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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT at 23rd May showed a decline as compared with 25th April. The figures for 23rd May relate, however, to the Monday after Whit-week, when employment is usually at a low level owing to extensions of holiday stoppages.

Among workpeople insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 22·1 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 21·4 at 25th April, 1932, and 20·8 at 18th May, 1931. For males alone the percentage at 23rd May, 1932, was 25·3, and for females 13·9. At 25th April, 1932, the corresponding percentages were 24·7 and 12·7.

Insured Persons in Work in Great Britain.—It is estimated that on 23rd May, 1932, there were approximately 9,402,000 insured persons aged 16 to 64 in work in Great Britain. This was 82,000 less than a month before. The estimated number in employment on 18th May, 1931, was 9,516,000, but this figure related to the Monday before Whit-week, when employment is usually at a relatively high level, and is not properly comparable with the figure for 23rd May, 1932.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 23rd May, 1932, there were 2,001,127 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 30,761 less than a month before, but 156,182 more than at 1st June, 1931. The total on 23rd May, 1932, included 1,642,612 men, 56,156 boys, 261,529 women and 40,830 girls. It was made up of 713,866 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 969,997 applicants for transitional payments, 196,225 other insured persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments, and 121,039 uninsured persons.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 23rd May, 1932, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 439,959 men, 13,340 boys, 167,794 women and 9,571 girls who were on short time or were otherwise suspended from work on the definite understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment. The total of 630,664 was 114,101 more than a month before, but 38,209 less than at 1st June, 1931. It included 535,792 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 48,287 applicants for transitional payments, and 46,585 persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments.

Numbers Unemployed normally in Casual Employment.—At 23rd May, 1932, there were on the registers in Great Britain 107,907 men, 91 boys, 1,505 women and 12 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration; these are mainly employed in dock, harbour, river and canal service. The total of 109,515 was 5,785 more than a month before. It included 74,973 insured persons with claims for insurance benefit, 33,595 applicants for transitional payments, and 947 persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments.

Comparisons of the numbers on the registers and of the percentages unemployed with those for a year ago are affected by the results of legislative and administrative changes.

Industries in which Principal Variations occurred.—There were increases in the numbers temporarily stopped in the textile and boot and shoe industries, in general and marine engineering, in iron and steel (except pig iron), tinplate, vehicle, and metal goods manufacture, in the pottery industry, and in certain of the clothing trades. The numbers unemployed also increased in shipbuilding and ship-repairing, and in dock and harbour service. On the other hand there was some improvement in coal mining, in the building and distributive trades, and in hotel and boarding house 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 a decrease estimated at £10,750 in the weekly full-time wages of 138,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £275 in those of 15,000 workpeople.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by reductions included steel melters and millmen in various districts in England and Scotland, electrical cable makers, heating and domestic engineers, and building trade operatives at Liverpool and Birkenhead. Among those whose wages were increased were coal miners in Warwickshire and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland.

During the first five months of 1932 the changes recorded have amounted to net decreases of £146,250 in the weekly wages of 1,190,000 workpeople, and net increases of £3,575 in those of 94,000 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 42 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 43 per cent. a month earlier and 45 per cent. a year earlier. For food alone the average percentage increase was approximately 23 per cent. above the pre-war level, as compared with 25 per cent. a month earlier and 27 per cent. a year earlier.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in May was 31. In addition, 13 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, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 13,900, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in May was about 96,000 working days.

PROFIT-SHARING AND CO-PARTNERSHIP IN 1931.

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 1931, of schemes of profit-sharing and co-partnership. The figures 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 excluded from these statistics.

ALL SCHEMES IN OPERATION.

The total number of undertakings of all kinds known to have been practising profit-sharing at the end of 1931, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 485. Eight firms had each two separate schemes in operation, so that the total number of schemes was 493. About 477,000 workpeople were employed in the businesses concerned, of whom about 233,000 participated, or were entitled to participate, in the benefits of the schemes.

The following Table gives comparative figures for the years 1925–31 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 firms or societies.	Number of schemes.	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.
					£ s. d.	Per cent.
1925	469	476	218,000	369	9 0 11	5·1
1926	480	487	228,000	377	8 16 10	4·4
1927	496	504	236,000	382	8 11 11	4·0
1928	493	502	253,000	415	8 17 9	4·4
1929	503	511	260,000	421	9 10 0	4·8
1930	493	501	238,000	425	9 18 4	5·6
1931	485	493	233,000	419	10 0 10	5·3

There was thus, during 1931, a net decrease of eight in the number of schemes in operation, and of 5,000 in the number of employees covered.

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

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

According to the returns received, 304 firms were practising profit-sharing or co-partnership at the end of 1931; eight of these firms had each two separate schemes, so that the number of schemes in operation was 312. In addition, there were 12 schemes as to which the Department was unable to obtain particulars in respect of the year 1931. All of these schemes are believed to be still in operation, and they have been included. Two other schemes were suspended, but not definitely terminated, at the end of 1931.

The following Table shows the schemes still in operation at the end of 1931 :—

Industry or Business.	Total Number of Schemes known to have been started.	Number of Schemes discontinued by end of 1931.	Number of Schemes suspended.	Number of Schemes still in operation at end of 1931.
Agriculture	32	26	...	6
Glass, chemical, soap, oil, paint, etc.... ...	34	18	...	16
Metal, engineering, and shipbuilding	91	44	...	47
Textile	42	15	...	27
Food and drink (manufacture)	61	30	...	31
Paper, printing, bookbinding, publishing, etc.	68	38	...	30
Gas, water and electricity supply	88	17	...	71
Insurance, banking and other financial businesses	13	1	...	12
Merchants, warehousemen and retail traders ...	108	66	2	40
Other businesses ...	114	70	...	44
Total	651	325	2	324

For those firms whose schemes still remained in operation at the end of 1931, particulars are given in the following Table as to the number of persons employed and the number of employees participating in the schemes :—

* Schemes in operation under which no bonus was earned are included.

Industry or Business.	Schemes in operation at end of 1931.			
	Number of Firms.	Number of Schemes.	Total Number of workpeople employed by these Firms.	Approx. Number of employees entitled to participate.
Agriculture	6	6	700	200
Glass, chemical, soap, oil, paint, etc.	16	16	61,400	22,000
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	44	47	72,500	19,400
Textile	27	27	41,200	18,700
Food and drink (manufacture)	29	31	40,500	27,900
Paper, printing, bookbinding, publishing, etc.	29	30	16,400	8,600
Gas, water and electricity supply	71	71	55,900	47 900
Insurance, banking, and other financial businesses... ...	12	12	44,500	12,800
Merchants, warehousemen and retail traders	39	40	30,700	22,700
Other businesses	43	44	77,500	18,900
Total	316	324	441,300	199,100

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 about one-half of the schemes started have come to an end. The most conspicuous exception is the gas industry, in which a large 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 workpeople employed by the 316 firms with schemes in operation at the end of 1931 was approximately 441,000, of whom about 199,000 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 force was approximately 205,000, out of a total of about 467,000 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 Scheme.

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

Type of Scheme.*	Schemes in operation at end of 1931.			Number of Schemes discontinued by end of 1931.
	Number of Schemes.	Total Number of Workpeople employed in 1931.	Approx. Number of Employees entitled to participate in 1931.	
"Share issue" schemes, *i.e.*, schemes consisting in the issue to employees of share capital, either free, or on specially favourable terms as to price or dividend ...	68	174,500	34,200	28
"Deposit" schemes, *i.e.*, schemes under which interest, varying with the profits, is allowed on deposits made by employees	28	86,300	11,800	8
Other schemes, analysed by methods of paying bonus :				
(*a*) Bonus paid in cash, or credited to a savings or deposit account ...	125	89,500	74,300	206
(*b*) Bonus retained in a provident, superannuation, or other similar fund	13	8,300	7,700	12
(*c*) Bonus paid in shares or invested in capital of the undertaking†	34	30,100	24,000	22
(*d*) Bonus paid in other ways; combinations of above systems; and method of payment unknown ...	56	52,600	47,100	49
Total	324	441,300	199,100	325

* 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.

Some particulars of the duration of those schemes of the above types which were still in operation in 1931 are shown below :—

Type of Scheme.	Number in operation at end of 1931.	Number of such Schemes which were started—				
		Before 1901.	1901 to 1910.	1911 to 1918.	1919 and 1920.	1921 to 1931.
"Share issue" schemes ...	68	2	8	10	23	25
"Deposit" schemes ...	28	3	4	5	7	9
Other schemes :—						
(*a*) Bonus paid in cash, or credited to a savings or deposit account	125	11	11	25	31	47
(*b*) Bonus retained in a provident, superannuation, or other similar fund ...	13	1	...	1	5	6
(*c*) Bonus paid in shares or invested in capital of the undertaking*	34	...	6	5	7	16
(*d*) Bonus paid in other ways; combinations of above systems; and method of payment unknown ...	56	7	9	9	7	24
Total	324	24	38	55	80	127

It may be noted that, of the 324 schemes in operation at the end of 1931, only 24 were started in or before the year 1900; 207 of the schemes, or nearly two-thirds of the total, are of post-war origin. On the other hand, a large proportion of the discontinued schemes were, naturally, of relatively early origin; only 67, or about one-fifth, of the discontinued schemes were started since the end of the war.

Reference was made in a previous paragraph to the fact that in many schemes profit-sharing is only available to those employees who are prepared to purchase shares in the undertaking or to deposit savings with the firm. 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 these 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 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 96 of the existing schemes, and for 36 of the defunct schemes, included in the Table.

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 about 40 per cent. of the existing and about 65 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, etc., fund or, more frequently, are invested on behalf of the employee in the capital of the undertaking.

Co-partnership 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 324 schemes in operation there are 135 which provide for some form of shareholding by employees; while of the 325 defunct schemes, 63 provided such arrangements.

One form of shareholding has already been mentioned, that in which shares are issued to employees on specially advantageous terms. This type of arrangement has become prominent in recent years. Ninety-six such schemes are known to have been introduced, of which 68 are still in force, 48 of these having been started since the war. Although the firms with these schemes in operation employ about 175,000 workers, only about 34,000 participate. The smallness of the proportion is not, in this case, mainly due to the conditions attached to participation, but to the fact that participation is voluntary, and that 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 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 56 are known to have been started; 34 of these are still in operation, and 23 of them date from after the war. Gas companies provide much the largest section of these bonus-capitalisation schemes, accounting for 26 out of the 34 schemes of this type in operation ; and practically all the pre-war schemes of this type were introduced by gas companies.

* See note † on previous page.

In addition to the above schemes, which may be regarded as wholly of co-partnership character, a further 46 schemes are included in the Department's statistics 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 46 schemes, 13 have been terminated and 33 are still in operation; 24 of these 33 schemes are in operation in gas companies.

Bonuses Paid.

In the case of 251 schemes in operation in 1931 particulars are available as to the bonuses paid or credited to employees in that year, and are summarised in the following Table. Certain firms were unable to supply particulars of bonuses paid or credited. There is one important class of scheme in particular—those which have been called "share-issue" schemes—in regard to which it is usually impracticable to state with precision the amount of the bonus. In these schemes the bonus may be regarded as that part of the dividends on the shares which represents the advantage given to employees over other shareholders; and this advantage is usually insusceptible of exact calculation.

There is another class of schemes—those which have been called "deposit" schemes—where the profit-sharing bonus can usually be stated, but is of a different character from that in other types of schemes: here the *supplementary* interest, over and above the fixed minimum rate, paid on sums left on deposit with the employing firms by employees, is regarded as the profit-sharing bonus. *The italics in the Tables below show the effect of excluding deposit schemes, in those groups where any occur.*

Industry or Business.	Number of schemes to which particulars relate.	Number of employees entitled to participate.	Average amount of bonus per head in 1931.*	Average percentage addition to earnings in 1931.*
			£ s. d.	Per cent.
Agriculture	5 *3*	200 *100*	– 8 7 *1 0 0*	0·4 *1·0*
Glass, chemical, soap, oil, paint, etc. ...	13 *12*	14,000 *13,800*	13 13 4 *13 16 4*	8·9 *8·9*
Metal, engineering, and shipbuilding	29 *23*	14,300 *10,900*	3 11 10 *2 7 9*	2·9 *2·0*
Textile	23 *19*	12,700 *11,700*	1 6 5 *1 3 8*	1·0 *1·1*
Food and drink (manufacture)	27 *22*	27,500 *26,400*	5 13 4 *5 15 10*	3·7 *3·7*
Paper, printing, bookbinding, publishing, etc.	22 *21*	6,100 *5,900*	6 11 2 *6 15 6*	4·1 *4·2*
Gas, water, and electricity supply	66	46,700	9 14 7	5·1
Insurance, banking and other financial businesses	8	14,600	43 19 0	12·6
Merchants, warehousemen and retail traders	28	8,500	14 12 5	9·1
Other businesses ...	30 *26*	16,800 *12,500*	5 15 7 *5 2 3*	3·3 *3·9*
Total	251 *228*	161,400 *151,100*	10 19 7 *11 6 1*	5·4 *5·6*

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 1931.
				£
Nil	77 *65*	88,800 *34,000*	33,200 *28,400*	Nil *Nil*
Under 2 per cent. ...	13 *12*	8,700 *5,000*	5,600 *4,500*	7,400 *6,500*
2 and under 4 per cent.	31 *29*	42,800 *41,000*	33,700 *33,200*	178,000 *175,800*
4 „ „ 6 „	42 *41*	30,700 *30,300*	27,900 *27,500*	235,100 *233,100*
6 „ „ 8 „ ...	23	21,500	17,700	182,300
8 „ „ 10 „ ...	12	4,300	3,200	49,400
10 „ „ 12 „ ...	19	7,100	5,600	114,200
12 „ „ 16 „ ...	11 *10*	25,300 *24,300*	23,700 *22,600*	838,500 *815,500*
16 „ „ 20 „ ...	4	1,200	1,100	32,100
20 per cent. or over ...	5	1,600	1,400	59,800
Percentage not stated	14 *8*	23,700 *7,600*	8,300 *5,900*	75,400 *38,800*
Total	251 *228*	255,700 *177,900*	161,400 *151,100*	1,772,200 *1,707,500*

The corresponding figures for 1930 were 255 schemes; 284,700 employees; 175,500 participants; and £1,877,400. Excluding "deposit" schemes, the figures were 231 schemes; 197,400 employees; 163,900 participants; and £1,802,600.

The average rate of bonus paid in 1931 was rather below the level of the preceding year—5·4 as against 5·9, or, excluding "deposit" schemes, 5·6 against 6·1. Both in 1931 and in 1930 no bonus was payable, owing to insufficient profits, in a considerable proportion (about one-third in 1931 and about one-fourth in 1930) of the total number of schemes for which returns were received. In each of

* Schemes under which no bonus was earned are included for the purpose of calculating the average amount of bonus per head and the average percentage addition to earnings.

It should be noted that the average percentages are not strictly comparable with the figures showing the average amounts of bonus, because some firms were able to give only the amounts, and not the rates of bonus.

the past ten years a considerable proportion —ranging from one-fifth to one-third—of all the schemes covered have failed to yield a bonus.

In 1931, as in 1930, the highest amount of bonus was paid in the small group of insurance, banking, etc., businesses, the bonuses averaging £40 4s. 6d. per head in 1930, and £43 19s. per head in 1931. As in 1930, a high rate of bonus was paid by merchants, warehousemen and retail traders; while at the other end of the scale the bonuses paid in agriculture were almost negligible, as they had been in the five previous years. The bonus paid in the textile group was also very low—£1 6s. 5d. per head, or about half the rate paid in 1930. Other noteworthy changes as between 1930 and 1931 were in the group of firms engaged in the manufacture of glass, chemicals, soap, etc., in which bonuses averaged £13 13s. 4d. in 1931, as compared with £9 12s. 3d. in 1930, and in the paper, printing, and bookbinding group, in which the average bonus fell from £10 19s. 5d. per head in 1930 to £6 11s. 2d. in 1931.

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-two years from 1910 to 1931 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 sixteen out of the twenty-two years the rate has varied only between 4·5 and 5·9, and the average rate for the whole period has been 5·0.

New Scheme in 1931.

One scheme has come to the notice of the Department as having been introduced in 1931. Particulars of this scheme are briefly summarised below :—

Industry or business.	Approximate total number of employees.	Brief description of scheme.
Metal smelting ...	800	Employees receive a percentage on earnings equivalent to the excess above 5 per cent. paid on ordinary share capital.

Schemes discontinued in 1931.

Six schemes were reported to the Department as having been discontinued during 1931. Of the firms concerned, one was engaged in iron founding; one was a gas undertaking; two others were in the merchants, warehousemen and retail traders group; and the remaining two were in the miscellaneous group. The total number of employees who had been entitled to participate in these schemes was approximately 1,900.

As was noted in the Department's *Report on Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership*, issued in 1920 (Cmd. 544), and as has been frequently pointed out in subsequent annual articles in this GAZETTE, the discontinuance of a scheme must not be taken as necessarily due either to the financial misfortune of the firm concerned, or to the unsuitability of the profit-sharing or co-partnership scheme, as such. In a large number of cases the discontinuance has been due to a change of ownership, to the reconstruction or amalgamation of businesses, etc.: the firms have continued working, and in some cases have enjoyed much the same measure of prosperity as before. Thus in 1931, one of the discontinuances was due to amalgamation. In three schemes, however, the discontinuance appears to have been due to the effects of the severe business depression; the other causes of discontinuance were :—dissatisfaction of employers with results, one case; and substitution of a system not on a profit-sharing basis, one case.

*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; in the year 1930 there was a slight decline, which was continued in 1931. 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 95 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 1931, as indicated by some of the principal statistics :—

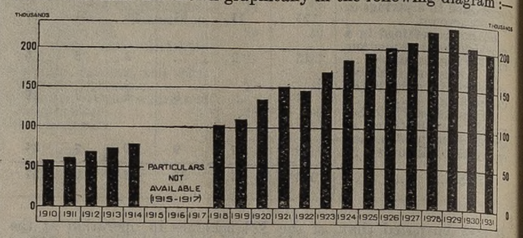
———	1910.	1920.	1930.	1931.
Schemes in operation	123	270	329	324
Number (approximate) of employees entitled to participate	57,000	136,000	205,000	199,000
Schemes for which particulars are available as to bonuses paid or credited† :—				
Number of schemes ...	76	158	255	251
Average amount of bonus per head	‡	£9 18s. 3d.	£10 14s.	£10 19s. 7d.
Average percentage addition to earnings ...	5·0	6·4	5·9	5·4

* Particulars of the number of schemes in operation, the total number of employees covered by these schemes and of employees entitled to participate, and of bonuses paid, for each of the years 1911 to 1929, are given in the *Twentieth Abstract of Labour Statistics* (Cmd. 3831), page 108.
† Including schemes under which no bonus was paid or credited.
‡ Figures not available.

The variations from year to year during the last twenty-two years in the numbers of employees known to be working under profit-sharing arrangements were as follows :—

	No.		No.		No.
1910	57,000	1918	103,000	1925	194,000
1911	61,000	1919	111,000	1926	202,000
1912	69,000	1920	136,000	1927	210,000
1913	73,000	1921	152,000	1928	224,000
1914	80,000	1922	148,000	1929	229,000
1915–1917	Cannot be given.	1923	170,000	1930	205,000
		1924	186,000	1931	199,000

These variations are shown graphically in the following diagram :—



II.—SCHEMES IN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

At the end of 1931, 169 co-operative societies were known to the Department to have in operation definite profit-sharing systems. 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.

Nearly 36,000 workpeople are employed by the societies mentioned above, and practically all of these workpeople participated, or were entitled to participate, in the schemes. In other words profit-sharing, when practised by co-operative societies, applies in nearly all cases to virtually the whole of the workers employed; whereas outside the co-operative movement, as explained above, many of the schemes apply to only part of the employees.

Statistics are given in the following Table as to the number of schemes known to have been in operation in each of the years 1925 to 1931, and as to the bonuses paid under all but a few of these schemes :—

Year.	Number of schemes in operation.	Approx. number of employees entitled to participate.	Bonuses paid under schemes for which details are available.*			
			Number of schemes to which particulars relate.	Number of employees entitled to participate.	Average amount of bonus per head.	Average percentage addition to earnings.
					£ s. d.	
1925	175	24,200	157	23,400	4 12 9	3·8
1926	176	25,500	158	25,000	4 15 11	4·0
1927	177	26,500	157	26,200	4 16 9	4·2
1928	178	29,500	164	28,800	5 8 9	4·6
1929	176	30,800	165	30,600	5 10 3	4·4
1930	172	33,000	170	32,900	5 14 11	4·6
1931	169	34,000	168	34,000	5 11 6	4·7

Particulars for 1931 are given below, showing separately the figures for agricultural, for industrial productive, and for retail distributive societies :—

———	Agricultural Societies.	Industrial Productive Societies.	Retail Distributive Societies.	All Societies.
Schemes in operation ...	66	50	53	169
Number (approximate) of employees entitled to participate	800	10,500	22,700	34,000
Schemes for which particulars are available as to bonuses paid or credited* :—				
Number of schemes ...	66	50	52	168
Average amount of bonus per head	£2 11s. 10d.	£5 17s. 3d.	£5 10s. 10d.	£5 11s. 6d.
Average percentage addition to earnings ...	2·3	5·3	4·5	4·7

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; and in all cases the bonus is paid in cash. As with non-co-operative agricultural schemes, 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 1930. In 1931 there was a slight increase, the rate rising to 2·3 per cent. Twenty-one of the agricultural societies paid no bonus in 1931.

Industrial Productive Societies.—Of the 50 productive societies, 49 were workers' productive societies; the remaining society (employing about 2,000 workpeople) was a baking society, belonging to a federation of distributive 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

* Schemes in operation under which no bonus was earned are included.

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 50 schemes, 10 provide that the employees' bonuses are to be wholly retained for investment in the society's share capital, while 25 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 four other societies some part of the bonus is similarly retained for investment; and in three cases the whole or part of the bonus is used for provident, etc., purposes; thus, in the case of only eight of these 50 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 1931, together with particulars of the bonuses paid in each group in that year :—

Industry.	Number of schemes.	Number of employees entitled to participate.	Bonuses paid or credited in 1931.*	
			Average amount per head.	Average percentage addition to earnings.
			£ s. d.	
Textile	5	1,000	4 3 10	4·6
Boot and shoe	15	1,650	5 12 7	4·5
Other clothing	3	3,920	4 12 10	6·0
Printing, bookbinding, etc. ...	16	1,190	3 0 5	1·9
Other industries...	11	2,770	9 14 1	6·5
Total	50	10,530	5 17 3	5·3

In 1931 no bonuses were available in 19 of the societies; in 9 of the 50 societies no bonus has been paid or credited during the whole of the seven years 1925–1931. Nevertheless, owing to the fact that the schemes in these societies usually provide that employees shall receive a substantial share of the profits, when there are any profits to distribute, the average rate of bonus was in every year above the level of that paid in the other groups.

Retail Distributive Societies.—The societies classified under this title, although primarily engaged in retail distribution, in nearly every case engage to some extent in production; and the profit-sharing arrangements apply almost invariably to the productive as well as to the trading sections. 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 ¼d. in the £ on gross sales and ½d. 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. Where the former 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 amount of bonus shows a steady increase throughout the period 1923–1928, and thereafter very little change.

TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS REGULATIONS.

REPRESENTATIONS have been made to the Minister of Labour that the burden of work falling upon Committees of Local Authorities dealing with applications for transitional payments should be lightened by increasing the length of the period for which determinations have effect. After consultation with the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland, the Minister has made Regulations,† dated 18th May, 1932, extending the period of a determination by four weeks. On and after 25th May, 1932, a determination will have effect for eight weeks from the commencement of the benefit period next following that in which it is received by a local office of the Ministry of Labour, unless it is previously reviewed by a Committee.

This extension of the period of a determination is, however, subject to a proviso, as follows :—

> "A determination shall be examined and inquiries shall be made relating thereto by an officer of the council at intervals of not more than four weeks during the period for which the determination has effect, and if such officer is satisfied that a material change has taken place in the circumstances of the applicant since the date on which the determination was given, he shall submit the case to the appropriate committee or sub-committee for the purpose of the determination being reviewed."

The effect of this proviso is that, though the currency of a determination of a Public Assistance Committee or sub-committee is extended from four to eight weeks, it is required that there should be an intermediate examination of an applicant's circumstances, by an officer of the county or borough council, at intervals of not more than four weeks.

The Ministry of Health have made a corresponding change in the Relief Regulation Order, 1930, with respect to the maximum period for which orders for the grant of relief other than institutional relief may be given.‡

* Schemes under which no bonus was earned are included.
† *Unemployment Insurance (Transitional Payments) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations*, 1932. Statutory Rules and Orders, 1932. No. 340. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d., post free).
‡ *The Relief Regulation (Provisional) (Amendment) Order*, 1932, dated 17th May, 1932. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d., post free).

SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

THE sixty-fourth Annual Congress of delegates from co-operative societies in the United Kingdom was held at Glasgow on 16th, 17th and 18th May, 1932, and was attended by 1,633 delegates, representing 593 societies. There were also representatives of co-operative organisations from Belgium, France, Holland, Russia, and Sweden. The Congress was convened by the Co-operative Union of Great Britain and Ireland, a federation of 1,336 societies, with an aggregate membership of over six and a half millions. The Congress President was Mr. John Downie, Chairman of the Scottish Sectional Board of the Union.

The President in his inaugural address made a survey of the chief problems confronting the co-operative movement, in which he referred to the dividend policy of the societies, to overlapping among local societies, to the co-operative press, and to the average level of members' purchases. On the subject of dividend policy he referred to the danger of the movement departing from the service of the class that founded it, and asked how far this was due to the policy of paying a high dividend on purchases, such as 2s. 6d. in the pound. Such a dividend obviously reduced the immediate cash benefit of dealing with the stores; it bore hardly on the very poor, and made it more difficult to meet the intensified competition which was now threatened. He therefore advocated a systematic downward revision of the rates of dividend on purchases, until a rate of (say) a shilling in the pound was reached. This was the rate almost universally paid in Germany, while Sweden prohibited any dividend in excess of 3 per cent. (7¼d. in the £).

The Report of the Central Board of the Co-operative Union was presented to Congress and discussed by the delegates.

The Chairman of the Labour Committee, in moving the adoption of that Committee's section of the Report, said that the policy laid down by the movement in establishing good standards of wages and conditions for employees had not only been maintained, but had been extended during the past year. Some societies were observing the conditions with a great deal of difficulty, owing to the economic conditions prevailing and the continued trade depression. A greater number of societies had come within the scope of the movement's conciliation machinery for the purpose of negotiation and collective bargaining. The Report contains information as to the extent to which societies have adopted superannuation schemes; such schemes have been instituted by 133 retail societies, with 95,000 employees, and, including schemes established by the Wholesale Societies, over 60 per cent. of the total number of co-operative employees are covered.

In moving the adoption of the Central Education Committee's Report, the Chairman said that much of the social work of the Committee was done among the children of co-operators; they had some 20,000 child students. He also referred to the success of the summer schools. The Report states that during the past year there were over 53,000 students enrolled, in nearly 2,000 classes. In addition, the Joint Committee on Technical Education (Co-operative Union and Co-operative Wholesale Society) had 3,841 students (including 1,446 apprentices) enrolled in 195 classes.

In introducing the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Chairman referred to various aspects of the Committee's work during the past year. He referred to changes in fiscal policy, and to the position of consumers in regard to them, and to the question of wheat quotas. Dealing with shop hours he said that there seemed to be no possibility of getting a statutory 48-hour week for shop assistants. With reference to the Agricultural Marketing Act he appealed to societies to keep the prices of essential commodities, such as bread, meat and milk, at the lowest possible level. At the instance of the Joint Parliamentary Committee the Congress passed a resolution regarding the taxation of co-operative societies, which stated that the necessity for a further inquiry into this question was not apparent,* and called upon "all co-operators to take such action as is necessary to defend the members of the movement." Another resolution was carried calling for the withdrawal of the "means test" under the Unemployment Insurance scheme.

The Chairman of the Co-operative Party moved the adoption of the Party's Report, which shows that the number of societies now subscribing to the Party is 434, with a membership of 3,523,000; as against 872 societies, with a membership of 2,870,000, not subscribing. In answer to a delegate the Chairman said that the Party did not submit its programme for the acceptance of the Labour Party; but if any differences arose they had machinery for arriving at an agreement.

The Congress received and adopted, with certain minor amendments, the majority Report of the Special Committee of Enquiry on the future government of the Co-operative Union, which was appointed by the 1930 Congress. The recommendations of the Committee fall into two main divisions, and relate (i) to alterations in the internal administration of the Union, and (ii) to the setting up of "a new authority for the co-operative movement, to which shall be delegated the decision of all matters of national policy." This new body, which is to be called "The National Co-operative Authority," will consist of representatives of the Co-operative Union, the Wholesale Societies, and other national bodies.

Other matters discussed by the Congress included the work of the International Co-operative Alliance, the agricultural policy of the co-operative movement, its relations with the trade union movement, and its attitude towards State purchase and Imperial trade.

* The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced, in his Budget speech on 19th April, his intention to set up a Committee to consider the question of the taxation of co-operative societies.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY, 1931.

THE WORK OF THE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

In 1931, the beet sugar industry entered on the final stage of the subsidy provided under the Beet Sugar (Subsidy) Act, 1925, in accordance with which a further reduction in the amount of the subsidy was due. According to returns compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the area under cultivation of sugar beet was 234,000 acres in 1931, compared with 348,900 acres in 1930 and 230,500 acres in 1929.

The following Table shows the number of applicants placed on sugar beet work through Employment Exchanges during the years 1930 and 1931, distinguishing those placed on field work and on factory work :—

Number of Applicants (Men and Women) placed through Employment Exchanges.

Year.	Field Work.			Factories.	All Operations.
	Hoeing and Singling.	Lifting and Topping.	Total.		
1930	2,774	3,149	5,923	4,207	10,130
1931	2,023	1,384	3,407	5,709	9,116
Increase (+) or Decrease (−).	− 751	− 1,765	− 2,516	+ 1,502	− 1,014

Field Work.

Early in the year steps were taken to ensure, as far as possible, that adequate supplies of labour would be available in all districts. The registers of unemployed workpeople at local offices of the Ministry were examined, and note was made of all applicants who were suitable and available for work on the sugar-beet crop. The examination showed that the number of such workpeople was more than sufficient to meet the anticipated demand, and that there was little likelihood of any local shortage of labour which could not be met speedily under special clearing arrangements made for the purpose of bringing the employment to the notice of suitable unemployed workpeople in other districts.

It was not possible in 1931 to get into touch with the employers in the industry through a central organisation, as was done in 1930, when the Beet Sugar Factories Committee represented the whole of the factories, five of the factories being no longer associated with the Committee. Each factory, however, agreed to co-operate with the Ministry in ascertaining possible labour requirements and in making known to growers the facilities which Employment Exchanges were able to offer. The factories further undertook to circulate copies of a leaflet prepared by the Ministry to those growers with whom they corresponded. At the same time, factory managers were invited to meet representatives of the Ministry of Labour and of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, for the purpose of discussing anticipated local labour requirements and labour supply arrangements. Most of the factories took advantage of this invitation; and, in addition to providing much useful information, the arrangement resulted in the establishment of closer relations between the factories and the Ministry.

In addition, the comprehensive arrangements made for the supply of seasonal labour in the various branches of agriculture, described in last month's issue of this Gazette (page 170)—including steps to secure the co-operation of farmers and growers through the county branches of the National Farmers' Union, circulation of posters and leaflets, and insertion of advertisements and notices in the "National Farmers' Union Record"—helped to bring the facilities available to the notice of both growers and workpeople.

During the hoeing and singling season, and again during the lifting and topping season, sugar-beet growers were extensively canvassed by local officers of the Ministry; and the factories were kept informed as to the numbers of workpeople, either experienced in sugar-beet work or possessing other suitable qualifications, who were available for employment in each district. In some cases, at the request of the factory authorities, lists of available workpeople, arranged according to the villages in which they resided, were furnished; and it is reported that the fieldmen employed by the factories found this information particularly useful when visiting growers.

Cultivation of sugar-beet was almost entirely confined to South-Eastern, Midland, North-Eastern and South-Western England; and from each area reports were received of a large reduction in the number of workpeople placed in employment on field work during 1931, due mainly to the decreased acreage under cultivation.

It will be seen, from the Table given at the beginning of this article, that the total number of workpeople placed on field work during 1931 was 3,407, compared with 5,923 in 1930. Accurate information as to the total number of casual seasonal workpeople employed in the industry is not available, and it is therefore not possible to assess what proportion of the toal vacancies was filled through Employment Exchanges The fall in the number of workpeople who found employment through the Exchanges was, however, proportionately greater than the reduction in the acreage under cultivation; and as the Exchanges were in a position to supply many more workpeople than were actually placed, it is apparent that many growers still did not fully avail themselves of the facilities offered. The number of workpeople placed on hoeing and singling was 2,023, which, in view of the reduced demand, compares favourably with the number placed in 1930, viz., 2,774. A less satisfactory position is shown in the number placed on lifting and topping, viz., 1,384 in 1931, as against 3,149 in 1930.

It was not necessary to use special labour clearing arrangements to any appreciable extent. Of 3,407 applicants placed on field operations, only 155 were brought from other districts. The number of workpeople resident in towns who were found work on the sugar-beet crop fell from 766 in 1930 to 275 in 1931.

Comparatively few women have found employment in the industry. Only 78 were placed through Exchanges in 1931, compared with 320 in 1930. All but two of the women placed were engaged for field work.

The number of vacancies for field work which were cancelled during the year showed a decrease of over 50 per cent. compared with the previous year, the numbers being 377 (287 for hoeing and singling, and 90 for lifting and topping) in 1931, and 831 (426 for hoeing and singling, and 405 for lifting and topping) in 1930. Cancellation of vacancies is reported to have been due mainly to the following causes :—over-estimation by growers of their labour requirements; engagement by growers of workpeople who applied direct to them for employment after the vacancies had been notified to local offices; and disinclination of growers, in some instances, to accept applicants from a distance when local workpeople were not available.

In view of the careful attention which had been given to the question of the supply of seasonal labour for this industry, the results shown in 1931, judged from a statistical standpoint, appear to be somewhat disappointing compared with the results achieved in the previous year. In addition to the reduced area under cultivation there were, however, other factors which affected maintenance of the satisfactory position reached in 1930. Extensive unemployment in agriculture resulted in an increase in the number of agricultural workers seeking seasonal employment. These workers followed the practice which is common among them of making direct application for employment to farmers, many of whom took advantage of this opportunity of recruiting experienced workers. An instance of the extent to which workpeople were engaged as a result of direct application is provided in Lincolnshire, where, in addition to 417 applicants placed by Exchanges on field work, 318 workpeople registered at Employment Exchanges for employment were known to have obtained work by direct application to sugar-beet growers.

Weather conditions during 1931 were also stated to have exercised a considerable influence on labour requirements for field work, particularly in connection with the hoeing and singling operations. In many districts the crop was slow in growth; consequently, there was not the same pressure as in a normal year during the hoeing and singling season. As a result growers found it unnecessary to engage such a large number of casual hands as is usual to complete the work speedily. It was also reported that in a number of instances farmers were able to rearrange their activities so as to enable their regular employees to perform the work without the aid of any additional staff.

Another important factor which, failing the full co-operation of growers in notifying vacancies to the Department, tends to restrict the progress of Employment Exchanges as placing agencies in connection with this industry, is the fact that the number of workpeople experienced in field operations (particularly hoeing and singling) has increased each year. This has been due in no small measure to the successful efforts of the Exchanges in previous years, when the supply of suitable labour was inadequate, in connecting with the industry workpeople who could adapt themselves to the work. At the beginning of the 1931 season the number of such workpeople was far in excess of requirements, in view of the greatly reduced acreage under cultivation. Most of these workpeople were known to the growers, and so long as their services were available many growers showed little inclination to use the Exchange machinery. While it is not suggested that an employer who is able, without difficulty, to make satisfactory arrangements for his own British labour should use the Exchange services, there is always a risk of failure at the last moment. If, however, the orders are put through an Exchange, named workers can be obtained, and, if they are not available or fail to turn up, efficient substitutes can be found without delay.

Factory Work.

There was an increase in the number of workpeople placed in employment through Exchanges in several of the beet-sugar factories. During 1931, 5,709 placings were effected, compared with 4,207 in the previous year, in spite of the fact that the crop produced was substantially less than in 1930. This increase was attributed to the growing practice on the part of the factories of undertaking the refining of raw cane sugar. In one factory at Cupar, Fife, 804 workpeople were placed, compared with 27 in 1930. It is stated that sugar refining is now the main work of this factory, and that the manufacture of beet sugar occupies only a few weeks in the year.

In the Midlands also the number of placings in factories increased substantially, being 1,666, compared with 1,309 in 1930. In South-Eastern England, 1,162 placings were effected in 1931, against 1,142 in 1930; while in North-Eastern England the number increased from 1,571 in 1930 to 2,077 in 1931. There is only one factory in the South-West, and this is engaged solely in research work.

TRADE BOARD MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES.

In 40 trades to which the Trade Boards Acts of 1909 and 1918 have been applied, general minimum time rates of wages have been fixed by the Trade Boards and confirmed by Orders made by the Minister of Labour. The rates are legally binding on all employers affected. In the majority of the trades the rates are applicable to the whole of Great Britain; but in some trades different rates are operative for England and Wales and for Scotland, and in a few cases different rates have been fixed for certain specified areas, such as London, Cornwall and the North of Scotland, or according to the population of the area in which the employer is situated. In three trades, viz., brush and broom, chain, and coffin furniture making (men only), the minimum rates vary in correspondence with fluctuations in the cost of living.

The general minimum time rates fixed by the Trade Boards and in operation at 1st June, 1932, for the lowest grades of experienced adult male and female workers, together with the hours of labour in respect of which the rates are payable, are shown in the following Table. Except where otherwise stated, the rates quoted are operative at the age of 21 in the case of males and 18 in the case of females.

It will be seen from the Table that the general minimum time rates for men range usually from 10½d. to 1s. 2d. per hour, and those for women from 6d. to 7½d. per hour ; while the weekly hours of labour in respect of which the rates are payable are usually 48, though in a few cases they are 46 or 47, and, in one case, 44.

Trade.	General Minimum Hourly Time Rates.		Weekly Hours of labour in respect of which the rates quoted are normally payable.
	Males.	Females.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	s. d.	d.	
Aerated waters (England and Wales)	1 1	7	48
Aerated waters (Scotland) :—			
Orkney and Shetland	0 11½	5½	48
Rest of Scotland	1 0½	6½	48
Boot and floor polish	1 1½	7½	48
Boot and shoe repairing	1 2½	10½*	48
Brush and broom	0 10½	6½*	48
Button manufacturing	1 1½	6½	48
Chain†	1 1†	5 5/16†	...
Coffin furniture and cerement making :—			
Coffin furniture section	1 0 17/32	6 35/47*	47
Cerement making section	...	7 1/4‡	47
Corset...	1 1§	7	48
Cotton waste reclamation :—			
England and Wales	0 11	6½	48
Scotland	0 11	6½	48
Dressmaking and women's light clothing (England and Wales) :—			
Retail bespoke dressmaking ...	1 0§	6½, 7, 7½‖	48
Other branches	1 0§	7	48
Dressmaking and women's light clothing (Scotland) :—			
Retail branch	1 2§	7, 7½‖	46
Other branches	1 2§	6½	46
Drift nets mending	...	6 (a)	44
Flax and hemp	0 10 23/28	6	48
Fur	1 1	7½¶	48
General waste materials reclamation	0 10½	6	48
Hair, bass and fibre...	0 11½	6¾	48
Hat, cap and millinery (England and Wales)	1 1§	7	48
Hat, cap and millinery (Scotland) :—			
Wholesale cloth hat and cap branch	1 2§	7½	46
Other branches	1 2§	7, 7½‖	46
Hollow-ware	0 10¾	6¼	47
Jute	0 9¾	6	48
Keg and drum	11¼	6¾	47
Lace finishing†	...	6¼†	...
Laundry :—			
Cornwall and N. of Scotland ...	1 1½	6½	48
Rest of Great Britain	1 1½	7	48
Linen and cotton handkerchief and household goods and linen piece goods	0 11½	6¼	48
Made-up textiles	0 9¾	5¾	48
Milk distributive :—			
England and Wales	0 10½ / 1 1 / 1 2	6⅝, 7½, 8⅝*‖	48
Scotland	0 11⅝	6⅛*	48
Ostrich and fancy feather and artificial flower	1 0§	7	48
Paper bag	1 1½	7¼	48
Paper box	1 0½	7⅜	48
Perambulator and invalid carriage	0 11½	6¾*	48
Pin, hook and eye and snap fastener	0 10¾	6½*	47
Ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring	0 11 3/4§	7	48
Retail bespoke tailoring :—			
England and Wales	0 11 to 1 4‖(a)	7½d. to 9½d (a)	48
Scotland	0 11 and 1 0‖(a)	7, 7½‖(a)	48
Rope, twine and net	0 10½	6½	48
Sack and bag	0 11½	6½	48
Shirtmaking	1 2§	7	48
Stamped or pressed metal wares ...	0 11	6¼	47
Sugar confectionery and food preserving	1 0†	6¾	48
Tin box	1 1	7¼	48
Tobacco	1 3¾	9⅜*	48
Toy manufacturing	1 0¼	6¾*	48
Wholesale mantle and costume ...	0 11 11/24§	7	48

* At 21 years.
† The minimum rates in the chain and in the lace finishing trades are not fixed by reference to sex. The rates shown under the column "Females" are those applicable to work wholly or mainly performed by women, and the rate shown under "Males" is that applicable to work wholly or mainly performed by men.
‡ At 24 years. § At 22 years. ¶ At 19 years.
‖ Dependent on area as graded by the Trade Board.
(a) Payable after a specified period of employment in the trade.

The Boards have fixed lower rates, based on age or experience, or a combination of age and experience, for juvenile workers; and in many cases it has been made a condition of the application of these lower rates that the juvenile shall hold a certificate issued by the Trade Board and be provided with reasonable facilities for learning the trade. Special rates for indentured apprentices have been fixed by seven Boards.

Many of the Boards have fixed minimum rates for special classes of qualified workers. Pieceworkers have also been specially provided for by some of the Boards, either by general minimum piece rates or by basis time rates fixed at a slightly higher level than the general minimum time rates. Where no special provision has been made the basis rate for pieceworkers is the general minimum time rate.

Column (4) of the above Table shows the normal weekly hours of work in the various trades. When these hours are exceeded overtime rates, which are higher than the minimum time rates, are payable. In addition to the normal weekly hours, most of the Boards have declared the normal daily hours and have provided for the payment of overtime rates when the normal day is exceeded, notwithstanding that the normal week is not exceeded. No overtime rates have been fixed by the Chain Board or by the Lace Finishing Board.

It should be added that the Boards have power to issue permits exempting infirm workers from the operation of the minimum rates.

The rates, together with any conditions and qualifications attached to them, are set out in detail in the Minister's Confirming Orders, copies of which are on sale at H.M. Stationery Office.

MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES IN AGRICULTURE.

The following Table shows the minimum rates of wages fixed and in operation at 1st June, 1932, for ordinary adult male workers and for adult female workers in England and Wales, under Orders of the Agricultural Wages Board, established under the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924. The Act applies only to England and Wales, and no statutory minimum rates of wages have been fixed for agricultural workers in Scotland. Unless otherwise indicated, the rates shown apply at 21 years of age in the case of men and at 18 years of age in the case of women. The hours in respect of which the minimum rates are payable and beyond which overtime rates are payable are also shown in the Table.

It will be seen that in 35 areas the minimum rates for men are between 30s. and 32s. 6d. a week, and that in six cases they are below and in eight cases above this range. The most usual minimum rates for women are 5d. and 6d. per hour.

Area.	Ordinary Male Workers (21 years and over).			Female Workers (18 years and over, unless otherwise specified).		
	Minimum Rate.	Hours per week in respect of which minimum rate is payable.		Minimum Rate.	Hours in respect of which minimum rate is payable (when specified).	
		Summer.	Winter.		Summer.	Winter.
	Per week. s. d.			Per hour. d.	Per week	Per week
England :						
Beds. and Hunts ...	30 6	52	48	6	52	48
Berkshire ...	28 6	50	50	5*	...	...
Buckinghamshire ...	31 0	51	48	6	51	48
Cambs. and Isle of Ely	30 0	51	...	5½	Per day 8	Per day 8
Cheshire ...	32 6	54	54	6	...	...
Cornwall ...	32 0	51	51	5†	...	...
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	(summer) 32 6 (winter) 31 0	54	48	5½	...	...
Derbyshire	7½d. per hour	54‡	54‡	5	...	...
Devonshire	32 6	52	50	5†	...	...
Dorset ...	30 0	53½	48	24s. per week§	Per week 48	Per week 48
Durham ...	31 0	50	50	2s. 6d. per day	Per day 8	Per day 8
Essex ...	30 0	52	50	5½§	...	...
Gloucestershire ...	28 6	50	48	4¾	...	...
Hants and Isle of Wight	30 6	53½	48	5	...	...
Herefordshire	31 0	54	48	4½	Per week 46½	Per week 46½
Hertfordshire	31 0	48	48	24s. per week*	48	48
Kent ...	32 6	52	48	5½	Per day 8	Per day 8
Lancashire :						
S. Area ...	33 6	50	50	6	...	...
Rest of County ...	37 6	60	60	6	...	...
Leicester ...	34 0	56½	54	5	...	...
Lincs. :						
Holland ...	33 6	50	48	6	...	...
Kesteven & Lindsey...	30 0	53	48	5½	...	...
Middlesex ...	(summer) 34 4½ (winter) 33 0	50	48	(summer) 25s. per week (winter) 24s. per week	Per week 50	Per week 48
Monmouth...	31 0	54	50	6	...	...

* 19 years and over. † 20 years and over.
‡ Guaranteed. § 21 years and over.

Area.	Ordinary Male Workers (21 years and over). Minimum Rate.	Hours per week in respect of which minimum rate is payable. Summer.	Winter.	Female Workers (18 years and over, unless otherwise specified). Minimum Rate.	Hours in respect of which minimum rate is payable (when specified). Summer.	Winter.
	Per week. s. d.			Per hour. d.	Per week	Per week
Norfolk ...	30 0	53	48	5	53	48
Northants & Soke of Peterborough	30 0	52	...	6	52	...
Northumberland ...	30 6	52½	48	5	52½	48
Nottinghamshire ...	32 0	52½	50	5	...	...
Oxfordshire	28 0	50	...	6	50	48
Rutland ...	32 6	56½	54	5	...	...
Shropshire	31 6	54	54	5	...	...
Somerset ...	32 0	52	50	6*	...	...
Staffordshire	31 6	54	54	5	54	54
Suffolk ...	28 0	50	48	5*	...	...
Surrey ...	32 3	50	50	5½	50	50
Sussex ...	31 0	52	48	5	52	48
Warwickshire	30 0	52	48	5	52	48
Wiltshire ...	30 0	50	50	5	...	...
Worcestershire ...	30 0	53	48	5	Per day 8	Per day 8
Yorkshire :					Per week	Per week
E Riding ...	33 0	52½	48	6	44	44
N. Riding...	32 6	52½	50	6	44	44
W. Riding	35 6	52½	48	5	44	44
Wales :						
Anglesey and Caernarvon	31 0	50	50	6	...	...
					Per day	Per day
Carmarthen	31 0	54	54	5	8	8
Denbigh and Flint ...	30 6	50	50	5	8½	8½
Glamorgan	31 6	52	48	6	8½	8½
Merioneth & Montgomery	28 6	54	54	5	...	...
Pembroke & Cardigan...	31 0	54	52	5	8	8
					Per week	Per week
Radnor and Brecon ...	29 6	54	50	5	48	48

The Orders of the Board and of the Agricultural Wages Committees also specify minimum rates for juvenile workers, overtime rates, special rates for horsemen, cattlemen and shepherds in certain areas, and the allowances in kind which may be granted in lieu of payments in cash, with the value at which such allowances may be reckoned.

Copies of the Orders in full are obtainable on application to the Secretary of the Agricultural Wages Board, 7, Whitehall Place, London, S.W 1.

VOCATIONAL TESTS OF DEXTERITY.

THE Industrial Health Research Board have issued a Report on the Classification of Vocational Tests of Dexterity.†

The Report does not deal exhaustively with tests of muscular dexterity, but reviews, from the psychological standpoint, some of the methods used for testing. After a short discussion of the nature of skill, and the function of occupational analysis, certain tests, devised to test specific types of dexterity, are described, together with the results obtained. The examples are mostly taken from foreign countries, with a view to bringing to the notice of the English reader work with which he might otherwise be unfamiliar.

INSPECTION PROCESSES IN INDUSTRY.

THE Industrial Health Research Board have issued a number of Reports dealing with repetitive work, with special reference to the fatigue and boredom commonly induced by such work; but these studies have mostly dealt with simple industrial processes, involving a minimum of attention and thought. They have now, however, issued a Report‡ dealing with a class of processes which, though repetitive, require a considerable amount of discriminative ability, and close and sustained attention; that is to say, with the processes of inspecting or examining articles produced by other workers, and rejecting those which are in any way imperfect.

The Report discusses the qualities required in examining work, particularly accuracy and speed: these qualities are to some extent in conflict, accuracy being sacrificed to speed, but are not infrequently found together, the swiftest workers being also the most accurate. The Report describes a number of examining processes that were investigated by two of the Board's investigators, and discusses the variations that were found in the speed and in the accuracy of the workers, comparing the performances of the various workers one with another, and comparing also the variations in performance of the individual workers at different times of the day. There seems, for instance, to be a decided tendency for the rate of working to decline in the middle of a spell of work.

In conclusion the Report discusses certain tests which may be applied to select the most suitable workers for examining work; mentions certain conditions inimical to speed and accuracy in such work, such as bad lighting; and suggests various means of increasing efficiency in examining work, for example, by introducing recurrent variations in the form of work, to alleviate boredom.

* 21 years and over.

† *Industrial Health Research Board: Report No.* 64. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net (1s. 5d., post free).

‡ *Inspection Processes in Industry.* Industrial Health Research Board: Report No. 63. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1s. 1d., post free).

NEW INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ESTABLISHED BY FOREIGN FIRMS.

IN answer to a question in the House of Commons on 2nd June, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade stated that an investigation made by the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Labour showed that 123 new undertakings have been established in this country by, or with the assistance of, foreign concerns during the period from last November to the end of the first week in May, and are now in production. The foreign countries included in this movement are: Germany, 65 cases; France, 11; Austria, 11; Belgium, 9; United States, 9; Holland, 6; other countries, 12. At the date of the investigation these new undertakings were employing 3,882 persons, excluding 370 foreigners in respect of whom the Ministry of Labour have issued permits. These permits are in respect of foreign workmen employed for short periods on erecting or starting special machinery or on training British workpeople. It is estimated by the promoters of these new undertakings that the figure of 3,882 will rise to over 8,000 when the factories are fully occupied.

Of these new undertakings, 101, employing 2,933 workpeople, are in the London district (including an area extending northward as far as Letchworth and Watford, and westward as far as Slough); five, employing 411 workpeople, are in the Midlands; eleven, employing 449 workpeople, are in Lancashire and Cheshire; four, employing 69 workpeople, are in Yorkshire; and two, employing 20 workpeople, in other areas. The new undertakings are engaged in a great variety of miscellaneous industries.

COAL MINES BILL, 1932.

THE Coal Mines Bill, 1932, has passed through the House of Commons, and, at the time of going to press, was before the House of Lords.

Subsection 1 of clause 1 of the Bill proposes to extend to 31st December, 1937, the period of operation of Part I of the Coal Mines Act, 1930,* which would otherwise have expired on 31st December this year. (Part I of the Act of 1930 regulates the production, supply, and sale of coal in Great Britain by means of a central co-ordinating scheme, with district schemes operating in the several colliery districts).

Subsection 2 proposes to continue section 1 of the Coal Mines Act, 1931,† which would otherwise have expired on 7th July next. Section 1 of the Act of 1931 is to continue in force until the coming into operation of an Act to enable effect to be given to the Draft Convention on Hours of Work Underground in Coal Mines, adopted by the International Labour Conference on 18th June, 1931.‡

Section 1 of the Act of 1931, which it is thus proposed to extend, continued for one year a provision in the Act of 1930, fixing the normal maximum period of underground work in coal mines at 7½ hours. (The Draft Convention would have the effect of limiting the hours of underground workers in coal mines to 7¾ hours, "bank to bank," which is equivalent to 7½ hours in terms of United Kingdom legislation.)

COAL MINES ACT, 1911.

REGULATIONS AND ORDERS RELATING TO SAFETY AND HEALTH.

THE Mines Department have issued the 1932 edition of a volume§ containing all the Orders and Regulations, of a general nature, in force on 31st December, 1931, which relate to safety and health matters in the working of mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911.

The volume is intended primarily as a book of reference for officials of mines. After the main code of General Regulations, all the remaining Regulations and Orders are printed, grouped under subjects (horses; explosives; safety lamp mines; certificates of competency for managers and under-managers; surveyors' certificates; firemen's, examiners', and deputies' certificates; ganister mines; "dangerous occurrences" under Notice of Accidents Act, 1906, etc.). The Orders are printed to read continuously in the form in which they have effect.

There are also six appendices: four are in the form of memoranda—on the storage of explosives, on the test of explosives, on the test of safety lamps, and on the test of rescue apparatus; another deals with firemen's, examiners', and deputies' certificates; and the sixth contains a list of Regulations, Orders and other official publications relating to coal mines. There is a chronological index; also a detailed index, arranged under subject headings.

* 20 *and* 21 *Geo.* 5, *ch.* 34. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net. (7d., post free.) A summary of this Act appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1930, page 281.

† 21 *and* 22 *Geo.* 5, *ch.* 27. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d., post free). A summary of this Act appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1931, page 253.

‡ An account of the proceedings at this Conference, and the provisional text of the Draft Convention, will be found in the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1931, pages 256–7.

§ *Coal Mines Act,* 1911: *Regulations and Orders relating to Safety and Health,* 1932 *Edition.* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net (1s. 8d., post-free).

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EMPIRE MIGRATION.

THE Economic Advisory Council approved, on 10th July, 1930, the appointment of a Committee "to consider the question of migration from the United Kingdom to oversea parts of the Empire in its economic aspects (*a*) in the immediate future, and (*b*) over a longer period, and to advise whether Government action to stimulate such migration is economically or otherwise desirable." The Report of this Committee has now been published.*

The Committee refer, on the one hand, to the declining birth-rate, and to the other factors which tend to make migration of less importance than formerly as a means of relieving the pressure of population; they also emphasise the fact that migration is a selective process, taking from the country precisely those elements in the population of which the country has most need. On the other hand there is, for the time being at least, a great surplus of labour, particularly in some important and highly localised industries. Large scale migration therefore is of doubtful value to this country, *economically,* as a long-term policy; but it would be of economic advantage to us as an emergency policy for the next few years, *i.e.,* during the continuance of the present excessive unemployment.

From the point of view of the Dominions, however, the position is almost exactly reversed. Owing to the extreme depression in agriculture, and particularly in wheat-growing, they are unable at present to absorb agricultural settlers; and it seems unlikely that for many years to come they will be as ready to welcome new immigrants as they were in the post-war decade. There is, in fact, "a profound disharmony between the economic needs of Great Britain on the one hand, and the Dominions on the other, in regard to migration. Now that it might suit us to send large numbers of our people to the Dominions, it does not suit the Dominions to receive them. When the time comes that the Dominions will again welcome immigrants it may not be to our economic interest to supply the need. Thus, the influence of economic forces is likely to be adverse to the development of Empire migration."

The Committee then proceed to consider other reasons, apart from the economic, which may properly influence the migration policy of this country, such as the relatively sparse population of the Dominions; the desirability that the added population which is needed should be predominantly British; the fact that the Dominions are, in proportion to their population, by far our best customers; and the need of an outlet, in appropriate surroundings, for persons of active temperament, apart from any national and Imperial considerations. For all these reasons the Committee regard it as of great importance that a steady flow of British migrants to the Dominions should be maintained, though they think it probable that this will be on a much smaller scale than in past years.

The Report then describes, in some detail, the various facilities which have been provided, since the passing of the Empire Settlement Act in 1922, for intending migrants. (Some of these facilities have already, since the presentation of the Report, been withdrawn, owing to financial stringency.)

At the conclusion of their Report the Committee recommend that certain amendments should be made in the Empire Settlement Act, and that the administration of the Government's migration policy should in future be concentrated in one Department, *viz.,* the Oversea Settlement Department of the Dominions Office. The Committee add that the Ministry of Labour should, on the resumption of migration activities, be invited to continue the migration work which they have conducted through the Employment Exchanges, but thenceforward as the agents of the Oversea Settlement Department.

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE: THIRD INTERIM REPORT, 1931–2.

THE Colonial Development Act, 1929,† authorised the Treasury, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and on the recommendation of a Committee appointed for the purpose, to make advances to the Governments of British Colonies, etc., for the purpose of aiding and developing agriculture and industry in the respective Colonies or territories, and thereby promoting commerce with or industry in the United Kingdom. A Committee was appointed to consider and report on applications received from the various Colonial Governments for assistance under this Act; and the third interim Report of this Committee, covering the twelve months ended 31st March, 1932, has been published.‡

During the year 1931–2 the Committee recommended assistance amounting to £269,717, towards schemes of which the total cost is estimated at £589,563; of this sum £173,925 represented expenditure in the United Kingdom. Since their appointment in 1929, the Committee have approved assistance to the total amount of £2,826,574 10*s.*, of which £1,213,004 10*s.* was for internal transport and communications; £502,000 for the development of mineral resources; £431,716 for public health; £181,714 for scientific research, etc.; with smaller sums for water supply and water-power schemes, agricultural development, harbours, surveys, forestry, electricity supply, land reclamation and irrigation, etc.

* *Committee on Empire Migration. Report.* Cmd. 4075. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1*s.* 6*d.* net (1*s.* 8*d.* post free).

† 20 *Geo.* 5, *ch.* 5. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2*d.* net (2½*d.*, post free). A summary of this Act appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1929, page 274.

‡ Cmd. 4079. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4*d.* net (5*d.* post free).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN POLAND.*

THE principal provisions of an Act passed in March, 1932, amending the Polish Unemployment Insurance Act of 18th July, 1924 (as amended), are summarised below.

Unemployment benefit is in future to be paid only to workers whose livelihood is entirely dependent upon employment for wages. Dependants' benefit is to be payable only in respect of the wife and children of the unemployed person, and not, as hitherto, in respect of dependent parents, brothers and sisters. The amount of benefit will in future be related to the average daily earnings of the thirteen weeks preceding unemployment, instead of the earnings in the last week of employment. The maximum daily earnings on which benefit is based are reduced from 10 to 6 zlotys, and no benefit will be payable in respect of Sundays. The qualifying period is extended from 20 to 26 weeks' insurable employment in the previous twelve months. The normal rate of contribution, 2 per cent. of wages, is raised to 4 per cent. in the case of seasonal workers; and certain restrictions are imposed in the payment of benefit to workers on short time. Workers breaking their contract voluntarily or without justification are to be suspended from benefit.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

BELGIUM.

Coal-mining Industry.—The National Joint Commission for the coal-mining industry has agreed to the postponement until 19th June of the wage reduction of five per cent. which, in view of the fall in the combined index (cost of living and selling price of coal), was due to take effect on 5th June.

GERMANY.

Coal-mining.—After the failure of direct negotiations between employers and workers to secure agreement regarding the revision of the covering and wage agreements for the Ruhr coal-mining industry, which, as reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE (page 172), were to be terminated by the employers at 31st May, 1932, official conciliation proceedings were instituted and an award was issued on 30th May. As regards the wage agreement, the award provided for its extension for a period of two months, while the covering agreement was to be extended, with certain minor amendments, until 31st March, 1933. At the same time, provision was made that the question of working hours should be open to discussion, if the present overtime agreement is terminated at 30th September, 1932. Under this agreement the normal working shift, which is fixed in principle at seven hours for underground workers by the covering agreement, is extended to eight hours, the additional hour being regarded as overtime. The wage part of the award has been rejected by the employers and accepted by the workers, while the part affecting the covering agreement has been rejected by the workers and accepted by the employers, who have claimed that the principle of the seven-hour shift should be abandoned as inconsistent with prevailing economic circumstances and requirements.

The employers in the Upper Silesian combined coal-mining and iron and steel industry have given notice to terminate the wage agreements for the workers engaged in coal and ore mining.

Textile Industry.—The employers in the Baden textile industry have applied to the Federal Ministry of Labour for the compulsory enforcement of the award reported on page 172 of the last issue of this GAZETTE, which was rejected by the workers. Some 45,000 workers are affected by the denunciation by the employers, at 4th June and 30th June, 1932, respectively, of the wages and covering agreements for the textile industry in the München–Gladbach–Rheydt area and the silk-weaving industry in the Lower Rhineland.

Shipbuilding.—Following upon the failure of conciliation proceedings, a stoppage of work occurred on 6th June at the "Vulkan" and "Neptun" marine shipbuilding yards at Vegesack (Bremen) and Rostock respectively, in consequence of the refusal of the workers to accept the reduced rates of pay notified to them by the employers.

SWEDEN.

Dockworkers.—The proposals, made by a State Conciliator, for a new agreement for ports in South Sweden have been accepted by both employers and workers. The new agreement, which is operative until 31st December, 1933, involves wage reductions of varying amounts and affects some 4,000 workers. The State Conciliator's proposals for new agreements for ports in North Sweden, also involving wage reductions, have been accepted by both parties; the employers, however, have stated that, owing to the attitude of the trade unions towards the existing dispute in the paper-pulp industry, they are unable to conclude agreements for four of the ports concerned.

* *Industrial and Labour Information,* 9th May, 1932, International Labour Office, Geneva.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT at 23rd May showed a decline as compared with 25th April. The figures for 23rd May relate, however, to the Monday after Whit-week, when employment is usually at a low level owing to extensions of holiday stoppages. The decline in employment was entirely accounted for by an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped. Most of this increase occurred in the textile and boot and shoe industries, and to a large extent was due to the extension of holiday suspensions. There was also an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped in general and marine engineering, in iron and steel (except pig iron), tinplate, vehicle and metal goods manufacture, in the pottery industry and in certain of the clothing trades. The numbers unemployed also increased in shipbuilding and ship repairing and in dock and harbour service. On the other hand there was some improvement in coal mining, in the building and distributive trades, and in hotel and boarding house service.

The heaviest increase in the numbers of insured workpeople temporarily stopped occurred in the North-Western Division, but temporary stoppages also accounted for increases in the numbers recorded as unemployed in the Midlands and North-Eastern Divisions. In the South of England employment showed little change and remained moderate. In all other areas it was very bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 12,770,000, 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 23rd May, 1932 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 22·1, as compared with 21·4 at 25th April, 1932, and with 20·8 at 18th May, 1931. The percentage wholly unemployed at 23rd May, 1932, was 17·1, as compared with 17·3 at 25th April, 1932, while the percentage temporarily stopped was 5·0, as compared with 4·1. For males alone, the percentage at 23rd May, 1932, was 25·3, and for females 13·9; at 25th April, 1932, the corresponding percentages were 24·7 and 12·7.

At 23rd May, 1932, the number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 2,001,127 wholly unemployed, 630,664 temporarily stopped, and 109,515 normally in casual employment, making a total of 2,741,306. This was 89,125 more than a month before, and 111,335 more than on 1st June, 1931. The total included 2,190,478 men, 69,587 boys, 430,828 women and 50,413 girls. Comparison of the numbers on the registers and of the percentages unemployed with the figures for a year before is affected by the results of legislative and administrative changes. This subject was dealt with in an article on page 128 of the April, 1932, issue of this GAZETTE.

The 2,001,127 wholly unemployed included 713,866 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); 969,997 insured persons with applications for transitional payments; 196,225 insured persons not in receipt of insurance benefit or transitional payments, and 121,039 uninsured persons.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the total number of persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges at 23rd May, 1932, was 2,804,753.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal mining industry there was a decrease in the numbers temporarily stopped. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 28th May, 1932, showed a decrease of 1·5 per cent. as compared with 23rd April, 1932, and of 5·2 per cent. as compared with 23rd May, 1931. The average number of days worked in the week ended 28th May, 1932, was 4·58, a decrease of 0·03 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd April, 1932, and of 0·14 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd May, 1931.

In the iron mining industry employment showed a decline and was very bad. In the West Lothian shale mines it was very bad. In the limestone quarries in the Cleveland area employment was bad; in the Clitheroe area it was fair; in the Buxton area it showed a further improvement and was good. In the slate quarries in North Wales employment declined and was very slack. At chalk quarries and at tin mines employment was very slack; at china clay quarries also it was very slack, with much short time working. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries employment showed a further decline and was very bad.

Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—In the pig iron industry employment showed little change and remained very bad. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of May was 69, the same number as at the end of April, as compared with 80 at the end of May, 1931.

At iron and steel works employment showed a further decline and was very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 51·0 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 47·6 at 25th April, 1932, and 44·8 at 18th May, 1931.

In the tinplate industry employment showed a decline and was bad. It was bad also, with little change, in steel sheet manufacture.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.—In the engineering industry there was a substantial increase during May in the numbers of insured persons temporarily stopped, probably due in part to extensions of the Whitsuntide holidays. The heaviest increases occurred in general and textile engineering and motor vehicle manufacture, and employment in those sections was very bad. It was very bad also in constructional engineering. In marine engineering the acute depression continued. In the electrical section employment remained moderate.

In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment showed a decline and was very depressed.

In most of the other metal trades employment was slack.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment showed a decline, particularly in the spinning section, and was very bad. Whitsuntide suspensions were extended in most of the principal districts. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 33·4 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 24·9 at 25th April, 1932, and 37·5 at 18th May, 1931.

In the wool textile industry there was a decline in employment (partly seasonal) after Whitsuntide; at the end of the month employment, both in the woollen and in the worsted sections, was considerably worse than in April; many firms extended the Whitsuntide holidays and thereafter put their operatives on shorter time. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 25·5 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 18·0 at 25th April, 1932, and 27·0 at 18th May, 1931. In the carpet section employment showed little change and continued fair.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed a further decline and was slack on the whole. In the lace industry there was, on the whole, a further decline; employment was fairly good in the curtain section, but slack in other sections. In silk manufacture it showed a decline and was very slack on the whole; in artificial silk yarn manufacture there was little change and employment was slack, short time being worked by many firms. In the linen industry it continued to decline and was bad on the whole. There was a further decline also in the jute industry, and employment was very depressed. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment again declined and was bad, much short time being worked.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke and ready made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade showed little change and remained moderate on the whole. In the dressmaking and millinery trades there was a slight improvement, and employment was generally fair. In the shirt and collar trades there was a slight decline, and employment was moderate to slack. In the corset trade employment remained good, while in the glove trade it was fair. In the felt hat trade there was a further decline and much short time was being worked, but employment was still moderate on the whole.

In the boot and shoe industry employment showed a decline in almost all districts, and was bad generally; short-time working was general, and the holiday stoppage was extended by many firms. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed was 29·1 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 20·0 at 25th April, 1932, and 18·3 at 18th May, 1931.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the leather trades showed a further slight decline and was slack in all sections.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—In the building trades there was a further slight seasonal improvement, but employment remained generally very slack or bad. Outside work was disturbed to an appreciable extent by abnormally wet weather, with consequent short-time working. As regards individual occupations, employment continued slack on the whole with painters and bad with each of the other class of operatives. There was a slight decline with slaters and plasterers and a slight improvement with painters, but with the other occupations there was little variation. In brick manufacture employment continued very slack on the whole.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with millsawyers showed little change and remained very slack; with coachbuilders it declined slightly and was very slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In the paper-making industry employment was moderate on the whole, though showing some decline; short time continued at many centres. With letterpress printers employment was moderate generally. It was described as bad or slack at a number of the larger centres, but continued fair at some of the smaller towns. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued moderate on the whole. With lithographic printers it showed some improvement, but was still slack generally. With lithographic artists it was fair to slack on the whole. With bookbinders it showed little change and remained slack.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery industry employment in North Staffordshire was still bad on the whole, with much short-time working; it showed an improvement in the manufacture of tiles and other earthenware products, but in the china section it showed a decline at some centres. At Bristol and at Worcester the improvement reported last month was maintained, although short time was still being worked. At Derby employment continued slack. In the stoneware section in Scotland it was bad.

Employment in glass manufacture showed an improvement but was slack. There was also a slight improvement in glass bottle manufacture, but employment in that section was still very slack.

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

Dock Labourers and Seamen.—With dock labourers employment showed a further decline and was very slack; and it was also very slack on the whole with seamen.

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, 1932.	May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining	816,270	4·58	− 0·03	− 0·14
Iron ,, ...	4,858	5·26	+ 0·19	+ 0·12
Shale ,, ...	1,615	5·85	+ 0·20	− 0·10
		Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.
Pig Iron	...	69	...	− 11
		Mills working.		
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	387	− 21	+ 65
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel	44,719	228,013	− 6·7	− 7·6

(*b*) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed. Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Year before.	Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople. Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Textiles :—						
Cotton	66,901	−11·2	+10·5	108,989	−14·1*	+10·3*
Woollen ...	50,105	− 4·1	+ 0·6	87,524	− 9·9	− 7·5*
Worsted ...	74,260	− 3·2	+ 1·2	117,417	− 9·1	− 9·2*
Carpet	10,428	+ 0·9	+12·2	20,003	+ 0·6	+21·5
Boot and Shoe ...	57,579	− 4·0	− 5·7	113,344	− 7·6	−17·9*
Pottery	10,108	+ 2·2	− 1·1	16,093	+ 0·6	− 3·9
Brick	8,773	+ 0·7	−14·4	20,774	+ 0·7	−23·8

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 23rd May, 1932, among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts :—

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured at July, 1931. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932. Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Total Percentages as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
London	2,346,610	16·6	7·0	13·5	...	+ 2·1
South-Eastern ...	973,250	16·0	7·1	13·9	− 0·5	+ 3·1
South-Western....	894,700	19·3	8·2	16·8	+ 0·2	+ 3·7
Midlands ...	1,893,050	22·9	13·4	20·1	+ 0·5	+ 0·5
North-Eastern ...	2,073,010	32·9	15·3	28·9	+ 1·3	+ 3·2
North-Western...	2,222,930	29·0	22·5	26·7	+ 2·7	− 0·5
Scotland ...	1,350,330	31·1	16·9	27·1	+ 0·2	+ 0·2
Wales	606,120	36·6	15·4	34·3	− 0·6	+ 0·2
Northern Ireland	270,000	29·2	18·9	25·2	+ 1·1	− 3·3
Special Schemes	140,000	4·5	1·1	3·4	− 0·1	+ 0·1
Total ...	12,770,000	25·3	13·9	22·1	+ 0·7	+ 1·3

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from May, 1931, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, and the approximate number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The percentages for each month have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at the end of the preceding June, no allowance having been made for the monthly increase in the insured population between June of one year and May of the following year.

Date.	Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople. Males.	Females.	Males and Females. Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc. Date.	Number.
1931.						1931.	
18 May ...	21·9	17·9	16·3	4·5	20·8	1 June	2,702,000
22 June ...	22·5	17·8	16·0	5·2	21·2	29 June	2,736,000
27 July ...	23·2	18·9	16·3	5·7	22·0	27 July	2,783,000
24 August ...	23·1	19·4	16·7	5·3	22·0	31 Aug.	2,834,000
21 September	23·7	19·7	17·4	5·2	22·6	28 Sept.	2,897,000
26 October	23·6	17·5	18·1	3·8	21·9	26 Oct.	2,792,000
23 November	23·6	15·9	18·0	3·4	21·4	30 Nov.	2,688,000
21 December	23·2	15·0	17·7	3·2	20·9	21 Dec.	2,574,000
1932.						1932.	
25 January...	25·1	15·4	18·4	4·0	22·4	25 Jan.	2,794,000
22 February	25·0	14·2	18·2	3·8	22·0	22 Feb.	2,764,000
21 March ...	24·1	12·5	17·5	3·3	20·8	21 Mar.	2,627,000
25 April ...	24·7	12·7	17·3	4·1	21·4	25 Apr.	2,712,000
23 May ...	25·3	13·9	17·1	5·0	22·1	23 May	2,805,000

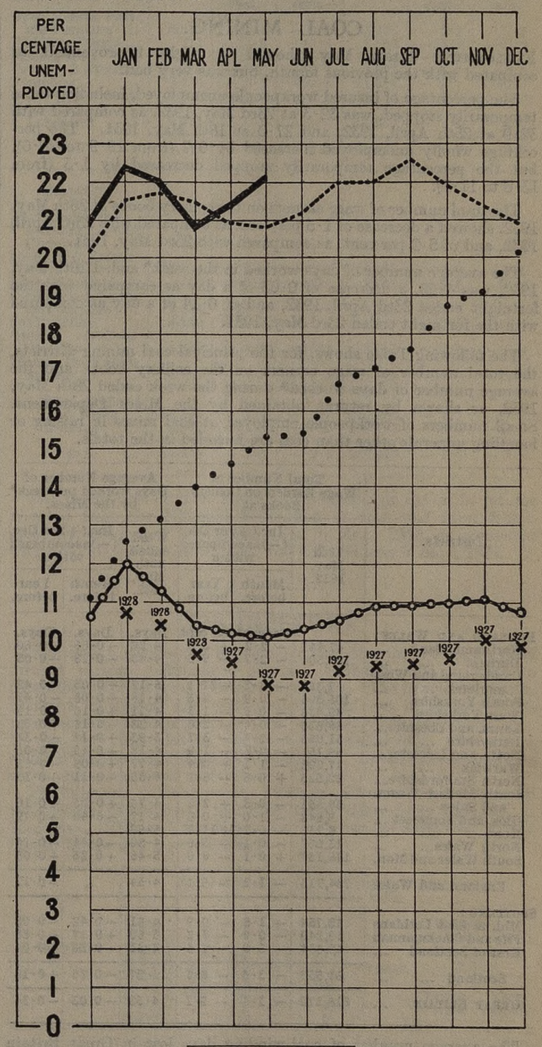
* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

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

Plain Curve = 1932.
Broken Curve = 1931.
Dotted Curve = 1930.
Chain Curve = *Mean for* 1923–25 *and* 1927–29.

× The crosses indicate the minimum monthly percentages unemployed during the years 1923–25 and 1927–31. The maximum percentages in those years occurred in 1931.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING MAY, 1932.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total. Numbers.	Percentage of numbers insured at July, 1931.
London	1,222	4,481	1,960	4,375	12,038	0·51
South-Eastern ...	870	2,323	979	1,768	5,940	0·61
South-Western ...	704	1,997	889	1,551	5,141	0·57
Midlands	732	3,496	639	2,952	7,819	0·41
North-Eastern ...	772	4,130	955	2,782	8,639	0·42
North-Western ...	701	3,592	881	3,368	8,542	0·38
Scotland	953	2,728	674	2,073	6,428	0·48
Wales...	394	1,401	459	601	2,855	0·47
GREAT BRITAIN ...	6,348	24,148	7,436	19,470	57,402	0·46

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered.

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.*

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month, but was very bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 32·3 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 32·9 at 25th April, 1932, and 27·0 at 18th May, 1931. The percentage wholly unemployed increased by 0·7 (from 19·9 to 20·6), but the percentage temporarily stopped decreased by 1·3 (from 13·0 to 11·7).

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 28th May, 1932, showed a decrease of 1·5 per cent. as compared with 23rd April, 1932, and of 5·2 per cent. as compared with 23rd May, 1931.

The average number of days worked in the week* ended 28th May, 1932, was 4·58, a decrease of 0·03 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd April, 1932, and of 0·14 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd May, 1931.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked* during the week ended 28th May, 1932, 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 at			Average Number of Days worked per week* by the Mines.		
	28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a		Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Per cent	Per cent	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	42,443	− 2·2	− 3·9	4·26	−0·66	−0·60
Durham	105,394	− 2·7	− 9·3	4·45	−0·18	−0·05
Cumberland and Westmorland	7,357	− 6·2	−21·1	5·12	+0·05	−0·42
South Yorkshire ...	105,396	− 0·9	− 5·5	4·18	+0·08	−0·47
West Yorkshire ...	49,436	− 0·5	− 1·3	4·11	+0·16	−0·19
Lancs. and Cheshire...	68,635	− 0·4	− 2·0	4·28	−0·16	+0·02
Derbyshire	51,053	− 2·7	− 3·7	3·93	+0·12	−0·31
Notts. and Leicester...	59,151	− 2·6	− 1·9	4·18	+0·19	+0·05
Warwick	17,202	− 1·1	+ 0·4	4·77	+0·09	−0·53
North Staffordshire...	22,523	+ 0·0	− 6·1	4·58	−0·11	+0·10
South Staffs.† Worcs. and Salop	30,551	− 0·3	+ 2·2	4·75	+0·03	+0·16
Glos. and Somerset ...	9,648	− 1·0	+ 0·6	4·17	−0·40	−0·79
Kent	6,230	− 0·1	+11·7	5·50	...	...
North Wales... ...	13,557	− 0·1	− 3·6	4·80	−0·44	−0·74
South Wales and Mon.	146,137	+ 0·1	− 8·0	5·45	+0·25	+0·05
England and Wales	734,713	− 1·2	− 5·1	4·54	...	−0·17
SCOTLAND:						
Mid. & East Lothians	12,754	− 1·5	− 0·9	4·61	−0·42	−0·05
Fife and Clackmannan	19,249	− 0·8	− 7·2	5·60	+0·17	+0·58
Rest of Scotland ...	49,554	− 5·0	− 7·8	4·81	−0·38	+0·04
Scotland	81,557	− 3·5	− 6·6	4·97	−0·25	+0·16
GREAT BRITAIN ...	816,270	− 1·5	− 5·2	4·58	−0·03	−0·14

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the week ended 28th May, 1932, was 1·19, of which 1·10 days were due to want of trade. The figure for the fortnight ended 23rd April, 1932, was 1·17 days per week, of which 1·15 days were due to want of trade; the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 23rd May, 1931, were 1·02 days per week, and 0·97 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time for the May and April, 1932, periods, was between one-fifth and one-quarter of a day per week, as compared with about one-quarter of a day per week during the May, 1931, period.

The *output* of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 28th May, 1932, which include the Whitsuntide holidays, was reported to the Mines Department as 15,883,200 tons, as compared with 16,597,100 tons in the four weeks ended 23rd April, 1932, and 18,223,800 tons in the four weeks ended 23rd May, 1931.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 23rd May, 1932, and the increases or decreases as compared with 25th April, 1932, and 18th May, 1931, are shown in the following Table :—

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) in Total percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.				
	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporary stoppages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stoppages.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
Great Britain ...	215,756	122,319	20·6	11·7	32·3	− 0·6	+ 5·3
England and Wales ...	185,680	115,178	20·0	12·5	32·5	− 1·1	+ 5·9
Scotland ...	30,076	7,141	24·9	6·0	30·9	+ 2·8	+ 0·7
Principal Districts in England and Wales :—							
Northumberland... ...	10,313	5,505	20·3	10·9	31·2	+10·3	+ 11·2
Durham ...	45,095	8,302	30·4	5·6	36·0	− 0·1	+ 6·4
Cumberland and Westmorland... ...	3,836	280	33·7	2·5	36·2	+ 4·7	+ 13·4
Yorkshire ...	25,253	43,767	14·1	24·4	38·5	− 1·7	+ 15·5
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	16,067	13,957	18·2	15·8	34·0	+ 4·7	+ 6·8
Derbyshire ...	6,326	9,684	9·8	15·0	24·8	+ 0·6	+ 3·3
Notts. and Leicestershire	7,765	4,581	12·1	7·1	19·2	−18·3	+ 1·4
Warwickshire	1,072	289	8·5	2·3	10·8	− 0·2	+ 4·4
Staffs., Worcester and Salop ...	10,011	6,503	14·4	9·4	23·8	− 1·4	+ 3·9
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,567	2,418	13·7	21·2	34·9	+11·6	+ 16·3
Kent ...	286	3	4·8	0·1	4·9	− 0·3	− 1·7
Wales and Monmouth ...	56,681	19,876	25·9	9·1	35·0	− 2·5	− 1·4

The *exports* of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufacturered fuel, amounted to 4,554,900 tons in May, 1932, as compared with 5,079,500 tons in April, 1932, and with 4,907,000 tons in May, 1931.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a decline during May, and was very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry was 42·8 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 40·2 at 25th April, 1932, and 33·0 at 18th May, 1931.

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.*		
	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a		Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,074	− 0·5	− 29·9	5·20	+ 0·10	+ 0·24
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	1,432	− 13·2	− 37·8	5·55	+ 0·77	− 0·01
Other Districts ...	1,352	− 4·5	− 0·1	5·06	− 0·32	+ 0·25
ALL DISTRICTS	4,858	− 5·7	− 26·6	5·26	+ 0·19	+ 0·12

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 28th May, 1932, by firms making returns was 1,615, showing an increase of 0·5 per cent. as compared with April, 1932, but a decrease of 36·2 per cent. as compared with May, 1931. The average number of days worked per week* by the mines making returns was 5·85 in May, 1932, as compared with 5·65 in April, 1932, and 5·95 in May, 1931.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed little change and remained very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 41·1 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 41·8 at 25th April, 1932, and 35·0 at 18th May, 1931.

* *See* note * in previous column.

* 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.

According to information received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 69 furnaces were in operation at the end of May, 1932, the same number as at the end of April, 1932, as compared with 80 at the end of May, 1931. In the case of 68 firms employing 10,096 workpeople at the end of May, 1932, the returns showed an increase of 2·7 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with April, 1932, but a decrease of 13·9 per cent. compared with May, 1931.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of May, 1932, April, 1932, and May, 1931 :—

Districts.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	
		May, 1932.	April, 1932.	May, 1931.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	87	17	17	22	...	− 5
Cumberland and W. Lancs.	36	5	4	8	+ 1	− 3
Parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) and North Wales ...	25	7	7	5	...	+ 2
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants ...	43	18	18	21	...	− 3
Lincolnshire	23	7	7	7	...	...
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick	38	6	6	8	...	− 2
South Wales and Monmouthshire	21	3	4	2	− 1	+ 1
England and Wales	273	63	63	73	...	−10
SCOTLAND	83	6	6	7	...	− 1
GREAT BRITAIN ...	356	69	69	80	...	−11

The production of pig iron in May, 1932, amounted to 315,300 tons, compared with 316,900 tons in April, 1932, and 346,500 tons in May, 1931.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a decline and was bad. In the week ended 28th May, 1932, 319 mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 341 in the week ended 23rd April, 1932, and with 261 in the week ended 23rd May, 1931, The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 43·5 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 37·2 at 25th April, 1932, and with 46·9 at 18th May, 1931.

In steel sheet manufacture employment showed little change, and was bad. In the week ended 28th May, 1932, 68 mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 67 in the week ended 23rd April, 1932, and with 61 in the week ended 23rd May, 1931.

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 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a		Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	60	− 2*	+ 9	319	− 22*	+ 58
Steel Sheet	7	− 1	− 1	68	+ 1	+ 7
TOTAL ...	67	− 3*	+ 8	387	− 21*	+ 65

The *exports* of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in May, 1932, amounted to 60,523 tons, or 14,998 tons less than in April, 1932, but 5,159 tons more than in May, 1931.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a further decline and continued very bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 51·0 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 47·6 at 25th April, 1932, and 44·8 at 18th May, 1931.

At certain firms employing 44,719 workpeople, from which returns were received for the week ended 28th May, 1932, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of shifts† during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 6·7 per cent. as compared with the week ended 23rd April, 1932, and by 7·6 per cent. as compared with the week ended 23rd May, 1931. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5·1 in the week ended 28th May, 1932, as compared with 5·0 in April, 1932, and May, 1931.

* Revised figure.

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

—	No. of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns.			Aggregate number of Shifts.*		
	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a		Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	4,124	+ 0·3	− 9·6	23,169	− 1·4	− 7·6
Puddling Forges ...	712	−33·9	−43·1	2,553	−33·9	−43·4
Rolling Mills ...	16,710	−11·3	− 6·2	75,416	−10·5	− 5·1
Forging & Pressing	870	− 2·6	−49·4	3,987	− 9·8	−53·5
Founding	5,738	− 3·1	−12·6	31,359	− 2·7	−10·5
Other Departments	6,578	− 1·4	− 3·9	36,862	− 0·9	+ 0·3
Mechanics, Labourers ...	9,987	− 8·4	− 6·4	54,667	− 7·1	− 4·9
TOTAL ...	44,719	− 7·6	− 9·5	228,013	− 6·7	− 7·6
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	9,287	− 2·7	− 8·3	47,648	− 1·4	− 9·7
Sheffield & Rotherham	13,502	− 5·8	−11·1	69,971	− 5·9	− 9·1
Leeds, Bradford, etc.	340	− 6·1	−24·8	1,415	− 4·6	−22·6
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	4,514	+25·1	− 0·4	23,186	+27·5	+15·0
Staffordshire ...	4,155	−12·2	−11·4	21,738	−12·0	−11·5
Other Midland Counties ...	2,589	− 8·7	−16·2	13,547	− 6·8	−18·7
Wales and Monmouth	4,751	−19·3	+ 9·1	25,760	−18·9	+15·4
Total, England and Wales ...	39,138	− 5·2	− 7·8	203,265	− 4·7	− 5·6
Scotland ...	5,581	−21·5	−20·3	24,748	−20·2	−21·7
TOTAL ...	44,719	− 7·6	− 9·5	228,013	− 6·7	− 7·6

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 416,900 tons in May, 1932, as compared with 433,300 tons in April, 1932, and 435,100 tons in May, 1931.

ENGINEERING.

THERE was a substantial increase at 23rd May in the numbers of insured persons temporarily stopped, probably due in part to extensions of Whit week holiday suspensions. The heaviest increases occurred in general and textile engineering and in motor vehicle manufacture, and employment in those sections was very bad. It was very bad also in constructional engineering. In marine engineering the acute depression continued. In the electrical section employment remained moderate.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 23rd May, 1932, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before :—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.							
	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	
							Month before.	Year before.
London ...	12,041	1,846	283	812	6,171	21,153	− 67	+ 5,442
South-Eastern	8,155	1,344	432	247	3,994	14,172	+ 116	+ 2,639
South-Western	5,532	286	932	145	4,577	11,472	− 14	+ 2,523
Midlands ...	19,121	4,123	341	2,453	26,568	52,606	+ 4,224	+ 4,670
North-Eastern	39,842	1,753	11,518	2,671	2,670	58,454	+ 2,455	+ 2,699
North-Western	46,777	4,987	317	1,103	5,992	59,176	+ 4,393	+ 19
Scotland ...	29,217	679	11,151	2,374	2,091	45,512	+ 131	+ 3,130
Wales... ...	2,459	76	46	259	700	3,540	+ 428	+ 513
NorthernIreland	1,933	58	3,616	29	335	5,971	+ 357	+ 313
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	165,077	15,152	28,636	10,093	53,098	272,056	+ 12,023	+ 21,948
	Percentages Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.							
London ...	14·4	12·5	42·2	20·5	15·4	14·8	...	+ 4·0
South-Eastern	18·5	17·7	19·7	27·4	13·6	16·8	+ 0·1	+ 3·7
South-Western	15·5	7·8	13·8	27·9	15·8	15·2	...	+ 3·2
Midlands ...	21·7	13·7	23·7	33·6	26·9	23·3	+ 1·9	+ 2·1
North-Eastern	35·9	17·7	56·5	35·9	18·3	35·8	+ 1·5	+ 2·6
North-Western	37·5	22·8	38·7	36·5	25·7	34·1	+ 2·6	+ 0·4
Scotland ...	38·0	19·8	62·1	43·6	18·5	39·6	+ 0·1	+ 2·7
Wales... ...	43·8	18·1	32·9	31·2	28·9	37·5	+ 4·5	+ 3·7
NorthernIreland	28·3	7·9	74·1	17·1	14·3	39·9	+ 2·3	+ 4·2
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	28·6	16·4	51·8	34·1	21·1	27·1	+ 1·2	+ 2·5
Ditto, Apr. 1932	*27·4*	*16·4*	*50·6*	*35·4*	*19·3*	*25·9*	—	—
Ditto, May. 193	*27·4*	*14·7*	*42·5*	*25·5*	*17·1*	*24·6*	—	—

* *See* note † in preceding column.

On the North-East Coast employment in general and marine engineering remained very bad. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment at some of the principal centres showed a decline and was very bad generally. In Lancashire and Cheshire employment in textile engineering continued very bad, and the Whitsuntide holidays were extended at some of the principal centres; it was very bad also, with some further decline, in general engineering. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment in motor vehicle manufacture showed a decline towards the end of the month and was very bad; it declined also and was very bad in general engineering, particularly in the heavier branches; in cycle and motor cycle manufacture and in electrical engineering employment was fair. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment remained moderate on the whole. In London and the Southern Counties it showed little general change and remained slack, though much better than in other parts of the country.

In Scotland there was some decline in general engineering in the Glasgow area, and employment in that section and in marine engineering was very bad. It remained very bad also in Wales and in Northern Ireland.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a decline on the whole and was very depressed. The numbers unemployed increased in Scotland, Northern Ireland, London and the South Western Division, but the fall in other Divisions was very slight.

Compared with a year ago there was a decline in most districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, at 23rd May, 1932, and the increase or decrease as compared with 25th April, 1932, and 18th May, 1931 :—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	3,523	+ 438	− 232	37·1	+ 4·6	− 2·0
South-Eastern...	1,144	− 154	+ 88	16·6	− 2·2	+ 2·5
South-Western	6,141	+ 233	+ 1,424	29·1	+ 1·1	+ 6·9
Midlands ...	177	− 18	+ 34	55·3	− 5·6	+12·0
North-Eastern	40,659	− 55	+ 1,364	71·7	− 0·1	+ 7·3
North-Western	14,729	− 151	− 108	52·4	− 0·6	+ 0·9
Scotland ...	37,520	+ 974	+. 1,998	69·2	+ 1·8	+ 6·2
Wales	4,405	− 132	− 190	63·4	− 1·9	+ 1·1
Northern Ireland	7,054	+ 512	+ 264	60 8	+ 4·4	+ 6·1
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	115,352	+ 1,647	+ 4,642	59·0	+ 0·8	+ 4·9

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in May showed a decline as compared with April, particularly in the spinning section, but was still better than a year ago. Extended holidays at Whitsuntide were reported from most of the principal districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 33·4 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 24·9 at 25th April, 1932, and with 37·5 at 18th May, 1931.

At Ashton-under-Lyne employment declined, and was bad. At Stockport, Hyde, and Stalybridge there was a further decline, and employment generally was very irregular. At all these centres short time and extended holidays at Whitsuntide were generally reported.

At Oldham employment in the spinning section declined and was very bad; short time increased, and the total volume of employment was only about 56 per cent. of full capacity. In the manufacturing section also employment was very bad; it was especially bad with operatives on velvets and fustians, moderate with those engaged on calicoes and sheetings, and fair with makers of "fancies" and heavy goods. At Middleton short time was again worked in the American spinning section, and four mills in this section remained closed; but full time was still worked in the Egyptian section.

At Bolton employment in the spinning section showed a further serious decline, and was bad; the proportion of operative cotton spinners working less than half-time gradually increased from 35 to over 50 per cent. between 23rd April and 21st May; the position with weavers and winders, and with cardroom workers, was also very bad. At Leigh employment with spinners declined and was bad. At Bury and at Rochdale employment declined and was bad.

At Preston there was no material change in the general employment situation, but seven large mills closed for the whole of Whit-week. At Chorley there was little general change; some manufacturers in recent weeks have reverted to temporary stoppages on account of shortage of orders. At Blackburn unemployment increased slightly among cardroom workers, warpers and winders; the number of unemployed weavers was slightly reduced, but remained exceptionally high. No fewer than 58 mills were reported to be stopped on 21st May. At Accrington some firms extended the holiday stoppage at Whitsuntide. At Great Harwood there was a further improvement in the weaving section, but there was still much unemployment and short time. At Darwen there was no appreciable change; under-employment was still prevalent, and a number of firms extended the holiday stoppage at Whitsuntide; very irregular time was worked by the preparatory departments. At Burnley the position was slightly worse than in April; nine mills extended the holiday stoppage at Whitsuntide. At Padiham (where most of the mills, unlike those in other centres, are chiefly engaged on the home trade) employment was again described as fairly good. At Colne and at Nelson there was a decline; the holiday stoppage was extended by some firms. In the Rossendale Valley employment was very bad, and slightly worse than in April; the holiday stoppage at Whitsuntide was extended, and a number of operatives were under-employed.

In Yorkshire employment declined at most of the principal centres; short time was largely worked, and many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Whitsuntide.

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 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year before.	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year before.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	11,004	−12·7	+ 8·8	16,873	−16·1	+ 9·2
Spinning	21,350	−16·9	+ 6·1	31,793	−19·7	+ 6·9
Weaving	27,000	− 7·3	+15·4	43,158	−11·7	+ 14·1
Other	7,547	− 4·1	+ 9·2	17,165	− 6·4	+ 8·7
TOTAL	66,901	−11·2	+10·5	108,989	−14·1	+ 10·3
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton	5,737	−13·1	+28·0	8,695	−18·1	+ 22·2
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	6,294	−10·3	+21·8	9,277	−17·0	+ 13·5
Oldham	9,222	− 7·4	+12·4	16,326	− 5·6	+ 18·7
Bolton and Leigh ...	10,383	− 9·8	− 3·5	15,287	−15·4	− 8·2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden	6,343	−11·9	+15·3	10,418	−16·4	+ 14·6
Manchester	4,414	−13·2	+37·5	6,869	−13·3	+ 43·4
Preston and Chorley ...	5,689	− 8·9	− 6·1	9,506	−11·8	− 6·7
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	5,670	−10·2	+ 4·0	9,428	−16·9	− 3·3
Burnley, Padiham ...	3,408	−11·0	+71·2	6,457	−14·7	+ 59·7
Colne and Nelson ...	2,850	− 4·0	+13·1	6,522	− 4·0	+ 29·4
Other Lancashire Towns	1,427	−46·3	−17·4	1,749	−45·6	− 17·6
Yorkshire Towns ...	2,488	−15·2	− 1·5	4,232	−15·1	+ 12·7
Other Districts	2,976	− 0·3	+ 1·3	4,223	− 9·4	− 3·2
TOTAL	66,901	−11·2	+10·5	108,989	−14·1	+ 10·3

Returns from firms employing about 65,000 workpeople in the week ended 28th May showed that about 15 per cent. of these operatives were on short time in that week, losing about 16 hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres in Lancashire and Cheshire at 23rd May, 1932 :—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd May, 1932.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	1,816	6,795	8,611	3,405	14,060	17,465	26,076
Spinning ...	10,023	4,167	14,190	17,311	10,062	27,373	41,563
Beaming, Winding and Warping	2,046	6,778	8,824	1,853	14,174	16,027	24,851
Weaving ...	8,651	22,995	31,646	3,130	12,155	15,285	46,931
Other Processes	1,369	276	1,645	547	530	1,077	2,722
Total ...	23,905	41,011	64,916	26,246	50,981	77,227	142,143

The following Table shows the increases and decreases at these 56 Exchanges as compared with 25th April, 1932 :—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	− 107	− 207	− 314	+ 2,057	+ 7,897	+ 9,954	+ 9,640
Spinning ...	+ 121	− 275	− 154	+ 8,607	+ 5,616	+14,223	+ 14,069
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	− 38	− 447	− 485	+ 868	+ 5,636	+ 6,504	+ 6,019
Weaving ...	− 510	− 2,164	− 2,674	+ 1,423	+ 6,441	+ 7,864	+ 5,190
Other Processes ...	− 182	− 94	− 276	+ 235	+ 152	+ 387	+ 111
Total ...	− 716	− 3,187	− 3,903	+13,190	+25,742	+38,932	+ 35,029

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

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 99,181,700 lbs. in May, 1932, compared with 96,656,800 lbs. in April, 1932, and with 63,448,300 lbs. in May, 1931.

The *exports* of cotton yarn were 12,742,600 lbs. in May, 1932, compared with 13,878,500 lbs. in April, 1932, and with 10,686,200 lbs. in May, 1931.

The *exports* of cotton piece-goods in May, 1932, were 200,958,900 square yards, compared with 199,286,500 square yards in the previous month, and 141,488,500 square yards in May, 1931.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THERE was a decline in employment (partly seasonal) after Whitsuntide; in the week ended 28th May employment, both in the woollen and in the worsted sections, was considerably worse than in April, and about the same as in May of last year. Many firms extended the Whitsuntide holidays, and thereafter put their operatives on shorter time; most of the firms who introduced a double shift during the height of their recent activity have now discontinued the second shift. In the carpet section employment was about the same as a month earlier, and considerably better than a year ago.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the woollen and worsted industries, including those temporarily stopped, was 25·5 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 18·0 at 25th April, 1932, and with 27·0 at 18th May, 1931.

Worsted Section.—In this section there was a decline in all departments and in all the principal districts; and extended holidays at Whitsuntide were general. At Bradford and at Keighley the decline was especially marked with coating manufacturers; while at Huddersfield employment remained bad with fine cloth makers, but showed some improvement with spinners.

In the worsted section as a whole, returns from employers for the week ended 28th May showed that over 35 per cent. of the operatives were on short time* in that week, losing about 13½ hours each on the average; while 8 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 6½ hours each on the average.

With wool sorters employment was bad, and worse than a month earlier. In the wool combing department employment in the merino section remained fairly good, in the other sections it was bad; in all sections there was a decline as compared with April. In the sorting, combing and preparing departments taken as a whole, over 45 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 28th May lost, on the average, 15½ hours each in short time; on the other hand, 11½ per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 9 hours each on the average.

In the worsted spinning department employment was still fairly good, but not so good as in the previous month. Over 32 per cent. of the workers in this department, covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 28th May, lost, on the average, 13 hours each in short time; while 9 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of nearly 6 hours each on the average.

In the worsted weaving department there were slight signs of improvement during part of the month; but the employers' returns for the week ended 28th May showed a decline as compared with a month earlier. About 38 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 28th May worked short time,* losing 13 hours each on the average; very little overtime was recorded.

Woollen Section.—In this section also there was a decided decline. Employers' returns for the week ended 28th May showed that nearly 40 per cent. of the workers in the spinning department, and 44 per cent. of those in the weaving department, worked short time* in that week, losing between 12 and 13 hours each on the average in both departments. In the woollen section as a whole, over 40 per cent.* of the operatives lost, on an average, 13 hours each in short time; and 7 per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 8 hours each.

Employment at Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley showed a further marked decline during May, though there were still a few firms working overtime or night shifts. In the Colne Valley, however, night work was much reduced, and at several mills shorter day-time hours were worked.

In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) there was a seasonal improvement during part of the month, but the employers' returns for the week ended 28th May indicated a decline on a month earlier. In the rag and shoddy trade employment was bad. In the rug and blanket trade employment in Yorkshire was reported to be very quiet; but some improvement was reported in the Heavy Woollen District and in the Calder Valley.

Employment with woollen workers in the Stockport district continued moderate; many firms extended the holiday stoppage at Whitsuntide. In the Rochdale area employment showed a slight decline; short time was general, and some firms extended the holiday stoppage. In the West of England there was little general change, and employment remained bad; at Trowbridge, however, employment was described as satisfactory, and at Frome very little short time was worked; at Buckfastleigh employment was still fair, but overtime had ceased.

In the South of Scotland employment showed a further slight decline, and was bad; nearly all firms were on short time, and some also had part of their machinery idle. At Alloa employment continued good.

* The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account, in the case of the weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," and tending one instead of two looms.

Employment in Wales was quiet, as is usual at this time of year.

Carpet Section.—Employment continued fair, and was much above the level of a year ago. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 10·1 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 10·0 at 25th April, 1932, and with 20·7 at 18th May, 1931.

Employment at Kidderminster continued fair, and was better than a year ago; there was a slight decline in the Wilton section, in which a good deal of short time was worked; and less overtime was worked on wide Axminster carpets. In Yorkshire and in Scotland employment on the whole continued fair; an improvement was reported at Kilmarnock.

In the carpet section as a whole there was again more overtime than short time; less than 6 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 28th May, losing about 15 hours each on the average; while about 22 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 6½ hours each.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers :—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (*Jan., 1926 = 100.*)	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc.(+) or Dec (−) on a month before.	Index figure. (*Jan.,* 1926 = 100.*)
Departments :		Per Cent.		£	Per Cent.	
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	9,877	− 2·3	86·1	20,169	− 11·5	69·0
Spinning	35,988	− 3·2	86·8	46,892	− 9·6	72·1
Weaving	17,916	− 4·9	85·9	28,891	− 9·9	67·2
Other Depts. ...	8,828	− 0·5	93·0	18,657	− 3·3	72·1
Not specified ...	1,651	− 5·3	92·2	2,808	− 9·4	63·3
Total—Worsted	74,260	− 3·2	86·9	117,417	− 9·1	70·3
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting ...	737	− 1·9	63·9	1,556	+ 1·0	64·3
Spinning	11,747	− 4·2	82·2	21,359	− 10·8	75·9
Weaving	21,166	− 4·2	88·7	32,341	− 11·1	77·5
Other Depts. ...	14,512	− 3·2	86·3	28,677	− 8·0	77·2
Not specified ...	1,943	− 9·5	73·4	3,591	− 11·5	69·3
Total—Woollen	50,105	− 4·1	85·3	87,524	− 9·9	76·2
CARPET SECTION ...	10,428	+ 0·9	113·7	20,003	+ 0·6	116·6
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	134,793	− 3·2	87·8	224,944	− 8·6	75·4
Districts†:						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	32,839	− 4·7	84·8	53,557	− 12·4	65·5
Huddersfield ...	7,968	− 0·7	88·9	12,197	− 6·4	63·0
Halifax	8,103	− 3·9	80·8	11,935	− 7·6	65·8
Leeds	7,988	− 2·6	91·4	11,954	− 9·0	76·8
Keighley... ...	7,809	− 0·9	91·0	12,832	− 2·3	86·3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,282	− 0·9	101·0	4,460	− 6·3	91·0
Total, West Riding ...	67,989	− 3·3	86·6	106,935	− 9·4	69·0
West of England and Midlands...	3,954	− 1·1	87·3	6,754	− 5·0	75·4
Lancashire ...	373	+ 1·4	127·9	632	− 4·5	110·4
Scotland... ...	1,944	− 5·9	93·2	3,096	− 5·2	120·3
Total—Worsted	74,260	− 3·2	86·9	117,417	− 9·1	70·3
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	11,579	− 5·0	83·8	21,637	− 14·9	68·8
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	9,807	− 5·4	84·1	16,257	− 12·9	78·2
Leeds	6,135	− 9·7	83·2	10,521	− 17·5	71·3
Halifax and Calder Vale	2,502	− 2·1	88·9	4,907	− 6·9	74·9
Bradford ...	1,157	− 1·2	93·9	2,028	− 4·6	69·3
Total, West Riding ...	31,180	− 5·7	85·5	55,350	− 13·8	74·3
Lancashire ...	4,514	− 2·3	86·0	8,563	− 4·2	84·2
West of England and Midlands ...	4,035	− 1·0	93·8	6,833	− 0·3	96·9
Scotland... ...	10,252	− 0·8	82·1	16,617	− 1·9	73·3
Wales	124	+ 3·3	96·9	161	+ 5·2	90·7
Total—Woollen	50,105	− 4·1	85·3	87,524	− 9·9	76·2
CARPET SECTION ...	10,428	+ 0·9	113·7	20,003	+ 0·6	116·6
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	134,793	− 3·2	87·8	224,944	− 8·6	75·4

The following Tables show, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 28th May, 1932, by those firms who supplied

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages which have been made by certain firms at various dates since February, 1929.

† Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.

returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 23rd April, 1932 :—

—	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (—*without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned."*)				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION :					
Bradford	− 2·0	− 5·4	− 6·8	− 1·5	− 4·7
Huddersfield	− 4·3	+ 3·8	− 3·5	+ 0·8	− 0·7
Halifax...	− 5·2	− 3·7	− 6·1	− 1·0	− 3·9
Leeds	—	− 1·3	− 4·6	− 0·7	− 2·6
Keighley	− 1·7	− 1·9	+ 0·6	+ 2·1	− 0·9
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.)...	—	+ 0·1	—	− 0·4	− 0·9
Total, West Riding	*− 2·5*	*− 3·1*	*− 5·0*	*− 0·3*	*− 3·3*
West of England and Midlands	+ 2·4	− 0·4	− 2·4	− 2·3	− 1·1
Lancashire	—	+ 4·0	—	—	+ 1·4
Scotland	− 3·7	− 9·5	—	+ 1·8	− 5·9
TOTAL	− 2·3	− 3·2	− 4·9	− 0·5	− 3·2

—	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) in numbers employed as compared with previous month.			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION :				
Huddersfield	− 5·5	− 4·8	− 4·9	− 5·0
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.)	− 7·3	− 6·2	− 3·3	− 5·4
Leeds...	− 8·4	− 9·5	− 7·7	− 9·7
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	− 4·1	− 1·8	− 0·4	− 2·1
Bradford	− 7·0	+ 2·8	− 2·7	− 1·2
Total, West Riding ...	*− 6·4*	*− 5·9*	*− 4·4*	*− 5·7*
Lancashire	− 2·7	− 3·5	− 1·5	− 2·3
West of England and Midlands	− 1·3	− 1·7	− 0·5	− 1·0
Scotland	+ 2·3	+ 0·0	− 0·9	− 0·8
Wales	+12·0	+ 2·3	− 2·3	+ 3·3
TOTAL	− 4·2	− 4·2	− 3·2	− 4·1

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 17 Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 23rd May, 1932 :—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd May, 1932.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	280	5	285	581	8	589	874
Wool Washing and Preparing... ...	754	498	1,252	753	530	1,283	2,535
Wool Combing ...	383	269	652	1,004	763	1,767	2,419
Wool Carding ...	743	112	855	1,011	195	1,206	2,061
Woollen Spinning ...	539	90	629	784	463	1,247	1,876
Worsted Drawing and Spinning	656	1,213	1,869	624	3,949	4,573	6,442
Wool Winding and Warping	133	29	162	550	200	750	912
Worsted Winding and Warping	153	225	378	428	1,143	1,571	1,949
Woollen Weaving ...	245	518	763	738	4,370	5,108	5,871
Worsted Weaving ...	287	404	691	182	3,744	3,926	4,617
Other Processes ...	1,106	81	1,187	1,702	217	1,919	3,106
TOTAL ...	5,279	3,444	8,723	8,357	15,582	23,939	32,662

The following Table shows the increases and decreases at these 17 Exchanges as compared with 25th April, 1932 :—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 20	− 1	+ 19	+ 305	+ 1	+ 306	+ 325
Wool Washing and Preparing	+ 37	− 88	− 51	+ 305	+ 156	+ 461	+ 410
Wool Combing...	− 4	+ 19	+ 15	+ 480	+ 309	+ 789	+ 804
Wool Carding ...	+ 39	+ 6	+ 45	+ 419	+ 83	+ 502	+ 547
Woollen Spinning	+ 27	− 11	+ 16	+ 363	+ 183	+ 546	+ 562
Worsted Drawing and Spinning	− 38	+ 98	+ 60	+ 375	+ 1,634	+ 2,009	+ 2,069
Wool Winding and Warping	− 10	+ 11	+ 1	+ 321	+ 117	+ 438	+ 439
Worsted Winding and Warping	− 4	+ 57	+ 53	+ 104	+ 457	+ 561	+ 614
Woollen Weaving	+ 7	− 152	− 145	+ 442	+ 1,518	+ 1,960	+ 1,815
Worsted Weaving	+ 122	+ 108	+ 230	+ 73	+ 1,892	+ 1,965	+ 2,195
Other Processes	− 162	− 13	− 175	+ 517	+ 83	+ 600	+ 425
TOTAL ...	+ 34	+ 34	+ 68	+3,704	+ 6,433	+10,137	+10,205

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 82,688,000 lbs. in May, 1932, compared with 64,326,900 lbs. in the previous month, and 71,217,200 lbs. in May, 1931.

The *exports* of woollen and worsted yarns in May, 1932, were 2,875,700 lbs., compared with 2,877,800 lbs. in April, 1932, and with 2,692,500 lbs. in May, 1931.

The *exports* of woollen and worsted tissues in May, 1932, were 5,637,900 square yards, compared with 6,259,000 square yards in the previous month, and with 5,199,900 square yards in May, 1931.

The *exports* of blankets were 1,383 cwts., 2,115 cwts., and 2,125 cwts., in May, 1932, April, 1932, and May, 1931, respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during May showed a decline in almost all districts and was bad generally; short-time working was general. There was little increase of activity, before Whitsuntide, such as usually occurs before a holiday; and the holiday stoppage was extended by many firms. Employment was worse than in May of last year.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 29·1 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 20·0 at 25th April, 1932, and with 18·3 at 18th May, 1931.

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

—	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 28th May,* 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year† before.	Week ended 28th May,* 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year‡ before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
England and Wales :—						
London	1,643	− 3·0	+ 4·1	3,434	− 6·3	− 2·5
Leicester	9,573	− 4·6	− 8·8	19,082	−11·6	−27·9
Leicester Country District...	3,925	− 3·0	− 4·3	7,671	−10·0	−15·3
Northampton... ...	7,829	− 2·5	−11·3	16,973	− 3·3	−15·4
Higham, Rushden and District	5,305	− 3·9	− 2·9	10,746	− 5·2	−14·9
Kettering and District	5,371	− 2·3	− 3·1	10,880	− 5·2	−22·2
Rest of Northants ...	1,403	− 0·3	− 8·8	2,791	− 0·3	−16·8
Stafford and District	2,501	+ 0·0	− 2·2	5,132	− 1·2	− 9·2
Norwich and District	5,044	−14·5	−12·7	8,889	−23·7	−24·6
Bristol, Kingswood and District	1,496	− 0·6	−13·1	2,284	− 0·2	−30·6
Leeds and District ...	1,671	− 1·8	+ 3·0	3,398	+ 2·5	− 1·5
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	6,244	− 1·9	+ 5·7	10,489	− 9·7	−10·7
Birmingham and District...	933	− 1·8	− 1·8	1,545	− 5·7	−22·6
Other parts of England and Wales	3,129	− 1·3	− 1·0	6,659	+ 0·7	− 7·4
England and Wales ...	56,067	− 3·9	− 5·4	109,973	− 7·8	−18·0
Scotland...	1,512	− 7·6	−17·7	3,371	− 1·7	−13·6
Great Britain	57,579	− 4·0	− 5·7	113,344	− 7·6	−17·9

Returns from firms employing about 56,600 workpeople in the week ended 28th May indicated that 64 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing about 10¼ hours each on the average; there was practically no overtime.

Employment in London declined, and was quiet with most firms. At Leicester also employment declined, and was very slack, and much worse than a year ago; in the week ended 28th May nearly three-quarters of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing 12½ hours each on the average. There was also a decline in the Leicester country district, and much short time was worked.

At Northampton employment continued slack, and was worse than a year ago; in the week ended 28th May over 70 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time, losing about 9 hours each on the average. In the Higham and Rushden district also employment was bad with most firms, and over 70 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time. At Wellingborough employment further declined; both here and at Kettering employment was bad, and the holiday stoppage was extended by many firms.

There was little general change at Stafford; short time was worked to a much smaller extent than at most other centres, and the holiday stoppage was very short at most factories. At Norwich employment was fairly good before the holiday; afterwards there was a sharp decline, and employment was worse than a year ago; two-thirds of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 28th May.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment remained very slack, and was much worse than a year ago; a number of firms extended the holiday stoppage, and over five-sixths of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 28th May, losing over 16 hours each on the average. At Leeds employment remained slack generally, though a few firms engaged on women's and children's shoes were fairly busy; half of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 28th May, losing over 13½ hours each on the average.

Employment in the Lancashire slipper trade declined, and was quiet generally for the time of year, though it remained good at Bury.

In Scotland there was a further decline, and employment was bad at most centres; at Kilmarnock, however, it was described as fair; nearly two-thirds of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 28th May, losing over 10 hours each on the average.

* Week after Whit-week. † Week before Whit-week.
‡ Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

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 23rd May, 1932 :—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd May, 1932.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	243	50	293	357	117	474	767
Rough Stuff Department	497	21	518	872	19	891	1,409
Clicking Department	1,025	3	1,028	3,160	28	3,188	4,216
Closing Department	24	1,161	1,185	35	5,745	5,780	6,965
Making Department	3,141	43	3,184	4,842	54	4,896	8,080
Finishing Department	1,899	345	2,244	2,878	838	3,716	5,960
Slipper Making ...	338	142	480	1,488	1,293	2,781	3,261
Clog Making	26	1	27	6	—	6	33
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	810	1	811	85	—	85	896
TOTAL ...	8,003	1,767	9,770	13,723	8,094	21,817	31,587

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 25th April, 1932 :—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	+ 5	− 9	− 4	+ 182	+ 46	+ 228	+ 224
Rough Stuff Department	− 35	− 7	− 42	+ 409	+ 1	+ 410	+ 368
Clicking Department	− 72	− 9	− 81	+1,507	+ 5	+1,512	+1,431
Closing Department	− 15	+119	+104	+ 19	+3,205	+3,224	+3,328
Making Department	+380	− 5	+375	+2,471	+ 5	+2,476	+2,851
Finishing Department	+ 37	− 23	+ 14	+1,356	+ 454	+1,810	+1,824
Slipper Making ...	− 49	− 21	− 70	+ 933	+ 683	+1,616	+1,546
Clog Making	+ 1	− 3	− 2	+ 1	...	+ 1	− 1
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work ...	− 60	− 1	− 61	+ 8	− 1	+ 7	− 54
TOTAL ...	+192	+ 41	+233	+6,886	+4,398	+11,284	+11,517

The *exports* of boots and shoes in May, 1932, amounted to 67,479 dozen pairs, or 34,131 dozen pairs less than in April, 1932, and 13,715 dozen pairs less than in May, 1931.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire was still bad on the whole, with much short-time working; it showed an improvement in the manufacture of tiles and other earthenware products, but in the china section it showed a decline at some centres. At Bristol and at Worcester, the improvement reported last month was maintained, although short time was still being worked. At Derby employment continued slack. In the stoneware section in Scotland it was bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 31·1 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 29·5 at 25th April, 1932, and 33·8 at 18th May, 1931.

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

—	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year before.	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
BRANCHES.						
China Manufacture ...	1,475	− 5·6	+ 4·0	2,455	− 7·7	− 3·0
Earthenware Manufacture	6,958	+ 4·3	− 1·5	10,854	+ 3·3	− 4·2
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,675	+ 1·1	− 3·6	2,784	− 1·6	− 3·4
TOTAL	10,108	+ 2·2	− 1·1	16,093	+ 0·6	− 3·9
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	7,787	+ 2·7	− 0·2	11,284	+ 2·0	− 1·4
Other Districts	2,321	+ 0·5	− 3·8	4,809	− 2·5	− 9·4
TOTAL	10,108	+ 2·2	− 1·1	16,093	+ 0·6	− 3·9

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that, of 9,496 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 4,151, or over 43½ per cent., were working on an average about 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 28th May, 1932; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during May continued very slack on the whole.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, was 22·4 at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 21·9 at 25th April, 1932, and 17·3 at 18th May, 1931.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year before.	Week ended 28th May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,541	− 2·1	− 5·1	3,613	− 8·8	−10·2
Midlands and Eastern Counties	5,227	+ 2·4	−20·7	12,727	+ 3·1	−31·5
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,824	− 1·8	− 1·9	4,014	+ 2·5	− 5·2
Scotland	181	+ 0·5	+ 6·5	420	+ 2·4	− 0·5
TOTAL	8,773	+ 0·7	−14·4	20,774	+ 0·7	−23·8

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 8,126 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, nearly 10 per cent. were working on an average about 15 hours less than full time in the week ended 28th May, 1932; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight seasonal improvement during May, but remained generally very slack or bad, although it was reported as fair or fairly good at a few centres, including Preston, Lancaster, St. Helens, Oxford, Southend-on-Sea and Aberdeen. Outside work was disturbed to an appreciable extent by abnormally wet weather, with consequent short time working. As compared with May, 1931, employment was slightly better in Northern Ireland, slightly worse in Scotland, and considerably worse in each of the other administrative divisions.

As regards individual occupations, employment continued slack, on the whole, with painters and bad with each of the other classes of operatives. During the month there was a slight decline with slaters and plasterers and a slight improvement with painters; with the remaining occupations there was little variation. As compared with May, 1931, employment was much worse with each class of operative.

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 23rd May, 1932, together with the increase or decrease as compared with the previous month and with May, 1931 :—

—	Estimated Numbers of Insured Workpeople at July, 1931.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.	Numbers included in Previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Percentage as compared with a Month before.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Percentage as compared with a Year before.
OCCUPATIONS.						
Carpenters ...	131,060	33,259	1,236	25·4	− 0·5	+ 7·3
Bricklayers ...	79,010	19,768	893	25·0	− 0·6	+12·5
Masons... ...	21,620	4,671	298	21·6	− 0·6	+ 9·1
Slaters	6,370	1,963	179	30·8	+ 1·1	+11·8
Plasterers ...	26,500	8,045	356	30·4	+ 1·3	+10·3
Painters ...	111,220	22,628	551	20·3	− 1·4	+ 8·4
Plumbers ...	35,500	9,112	505	25·7	+ 0·3	+ 5·0
Labourers to above ...	245,110	67,395	2,065	27·5	− 0·6	+ 8·3
All other occupations	201,780	59,823	2,192	29·6	− 0·8	+ 7·6
TOTAL ...	858,170	226,664	8,275	26·4	− 0·6	+ 8·3
DIVISIONS.						
London... ...	182,790	52,350	139	28·6	− 0·6	+12·8
South-Eastern...	137,690	26,478	343	19·2	− 0·8	+ 8·7
South-Western	105,180	24,266	433	23·1	− 0·1	+ 9·7
Midlands ...	104,260	26,058	1,880	25·0	− 0·9	+ 7·9
North-Eastern...	101,780	29,997	2,478	29·5	− 0·3	+ 6·5
North-Western	103,410	30,413	1,798	29·4	− 0·2	+ 5·9
Scotland ...	78,430	18,437	837	23·5	− 1·2	+ 2·4
Wales	26,780	11,987	361	44·8	− 1·1	+ 9·4
Northern Ireland	17,850	6,678	6	37·4	− 2·0	− 1·2
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	858,170	226,664	8,275	26·4	− 0·6	+ 8·3

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 145 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area) with a total population of 17,428,000 show that in May, 1932, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £6,003,300, as compared with £5,552,400 in April, 1932, and £5,723,800 in May, 1931. Of the total for May, 1932, dwelling-houses accounted for £4,149,200; factories and workshops for £361,700; shops, offices, warehouses, and other business premises for £373,800; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,118,600.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry during May continued moderate on the whole; it showed a decline as compared with April, but was better than in May, 1931. Short time continued in many centres, though at some mills full time was worked.

Employment in the letterpress printing industry was moderate generally. It was described as bad or slack in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Edinburgh and Glasgow; but it continued fair at a few of the smaller towns. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued moderate on the whole.

Employment in the lithographic printing industry continued slack generally, though showing some improvement as compared with the previous month. With lithographic artists employment was generally fair to slack.

In the bookbinding industry employment showed little change and remained slack on the whole.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the paper and paper-board industries was 12·8 at 23rd May, 1932, compared with 11·9 at 25th April, 1932, and 14·7 at 18th May, 1931. In the printing and bookbinding industries the percentage was 10·9 at 23rd May, 1932, compared with 11·1 at 25th April, 1932, and 10·1 at 18th May, 1931. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries the percentage was 10·3 at 23rd May, 1932, compared with 9·6 at 25th April, 1932, and 12·7 at 18th May, 1931.

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

—	No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1932.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) on a	
		May, 1932.	April, 1932.	May, 1931.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	34,600	9·7	9·0	6·1	+0·7	+ 3·6
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	13,995	9·7	9·7	7·8	...	+ 1·9
Midlands and Eastern Counties	7,620	8·2	7·7	5·7	+0·5	+ 2·5
Scotland	5,486	12·7	12·0	7·5	+0·7	+ 5·2
Other Districts ...	8,779	7·6	10·9	6·4	−3·3	+ 1·2
Total	70,480	9·5	9·5	6·5	...	+ 3·0
Lithographic Printing	11,542	11·0	11·6	8·3	−0·6	+ 2·7
Bookbinding	8,393	13·3	13·6	9·8	−0·3	+ 3·8
Printing and Bookbinding (branches not distinguished) ...	25,145	6·3	6·5	4·4	−0 2	+ 1 9

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during May was very slack, and worse than in April. Among insured workpeople in the dock, harbour, river and canal service, 39·2 per cent. were unemployed at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 35·6 per cent. at 25th April, 1932. On a comparable basis, the percentage at 23rd May, 1932, was greater by 4·0 per cent. than at 18th May, 1931.

London.—Employment remained bad. 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, &c., and do not purport to indicate the total number of dock labourers employed in the port.

Period	Average Daily Number of Labourers included in the returns.				
	Employed in Docks.			Employed at Wharves	Grand Total.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
7th May, 1932 ...	3,512	1,943	5,455	6,698	12,153
14th ,, ,, ...	3,462	1,731	5,193	6,345	11.538
21st ,, ,, ...	3,455	1,560	5,015	6,712	11,727
28th ,, ,, ...	3,745	1,991	5,736	6,750	12,486
Average for 4 weeks ended 28th May, 1932	3,548	1,817	5,365	6,622	11,987
Average for Apr., 1932	*3,697*	*1,919*	*5,616*	*7,107*	*12,723*
Average for May, 1931	*3,985*	*1,712*	*5,697*	*7,932*	*13,629*

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during May was 801, compared with 738 in April, and with 807 in May, 1931.

East Coast.—Employment remained slack at the North-East Coast ports generally, but timber imports provided additional work at the Hartlepools. Employment continued slack at Grimsby and Goole, and moderate at Hull. At Ipswich it was fair, and better than in April ; and it remained fair at Yarmouth, Lowestoft and King's Lynn.

Liverpool.—Employment continued bad. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 27th May, 1932, was 10,503, compared with 10,566 in April, 1932, and with 11,606 in May, 1931. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £21,545 in the four weeks ended 27th May, 1932, compared with £22,621 in April, 1932, and with £25,391 in May, 1931.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Although employment showed some improvement at Cardiff, Swansea and Newport, it was still slack generally in the South Wales district. It was also slack at Avonmouth and Bristol. At Southampton employment remained bad, and at Manchester it was slack, and slightly worse than in April.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment was bad at Dundee and at Glasgow, but showed some improvement at Leith, where it was moderate. Employment at Belfast was moderate, and somewhat worse than in April.

SEAMEN.

DURING May employment continued very slack on the whole. The demand for seamen was generally unsatisfactory, and substantial surpluses of ratings were reported at the majority of ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 23rd May, 1932, was 33·2, compared with 34·4 at 25th April, 1932, and 32·8 at 18th May, 1931.

The demand for men on the Thames declined during the first two weeks, but recovered subsequently, and at the end of May was fairly brisk. On the Tyne the demand was slack on the whole; on the Wear it was moderate until the last week, when it became slacker. On the Tees and at the Hartlepools the demand was slack on the whole. At Hull the demand fluctuated and at the end of the month was very quiet. At Southampton it improved during the first half of May but declined thereafter, and at the end of the month was slack. Apart from some activity just before the Whitsun holidays, the demand at Bristol and at Avonmouth was slack; at Newport, except for some briskness in the second week, it was quiet; at Swansea the demand was fairly good. On the Mersey the demand was quiet to moderate, with increased activity in the closing stages of the month; at Manchester it was moderate in the first week and slack thereafter. On the Clyde the demand was quiet to moderate throughout the month; at Leith the demand improved during the first half of the month but declined thereafter, and at the end of May was dull. At Belfast the demand was slack until late in the month, when it improved.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	May, 1932.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a		Five Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	May, 1932.	May, 1931.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Liverpool†	9,467	+ 2,130	− 833	40,579	43,898
Manchester	438	− 367	− 116	3,260	3,060
London	7,952	+ 1,632	+ 67	35,986	38,371
Southampton... ...	6,996	+ 1,290	− 2,833	28,539	39,442
Tyne Ports	1,499	− 313	− 603	8,915	9,960
Sunderland	330	− 37	+ 148	1,525	1,134
Middlesbrough ...	228	+ 78	+ 54	896	838
Hull	675	− 373	− 323	4,442	4,378
Bristol‡	617	+ 81	− 325	3,484	4,495
Newport, Mon. ...	329	+ 36	− 13	1,605	2,063
Cardiff§	1,493	− 51	− 557	8,043	9,316
Swansea	1,403	− 123	+ 764	5,798	2,640
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	317	+ 160	+ 70	934	1,195
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	435	+ 53	+ 6	1,620	1,801
Glasgow	2,838	+ 1,148	+ 77	10,334	12,354
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	236	+ 70	+ 1	838	807
TOTAL for above Ports	35,253	+ 5,414	− 4,416	156,798	175,752

* 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.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS : GREAT BRITAIN.

ON page 220 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 23rd May, 1932, 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 :—

—	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Claims admitted ...	1,914,259	27,057	297,944	14,218	2,253,478
2. Claims under consideration	60,206	2,462	23,652	1,862	88,182
3. Insured persons not entitled to benefit or transitional payments	176,285	14,036	79,473	8,813	278,607
4. Uninsured persons on Register	39,728	26,032	29,759	25,520	121,039
5. Two months file ...	71,024	4,704	48,943	4,006	128,677
6. Unemployed—Special Schemes	4,287	22	478	19	4,806
Persons on Register (lines 1–4)	2,190,478	69,587	430,828	50,413	2,741,306
Books Lodged (lines 1–3, 5 and 6) ...	2,226,061	48,281	450,490	28,918	2,753,750

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

ANALYSIS OF FIGURES FOR 23RD MAY, AND FOR 25TH APRIL, 1932.†

—	23rd May, 1932.				25th April, 1932.
	Persons normally in Regular Employment.		Persons normally in Casual Employment.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily Stopped.			
Great Britain.					
Men ...	1,642,612	439,959	107,907	2,190,478	2,135,967
Boys ...	56,156	13,340	91	69 587	72,363
Women ...	261,529	167,794	1,505	430.828	391,757
Girls ...	40,830	9,571	12	50,413	52,094
Total ...	2,001,127	630,664	109,515	2,741,306	2,652,181
Great Britain and Northern Ireland.					
Men ...	1,682,383	442,140	110,107	2,234,630	2,180,025
Boys ...	57,268	13,394	96	70,758	73,427
Women ...	273,451	173,141	1,537	448,129	406,234
Girls ...	41,418	9,806	12	51,236	52,669
Total ...	2,054,520	638,481	111,752	2,804,753	2,712,355

VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)

—	Four weeks ended 23rd May, 1932.		Period 29th December, 1931, to 23rd May, 1932.			
			Vacancies Notified.		Vacancies Filled.‡	
	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.‡	Number.	Inc. (+) Dec. (−) as compared with year before.§	Number.	Inc. (+) Dec. (−) as compared with year before.§
Men ...	77,337	74,585	403,891	− 132,440	390,528	− 127,593
Boys ...	12,473	10,964	68,754	− 7,885	61,124	− 5,447
Women	39,612	33,236	195,161	− 36,114	161,848	− 27,584
Girls ...	13,003	10,908	74,104	− 774	63,293	− 749
TOTAL	142,425	129,693	741,910	− 177,213	676,793	− 161,373

* 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.

† An article dealing with the effect on the live register figures of recent legislative and administrative changes (concerning mainly the conditions for the receipt of unemployment insurance benefit and transitional payments), appeared on page 128 of the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1932. It is estimated that between 21st March and 23rd May, 1932, there was a further reduction of approximately 15,000 in the live register figures as a result of these changes.

‡ "Vacancies Filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 23rd May, 1932, the average number of such placings of was 6,543 per week.

§ The figures for 1931 cover 22 weeks, while those for 1932 cover 21 weeks.

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 persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 23rd May, 1932. In certain cases (*e.g.*, Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 23rd May, 1932.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) in total as compared with	
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	25th Apr., 1932.	1st June, 1931.
London Division ...	*245,499*	*45,728*	*13,837*	*304,064*	− *2,340*	+ *51,855*
South-Eastern Division ...	*116,297*	*15,094*	*6,911*	*138,302*	− *4,931*	+ *40,323*
Brighton ...	3,902	730	287	4,919	− 100	+ 1,019
Chatham ...	5,286	641	596	6,523	+ 42	+ 1,733
Ipswich ...	4,315	335	216	4,866	+ 57	+ 648
Norwich ...	5,976	1,222	299	7,497	+ 893	+ 1,574
Rest of Division	96,818	12,166	5,513	114,497	− 5,823	+ 35,349
South-Western Division ...	*130,672*	*15,415*	*6,730*	*152,817*	+ *1,654*	+ *35,449*
Bristol	22,453	3,461	1,508	27,422	+ 1,321	+ 3,342
Plymouth ...	8,397	1,347	386	10,130	+ 48	+ 1,230
Portsmouth ...	7,841	876	589	9,306	− 652	+ 1,555
Reading... ...	2,804	524	361	3,689	+ 195	+ 943
Southampton ...	11,627	1,002	798	13,427	− 644	+ 3,609
Swindon ...	2,733	275	131	3,139	+ 63	+ 949
Rest of Division	74,817	7,930	2,957	85,704	+ 1,323	+ 23,821
Midlands Division	*294,131*	*65,084*	*13,749*	*372,964*	+ *9,550*	− *11,863*
Birmingham ...	46,609	10,734	2,250	59,593	+ 2,141	− 6,540
Coventry ...	10,544	1,974	293	12,811	+ 1,063	− 2,851
Cradley Heath ...	7,270	1,183	239	8,692	− 36	− 1,184
Derby	6,926	630	322	7,878	− 90	− 2,518
Leicester ...	9,855	5,133	238	15,226	+ 2,783	− 193
Northampton ...	7,421	2,789	477	10,687	+ 4,383	+ 3,081
Nottingham ...	14,283	2,423	418	17,124	+ 1,034	− 673
Smethwick ...	5,431	1,020	194	6,645	− 76	− 176
Stoke-on-Trent...	20,545	11,231	1,110	32,886	+ 291	− 4,275
Walsall ...	8,281	1,440	567	10,288	+ 530	− 473
West Bromwich	5,536	899	290	6,725	+ 357	+ 535
Wolverhampton	11,490	1,672	506	13,668	− 4	− 958
Rest of Division	139,940	23,956	6,845	170,741	− 2,826	+ 4,362
North-Eastern Division ...	*513,041*	*65,970*	*26,537*	*605,548*	+ *26,106*	+ *37,035*
Barnsley ...	15,454	647	760	16,861	+ 6,729	+ 2,394
Bradford ...	16,629	6,667	340	23,636	+ 4,871	− 8,095
Darlington ...	5,825	398	360	6,583	+ 65	+ 1,066
Dewsbury ...	3,646	1,453	374	5,473	+ 1,211	+ 260
Doncaster ...	7,377	613	640	8,630	− 5,726	− 1,306
Gateshead ...	11,193	1,197	912	13,302	+ 301	− 148
Grimsby ...	5,177	627	425	6,229	− 217	+ 1,041
Halifax	5,234	1,497	92	6,823	+ 822	− 2,728
Hartlepools ...	10,417	501	608	11,526	− 357	− 826
Huddersfield ...	6,968	4,001	342	11,311	+ 2,565	− 455
Hull	18,920	1,478	738	21,136	+ 1,383	+ 2,204
Leeds	25,549	7,631	739	33,919	+ 1,292	− 1,587
Lincoln	4,833	435	470	5,738	− 3	+ 779
Middlesbrough ...	19,339	965	1,059	21,363	− 135	+ 2,583
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	23,465	3,064	1,779	28,308	− 465	+ 2,210
Rotherham ...	11,574	512	529	12,615	+ 1,907	+ 2,414
Sheffield ...	51,317	6,950	2,417	60,684	+ 4,243	+ 125
South Shields ...	13,018	594	933	14,545	+ 575	+ 931
Stockton-on-Tees	12,656	695	815	14,166	+ 84	+ 3,120
Sunderland ...	24,332	1,813	1,158	27,303	+ 1,060	+ 3,140
Wakefield ...	5,586	1,032	283	6,901	− 297	− 909
York	4,378	494	281	5,153	− 248	+ 746
Rest of Division	210,154	22,706	10,483	243,343	+ 6,446	+ 30,076
North-Western Division ...	*405,920*	*154,577*	*25,202*	*585,699*	+ *59,559*	− *76,670*
Accrington ...	6,214	3,677	391	10,282	+ 188	− 1,545
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	6,866	3,740	484	11,090	+ 2,116	− 3,709
Barrow	6,605	431	508	7,544	− 955	+ 1,835
Birkenhead ...	10,339	1,205	752	12,296	− 305	+ 571
Blackburn ...	9,269	10,427	596	20,292	− 132	− 5,875
Blackpool ...	3,801	1,264	224	5,289	− 1,422	+ 457
Bolton	14,295	7,656	983	22,934	+ 4,170	− 593
Burnley ...	5,654	4,998	299	10,951	+ 486	− 7,946
Bury	4,102	3,935	266	8,303	+ 3,169	− 2,599
Chorley	4,041	1,600	240	5,881	+ 584	− 785
Liverpool ...	78,822	11,203	5,631	95,656	+ 888	+ 1,336
Manchester ...	43,668	12,695	2,148	58,511	+ 904	− 9,483
Nelson	2,178	1,833	92	4,103	+ 93	− 3,237
Oldham ...	22,368	11,716	1,202	35,286	+ 12,977	− 11,701
Preston	8,759	7,198	416	16,373	+ 3,418	− 1,283
Rochdale ...	8,356	5,793	515	14,664	+ 4,373	− 5,397
St. Helens ...	8,578	585	521	9,684	+ 24	− 71
Salford	17,632	4,251	636	22,519	+ 771	− 5,283
Stockport ...	6,828	4,731	213	11,772	+ 3,764	− 2,202
Warrington ...	5,350	1,061	401	6,812	+ 154	− 223
Wigan	10,386	2,768	770	13,924	+ 1,854	− 1,760
Rest of Division	121,809	51,810	7,914	181,533	+ 22,440	− 17,177
Scotland Division	*292,102*	*59,732*	*18,611*	*370,445*	+ *3,069*	+ *14,509*
Aberdeen ...	7,100	1,411	317	8,828	− 331	+ 1,154
Clydebank ...	10,100	1,226	702	12,028	− 82	+ 1,711
Dundee	13,504	11,929	1,139	26,572	+ 166	− 4,059
Edinburgh ...	17,672	3,191	799	21,662	− 1,024	− 247
Glasgow ...	98,024	17,327	6,367	121,718	− 975	+ 3,208
Greenock ...	13,528	1,809	893	16,230	+ 436	+ 366
Motherwell ...	9,203	693	656	10,552	+ 638	+ 922
Paisley	6,347	899	491	7,737	+ 295	+ 377
Rest of Division	116,624	21,247	7,247	145,118	+ 3,946	+ 11,077
Wales Division ...	*192,816*	*9,228*	*9,423*	*211,467*	− *3,542*	+ *20,697*
Cardiff	15,362	2,218	993	18,573	− 446	+ 993
Llanelly ...	5,682	295	323	6,300	+ 536	− 1,543
Newport ...	10,080	569	588	11,237	+ 80	+ 634
Swansea ...	10,395	761	931	12,087	+ 348	+ 121
Rest of Division	151,297	5,385	6,588	163,270	− 4,060	+ 20,492
Northern Ireland ...	*44,152*	*17,301*	*1,994*	*63,447*	+ *3,273*	− *8,648*
Belfast	29,367	9,903	1,266	40,536	+ 2,638	− 4,994
Londonderry ...	1,757	977	94	2,828	+ 60	− 476
Lurgan	799	1,266	62	2,127	+ 88	− 495
Lisburn	1,107	424	30	1,561	+ 15	− 221
Newry	1,026	154	14	1,194	...	− 339
Rest of Northern Ireland ...	10,096	4,577	528	15,201	+ 472	− 2,123
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	*2,234,630*	*448,129*	*121,994*	*2,804,753*	+ *92,398*	+ *102,687*

[*Percentage rates of unemployment for each of 714 towns in Great Britain are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."*]

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 23rd May, 1932, 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 219 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 219.

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.

An article dealing with the effect on the unemployment figures of recent changes in the scheme of unemployment insurance appeared on page 128 of the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1932.

It is estimated that at 23rd May, 1932, these changes, and certain changes in the method of counting the number of casual dock workers included in the figures, had caused a reduction of approximately 155,000 in the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed, on which the following Tables are based.

NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 23rd MAY, 1932.

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	6,679	176	6,855	160	44	204	**6,839**	**220**	**7,059**	6,828	219	7,047
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	215,007	786	215,793	122,026	294	122,320	**337,033**	**1,080**	**338,113**	336,995	1,080	338,075
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	4,443	1	4,444	1,062	1	1,063	**5,505**	**2**	**5,507**	5,481	2	5,483
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	2,783	7	2,790	58	—	58	**2,841**	**7**	**2,848**	2,841	7	2,848
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	8,030	13	8,043	2,839	3	2,842	**10,869**	**16**	**10,885**	10,423	15	10,438
Slate Quarrying and Mining... ...	1,246	2	1,248	659	—	659	**1,905**	**2**	**1,907**	1,905	2	1,907
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	2,958	156	3,114	627	31	658	**3,585**	**187**	**3,772**	3,522	187	3,709
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	3,987	15	4,002	516	13	529	**4,503**	**28**	**4,531**	4,459	28	4,487
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	3,114	28	3,142	603	3	606	**3,717**	**31**	**3,748**	3,717	31	3,748
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	4,371	116	4,487	976	30	1,006	**5,347**	**146**	**5,493**	5,304	146	5,450
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	3,533	114	3,647	953	5	958	**4,486**	**119**	**4,605**	4,415	119	4,534
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	13,364	1,108	14,472	4,818	327	5,145	**18,182**	**1,435**	**19,617**	17,781	1,434	19,215
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	5,595	5,368	10,963	5,539	7,938	13,477	**11,134**	**13,306**	**24,440**	11,124	13,306	24,430
Glass Trades :—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	3,705	551	4,256	1,058	98	1,156	**4,763**	**649**	**5,412**	4,742	649	5,391
Glass Bottles	3,298	199	3,497	1,289	39	1,328	**4,587**	**238**	**4,825**	4,587	238	4,825
Chemicals etc. :—												
Chemicals	14,311	1,392	15,703	1,096	356	1,452	**15,407**	**1,748**	**17,155**	15,303	1,744	17,047
Explosives	1,293	395	1,688	316	89	405	**1,609**	**484**	**2,093**	1,609	484	2,093
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	1,632	306	1,938	129	24	153	**1,761**	**330**	**2,091**	1,756	330	2,086
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc.	6,861	1,235	8,096	1,725	411	2,136	**8,586**	**1,646**	**10,232**	8,530	1,635	10,165
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	6,862	19	6,881	1,129	4	1,133	**7,991**	**23**	**8,014**	7,989	23	8,012
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	41,119	338	41,457	44,708	211	44,919	**85,827**	**549**	**86,376**	85,817	549	86,366
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	7,171	279	7,450	2,576	34	2,610	**9,747**	**313**	**10,060**	9,675	313	9,988
Tin Plates	3,863	314	4,177	8,437	609	9,046	**12,300**	**923**	**13,223**	12,300	922	13,222
Iron and Steel Tubes...	6,755	170	6,925	6,538	38	6,576	**13,293**	**208**	**13,501**	13,293	208	13,501
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	2,785	402	3,187	2,978	179	3,157	**5,763**	**581**	**6,344**	5,762	581	6,343
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	116,752	3,613	120,365	43,010	1,702	44,712	**159,762**	**5,315**	**165,077**	157,841	5,303	163,144
Electrical Engineering	10,367	1,500	11,867	2,793	492	3,285	**13,160**	**1,992**	**15,152**	13,105	1,989	15,094
Marine Engineering, etc.	24,799	145	24,944	3,644	48	3,692	**28,443**	**193**	**28,636**	24,830	190	25,020
Constructional Engineering	7,745	115	7,860	2,211	22	2,233	**9,956**	**137**	**10,093**	9,927	137	10,064
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	38,672	2,325	40,997	11,529	572	12,101	**50,201**	**2,897**	**53,098**	49,874	2,889	52,763
Carriages, Carts, etc.	3,082	185	3,267	578	51	629	**3,660**	**236**	**3,896**	3,594	236	3,830
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	10,462	95	10,557	2,210	23	2,233	**12,672**	**118**	**12,790**	12,672	118	12,790

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.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	110,341	513	110,854	4,347	151	4,498	**114,688**	**664**	**115,352**	107,693	605	108,298
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	17,070	871	17,941	9,616	555	10,171	**26,686**	**1,426**	**28,112**	26,601	1,426	28,027
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	4,168	73	4,241	340	7	347	**4,508**	**80**	**4,588**	4,427	79	4,506
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps...	8,637	3,837	12,474	1,722	1,148	2,870	**10,359**	**4,985**	**15,344**	10,333	4,984	15,317
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	5,824	1,536	7,360	4,065	954	5,019	**9,889**	**2,490**	**12,379**	9,878	2,489	12,367
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	2,517	1,418	3,935	1,833	818	2,651	**4,350**	**2,236**	**6,586**	4,350	2,236	6,586
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	3,352	1,006	4,358	1,133	432	1,565	**4,485**	**1,438**	**5,923**	4,478	1,438	5,916
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,478	43	1,521	298	7	305	**1,776**	**50**	**1,826**	1,767	50	1,817
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	3,665	2,081	5,746	1,616	1,161	2,777	**5,281**	**3,242**	**8,523**	5,257	3,240	8,497
Metal Industries not separately specified	22,699	7,434	30,133	8,321	3,305	11,626	**31,020**	**10,739**	**41,759**	30,859	10,732	41,591
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton	33,456	54,083	87,539	35,126	61,294	96,420	**68,582**	**115,377**	**183,959**	68,564	115,347	183,911
Woollen and Worsted...	10,099	7,628	17,727	16,923	26,222	43,145	**27,022**	**33,850**	**60,872**	26,892	33,738	60,630
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving	3,011	1,597	4,608	1,313	3,385	4,698	**4,324**	**4,982**	**9,306**	4,323	4,982	9,305
Artificial Silk Yarn	2,295	1,088	3,383	502	727	1,229	**2,797**	**1,815**	**4,612**	2,797	1,813	4,610
Linen	5,319	6,518	11,837	1,549	4,043	5,592	**6,868**	**10,561**	**17,429**	1,285	3,186	4,471
Jute	4,167	8,415	12,582	2,056	4,926	6,982	**6,223**	**13,341**	**19,564**	6,223	13,341	19,564
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	1,330	1,826	3,156	490	1,516	2,006	**1,820**	**3,342**	**5,162**	1,640	2,996	4,636
Hosiery	1,580	4,999	6,579	1,832	8,768	10,600	**3,412**	**13,767**	**17,179**	3,375	13,678	17,053
Lace	570	429	999	837	641	1,478	**1,407**	**1,070**	**2,477**	1,405	1,070	2,475
Carpets	700	689	1,389	483	776	1,259	**1,183**	**1,465**	**2,648**	1,183	1,465	2,648
Textiles not separately specified ...	1,776	2,922	4,698	731	1,859	2,590	**2,507**	**4,781**	**7,288**	2,315	3,919	6,234
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	11,011	4,021	15,032	13,888	3,786	17,674	**24,899**	**7,807**	**32,706**	23,867	6,323	30,190
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	4,507	1,218	5,725	1,748	490	2,238	**6,255**	**1,708**	**7,963**	6,254	1,703	7,957
Leather Goods	1,995	1,284	3,279	481	702	1,183	**2,476**	**1,986**	**4,462**	2,459	1,973	4,432
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring	8,576	6,891	15,467	1,019	6,112	7,131	**9,595**	**13,003**	**22,598**	9,367	12,500	21,867
Dress Making and Millinery... ...	1,313	4,106	5,419	45	1,068	1,113	**1,358**	**5,174**	**6,532**	1,328	4,868	6,196
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	1,478	973	2,451	1,196	1,554	2,750	**2,674**	**2,527**	**5,201**	2,674	2,527	5,201
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	946	5,784	6,730	137	4,245	4,382	**1,083**	**10,029**	**11,112**	888	4,883	5,771
Dress Industries not separately specified	1,052	839	1,891	213	277	490	**1,265**	**1,116**	**2,381**	1,261	1,115	2,376
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	11,587	3,120	14,707	16,505	8,922	25,427	**28,092**	**12,042**	**40,134**	27,827	11,958	39,785
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	12,942	4,676	17,618	708	406	1,114	**13,650**	**5,082**	**18,732**	13,002	4,983	17,985
Grain Milling	2,509	204	2,713	226	75	301	**2,735**	**279**	**3,014**	2,627	270	2,897
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	4,254	4,026	8,280	472	2,121	2,593	**4,726**	**6,147**	**10,873**	4,710	6,135	10,845
Food Industries not separately specified	9,204	8,482	17,686	796	1,086	1,882	**10,000**	**9,568**	**19,568**	9,862	9,514	19,376
Drink Industries	11,960	2,816	14,776	819	481	1,300	**12,779**	**3,297**	**16,076**	12,371	3,237	15,608
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	1,279	2,415	3,694	74	985	1,059	**1,353**	**3,400**	**4,753**	1,272	3,278	4,550
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	11,027	191	11,218	1,123	96	1,219	**12,150**	**287**	**12,437**	11,940	284	12,224
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ...	2,667	206	2,873	499	33	532	**3,166**	**239**	**3,405**	3,131	235	3,366
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	20,795	2,380	23,175	2,524	647	3,171	**23,319**	**3,027**	**26,346**	23,053	3,012	26,065
Woodworking not separately Specified	3,438	611	4,049	794	289	1,083	**4,232**	**900**	**5,132**	4,119	882	5,001
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board	2,803	772	3,575	2,546	1,175	3,721	**5,349**	**1,947**	**7,296**	5,328	1,943	7,271
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	2,074	2,639	4,713	498	1,174	1,672	**2,572**	**3,813**	**6,385**	2,490	3,641	6,131
Wall Paper Making	468	187	655	59	56	115	**527**	**243**	**770**	527	243	770
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper)	361	300	661	20	82	102	**381**	**382**	**763**	381	382	763
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	19,994	7,920	27,914	1,102	1,440	2,542	**21,096**	**9,360**	**30,456**	20,765	9,155	29,920
Building and Public Works Contracting :—												
Building	217,927	462	218,389	8,235	40	8,275	**226,162**	**502**	**226,664**	219,491	495	219,986
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	97,488	66	97,554	2,637	1	2,638	**100,125**	**67**	**100,192**	97,933	67	98,000
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber	7,133	2,978	10,111	1,473	764	2,237	**8,606**	**3,742**	**12,348**	8,581	3,734	12,315
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc.	1,797	260	2,057	646	86	732	**2,443**	**346**	**2,789**	2,442	346	2,788
Brushes and Brooms	1,436	356	1,792	284	226	510	**1,720**	**582**	**2,302**	1,670	582	2,252
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus	1,769	532	2,301	521	177	698	**2,290**	**709**	**2,999**	2,285	705	2,990
Musical Instruments	4,539	782	5,321	720	267	987	**5,259**	**1,049**	**6,308**	5,251	1,049	6,300
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	941	591	1,532	275	159	434	**1,216**	**750**	**1,966**	1,215	750	1,965
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	18,010	213	18,223	763	27	790	**18,773**	**240**	**19,013**	18,448	238	18,686
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service	20,027	433	20,460	1,412	12	1,424	**21,439**	**445**	**21,884**	21,280	441	21,721
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	9,235	576	9,811	470	10	480	**9,705**	**586**	**10,291**	9,424	578	10,002
Road Transport not separately specified	41,829	560	42,389	2,435	13	2,448	**44,264**	**573**	**44,837**	43,329	569	43,898
Shipping Service	52,250	816	53,066	431	65	496	**52,681**	**881**	**53,562**	51,759	874	52,633
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service	66,231	210	66,441	1,391	77	1,468	**67,622**	**287**	**67,909**	66,203	287	66,490
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	3,153	154	3,307	79	13	92	**3,232**	**167**	**3,399**	3,185	167	3,352
Distributive Trades	162,092	58,123	220,215	7,362	3,789	11,151	**169,454**	**61,912**	**231,366**	164,579	60,460	225,039
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	11,371	2,297	13,668	180	35	215	**11,551**	**2,332**	**13,883**	11,373	2,274	13,647
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government	12,612	1,197	13,809	405	44	449	**13,017**	**1,241**	**14,258**	12,602	1,190	13,792
Local Government	57,301	737	58,038	1,680	28	1,708	**58,981**	**765**	**59,746**	57,089	751	57,840
Professional Services	6,168	2,109	8,277	268	79	347	**6,436**	**2,188**	**8,624**	6,286	2,148	8,434
Entertainments and Sports	13,757	4,512	18,269	367	148	515	**14,124**	**4,660**	**18,784**	13,724	4,605	18,329
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, &c., Service	27,640	31,917	59,557	302	822	1,124	**27,942**	**32,739**	**60,681**	27,274	32,306	59,580
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	4,155	7,415	11,570	133	1,600	1,733	**4,288**	**9,015**	**13,303**	4,210	8,778	12,988
Industries and Services not separately specified	49,454	2,599	52,053	1,599	504	2,103	**51,053**	**3,103**	**54,156**	49,560	3,042	52,602
TOTAL	1,867,253	316,430	2,183,683*	455,483	182,674	638,157	**2,322,736**	**499,104**	**2,821,840**	2,274,342	479,408	2,753,750

* Including 111,749 Casuals (Males, 110,202; Females, 1,547).

INDUSTRY.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Estimated Number of Insured Persons at July, 1931. Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentages Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932. Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals). Males	Females.	Total.	Temporary Stoppages. Males	Females.	Total.	Total. Males	Females.	Total.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Total Percentages* as compared with 25th Apr., 1932.	18th May, 1931.	26th May, 1930.	Great Britain only. Total Percentages at 23rd May, 1932.
Fishing	29,800	950	30,750	22·4	18·5	22·3	0·5	4·7	0·7	22·9	23·2	23·0	+ 0·4	+ 3·3	+10·9	23·1
Mining :—																
Coal Mining	1,041,120	5,750	1,046,870	20·7	13·7	20·6	11·7	5·1	11·7	32·4	18·8	32·3	− 0·6	+ 5·3	+10·2	32·3
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining, etc.	12,860	20	12,880	34·6	5·0	34·5	8·2	5·0	8·3	42·8	10·0	42·8	+ 2·6	+ 9·8	+30·1	42·8
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	4,830	40	4,870	57·6	17·5	57·3	1·2	—	1·2	58·8	17·5	58·5	− 3·7	− 2·1	+29·3	58·6
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	46,020	410	46,430	17·4	3·2	17·3	6·2	0·7	6·1	23·6	3·9	23·4	+ 0·7	+ 8·0	+12·5	23·4
Slate Quarrying and Mining... ...	10,340	10	10,350	12·1	20·0	12·1	6·3	—	6·3	18·4	20·0	18·4	+ 3·0	−20·8	−21·9	18·4
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	14,220	1,650	15,870	20·8	9·5	19·6	4·4	1·8	4·2	25·2	11·3	23·8	− 0·3	+ 7·5	+12·3	24·0
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	16,770	250	17,020	23·8	6·0	23·5	3·1	5·2	3·1	26·9	11·2	26·6	+ 0·5	+ 8·7	+20·0	26·6
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,410	120	11,530	27·3	23·3	27·3	5·3	2·5	5·2	32·6	25·8	32·5	− 1·6	+ 1·4	+15·5	32·5
Artificial Stone and Concrete ...	18,070	1,560	19,630	24·2	7·4	22·9	5·4	2·0	5·1	29·6	9·4	28·0	+ 0·2	+ 6·6	+10·5	27·9
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting ...	17,050	870	17,920	20·7	13·1	20·4	5·6	0·6	5·3	26·3	13·7	25·7	+ 1·3	+ 8·7	+13·4	25·9
Brick, Tile, Pipe, etc., Making ...	80,220	7,400	87,620	16·7	15·0	16·5	6·0	4·4	5·9	22·7	19·4	22·4	+ 0·5	+ 5·1	+ 9·7	22·2
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	35,310	43,400	78,710	15·8	12·4	13·9	15·7	18·3	17·2	31·5	30·7	31·1	+ 1·6	− 2·7	+ 4·9	31·1
Glass Trades :—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass)	21,000	6,470	27,470	17·6	8·5	15·5	5·1	1·5	4·2	22·7	10·0	19·7	− 1·2	− 1·9	+ 5·4	19·7
Glass Bottles	16,680	2,260	18,940	19·8	8·8	18·5	7·7	1·7	7·0	27·5	10·5	25·5	− 0·5	+ 0·1	+ 4·7	25·5
Chemicals, etc. :—																
Chemicals	73,510	25,430	98,940	19·5	5·5	15·9	1·5	1·4	1·4	21·0	6·9	17·3	+ 0·2	− 0·6	+ 6·6	17·3
Explosives	11,320	5,430	16,750	11·4	7·3	10·1	2·8	1·6	2·4	14·2	8·9	12·5	...	− 2·3	+ 3·6	12·5
Paint, Varnish, Red and White Leads	15,310	5,200	20,510	10·7	5·9	9·4	0·8	0·4	0·8	11·5	6·3	10·2	− 0·1	− 0·1	+ 3·9	10·2
Oil, Glue, Soap, Ink, Matches, etc....	54,760	22,910	77,670	12·5	5·4	10·4	3·2	1·8	2·8	15·7	7·2	13·2	+ 1·0	+ 0·9	+ 3·2	13·2
Metal Manufacture :—																
Pig Iron (Blast Furnaces)	19,330	150	19,480	35·5	12·7	35·3	5·8	2·6	5·8	41·3	15·3	41·1	− 0·7	+ 6·1	+22·1	41·2
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling, Iron and Steel Rolling and Forging	165,080	4,270	169,350	24·9	7·9	24·5	27·1	5·0	26·5	52·0	12·9	51·0	+ 3·4	+ 6·2	+20·8	51·0
Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	34,720	3,470	38,190	20·7	8·0	19·5	7·4	1·0	6·8	28·1	9·0	26·3	+ 0·7	− 2·1	+12·5	26·4
Tin Plates	26,950	3,440	30,390	14·3	9·1	13·7	31·3	17·7	29·8	45·6	26·8	43·5	+ 6·3	− 3·4	+19·0	43·5
Iron and Steel Tubes...	28,050	1,770	29,820	24·1	9·6	23·2	23·3	2·2	22·1	47·4	11·8	45·3	+ 0·2	+ 3·9	+25·2	45·3
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Ropes ...	18,710	4,060	22,770	14·9	9·9	14·0	15·9	4·4	13·9	30·8	14·3	27·9	+ 3·4	− 0·1	+ 8·6	27·9
Engineering, etc. :—																
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	528,910	47,470	576,380	22·1	7·6	20·9	8·1	3·6	7·7	30·2	11·2	28·6	+ 1·2	+ 1·2	+13·7	28·6
Electrical Engineering	71,960	20,510	92,470	14·4	7·3	12·8	3·9	2·4	3·6	18·3	9·7	16·4	...	+ 1·7	+ 9·3	16·5
Marine Engineering, etc.	54,180	1,060	55,240	45·8	13·7	45·1	6·7	4·5	6·7	52·5	18·2	51·8	+ 1·2	+ 9·3	+38·0	49·7
Constructional Engineering	28,310	1,270	29,580	27·4	9·1	26·6	7·8	1·7	7·5	35·2	10·8	34·1	− 1·3	+ 8·6	+18·6	34·2
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—																
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	225,710	25,610	251,320	17·1	9·1	16·3	5·1	2·2	4·8	22·2	11·3	21·1	+ 1·8	+ 4·0	+10·9	21·2
Carriages, Carts, etc.	15,850	2,480	18,330	19·4	7·5	17·8	3·7	2·0	3·5	23·1	9·5	21·3	+ 1·6	+ 5·2	+11·2	21·3
Railway Carriages, Wagons and Tramcars	49,990	1,560	51,550	20·9	6·1	20·5	4·4	1·5	4·3	25·3	7·6	24·8	+ 1·2	+ 2·8	+15·3	24·9
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	192,400	2,990	195,390	57·3	17·2	56·7	2·3	5·0	2·3	59·6	22·2	59·0	+ 0·8	+ 4·9	+30·6	58·9
Metal Trades :—																
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	83,200	9,240	92,440	20·5	9·4	19·4	11·6	6·0	11·0	32·1	15·4	30·4	+ 2·7	+ 4·7	+15·3	30·4
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	20,780	1,680	22,460	20·1	4·3	18·9	1·6	0·5	1·5	21·7	4·8	20·4	+ 1·1	+ 4·1	+ 8·8	20·4
Electrical Cables, Wire and Lamps...	64,910	43,430	108,340	13·3	8·8	11·5	2·7	2·7	2·7	16·0	11·5	14·2	+ 0·2	− 1·1	+ 5·8	14·1
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files ...	23,500	11,080	34,580	24·8	13·9	21·3	17·3	8·6	14·5	42·1	22·5	35·8	+ 3·0	− 0·3	+ 9·5	35·8
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	14,420	11,830	26,250	17·5	12·0	15·0	12·7	6·9	10·1	30·2	18·9	25·1	+ 1·3	− 5·7	+ 7·5	25·1
Brass and Allied Metal Wares ...	16,930	10,670	27,600	19·8	9·4	15·8	6·7	4·1	5·7	26·5	13·5	21·5	+ 0·1	− 0·9	+ 6·6	21·5
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	8,470	700	9,170	17·4	6·1	16·6	3·6	1·0	3·3	21·0	7·1	19·9	...	+ 0·7	+10·9	20·0
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	22,390	19,710	42,100	16·4	10·6	13·6	7·2	5·9	6·6	23·6	16·5	20·2	+ 0·8	− 1·7	+ 7·1	20·3
Metal Industries not separately specified	127,800	78,530	206,330	17·8	9·5	14·6	6·5	4·2	5·6	24·3	13·7	20·2	+ 1·0	− 1·5	+ 5·6	20·2
Textile Trades :—																
Cotton	190,640	359,470	550,110	17·5	15·0	15·9	18·5	17·1	17·5	36·0	32·1	33·4	+ 8·5	− 4·1	− 5·7	33·4
Woollen and Worsted...	95,570	143,300	238,870	10·6	5·3	7·4	17·7	18·3	18·1	28·3	23·6	25·5	+ 7·5	− 1·5	+ 3·2	25·5
Silk Manufacture and Artificial Silk Weaving	15,800	29,220	45,020	19·1	5·5	10·2	8·3	11·5	10·5	27·4	17·0	20·7	+ 1·9	− 8·0 }	− 3·8†	{ 20·7
Artificial Silk Yarn	14,330	13,160	27,490	16·0	8·3	12·3	3·5	5·5	4·5	19·5	13·8	16·8	...	−11·7 }		{ 16·8
Linen	24,070	54,140	78,210	22·1	12·0	15·1	6·4	7·5	7·2	28·5	19·5	22·3	+ 3·8	− 7·7	− 4·0	31·5
Jute	12,380	27,770	40,150	33·7	30·3	31·3	16·6	17·7	17·4	50·3	48·0	48·7	+ 1·5	− 5·7	+12·6	48·7
Hemp, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. ...	6,820	13,020	19,840	19·5	14·0	15·9	7·2	11·7	10·1	26·7	25·7	26·0	+ 2·0	− 1·0	+ 5·4	27·0
Hosiery	23,730	88,510	112,240	6·7	5·6	5·9	7·7	10·0	9·4	14·4	15·6	15·3	+ 2·4	− 6·0	− 2·3	15·3
Lace	6,300	10,900	17,200	9·0	3·9	5·8	13·3	5·9	8·6	22·3	9·8	14·4	+ 2·9	− 5·9	− 0·3	14·4
Carpets	10,030	16,260	26,290	7·0	4·2	5·3	4·8	4·8	4·8	11·8	9·0	10·1	+ 0·1	−10·6	− 1·7	10·1
Textiles not separately specified ...	14,130	33,050	47,180	12·6	8·8	10·0	5·1	5·7	5·4	17·7	14·5	15·4	+ 0·3	− 7·1	− 1·1	14·3
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	81,220	33,780	115,000	13·6	11·9	13·1	17·1	11·2	15·3	30·7	23·1	28·4	+ 3·1	− 4·4	− 2·0	28·4
Leather and Leather Goods :—																
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	31,510	10,120	41,630	14·3	12·0	13·8	5·6	4·9	5·3	19·9	16·9	19·1	+ 0·7	− 0·2	+ 5·4	19·1
Leather Goods	10,950	13,870	24,820	18·2	9·3	13·2	4·4	5·0	4·8	22·6	14·3	18·0	+ 1·3	− 5·1	+ 5·8	18·0
Clothing Trades :—																
Tailoring	69,580	143,440	213,020	12·3	4·8	7·3	1·5	4·3	3·3	13·8	9·1	10·6	+ 0·1	+ 1·7	+ 4·7	10·5
Dress Making and Millinery... ...	10,590	92,930	103,520	12·4	4·4	5·2	0·4	1·2	1·1	12·8	5·6	6·3	− 0·6	+ 0·9	+ 2·4	6·1
Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait)	13,790	22,340	36,130	10·7	4·4	6·8	8·7	6·9	7·6	19·4	11·3	14·4	+ 1·0	+ 2·4	+ 8·2	14·4
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	8,240	80,080	88,320	11·5	7·2	7·6	1·6	5·3	5·0	13·1	12·5	12·6	+ 1·4	+ 0·2	+ 2·2	8·3
Dress Industries not separately specified	8,170	19,260	27,430	12·9	4·4	6·9	2·6	1·4	1·8	15·5	5·8	8·7	− 0·3	− 4·4	− 0·3	8·7
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs ...	84,260	53,580	137,840	13·8	5·8	10·7	19·5	16·7	18·4	33·3	22·5	29·1	+ 9·1	+10·8	+15·2	29·1
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—																
Bread, Biscuits, Cakes, etc.	94,100	61,660	155,760	13·8	7·6	11·3	0·7	0·6	0·7	14·5	8·2	12·0	− 0·7	− 0·7	+ 1·9	12·0
Grain Milling	24,640	3,680	28,320	10·2	5·5	9·6	0·9	2·1	1·0	11·1	7·6	10·6	− 0·2	− 1·6	+ 0·3	10·6
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	23,630	47,660	71,290	18·0	8·4	11·6	2·0	4·5	3·7	20·0	12·9	15·3	+ 1·1	− 1·3	+ 1·5	15·2
Food Industries not separately specified	58,730	60,490	119,220	15·7	14·0	14·8	1·3	1·8	1·6	17·0	15·8	16·4	− 0·2	− 2·3	+ 2·1	16·4
Drink Industries	86,330	26,140	112,470	13·9	10·8	13·1	0·9	1·8	1·2	14·8	12·6	14·3	− 0·1	+ 1·4	+ 4·6	14·1
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff	15,590	32,000	47,590	8·2	7·5	7·8	0·5	3·1	2·2	8·7	10·6	10·0	− 0·2	− 1·1	+ 2·4	10·0
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—																
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	54,270	2,850	57,120	20·3	6·7	19·6	2·1	3·4	2·2	22·4	10·1	21·8	+ 0·2	+ 2·8	+ 9·5	21·7
Wood Boxes and Packing Cases ...	10,680	2,090	12,770	25·0	9·9	22·5	4·6	1·5	4·2	29·6	11·4	26·7	− 0·9	+ 1·5	+ 9·6	26·7
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	108,530	23,490	132,020	19·2	10·1	17·6	2·3	2·8	2·4	21·5	12·9	20·0	...	+ 2·5	+10·1	20·0
Woodworking not separately specified	18,270	5,790	24,060	18·8	10·6	16·8	4·4	4·9	4·5	23·2	15·5	21·3	+ 0·2	+ 1·7	+ 7·7	21·2

* *See* note * on page 223.
† For 26th May, 1930, separate figures for each of the two sections are not available.

INDUSTRY.	Estimated Number of Insured Persons at July, 1931. Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentages Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932. Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals). Males	Females.	Total.	Temporary Stoppages. Males	Females	Total.	Total. Males	Females.	Total	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Total Percentages* as compared with 25th Apr., 1932.	18th May, 1931.	26th May, 1930.	Great Britain only. Total Percentages at 23rd May, 1932.
Printing and Paper Trades :—																
Paper and Paper Board	41,380	15,710	57,090	6·8	4·9	6·3	6·1	7·5	6·5	12·9	12·4	12·8	+ 0·9	− 1·9	+ 5·4	12·8
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	20,870	40,960	61,830	9·9	6·4	7·6	2·4	2·9	2·7	12·3	9·3	10·3	+ 0·7	− 2·4	+ 2·0	10·1
Wall Paper Making	4,370	2,130	6,500	10·7	8·8	10·1	1·4	2·6	1·7	12·1	11·4	11·8	− 4·2	− 3·3	+ 1·5	11·8
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper)	2,740	3,710	6,450	13·2	8·1	10·2	0·7	2·2	1·6	13·9	10·3	11·8	+ 0·7	− 2·1	+ 5·4	11·8
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	181,440	97,530	278,970	11·0	8·1	10·0	0·6	1·5	0·9	11·6	9·6	10·9	− 0·2	+ 0·8	+ 4·5	10·9
Building and Public Works Contracting :—																
Building	848,250	9,920	858,170	25·7	4·7	25·4	1·0	0·4	1·0	26·7	5·1	26·4	− 0·6	+ 8·3	+13·8	26·2
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	269,330	1,300	270,630	36·2	5·1	36·0	1·0	0·1	1·0	37·2	5·2	37·0	− 0·3	+ 6·3	+10·8	37·2
Other Manufacturing Industries :—																
Rubber	39,190	28,140	67,330	18·2	10·6	15·0	3·8	2·7	3·3	22·0	13·3	18·3	− 0·9	− 1·0	+ 3·9	18·3
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc.	11,580	2,170	13,750	15·5	12·0	15·0	5·6	3·9	5·3	21·1	15·9	20·3	− 1·3	− 0·9	+12·5	20·3
Brushes and Brooms	6,470	4,990	11,460	22·2	7·1	15·6	4·4	4·6	4·5	26·6	11·7	20·1	+ 2·3	− 2·3	+ 3·5	19·9
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus	16,600	9,430	26,030	10·7	5·6	8·8	3·1	1·9	2·7	13·8	7·5	11·5	− 1·2	+ 1·4	+ 6·1	11·5
Musical Instruments	17,500	7,240	24,740	25·9	10·8	21·5	4·2	3·7	4·0	30·1	14·5	25·5	− 0·2	+ 4·2	+11·0	25·5
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	7,070	6,990	14,060	13·3	8·5	10·9	3·9	2·2	3·1	17·2	10·7	14·0	+ 0·4	− 0·6	+ 5·3	14·0
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	166,290	7,580	173,870	10·8	2·8	10·5	0·5	0·4	0·4	11·3	3·2	10·9	− 0·1	+ 2·2	+ 3·5	10·9
Transport and Communication :—																
Railway Service	132,560	7,460	140,020	15·1	5·8	14·6	1·1	0·2	1·0	16·2	6·0	15·6	− 0·1	+ 4·0	+ 9·1	15·6
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	166,370	7,490	173,860	5·6	7·7	5·6	0·2	0·1	0·3	5·8	7·8	5·9	− 0·4	+ 0·8	+ 2·0	5·9
Road Transport not separately specified	195,960	9,430	205,390	21·3	5·9	20·6	1·3	0·2	1·2	22·6	6·1	21·8	− 0·5	+ 2·3	+ 6·2	21·8
Shipping Service	154,860	6,570	161,430	33·7	12·4	32·9	0·3	1·0	0·3	34·0	13·4	33·2	− 1·2	+ 0·4	+10·3	33·3
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service	170,740	2,350	173,090	38·8	8·9	38·4	0·8	3·3	0·8	39·6	12·2	39·2	+ 3·6	†	†	39·3
Transport, Communication and Storage not separately specified ...	16,290	2,040	18,330	19·4	7·5	18·0	0·4	0·7	0·5	19·8	8·2	18·5	+ 0·1	− 0·5	+ 2·9	18·5
Distributive Trades	1,136,530	738,250	1,874,780	14·3	7·9	11·7	0·6	0·5	0·6	14·9	8·4	12·3	− 0·4	+ 0·6	+ 3·6	12·3
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	160,480	75,170	235,650	7·1	3·1	5·8	0·1	0·0	0·1	7·2	3·1	5·9	− 0·1	+ 0·5	+ 2·3	5·8
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—																
National Government	99,200	22,200	121,400	12·7	5·4	11·4	0·4	0·2	0·3	13·1	5·6	11·7	− 1·0	+ 1·2	+ 3·5	11·7
Local Government	310,410	21,510	331,920	18·5	3·4	17·5	0·5	0·2	0·5	19·0	3·6	18·0	− 0·6	+ 4·5	+ 6·6	17·8
Professional Services	76,180	56,970	133,150	8·1	3·7	6·2	0·3	0·1	0·3	8·4	3·8	6·5	− 0·2	+ 0·9	+ 2·3	6·4
Entertainments and Sports	60,950	31,660	92,610	22·6	14·3	19·7	0·6	0·4	0·6	23·2	14·7	20·3	− 0·4	− 4·0	+ 3·6	20·1
Hotel, Public House, Restaurant, Boarding House, Club, &c., Service	135,810	248,480	384,290	20·4	12·8	15·5	0·2	0·4	0·3	20·6	13·2	15·8	− 1·6	− 2·3	+ 2·6	15·7
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	31,310	117,670	148,980	13·3	6·3	7·8	0·4	1·4	1·1	13·7	7·7	8·9	− 0·3	− 0·9	+ 2·2	8·9
Industries and Services not separately specified	106,240	36,790	143,030	46·5	7·1	36·4	1·6	1·3	1·5	48·1	8·4	37·9	− 0·2	+ 2·8	+ 9·2	37·5
TOTAL	9,187,000	3,583,000	12,770,000	20·3	8·8	17·1	5·0	5·1	5·0	25·3	13·9	22·1	+ 0·7	+ 1·3	+ 6·8	22·0

* The percentages at each date have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at the end of the preceding June, no allowance having been made for the monthly changes in the insured population between June of one year and May of the following year.

† See note * on page 63 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1932, regarding the change, introduced on 25th January, 1932, in the basis on which the numbers of registered dock workers unemployed are counted. On a comparable basis the percentage rate of unemployment at 23rd May, 1932, in dock, harbour, river and canal service was greater by 4·0 than at 18th May, 1931, and was greater by 8·5 than at 26th May, 1930.

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED.

PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

Industry Group.	Males. Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.	Females. Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.
Fishing	6,679	0·4	160	0·0	176	0·1	44	0·0
Mining	238,454	12·8	127,787	28·0	980	0·3	342	0·2
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	11,018	0·6	2,532	0·6	258	0·1	38	0·0
Brick, Tile, etc....	13,364	0·7	4,818	1·1	1,108	0·3	327	0·2
Pottery	5,595	0·3	5,539	1·2	5,368	1·7	7,938	4·3
Glass Trades ...	7,003	0·4	2,347	0·5	750	0·2	137	0·1
Chemicals, etc....	24,097	1·3	3,266	0·7	3,328	1·0	880	0·5
Metal Manufacture	68,555	3·7	66,366	14·6	1,522	0·5	1,075	0·6
Engineering ...	159,663	8·5	51,658	11·3	5,373	1·7	2,264	1·2
Vehicles ...	52,216	2·8	14,317	3·1	2,605	0·8	646	0·4
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	110,341	5·9	4,347	1·0	513	0·2	151	0·1
Metal Trades ...	69,410	3·7	28,944	6·4	18,299	5·8	8,387	4·6
Textile Trades ...	75,314	4·0	75,730	16·6	94,215	29·8	117,943	64·5
Leather	6,502	0·3	2,229	0·5	2,502	0·8	1,192	0·7
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	11,587	0·6	16,505	3·6	3,120	1·0	8,922	4·9
Clothing Trades...	13,365	0·7	2,610	0·6	18,593	5·9	13,256	7·3
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	42,148	2·3	3,095	0·7	22,619	7·1	5,154	2·8
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork	37,927	2·0	4,940	1·1	3,388	1·1	1,065	0·6
Printing and Paper	25,700	1·4	4,225	0·9	11,818	3·7	3,927	2·1
Building and Public Works Contracting ...	315,415	16·9	10,872	2·4	528	0·2	41	0·0
Other Manufacturing Industries...	17,615	0·9	3,919	0·9	5,499	1·7	1,679	0·9
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries...	18,010	1·0	763	0·2	213	0·1	27	0·0
Transport and Communication	192,725	10·3	6,218	1·4	2,749	0·9	190	0·1
Distributive Trades	162,092	8·7	7,362	1·6	58,123	18·4	3,789	2·1
Commerce, Banking, etc. ...	11,371	0·6	180	0·0	2,297	0·7	35	0·0
Miscellaneous ...	171,087	9·2	4,754	1·0	50,486	15·9	3,225	1·8
TOTAL ...	1,867,253	100·0	455,483	100·0	316,430	100·0	182,674	100·0

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 23rd May, 1932, differed from the figures for 25th April, 1932, to the extent of 1,000 or more:—

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932, as compared with 25th April, 1932. Males.	Females.	Total.
Coal Mining	− 6,699	+ 23	− 6,676
Distributive Trades	− 1,376	− 5,025	− 6,401
Hotel, etc., Service	− 959	− 5,166	− 6,125
Building	− 5,339	+ 6	− 5,333
Shipping Service	− 1,875	− 85	− 1,960
Local Government	− 1,541	− 366	− 1,907
National Government	− 911	− 251	− 1,162
Hand Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files	+ 737	+ 312	+ 1,049
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	+ 544	+ 673	+ 1,217
Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	+ 4	+ 1,240	+ 1,244
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing...	+ 1,619	+ 28	+ 1,647
Tin Plates	+ 1,811	+ 115	+ 1,926
Metal Industries not separately specified	+ 1,737	+ 423	+ 2,160
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	+ 2,443	+ 42	+ 2,485
Hosiery	+ 473	+ 2,183	+ 2,656
Linen	+ 772	+ 2,195	+ 2,967
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing	+ 2,939	+ 618	+ 3,557
Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	+ 4,370	+ 209	+ 4,579
Steel Melting, Iron and Steel Rolling, etc.	+ 5,772	+ 47	+ 5,819
Dock, Harbour, River and Canal Service	+ 6,186	+ 68	+ 6,254
General Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	+ 7,149	− 24	+ 7,125
Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs	+ 7,939	+ 4,567	+ 12,506
Woollen and Worsted	+ 7,169	+ 10,807	+ 17,976
Cotton	+ 17,446	+ 29,279	+ 46,725
Net Variation for above Industries	+ 50,410	+ 41,918	+ 92,328
Total Net Variation for all Insured Industries	+ 53,003	+ 42,392	+ 95,395

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

NUMBERS OF JUVENILES AGED 14 AND UNDER 18 ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 23RD MAY, 1932.

Division.	Boys.			Girls.		
	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.	Insured 16 and under 18.	Uninsured 14 and under 18.	Total.
London	4,854	3,062	7,916	2,258	2,663	4,921
South-Eastern ...	2,138	1,593	3,731	1,386	1,794	3,180
South-Western ...	2,207	1,575	3,782	1,217	1,731	2,948
Midlands ...	5,592	2,340	7,932	3,523	2,294	5,817
North-Eastern ...	10,431	5,726	16,157	4,365	6,015	10,380
North-Western...	8,358	5,165	13,523	6,894	4,785	11,679
Scotland ...	6,256	4,176	10,432	4,388	3,791	8,179
Wales	3,719	2,395	6,114	862	2,447	3,309
Great Britain ...	43,555	26,032	69,587	24,893	25,520	50,413

JUVENILES PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FIVE WEEKS ENDED 23RD MAY, 1932.

Division.	Number of Vacancies Filled.			Juveniles placed in first situation since leaving School.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
South-Eastern ...	4,531	3,958	8,489	982	775	1,757
South-Western ...	892	879	1,771	216	179	395
Midlands	1,135	1,332	2,467	435	544	979
North-Eastern ...	1,533	1,517	3,050	437	506	943
North-Western ...	1,686	1,790	3,476	602	576	1,178
Scotland	780	998	1,778	236	277	513
Wales	367	396	763	108	174	282
Great Britain ...	10,924	10,870	21,794	3,016	3,031	6,047

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

Division.	Estimated number insured at July, 1931.		Percentage Unemployed at 23rd May, 1932.					
			Boys.			Girls.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped	Total.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped	Total.
London	110,260	98,150	5·3	0·0	5·3	3·0	0·1	3·1
South-Eastern ...	48,790	32,960	4·9	0·2	5·1	4·3	0·8	5·1
South-Western ...	43,060	29,640	5·3	0·5	5·8	4·4	0·8	5·2
Midlands	88,610	73,940	3·9	2·8	6·7	2·4	2·9	5·3
North-Eastern ...	99,650	60,060	7·0	4·3	11·3	5·7	2·7	8·4
North-Western ...	87,870	78,960	6·9	3·5	10·4	5·1	4·5	9·6
Scotland	64,260	51,570	9·2	1·8	11·0	7·2	2·6	9·8
Wales	32,500	9,720	6·6	5·8	12·4	9·2	1·8	11·0
Special Schemes...	4,000	3,000	0·6	—	0·6	0·6	—	0·6
Great Britain ...	579,000	438,000	6 0	2·3	8·3	4·4	2·2	6·6

JUVENILES IN ATTENDANCE AT APPROVED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

Division.	Average daily attendance.								Total No. of separate Individuals who have attended since 1st April, 1932.	
	Week ended 25.5.32.						Month ended 25.5.32.			
	Junior Instruction Centres and Classes.						Other Educational Institutions (claimants).			
	Claimants.		Non-claimants.		Total.					
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	J.I. Centres and Classes.	Other Educational Institutions.
London ...	1,086	220	2	...	1,088	220	...	...	3,819	...
S. Eastern	570	266	9	19	579	285	1	3	1,773	6
S. Western	431	147	42	29	473	176	42	23	1,472	95
Midlands	1,071	438	45	24	1,116	462	64	35	3,447	143
N. Eastern	2,455	626	1,569	59	4,024	685	26	29	8,961	71
N. Western	2,126	1,262	218	174	2,344	1,436	1	3	9,551	10
Scotland	1,971	1,083	801	145	2,772	1,228	9	3	7,706	20
Wales ...	1,119	144	1,108	260	2,227	404	19	...	4,788	19
Great Britain...	10,829	4,186	3,794	710	14,623	4,896	162	96	41,517	364

There were 75 Junior Instruction Centres for boys, 27 for girls and 33 mixed Centres open in Great Britain during the week. In addition there were 13 Junior Instruction Classes for boys, 5 for girls and 2 mixed Classes. The number of other institutions to which unemployed juveniles were admitted was 16 for boys, 12 for girls, 15 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 of persons applying for insurance benefit or transitional payments who were on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at 23rd May, 1932, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment. 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. The persons who had been on the register for less than three months included 630,664 temporarily stopped, 109,515 normally in casual employment, and 674,983 wholly unemployed. Of the last-mentioned group 279,385 (or 14·0 per cent. of all the wholly unemployed on the register) had been on the register less than one month, 205,925 (or 10·3 per cent.) one month but less than two months, and 189,673 (or 9·5 per cent.) two months but less than three months.

—	Persons who had been on the Register					
	Less than 3 months.	3 months but less than 6 months.	6 months but less than 9 months.	9 months but less than 12 months.	12 months or more.	Total.
NUMBERS.						
Men ...	1,121,609	261,124	201,018	145,570	337,436	2,066,757
Boys ...	25,321	3,853	528	70	71	29,843
Women ...	253,610	38,370	17,486	11,817	30,589	351,872
Girls ...	14,622	1,426	138	18	16	16,220
Total ...	1,415,162	304,773	219,170	157,475	368,112	2,464,692
PERCENTAGES.						
Men ...	54·3	12·6	9·7	7·1	16·3	100·0
Boys ...	84·9	12·9	1·8	0·2	0·2	100·0
Women ...	72·0	10·9	5·0	3·4	8·7	100·0
Girls ...	90·1	8·8	0·9	0·1	0·1	100·0
Total ...	57·4	12·4	8·9	6·4	14·9	100·0

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 23rd May, 1932, relative to their position with regard 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 Committees 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 1,602,884 wholly unemployed insured men on the register at 23rd May, 1932, there were 597,320 with claims to insurance benefit, and 890,205 with applications for transitional payments; while 115,359 were either not entitled to benefit or payments or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 439,959 men temporarily stopped were 373,586, 38,428 and 27,945, respectively.

Among the 231,770 wholly unemployed insured women, 95,092 had claims for insurance benefit, 79,792 were applicants for transitional payments, and 56,886 were either not entitled to benefit or payments or had claims under consideration. The corresponding figures for the 167,794 women temporarily stopped were 142,022 9,859 and 15,913, respectively.

ADULTS (AGES 18 TO 64, INCLUSIVE).

—	Section of Register.	Men.	Women.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	597,320	95,092
	Temporarily Stopped	373,586	142,022
	Casuals	73,662	1,210
	Total	1,044,568	238,324
2. Applications for Transitional Payments.	Wholly Unemployed	890,205	79,792
	Temporarily Stopped	38,428	9,859
	Casuals	33,350	245
	Total	961,983	89,896
3. Total applications for Transitional Payments :—			
(a) Authorised for payment	...	879,609	64,343
(b) Needs of applicants held by Local Authorities not to justify payment ...	...	82,374	25,553
Total	...	961,983	89,896
4. Insured Non-claimants ...	Wholly Unemployed	83,993	49,197
5. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	31,366	7,689
	Temporarily Stopped	27,945	15,913
	Casuals	895	50
	Total	60,206	23,652
6. Total Insured Adults on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	1,602,884	231,770
	Temporarily Stopped	439,959	167,794
	Casuals	107,907	1,505
	Total	2,150,750	401,069

JUVENILES (AGES 16 AND 17 YEARS).

—	Section of Register.	Boys.	Girls.
1. Claims for Insurance Benefit	Wholly Unemployed	15,365	6,089
	Temporarily Stopped	11,927	8,257
	Casuals	89	12
	Total	27,381	14,358
2. Not entitled to Insurance Benefit :—			
(a) First Statutory Condition not satisfied	...	12,056	8,176
(b) First Statutory Condition satisfied	...	1,656	497
Total	...	13,712	8,673
3. Position under First Statutory Condition not determined.	Wholly Unemployed	1,047	548
	Temporarily Stopped	1,413	1,314
	Casuals	2	—
	Total	2,462	1,862
4. Total Insured Juveniles on Register.	Wholly Unemployed	30,124	15,310
	Temporarily Stopped	13,340	9,571
	Casuals	91	12
	Total	43,555	24,893

APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

DETERMINATIONS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AUTHORITIES.

THE following Table gives the number of determinations made by Public Assistance Authorities on applications submitted to them during the period 4th April to 7th May, 1932, 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	79,325	587,424	6,629	37,384	85,954	624,808
Lower rates ...	46,571	365,373	4,874	32,669	51,445	398,042
Needs of applicants held not to justify payment ...	23,442	27,172	6,956	5,378	30,398	32,550
Total	149,338	979,969	18,459	75,431	167,797	1,055,400

ADJUDICATIONS UNDER STATUTORY CONDITIONS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND TRANSITIONAL PAYMENTS.

PERIOD 1ST TO 31ST MAY, 1932: GREAT BRITAIN.

THE following Table gives, for the period from 1st to 31st May, 1932, 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* ...	Men ...	75	224	299
	Women	12	41	53
	Juveniles	10	253	263
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment	Men ...	5,054	8,624	13,678
	Women	1,811	2,784	4,595
Anomalies Regulations† :—				
Class (b)	Men ...	441	955	1,396
	Women	119	264	383
	Juveniles	3	3	6
Class (c)	Men ...	68	120	188
	Women	53	94	147
	Juveniles	1	7	8
Class (d)		2,302	4,603	6,905
Employment left voluntarily without just cause	Men ...	1,415	2,213	3,628
	Women	977	2,244	3,221
	Juveniles	228	553	781
Employment lost through misconduct	Men ...	1,500	2,103	3,603
	Women	624	866	1,490
	Juveniles	198	573	771
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions...	Men ...	163	356	519
	Women	406	1,875	2,281
	Juveniles	48	253	301
Not unemployed	Men ...	467	2,277	2,744
	Women	64	727	791
	Juveniles	7	139	146
Not capable of work, or not available for work	Men ...	173	427	600
	Women	209	669	878
	Juveniles	11	46	57
Other grounds	Men ...	457	2,825	3,282
	Women	83	786	869
	Juveniles	33	304	337
Total	Men ...	9,813	20,124	29,937
	Women	6,660	14,953	21,613
	Juveniles	539	2,131	2,670
Grand Total		17,012	37,208	54,220

B.—Trade Dispute Cases.‡

—		Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers		153	627	780
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees	Men ...	32	85	117
	Women	9	24	33
	Juveniles	...	7	7
Total Appeals		41	116	157

C.—Decisions by Umpire.‡

—	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Appeals by Insurance Officers	597	443	1,040
Appeals by Associations	250	393	643
Appeals by Claimants	212	592	804
Total	1,059	1,428	2,487

* 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 * on page 226; there were no cases under class (a).

‡ *See* note † on page 226.

CUMULATIVE FIGURES, 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST MAY, 1932.

—	Claims Allowed.	Claims Disallowed.	Total.
Decisions of Courts of Referees.			
Contributions conditions	445	3,122	3,567
Not normally insurable and/or will not normally seek to obtain livelihood by means of insurable employment	36,370	66,274	102,644
Anomalies Regulations* ... Class (*a*)	...	1	1
Class (*b*)	2,537	6,962	9,499
Class (*c*)	721	1,342	2,063
Class (*d*)	12,876	27,937	40,813
Employment left voluntarily without just cause	12,764	23,314	36,078
Employment lost through misconduct ...	11,083	17,009	28,092
Failure or refusal to apply for or accept suitable employment, or failure to carry out written directions	3,252	12,462	15,714
Not unemployed	2,742	15,969	18,711
Not capable of work, or not available for work	1,933	6,257	8,190
Other grounds	2,940	21,338	24,278
Total	87,663	201,987	289,650
Trade Dispute Cases.†			
Cases dealt with by Insurance Officers ...	913	3,929	4,842
Appeals against disallowances by Insurance Officers dealt with by Courts of Referees...	216	894	1,110
Decisions by Umpire.†			
Appeals by Insurance Officers	2,449	2,613	5,062
Appeals by Associations	1,335	2,280	3,615
Appeals by Claimants	1,428	3,509	4,937
Total	5,212	8,402	13,614

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE following Table shows, *approximately*, the income and expenditure of the Fund‡ :—

—	Four weeks ended 26th May, 1932.	Five weeks ended 30th April, 1932.	Five weeks ended 30th May, 1931.
I. *Insurance Account.*	£	£	£
Contributions received from :—			
Employers	1,668,000	1,827,000	1,512,000
Employed persons	1,648,000	1,797,000	1,301,000
Exchequer (" Equal thirds ") ...	1,658,000	1,800,000	1,401,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	2,000	2,000	3,000
Deficiency Grant payable by Exchequer§	4,976,000 —	5,426,000 823,000	4,217,000 —
Total Income	4,976,000	6,249,000	4,217,000
Insurance Benefit	4,030,000	5,074,000	8,493,000
Cost of Administration	312,000	641,000	524,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances	417,000	518,000	370,000
Miscellaneous Payments	33,000	16,000	9,000
Total Expenditure ...	‖4,792,000	6,249,000	9,396,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding...	115,000,000	115,000,000	83,780,000
II. *Transitional Payments Account.*			
Transitional Payments and Cost of Administration thereof¶ ...	3,735,000	4,539,000	2,320,000

* 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. (The case under this heading was subsequently allowed by the Umpire on appeal.)

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. 17 of 1932 for the period ended 31st March, 1931.)

§ The payment of Deficiency Grant by the Exchequer commenced in March, 1932, on the exhaustion of the statutory borrowing powers of the Fund; prior to this the deficiency of the Fund was met by Treasury advances.

‖ Owing to seasonal increase of revenue and the increased proportion of expenditure which was made under the head of Transitional Payments, the Insurance Account shows a surplus of £184,000 for this month. The surplus reduces the aggregate amount payable to date during 1932–3 by the Exchequer for Deficiency Grant.

¶ The cost of transitional payments (including their administration) is repaid in full to the Fund by the Exchequer. The figure given in this line for the corresponding period of last year relates to transitional benefit (including administration).

POOR RELIEF IN MAY, 1932.

(*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, 1932, in the forty-seven selected areas named below, was 707,583, or 2·1 per cent. more than in the previous month and 26·4 per cent. more than in May, 1931. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 426, 417, and 337 per 10,000 of the population. In the forty-three selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in May, 1932, was 585,958, an increase of 1·7 per cent. as compared with a month earlier and an increase of 26·1 per cent. as compared with May, 1931. In the four areas in Scotland the number relieved was 121,625 or 3·9 per cent. more than in the previous month and 27·5 more than in May, 1931.

Recipients of indoor relief in the forty-seven areas in May, 1932, numbered 99,259, or 1·2 per cent. less than in the previous month and 8·3 per cent. less than a year ago. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 608,324, or 2·7 per cent. more than in the previous month and 34·7 per cent. more than in May, 1931.

Of the forty-seven areas, thirty-six showed increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in May, 1932, as compared with April, 1932, while nine showed decreases. In two areas there was no change. Compared with May, 1931, forty-six showed increases, including Sheffield (493 per 10,000), Norwich (226 per 10,000), Manchester (206 per 10,000), Glasgow (199 per 10,000), Bristol (194 per 10,000), West Ham (192 per 10,000), and Liverpool (184 per 10,000); while one (Edinburgh) showed a small decrease.

—	Number of Persons* in receipt of Poor Relief on one day† in May, 1932.				Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
County of London	35,983	102,738	138,721	316	− 1	+ 19
Birkenhead ...	865	5,432	6,297	426	+ 10	+115
Birmingham ...	5,257	16,232	21,489	214	+ 4	+ 20
Blackburn ...	800	3,273	4,073	332	+ 7	+ 73
Bolton	915	3,142	4,057	229	...	+ 47
Bradford	1,235	9,479	10,714	359	+ 39	+105
Brighton	1,128	2,125	3,253	221	...	+ 20
Bristol	2,234	13,859	16,093	405	+ 3	+194
Burnley	500	2,217	2,717	277	− 1	+ 66
Cardiff	1,574	8,092	9,666	432	+ 7	+ 55
Coventry	461	1,778	2,239	134	+ 1	+ 17
Croydon	953	2,717	3,670	157	− 5	+ 38
Derby	624	7,023	7,647	537	− 2	+ 49
East Ham ...	650	3,443	4,093	287	+ 1	+ 79
Gateshead ...	738	7,767	8,505	695	+ 31	+142
Huddersfield ...	507	1,754	2,261	199	+ 19	+ 41
Kingston-upon-Hull	1,725	17,577	19,302	616	+ 28	+ 51
Leeds	2,924	13,584	16,508	342	+ 9	+ 59
Leicester	818	4,668	5 486	229	+ 12	+ 33
Liverpool	6,762	55,083	61,845	723	+ 8	+184
Manchester ...	3,696	45,032	48,728	636	+ 19	+206
Middlesbrough ...	538	3,773	4,311	311	− 1	+ 17
Newcastle-on-Tyne	896	16,981	17,877	631	+ 6	+141
Norwich	840	7,722	8,562	678	+ 16	+226
Nottingham ...	1,856	11,554	13,410	499	+ 53	+122
Oldham	957	1,857	2,814	201	+ 1	+ 55
Plymouth	528	6,226	6,754	324	+ 7	+ 45
Portsmouth ...	1,323	2,460	3,783	152	− 7	+ 14
Preston	532	1,133	1,665	140	+ 6	+ 40
St. Helens ...	501	4,438	4,939	462	+ 13	+102
Salford	1,666	5,901	7,567	339	+ 8	+ 83
Sheffield	1,836	50,779	52,615	1,028	+ 21	+493
Southampton ...	1,390	2,976	4,366	248	+ 5	+ 35
Southend-on-Sea ...	253	2,082	2,335	194	− 18	+ 53
South Shields ...	730	3,417	4,147	366	− 6	+ 50
Stockport	589	1,428	2,017	161	+ 4	+ 33
Stoke-on-Trent ...	1,788	7,091	8,879	321	+ 6	+ 80
Sunderland ...	901	8,938	9,839	529	+ 9	+ 49
Swansea	681	5,990	6,671	405	+ 13	+ 41
Wallasey	259	1,138	1,397	143	− 1	+ 19
Walsall	605	4,011	4,616	448	+ 20	+ 32
West Ham ...	2,260	15,207	17,467	594	+ 16	+192
Wolverhampton ...	560	2,003	2,563	192	+ 3	+ 26
Total of the above-named County Boroughs ...	55,855	391,382	447,237	432	+ 11	+110
Total, County of London and Selected County Boroughs ...	91,838	494,120	585,958	397	+ 7	+ 83
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow	5,245	89,202	94,447	868	+ 39	+199
Edinburgh ...	989	15,674	16,663	380	+ 2	− 7
Dundee	731	4,554	5,285	301	+ 7	+ 63
Aberdeen	456	4,774	5,230	313	+ 4	+126
Total for the above Scottish Burghs	7,421	114,204	121,625	650	+ 24	+128
Total for above 47 areas in May, 1932 ...	99,259	608,324	707,583	426	+ 9	+ 89

* 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 excluded.

† 21st May in London, 28th 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.* 210–211 *to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries.*]

GERMANY.*

Unemployment showed a further seasonal decrease during April.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as *available for and seeking work*, at the end of April, 1932, was 5,844,375 as compared with 6,125,762 at the end of March, 1932, and 4,469,474 at the end of April, 1931. At 31st May, 1932, the provisional figure was 5,693,472.

The total number of persons reported by the Employment Exchanges as *unemployed* was 5,739,070 at the end of April, 1932, as compared with 6,034,100 at the end of March, 1932, and 4,358,153 at the end of April, 1931. At 31st May, 1932, the provisional total was 5,582,875.

On the last day of April, 1932, 1,231,911 persons were in receipt of standard unemployment benefit and 1,674,979 in receipt of emergency benefit, giving a total of 2,906,890, as compared with 3,323,109 at the end of March, 1932, and 2,789,627 at the end of April, 1931. The number in receipt of standard and emergency benefit at 31st May, 1932, was 2,657,977 (provisional figure).

Among members of trade unions for which statistics are available 43·9 per cent. were unemployed at the end of April, 1932, as compared with 44·6 at the end of March and 31·8 per cent. at the end of April, 1931. In addition 22·1 per cent. were working short time at the end of April, 1932, as compared with 22·6 per cent. at the end of March, and 18·1 per cent. at the end of April, 1931. The following Table gives particulars for various groups of trade unions included :—

Groups of Trade Unions.	Membership reported on at end of April, 1932.	Percentage Wholly Unemployed and on Short Time at end of month.			
		Wholly Unemployed.		On Short Time.	
		April, 1932.	Mar., 1932.	April, 1932.	Mar., 1932.
Mining	150,900	17·8	18·8	38·2	36·9
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. :—					
Workers subject to seasonal influences ...	107,200	69·4	75·5	4·4	5·2
Other workers	74,500	47·3	48·7	22·2	21·7
Engineering and metal ...	845,100	44·4	43·6	28·2	29·1
Chemical	92,300	32·2	32·5	33·8	34·8
Textile	290,000	32·1	30·7	42·6	41·3
Paper	98,200	34·1	34·0	33·1	34·4
Leather	50,800	46·9	46·6	25·3	25·2
Wood	261,800	64·0	63·5	10·8	11·2
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	240,800	31·7	31·9	30·7	34·2
Clothing, boots and shoes	130,200	37·0	39·2	31·9	31·4
Building	536,600	84·0	88·7	0·3	0·4
Printing	146,600	34·9	35·0	15·7	15·9
Miscellaneous	697,100	21·3	21·3	19·7	20·6
All Unions making Returns	3,722,100	43·9	44·6	22·1	22·6

FRANCE.†

Unemployment showed a further decrease during May. The total number of persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges at the end of the last week of the month was 318,833 (242,420 men and 76,413 women). At the end of April the corresponding total was 337,499 and at the end of May, 1931, 57,305.

At the beginning of May, 1932, the number of persons employed in mining, industrial, transport and commercial undertakings covered by the special official monthly investigation‡ showed a decline of 13·98 per cent. as compared with May, 1931. The percentage of workpeople in these undertakings on short-time to such an extent as to bring their weekly hours below 48 was 51·67, as compared with 29·94 at the beginning of May, 1931. In May, 1932, 15·06 per cent. were working more than 40 and less than 48 hours, and 36·61 per cent. 40 hours or less a week.

HOLLAND.§

Unemployment showed a decrease during March. According to figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, out of 553,725 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 26th March, 1932, 21·6 per cent. were unemployed during the whole week and 7·3 per cent. for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month the percentages were 25·5 and 6·6 respectively, and in the last week of March, 1931, 12·9 and 4·8. At the end of March, 1932, 277,300 applicants for employment were registered at public employment exchanges, of whom 252,800 were actually unemployed.

* *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 25th May, 1932, and *Reichsarbeitsmarkt-Anzeiger*, 8th June, 1932, Berlin.
† *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 27th May, and 3rd June, 1932. Paris.
‡ *See* the March, 1931, issue of this GAZETTE, page 111.
§ *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 30th April, 1932. Amsterdam.

AUSTRIA.*

Unemployment continued to decrease during April. The total number of persons in receipt of benefit at the end of the month was 303,838 (113,594 in Vienna), as compared with 352,444 (123,968 in Vienna) at the end of March, 1932, and 246,845 (95,797 in Vienna) at the end of April, 1931.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.†

Unemployment showed a further decrease in May. The total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges at the end of the month was 484,604, as compared with 539,000 at the end of April, 1932, and 247,795 at the end of May, 1931.

ITALY.‡

There was a further decrease in the number unemployed during April. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 1,000,025 workpeople were recorded as unemployed at the end of the month as compared with 1,053,016 at the end of March, 1932, and 670,353 at the end of April, 1931. In addition, 32,720 persons were partially unemployed at the end of April, 1932, as compared with 31,636 at the end of March and 28,780 at the end of April, 1931.

POLAND.§

Unemployment decreased during May. According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland, the number of unemployed registered at Employment Exchanges at 28th May, 1932, was 288,600, as compared with 328,700 at the end of April, and 320,100, at the end of May, 1931. At these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 96,400, 113,700 and 163,900 respectively.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment decreased during April in Denmark and Sweden; in Norway it showed a slight increase during March.

Denmark.‖—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by the Central Employment Exchange and by Unemployment Insurance Funds show that, out of 303,166 workpeople 29·9 per cent. were unemployed at the end of April, 1932, as compared with 35·8 at the end of March, and 15·3 at the end of April, 1931.

Norway.¶—Out of 23,066 members of trade unions making returns, 25·4 per cent. were unemployed at the end of March, 1932, as compared with 24·8 per cent. at the end of February, and 19·1 per cent. at the end of March, 1931.

*Sweden.***—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed at 30th April, 1932, was 20·5 as compared with 23·9 at the end of March, and 17·1 at the end of April, 1931.

SWITZERLAND.††

Unemployment continued to decrease during April largely owing to seasonal causes. At the end of the month, 44,958 applications for employment (34·2 per thousand of the employed population according to the census of 1920) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 52,288 at the end of March, 1932, and 16,036 at the end of April, 1931. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 3,015, 3,481 and 4,594 respectively.

Returns from 189 unemployment funds show that, out of an aggregate of 445,856 members, 9·0 per cent. were wholly unemployed and 14·0 per cent. partially so, at the end of March, 1932, as compared with 10·1 per cent. and 14·9 per cent. at the end of December, 1931, and 5·7 per cent. and 12·6 per cent. at the end of March, 1931.

UNITED STATES.‡‡

According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 63,421 establishments in 16 principal industrial groups, these establishments employed 4,513,853 workpeople in April, 1932, showing a decrease of 2·7 per cent. as compared with the preceding month. During the same period the aggregate earnings in these establishments decreased by 5·1 per cent. If the average monthly index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for April, 1932 (based on returns relating to 18,254 establishments employing 2,791,626 workpeople), was 62·2 as compared with 64·5 for March, 1932, and 75·7 for April, 1931.

Among members of trade unions in 24 cities affiliated to the American Federation of Labour 31 per cent. were reported to be unemployed in May, 1932, the same as in April, as compared with 25 per cent. in May, 1931.

CANADA.

Employment during April showed little change. Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 7,882 firms with an aggregate of 799,944 workpeople on their pay roll at 1st May, 1932, as compared with 799,544 at 1st April, 1932. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for May, 1932, was 87·5, the same as at the beginning of April, as compared with 102·2 at the beginning of May, 1931.§§

* *Statistische Nachrichten*, 27th May, 1932. Vienna.
† *Prager Tagblatt*, 10th June, 1932. Prague.
‡ *Bollettino Mensile di Statistica*, May, 1932. Rome.
§ *Wiadomosci Statystyczne*, 5th June, 1932. Warsaw.
‖ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 23rd May, 1932. Copenhagen.
¶ Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Oslo.
** Information supplied by the Department of Social Affairs. Stockholm.
†† *La Vie Economique*, May, 1932. Berne.
‡‡ *Trend of Employment*, May, 1932, and *American Federationist*, June, 1932. Washington.
§§ *The May Employment Situation*, 1932, Dominion Bureau of Statistics 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 decrease of about £10,750 in the weekly full-time wages of 138,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £275 in those of 15,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below :—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
			£	£
Mining and Quarrying ...	12,800	5,500	200	775
Iron and Steel	1,400	62,000	25	1,875
Other Metal	500	27,250	25	3,175
Building, etc.	...	20,000	...	1,825
Other Industries ...	300	23,250	25	3,100
Total	15,000	138,000	275	10,750

The workpeople in the mining group whose wages were increased were principally coal miners in Warwickshire, for whom there was a slight increase in the percentage addition to basis rates (equivalent to less than 1 per cent. on the total wages). Workpeople affected by reductions in this group included china clay workers in Cornwall and Devon, and roadstone quarrymen in the southern and south-western counties of England.

The reduction in the iron and steel group mainly affected men in steel melting shops and in steel rolling mills in various districts in England and Scotland, the reduction amounting to 1¼ per cent. on basis rates, equivalent in most cases to about one per cent. on total wages. There was a small increase in the wages of blastfurnace workers in Cumberland.

In other metal industries, workpeople employed in electrical cable making had their wages reduced under a cost-of-living sliding scale by amounts varying from 1s. to 2s. per week in the case of adult workers. A new grading scheme for pipe fitters in the heating and domestic engineering trade in England and Wales resulted in reductions in most districts, varying up to 1d. or 1½d. per hour; in a few districts there was a slight increase. There were reductions of from 1s. to 2s. per week in the wages of adult male workers employed in needle and fishing tackle making in the Redditch district; and of 5 per cent. on the basis rates of chain makers.

The principal reductions in the building group affected workpeople employed at Liverpool and Birkenhead, and at Belfast, the reductions in each case amounting to ½d. per hour.

Workpeople in the other industrial groups whose wages were reduced under arrangements effected in May included those employed by certain cotton manufacturing firms in Lancashire, hosiery makers at Hawick, furniture trade operatives at Liverpool and Sheffield, tramway and omnibus workers at Liverpool, and dock labourers employed on cross-channel boats at Belfast.

Of the estimated total decrease of £10,750 per week, £2,050 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, including £1,350 under scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils or Trade Boards; other changes arranged by Joint Industrial Councils accounted for £120; nearly £2,000 of the total took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices (iron or steel); £250 was the result of arbitration; and the remainder took effect by negotiation between employers and workpeople, or independent action on the part of employers. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for about £200.

Of the total increase of £275 per week, about £50 was the result of direct negotiation between the parties, and the remainder was due to the operation of sliding scales based on selling prices, or on the proceeds of the industry (coal mining).

Summary of Changes reported in January–May, 1932.

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 first five completed months of 1932, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople † affected by Net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
			£	£
Coal Mining	20,000	500	975	160
Other Mining and Quarrying	2,300	9,000	40	1,125
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	200	12,250	10	1,150
Iron and Steel	64,500	11,000	1,950	1,450
Shipbuilding	...	28,000	...	4,850
Other Metal	2,000	44,500	150	5,700
Textile	2,250	126,000	80	8,400
Clothing	...	33,000	...	3,875
Food, Drink and Tobacco	...	8,250	...	930
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	...	12,000	...	1,650
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	...	3,000	...	610
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	1,200	516,000	220	47,150
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	...	44,500	...	5,250
Transport	625	300,000	90	58,700
Public Administration Services	225	28,500	10	3,250
Other	1,000	13,500	50	2,000
Total	94,300	1,190,000	3,575	146,250

In the corresponding five months of 1931, there were net increases of £4,080 in the weekly full-time wages of 78,000 workpeople, and net decreases of £212,350 in those of 1,878,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

There was an increase of 1 hour in the weekly working hours of typefounders in London. Increases also occurred in the hours in respect of which statutory minimum rates are fixed for agricultural labourers in the counties of Bedford, Huntingdon, and Cambridge.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1932.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (*Decreases in italics.*)
Agriculture	Northumberland ...	13 May	Male workers employed as stewards, horsemen, cattlemen, stockmen or shepherds.	*Decreases in minimum rates of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: workers who are householders—14s. 6d. at under 15, increasing each year to 37s. 6d. at 21 and over; workers who are not householders—10s. 6d. at under 15, increasing each year to 34s. 6d. at 21 and over.‡*
			Other male workers (except casual workers).	*Decreases in minimum rates of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change for a week of 48 hours in winter and 52½ hours in summer: 9s. 6d. at under 15, increasing each year to 30s. 6d. at 21 and over.‡*
			Male casual workers	*Decrease in minimum rates of ½d. per hour (except for those 16 and under 18 years of age, for whom there was no change). Minimum rates: 14 and under 16, 4d. per hour; 16 and under 18, 6d.; 18 and over, 7d.‡*
	Lancashire (Southern Area).§	1 May	Male workers	*Decrease in minimum rates of 1s. per week for those under 21 years of age, the rates for those 21 and over remaining unchanged. Minimum rates: stockmen or teamsmen for a week of 52½ hours—17s. at 16, increasing each year to 37s. at 21 and over; other workers for a week of 50 hours—11s. at 14, increasing each year to 33s. 6d. at 21 and over.‡*
	Lancashire (Northern Area).§	1 May	Workers 19 and over employed as stockmen or teamsmen.	*Decrease in minimum rates of 1s. per week for those under 21 years of age, the rate for those 21 and over remaining unchanged. Minimum rates for a week of 60 hours: 19 and under 21, 35s.; 21 and over, 40s.‡*
			Other male workers	*Decrease in minimum rates of 3s. per week for those under 21 years of age, the rate for those 21 and over remaining unchanged. Minimum rates for a week of 60 hours: 12s. at 14, increasing each year to 37s. 6d. at 21 and over.‡*
	Lancashire (Eastern Area).§	1 May	Male workers 19 and over employed as stockmen or teamsmen.	*Decreases in minimum rates of from 1s. to 3s. per week. Minimum rates for a week of 60 hours: 19 and under 21, 35s.; 21 and over, 40s.‡*
			Other male workers	*Decreases in minimum rates of from 3s. 6d. to 7s. per week. Minimum rates after change for a week of 60 hours: 12s. at 14, increasing each year to 37s. 6d. at 21 and over.‡*

* 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, details of changes in the current rates of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics 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 about 18,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ The minimum rates referred to took effect under an Order of the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

§ Under previous Orders issued by the Agricultural Wages Board, Lancashire was divided into three areas as indicated above. Under the new Order which took effect from 1st May the county is divided into two areas, viz., Southern, and rest of county.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1932 (*continued*).

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (*Decreases in italics.*)
Agriculture (*con'd.*)	Radnorshire and Brecknockshire.	1 May	Male workers	*Decreases in minimum rates of from 1d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change for a week of 54 hours in summer and 50 hours in winter: 11s. 5d. at under 15, increasing each year to 29s. 6d. at 21 and over.**
	Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire.	2 May	Male workers 21 years of age and over.	*Decrease in minimum rates of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: stockmen, teamsters, carters or shepherds for a week of 60 hours, 32s. 6d.; other workers for a week of 54 hours, 28s. 6d.**
			Male workers under 21 years of age	*Decreases in minimum rates of from 1d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change for a week of 60 hours: 10s. 5d. at under 15, increasing each year to 28s. 6d. at 20.**
Coal Mining	Warwickshire ...	1 May	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of 1 per cent. on basis rates of 1911 at the majority of the collieries, making wages 48 per cent. above basis rates at these collieries†; also subsistence wage paid to adult able-bodied surface workers increased by ½d. per day (to 7s. 2½d. at the majority of the collieries).‡
Other Mining and Quarrying.	Various districts, principally in the South-Western Area of England.§	1 May	Roadstone quarryworkers	*Decrease of ½d. per hour in the minimum rate for adult workers, leaving this at 11d. per hour.*
	Cornwall and Devon‖	16 May	China clay workers.	*Decrease of 1d. per hour in standard rate (1s. to 11d.) and a proportionate decrease on piecework rates.‖*
Glass Working.	Glasgow, Edinburgh and Perth.	9 May	Glass bevellers, silverers, and cutters.	*Decrease of 1d. per hour in maximum rate (1s. 9d. to 1s. 8d.),* the minimum rate (1s. 4d. per hour) remaining unchanged.
Pig Iron Manufacture.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in May.	Workpeople (excluding craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase¶ of ⅔ per cent. on standard rates for those workpeople whose total earnings without scale percentage for a normal week are over 6s. 4d. per shift, making their wages 14⅓ per cent. above the standard.**
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	England†† and West of Scotland.	1 May	Men employed in steel-melting shops :— Melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producermen and charge wheelers.	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard (basic process) and at the standard (acid process).*
			Semi-skilled workers and labourers.	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.*
	North-East Coast Area.	1 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 from 3s. 10d. to 6s. per shift); also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	*Decrease¶ of $\frac{1}{128}$ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making a total net decrease since 1 May, 1921, of $\frac{43}{128}$ of such advance.*
	North-East Coast Area (except certain men employed at Gateshead).	1 May	Men employed on direct production in steel rolling mills.	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.*
	Workington ...	1 May	Steel millmen and labourers (datal workers).	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.*
	Barrow-in-Furness	1 May	Workpeople employed at steel works :— Rail millmen	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 16¼ per cent. above the standard.*
			Merchant millmen, enginemen, cranemen, etc.	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.*
	Scunthorpe	1 May	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers, etc.	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.*
	West of Scotland ...	1 May	Millmen, gas producermen, enginemen, cranemen, firemen and mill labourers, semi-skilled workers and general labourers employed in steel rolling mills.	*Decrease¶ of 1¼ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard.*
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire.	Pay preceding 3rd pay day in May.	Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber-jointers, etc.).	*Decrease‡‡ of 1s. 11½d. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 5½d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. per week for youths 14, 16 and 17 years, of 5½d. per week for youths 15 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for girls; pieceworkers' wages to be reduced proportionately. Rates after change: Men 21 years of age and over, 48s. 11½d. to 54s. 10d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 33s. 9½d. to 41s. 7½d.; boys 14 to 17 years, 13s. 2½d. to 23s.; women 18 years and over, 25s. 6d. to 29s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 12s. 6d. to 17s. (excluding any service bonuses).*
	Great Britain, other than the above counties.			*Decrease‡‡ of 2s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 6d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for boys and girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wages to be reduced proportionately. Rates after change: men 21 years of age and over, 43s. 6d. to 49s. 6d.; youths 18 to 20 years, 31s. 6d. to 38s.; boys 14 to 17 years, 12s. 6d. to 21s. 6d.; women 18 years and over, 25s. 6d. to 29s. 6d.; girls 14 to 17 years, 12s. 6d. to 17s. (excluding any service bonuses).*
Chain, etc., Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	1 May	Workpeople (mainly female workers) employed in making hand-hammered chain from iron up to and including $\frac{11}{32}$ in. diameter.	*Decrease‡‡ of 5 per cent. on the general minimum time rates as fixed under Trade Boards Acts at 1 November, 1923, and on piecework rates as fixed, varied and extended under Trade Boards Acts at 5 November, 1928. General minimum time rate after change for adult workers, 5·3d. per hour.*
			Workpeople employed in making dollied and tommied chain from iron No. 6 I.S.W.G. up to and including $\frac{11}{32}$ in. diameter, and hand-hammered chain from iron $\frac{3}{8}$ in. up to and including $\frac{11}{32}$ in. diameter.	*Decrease‡‡ of 5 per cent. on general minimum time rates as varied under Trade Boards Acts at 1 February, 1924, and on piecework rates as fixed, varied or extended under Trade Boards Acts at 16 August, 1926. General minimum time rate after change for lowest-paid adult workers, 1s. 1d. per hour.*
	Cradley Heath and District, Chester, Stoke, and Pontypridd.	1st full pay day in May.	Commercial end-welded dollied and tommied chain makers (except those whose wages are regulated by the Chain Trade Board) and cable shackle makers.	*Decrease‡‡ of 5 per cent. on list prices, leaving prices 20 per cent. below the lists of 1922.*
			Admiralty end-welded chain makers	*Decrease‡‡ of 5 per cent. on list prices, leaving prices 15 per cent. below the lists of 1922.*
			Side-welded chain makers	*Decrease‡‡ of amounts varying according to size from 2d. to 4½d. per cwt.*
			Anchor and grapnel makers ...	*Decrease‡‡ of 3d. per cwt.*

* The minimum rates referred to took effect under an Order of the Agricultural Wages Board in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

† At three collieries where a lower percentage is payable the percentage was increased by 1 per cent. to 43 per cent. at one colliery, and remained unaltered at 40 and 42 per cent. at the other two collieries respectively.

‡ The subsistence wage for adult able-bodied underground workers at the majority of the collieries remained unchanged at 8s. 3d. per day.

§ The districts affected are situated in the following counties:—Berkshire, Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire, Somerset, and Wiltshire.

‖ The reduction took effect in accordance with the terms of a resolution passed at a general meeting of china clay producers. No trade union was a party to the arrangement.

¶ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

** The wages of workpeople whose total earnings without scale percentage for a normal week average 6s. 4d. or less per shift remain unaltered at 20 per cent. above the standard, plus bonuses up to 10d. per shift.

†† Principally the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South and West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and the Midlands.

‡‡ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1932 (*continued*).

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (*Decreases in italics.*)
Needle and Fishing Tackle Manufacture.	Redditch and District	2nd pay day in May.	Adult male timeworkers and piece-workers.	*Decrease* in bonus of 2s. per week for Grade "A" males (1s. 1d. per hour and over), of 1s. 6d. per week for Grade "B" males (11d. or 1s. per hour), and of 1s. per week for Grade "C" males (9d. or 10d. per hour), leaving total bonuses of 4s. to 6s. per week for timeworkers and 2s. to 4s. per week for pieceworkers.*
Heating and Domestic Engineering.	England and Wales	9 May	Heating and domestic engineers (pipe fitters).	*New grading scheme adopted, reducing the London rate (Grade A) from 1s. 8d. per hour to 1s. 7d., and fixing two rates for provincial districts instead of three as previously; Grade B rate to be 1s. 6½d. per hour and to apply to cities with a population of over 500,000; Grade C rate to be 1s. 6d. per hour and to apply to all other districts.†*
	Scotland	Pay day in week ending 26 Mar.	Heating and domestic engineers (pipe fitters).	*Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6½d.); charge hands at Glasgow and Paisley, 1d. per hour extra; at Edinburgh, ¾d. per hour extra.*
Typefounding	London	5 May	Workpeople employed in type foundries.	*Revised cost-of-living sliding-scale adopted, with new rates of wages, resulting in reductions of 5s. 2d. per week for mould makers, 5s. 10d. per week for engineers and justifiers, 10s. per week for rubbers, 5s. per week for other classes of men, and of 2s. 6d. per week for females; also revised scale of wages adopted for learners, resulting in reductions up to 5s. per week in certain cases. Rates after change include: mould makers, 80s. per week; engineers and justifiers, 72s.; rubbers, 55s.; other classes of men, 60s.; females, 30s.‡*
Sheet Metal Working.	Dundee	4 May	Sheet metal workers	*Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 6½d.).*
Cotton Industry.	Blackburn, Accrington, Rishton, Great Harwood and Haslingden (certain firms).§	Various dates (March to May)	Weavers, winders, warpers, sizers, overlookers, and other workpeople.	*Reductions of varying amounts, ranging generally from 6¼ to 12½ per cent. off current rates.§*
Hosiery Manufacture.	Hinckley	14 April	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of seamless hose on machines with more than 260 needles.	Uniform prices fixed and certain revisions made in "extras" provided for in 1928 Price List, resulting in net increases in the total rates in some cases and net decreases in others.
	Hawick	1st full pay day in May.	Men and women	*Flat rate bonuses of 6s. 6d. per week for men and 5s. per week for women reduced‖ to 3s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. per week respectively, the bonus of 20 per cent. on base rates remaining unchanged.*
			Apprentices	*Flat rate bonus of 2s. 3d. per week reduced‖ to 1s. 1½d. per week, the bonus of 15 per cent. on base rates remaining unchanged.*
Machine Calico Printing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Pay preceding 1st pay day in June.	Machine calico printers	*Supplementary cost-of-living wage reduced‖ from 21·15 per cent. to 19·35 per cent. on basis wages, the flat rate bonuses of 17s. per week for journeymen and 11s. per week for apprentices remaining unchanged.*
Silk Dyeing and Finishing.	Macclesfield ...	Pay day in week ending 14 May.	Male workers	*Decreases‖ of from 4d. to 11d. per week. Rates after change: 13s. 5d. at 14 increasing each half-year to 26s. 6d. at 18, and to 45s. at 21.*
			Female workers 18 and over ...	*Decrease‖ of 5d. per week (26s. 11d. to 26s. 6d.).*
Baking and Confectionery.	Edinburgh and Leith	16 May	Bakers and confectioners	*Decrease of 1s. per week for men on general starting hours (4.30 or 5 a.m.), and of 1s. 6d. or 2s. per week for men making early starts. Minimum rates after change: 5 a.m. start, 69s.; 4.30 a.m. start, 71s.*
	Vale of Leven, Dumbarton and Helensburgh.	28 May	Bakers and confectioners	*Decrease of 2s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 68s.*
Furniture Manufacture.	Liverpool and District	25 May	Cabinet makers, chair makers, machinists, upholsterers, french polishers, carpet planners (men) and sandpaperers.	*Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: carpet planners, 1s. 6½d.; sandpaperers, 1s. 3½d.; other classes, 1s. 7½d. (cabinet makers, plus 2s. per week "tool money").*
			Upholstresses and carpet sewers (women).	*Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: upholstresses, 8¾d.; carpet sewers, 9½d.*
	Sheffield ¶	1st full pay day after 2 May.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, polishers, upholsterers, carpet planners and fitters.	*Decrease of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: carpet fitters, 1s. 4½d.; other classes, 1s. 6½d. (spindle hands, 1d. per hour more).¶*
	High Wycombe ...	23 May	Caners	*Decrease‖ of ½d. per chair on bedroom chairs boxed 21 and 23 (8d. to 7½d.) and of ¼d. per hour on Manchester rockers, cane chairs and all other cane work (8d. to 7½d.).*
			Matters	*Decrease‖ of ½d. per chair on ordinary chairs (8½d. to 8d.) and of proportionate amounts on children's and kindergarten chairs.*
Road-Vehicle Building.	Liverpool and Manchester District.	1st full pay after 10 May.	Bodymakers, wheelwrights, joiners and finishers, smiths, painters, etc.	*Decrease of 1d. per hour for those receiving 1s. 7½d. or over per hour, and of ½d. per hour for those receiving 1s. 7d. per hour; no reduction to be applied to those receiving 1s. 6½d. or less per hour.***
Building	Liverpool, Birkenhead and District.	26 or 27 May.	Bricklayers, masons, tilers, marble polishers, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters, street masons and paviors, asphalters, potmen and labourers.	*Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons (banker hands), tilers, carpenters, joiners and plumbers, 1s. 7½d. per hour, plus 2s. per week "tool money"; masons (fixers), 1s. 8d. per hour, plus 2s. per week "tool money"; marble polishers, 1s. 5d.; woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters, painters, street masons and paviors, 1s. 7½d.; plasterers, 1s. 8½d.; asphalters, 1s. 7d.; potmen, 1s. 3½d.; craftsmen's labourers, 1s. 2½d.; navvies and general labourers, 1s. 2½d.*
	Belfast	1 May	Bricklayers, stonecutters, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and painters.	*Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 7d.).*
	Ballymena	1 May	Joiners, plumbers and painters ...	*Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 5d.).*
	Larne	1 May	Bricklayers, stonecutters, joiners, slaters and painters.	*Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 6d.).*
Monumental Masonry.	Aberdeen	16 May	Cutters, turners, polishers, etc. ...	*Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: granite cutters, turners, scabblers and toolsmiths, 1s. 5½d.; hand polishers, leading bedsetters and sawmen, 1s. 4½d.*
	Edinburgh and District.	16 May	Monumental masons and polishers	*Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rate after change for monumental masons, 1s. 6½d.*
	Glasgow and District	30 May	Monumental masons and sculptors	*Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 7d.).*

* The change affects mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the Joint Industrial Council for the Needle, Fishhook, Fishing Tackle and Allied Trades. It has been reported that at some of the works the reduction has not been enforced.

† Under the previous grading scheme Grade B rate (1s. 7½d. per hour) had applied principally to most large towns in the West Midlands, also to Lancashire and Cheshire generally, and Newcastle-on-Tyne; Grade C rate (1s. 6½d. per hour) had applied to smaller towns in Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire, and Leeds, Sheffield, Cardiff and Bristol; Grade D (1s. 5¾d. per hour) had applied to most other districts.

‡ The changes affected mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the London Master Typefounders' Association. No trade union was a party to the arrangement. *See also* under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

§ The reductions were put into operation by a number of individual firms, and were not the subject of a formal agreement with the trade unions.

‖ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

¶ The change affects mainly the employees of firms affiliated to the Sheffield Furnishing Trades Employers' Association. The arrangement also provides that a similar reduction shall take effect as and from the first full pay day after 1st August, 1932.

** The above decreases took effect under an agreement made between the Lancashire and Cheshire Section of the National Federation of Vehicle Trades, the National Union of Vehicle Builders, and the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING MAY, 1932 (*continued*).

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (*Decreases in italics.*)
Tramway and Omnibus Undertakings.	Leeds	1st full pay after 4 May.	Junior omnibus conductors employed by the Corporation.	*Decrease of 5s. per week.*
	Various towns in Lancashire and Cheshire.*	1st full pay week in May.	Vehicle builders employed by tramway authorities.	*Decrease of 1d. per hour for those receiving 1s. 7d. or over per hour, and of ½d. per hour for those receiving 1s. 6½d. per hour; no reduction to be applied to those in receipt of 1s. 6d. or less.*
	Liverpool	19 April	Workpeople employed by Corporation tramway and omnibus undertaking (excluding skilled tradesmen).	*Decrease of 1s. per week for adults and 6d. per week for juniors. Weekly rates after change include: drivers 59s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. and conductors 55s. 6d. to 60s., plus for both classes, 1s. per week for each satisfactory 5 years' service.*
Docks, Wharves, etc.	Belfast, Coleraine and Londonderry.	2 May	Dock labourers, etc., on cross-channel boats.	*Decrease of 1d. per hour for permanent and casual men on day or night work, subject to checkers rated at 65s. per week or less having no reduction, and those receiving over 65s. not being reduced to a rate below that amount. Rates after change: Belfast—permanent labourers, 64s. 4d. per week; casual labourers, 1s. 6½d. per hour; Londonderry—permanent labourers, 64s. 7d. per week; casual labourers, 1s. 6¾d. per hour.*
Road Transport.	Nottingham... ...	1st pay day after 25 April.	Commercial road transport workers	*Decrease† of 1s. per week for adults and of 6d. per week for youths under 18 years of age. Rates after change: one-horse drivers, 48s. per week: two-horse drivers, 53s.; petrol wagon drivers—2 tons and over, 58s.; 15 cwts. to 2 tons, 53s.; under 15 cwts., 48s.; electric vehicle drivers—1 ton and over, 55s.; under 1 ton, 48s.; loaders, garage hands—day, 48s.; night, 52s.*
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Manchester	14 May	Workpeople employed in the transport department of the Corporation (excluding tramway and omnibus drivers and conductors).	*Decrease of 2s. per week. Rates after change include: one-horse drivers, 51s.; two-horse drivers, 56s.; mechanical vehicle drivers—up to 1 ton (youths), 41s.; up to 1 ton (adults), 51s.; 1 ton and under 2, 55s.; 2 tons and over, 61s.; steam wagon drivers, 64s.*

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING MAY, 1932.

Agriculture ‖	Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire.	8 May	Male workers	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates are payable fixed at 52 in summer and 48 in winter, instead of 50 in summer and 48 in winter as previously.‡
	Cambridgeshire ...	1 May	Male workers	Hours in respect of which the minimum weekly rates are payable fixed at 51 up to 31st October, 1932 (as compared with summer hours previously in force of 50 per week).‡
Typefounding	London	5 May	Workpeople employed in type foundries.	Increase of 1 hour per week (49 to 50).§

* The above decreases took effect under an agreement made between the Lancashire and Cheshire Tramways Authorities Council and the National Union of Vehicle Builders. The Authorities concerned include the municipalities of Barrow-in-Furness, Birkenhead, Blackpool, Bolton, Darwen, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Rochdale, Stalybridge, Stockport and Wallasey, and the South Lancashire Transport Co. (Atherton).

† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ The changes in hours referred to took effect under an Order of the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

§ *See also* under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during May, 1932, as killed in the course of their employment was 121, as compared with 153* in the previous month and with 135 in May, 1931. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in May, 1932, numbered 24, as compared with 24 in the previous month and with 43 in May, 1931.

RAILWAY SERVICE.	
Brakesmen and Goods Guards	
Engine Drivers and Motormen	
Firemen	1
Guards (Passenger)...	
Permanent Way Men ...	7
Porters	2
Shunters	
Mechanics	
Labourers	1
Other Grades	2
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	13
MINES.	
Underground	49
Surface	2
TOTAL, MINES ...	51
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	8
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	
Cotton	2
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	1
Other Textiles	1
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing	2
Metal Extracting and Refining	1
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making	3
Metal Founding	2
Engineering and Machine Making	1
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (*continued*).	
Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft	2
Shipbuilding	2
Wood	3
Electric Generating Stations	1
Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ...	2
Chemicals, etc.	4
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	3
Tanning, Currying, etc.	
Rubber Trades	
Other Non-Textile Industries	
PLACES UNDER SS. 104–106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	6
Buildings	12
Warehouses and Railway Sidings	1
TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS ...	49
Total (excluding Seamen)	121
SEAMEN.	
Trading Vessels, Sailing ...	1
" " Steam ...	18
Fishing Vessels, Steam ...	5
TOTAL, SEAMEN ...	24
Total (including Seamen)	145

* The figure previously published has been revised.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

THE total number of *cases** of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during May, 1932, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 41; the total number of *deaths** reported was 7.

I. Cases.

(*a*) LEAD POISONING.	
Among Operatives engaged in—	
Smelting of Metals	
Plumbing and Soldering... ...	
Shipbreaking	7
Printing	
Tinning of Metals	
Other Contact with Molten Lead	
White and Red Lead Works	1
Pottery	
Vitreous Enamelling ...	1
Electric Accumulator Works	2
Paint and Colour Works... ...	
Indiarubber Works	
Coach and Car Painting... ...	
Shipbuilding	1
Paint used in Other Industries	
Other Industries	
Painting of Buildings ...	8
TOTAL, LEAD POISONING ...	20
(*b*) OTHER POISONING.	
Aniline	2
(*c*) ANTHRAX.	

I. Cases (*continued*).

(*d*) EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Pitch	6
Tar	
Paraffin	
Oil	6
TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION	12
(*e*) CHROME ULCERATION.	
Manufacture of Bichromates	
Dyeing and Finishing ...	2
Chrome Tanning	
Chromium Plating ...	5
Other Industries	
TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION	7

II. Deaths.

LEAD POISONING.	
Shipbuilding	1
Painting of Buildings ...	2
TOTAL, LEAD POISONING ...	3
EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION (SKIN CANCER).	
Oil	4

* *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.

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 31, as compared with 35 in the previous month, and 33 in May, 1931. In these new disputes about 6,400 workpeople were directly involved, and 400 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 7,100 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 13 disputes which began before May and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 44, involving about 13,900 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during May, of about 96,000 working days.

In the following Table is given an analysis of the disputes in progress in May in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, showing the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress :—

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	2	8	10	7,500	40,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	2	2	4	700	10,000
Textile	5	14	19	3,300	29,000
Transport	1	3	4	1,600	6,000
Other	3	4	7	800	11,000
Total, May, 1932 ...	13	31	44	13,900	96,000
Total, April, 1932 ...	*11*	*35*	*46*	*12,500*	*58,000*
Total, May. 1931 ...	*20*†	*33*	*53*†	*17,300*†	*185,000*†

Causes.—Of the 31 disputes beginning in May, 15, directly involving 1,600 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 9, directly involving 700 workpeople, on other wage questions; one, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on a question as to working hours; 4, directly involving 1,900 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 2, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 15 new disputes, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, and 9 old disputes, directly involving 6,200 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 4, directly involving 700 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 15, directly involving 7,100 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and, 5, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 2 disputes, directly involving 1,300 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1931 AND 1932.‡

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first five months of 1932, as compared with the corresponding period of 1931 :—

Industry Group.	January to May, 1931.			January to May, 1932.		
	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.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Coal Mining ...	74	194,000	2,256,000†	42	21,700	73,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	6	200	3,000	1	200	5,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	7	800	16,000	3	100	500
Chemical ...	3	400	1,000	1	200	1,000
Engineering ...	3	300	6,000	2	200	1,000
Shipbuilding ...	4	200	4,000	8	500	4,000
Other Metal ...	13	1,400	14,000	12	1,300	19,000
Textile	17	153,600†	3,465,000†	50	18,000	234,000
Clothing ...	7	400	2,000	9	1,300	26,500
Woodworking, Furniture, etc.	4	1,400	26,000	8	600	5,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc....	24	8,400	117,000	11	1,100	11,000
Transport ...	10	4,300	11,500	17	10,700	187,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	3	100	500	2	200	1,000
Other	10	700	11,000	5	400	2,000
Total ...	185	366,200†	5,933,000†	171	56,500	570,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING MAY, 1932.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.§	Began.	Ended.		
			1932.	1932.		
COAL MINING :— Colliery workpeople—Kirkcaldy (near).	5,000‖		29 April–9 May	7–14 May	Against proposed reductions in wages of certain workmen.	Work resumed to permit of the opening of negotiations.
Colliery workpeople—Tredegar, Mon. (near).	1,025	77	25 May	25 May	Dispute arising out of suspension of a workman for alleged failure to carry out instructions.	Work resumed.
NUT AND BOLT INDUSTRY :— Nut and bolt workers—Atherton	390		1 April	...	Against proposed reduction in time rates of wages of female workers.	No settlement reported.
COTTON INDUSTRY ¶ :— Cotton weavers and spinners—Brierfield (one firm).	1,000¶	...	2 May	**	Against increase in working hours and reduction in wages.	*See* note **
BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY :— Boot and shoe operatives—Wellingborough district.	317	...	22 March	3 May	For introduction of piece-work, and recognition of Trade Union.	Agreement effected providing for introduction of piece-work at a future date and for recognition of Trade Union.
BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC. :— Building operatives—Londonderry	228	56	2 May	...	Against proposed reduction in wages.	No settlement reported.
TRANSPORT INDUSTRIES :— Dock workers—London	450		14 March	9 May	Demand for re-employment of a particular workman and dissatisfaction generally with the method of engaging daily men.	Daily men to be engaged in order laid down in "preference lists."
Railway goods carters, checkers, loaders, porters, vanguards, etc.—London.	1,061	...	5 May	7 May	Dispute respecting method of keeping record of output of work.	Method of keeping output record to be subject of consideration.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (*i.e.*, number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† Revised figures.

‡ 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, slight.

§ *i.e.* thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

‖ Estimated number.

¶ The particulars given relate to the largest dispute; there were also a number of smaller disputes in the cotton industry in Lancashire, most of which arose from reductions in wages.

** No settlement with the Trade Union has been arrived at, but it is stated that most of the vacancies have been filled.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	**42%**
Food only	**23%**

FOOD.

At 1st June the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food was somewhat lower than a month earlier.

Several of the articles of food included in the statistics showed a decline in prices. Bacon, however, was dearer on 1st June than a month earlier, and for tea higher prices were being charged at many shops at which prices had not been raised (following the new duty) at 30th April, the previous date of inquiry.

As a net result of all the changes recorded the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was 23 per cent. at 1st June, 1932, as compared with 25 per cent. at 30th April, 1932, and 27 per cent. at 1st June, 1931.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 30th April, 1932, and 1st June, 1932 :—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ½d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) at 1st June, 1932, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	30th April, 1932.	1st June, 1932.	July, 1914.	30th April, 1932.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	d.	d.
Beef, British—					
Ribs	0 10	1 3	1 3	+ 5	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6½	0 8	0 8	+ 1½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 2	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	...	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 5½	...
Breast	0 6½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 1½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 3	...
Breast	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	‡	...
Bacon (streaky)* ...	0 11½	0 9½	0 10½	− 1	+ 0½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 1	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 7	0 7	+ 1½	...
Tea	1 6½	1 9	1 9½	+ 3½	+ 0½
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 2½	0 2½	+ 0½	− 0½
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 2	− 0½
Butter—					
Fresh	1 2½	1 4½	1 3½	+ 0¾	− 1
Salt	1 2½	1 2½	1 1½	− 0½	− 1
Cheese†	0 8½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 1½	− 0½
Margarine	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	− 0½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	...	...
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 10½	0 10	+ 5½	− 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, 1932, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 30th April, 1932.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—				
Ribs	51	51	51	50
Thin Flank	22	23	23	22
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	29	29	29	28
Thin Flank	− 4	4	...	...
Mutton, British—				
Legs	48	53	50	50
Breast	26	27	26	27
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	44	40	42	42
Breast	− 4	5	1	1
Bacon (streaky)*	−11	− 8	− 9	−13
Fish	108	87	98	100
Flour	7	9	8	9
Bread	21	21	21	23
Tea	9	25	17	14
Sugar (granulated)	14	9	11	18
Milk	57	64	60	63
Butter—				
Fresh	2	8	5	12
Salt	− 5	− 4	− 4	2
Cheese†	19	19	19	22
Margarine	− 1	− 7	− 4	− 3
Eggs (fresh)	− 7	−13	−10	− 5
Potatoes	123	92	107	112
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase)	23	23	23	25

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

† The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

‡ Increase averaging less than ½d.

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, 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 54 per cent.

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, and boots, 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, averaged about 90 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group there were further reductions in the prices of coal during May, and at the beginning of June the prices of coal averaged approximately 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 about 70 per cent., as compared with between 70 and 75 per cent. a month ago.

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 about 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st June, 1932, is approximately **42 per cent.** over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 43 per cent. at 30th April, 1932, and 45 per cent. at 1st June, 1931.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1932 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 may have been raised 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 1932.

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 1932 :—

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	47	45	47	45	45	45	46	48
1932	47	47	46	44	43	42						

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.*					
	July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	Latest figures available. Rise.	Latest figures available. Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1932.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	57	49	41	30	23	1 June
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czechoslovakia ...	...	...	30	18‡	6‡	Apl.
Denmark	53	49	37	19	15	Apl.
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	44	40	32	...	19	Dec. '31
Finland	1,016	979	837	718	757	Apl.
France (Paris)† ...	...	522	503	517	459	May
„ (other towns)†...	...	503**	514**	502**	443	Feb.
Germany	54	56	46	30	13	May
Italy	416	458	407	342	334	Mar.
Norway	73	58	51	40	34	Apl.
Spain (Madrid)† ...	73	77	80	93	97	Apl.
„ (Barcelona)† ...	65	73	72	77	75	Apl.
Sweden†	57	51	40	30	26	May
Switzerland	57	55	52	40	28	Apl.
United States	50	55	41	17	2	Apl.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.						
Australia	52	60	47	25	27	Apl.
Canada	47	50	49	10	−2	Apl.
India (Bombay): Native families ...	43	45	36	0	−1	May
Irish Free State ...	66	66	56	43**	51	Feb.
New Zealand	46	46	43	18‡	13‡	Apl.
South Africa	16	16	9	4	−1	Apl.

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.*					
		July, 1928.	July, 1929.	July, 1930.	July, 1931.	Latest figures available. Rise.	Latest figures available. Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1932.
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	A,B,C,D,E	65	61	55	47	42	1 June
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	711	771	769	689	615	Apl.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	..	9	4	2‡	Apl.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	76	73	65	54	55	Apl.
Egypt (Cairo)...	A,B,C,E	51	50	48	34	34	Mar.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,113	1,101	1,008	904	910	Apl.
France (Paris)	A,B,C,D,E	419¶	455¶	492¶	465¶	434	1st Qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	53	54	49	37	21	May
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	70§	69§	62§	54§	41	Mar.
Italy ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	282‡	July–Dec. '31
„ (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	426	442	431	386	378	Mar.
„ (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	387	407	400	352	346	Mar.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	76	66	61	52	50	Apl.
Poland (Warsaw)	A,B,C,D,E	23	23	19	0‡	−2‡	May
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	73	69	64	58	57	April
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	61	61	59	50	40	Apl.
United States...	A,B,C,D,E	70§	70§	67§	50§	46	Dec. '31
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.							
Australia ...	A,B,C,D,E	47¶	50¶	41¶	25¶	23	4th Qr. '31
Canada ...	A,B,C,D,E	55	56	56	37	31	Apl.
India (Bombay): Native families	A,B,C,D	47	48	39	8	7	May
Irish Free State	A,B,C,D,E	73	74	68	57**	59	May
New Zealand	A,B,C,D,E	62	60	58	45‡	39‡	Apl.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	31	31	28	22	19	Apl.

* Exceptions to this are: Egypt, January, 1913, to July, 1914; France (othe towns), August, 1914; Italy (all items) and Rome, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Poland, 1914; Germany, average, 1913–1914; Amsterdam, 1911–1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States (all items), Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914. The Australian percentages for all items are a weighted average for the six capital cities. The percentages are calculated, in Czechoslovakia and Poland, on prices converted to their gold values, 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 August.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Master and Servant.

CLAIM FOR WAGES DURING SICKNESS; MEANING OF "SICKNESS" IN WAGES AGREEMENT; EFFECT OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1925.

A Divisional Court allowed an appeal by a grocer's assistant who claimed £13 10s. for wages due to him during a period of sickness between 18th May and 6th July, 1931—three weeks at full wages of £3 a week, and three weeks at half wages of 30s. a week. The appellant was employed under the terms of an agreement between his trade union and his employers, in which the following provision occurred:—

"*Clause* 15.—*Wages during Sickness.*—Wages to be paid as below during periods of sickness, where absence from duty is properly vouched for by medical evidence:—

"A total of three weeks' full wages and three weeks' half wages in the aggregate in any one year."

The worker had received injury to his thumb owing to an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, and was unable to work for the six weeks specified above. His absence from duty was properly vouched for by medical evidence. No claim was made for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act. At the hearing at the County Court, the Judge held that Clause 15 in the wages agreement applied only to "sickness" due to illness from disease or natural causes, and had no relation to incapacity for work resulting from injury caused by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment.

Mr. Justice Macnaghten, in giving judgment, said that it was difficult to see why, if a person was not "sick" when suffering from an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, he should be "sick" when suffering from precisely the same accident occurring at home. It became still more absurd if the accident was occasioned by such misconduct as to disentitle the workman to compensation, but such misconduct were to result in his being held to be "sick." It must, he thought, be taken that the County Court judge had held that the work "sickness" could not apply to any condition due to accident.

It could not be disputed that the word "sickness" might properly be used to include a condition due to accident. In the marriage service, for instance, the words "in sickness or in health" were used as complementary, and covering the whole life of the spouse. A man could not abandon his wife on the ground that she had broken her leg, and was neither "in sickness" nor "in health," but suffering from the results of an accident.

He thought that "sickness" was used to describe any morbid condition, without paying any attention to the cause of it. If the employee was in a condition when, by reason of the state of his health, he was incapable of attending to his duties, and if that was properly vouched for, then he was entitled to payment under Clause 15.

There was further no ground for saying that Clause 15 conflicted with the Workmen's Compensation Act. It did not derogate in any way from the workman's rights. He could make his claim under the Act, but if he did so the fact that he had been receiving his wages since the accident would be taken into consideration in assessing his compensation.

He (Mr. Justice Macnaghten) thought that the claim was well-founded, and that the County Court judge had erred in law, and that the appeal ought to be allowed. Mr. Justice Swift concurred.—*Maloney* v. *St. Helens Industrial Co-operative Society, Ltd., King's Bench Division*, 8th June, 1932.

Trade Boards Acts, 1909–1918.

DRESSMAKING AND WOMEN'S LIGHT CLOTHING TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

An employer was charged with underpaying one female worker, and failing to keep an adequate record of wages. He was fined £2 and £1 respectively, with £1 1s. costs. Arrears of wages were paid prior to the hearing.—*Rex* v. *Israel Bernard, trading as Bernards. Bolton Police Court.* 13th May, 1932.

MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE (ENGLAND AND WALES).

An employer was prosecuted for underpaying two male workers and failing to keep adequate records. The underpayment charges were dismissed on payment of £2 17s. arrears of wages to one of the workers concerned, and a fine of £2, with £2 2s. costs, was imposed on the remaining charge.—*Rex* v. *Marks Levy. Old Street Police Court.* 26th May, 1932.

Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923.

BOOT AND SHOE REPAIRING TRADE.

A firm engaged in the boot and shoe repairing trade was prosecuted for failure to pay wages at not less than the minimum rate to one worker. The Court imposed a fine of £5, and costs amounting to £1 were awarded. Arrears of wages amounting to £18 18s. 7d. were paid to the worker by the defendants prior to the Court proceedings —*J. H. Craig* v. *McKeown & Co. Londonderry Petty Sessions.* 7th April, 1932.

DRESSMAKING AND WOMEN'S LIGHT CLOTHING TRADE.

Criminal proceedings were brought against an employer in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade for (*a*) failure to keep records, and (*b*) failure to pay wages at not less than the minimum rate to two workers. The Court imposed a fine of 2s. for failure to keep records and 2s. for underpayment, and directed arrears of wages amounting to £3 10s. to be paid. In addition, costs amounting to 16s. were allowed —*J. H. Craig* v. *S. A. Lendrum. Fivemiletown Petty Sessions.* 13th April, 1932.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920–32.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

THE Umpire is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions* are final.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself. The claimant may also appeal if the decision of the Court was not unanimous.

The following decision is of general interest:—

Case No. 10287/32. (25.4.32.)

SECTION 8 (1) OF THE PRINCIPAL ACT—TRADE DISPUTE—APPLICANTS JOINED RIVAL UNION AND EMPLOYER REFUSED TO CONTINUE THEIR EMPLOYMENT UNTIL THEY HAD REJOINED OLD UNION—HELD TO BE A TRADE DISPUTE.

The claimants were miners who for various reasons, mainly lack of employment, had allowed their membership of Association A to lapse at varying dates from June to September, 1931. Towards the end of October the claimant and some 23 other workers decided to join Association B. The claimants stated that the local secretary of Association A, on learning that they had joined the rival union, told some of them that he had handed in a list of names to the management of the . . . colliery with a view to stopping their lamps. As a result thereof claimants on reporting for work on 16th November were refused employment. On 18th November negotiations took place between a deputation of the claimants and the management, and as a result claimants were allowed to resume their employment on rejoining Association A.

The Court of Referees decided that the claims should be disallowed in respect of the 16th to 18th November. The Court, having regard to Decision 2032/20,† found that claimants had lost their employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

The additional circumstances are as stated in the following decision:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed from 16th to 18th November, 1931, inclusive.

"The circumstances in which the claimant and twenty-three other workmen employed at the . . . colliery lost employment from 16th to 18th November last are fully described in the record of proceedings of the Court of Referees, and need not be repeated herein.

"The Court of Referees has found that there was a substantial stoppage of work owing to the claimant and others having been refused employment.

"The dispute originated between two rival unions, and at the instigation of one of those unions the employer became a participant in the dispute by making it a condition of continued employment that the claimant and others should rejoin the union of which they had ceased to be members.

"Two points have been argued on the claimant's behalf, which it is said differentiate this case from Case 2032/20. Firstly it is said that there was no notice given either by the employer or by the . . . union prior to the claimant being refused employment except on the terms that he rejoined that union; and secondly that the Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act, 1927, which was passed subsequently to Decision 2032/20 being given, makes the action of the employer illegal.

"With regard to the first point: what are generally termed 'lightning strikes' have been held to be within Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and I see no reason for differentiating between a 'lightning strike' and a 'lightning lock-out.'

"Having regard to the second point which has been raised, I have carefully considered the Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act, 1927, and I assume that reliance is placed on Section 1 of that Act.

"That Section enacts that a lock-out is illegal 'if it has any object other than, or in addition to, the furtherance of a trade dispute within the trade or industry in which the employers locking-out are engaged.'

"By the same Section 'a trade dispute shall not be deemed to be within a trade or industry unless it is a dispute between employers and workmen, or between workmen and workmen, in that trade or industry, which is connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of employment, or with the conditions of labour, of persons in that trade.'

"In the present case the employer was persuaded to make it a term of employment at his colliery that his employees should be members of the . . . union, and as the claimant and his fellow workmen were not prepared to accept employment on those terms there was 'a dispute between employers and workmen . . . in that industry or trade which is connected with . . . the terms of employment . . . of persons in that trade'; and as the sole object of the lock-out was to enforce this term of employment it was an 'object . . . in the furtherance of a trade dispute within the trade or industry in which the employers locking out are engaged.'

"The lock-out, therefore, was not an illegal lock-out under the Act of 1927, and I am unable to differ from the decision given by the Court of Referees."

* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published annually by H.M. Stationery Office, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1930 (price 7s. 6d. net). A volume containing a special selection of important decisions given by the Umpire prior to 19th April, 1928 (price 15s. net), and a volume containing selected decisions given from 19th April, 1928, to 12th March, 1930 (price 6s. net), have also been issued; also an analytical guide to decisions given before 13th March, 1930 (price 2s. 6d. net) and Supplement No. 1 thereto (price 1s. net). Selected decisions are also issued monthly in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription, the latest pamphlet being that for April, 1932.

† *See* U.I. Code 8, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 198.

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

[There are no cases for insertion under this heading.]

(B)—CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND *AD HOC* BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE—NORTHAMPTON.—*Employers' Side* v. *Workmen's Side of the Northampton Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade. Difference.*—As to the prices payable to the workers employed by a certain firm for bed lasting (Littleway process) and combination edge trimming and jointing on the combination trimming machine (Littleway process). Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E., was appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896, to act as *Umpire*, and issued his Award, deciding the prices to be paid for the operations, on 7th May, 1932.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Scotland).

Proposal R.B.S (10), dated 7th June, 1932, to vary certain general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates and to cancel certain general minimum piece-rates, and to fix additional general minimum piece-rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

Objection period expires 27th July, 1932.

WELFARE OF WORKERS.

Proposed Home Office Order for Clay Works.

Reports from H.M. Inspectors of Factories have shown that there is need for special provision for the welfare of workers employed in factories and workshops or parts thereof in which clay, sand, lime, or similar materials are made into bricks, tiles, blocks, slabs, pipes, nozzles, or similar articles; and, after full discussion with the National Federation of Clay Industries and with the operatives' side of the Interim Reconstruction Committee for the industries, the Home Secretary proposes, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 7 of the Police, Factories, etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1916, to make a Welfare Order applying to all such works.

The main requirements of the draft Order which has been prepared are the provision and maintenance by the occupier of suitable accommodation for clothing put off by the workers during working hours; a suitable mess-room (or, in the case of factories or workshops employing not more than twelve workers, other suitable facilities for taking meals), and washing facilities, for those remaining on the premises during meal intervals; a suitable shelter for workers attending kilns (other than covered-in kilns of a continuous type) at night; an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water; and arrangements for the first-aid treatment of injuries.

Any objection to the proposed Order must be sent to the Secretary of State at the Home Office, London, S.W.1, The objection must be in writing, and must state (*a*) the requirements in the draft Order objected to; (*b*) the specific grounds of objection; and (*c*) the modifications asked for.

Copies of the draft Order, and of the notice announcing the Home Secretary's intention to make the Order, may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Pottery (Silicosis) Regulations, 1932.

THE Home Secretary, on 24th May, 1932, made additional Regulations* under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, for the manufacture or decoration of pottery, or any process incidental thereto, including the grinding of flint for use in the manufacture of pottery.

The Regulations, which are in accordance with the revised draft issued on 8th April, 1932,† may be cited as the Pottery (Silicosis) Regulations, 1932, and will come into force on 1st July, 1932.

* *Statutory Rules and Orders*, 1932; *No.* 393. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1½d. post free).

† *See* the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1932, page 161.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1925.

The Workmen's Compensation (Cataract) Order, 1932.

The Home Secretary has made an Order,* dated 3rd June, 1932, under section 43 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, amending paragraph (3) of the Workmen's Compensation (Industrial Diseases) Consolidation Order, 1929,† in two respects in regard to workmen suffering from cataract.

The first amendment relates to those cases in which the judge, committee, or arbitrator is satisfied, on the advice of the medical referee, that, having undergone an operation for cataract, the workman is still disabled by the cataract after the expiration of six months from the date of disablement. The previous Order provided that in such cases compensation might be continued for such further period and subject to such conditions as the judge, committee, or arbitrator might direct; the new Order provides that in such cases the workman shall be entitled to compensation *so long as he remains disabled by the cataract.* This amendment is in accordance with a decision of the House of Lords in a compensation case, that, where a workman has actually undergone the operation but remains wholly or partially disabled by the cataract, he ought to be in the same position as regards claiming compensation during such disablement as a workman disabled by an accident or some other industrial disease.

The second amendment relates to the description of process in the second column of the Schedule to the previous Order, the words "including re-heating and rolling of iron or steel" being now inserted. A case recently occurred in one of the County Courts in which "the manufacture of iron or steel" was construed as not including the re-heating and rolling of iron or steel in a sheet metal works; it was intended, when the Order was made, that these processes should be covered, and the Order has accordingly been amended to make it clear that they are included.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

[NOTE.—The prices quoted are net, and do not include postage.]

BUILDING SOCIETIES.—*Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year* 1931. *Part* 5. *Building Societies. Section 1. Proceedings and statistical notes.* [S.O. publication; price 2s.]

CENSUS.—*Report on the fourteenth decennial census of Scotland,* 1931. *Vol. I. Part* 2. *City of Glasgow.* [S.O. publication; price 2s. 3d.]

HEALTH INSURANCE, HOUSING, POOR RELIEF, ETC.—*Third Annual Report of the Department of Health for Scotland,* 1931. [Cmd. 4080; price 3s.]

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETIES.—*Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year* 1930. *Part* 3. *Industrial and provident societies. Section 1. Proceedings and statistical notes. Report for the year* 1931. *Part* 3. *Section II. Directory and summaries.* [S.O. publications; price 2s. and 7s., respectively.]

INDUSTRIAL SURVEY.—*An industrial survey of the South-West of Scotland, made for the Board of Trade by the Staff of the Political Economy Department of the University of Glasgow.* [S.O. publication; price 4*s.* 6*d.*]

INSPECTION PROCESSES.—*Inspection processes in industry.* (*A preliminary report.*) Report No. 63. Industrial Health Research Board. [S.O. publication; price 1s.] (*See* page 208.)

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*International Labour Conference, seventeenth session, Geneva,* 1933. (i) *Questionnaire I. Abolition of fee-charging employment agencies: first item on the agenda.* (ii) *Questionnaire II. Invalidity, old age and widows' and orphans' insurance: second item on the agenda.* International Labour Office [Geneva, 1932; price 6d. and 1s., respectively.]

MIGRATION STATISTICS.—*Statistics of migration, definitions, methods, classifications.* Studies and Reports, Series N. (Statistics) No. 18. [Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price 3s. 6d.]

MINING.—(i) *Coal Mines Act,* 1911. *Regulations and orders relating to safety and health.* 1932 edition. (Revised to 31st December, 1931.) Mines Department. [S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.] (*See* page 208.) (ii) *Coal Mines Act,* 1930. *Report by the Board of Trade under Section* 7 *of the Act on the working of schemes under Part I of the Act during the December quarter,* 1931. Mines Department. [Cmd. 4076; price 2d.]

POOR RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in March,* 1932, *with some particulars as to the number of unemployed persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts,* 1920 *to* 1931. *Selected decisions given by the Umpire on claims for benefit during the month of April,* 1932. U.I. Code 8B. Pamphlet 4/1932. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication; price 6d.]

VOCATIONAL TESTS.—*A classification of vocational tests of dexterity.* Report No. 64. Industrial Health Research Board. [S.O. publication; price 1s. 3d.] (*See* page 208.)

* *The Workmen's Compensation (Cataract) Order,* 1932. *Statutory Rules and Orders,* 1932, *No.* 424. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net (1½d., post free).
† *Statutory Rules and Orders,* 1929, *No.* 2. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net. (1½d., post free).

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MAY, 1932.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Portsmouth: **Galvanised Corrugated Sheets:** Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall. *Chatham:* **Creosoted Railway Sleepers:** Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, E.C. *Loch Long:* **Additional Accommodation at Single Men's Quarters:** Duncan Stewart (Bonnybridge), Ltd., Bonnybridge.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Boats, Motor: Clare Lallow, Cowes; A. Rutherford & Co., Ltd., Birkenhead; J. S. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes; Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Bolts, Nuts, Studs and Screws, Bright Steel:** E. Mercer, Ltd., Hollinwood; W. Martin Winn, Ltd., Wednesbury; J. C. Prestwich, Ltd., Manchester; Steel Nut & Joseph Hampton, Ltd., Wednesbury; Isaiah Platt, Ltd., Wednesbury; Kirkby Banks Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds; Charles Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Breakers, Circuit, E.H.P.:** A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., Hebburn.—**Cable, Electric:** Derby Cables, Ltd., Derby; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Metropolitan Electric Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Chadwell Heath.—**Caps, Blue Cloth and White Duck:** Army & Navy Hat & Cap Co., Portsmouth; R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Capstans, Air-driven:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Cloth, Leather:** Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Clothing, Oilskin (Jackets, Trousers Combination Suits):** M. Barr & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth.—**Clutch, Electro-Magnetic Friction Type:** Power Plant Co., Ltd., West Drayton.—**Coats, Oilskin:** Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich; Edward Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cooking Apparatus, Oil Fired:** Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Copper Ingot Bars, Electrolytic:** British Metal Corporation Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drawers, Knitted Long and Short:** Cooper Bros. (Nottingham), Ltd., Nottingham; I. & R. Morley, Heanor; Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Drums, Steel:** Baldwins, Ltd., London, E.C.; G. T. Johnson & Co., Liverpool.—**Enamels, White and Grey:** L. Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow; Paripan, Ltd., Egham; Jenson & Nicholson, Ltd., London, E.; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd. Barking.—**Engine, Marine Diesel Oil:** J. & H. McLaren, Ltd. Leeds.—**Engines for Motor Boats:** Ferry Engine Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Gun-metal and Phosphor Bronze Articles and Bells:** Ansell Jones & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Carron Company, Falkirk; Gabriel & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Ernest H. Hill, Ltd., Sheffield; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Ogden & Lawson, Workington; Player, Mitchell & Breeden, Birmingham; John Roby, Ltd., Rainhill; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull; E. Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; T. Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell.—**Handkerchiefs, Black Silk:** Josiah Smale & Son, Ltd., Macclesfield.—**Heads, Replace for Air Compressors:** Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Lathes, Various:** Dean Smith & Grace, Ltd., Keighley.—**Lathe, Turret:** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Selly Oak.—**Launches, Motor, for R.A.F.:** British Power Boat Co., Ltd., Hythe, Hants.—**Leggings, Web:** Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Machines, Milling:** J. Parkinson & Son, Shipley, Yorks.—**Machine, Shaping:** Research Engineers, Ltd., London, N.—**Meat and Vegetable Rations:** C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—**Propellers:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pumps, Fresh Water:** Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Re-blading of Turbo Alternator Rotor:** Fraser & Chalmers Engineering Works, Erith.—**Release Gear Equipments, Hydraulic:** Archibald Low & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Sheet, India Rubber, etc.:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham; Clyde Rubber Works Co., Ltd., Renfrew; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland; Macinlop, Ltd., Manchester.—**Shirts, Dress and Tunic:** Bryce & Weston, Ltd., Londonderry; Smethurst & Holden, Ltd., Crewe.—**Switches, etc.:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester; Bertram Thomas, Manchester.—**Switchboards:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Tin in Block:** P. & W. Mac'ellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Tubes, Seamless Steel:** Talbot-Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall; Chesterfield Tube Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Tubes, Condenser, Nickel Copper:** I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tubes, Water and Fittings:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Halesowen; John Knowles (Wednesbury), Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Valves, Wireless:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Varnishes, etc.:** L. Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Blundell, Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull; Denton & Jutsum, London, E.; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; John Hare & Co. (Colours), Ltd., Bristol; London Varnish & Enamel Co., Ltd., London, E.; G. Purdom & Co., London, E.; C. W. Waters, Ltd., London, E.C.; Walpamur Co., Ltd., Darwen.—**Wire, Brass, Copper and Phosphor Bronze:** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham; D. F. Tayler & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Baxendale & Co. Ltd. Manchester.

WAR OFFICE.

Acetone: Barter Trading Corporation, Ltd., Hull.—**Asbestos Protected Metal Sheets:** Cellactite & British Uralite, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Batteries, Secondary, Portable:** Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—**Cable, Electric:** Siemens Bros., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Cartons, Ammunition:** M. Cook & Sons, London, N.—**Cells, Leclanche:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Chassis and Bodies:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Chassis, Motor Car:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Austin Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Copper Ingot:** British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; Brandeis, Goldschmidt & Co., London, E.C.; H. T. Long & Son, London, E.C.—**Curtains, Sandfly:** Donald & Co., Nottingham.—**Cylinders:** J. G. Carrick & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Metal Box Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Discs, Eyepiece (Splinterless glass):** Triplex Safety Glass Co., Ltd., London, W.; Protectoglass, Ltd., Slough.—**Metal Rod:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; I.C.I. Metals, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Paint, White Lead:** Champion, Druce & Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Plates, Bullet Proof:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Sheffield; Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Shoes, Rubber, Brown:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh; Victoria Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Steel, Round:** Lancashire Steel Corporation, Ltd., Irlam; Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill; S. Fox & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield; Parkgate Iron & Steel, Ltd., Rotherham.—**Surgical Dressings:** T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tin Ingot:** Vivian Younger & Bond, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tyres and Tubes:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham; Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Zinc Ingot:** British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Works Services:** *Building Works and Services:* Catterick, School of Signals, Erection of Regimental Institute: F. Perk & Son, Ltd., Long Eaton. Didcot, Alterations to Heating Installation: Ed. Deane & Beal, Ltd., London, E.C. Lydd, Term Contract, Artificers' Work: G. H. Bates & Son, Lydd. Shorncliffe, Erection of Gymnasium: J. B. Edwards & Co. (Whyteleafe), Ltd., London, W. Tidworth, Erection of Group V Married Officers' Quarters: W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—**Aircraft, Conversion Sets:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Modifications:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning:** Blackburn Aero & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, Yorks; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Spares:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Airscrews:** Airscrew Co., Ltd., Weybridge; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Artificers' Works (Hendon): H. Lacey & Sons, Luton. Fixed Jib Cranes (Farnborough): Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Coventry. Ventilating Fans for Wind Tunnel (Farnborough): Jas. Keith & Blackman Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Canvas, Packing:** Low & Bonar, Ltd., Dundee.—**Conversion Sets, M.T.:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Enamel, Cellulose:** Nobel Chemical Finishes, Ltd., Slough, Bucks.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Magnetos:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry; North & Sons, Ltd., Watford.—**Engines, Aircraft, Magneto Spares:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd. Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Tests:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Tools:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Petrol, Spares:** Petters, Ltd., Yeovil.—**Fire Extinguishers:** General Fire Appliance Co., London, E.C.—**Parachutes and Spares:** Irving Air Chute of Great Britain, Ltd., Letchworth.—**Radiators, Aircraft:** John Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Radiators and Cases:** Serck Radiators, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Rags, Cotton:** I. & J. Hyman, Ltd., London, N.—**Rags, Linen:** Alex. Jacob & Co., London, S.E.; S. and M. Myers, Ltd., London, E.—**Tetrachloride, Tin:** W. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.—**Wing Tip Flare Brackets:** British Anzani Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Aeroplanes: De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware.—**Bedsteads:** Whitfields Bedsteads, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Bollards:** W. Shaw & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; T. Summerson & Sons, Ltd., Darlington.—**Books:** Baillière, Tindall & Cox, London, W.C.—**Cable:** Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.; St. Helens Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough.—**Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., London, S.W.—**Clothing:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Drill:** E. Spinner & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Drugs:** Evans Sons, Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Excavators:** Ruston-Bucyrus, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Filtration Plant:** Bell Bros. (Manchester, 1927), Ltd., Manchester.—**Foundry Plant:** MacNab & Co., London, E.C.—**Lorry:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Meters:** G. Kent, Ltd., Luton; Manchester Water Meter Co., Manchester.—**Oil:** Hull Oil Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Paints:** Torbay Paint Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paper:** Olives Paper Mill Co., Bury.—**Pipes:** Stanton Ironworks Co., Nottingham.—**Pumping Plant:** Hathorn, Davey & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Pumps:** Vickers Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Quinine:** Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—**Rail Anchors:** P. & M. Co. (England), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Stamps:** T. de la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Spares for Engine:** Norris Henty & Gardners, Ltd., Patricroft.—**Spares for Locos.:** Peckett & Sons, Ltd., Bristol.—**Steel Plates:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Steelwork:** Fleming Bros., Glasgow; P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Switches and Crossings:** E. Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Switchgear:** Ferguson Pailin, Ltd., Manchester.—**Telephone Apparatus:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Turbine Blade System:** Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Typewriters:** Imperial Typewriter Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Wagon:** Metropolitan Cammell Carriage, Wagon & Finance Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Washing Plant:** G. D. Peters & Co., Ltd., Slough.—**Wire:** Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Cloth, Bookbinding: Mills & Co., Manchester.—**Cloth, Tracing:** Morley Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Eccles.—**Envelopes:** Millington & Sons, Ltd., London, N.—**Motor Haulage (Manchester):** H. Viney & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Paper:** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik; Caldwells Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Inverkeithing; East Lancashire Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Radcliffe, Manchester; Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; North Wales Paper Co., Ltd., Oakenholt; Ryburndale Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ripponden; R. Sommerville & Co., Ltd., Taunton; E. Towgood & Sons, Ltd., Sawston; Wiggins Teape & A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Ivybridge.—**Pencils:** British Pens, Ltd., Keswick.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.:** Group 355 (1932)—Census of England and Wales, 1931: H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow. Group 924 (1932)—National Savings Stamps: Harrison & Sons, Ltd., Hayes. 4,000 Books—"S.O. Book 122": Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., London, E.C. 10,000 Books—P. 1054B: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton. 16,000 Pads—M.O.D. 17a: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable. Posters: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Watford; St. Michaels Press, London, S.E.—**Rotaprint Plates:** Kayes Rotaprint Agency, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tags:** Faire Brothers & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Toilet Rolls:** Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

POST OFFICE.

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