep adequate records. The son accepted responsibility and was fined £4 on the first charge and £1 on the second, with £1 ls. costs. Arrears of wages amounting to £18 11s. 3d. were ordered to be paid into Court. The charges against

* A return has not yet been received from one Local Authority which usually supplies information.
 † Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

the employer were withdrawn on payment of Court fees.—*Res. v. Louisa Matilda Heatherton and Alexander Heatherton. Acton Police Court. 30th May, 1934.*

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

An employer, charged with underpaying two male workers, was fined £5 in respect of each charge, costs to be included in the fines. Arrears amounting to £38 6s. 2d. were ordered to be paid into Court.—*Res v. Arthur Draper, Senior. Berkhamsted Police Court. 16th May, 1934.*

An employer was charged with underpaying one female worker and two male workers, and failing to keep adequate records. The charge in respect of the female worker was dismissed, but the defendant was fined £2 on each of the two other charges of underpayment, and £1 for failing to keep adequate records. £2 2s. costs were awarded and arrears amounting to £24 15s. were ordered to be paid.—*Res v. George Privett. Brighton Police Court. 20th April, 11th and 18th May, 1934.*

Factory and Workshop Acts.

A firm was prosecuted at Oldham on 25th May, 1933, for not maintaining a reasonable temperature in a cotton waste sorting premises, where twelve women and one man were removing cotton waste from bags in which it was delivered, and were picking unsuitable material, such as pieces of wood, paper, etc., out of the cotton waste; the picked cotton waste was then finally baled and sold. The charge was dismissed by the justices on the ground that the premises did not constitute a "workshop" within the meaning of section 149 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

The case was taken to the High Court on appeal. It was there decided that the work described was "an adaptation for sale," and that the premises did constitute a workshop; and the case was remitted to the magistrates with instructions to convict. The temperature in one workroom was 31½° F., and in other workrooms 37° F. and 34° F.—temperatures which the Lord Chief Justice described as "obviously too low."—*Threlkeld v. William Leigh, Ltd. King's Bench Division (Divisional Court). 19th December, 1933.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-33.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (INSURANCE YEAR) REGULATIONS, 1934.

THE Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Year) Regulations, 1934,* made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, provide that the period commencing on 2nd July, 1934 (being the day next after the last day of the preceding Insurance Year), and ending on 7th July, 1935, shall be an Insurance Year.

INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919, AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Recent Proceedings.

CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

DYEING, BLEACHING AND FINISHING.—Complaints having been made by the Amalgamated Society of Dyers, Bleachers and Finishers and Kindred Trades that two members of the Scottish Federation of Dyers and Bleachers (Piece Goods) were acting in breach of agreements between the parties with regard to methods of payment of wages in the works of members of the Federation, the parties agreed that

Cutlery Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order C.T. (4) dated 18th May, 1934, confirming the fixing of general minimum time-rates for certain classes of male and female workers, and specifying 4th June, 1934, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (England and Wales).

Order W.D. (25) and (26) dated 23rd May, 1934, confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates for certain classes of female workers, and specifying 4th June, 1934, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1925.

Industrial Diseases.

THE Home Secretary made an Order* on 28th May, 1934, under section 43 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, which will come into force on 1st July next. The effect of the Order is to add poisoning by diethylene dioxide (dioxan), or its sequelae, to the schedule of industrial diseases under the Act.

Copies of the Order, which may be cited as the Workmen's Compensation (Industrial Diseases) Order, 1934, may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses stated on the cover of this GAZETTE.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices are net, and (except in the case of the publications of the International Labour Office) do not include postage.]

AGRICULTURE.—*Twenty-second Report of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, being for the year ended 31st December, 1933.* (Cmd. 4572; price 1s. 6d.)

Contains information about provision of allotments, allotments for unemployed persons, the plots for unemployed miners and other experimental schemes, and a special inquiry about the labour employed in the glass-house industry.

ALIENS.—*Aliens Restriction Acts, 1914 and 1919, Aliens Order, 1920. Statistics in regard to alien passengers who entered and left the United Kingdom in 1933.* Home Office. (Cmd. 4593; price 3d.)

BUILDING SOCIETIES.—(i) *Building societies, statistical summary, 1924-33.* Registry of Friendly Societies. (ii) *Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1933. Part 5. Building societies.* Registry of Friendly Societies. (S.O. publications; price 2d. and 1s. 3d., respectively.)

CENSUS.—*Census of Scotland, 1931. Report on the fourteenth decennial census of Scotland. Vol. III. Occupations and industries.* (S.O. publication; price 1s. 5s.): see page 198 of this GAZETTE.

Co-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.—*Co-operative societies, statistical summaries, 1923-32.* Registry of Friendly Societies. (S.O. publication; price 2d.)

FISHING INDUSTRY.—*Sea fisheries, statistical tables, 1933.* Fishery Board for Scotland. (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

FORESTRY.—*Fourteenth Annual Report of the Forestry Commissioners for the year ending September 30, 1933.* (H.C. 53; price 9d.)

Contains particulars of Ministry of Labour training camps, apprentices' schools, and forest holdings, and gives a table of the number of manual workers employed in the Commission's forests from 1920 to 1933-4.

HEALTH INSURANCE, HOUSING, POOR RELIEF, ETC.—*Fifth Annual Report of the Department of Health for Scotland, 1933.* (Cmd. 4599; price 3s.)

HOURS OF WORK.—*International Labour Conference, eighteenth session, Geneva, 1934.* (i) *Reduction of hours of work (supplementary report).* First item on the agenda. Report I. (supplement). International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1934; price 9d.) (ii) *Second supplementary report.* (Geneva, 1934; price 1s.)

MINING.—*Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 31st December, 1933.* Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

POOR RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in March, 1934, with some particulars as to the numbers of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 6d.): see page 197 of this GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT.—*Unemployment Bill (brought from the Commons 15th May, 1934.) Explanatory memorandum on clauses.* Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 4602; price 9d.): see page 193 of this GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1933.* (i) *Decisions given by the Umpire respecting claims for benefit.* Vol. XII. Selected decisions given during the calendar year 1933, together with index. U.I. Code 8B. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6s.) (ii) *Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of March, 1934.* Ministry of Labour. U.I. Code 8B. Pamphlet 3/1934. (No pamphlet issued for February, 1934). (S.O. publication; price 2d.)

* *Statutory Rules and Orders, 1934, No. 551.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d., post free).

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MAY, 1934.

ADMIRALTY.

(Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department.)

H.M. Naval Establishment Abroad: **Steel Sashes and Ventilators:** Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Portsmouth: Supply and Erection of Steelwork for Workshop:** E. C. & J. Keay (1926), Ltd., Birmingham. **Granite:** A. & F. Manuelle, Ltd., London, E.C.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Aluminium Sheets and Sections: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington; Northern Aluminium Co., Ltd., Banbury.—**Asbestos Goods:** Bells United Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale; George MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale.—**Battery, Electric:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester; D.P. Battery Co., Bakewell.—**Bedding:** E. H. P. (Hadleigh), Ltd., Hadleigh, Suffolk; Davis's Feather Mills, Ltd., London, E.; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.; Siddall Manufacturing Co., London, E.C.—**Blocks, Geared:** Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough; Wm. Thomson & Co. (Kinning Park), Ltd., Glasgow.—**Boilers, Portable Loco.:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln. Sub-contractors: W. H. Baines & Co., Rotherham, for Mounting; Holden & Brooke, Ltd., Manchester, for Ejector.—**Bolts, Nuts and Studs, Naval Brass:** Thomas Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boxes, Switches, etc.:** Telford, Grier, Mackay & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Castleton; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Basebe Sadler & Co., Ltd., Croydon.—**Cable, Chain and Gear, Admiralty Quality:** Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; Laird & Son, Ltd., Irvine; R. Sykes & Son, Ltd., Cradley Heath; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath.—**Cable, Electric:** Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Capstans, Air-driven:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Capstans, Electric:** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Sub-contractors: Gilbert Austin, Ltd., Cathcart, for Electrical Equipment.—**Chain Cable Annealing Furnace, Modifications to:** Muir, Murray & Co., Ltd., Paisley.—**Chests of Drawers (Aluminium):** Waddells (Stratford Steel Equipment), Ltd., London, E.—**Cloth, White Leather:** Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.; James Williamson & Son, Ltd., Lancaster.—**Coils:** Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Compressor, Motor-driven Air:** Fullerton, Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley.—**Condensers:** Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., London, W.; Dubilier Condenser Co. (1925), Ltd., London, W.; Muirhead & Co., Ltd., Beckenham.—**Cranes, Electric:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle. Sub-contractors: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby, for Motors; Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester, for Control Gear; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., London, S.W., for Cable and Link Boxes; Armstrong, Stevens & Sons, Willenhall, for Cable Hangers.—**Curled Hair:** McCrea & Drew, Ltd., Paisley.—**Cutter, Motor:** Norris, Henty & Gardeners, Ltd., Patricroft.—**Dehydration Plants, Compressed Air:** Selica Gel, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Fans, Ship Ventilating:** Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham. Sub-contractors: Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham, for portion of Control Gear; Allen West & Co., Ltd., Brighton; Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley; E. N. Bray, Ltd., London, E., for Control Gear. **Generators, Electric, driven by Steam Turbines:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Generators, Electric, driven by Heavy Oil Engines:** Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough. Sub-contractors: W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford, for Dynamo and Regulators.—**Generators, Electric:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Bedford; Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Generating Sets:** English Electric Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Generators, Motor:** Mawdsleys, Ltd., Dursley.—**Gold Leaf:** Wm. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Lymm.—**Gummetal Articles:** A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Nunan & Stove, Ltd., Manchester; T. Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Kit Bags, Seamen's:** H. J. Barr, Wivenhoe; Gowen & Co., West Mersea.—**Lathes, Combination Turret:** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Selly Oak.—**Lathes, Capstan:** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Selly Oak.—**Machine, Milling:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Machines, Slitting:** Butler Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Machinery, Cooling:** Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby; J. & E. 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