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*Where appropriate, lists of items under the headings shown in CAPITALS will be found on the pages indicated.*

## Young Persons Entering Employment

IN the issues of this GAZETTE for August, 1951, October, 1952, December, 1953 and 1954, and August, 1955, articles were published giving information about the numbers of young persons under 18 years of age who entered employment during the years 1950-1954. Corresponding figures are now available for the year 1955, and a summary of the information for that year is given below.

The statistics are derived from the administrative arrangements for the issue of contribution cards under the National Insurance scheme. All persons entering employment must obtain insurance cards for the purpose of paying contributions under this scheme. For young persons under 18 years of age the cards are issued by Youth Employment Offices, most of which are conducted by Local Authorities. By arrangement with the Youth Employment Offices, a statistical record card is completed in respect of every young person to whom a contribution card is issued who has completed full-time education and has entered or is about to enter insurable employment. The particulars entered on the statistical card are as follows : age at the time when full-time education ceased ; age at the time of entry into insurable employment ; code number of the Standard Industrial Classification covering the employer's industry ; and type of occupation. For the purpose of the last item occupations are grouped under four headings, *viz.*, (a) apprenticeship to a skilled craft (*i.e.*, apprenticeship or learnership with or without an indenture or other form of written agreement), including employment likely to lead to apprenticeship at a later date ; (b) articulated clerks and others in employment leading to recognised professional qualifications (law, accountancy, surveying, nursing, etc.) ; (c) clerical employment not covered by (b) ; and (d) other employment. The record cards are sent to the Statistics Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service for analysis.

The principal limitation to be borne in mind when considering the figures derived from this source is that it is not possible to ensure that all young persons who had already been issued with insurance cards for holiday or other spare-time work while still at school are included in the figures when they finally terminate full-time education and enter employment, although the Youth Employment Officers have been instructed to include particulars of any young persons whom they know to be in that category. This factor affects the totals for the

16 and 17 age-classes to a greater extent than those for the 15 age-class, but it is unlikely that it affects significantly the proportions entering different industries or different types of employment. It is important also to bear in mind that the figures relate to young persons entering employment and that they do not provide a measure of the total numbers leaving school, since they exclude those who left school to enter universities and other institutions of higher education, boys going direct to H.M. Forces for their period of National Service and also any others who left school with no immediate intention of entering paid employment.

The total numbers recorded in 1955 were almost identical with the numbers in 1954, *viz.*, 259,600 boys and 248,100 girls, compared with 258,400 boys and 246,600 girls in the previous year. The total of 508,000 for 1955 is analysed in the following Table according to age at leaving school and age at entry into employment :—

Age at leaving school	Age at entry into employment			
	15	16	17	Total
Boys :				
15 .. .. .	214,053	2,947	327	217,327
16 .. .. .	—	33,473	825	34,298
17 .. .. .	—	—	7,995	7,995
Total, Boys	214,053	36,420	9,147	259,620
Girls :				
15 .. .. .	202,572	2,830	513	205,915
16 .. .. .	—	30,595	857	31,452
17 .. .. .	—	—	10,758	10,758
Total, Girls	202,572	33,425	12,128	248,125

The general pattern of school-leaving and entering employment shows little change from year to year. Again in 1955 the great majority of young persons left school at the age of 15 (*i.e.*, before reaching the age of 16) and entered employment at the same age. Of the total of 217,327 boys and 205,915 girls who left school before reaching 16, only 3,274 and 3,343 reached that age before entering employment.

Similarly, the great majority of those who left school between 16 and 17 years of age entered employment before reaching 17. The number of girls entering employment between 17 and 18 years of age was again considerably greater than the number of boys, but it has to be borne in mind that a much larger number of boys go to Universities and other institutions of higher education.

In the following Table the totals for 1955 are analysed to show the numbers entering the four different types of employment referred to above, viz., (a) apprenticeships or learnerships to skilled crafts, (b) service under articles or other employment leading to recognised professional qualifications, (c) clerical employment, and (d) other employment.

Class of employment entered	Age at entry into employment					
	Boys			Girls		
	15	16	17	15	16	17
	(000's)					
Apprenticeship, or Learnership, to Skilled Crafts (including employment leading to Apprenticeship) ..	78.1	15.7	3.0	12.6	2.0	1.0
Employment leading to recognised Professional Qualifications ..	0.8	1.5	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9
Clerical Employment ..	10.7	8.6	2.3	55.0	21.5	6.9
Other Employment ..	124.5	10.6	2.9	134.2	9.0	3.3
Total ..	214.1	36.4	9.1	202.6	33.4	12.1

Well over one-third of the boys under 16 entered apprenticeships or learnerships to skilled crafts or employment known to lead to apprenticeship, one in twenty entered clerical employment, and nearly three-fifths went into "other employment". Among those who entered employment at the ages of 16 and 17, 43 per cent. and 33 per cent., respectively, became apprentices or learners and about 25 per cent. at both ages entered clerical employment. The proportion entering employment leading to professional qualifications was much higher among the older boys, being less than one-half of one per cent. among those who entered employment at age 15, about 4 per cent. among those aged 16, and 10 per cent. among those aged 17.

Among girls there was not much difference between the proportions entering apprenticeship or learnership at the various ages, the proportion being about 6 per cent. at ages 15 and 16 and about 8 per cent. at age 17. There were large differences, however, in the proportions entering the other types of employment. Among those who entered employment under 16 years of age, less than one-half of one per cent. went into employment leading to professional qualifications, 27 per cent. went into clerical work, and two-thirds went into "other employment". Among those who entered employment at 16 the corresponding proportions were 3 per cent., 64 per cent., and 27 per cent., and in the 17 age-class they were 7½ per cent., 57 per cent., and 27 per cent.

During the six years for which these figures have been compiled there was little change in the proportions entering the various types of employment. The only noteworthy change among boys was an increase to 38 per cent. in 1955 in the proportion entering apprenticeships or employment leading to professional qualifications from the previous steady level of about 35 per cent. Among girls the proportion entering apprenticeships, etc., was about 9 per cent. in 1950, but since 1952 it has been about 7 per cent.

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### Industrial Analysis

The figures have been analysed to show the numbers of boys and girls entering different industries, and the Table below shows the numbers in eight broad industrial groups expressed as percentages of the total numbers of entrants.

Industry Group	Number entering each industry group as percentage of grand total			
	Boys		Girls	
	Aged 15	Aged 16 and 17	Aged 15	Aged 16 and 17
Agriculture, etc. ....	9	7	1	2
Mining and Quarrying ..	5	2	47	25
Manufacturing Industries ..	49	41	47	25
Building and Contracting ..	12	6	1	1
Transport, etc. ....	4	7	2	5
Distributive Trades ..	14	10	32	19
Public Administration, Utilities, Professional Services, Entertainments, and Commerce and Finance ..	5	25	8	42
Hotels, Laundries and Personal Services ..	2	2	9	6
Total ..	100	100	100	100
Total number of Entrants (000's) ..	214	46	203	45

Nearly one-half both of boys and of girls entering employment before reaching the age of 16 went into manufacturing industries and about one-seventh of the boys and one-third of the girls went into the distributive trades. The proportions of older boys and girls entering these two industrial groups were considerably lower, with correspondingly higher proportions entering the Public Administration, Professional Services, etc., group. One-quarter of the boys aged 16 and 17 and over two-fifths of the girls of those ages went into that group of services, compared with 5 per cent. of the boys and 8 per cent. of the girls under 16.

The figures for each industrial group include all entrants into the service of employers in the group irrespective of the nature of their personal occupations. The figures for the manufacturing group, for example, include not only those entering employment in the factories, but also clerical and technical staffs and all other ancillary employments with the same employers. In the Table below the figures for each of the main "Orders" of the Standard Industrial Classification (with some sub-divisions of the Professional Services group) are analysed to show the numbers in the occupational categories (apprentices, etc.) referred to in an earlier paragraph.

It is important to bear in mind that the figures merely show the numbers whose first jobs after leaving school were in the industry group specified in the Table. The total numbers entering a parti-

#### Young Persons Entering Employment, January to December, 1955: Analysis by Industry Group and Occupational Category

Industry Group	Boys								Girls (aged 15-17)					Total
	Apprenticeship to Skilled Craft		Employment leading to Recognised Professional Qualifications		Entering Clerical Employment		Entering Other Employment		Total Aged 15-17	Apprenticeship to Skilled Craft	Employment leading to Recognised Professional Qualifications	Entering Clerical Employment	Entering Other Employment	
	Aged 15	Aged 16-17	Aged 15	Aged 16-17	Aged 15	Aged 16-17	Aged 15	Aged 16-17						
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing ..	1,094	442	13	29	46	17	17,369	2,823	21,833	175	16	272	2,713	3,176
Mining and Quarrying ..	1,347	240	8	28	173	151	9,551	339	11,837	14	12	435	94	555
Non-Metallic Mineral Products ..	685	138	5	10	166	122	2,724	209	4,059	30	1	938	1,384	2,353
Chemicals and Allied Trades ..	525	520	12	79	278	233	1,420	304	3,371	111	41	2,889	2,166	5,207
Metal Manufacture ..	2,092	675	12	65	384	162	2,759	286	6,435	47	5	1,678	491	2,221
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods ..	18,662	5,783	100	154	1,245	556	10,164	828	37,492	242	26	8,042	4,847	13,157
Vehicles ..	11,800	2,283	57	25	498	214	7,087	461	22,425	76	12	3,901	1,007	4,996
Metal Goods ..	2,538	419	12	13	208	92	3,957	196	7,435	49	2	1,902	2,741	4,694
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc. ....	1,073	271	7	5	32	15	891	93	2,387	55	3	527	890	1,475
Textiles ..	859	228	6	22	268	162	3,880	267	5,692	933	26	2,198	13,742	16,899
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur ..	154	21	4	2	24	9	590	42	846	152	2	163	838	1,155
Clothing ..	1,087	118	4	2	87	52	2,453	227	4,030	3,794	32	1,610	20,172	25,608
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	1,076	166	14	14	387	206	6,114	528	8,505	642	21	3,056	9,394	13,113
Manufactures of Wood and Cork ..	3,156	227	17	5	126	60	5,070	286	8,947	153	4	739	968	1,864
Paper and Printing ..	3,149	568	18	28	669	379	3,739	301	8,851	902	15	2,816	7,167	10,900
Other Manufacturing Industries ..	308	149	4	10	145	92	1,463	177	2,348	60	3	1,222	2,202	3,487
Building and Contracting ..	19,031	1,824	116	146	442	335	7,054	658	29,606	62	3	1,739	188	1,992
Gas, Electricity and Water ..	1,109	444	12	21	116	197	313	45	2,257	19	4	930	70	1,023
Transport and Communication ..	1,270	1,259	23	103	1,357	1,099	5,403	847	11,361	237	21	4,164	1,158	5,580
Distributive Trades ..	3,775	654	40	62	1,495	1,041	25,538	2,682	35,287	1,573	98	17,523	54,524	73,718
Insurance, Banking and Finance ..	75	119	30	251	919	2,793	129	82	4,398	48	53	10,333	303	10,737
Public Administration ..	1,191	993	66	259	433	1,405	1,520	766	6,633	184	194	4,528	806	5,712
Accountancy ..	35	239	47	571	369	691	26	18	1,996	19	44	1,740	84	1,887
Medical and Dental Services ..	123	71	15	33	15	45	124	85	511	1,278	1,481	1,227	2,384	6,370
Other Professional Services ..	265	548	85	493	645	444	513	317	3,510	325	401	5,990	1,509	8,225
Miscellaneous Services ..	1,598	235	32	18	223	17	4,616	709	7,568	4,434	143	2,804	14,640	22,021
Total, All Industries and Services ..	78,077	18,634	759	2,448	10,750	10,909	124,467	13,576	259,620	15,614	2,663	83,366	146,482	248,125

cular industry group within the year, when account is taken of transfers from other industries, may have been greater, while the net intake after allowing for young persons who transferred to other industries may have been less than the total shown in the Table. This is particularly important in the case of the mining and quarrying group; the total number of boys entering this group in 1955 is shown in the Table as 11,837, but the total intake of boys under 18 into the coal-mining industry alone was nearly 20,000 in 1955 (see the issue of the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* for May, 1956, page 29).

The figures show that in the industries employing highly skilled craftsmen (e.g., engineering and shipbuilding, vehicle and building and contracting industries) two-thirds of the boys entered employment as apprentices or learners, or employment leading to apprenticeship or learnership or to professional status. The industry group with the highest proportion of girls entering similar types of employment was medical and dental services (43 per cent.). Two-thirds of the girls who entered the engineering and vehicle groups of industries went as clerical workers. It was to be expected that clerical work would also predominate for girls in insurance, banking and finance, public administration, accountancy and other professional services.

### Regional Analysis

The Table in the next column shows the numbers of young entrants into employment in 1955 in each of the nine administrative Regions of England and in Scotland and Wales, analysed according to age at the time of entry.

There was, in general, very close agreement between the proportions of boys and the proportions of girls entering employment at the various ages. In the London and South-Eastern Region the proportion both of boys and of girls who entered employment before reaching 16 was about 75 per cent., and in the South-Western Region it was about 76 per cent.; in the Midland, North-Midland and Northern Regions it was about 85 per cent. for both sexes, whereas in Scotland it was 89 per cent. In Wales, however, there was a fairly substantial difference between boys and girls in this respect; 83 per cent. of the boys entered employment before reaching 16, but the corresponding proportion for girls was 78 per cent.

The figures in the last column of the Table show that the proportion that boys entering employment represented of the total number of male employees varied from 1.5 per cent. in the London and South-Eastern Region to 2.4 per cent. in Scotland. For girls the corresponding variation was between 2.3 per cent. in the London and South-Eastern Region and 4.9 per cent. in the Northern Region. The lower percentages for the London and South-

Eastern Region may be due to the following factors: (a) the lower birth-rate in the Region compared with other parts of the country; (b) the considerable "inward balance" into the Region of adult immigration from other areas; and (c) the possibility that the proportion of young persons going to higher educational institutions is higher in the Region than elsewhere.

Region	Age at entry into employment			Total Number	Per cent. of the estimated number of employees aged 15 and over in the Region at May, 1955*
	15	16	17		
	Boys				
London and South-Eastern ..	36,574	9,787	2,708	49,069	1.5
Eastern ..	12,958	2,142	556	15,656	2.0
Southern ..	10,249	1,905	532	12,686	1.8
South-Western ..	11,732	3,027	768	15,527	2.1
Midland ..	21,874	3,081	720	25,675	1.9
North-Midland ..	15,841	2,379	465	18,685	1.9
East and West Ridings ..	19,645	3,319	607	23,571	2.0
North-Western ..	28,713	4,161	898	33,772	1.8
Northern ..	16,315	2,167	436	18,918	2.1
Scotland ..	29,375	2,722	927	33,024	2.4
Wales ..	10,777	1,730	530	13,037	1.9
Total, Great Britain ..	214,053	36,420	9,147	259,620	1.9
	Girls				
London and South-Eastern ..	34,239	8,008	3,498	45,745	2.3
Eastern ..	12,207	2,205	855	15,267	3.9
Southern ..	9,747	1,779	806	12,332	3.6
South-Western ..	11,181	2,390	1,023	14,594	4.0
Midland ..	20,811	2,684	912	24,407	3.3
North-Midland ..	14,746	2,353	560	17,659	3.7
East and West Ridings ..	18,306	3,042	799	22,147	3.5
North-Western ..	27,855	4,245	1,165	33,265	2.9
Northern ..	15,306	2,154	635	18,095	4.9
Scotland ..	28,270	2,635	1,044	31,949	4.3
Wales ..	9,904	1,930	831	12,665	4.8
Total, Great Britain ..	202,572	33,425	12,128	248,125	3.3

\* The numbers of boys have been expressed as percentages of the estimated numbers of male employees and the numbers of girls as percentages of the estimated numbers of female employees.

### SUMMARY OF THE MONTHLY STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics of the month. Further details and analyses will be found on pages 370 to 387.

#### Employment

It is estimated that the number of persons in civil employment in Great Britain rose during August by 40,000 (+ 15,000 males and + 25,000 females), the number at the end of the month being 23,095,000. The basic industries (mining, gas, electricity and water supply, transport, agriculture and fishing) showed an increase of 6,000, manufacturing industries an increase of 19,000 and other industries and services an increase of 15,000. The total working population, including H.M. Forces, the unemployed, and men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment, is estimated to have increased by 85,000 from 24,012,000 to 24,097,000.

#### Unemployment

The number of persons registered as wholly unemployed at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain rose from 218,889 to 225,195 between 13th August and 17th September, 1956, and the numbers registered as temporarily stopped fell from 47,652 to 22,445. In the two classes combined there was a fall of 22,877 among males and a rise of 3,976 among females.

#### Rates of Wages

The index of weekly rates of wages, based on June 1947, (taken

as 100), was 165 at the end of September. The corresponding figure for the end of August, when account is taken of certain changes having retrospective effect, was also 165. The changes in the rates of wages reported to the Department during September resulted in an increase estimated at approximately £315,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 987,000 workpeople and in a decrease of £4,000 for 169,000 workpeople. The principal increases affected agricultural workers in England and Wales, workpeople employed in ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring and in wholesale mantle and costume making, and certain classes of workers in general printing in Great Britain.

#### Retail Prices

At 18th September, 1956, the retail prices index was 102 (prices at 17th January, 1956 = 100), the same figure as at 14th August.

#### Industrial Disputes

The number of workers involved during September in stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was nearly 42,000. The aggregate time lost during the month at the establishments where the stoppages occurred was about 217,000 working days. The number of stoppages which began in the month was 250, and, in addition, 19 stoppages which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of the month.

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

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## AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

The Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales made Orders on 12th September, with effect from 24th September, 1956, raising the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages for male and female workers employed in agriculture in England and Wales.

The Orders raise the minimum time rate for ordinary male workers 20 years and over from 135s. to 141s. a week in all districts. The special rates, which are in operation in the Holland division of Lincolnshire for certain classes of workers, are increased by 8s. a week to 194s. for men 20 years and over employed wholly or mainly as horsemen and to 173s. for those employed wholly or mainly as cattlemen, milkmen or shepherds. For men in part-time or casual employment the general minimum rate is raised from 2s. 11d. to 3s. an hour. The corresponding rates for youths and boys are advanced proportionately, and there are consequential increases for all workers in the minimum differential rates for overtime employment and in holiday remuneration.

For female workers 21 years and over in all areas except Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely, and the three Ridings of Yorkshire, the Orders raise the minimum time rate from 102s. to 107s. for a 47-hour week. In the excepted areas, where the rate of 102s. did not apply, the minimum rate for a 44-hour week is raised from 95s. to 100s. For women in part-time or casual employment in all areas the minimum hourly rate is increased from 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. an hour. There are corresponding increases in the minimum rates for female workers under 21 and in the minimum differential rates for overtime employment and in holiday remuneration.

There are no changes in the provisions relating to hours of work, holidays with pay or public holidays, but the benefits or advantages which may be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash are varied by increases in the values fixed for board and lodging, board or individual meals supplied to a worker.

## WAGES COUNCIL FOR RUBBER PROOFED GARMENT MAKING INDUSTRY

On 13th September the Minister of Labour and National Service made the Wages Council (Rubber Proofed Garment Making Industry) Order, 1956, which establishes a Wages Council for the Rubber Proofed Garment Making Industry. A Commission of Inquiry was set up in June, 1955, to consider a joint application for the establishment of a Wages Council in the industry, and, after the Commission had reported, the Minister gave notice of his intention to make the Order in accordance with the recommendation made in the Commission's Report (see the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1956, page 220).

The new Council covers all workers employed in Great Britain in manufacturing, altering, repairing, renovating or re-making rubber proofed garments (including garments made from textiles processed with rubber substitute) and in incidental work. It does not affect workers engaged in the manufacture of garments from oil or chemically proofed fabrics or from plastic film or textiles processed with plastic.

Copies of the Order (S.I. 1956 No. 1437) can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net (5d. including postage).

## REGISTRATION UNDER NATIONAL SERVICE ACTS

A further registration of men under the National Service Acts will be held on 17th November. The obligation to register on that date applies to young men born between 1st July and 30th September, 1938, both dates inclusive, unless they are exempt from the operation of the Acts. Men are not exempt from registration because they are apprentices or are training for professional qualifications or because they are engaged in coal mining or agriculture. Such men, if born within the dates specified above, must register on the prescribed date.

Men who have a preference for a particular Service should say so when they register, but no guarantee can be given that they will be allocated to that Service.

With certain exceptions, any man registering for service in the Armed Forces who enters the coal mining industry for underground work before an enlistment notice is issued will not be called up so long as he remains satisfactorily employed in that work.

The call-up of agricultural workers born in 1933 or later will be deferred only after individual application by the man's employer and subject to the satisfaction of certain specific conditions. Particulars can be obtained at any Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Each man who registers will be given a leaflet setting out the conditions under which deferment of call-up may be granted to apprentices and men in a similar position, arted pupils, etc., or students in full-time attendance at technical classes. If a man wishes to complete his apprenticeship or training before he is called up, he must make application for deferment on the appropriate form to be obtained at the time of his registration or as soon as possible afterwards.

As announced in Command Paper No. 9608 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1955, page 386), men who register on

17th November may, if found medically fit for service, expect to be called up between March and June, 1957.

The registration will take place at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service; but seamen should, if possible, register at Mercantile Marine Offices.

The Minister of Labour and National Service has announced that it is proposed to hold a further registration in April, 1957, when men born between 1st October, 1938, and 31st December, 1938, will register.

## EARNINGS IN COAL MINING IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1956

The Statistical Statement of the costs of production, proceeds and profit or loss of collieries in Great Britain for the second quarter of 1956 has been published by the National Coal Board. The statistics relate to the deep mines worked by the Board and exclude those relating to opencast working and mines licensed in accordance with Section 36 of the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act. In the second quarter of 1956 licensed mines produced about 1.3 per cent. of the total quantity of deep-mined saleable coal.

### Earnings in the Second Quarter of 1956

	Cash Earnings		Value of Allowances in Kind		Total	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Average Earnings (All Ages):						
(i) Per Man-shift worked:—						
At the Face .. .. .	66	3 0	2	9 3	69	0 3
All Underground .. . .	57	3 0	2	6 0	59	9 0
Surface .. .. .	41	9 4	2	2 3	43	11 7
All Workers .. .. .	53	10 6	2	5 1	56	3 7
(ii) Per Wage-earner per week:—						
At the Face .. .. .	309	9	13	0	322	9
All Underground .. . .	288	9	12	7	301	4
Surface .. .. .	235	3	12	4	247	7
All Workers .. .. .	278	1	12	6	290	7

Statistics of earnings are given in the Statement for each of the twenty wage districts in Great Britain. The average earnings in the quarter per man-shift worked, including the value of allowances in kind, for workers of all ages ranged from 53s. 1 5d. in the Forest of Dean and 53s. 2 2d. in Lancashire and Cheshire to 61s. 1 3d. in Leicestershire and 61s. 2 6d. in Kent. The average earnings per wage-earner per week ranged from 255s. 7d. in Shropshire and 271s. 11d. in North Staffordshire to 318s. 1d. in Nottinghamshire and 319s. 10d. in South Derbyshire.

The estimated average earnings, including the value of allowances in kind, for all adult male workers 21 years of age and over in Great Britain during the second quarter of 1956 amounted to 58s. 10d. per man-shift worked and 304s. 10d. per week.

NOTE:—"Cash Earnings" and "Total Earnings" are inflated by the inclusion of arrears of wages paid in respect of Agreements for Increases of Wages which applied retrospectively to dates in February. The average cash earnings for "All Workers" per man-shift worked and per wage-earner per week, excluding arrears relating to previous periods, amounted to 52s. 10 4d. and 272s. 10d. respectively.

## GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The Interdepartmental Committee on Social and Economic Research have recently submitted to the Lord President of the Council and the Chancellor of the Exchequer their third Report, which has been published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 2s. 6d. net (2s. 8d. including postage). The function of the Committee, whose members are drawn from the academic staffs of the Universities and from Government Departments, is to survey and advise upon research work in Government Departments, to bring to the notice of Departments the potential value to research in the social sciences of the material which they collect, to suggest new methods and areas of collection, and to advise on how the information gathered can be made available to research workers.

The present Report gives an account of the Committee's work during the five-year period ended December, 1955, a substantially longer period than that covered by the two previous Reports. It is noted that during the initial phases of the Committee's work consideration was given to various matters of broad general import, such as the confidentiality of official material and other general questions arising in the relationship between Departments and research workers. More recently the Committee have been concerned mainly with individual Departments, whose material has been under examination by special Sub-Committees. A Table contained in the Report shows that at least 70 per cent. of the recommendations made to various Departments by the Committee during the period 1947-1955 have been accepted in principle.

During the five years under review the Committee, in addition to fostering direct collaboration between research workers and Government Departments on specific projects, have continued to assist

research workers generally to find out what material is available in Government Departments. This has been done in two ways: by the addition of a booklet entitled *Local Government Statistics* to the series of *Guides to Official Sources*, and by encouraging Departments to make available a limited number of copies of unpublished papers to University and other research libraries. Recommendations made by the Committee have also in some cases led to the publication of additional material by Departments in Annual Reports or otherwise, and the Report gives some instances of separate publications, of value to sociologists and economists, which owed their inspiration to the interest of members of the Committee.

The detailed reviews of material in the individual Government Departments are made by the Committee through *ad hoc* Sub-Committees consisting of Committee members with special knowledge or special interest in the subjects under review and outside experts co-opted for their special competence in particular branches of research in the social sciences. The Report reviews the work, during 1951 to 1955, of four of these Sub-Committees. They were concerned with the Board of Trade; the proposed content of statistical Tables for the reports of the 1951 Census; local government statistics relating particularly to finance; and the Ministry of Food.

Among the subjects on which the Committee made recommendations to the Board of Trade were patents, company records, insurance and bankruptcy statistics, and statistics relating to the administration of enemy property. The Committee also conveyed to the Board their views on the question of publishing selected papers on foreign economic relations. In connection with information obtained by the 1951 Census advice was given by the Committee to the Registrars General on the preparation of Tables relating to birthplace and nationality, education, classification by social class, the cross-classification of occupations within industries, fertility, housing, and the characteristics of private households. Suggestions were also

## TRADES UNION CONGRESS

The eighty-eighth annual Trades Union Congress was held at Brighton on Monday, 3rd September, 1956, and the four following days. The President was Mr. W. B. Beard, O.B.E., the Chairman of the General Council.

The number of delegates appointed to attend the Congress was 1,001. The number of organisations represented was 186 and the approximate membership represented was 8,264,000, including about 1,384,000 female members. The total membership showed an increase of about 157,000 on the total represented at the previous year's Congress.

The following Table, extracted from the Statistical Statements relating to the 1956 and 1955 Annual Congresses, shows for each of eighteen trade groups the numbers of unions and of delegates, and the affiliated membership of the unions.

Trade Group	1956 Congress			1955 Congress		
	No. of Unions	No. of Delegates	Membership	No. of Unions	No. of Delegates	Membership
Mining and Quarrying .. . . .	4	143	718,570	4	143	719,170
Railways .. . . .	3	49	529,238	3	48	530,948
Transport (other than Railways) .. . . .	10	96	1,393,985	10	96	1,355,889
Shipbuilding .. . . .	5	19	124,836	5	17	122,761
Engineering, Foundry and Vehicle Building .. . . .	28	116	1,443,577	27	113	1,388,445
Iron and Steel and Minor Metal Trades .. . . .	17	46	205,552	17	46	198,588
Building, Woodworking and Furnishing .. . . .	19	73	589,442	19	75	592,562
Printing and Paper .. . . .	13	58	317,377	13	55	305,546
Cotton .. . . .	6	35	158,670	6	36	170,166
Textiles (other than Cotton) .. . . .	22	31	103,953	21	31	99,000
Clothing .. . . .	7	28	177,798	6	23	175,165
Leather and Boot and Shoe .. . . .	5	20	108,398	6	21	110,020
Glass, Pottery, Food, Chemicals, etc. .. . . .	15	69	471,481	15	69	470,502
Agriculture .. . . .	1	16	135,000	1	15	135,000
Public Employees .. . . .	4	26	250,476	4	26	248,447
Civil Service .. . . .	8	62	453,960	8	60	457,061
Non-Manual Workers .. . . .	15	51	259,763	14	45	233,839
General Workers .. . . .	4	63	811,665	4	62	793,849
Totals .. . . .	186	1,001	8,263,741	183	981	8,106,958

In his opening address the President said that the main object of the trade union movement continued to be the maintenance and improvement of the standard of life of its members. As the movement grew in strength it realised that its functions must extend if its fundamental work was to be done effectively. Members and their families represented perhaps half the population of the country and achievements through collective bargaining were shared also by millions of non-unionists. In addition, the movement was concerned with many services upon which industry and the nation were dependent, such as housing, education, the provision of social welfare and national security. The movement believed in parliamentary democracy and, while it was the job of the elected government to govern, the movement claimed the right of consultation.

Turning to the economic position of the country, the President said that future prospects of trade, and the living standards and economic stability that depended on them, were important questions and concerned everybody. Since Congress met last September

made by the Committee for detailed census statistics of the large conurbations (Greater London, West Midlands, South-East Lancashire, Merseyside, West Yorkshire, Tyneside and Central Clydeside). With regard to local government statistics, the Committee recognise in the Report that the Government Departments concerned with local services publish, either in their Annual Reports or as separate returns, a wide range of statistics relating to such matters as finance, health, education, child care, police and fire services, and local elections; the Committee were able to make recommendations on some of these matters. The Committee made a broad survey of material produced by the Ministry of Food and made recommendations on points of detail. The Report refers to statistics of food supply and procurement, home production, processing and manufacture; stocks; the distribution and use of food; the administration of food controls; prices and margins; and household food surveys. Attention is drawn in particular to the research interest in the continuance of the National Food Survey. The Committee recommended the publication of a periodical giving current statistics of food and agriculture and also the publication in the series of *Guides to Official Sources* of a booklet relating to food and agricultural statistics.

The Report refers to the recommendations, which are relevant to the work of the Committee, of the Grigg Committee on Departmental Records. It also emphasises the importance to research workers in the social sciences of being able to obtain comparable statistics from each part of the United Kingdom. For legal or technical reasons, comparable statistics cannot always be produced, but the Committee suggest that it may sometimes be possible, nevertheless, as was done recently by the Departments concerned in the case of English and Scottish statistics of crime, to provide at least a "key" to the differences between statistical series.

A review of the Committee's second Report was published in the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1951 (page 12).

signs of economic difficulties had become more clearly defined. Increased private spending and the elimination of controls had increased inflationary difficulties and luxury spending. In a completely free economy many manufacturers had taken the easy line of supplying the home market. This reduced exports and made the balance of payments position more precarious. Increased taxation, the elimination of the food subsidies, the restriction of building and hire purchase and the raising of the bank rate were part of the Government's policy to stop inflation. Oversea difficulties had increased because some countries, in an effort to hold their inflationary spiral, had imposed restrictions on trade. This had resulted in a lessening demand for motor cars and similar goods manufactured in this country and had also caused short-time working and unemployment in some industries. The problem of short-time working, of the threat to jobs and of the maintenance of our standards by selling more abroad could not be solved by invective against the Government. Trade unionists could not rage and storm about the cause of the crisis and then fail to suggest a solution.

Conditions following the war had been as unreal as they were after the 1914-18 war and now there was no longer a substantial income from foreign investment to serve as an added safeguard to the economy. This country depended on exports to maintain its living standards. We had very few natural resources, and, through lack of man-power, our main one could not be exploited. Nearly half our food and most of our raw materials had to be imported. Other countries could not be compelled to buy our goods, and we must produce to sell on quality and price. In the circumstances it was necessary to have priorities. Comparatively full employment could hardly be expected in a completely free economy.

Planning the future of industry was one of the many factors to be taken into account. Another was productivity. In industries where short-time was worked and redundancy was the order of the day the need for increased productivity might seem paradoxical; nevertheless, greater industrial efficiency was essential. The country's finest asset was the industry and the native skill of our people. What was made of our raw materials through that industry and skill was the key which unlocked the door to more raw materials, more food, more social services and more help to the under-developed territories.

As a way to greater productivity, a high level of investment in industry was required. Some industries and firms appeared to be unwilling to provide an adequate amount for this purpose. An investment policy must include full consultation with the trade unions not only on the question of greater productivity, but on its effects on employment, prices, profits, working conditions and the mobility of labour. If a worker had to change his job he should know why, as long a time ahead as possible, and, in some cases, should receive fair compensation in line with his previous service. If he had to learn a fresh job he should be given the time and the chance to train for it.

The President then spoke of the problem of raw materials. He said that each year, as countries developed industrially, the competition for raw materials was keener and prices increased. Every country aimed at industrial expansion and the probable exporting of manufactured goods of a wide variety.

The President said that he did not wish to deal in any detail with the question of automation but that the subject should be put in its proper perspective. There was nothing new about automatic developments; they were a continuing process. Old skills diminished or disappeared and new ones took their place. Because of this, interest in scientific and technical training should progressively increase. The internal combustion engine, the power loom, the steam turbine, the discovery of electricity, the diesel engine, wireless and radar had been among the discoveries which

had meant an impetus in the step forward to greater productivity and ultimately to higher living standards. The recent developments in the electronic field and the harnessing of nuclear power indicated enormous possibilities for the future. It was the duty of the trade unions to deal with the difficulties which arose from any quick impetus to greater productivity. Joint consultation in its fullest sense must be developed.

Trade unionism with its expanded membership, power and influence was in a position to tackle its own problems and to keep its own house in order. To improve living standards waste should be avoided and productivity increased. Education, welfare services, defence, even parliamentary government, were provided for by exports produced by the workers in this country.

The President said that more attention should be paid by trade unions to education, both trade union and technical, and to education in the humanities as well.

During the year there had been visits by people from many parts of the world, and it was hoped that these meetings had helped to improve international relations. By tradition the British were tolerant of race, creed, colour and politics, and, because of this, the country had always been a sanctuary for the oppressed.

Time would tell whether the offer of trade with the Soviets was realistic. Russia's major needs, similar to those of the rest of the world, were, however, for goods for which we had full order books for some time ahead, but if unrestricted world trade could be established it would assist those industries which had experienced a recession. If such trade resulted in a reduction in armaments the world would benefit and its industrial and financial energy could be released in greater measure for more profitable purposes.

On the subject of the future of the movement, the President said there were clearly dangers which must be recognised. Misuse of the power of the movement could wreck the country. The movement was not entirely materialistic and real progress rested on service and on the growth of moral values. He looked to the development of a social conscience in youth to build a far better world.

Following the address by the President, delegates proceeded to consider the General Council's report and nearly ninety motions submitted by affiliated organisations. For the purpose of discussion some of the motions were combined to form composite motions. The greater number of motions related to trade union organisation and practice and economic policy and related matters. Other motions concerned social insurance and industrial welfare, education, international affairs, production and industrial development.

No vote was taken on a motion which urged the General Council to assist the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers in reaching an agreement with the Transport and General Workers' Union for the formulation of working arrangements in the various ports where members of both unions were employed.

Congress rejected a resolution which, in view of the complex problems arising from the application of automation and nuclear forces to industry, sought to instruct the General Council to review the organisation of Congress, including the functions and composition of the General Council, with the object of enabling the Council and its officers to take a more active and positive role in industrial affairs.

A resolution, in which Congress reiterated its traditional policy of full consultation between employers and trade unions and condemned those employers who persistently refused to recognise organised bodies of workers, was carried unanimously.

Another resolution which condemned continued discrimination against trade unionists by a publishing firm was remitted to the General Council.

Congress agreed unanimously a resolution which welcomed the growing evidence of trade union consciousness and urged organised workers to encourage trade union membership among those who sold the products of organised labour.

A resolution which was referred to the General Council called for the administration of the insurance industry by a competent full-time personnel enjoying trade union recognition and conditions.

Congress also remitted to the General Council a resolution which supported efforts to obtain a 48-hour week for all Local Authorities' Fire Brigades and instructed the General Council to give assistance towards securing this objective at an early date.

A motion which proposed that a national youth advisory committee should be established and that an annual youth conference should be held was rejected.

Congress remitted to the General Council a motion which criticised restrictions on the voluntary movement of labour, expressed concern over the restrictive agreements reached between certain sections of public employment and some private employers whereby one would not offer jobs to the employees of the other, and sought to have these restrictions removed.

Following a short debate on National Service, a resolution calling for a speedy and progressive reduction in the period of compulsory service and urging the Government to press for disarmament through the United Nations was carried unanimously.

Congress remitted to the General Council a resolution which sought legislative action making it illegal for an employer to impose upon his employees, as a condition of their employment, non-membership of a trade union.

Turning to the field of social insurance and industrial welfare, Congress passed a resolution which called for the provision of more modern hospital accommodation for mental patients and for more research into mental health and disorders. A resolution that hostels and training centres be opened for able-bodied, high-grade mental defectives who were able to work and not in need of nursing care was referred to the General Council. Congress approved unanimously a resolution which called on the Government to provide substantial increases in the rates of old age pensions, widows' benefits and all other national insurance benefits and urged the restoration of the cut made in 1951 in the Government contribution

to the insurance funds so that the extra cost of benefits was not passed on to the workers' contributions.

Congress carried a resolution which called for full implementation of the minority report of the committee appointed to review the diseases provisions of the Industrial Injuries Act.

A resolution was carried which called for legislation to enforce the standards of safety recently agreed by an international committee upon all establishments making use of radioactive substances or ionising radiations.

A motion which was remitted to the General Council expressed concern at the inadequacy of H.M. Factory Inspectorate, called for an increase in its establishment and stressed the necessity for new inspectors to have practical experience as well as academic qualifications.

Congress approved a resolution which expressed the view that education for the responsibilities of family life should be an integral part of the school curriculum and should be included in all educational and recreational facilities provided for youth.

In a debate on smoking and lung cancer Congress rejected a resolution which demanded an anti-smoking campaign but approved an amendment which called upon the Government to give all possible assistance in the furtherance of research into lung cancer.

Dealing with the subject of education, Congress carried a resolution which urged that the system of selection for secondary education be reviewed so that inequalities produced by the 11-plus examination could be removed.

Congress also approved a resolution which welcomed the Government's announcement that technological and scientific educational facilities were to be enlarged but emphasised the need for better standards of pay and prospects for salaried engineering and scientific employees in order to attract sufficient candidates for such education.

A composite resolution, which was carried, welcomed the increased attention paid by the Government to technical education, regretted the lack of a plan, and protested against the increase in fees for part-time educational studies. The resolution demanded an overall plan which provided for the complete overhaul of the system of secondary education, the removal of the inequality of facilities, staffing and finance of the different types of secondary school; the release of young people from employment for at least one day a week for further education; the provision of higher technological scholarships, without a means test, to students who had the necessary ability; and facilities for industrial workers to receive, without loss of pay, technical education required by the introduction of new techniques of automatic control. The resolution also demanded increased incentives to enter the teaching profession.

In the debate on international affairs, Congress unanimously approved the General Council's emergency motion on the Suez Canal dispute and supported the demand for the immediate recall of Parliament. The resolution acknowledged the sovereign rights of Egypt but pointed out that the guaranteed freedom of the Canal to ships of all nations was essential to the maintenance and improvement of living standards. In its meeting with representatives appointed by the London Conference, the Egyptian Government had the opportunity to put world needs above a narrow conception of national sovereignty. Should these talks fail to produce a satisfactory settlement, the resolution urged that force should not be used until the question had been referred to the United Nations, and then only with its consent.

A resolution suggested that the time was opportune for consideration of the relationship between the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the World Federation of Trade Unions; another called for the establishment of closer contacts with Soviet trade unions, and another that arrangements should be made for a study team to visit Russian industries. These resolutions were lost. Congress approved a resolution which supported proposals for further discussions on disarmament and, as a first step, the immediate cessation of tests of atomic and hydrogen bombs and the prohibition of their continued manufacture. A resolution which put forward a suggested basis for a peaceful settlement in Cyprus was lost.

Congress supported a resolution which noted the inadequacy of Britain's roads to cope with present-day traffic and called upon the Government to initiate a programme of road construction to provide safe and efficient motorways commensurate with the growth of road transport.

A resolution, which was lost, demanded that, in the interests of the safety of operatives and the efficient use of fuel, no boiler fireman and operator should be employed unless declared proficient by a competent examining body.

The introduction of automation in industry was debated at length when Congress considered two composite resolutions. The first, which was carried, declared the belief that the introduction of automation provided the possibility of better living standards and greater leisure but resolved that the interests of trade union members must be safeguarded against any ruthless application of automation by the employers. Wages and conditions of the workers in occupations not easily converted should not lag behind those in manufacturing industry and full employment should be maintained. Where automation was applied or contemplated, joint consultations should take place so that the fullest consideration would be given to recruitment and training policies, the avoidance of redundancies, maintenance of the level of earnings and reductions in the price of commodities. Where labour was displaced, adequate maintenance should be paid. The second composite resolution dealing with automation and demanding the establishment of a National Planning Board to control the introduction and application of automation was rejected.

Dealing with economic policy and organisation, Congress passed a composite resolution which recognised the critical weakness of the national economy and placed a large measure of responsibility for

recent inflationary trends on the failure to maintain and improve the export trade and on the abandonment of economic controls. It asserted the right of labour to bargain on equal terms with capital and to use its strength to protect the workers from the dislocations of an unplanned economy. The resolution rejected proposals for the recovery of control by wage restraint and called for a return to a planned economy based on effective economic controls. A resolution which stated that the time was opportune for lessening the strain on Britain's economy by reducing the burden of military expenditure was approved without discussion.

Congress remitted to the General Council a resolution which noted with concern the serious effect of unfair overseas competition on trade and employment in the cotton industry and instructed the Council to press for appropriate Government action. A resolution which called for the immediate removal of entertainment duty from the living theatre was carried. Congress also supported a demand for the removal of tax from professional association football.

Another resolution, which was remitted to the General Council, urged that in addition to the revised index of retail prices the Ministry of Labour should publish a separate index based on the price changes of essential items in the budgets of old age pensioners.

A resolution, which expressed the view that the time was opportune for the achievement of the 40-hour week and promised affiliated organisations support for their efforts to shorten working hours, was carried.

Congress passed a resolution which criticised local housing authorities which made their tenants responsible for their own repair and maintenance work.

A composite resolution which was passed condemned the Government's housing and related financial policy. It called for the reversal of this policy and for its replacement by a national housing policy based on the needs of the people, the restoration of housing subsidies, a substantial reduction in interest rates on housing loans, an increase in the number of houses built and vigorous control of building for private profit and speculation.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE

### Review of Dependency Provisions

The National Insurance Advisory Committee have recently submitted to the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance their Report on the Question of Dependency Provisions. This and certain other questions were put to the Committee by the Minister in March, 1954, in connection with the first quinquennial review of the National Insurance scheme (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1954, page 121). The three questions referred to the Committee have been considered separately. Their Reports on the provisions governing the liability for contributions of persons with small incomes and on widows' benefits (which related to the first part of the question with which the present Report is concerned) have already been published and the recommendations embodied in legislation (see the issues of this GAZETTE for May, 1955, page 167, and February and August, 1956, pages 48 and 297). The present Report covers the Committee's review of the existing provisions (other than the contribution conditions and rates of benefit) governing increases of benefit for wives and benefit for other adult dependants and for children. The Report has been published as a Command Paper (Cmd. 9855) by H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. 9d. net (1s. 11d. including postage).

In the introduction to the Report the Committee refer to the modification of their original terms of reference by the submission to them as a matter for separate investigation and report of the question of earnings limits for benefits. Their Report on this question has already been published (see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1956, page 178) and no comment is, therefore, made in the present Report about the amount of earnings to be disregarded for increases of benefit in respect of dependants.

Part I of the Report sets out the existing provisions of the National Insurance scheme regarding dependency increases. In Part II the Committee examine the general scope of the provision which the scheme makes for dependency, and in Part III they consider separately a number of more detailed matters. The Report contains also a summary of the Committee's recommendations and a note on the financial effect of the changes proposed. Appendices to the Report contain extracts from the National Insurance Act, 1946, and amending legislation, and from Regulations made under the Acts, and a summary of the rules laid down by the National Insurance Commissioner for determining whether the maintenance condition for dependency benefit is satisfied.

The Committee express the view, after the experience of nearly eight years' operation of the scheme, that the dependency provisions are in general working satisfactorily. They point out that the basic purpose of these provisions is to provide increase of benefit for a beneficiary's wife and children, and that universal insurance implies that adults other than wives will normally be insured in their own right. No change is, therefore, proposed in the rule that a beneficiary can claim for only one adult dependant (normally a wife) and only minor changes are recommended in the list of relatives who can qualify, as an alternative to a wife, as dependants of persons drawing sickness or unemployment benefit. Although they found the dependency provisions to be satisfactory in general the Committee made a comprehensive review of the provisions and say that they consider the recommendations which they are making as a result are important within their particular field, although each may affect comparatively few insured persons. Some of the changes recommended are summarised below.

(1) A husband should be able to receive dependency benefit for his wife living apart from him, if, during the three months before he claimed benefit, he contributed to her maintenance not less than the standard amount of dependency benefit (25s. a week) and continues while on benefit to send her not less than the amount

Congress approved a resolution which expressed grave concern about the marketing of agricultural and horticultural produce.

A resolution deplored the fact that, although the nationalised industries paid their way, their accounts showed a loss because of external charges. It expressed the view that external charges should be a national charge and that industrial users of coal should pay the same prices as domestic users. The resolution was referred to the General Council for further consideration.

Another resolution, which was referred to the General Council, called for the review of present joint consultative practices within industry and for a plan for increasing organised workers' participation in management and control of industry.

A motion in which Congress deplored the failure of the Government to help British film production was carried. The General Council were instructed to give all possible support to the joint proposals of the six trade unions operating in the industry.

In another resolution Congress expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of policy displayed by the Labour Party in face of the attacks made upon the workers' standards by the Government and called upon the General Council to bring home to the Party the need for constructive leadership in the political field so that such attacks could be combated.

Resolutions which called for more support for organised sport and for the protection of performers' rights affected by recordings were carried.

Congress was addressed by Mr. E. G. Gooch, M.P., Chairman of the Labour Party, Mr. W. Hansell, Co-operative Union Ltd., Mr. Emil Rieve, and Mr. W. F. Schnitzler, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organisations, Mr. A. R. Mosher, Canadian Labour Congress, and Mr. Hans Gottfurcht, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Sir Thomas Williamson, General Secretary of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, has been elected Chairman of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress for the forthcoming year.

he receives for her. This would replace the present rule that the husband must have been contributing not less than one-half of the cost of his wife's maintenance.

(2) The absence of husband or wife in hospital, however prolonged, should not prevent a couple from being treated as residing together, but after a period the husband's claim for an increase of benefit should depend upon a maintenance as well as a residence condition. If the husband is in hospital for more than two years, dependency benefit should continue to be payable as long as he contributes the amount of the dependency benefit to his wife's maintenance. If the wife is in hospital, dependency benefit should similarly continue as long as the husband regularly incurs expenditure on her behalf. Dependency benefit should, like personal benefit, be reduced by 7s. 6d. a week if the wife has been maintained free in hospital for more than eight weeks and should be further reduced to 7s. 6d. a week, or, in a respiratory tuberculosis case, to 12s. 6d. a week after two years' free maintenance in hospital. The Committee recommend that benefit for a child in hospital should also be reduced but only where the child has been maintained in hospital for two years.

(3) Mother-in-law and father-in-law should be added to the list of relatives for whom a person drawing sickness or unemployment benefit can receive dependency benefit if he is not receiving it for his wife. A female relative other than a mother or mother-in-law should qualify as a dependant only if she is incapable of supporting herself. (This condition applies only to male relatives under the scheme's existing provisions.) The Committee propose no change in the rule that to qualify as a dependant a relative must be both residing with and wholly or mainly maintained by the beneficiary.

(4) The payment of dependency benefit and guardian's allowance for a child not living with the claimant should be conditional on the claimant contributing to the child's maintenance not less than the amount of the benefit, which at present is 11s. 6d. a week for dependency benefit and 18s. a week for guardian's allowance. Subject to this condition, the Committee recommend that a man who is separated from his wife should be able to receive dependency benefit for his child or children who are living with his wife.

(5) A woman with whom a mother and her child are residing should be able to obtain an increase of benefit for the child if she has been wholly or mainly maintaining the child throughout the six months before she claims benefit in the same way as a man can at present.

(6) A woman whose marriage has been terminated by divorce and who has been receiving a substantial contribution for her children's maintenance from her former husband, and lost that contribution as a result of his death, should be able, if she has not re-married, to receive a benefit similar to that provided for the children of widowed mothers, i.e., 16s. 6d. a week. This recommendation has been made following a proposal in the Report of the Royal Commission on Marriage and Divorce (Command Paper No. 9678), which drew attention to the hardship which may result to the children in such a situation.

(7) The payment of a guardian's allowance should not be prevented, as it is under the existing provisions, by the fact that the orphan in respect of whom the allowance is claimed has a step-parent still living.

The Report says that the increase in expenditure which may result from the changes recommended cannot be estimated precisely, but the Committee were advised that the financial effect would be no more than marginal.

The Minister of Pensions and National Insurance is considering the Committee's recommendations, some of which would require an amending Act of Parliament before they could come into effect.

### Review of Contribution Conditions

The National Insurance Advisory Committee have also submitted their Report on the second of the three questions put to them by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance in connection with the first quinquennial review of the National Insurance scheme (see the first paragraph of the article above). This Report covers the review which the Committee were asked by the Minister to make of the contribution conditions for the various national insurance benefits and the provisions for crediting contributions, with the exception of those relating specially to death grant. The Committee are considering the contribution conditions and credits provisions relating to death grant as part of the review of the death grant conditions which they were subsequently asked to make (see the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1955, page 11). The Report has been published as a Command Paper (Cmd. No. 9854) by H.M. Stationery Office, price 2s. 6d. net (2s. 8d. including postage).

In Part I of their Report the Committee set out the existing contribution conditions and provisions for crediting contributions and in Parts II and III they examine these conditions and provisions. Other sections of the Report contain a summary of the Committee's recommendations and a note on the financial effect of the changes proposed. Appendices to the Report include extracts from sections of the National Insurance Acts and from Regulations made under the Acts.

The Report says that in considering the contribution conditions for national insurance benefits the Committee had regard to the fact that the contributory principle is fundamental to the National Insurance scheme. They found that in general the provisions were working satisfactorily and the recommendations made as a result of their detailed review do not include proposals for any major changes. The main changes recommended are summarised below.

(1) **Payment of contributions during sickness and unemployment.**—The Committee recommend that a person who is entitled to credit of contributions during a period of sickness or unemployment and who has not yet paid 156 contributions of any class should in future be allowed to pay a contribution at the Class 3 (non-employed person's) rate for each week in which he is unemployed or incapable of work. This would enable him to qualify for retirement pension or his wife to qualify for widow's benefit.

(2) **Upgrading of contributions or credits.**—To assist a person who has recently begun, or restarted, employment or self-employment, the Committee recommend that, where 26 Class 1 (employed person's) contributions have been paid during the 39 weeks before a claim to benefit is made (not taking into account any weeks of unemployment or sickness), any Class 2 (self-employed person's) or Class

3 (non-employed person's) contributions or credits in the contribution year upon which the rate of benefit depends should count for both sickness and unemployment benefits. Similarly, where 26 Class 2 contributions have been paid in the last 39 weeks, Class 3 contributions and credits should count for sickness benefit. This new rule would be an alternative to the present rule enabling any contributions or credits in the contribution year upon which the rate of unemployment or sickness benefit depends to count for those benefits if at least 39 contributions of the appropriate class have been paid or credited in that year.

(3) **Divorced women.**—The Committee recommend that whenever a marriage is terminated by divorce at the instance of either party the wife should be allowed, for the purpose of qualifying for retirement pension, to substitute her ex-husband's contribution record for her own during the period of their marriage. Under the present arrangements a married woman who has chosen not to pay contributions and whose marriage is subsequently terminated by divorce, or is annulled, may not be able to qualify for full retirement pension because of the absence of contributions during the period of her marriage.

(4) **Time limits for credits of contributions.**—In connection with the free credit of contributions during periods of sickness and unemployment the present arrangements require that the evidence of sickness or unemployment must be given to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance before the beginning of the benefit year following the contribution year for which the credit of contributions is desired. (The benefit year begins five months after the end of the contribution year.) The Committee recommend that a person should be able to give notice of the grounds on which a credit of contributions is claimed at any time up to the end of the benefit year, and that there should be power to extend this limit in appropriate cases.

(5) **Credits for young persons during non-employment.**—The Committee recommend that contributions as a non-employed person should be credited for all periods of non-employment between leaving school and reaching the age of 16 and for other periods of non-employment lasting for not more than 13 weeks after leaving school and before reaching the age of 18. At present contributions are credited only for part of these periods.

The financial effect of the Committee's recommendations, the Report says, cannot be estimated precisely, but the Committee were advised that the increase in the cost of benefits that would result would be relatively inconsiderable.

The Committee's recommendations are being considered by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance.

## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

### Preparatory Technical Maritime Conference

The Preparatory Technical Maritime Conference of the International Labour Organisation (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 338) was held in London from 19th September to 2nd October under the Chairmanship of the United Kingdom Government Delegate, Sir Gilmour Jenkins, K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. Twenty-one maritime countries sent delegations to the Conference representing Governments, shipowners and seafarers. Also in attendance were observers from the World Health Organisation, from the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and from five international non-Governmental organisations. The Conference was opened by the Minister of Labour and National Service and was addressed by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation.

The object of the Conference was to prepare texts and documents on a number of questions relating to the conditions of employment of seafarers, for consideration by a Maritime Session of the International Labour Conference to be held in 1958.

The Conference adopted by 32 votes to 20 with 7 abstentions a proposed revised text of the Convention (No. 93) concerning

wages, hours of work on board ship and manning (revised 1949), the main amendment recommended being one which would permit Governments to exclude the wages provisions when ratifying the Convention. With a view to the possibility of more general agreement being reached on this subject, the Conference adopted unanimously a resolution recommending the Governing Body to set up a tripartite working party to examine the possibility of submitting at the Maritime Session of the Conference in 1958 draft proposals designed to secure general agreement at that Session of the Conference.

The Conference also adopted a draft Convention concerning the form and content of seafarers' national identity documents and their reciprocal recognition, and two draft Recommendations, one concerning the engagement of seafarers for service in vessels registered in a foreign country and the other dealing with the contents of medicine chests on board ship and medical advice by radio to ships at sea. Draft resolutions were adopted on the jurisdiction competent to suspend or cancel officers' competency certificates and on flag transfer in relation to social conditions and safety.

The record of the Conference will now be placed before the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

## LABOUR OVERSEAS

### Factory Inspection and Accidents in the Irish Republic in 1955

The Department of Industry and Commerce of the Republic of Ireland have issued their Report for the year 1955 on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901-1920.

The total number of premises on the official register at the end of 1955 was 13,457, compared with 13,167 at the end of 1954. During 1955 Factory Inspectors made 12,474 visits to 9,905 premises. Persons employed at the premises visited numbered 101,537, including 58,240 men, 27,992 women, 5,904 youths and boys and 9,401 girls.

The total number of persons injured in accidents notified during the year showed an increase from 1,367 (including 13 fatalities) in 1954 to 1,439 (12 fatalities) in 1955. There were increases in 1955 compared with 1954 in the food, drink and tobacco, and the metals, engineering and vehicles industry groups, and at docks, buildings and warehouses. The greatest numerical increase was in the industry group covering docks, buildings and warehouses, where the number of accidents rose from 41 in 1954 to 94 in 1955. In the metals, engineering and vehicles group the increase was from 336 in 1954 to 348 in 1955 and in the food, drink and tobacco group from

400 to 406. In the textiles and clothing group the number of accidents decreased from 188 in 1954 to 162 in 1955, and there was a decrease also, from 67 to 61, in the woodworking and furniture group. A Table in the Report, giving comparative figures of accidents notified for each year from 1951 to 1955 inclusive, shows that the total of 1,439 in 1955 was the highest for any of those years. The figures for three industry groups, viz., food, drink and tobacco, metals, engineering and vehicles, and docks, buildings and warehouses, were also higher in 1955 than in any of the four preceding years; compared with 1951, these industry groups showed increases of 68, 20 and 65, respectively. For the textiles and clothing group the figure of 162 in 1955, although lower than that for 1954, showed an increase of 33 compared with 1951. In the woodworking and furniture group there were, however, 64 fewer accidents in 1955 than in 1951. In other industries the total for 1955 was 368, compared with 335 in 1954 and 333 in 1951. Of the total of 1,439 persons injured in accidents in 1955, 1,122 were men, 156 were women, 93 were youths and boys and 68 were girls. Those fatally injured included 11 men and one young person (male).

Of the 1,439 persons who sustained injury in 1955, 307 were injured in accidents involving machinery moved by mechanical power and 94 in connection with the handling of goods or articles in manufacturing or carrying processes. In addition, 244 persons were injured by falling, 177 by blows from falling bodies and 74 in

using hand tools. Corresponding figures for 1954 were 290, 31, 206, 156 and 79.

Young persons who, in 1955, were medically examined by appointed medical practitioners for certificates of fitness to take factory employment numbered 6,680. Of these, the number who were certified as fit for employment was 6,649, including 301 who were granted conditional certificates. The number rejected was 31, or 0.5 per cent. of the total number examined, the same proportion as in the preceding year. The chief single cause of rejection was pediculosis, of which there were 12 cases.

The Report also contains a brief account of the work carried out by the Inspectorate under the Industrial Relations Act, 1946, the Apprenticeship Act, 1931, and the Conditions of Employment Acts, 1936 and 1944, and the Holidays (Employees) Act, 1939.

### Earnings and Salaries in Switzerland in October, 1955

An annual enquiry into the earnings of manual workers and the salaries of non-manual workers has been carried out for a number of years by the Swiss Federal Office for Industry, Arts and Handicrafts, and Labour, in collaboration with the employers' organisations. An article summarising the results of the latest of these enquiries, relating to October, 1955, was published in the June issue of *La Vie Economique*, the journal of the Federal Department for Public Economy.

Returns were obtained by the Federal Office from 30,500 private undertakings, employing about 520,000 manual workers and 200,000 non-manual workers in manufacturing industries, engineering, woodworking, printing and bookbinding, private transport, commercial undertakings, banking and insurance (non-manual workers only), and handicrafts (including such trades as baker, gardener, tailor, shoemaker, furrier, blacksmith, joiner, painter). In the course of the enquiry information was also collected in respect of the hotel industry, electricity, gas and water supply, and public transport services, but this has been separately published and is not included in the summary. Statistics, based on the results of an enquiry carried out by the employers' organisation, have also been compiled and published in respect of the building industry but are excluded from the present summary. The remuneration taken into account for the statistics comprised cash earnings, including cost-of-living and other allowances of a social nature, as well as the value of any wages paid in kind or other allowances regularly received. Separate particulars were furnished for men and women and for the principal classes of workers (skilled, semi-skilled, unskilled, young workers and apprentices).

Average hourly earnings of manual workers, during a week in October, 1955, were 3.25 Swiss francs for skilled men, 2.72 francs for semi-skilled and unskilled men, 1.88 francs for women, 1.66 francs for youths and boys and 1.45 francs for girls. Index figures, weighted according to the numbers in the various classes of workers, show that in October, 1955, earnings as a whole were about three per cent. higher than in October, 1954, and 132 per cent. above the pre-war level (June, 1939). Among the various classes of workers, the largest percentage increases between June, 1939, and October, 1955, were 192 per cent. for girls and 184 per cent. for youths and boys. The percentage increase in the same period was 110 per cent. for skilled men, 130 per cent. for semi-skilled and unskilled men and 152 per cent. for women.

The average monthly salaries for non-manual workers in October, 1955, were 860 Swiss francs for men and 524 francs for women. The percentage increase since October, 1954, was about three per cent. in each case, and since June, 1939, it was 103 per cent. for men and 116 per cent. for women.

The Table below shows the numbers of manual workers covered and the average hourly earnings in Swiss francs of skilled men, semi-skilled and unskilled men, women and young workers in each industrial group, and in all groups taken together, during a week in October, 1955, with comparative totals for October, 1954, and June, 1939.

Industrial Group	Number of Workers	Average Hourly Earnings			
		Men, Skilled	Men, Semi-skilled and Unskilled	Women	Young Workers
Chemical	21,333	Fr. 3.60	Fr. 3.10	Fr. 1.95	Fr. 1.50
Brick, Pottery, etc.	18,577	3.08	2.65	1.77	1.65
Metal Working and Engineering	152,882	3.23	2.75	1.88	1.62
Watch, Clock and Jewellery	47,161	3.78	3.07	2.28	1.71
Textile	58,985	3.13	2.54	1.83	1.42
Clothing	42,843	3.28	2.71	1.81	1.40
Food, Drink and Tobacco	34,808	3.19	2.68	1.71	1.48
Woodworking	19,883	2.84	2.37	1.68	1.49
Paper and Leather	17,781	3.19	2.82	1.72	1.53
Printing and Bookbinding	21,698	3.79	2.69	1.76	1.38
Handicrafts	57,982	3.02	2.55	1.92	1.50
Transport (Private Undertakings)	4,852	3.30	2.65	—	—
Commerce	22,095	3.32	2.79	1.94	1.29
Total, October, 1955	520,880	3.25	2.72	1.88	1.54
Total, October, 1954	499,002	3.16	2.63	1.84	1.48
Total, June, 1939	—	1.55	1.18	0.75	0.54

An article on the previous year's enquiry was published in the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1955, page 319.

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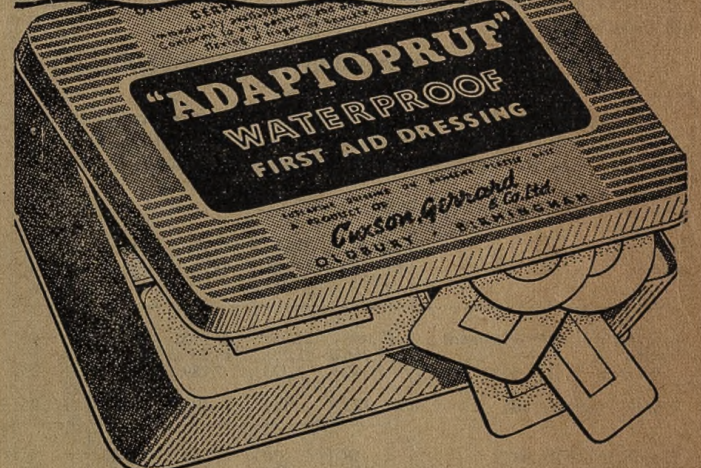


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# EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC.

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## Employment\* in Great Britain in August

### GENERAL SUMMARY

The number in civil employment at the end of August was 23,095,000, having risen by 40,000 during the month. The main increases were in manufacturing, distribution and miscellaneous services (hotels, catering, etc.).

In the week ended 25th August there were 1,375,000 workers on overtime in manufacturing establishments rendering returns, 165,000 fewer than in the week ended 2nd June and 185,000 fewer than a year previously. The number working short-time in the same week was 112,000, which was 13,000 more than in the week ended 2nd June and 58,000 more than a year previously.

The Employment Exchanges filled 176,000 vacancies in the four weeks ended 22nd August. The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges but unfilled on 22nd August was 361,000. This was 36,000 less than on 25th July and 87,000 less than a year previously.

There were 247,600 persons registered as unemployed on 17th September, of whom 225,200 were wholly unemployed and 22,400 were temporarily stopped from work. Between 13th August and 17th September there was a decrease of 19,000, made up of an increase of 6,000 in the wholly unemployed and a decrease of 25,000 among the temporarily stopped. The decrease in the temporarily stopped was, however, the result of certain workers on short-time ceasing to register as unemployed when they were disallowed benefit by the National Insurance Commissioner because they were covered by a guaranteed week agreement.

Expressed as a proportion of the estimated number of employees, unemployment in September was 1.1 per cent. compared with 1.2 per cent. in August and 0.9 per cent. in September, 1955. There were 85,000 persons who had been unemployed more than eight weeks, 38 per cent. of the wholly unemployed.

The strength of the Forces at the end of August was 777,000.

It is estimated that the total working population† at the end of August was 24,100,000, which was 85,000 more than at the beginning of the month.

### GENERAL MAN-POWER POSITION

The broad changes in the man-power situation between end-July and end-August, 1956, are shown in the following Table, together with the figures for recent months and end-August, 1955.

	End-August, 1955	End-June, 1956	End-July, 1956	End-August, 1956	Change during August, 1956
Number in Civil Employment ..	23,058	23,031	23,055‡	23,095	+ 40
Men .. .. .	15,246	15,258	15,266‡	15,281	+ 15
Women .. .. .	7,812	7,773	7,789	7,814	+ 25
Wholly Unemployed§ .. .	182	191	194	219	+ 25
Temporarily Stopped§ .. .	18	39	45	45	.. .
Total Registered Unemployed§	200	230	239	264	+ 25
H.M. Forces and Women's Services .. .. .	793	761	757	777	+ 20
Men .. .. .	774	745	741	761	+ 20
Women .. .. .	19	16	16	16	.. .
Ex-Service men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment ..	6	6	6	6	.. .
Total Working Population† ..	24,039	23,989	24,012‡	24,097	+ 85
Men .. .. .	16,144	16,136	16,143‡	16,193	+ 50
Women .. .. .	7,895	7,853	7,869	7,904	+ 35

\* The figures of employment are provisional and subject to revision in the light of more complete information to be obtained on the basis of the count of national insurance cards in mid-1956.

† The total working population represents the estimated total number of persons aged 15 and over who work for pay or gain, or register themselves as available for such work. The total comprises the Forces, men and women on release leave not yet in employment, all persons—employers and workers on their own account as well as employees—in civil employment (including persons temporarily laid off but still on the employers' pay-rolls) and wholly unemployed persons registered for employment. Part-time workers are counted as full units.

‡ Revised figure.

§ End of month estimates. Persons classed as temporarily stopped are included in the totals of persons in civil employment. (See footnote † above.)

### ANALYSIS OF NUMBERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

An analysis of the total numbers in civil employment by broad industrial groups is given in the Table below.

Industry or Service	Thousands				
	End-August, 1955	End-June, 1956	End-July, 1956	End-August, 1956	Change during August, 1956
Total in Civil Employment ..	23,058	23,031	23,055‡	23,095	+ 40
Number in Basic Industries ..	4,038	4,003	4,016	4,022	+ 6
Mining and Quarrying ..	860	861	860	861	+ 1
(Wage-earners on Colliery Books)	(702)	(703)	(702)	(703)	(+ 1)
Gas, Electricity and Water ..	378	376	376	376	.. .
Transport and Communication	1,718	1,724	1,728	1,728	.. .
Agriculture and Fishing ..	1,082	1,042	1,052	1,057	+ 5
Number in Manufacturing Industries ..	9,257	9,234	9,212	9,231	+ 19
Building and Contracting ..	1,496	1,515	1,518†	1,511	- 7
Distributive Trades .. .	2,837	2,842	2,856	2,867	+ 11
Professional, Financial and Miscellaneous Services ..	4,141	4,146	4,162	4,174	+ 12
Public Administration—	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .
National Government Service	563	559	559	558	- 1
Local Government Service ..	726	732	732	732	.. .

### NUMBERS EMPLOYED: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

The Table on the next page shows, for those industries for which comparable figures are available, the numbers employed at the end of August, 1955, and June, July and August, 1956. The figures relate to employees (including persons temporarily laid off but still on the employers' pay-rolls); they exclude employers and persons working on their own account, and they are thus different in scope from those given in the preceding paragraphs. Satisfactory estimates of the changes in the numbers within the latter classes cannot be made at monthly intervals for the individual industries.

The figures are based primarily on the estimates of the total numbers of employees and their industrial distribution at the middle of each year which have been computed on the basis of the counts of insurance cards. In the case of all industries other than coal mining, building and civil engineering and gas and electricity, use has also been made of the monthly returns rendered by employers under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947. All employers with more than ten employees in manufacturing industries, and a sample of employers in the distributive trades and miscellaneous services, are required to supply information every month under the provisions of the Act. The returns show the numbers on the pay-rolls (including those temporarily laid-off and those absent from work owing to sickness, etc.) at the beginning of the month and at the end of the month; the two sets of figures are summarised separately for each industry, and the ratio between the two totals is the basis for computing the change in employment during the month. Certain industries and services which are not covered by employers' returns (or are only partially covered), or for which figures are not available in the same form as for those shown below, are omitted from the Table.

\* Cotton—249,000. Wool—206,000. Other textiles—472,000  
† Revised figure.

# NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

(Thousands)

Industry	Males				Females				Total			
	End-August, 1955	End-June, 1956	End-July, 1956	End-August, 1956	End-August, 1955	End-June, 1956	End-July, 1956	End-August, 1956	End-August, 1955	End-June, 1956	End-July, 1956	End-August, 1956
Mining, etc.	764.6	765.6	764.6	765.7	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.8	780.4	781.4	780.4	781.5
Coal Mining .. .. .	764.6	765.6	764.6	765.7	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .	.. .
Non-Metallic Mining Products	259.4	258.2	258.8	259.2	85.6	81.2	80.4	80.1	345.0	339.4	339.2	339.3
Bricks and Fireclay Goods ..	75.5	74.4	74.7	74.9	8.7	8.9	8.9	9.0	84.2	83.3	83.6	83.9
China and Earthenware .. .	33.4	32.0	31.7	31.6	43.3	39.6	39.0	38.6	76.7	71.6	70.2	70.2
Glass (other than containers) ..	33.9	34.3	34.4	34.4	13.4	13.1	13.0	13.0	47.3	47.4	47.4	47.4
Glass Containers .. .. .	20.9	21.6	21.7	21.7	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.0	27.1	27.7	27.7	27.7
Cement .. .. .	14.5	14.5	14.6	14.6	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	15.8	15.8	15.9	15.9
Other Non-Metallic Mining Manufactures	81.2	81.4	81.7	82.0	12.7	12.2	12.2	12.2	93.9	93.6	93.9	94.2
Chemicals and Allied Trades	370.4	374.8	375.9	376.3	151.0	151.2	150.6	151.0	521.4	526.0	526.5	527.3
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works ..	19.9	21.0	21.1	21.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	20.5	21.6	21.7	21.8
Chemicals and Dyes .. .. .	176.0	180.2	180.7	181.1	47.1	48.7	48.7	49.0	223.1	228.9	229.4	230.1
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Perfumery, etc.	26.2	26.3	26.4	26.3	36.1	35.7	35.7	35.7	62.3	62.0	62.1	62.0
Explosives and Fireworks .. .	33.1	31.6	31.9	31.7	19.8	19.5	19.0	18.9	52.9	51.1	50.9	50.6
Paint and Varnish .. .. .	29.3	29.7	29.7	29.8	12.6	12.8	12.9	12.8	41.9	42.5	42.5	42.7
Soap, Candles, Polishes, Ink, Matches, etc.	29.8	29.2	29.2	29.2	19.5	19.6	19.5	19.5	49.3	48.7	48.7	48.7
Mineral Oil Refining .. .. .	30.9	31.8	31.9	32.0	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	37.2	38.1	38.2	38.3
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	25.2	25.0	25.0	25.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.1	33.2	33.0	33.0	33.1
Metal Manufacture .. .. .	501.0	508.7	507.6	508.7	69.9	69.6	69.4	69.3	570.9	578.3	577.0	578.0
Blast Furnaces .. .. .	20.8	21.7	21.8	21.9	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	21.3	22.2	22.3	22.4
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	203.9	209.3	209.2	209.9	19.1	19.4	19.3	19.3	223.0	228.7	228.5	229.3
Iron Foundries .. .. .	108.7	106.5	105.8	105.9	17.0	16.3	16.2	16.2	125.7	122.8	122.0	122.1
Tinplate Manufacture .. .. .	11.9	12.1	12.3	12.3	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	13.8	14.0	14.3	14.3
Steel Sheet Manufacture .. .	20.3	20.6	20.6	20.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	21.6	21.9	21.9	22.0
Iron and Steel Tubes .. .. .	40.7	44.0	43.8	44.0	8.5	8.8	8.8	8.7	49.2	52.8	52.6	52.7
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc.	94.7	94.5	94.1	94.0	21.4	21.4	21.2	21.2	116.3	115.9	115.4	115.2
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods ..	1,600.1	1,625.3	1,621.5	1,627.6	476.9	463.6	459.8	461.0	2,077.0	2,088.9	2,081.3	2,088.6
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ..	199.1	204.9	202.6	203.5	8.6	8.8	8.6	8.9	207.7	213.7	211.2	212.4
Marine Engineering .. .. .	76.8	76.5	76.3	76.3	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	81.3	80.9	80.7	80.7
Agricultural Machinery (exc. tractors)	36.2	35.4	35.0	34.7	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	41.9	41.2	40.8	40.5
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant ..	28.5	28.5	28.6	28.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	31.5	31.5	31.6	31.8
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools ..	92.3	95.3	95.2	95.8	21.5	22.4	22.2	22.3	113.8	117.7	117.4	118.1
Stationary Engines .. .. .	23.8	24.7	24.6	24.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	27.6	28.5	28.4	28.5
Textile Machinery and Accessories ..	55.9	53.1	52.9	52.7	9.8	9.6	9.5	9.5	65.7	62.7	62.4	62.3
Ordnance and Small Arms .. .	49.4	48.4	48.4	48.3	14.4	14.2	14.0	14.0	63.8	62.6	62.6	62.3
Constructional Engineering .. .	78.1	78.8	79.0	79.7	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	85.1	85.9	86.1	86.8
Other Non-Electrical Engineering ..	535.1	549.7	549.3	551.5	125.4	128.5	127.7	128.0	660.5	678.2	677.0	679.5
Electrical Machinery .. .. .	138.8	144.5	144.9	145.4	49.2	49.3	49.1	49.1	188.0	194.0	194.2	194.5
Electrical Wires and Cables .. .	41.3	41.2	41.2	41.3	23.6	23.0	23.0	23.0	64.9	64.4	64.2	64.3
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus ..	33.6	35.1	35.2	35.3	22.2	24.4	24.4	24.4	55.8	59.5	59.7	59.7
Wireless Apparatus and Gramophones ..	73.7	70.7	70.4	71.0	68.7	56.4	56.2	57.3	142.7	127.1	126.6	128.3
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps ..	24.7	23.5	23.6	23.9	28.4	24.6	24.3	24.1	53.1	48.1	47.9	48.0
Batteries and Accumulators .. .	11.4	11.4	11.2	11.1	8.7	9.0	8.7	8.8	20.1	20.4	19.9	19.9
Other Electrical Goods .. .. .	101.4	103.6	103.1	103.6	72.4	68.9	67.7	67.5	173.8	172.5	170.8	171.1
Vehicles .. .. .	1,022.3	1,023.9	1,014.4	1,013.3	181.6	179.5	177.4	177.0	1,203.9	1,203.4	1,191.8	1,190.3
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles and Cycles ..	284.1	276.3	268.9	267.0	47.8	45.0	44.3	43.9	331.9	321.8	313.0	310.9
Motor Repairs and Garages .. .	246.3	246.4	246.7	247.9	40.5	42.4	42.					

Numbers Employed in Great Britain: Industrial Analysis—continued

Table with columns for Industry, Males, Females, Total, and dates (End-August, End-July, End-June, End-May, End-April, End-March, End-February, End-January, End-December, End-November, End-October, End-September, End-August, 1955 and 1956). Rows include various industries like Manufacturing of Wood and Cork, Paper and Printing, etc.

SHORT-TIME AND OVERTIME IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, monthly employment returns are collected by the Ministry of Labour and National Service from employers with more than ten workpeople in manufacturing industries...

pay weeks to which the quarterly returns relate. A summary of the information thus obtained in August, 1956, is given in the Table below.

Operatives on Short-time or Overtime in week ended 25th August, 1956 (at establishments which rendered returns)

Table with columns for Industry, Operatives on Short-time (Number, Average number of hours lost), Operatives (excluding maintenance workers) on Overtime (Number, Aggregate number of hours of overtime, Average number of hours of overtime worked).

Unemployment at 17th September, 1956

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 13th August and 17th September, 1956, were as follows:—

Table with columns: Men 18 and over, Boys under 18, Women 18 and over, Girls under 18, Total. Rows: 13th August, 17th September, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-).

It is estimated that the number of persons registered as unemployed at 17th September represented 1.1 per cent. of the total number of employees.

In the week ending 25th August about 112,000 operatives in manufacturing establishments rendering returns were reported to be on short time, losing 12 hours each on the average; on the other hand, 1,375,000 production workers were working on an average 8 hours overtime.

An analysis of the unemployment figures for 17th September according to duration of unemployment is given in the following Table:—

Table with columns: Region, Men 18 and over, Boys under 18, Women 18 and over, Girls under 18, Total. Rows: Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals) - Unemployed for more than 2 weeks, Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks, Unemployed for more than 8 weeks, Temporarily Stopped, Total.

The total of 247,640 includes 45,271 married women. The numbers of wholly unemployed persons in each Region at 17th September, 1956, analysed according to duration of unemployment, and also the numbers temporarily stopped, are given in the Table below.

Table with columns: Region, Men 18 years and over, Boys under 18 years, Women 18 years and over, Girls under 18 years, Total. Rows: London and Southern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, E. and W. Ridings, Northern, Northern-Western, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom.

Table with columns: Region, Males, Females, Total. Rows: London and Southern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, E. and W. Ridings, Northern, Northern-Western, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain.

The following Table gives the numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 17th September, 1956, and the percentage rates of unemployment in each Region:—

Table with columns: Region, Numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 17th September, 1956 (Males, Females, Total), Percentage rate of unemployment\* (Males, Females, Total). Rows: London and Southern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, East and West Ridings, Northern, Northern-Western, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The total number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the United Kingdom at 17th September, 1956, was 272,995, of whom 23,665 were temporarily stopped.

The numbers of unemployed persons on the registers in each Region at 17th September, 1956, are shown below.

Table with columns: Region, Men 18 years and over, Boys under 18 years, Women 18 years and over, Girls under 18 years, Total. Rows: London and Southern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, E. and W. Ridings, Northern, Northern-Western, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom.

Total Registered as Unemployed (including Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped and Casuals)

Table with columns: Region, Total Registered as Unemployed. Rows: London and Southern, Eastern, Southern, South-Western, Midland, North-Midland, E. and W. Ridings, Northern, Northern-Western, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom.

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of the last spell of registered unemployment, of the number of wholly unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in Great Britain at 17th September, 1956:—

Table with columns: Duration of Unemployment in Weeks, Males, Females, Total. Rows: One or less, Over 1 and up to 2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, Over 52.

\* Number registered as unemployed expressed as percentage of the estimated total number of employees. † The figures exclude unemployed casual workers and persons temporarily stopped.

**NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS**

The Table below shows the total numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in each administrative Region of England, and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at 17th September, 1956, and the numbers of persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Offices situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 13th August, 1956.

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 17th September, 1956					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th August, 1956
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total 15 and over	
<b>London and South-Eastern</b>	23,094	1,370	12,719	1,033	38,216	+ 1,156
London (Administrative County)	10,323	270	5,831	198	16,622	+ 1,301
Acton	95	5	67	4	171	+ 28
Brentford and Chiswick	67	7	64	4	142	—
Brighton and Hove	1,252	49	414	48	1,763	+ 137
Chatham	247	41	256	34	578	+ 171
Croydon	426	19	295	29	769	+ 119
Dagenham	230	18	150	22	420	+ 6
Edling	137	23	129	9	298	+ 12
East Ham	162	10	142	10	324	+ 37
Enfield	166	7	157	4	334	+ 5
Harrow and Wembley	296	51	200	29	576	+ 1
Hayes and Harlington	52	7	37	10	106	+ 54
Hendon	221	32	78	10	341	+ 95
Ilford	260	25	49	23	357	+ 137
Leyton and Walthamstow	514	23	204	17	758	+ 43
Tottenham	537	29	352	27	945	+ 61
West Ham	461	27	238	20	746	+ 68
Willesden	327	15	288	13	643	+ 75
<b>Eastern</b>	6,216	348	2,904	359	9,827	+ 640
Bedford	102	10	99	10	221	+ 4
Cambridge	117	23	25	22	327	+ 32
Ipswich	378	43	99	27	547	+ 59
Luton	159	11	90	24	284	+ 99
Norwich	732	8	219	6	965	+ 53
Southend-on-Sea	540	7	184	6	737	+ 2
Watford	131	7	88	6	232	+ 48
<b>Southern</b>	5,641	425	2,729	340	9,135	+ 2,163
Bournemouth	481	27	150	17	675	+ 62
Oxford	356	9	167	6	538	+ 2,025
Portsmouth (inc. Gosport)	950	36	464	43	1,493	+ 115
Reading	201	50	140	8	399	+ 8
Slough	169	4	103	2	278	+ 84
Southampton	1,094	56	441	53	1,644	+ 450
<b>South-Western</b>	7,891	428	3,722	404	12,445	+ 1,009
Bristol (inc. Kingswood)	1,476	57	547	29	2,109	+ 154
Exeter	388	7	210	12	617	+ 66
Gloucester	145	13	196	16	370	+ 4
Plymouth	900	71	685	45	1,701	+ 10
Swindon	122	21	178	19	340	+ 9
<b>Midland</b>	14,022	550	8,475	563	23,610	+ 20,915
Birmingham	4,630	192	2,654	147	7,623	+ 14,083
Burton-on-Trent	113	4	80	1	198	+ 35
Coventry	2,515	76	814	56	3,461	+ 1,782
Oldbury	89	9	44	6	148	+ 231
Smethwick	131	19	79	20	249	+ 718
Stoke-on-Trent	1,169	47	1,342	76	2,634	+ 1,348
Walsall	377	25	297	15	714	+ 214
West Bromwich	138	4	93	2	237	+ 259
Wolverhampton	422	9	369	20	820	+ 92
Worcester	135	2	65	—	202	+ 14
<b>North-Midland</b>	4,848	279	3,488	297	8,912	+ 151
Chesterfield	143	—	47	3	193	+ 37
Derby	324	5	248	3	580	+ 358
Grimsby	502	80	103	48	733	+ 45
Leicester	416	7	276	11	710	+ 112
Lincoln	169	6	79	6	260	+ 37
Mansfield	154	9	75	6	244	+ 1
Northampton	199	—	102	—	301	+ 23
Nottingham	931	16	378	11	1,336	+ 44
Peterborough	82	7	137	16	242	+ 16
Scunthorpe	57	9	427	22	515	+ 144
<b>East and West Ridings</b>	8,567	541	4,197	576	13,881	+ 71
Accrington	290	31	87	55	463	+ 26
Bradford	493	38	188	12	731	+ 142
Dewsbury	130	4	210	2	356	+ 41
Doncaster	328	26	271	14	639	+ 14
Halifax	194	12	131	5	342	+ 35
Huddersfield	217	6	101	5	329	+ 36
Hull	1,798	50	501	45	2,394	+ 162
Leeds	1,305	25	487	16	1,833	+ 84
Rotherham	146	8	147	29	330	+ 122
Sheffield	894	35	246	49	1,224	+ 120
Wakefield	122	29	117	18	286	+ 62
York	259	30	84	6	379	+ 106
<b>North-Western</b>	23,918	1,747	15,375	1,117	42,157	+ 834
Ashton-under-Lyne	112	2	147	10	271	+ 12
Barrow	235	4	213	10	462	+ 92
Birkenhead	279	76	369	78	1,002	+ 39
Blackburn	607	71	701	22	1,401	+ 78
Blackpool	403	6	525	9	943	+ 85
Bolton	554	32	173	13	772	+ 144
Burnley	355	25	294	27	901	+ 319
Bury	540	9	424	5	978	+ 651
Crawley	172	3	167	—	339	+ 95
Liverpool (inc. Bootle)	178	10	251	5	444	+ 125
Manchester (inc. Stretford)	8,807	639	2,494	268	12,208	+ 168
Oldham (inc. Fallsworth and Royton)	2,910	186	945	85	4,126	+ 240
Preston	594	29	409	15	1,047	+ 2
Rochdale	305	32	487	23	847	+ 234
Rochdale	163	3	175	8	349	+ 131
St. Helens	362	11	618	22	1,013	+ 24
Salford (inc. Eccles and Pendlebury)	652	23	203	15	893	+ 321
Stockport	370	48	275	61	754	+ 62
Wallasey	399	53	481	11	944	+ 35
Warrington	276	19	298	12	605	+ 80
Wigan	385	17	287	12	701	+ 11

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 17th September, 1956					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 13th August, 1956
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total 15 and over	
<b>Northern</b>	11,023	753	5,685	661	18,122	+ 1,097
Carlisle	206	10	197	19	432	+ 36
Darlington	187	57	213	59	516	+ 208
Gateshead	572	41	344	23	982	+ 213
Hartlepool	367	9	300	9	685	+ 87
Jarrow and Hebburn	185	8	262	5	460	+ 15
Middlesbrough (inc. South Bank)	498	50	311	47	906	+ 49
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	1,622	121	802	71	2,616	+ 187
South Shields	817	55	165	34	1,071	+ 146
Stockton-on-Tees	249	41	244	27	561	+ 127
Sunderland	1,247	54	631	26	1,958	+ 158
Wallsend (inc. Willington Quay)	151	1	72	3	227	+ 37
<b>Scotland</b>	33,499	1,329	16,071	1,084	51,983	+ 4,049
Aberdeen	1,831	27	465	13	2,336	+ 396
Clydebank	671	9	102	2	784	+ 26
Dundee	1,510	82	875	59	2,526	+ 233
Edinburgh	2,487	58	543	24	3,112	+ 120
Glasgow (inc. Rutherglen)	10,797	279	3,164	124	14,364	+ 1,950
Greenock	1,640	105	792	37	2,574	+ 1,028
Motherwell and Wishaw	623	45	664	41	1,373	+ 115
Paisley	489	20	538	23	1,070	+ 52
<b>Wales</b>	11,696	641	5,974	1,041	19,352	+ 574
Cardiff	1,464	51	248	65	1,828	+ 236
Merthyr Tydfil	564	39	276	123	1,002	+ 219
Newport	313	25	123	36	497	+ 6
Rhondda	620	44	392	38	1,066	+ 173
Swansea	620	21	293	13	947	+ 90
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	17,066	1,111	6,510	668	25,355	+ 1,102
Belfast	5,678	240	2,624	139	8,681	+ 149
Londonderry	2,042	128	424	48	2,642	+ 244

**NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: 1939 TO 1956**

The Table below shows the annual average numbers registered as unemployed from 1939 to 1955, and monthly figures for 1956.

	Great Britain				United Kingdom Total	
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)		Temporarily Stopped			Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females		
1939	982,900	315,000	137,200	78,500	1,513,600	
1940	507,700	295,200	100,600	59,200	962,700	
1941	153,200	139,200	29,300	28,100	349,800	
1942	74,000	43,200	3,200	2,800	123,200	
1943	53,100	26,900	800	800	81,600	
1944	50,700	22,900	400	500	74,500	
1945	83,700	52,100	600	700	137,100	
1946	287,500	113,500	2,100	1,200	374,300	
1947	239,000	86,500	102,700	52,000	480,200	
1948	227,500	75,000	4,300	3,200	310,000	
1949	223,200	76,900	4,800	3,100	308,000	
1950	215,000	90,600	5,100	3,500	314,200	
1951	153,400	83,600	8,100	7,800	252,900	
1952	196,100	132,600	31,800	53,800	414,300	
1953	204,300	115,600	13,900	8,200	342,000	
1954	176,500	95,100	7,900	5,300	284,800	
1955	137,400	75,700	9,300	9,300	232,200	
1956 (1956)	164,555	83,581	8,621	7,153	263,910	
16th Jan.	167,073	80,230	19,382	8,943	275,628	
13th Feb.	158,967	79,110	16,936	10,509	265,522	
12th Mar.	148,696	78,832	12,823	8,164	249,515	
16th Apr.	135,601	72,302	17,787	11,741	237,431	
14th May	126,072	63,456	20,134	12,915	222,577	
11th June	129,007	63,693	32,013	13,424	238,137	
16th July	146,651	72,238	35,052	12,600	266,541	
13th Aug.	145,044	80,151	13,782	8,663	247,640	
17th Sept.	164,555	83,581	8,621	7,153	263,910	

**DISABLED PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT, 1944**

The number of persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, at 16th July, 1956 (the last date on which a count was taken), was 790,932, compared with 798,279 at 16th April, 1956.

The number of disabled persons on the Register who were unemployed at 17th September, 1956, was 39,670, of whom 34,024 were males and 5,646 were females. The total included 18,294 persons who had served in H.M. Forces, and 21,376 who had not served. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below.

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Numbers Unemployed: Industrial Analysis—continued

Industry	Great Britain							United Kingdom (all classes)		
	Wholly unemployed (including casuals)		Temporarily stopped		Total			Males	Females	Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total			
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	330	273	78	34	408	307	715	416	325	741
Leather (Tanning and Dressing) and Feltmongery	211	99	53	16	264	115	379	268	126	394
Leather Goods	85	151	9	15	94	166	260	98	173	271
Fur	34	23	16	3	50	26	76	50	26	76
Clothing	1,569	3,199	329	1,474	1,898	4,673	6,571	2,100	5,544	7,644
Tailoring	855	1,540	131	914	986	2,454	3,440	1,049	2,561	3,610
Dressmaking	60	663	101	66	764	824	68	68	895	963
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	40	363	4	260	44	623	667	53	1,065	1,118
Hats, Caps and Millinery	48	69	87	64	135	133	268	135	135	270
Dress Industries not elsewhere specified	55	206	8	46	63	252	315	91	405	496
Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs (exc. rubber)	269	330	93	89	362	419	781	406	452	858
Repair of Boots and Shoes	242	28	6	—	248	28	276	298	31	329
Food, Drink and Tobacco	5,382	5,147	22	102	5,404	5,249	10,653	6,030	5,755	11,785
Grain Milling	218	69	—	—	218	69	287	260	81	341
Bread and Flour Confectionery	1,406	923	6	12	1,412	935	2,347	1,592	992	2,584
Biscuits	249	493	—	—	249	493	743	251	788	1,039
Meat and Meat Products	226	269	7	1	233	270	503	325	282	607
Milk Products	405	266	—	3	405	269	674	461	312	773
Sugar and Glucose	198	95	—	—	198	95	293	202	96	298
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	319	702	1	17	320	719	1,039	335	734	1,069
Preserving of Fruit and Vegetables	640	937	—	26	544	963	1,507	625	1,153	1,778
Food Industries not elsewhere specified	506	533	4	41	604	574	1,178	631	589	1,220
Brewing and Malting	150	198	—	—	150	198	302	195	73	270
Wholesale Bottling	150	179	1	—	151	179	330	178	183	361
Other Drink Industries	381	374	2	—	383	374	757	433	389	822
Tobacco	180	112	—	1	180	113	293	191	222	413
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	2,372	654	428	112	2,800	766	3,566	3,007	784	3,791
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	839	149	2	8	841	157	998	899	159	1,058
Furniture and Upholstery	995	330	420	103	1,415	433	1,848	1,531	449	1,980
Shop and Office Fitting	106	21	—	—	106	21	127	111	21	132
Wooden Containers and Baskets	289	84	5	1	294	85	379	317	85	402
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	143	70	1	—	144	70	214	149	70	219
Paper and Printing	1,248	1,269	386	291	1,634	1,560	3,194	1,690	1,647	3,337
Paper and Board	273	238	360	99	633	337	970	637	343	980
Wallpaper	18	40	—	—	18	40	58	18	40	58
Cardboard Boxes, Cartons and Fibre-board Packing Cases	122	227	—	7	122	234	356	130	273	403
Manufactures of Paper and Board not elsewhere specified	81	207	2	4	83	211	294	84	218	302
Printing and Publishing of Newspapers and Periodicals	255	68	—	—	255	68	324	284	75	359
Other Printing and Publishing, Bookbinding, Engraving, etc.	499	489	23	181	522	670	1,192	537	698	1,235
Other Manufacturing Industries	1,519	1,379	188	46	1,707	1,425	3,132	1,883	1,452	3,335
Rubber	691	409	165	28	856	437	1,293	896	445	1,341
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	113	86	—	1	113	87	200	119	87	206
Brushes and Brooms	66	66	—	—	66	69	135	77	154	231
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	115	310	14	5	129	315	444	134	316	450
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	31	74	—	—	31	74	105	74	105	179
Production and Printing of Cinematograph Films	58	7	—	—	59	7	66	59	7	66
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	445	433	8	3	453	436	889	567	446	1,013
Building and Contracting	24,169	258	54	10	24,223	268	24,491	26,882	302	29,884
Building	15,724	179	24	1	15,748	180	15,928	18,940	204	19,144
Electric Wiring and Contracting	660	31	5	9	665	40	705	807	43	850
Civil Engineering Contracting	7,785	48	25	—	7,810	48	7,858	8,935	55	8,990
Gas, Electricity and Water Supply	1,630	101	12	1	1,642	102	1,744	1,834	109	1,943
Gas	832	40	3	—	835	40	875	895	41	936
Electricity	576	59	5	1	581	60	641	696	66	762
Water	222	2	4	—	226	2	228	243	2	245
Transport and Communication	14,959	1,682	224	17	15,183	1,699	16,882	16,618	1,745	18,363
Railways	2,082	162	3	1	2,085	163	2,248	2,276	168	2,444
Tramway and Omnibus Service	995	757	1	2	996	759	1,755	1,164	767	1,931
Other Road Passenger Transport	235	16	—	—	235	16	305	18	323	341
Goods Transport by Road	1,810	108	11	—	1,821	108	1,929	2,063	108	2,171
Sea Transport	4,957	93	168	—	5,125	93	5,224	5,406	100	5,506
Port, River and Canal Transport	1,351	23	17	6	1,368	23	1,391	1,788	27	1,815
Harbour, Dock, Canal, Conservancy, etc., Service	508	14	—	—	512	14	526	553	14	567
Air Transport	78	19	—	—	78	19	97	80	20	100
Postal, Telegraph and Wireless Communication	2,036	362	7	5	2,043	367	2,410	2,195	392	2,587
Other Transport and Communication	318	64	3	—	321	67	388	324	67	391
Storage	589	64	7	—	596	64	660	602	64	666
Distributive Trades	11,947	10,420	61	134	12,008	10,554	22,562	13,429	11,391	24,820
Dealing in Coal, Builders' Materials, Grain and Agricultural Supplies (Wholesale or Retail)	1,716	201	24	—	1,740	201	1,941	1,972	217	2,189
Dealing in other Industrial Materials and Machinery	1,342	207	4	4	1,346	211	1,557	1,519	227	1,746
Wholesale Distribution of Food and Drink (exc. catering)	1,375	410	6	7	1,381	417	1,798	1,599	486	2,085
Retail Distribution of Food and Drink (exc. catering)	2,656	3,284	9	49	2,665	3,333	5,998	3,081	3,560	6,641
Wholesale Distribution of Non-Food Goods	1,412	676	5	2	1,417	678	2,095	1,519	174	2,253
Retail Distribution of Non-Food Goods	3,212	5,281	13	69	3,225	5,350	8,575	3,490	5,763	9,253
Retail Distribution of Confectionery, Tobacco and Newspapers	234	361	—	3	234	364	598	249	404	653
Insurance, Banking and Finance	1,293	568	2	2	1,295	570	1,865	1,398	603	2,001
Public Administration	11,029	2,256	63	22	11,092	2,278	13,370	12,144	2,456	14,600
National Government Service	4,277	1,213	8	4	4,282	1,217	5,499	4,809	1,322	6,131
Local Government Service	6,752	1,043	55	18	6,810	1,061	7,871	7,335	1,134	8,469
Professional Services	3,012	4,661	9	35	3,021	4,696	7,717	3,202	4,984	8,186
Accountancy	85	73	—	—	85	73	158	91	77	168
Education	789	1,065	—	13	790	1,068	1,868	839	1,166	2,005
Law	83	166	—	—	83	166	249	92	266	357
Medical and Dental Services	1,038	3,018	6	9	1,044	3,027	4,071	1,124	3,202	4,326
Religion	82	28	—	1	82	29	111	92	32	124
Other Professional and Business Services	935	311	2	12	937	323	1,260	964	333	1,297
Miscellaneous Services	11,706	18,450	39	220	11,745	18,670	30,415	12,622	19,927	32,549
Theatres, Cinemas, Music Halls, Concerts, etc.	2,052	1,383	9	30	2,061	1,413	3,474	2,146	1,444	3,590
Sport, Other Recreations and Betting	1,371	493	5	17	1,376	510	1,886	1,514	523	2,037
Catering, Hotels, etc.	5,950	10,834	10	72	5,960	10,906	16,866	6,379	11,422	17,801
Laundries	439	1,145	—	12	439	1,157	1,596	487	1,271	1,758
Dry Cleaning, Job Dyeing, Carpet Beating, etc.	141	359	—	3	141	362	503	159	388	547
Hairdressing and Manicure	119	204	—	1	120	205	327	139	226	365
Private Domestic Service (Resident)	148	1,249	—	2	148	1,251	1,399	160	1,432	1,592
Private Domestic Service (Non-Resident)	619	2,325	12	74	631	2,399	3,030	694	2,719	3,413
Other Services	867	458	2	7	869	465	1,334	944	502	1,446
Ex-Service Personnel Not Classified by Industry	2,042	208	—	—	2,042	208	2,250	2,192	217	2,409
Other Persons not Classified by Industry	10,631	12,497	—	—	10,631	12,497	23,128	11,655	13,117	24,772
GRAND TOTAL*	145,044	80,151	13,782	8,663	158,826	88,814	247,640	177,003	95,992	272,995

\* The totals include unemployed casual workers (2,360 males and 233 females in Great Britain and 2,857 males and 260 females in the United Kingdom).

Placing Work of the Employment Exchanges

The Table below shows, for the four-week periods ended 25th July and 22nd August, 1956, the numbers of vacancies filled by the Employment Exchanges of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain, together with the numbers remaining unfilled at the end of each period. The figures include placings, etc., by the Youth Employment Offices of certain Local Authorities.

	Four weeks ended 25th July, 1956		Four weeks ended 22nd August, 1956		Total Number of Placings, 15th Dec., 1955, to 22nd Aug., 1956 (36 weeks)
	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	
Women aged 18 and over	11,384	62,692	29,781	51,239	148,655
Girls under 18	48,546	102,966	43,819	96,509	487,951
Total	132,561	317,043	144,561	295,035	1,586,925

Table on the next page, which relate to engagements of all kinds during the period in question.

The figures of vacancies unfilled represent the numbers of vacancies notified by employers to Employment Exchanges and remaining unfilled at the specified dates. They do not purport to represent the total number of vacancies which require to be filled, and they probably fall short of the total number for several reasons. In the first place, it is probable that some employers do not notify their vacancies to Employment Exchanges and prefer to rely on other methods for finding the workpeople whom they require. (The Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952, which made it obligatory to notify the majority of vacancies to Employment

### Labour Turnover

The Table below shows labour turnover rates (per 100 employees) in the manufacturing industries during the four-week period ended 28th July, 1956, with separate figures for males and females. The figures are based on information given by employers with more than 10 employees on returns which they render every month to the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Each return shows the numbers of males and females on the pay-roll at the date of the return and also at the date of the previous return, and an additional item shows the numbers on the pay-roll at the later of the two dates who were not on the pay-roll at the earlier date. The figures in the last item are adopted as representing engagements during the period, and the figures of discharges and other losses are obtained by adding the numbers engaged during the period to the numbers on the pay-roll at the beginning of the period and deducting from the figures thus obtained the numbers on the pay-roll at the end of the period. It must be borne in mind, however, that the figures of engagements obtained in the way indicated above do not

include persons engaged during the period who were discharged or otherwise left their employment before the end of the same period, and the percentage rates both of engagements and of discharges, etc., in the Table below accordingly understate, to some extent, the total intake and wastage during the period. In spite of this limitation, however, the figures enable comparisons to be made between the turnover rates of different industries and also between the figures for consecutive months for the same industry, in the latter case after allowance is made for any difference in the length of period covered.

It is also important to note that the figures for any industry represent the aggregated totals of the numbers engaged and discharged by all firms rendering returns in the industry. Some of the persons who were discharged or left their employment during the period were probably engaged by other firms in the same industry, and the net numbers of engagements and losses of an industry, considered as one unit, will be less in every case than the sum of the figures for the individual firms.

Labour Turnover Rates in Manufacturing Industries : 4 weeks ended 28th July, 1956

Industry	Number of Engagements per 100 employed at beginning of period			Number of Discharges and other Losses per 100 employed at beginning of period		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.5	3.6	2.7
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.3	3.1	2.4
China and Earthenware (including Glazed Tiles)	2.0	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.5
Glass (other than Containers)	1.9	2.5	2.1	1.7	3.0	2.1
Glass Containers	3.6	2.5	3.4	3.3	4.4	3.5
Cement	1.7	1.8	1.7	0.9	1.8	1.0
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures	3.3	2.4	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.9
Chemicals and Allied Trades	1.8	2.8	2.1	1.6	2.9	2.0
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1.7	1.2	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.2
Chemicals and Dyes	1.9	2.4	2.0	1.6	2.5	1.8
Pharmaceutical Preparations, etc.	2.3	3.6	3.0	1.8	3.5	2.8
Explosives and Fireworks	0.8	1.7	1.1	1.0	2.5	1.6
Paint and Varnish	2.5	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.6
Soap, Candles, Polishes, etc.	1.5	3.3	2.2	1.6	3.5	2.3
Mineral Oil Refining	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.1
Other Oils, Greases, Gluc, etc.	2.1	3.2	2.4	2.3	3.1	2.4
Metal Manufacture	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.8	2.5	1.9
Blast Furnaces	2.1	1.7	2.1	1.5	1.7	1.5
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.9	1.5
Iron Foundries	1.6	1.8	1.6	2.3	2.7	2.3
Trimpole Manufacture	2.8	5.8	3.1	1.5	2.6	1.7
Steel Sheet Manufacture	0.9	2.0	1.0	1.1	2.2	1.1
Iron and Steel Tubes	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.2	1.8	2.2
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, etc.	1.6	2.3	1.7	2.0	3.0	2.2
Engineering and Electrical Goods	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.8	3.1	2.1
Marine Engineering	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.5
Agricultural Machinery	1.1	2.2	1.2	2.8	3.3	2.8
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.7
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	2.2	1.6
Stationary Engines	1.3	2.3	1.5	1.6	2.6	1.7
Textile Machinery and Accessories	1.1	1.9	1.2	1.6	2.5	1.7
Ordnance and Small Arms	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.8
Constructional Engineering	2.5	1.7	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.2
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	1.6	2.1	1.7	1.7	2.8	1.9
Electrical Machinery	1.6	2.0	1.7	1.3	2.4	1.6
Electrical Wires and Cables	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.8	2.1
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	1.5	2.2	1.8	1.3	2.6	1.9
Wireless Apparatus	2.0	3.7	2.8	2.5	4.2	3.2
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	2.8	1.8	2.3	2.6	3.2	2.9
Batteries and Accumulators	1.0	2.4	1.6	2.6	5.4	3.8
Other Electrical Goods	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.4	4.0	3.0
Vehicles	1.3	1.9	1.4	2.3	3.3	2.4
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, etc.	1.0	1.5	1.1	3.7	3.4	3.6
Motor Repairs and Garages	1.9	3.2	2.1	1.8	2.8	2.0
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.1	2.3	1.3
Manufacture of Motor Vehicle and Aircraft Accessories	1.3	1.7	1.4	3.4	4.5	3.6
Locomotive Manufacture	0.8	1.7	0.9	2.2	1.0	1.0
Railway Carriages and Wagons	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.1
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.7	4.3	3.4
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.2	3.5	2.7
Tools and Cutlery	1.5	2.1	1.7	2.0	3.9	2.7
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Nails, etc.	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.7	2.2
Iron and Steel Forgings	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	2.4	1.9
Wire and Wire Manufactures	1.7	1.8	1.7	2.2	2.6	2.3
Hollow-ware	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.4	4.3	3.4
Brass Manufactures	1.7	2.2	1.9	2.1	3.3	2.5
Other Metal Industries	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.4	3.4	2.8
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	1.4	2.3	1.8	1.5	3.0	2.1
Scientific, Surgical, etc., Instruments	1.6	2.6	1.9	1.5	3.0	2.0
Watches and Clocks	1.0	0.8	0.9	2.3	3.0	2.7
Jewellery, Plate, etc.	1.4	2.6	2.0	1.4	3.0	2.1
Musical Instruments	1.1	2.3	1.4	2.6	1.7	1.7
Textiles	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.9	2.6
Cotton Spinning, Doubling, etc.	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.7	3.2	3.0
Cotton Weaving, etc.	1.4	1.5	1.5	2.3	2.3	2.3
Woolen and Worsted	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.5	3.2
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Production	1.4	1.9	1.5	1.5	2.3	1.7
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving and Silk	1.7	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.2
Linen and Soft Hemp	2.8	2.5	2.6	4.1	3.6	3.8
Jute	2.0	1.9	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Rope, Twine and Net	2.3	2.4	2.4	1.9	3.0	2.6
Hosiery	1.3	1.9	1.8	1.2	2.2	1.9
Lace	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.9	3.0	2.5
Carpets	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.8
Narrow Fabrics	1.7	2.3	2.1	2.3	3.1	2.9
Made-up Textiles	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.9	3.6
Textile Finishing, etc.	1.7	2.1	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.0
Other Textile Industries	2.4	3.2	2.7	2.8	3.2	2.9
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	1.6	2.2	1.8	2.2	2.5	2.3
Leather Tanning and Dressing	1.6	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.8	2.3
Leather Goods	1.6	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.4
Fur	1.8	1.6	1.7	2.3	2.4	2.3
Clothing	1.7	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.8	2.6
Tailoring	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	3.0	2.8
Dressmaking	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.6	2.8	2.8
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.7
Hats, Caps and Millinery	1.6	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.1	2.1
Other Dress Industries	1.5	2.3	2.2	1.6	3.1	2.8
Breeding and Matting	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.5	2.1	1.8
Manufacture of Boots and Shoes	1.6	3.5	2.0	1.7	3.5	2.1
Repair of Boots and Shoes	1.6	3.5	2.0	1.7	3.5	2.1
Food, Drink and Tobacco	4.2	6.0	4.9	2.9	4.8	3.7
Grain Milling	2.3	3.0	2.5	1.9	3.5	2.2
Bread and Flour Confectionery	4.9	4.8	4.8	3.6	4.6	4.0
Biscuits	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.7	4.9	4.5
Meat and Meat Products	3.6	4.6	4.0	3.0	3.9	3.4
Milk Products	4.0	4.3	4.1	3.4	5.4	4.0
Sugar and Glucose	2.5	4.6	2.9	3.1	6.9	3.9
Cocoa, Chocolate, etc.	2.1	3.6	3.1	2.8	4.8	4.0
Preserving of Fruit and Vegetables	15.4	19.5	18.0	3.6	6.1	5.1
Other Food Industries	3.4	5.9	4.4	2.5	5.3	3.6
Brewing and Malting	3.5	5.1	3.8	2.1	4.2	2.5
Wholesale Bottling	5.3	4.9	5.1	3.2	3.8	3.5
Other Drink Industries	5.4	6.1	5.6	3.3	5.9	4.3
Tobacco	1.7	2.4	2.1	1.5	2.8	2.2
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.5	3.0	2.6
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	2.6	3.4	2.7	2.5	3.4	2.6
Furniture and Upholstery	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.8	2.4
Shop and Office Fitting	2.8	4.1	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.7
Wooden Containers and Baskets	2.6	2.6	2.6	3.3	3.6	3.4
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.8	2.4
Paper and Printing	1.4	2.2	1.7	1.1	2.4	1.6
Paper and Board	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.9	1.4
Wallpaper	1.2	4.1	2.1	1.4	3.8	2.2
Cardboard Boxes, etc.	2.8	3.1	3.0	2.5	3.9	3.4
Other Manufactures of Paper	1.9	2.6	2.3	1.7	2.8	2.4
Printing of Newspapers, etc.	1.1	2.1	1.3	0.7	1.8	0.9
Other Printing, etc.	1.3	1.8	1.5	1.1	1.9	1.4
Other Manufacturing Industries	2.0	2.7	2.3	2.8	3.7	3.2
Rubber	1.5	2.0	1.6	2.9	3.4	3.0
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	1.4	2.1	1.6	3.1	3.2	3.2
Brushes and Brooms	1.0	2.2	1.6	1.9	2.9	2.4
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	2.6	3.4	3.1	2.1	4.8	3.8
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	2.8	3.7	3.3	2.7	4.4	3.7
Production of Cinematograph Films	4.6	3.4	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.7
Other Manufacturing Industries	2.6	3.2	2.9	2.7	3.6	3.1
All the above Industries	1.9	2.7	2.2	2.0	3.2	2.4

### Employment in the Coal Mining Industry in August

The statistics given below in respect of employment, etc., in the coal mining industry in August have been compiled by the Ministry of Fuel and Power from information provided by the National Coal Board.

The average weekly number of wage-earners on the colliery books in Great Britain during the four weeks ended 25th August was 702,200, compared with 702,400 for the four weeks ended 28th July and 702,200 for the four weeks ended 27th August, 1955. The total numbers who were effectively employed\* were 493,800 in August, 523,900 in July, 1956, and 532,500 in August, 1955; these figures exclude wage-earners who were absent for any reason (including holidays) for the whole of any week.

The Table below shows the numbers of wage-earners on the colliery books in the various Divisions in August, together with the increase or decrease† in each case compared with July, 1956, and August, 1955. The figures for the latest month are provisional and figures for earlier months have been revised, where necessary.

Average Numbers of Wage-earners on Colliery Books—Analysis by Divisions

Division	Average numbers of wage-earners on colliery books during 4 weeks ended 25th August, 1956	Increase (+) or decrease (-) compared with the average for	
		4 weeks ended 28th July, 1956	4 weeks ended 27th August, 1955
Northern (Northumberland and Cumberland)	47,300	...	+ 300
Durham	102,200	...	+ 200
North Eastern	137,300	- 400	- 1,400
North Western	58,700	+ 100	...
East Midlands	102,000	...	+ 300
West Midlands	57,200	+ 100	...
South Western	105,600	+ 100	+ 1,100
South Eastern	7,100	...	+ 500
England and Wales	617,400	- 300	- 1,200
Scotland	84,800	+ 100	+ 1,200
Great Britain	702,200	- 200	...

It is provisionally estimated that, during the four weeks of August, about 6,050 persons were recruited to the industry, while the total number of persons who left the industry was about 5,420; the numbers on the colliery books thus showed a net increase of 630. During the four weeks of July there was a net decrease of 970.

The average number of shifts worked per week by coal-face workers who were effectively employed was 4.70 in August, 4.83 in July and 4.77 in August, 1955. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.22, 5.39 and 5.29.

Information is given in the Table below regarding absenteeism in the coal mining industry in August, and in July, 1956, and August, 1955. Separate figures are compiled in respect of (a) voluntary absenteeism (absences for which no satisfactory reason is given) and (b) involuntary absenteeism (absences due mainly to sickness). The figures represent the numbers of non-appearances, expressed as percentages of the total numbers of possible appearances.

Absence Percentage (five-day week)

	August, 1956	July, 1956	August, 1955
Coal-face Workers :			
Voluntary	6.43	6.14	6.07
Involuntary	9.07	9.11	8.76
All workers :			
Voluntary	4.90	4.48	4.67
Involuntary	7.96	7.84	7.80

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 3.14 tons in August, compared with 3.43 tons in the previous month and 3.14 tons in August, 1955.

The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.14 tons in August; for July, 1956, and August, 1955, the figures were 1.23 tons and 1.16 tons, respectively.

\* Excluding wage-earners employed at mines not operated by the National Coal Board. These number approximately 5,400.

† "No change" is indicated by three dots.

‡ The divisions shown conform to the organisation of the National Coal Board.

### Fatal Industrial Accidents

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in September was 93, compared with 86 in the previous month and 136 in September, 1955. In the case of seamen employed in ships registered in the United Kingdom, 8 fatal accidents were reported in September, compared with 6 in the previous month and 13 in September, 1955. Detailed figures for separate industries are given below for September, 1956.

Mines and Quarries\* table with columns for industry and number of accidents. Includes sub-sections for Factories and Seamen.

### Industrial Diseases

The number of cases in the United Kingdom reported during September under the Factories Act, 1937, or the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, are shown below.

Table of Industrial Diseases with columns for I. Cases, I. Cases—continued, and II. Deaths, listing various conditions like Epitheliomatous Ulceration and Anthrax.

### Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics of courses at Industrial Rehabilitation Units given below relate to the four weeks ended 20th August, 1956.

Table showing statistics of courses at Industrial Rehabilitation Units, with columns for Men, Women, and Total.

\* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are obtained and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 29th September, 1956.

### Work of Appointments Services

The particulars given below relate to the work of the Appointments Services of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

#### Technical and Scientific Register

The Technical and Scientific Register operates centrally on a national basis from Almack House, 26-28 King Street, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1 (Telephone number, Whitehall 6200), but it also has a representative at the Scottish Appointments Office, 450 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2 (Telephone number, Glasgow Douglas 7161).

The Register, which is assisted by Advisory Committees composed of members of the professions concerned, provides a placing and advisory service for physicists, mathematicians, chemists (other than pharmacists), metallurgists, agriculturists, biologists and other scientists, professional engineers, architects, surveyors, town planners, estate agents and valuers.

The total number of persons enrolled on the Technical and Scientific Register at 17th September was 3,736\* ; this figure included 2,828 registrants who were already in work but desired a change of employment, and 908 registrants who were unemployed.

The numbers of vacancies notified, filled, etc., between 14th August and 17th September (5 weeks) are shown below.

Table showing vacancies outstanding at 14th August, notified during period, filled during period, cancelled or withdrawn, and unfilled at 17th September.

#### Appointments Register

The Appointments Register is concerned with the placing of other professional workers and persons with administrative, managerial or senior executive experience or qualifications. The registers are maintained at three offices: the London Appointments Office, which serves the South of England and the Midlands and South Wales; the Northern Appointments Office in Manchester, which serves the North of England broadly as far as the southern borders of Yorkshire and Cheshire, and North Wales; and the Scottish Appointments Office in Glasgow, which covers the whole of Scotland.

The total number of persons on the registers of the Appointments Offices at 17th September was 13,187, consisting of 12,031 men and 1,156 women. The registrants included 4,896 men and 554 women who were wholly unemployed. The remaining 7,135 men and 602 women were, at the time of their registration, in employment but requiring other posts; in the majority of cases the employment was of a temporary nature or was unsuitable having regard to their qualifications and experience or the personal circumstances of the registrant.

The following Table shows the numbers† of registrations at each of the Offices :-

Table showing registrations at each of the Offices, categorized by Wholly Unemployed and In Employment, with sub-columns for Men and Women.

During the period 14th August to 17th September, 1956, there were new registrations by 1,273 men and 207 women, and in the same period the registrations of 1,440 men and 203 women were withdrawn.

The Table below shows the numbers of vacancies (other than those for nurses and midwives), notified, filled, etc., between 14th August and 17th September.

Table showing vacancies notified, filled, cancelled or withdrawn during period, filled during period, and unfilled at 17th September.

\* This figure includes 267 registrants who were also registered at Appointments Offices and 127 unemployed registrants who were also registered at Employment Exchanges.

† These figures include 1,670 persons who were also registered at Employment Exchanges for the purpose of claiming unemployment benefit but exclude 84 persons registered for overseas employment only. Registrations of nurses and midwives are also excluded.

‡ This column includes vacancies for which employers were willing to accept either men or women.

### Employment Overseas

#### AUSTRALIA

The Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics estimate that the total number of civilians in employment as wage and salary earners, other than those engaged in rural industries and private domestic service, was about 2,788,700 in May, an increase of 0.1 per cent. compared with the previous month and of 2.0 per cent. compared with May, 1955.

#### CANADA

Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from employers in industries other than agriculture and private domestic service indicate that the total number of workpeople in employment at 1st June, in the establishments covered by the returns, was 3.6 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the previous month and 6.8 per cent. higher than at 1st June, 1955.

#### UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The interim index of employment in manufacturing industries, published by the Bureau of Census and Statistics, showed no change in April, compared with the previous month, but was 1.6 per cent. higher than in April, 1955. Figures compiled by the Department of Mines showed that the numbers employed in the mining industry, excluding quarries, were 556,875 in April, compared with 549,775 in the previous month and 545,713 in April, 1955.

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The number of civilians in employment as wage or salary earners in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in July is estimated by the Department of Labor to have been approximately 51,017,000. This was 1.4 per cent. lower than the figure for the previous month, but 1.9 per cent. higher than for June, 1955.

The Bureau of the Census estimated that the total number of unemployed persons at the middle of July was about 2,833,000, compared with 2,927,000 at the middle of the previous month and 2,471,000 at the middle of July, 1955.

#### FRANCE

The number of persons registered as applicants for employment at the beginning of July was 93,745, of whom 28,565 were wholly unemployed persons in receipt of assistance. The corresponding figures were 108,511 and 33,270 at the beginning of the previous month and 142,916 and 50,647 at the beginning of July, 1955.

#### GERMANY

In the Federal Republic the number unemployed at the end of August was 409,427, compared with 429,543 at the end of the previous month and 512,353 at the end of August, 1955. In the Western Sectors of Berlin the corresponding figures at the same dates were 93,789, 99,703 and 117,735.

#### IRISH REPUBLIC

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 22nd September was 49,370, compared with 48,416 at 18th August, and 38,200 at 24th September, 1955.

#### ITALY

The number registered for employment at the end of July was 2,022,778, of whom 1,206,456 were wholly unemployed with a previous history of employment and the remainder were young persons, etc., registering for first employment or employed persons seeking other employment. At the end of the previous month the number registered for employment was 2,069,521, including 1,238,082 wholly unemployed, and at the end of July, 1955, it was 2,059,170, including 1,223,820 wholly unemployed.

#### NETHERLANDS

The number of persons wholly unemployed at 31st July, including persons who are relief workers as well as those in receipt of unemployment benefit, was 28,680, compared with 27,514 at the end of the previous month and 39,690 at the end of July, 1955. The number of persons included in the total who were employed on relief work was 7,578 at 31st July, compared with 8,700 at 30th June and 9,581 at the end of July, 1955.



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# WAGES, DISPUTES, RETAIL PRICES

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## Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

### RATES OF WAGES

#### Changes in September

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,\* the changes in the rates of wages reported to have come into operation in the United Kingdom during September resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £315,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 987,000 workpeople, and a decrease of £4,000 for 169,000 workpeople.

The principal increases affected agricultural workers in England and Wales, workpeople employed in ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring and in wholesale mantle and costume making, and certain classes of workers in general printing in Great Britain. Others receiving increases included certain operatives in the building and contracting and civil engineering industries and male forest workers employed by the Forestry Commission. The decreases, which operated under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices, affected mainly workers employed in the iron and steel industry.

The statutory minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages Act for agricultural workers in England and Wales were increased generally by 6s. a week for men and 5s. for women. For workpeople employed in ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring and wholesale mantle and costume making there were increases of 4d. an hour in the agreed general minimum time rates for men and of 3d. for women. In general printing in Great Britain increases, which also consolidated a proportion of the existing cost-of-living bonus and in most instances a proportion of existing house rate or merit money, resulted in overall minimum advances on basic rates of 7s. 6d. a week for men and 5s. for women.

In the building and contracting industry in England and Wales and in civil engineering contracting in Great Britain qualified scaffolders received increases of 1d. an hour and there was an increase of the same amount in the allowance in addition to standard rates payable to charge hands employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales, and Northern Ireland. Minimum rates for adult male forest workers employed by the Forestry Commission were increased by 7s. a week.

Of the total increase of £315,000, about £166,000 resulted from Orders made under the Agricultural Wages Act; about £142,000 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives; about £6,000 was the result of

arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint standing bodies established by voluntary agreement; about £1,000 resulted from arbitration awards; and the remainder resulted from the operation of sliding scales based on the index of retail prices.

#### Changes in January-September, 1956

The following Table shows the numbers of workpeople in the United Kingdom affected by increases in rates of wages reported to the Department during the nine completed months of 1956, and the net aggregate amounts of such increases.

Industry Group	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Net Increases†	Estimated Net Amount of Increase in Weekly Rates of Wages
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing .. .. .	792,500	£466,000
Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	433,500	288,000
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal .. .. .	218,000	79,300
Chemicals and Allied Trades .. .. .	223,500	111,200
Metal Manufacture .. .. .	220,000	117,500
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	2,637,500	1,384,200
Vehicles .. .. .		
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified .. .. .		168,400
Textiles .. .. .	570,000	19,000
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur .. .. .	37,500	19,000
Clothing .. .. .	441,500	255,200
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. .. .	429,500	183,300
Manufactures of Wood and Cork .. .. .	188,000	81,800
Paper and Printing .. .. .	320,500	372,600
Other Manufacturing Industries .. .. .	53,000	23,900
Building and Contracting .. .. .	1,244,000	782,700
Gas, Electricity and Water .. .. .	241,000	173,600
Transport and Communication .. .. .	1,012,500	502,800
Distributive Trades .. .. .	1,262,000	572,500
Public Administration .. .. .	952,500	489,000
Miscellaneous Services .. .. .	652,000	219,800
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>11,929,000</b>	<b>6,290,800</b>

In the corresponding months of 1955 there was a net increase of £4,582,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of 11,393,000 workpeople.

### HOURS OF LABOUR

No changes in hours of labour were reported during the month.

### PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING SEPTEMBER

(NOTE.—The figure in brackets below an item in the column headed "District" relates to the page in the volume "TIME RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR, 1ST APRIL, 1956," on which details for that date are given.)

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change (Decreases in <i>italics</i> )
Agriculture	England and Wales (1) (233)	24 Sept.	Workpeople employed in agriculture, other than certain classes of male workers in the Holland division of Lincolnshire and female workers in Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely and Yorkshire	Increases of 6s. a week in minimum rates for male workers 20 years and over, of 5s. for female workers 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 20 and over 14s. a week, youths and boys 6s. at 15, rising to 11s. at 19 and under 20; women 21 and over 10s., girls 5s. at 15, rising to 10s. at 18 and under 21.†
	Holland division of Lincolnshire		Male workers employed wholly or mainly as horsemen	Increases of 8s. a week in minimum rates for workers 20 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 20 and over 19s. a week, youths and boys 9s. at 15, rising to 15s. at 19 and under 20.‡
	do.		Male workers employed wholly or mainly as cartmen, milkmen and shepherds	Increase of 8s. a week (16s. to 17s.) in minimum rates for workers 20 years and over.‡
	Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely and Yorkshire		Female workers employed in agriculture	Increases of 5s. a week in minimum rates for workers 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: women 21 and over 10s. a week, girls 5s. at 15, rising to 9s. at 18 and under 21.‡
Forestry	Great Britain (5)	Beginning of pay week containing 17 Sept.	Adult male workers employed by the Forestry Commission	Increase of 7s. a week in minimum rates for men 20 years and over. Rates after change: grade 3 (ordinary workers) 14s. a week, grade 2 14s. 6d., grade 1 15s. †
Mining and Quarrying	Cumberland (8)	24 Sept.	Iron-ore miners	Cost-of-living net additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1d. a shift (8s. to 8s. 1d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (4s. to 4s. 0½d.) for boys.¶
	West Cumberland (9)	do.	Limestone quarrymen	Cost-of-living net additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1d. a shift (8s. 1d. to 8s. 2d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (4s. 0½d. to 4s. 1d.) for boys.¶
	Cleveland (8)	3 Sept.	Ironstone mine workers	Cost-of-living flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased by 1-2d. a shift (9s. 1-2d. to 9s.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by 0-6d. (4s. 6-6d. to 4s. 6d.) for boys under 18.
	North Lincolnshire	2 Sept.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Cost-of-living flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3-1d. to 7s. 1-8d.) for men, by 0-975d. (5s. 5-32d. to 5s. 4-345d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-65d. (3s. 7-55d. to 3s. 6-9d.) for boys under 18.

\* The particulars of numbers affected by changes in rates of wages and working hours, and of the amount of change in weekly wages and hours of labour, exclude changes affecting clerical workers, for whom the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. The estimates of the effect of the changes on wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect either of short-time or of overtime.

† Workpeople who received two or more increases of wages during the period are counted only once in this column.  
‡ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Agricultural Wages Act. See article on page 364 of this GAZETTE.  
§ Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.  
¶ Wages are subject to further ad hoc additions of amounts ranging from 6s. to 6s. 10d. a shift for men, with half the appropriate amounts for youths.  
§ Wages are subject to a war bonus of 10s. a shift for men and youths 18 and over, and of 5s. for boys.

### Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during September—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change (Decreases in <i>italics</i> )
Mining and Quarrying (continued)	Notts., Leics., parts of Lincs., Northants. and Banbury	2 Sept.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen	Cost-of-living flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-36d. a shift (7s. 0-32d. to 6s. 10-96d.) for men, by 1-02d. (5s. 3-24d. to 5s. 2-22d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-68d. (3s. 6-16d. to 3s. 5-48d.) for boys under 18.†
	South and West Durham	3 Sept.	Limestone quarrymen	Cost-of-living flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1d. a shift (7s. 3d. to 7s. 2d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (3s. 7½d. to 3s. 7d.) for boys under 18.
Roofing Felt Manufacture	Great Britain	Beginning of first full pay period following 11 Sept.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 2½d. an hour in minimum basic time rates for adult male workers, and of proportional amounts for women and juveniles. Minimum basic rates after change for adult male day labourers: London (within a radius of 15 miles from Charing Cross) 3s. 4½d. an hour, rest of England, Scotland and Wales 3s. 3d.
Coke Manufacture	Scotland, Cumberland, South Durham, Cleveland, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Northants. and South Wales (certain firms)‡	2 Sept.	Workpeople employed at coke oven plants attached to blastfurnaces	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3-1d. to 7s. 1-8d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-18d. an hour (11-88d. to 11-7d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 0-98d. a shift (5s. 5-33d. to 5s. 4-35d.) or by 0-14d. an hour (8-91d. to 8-77d.) for youths 18 and under 21 and for women employed on youths' work, and by 0-65d. a shift (3s. 7-55d. to 3s. 6-9d.) or by 0-09d. an hour (5-94d. to 5-85d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.
Pig Iron Manufacture	England and Wales and certain works in Scotland (42)	2 Sept.	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	do. do.
	West of Scotland (42)	Pay period commencing nearest 1 Sept.	Workpeople employed at certain blastfurnaces, excluding those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3d. to 7s. 2d. calculated to the nearest penny) for men, with usual proportions for youths.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Great Britain§ (43)	3 Sept.	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3-1d. to 7s. 1-8d.) for men and women 21 and over, by 0-98d. (5s. 5-33d. to 5s. 4-35d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21, and by 0-65d. (3s. 7-55d. to 3s. 6-9d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain   (43)	2 Sept.	Workpeople employed in steel melting shops (melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, gas producermen, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3-1d. to 7s. 1-8d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-18d. an hour (11-88d. to 11-7d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and women, by 0-98d. a shift (5s. 5-33d. to 5s. 4-35d.) or by 0-14d. an hour (8-91d. to 8-77d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21, and by 0-65d. a shift (3s. 7-55d. to 3s. 6-9d.) or by 0-09d. an hour (5-94d. to 5-85d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain   (43)	do.	Workpeople employed at steel rolling mills	do. do.
	North-East Coast	do.	Iron puddlers, millmen, semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills	do. do.
	Great Britain   (43)	do.	Maintenance craftsmen employed on coke oven and blastfurnace plants, in steel melting shops, and in steel rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 0-18d. an hour (11-88d. to 11-7d.) for craftsmen, by 0-14d. (8-91d. to 8-77d.) for apprentices 18 to 21, and by 0-09d. (5-94d. to 5-85d.) for apprentices under 18.
		18 Mar.¶	do.	Consolidated hourly rate increased by 2-73d. (3s. 3-25d. to 3s. 5-98d.) for craftsmen, by 2-05d. for apprentices 18 to 21 years, and by 1-36d. for apprentices under 18.
	South-West Wales (43)	2 Sept.	Workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture, except bricklayers and carpenters	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (6s. 2-1d. to 6s. 0-8d.) for men and for women employed on men's work, by 0-98d. (4s. 7-58d. to 4s. 6-6d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and by 0-65d. (3s. 1-05d. to 3s. 0-4d.) for youths under 18.
	Midlands and parts of South Yorks. and South Lincs. (43)	30 Sept.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges, other than those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 1-8d. to 7s. 3-1d.) for men and women 21 and over, by 0-975d. (5s. 4-35d. to 5s. 3-255d.) for workers 18 and under 21, and by 0-65d. (3s. 6-9d. to 3s. 7-55d.) for those under 18.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire** (43)	2 Sept.	Workpeople employed at iron and steel works	Cost-of-living bonus decreased* by 1-2d. a shift (5s. 4-8d. to 5s. 3-6d. for skilled craftsmen, and 6s. 7-8d. to 6s. 6-6d. for other men for men and women 18 and over, and by 0-6d. (2s. 8-4d. to 2s. 7-8d. or 3s. 3-9d. to 3s. 3-3d.) for those under 18.
Tinplate Manufacture	South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire (43)	do.	Men, youths, women and juveniles (except apprentices)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3-1d. to 7s. 1-8d.) for men and for women engaged specifically to replace male labour, by 0-975d. (5s. 3-255d. to 5s. 4-35d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and for women 18 and over, and by 0-65d. (3s. 7-55d. to 3s. 6-9d.) for workers under 18.
Tube Manufacture	Newport and Landore	do.	Men, youths and boys	Cost-of-living bonus decreased* by 1-16d. a shift (7s. 2-42d. to 7s. 1-26d.) for men, by 0-773d. (4s. 9-388d. to 4s. 8-815d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and by 0-58d. (3s. 6-05d. to 3s. 5-47d.) for boys.
Galvanising	England and Wales	3 Sept.	Galvanisers and ancillary workers employed at steel sheet works, other than those engaged in the process of annealing	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, decreased* by 1-3d. a shift (7s. 3-1d. to 7s. 1-8d.) for men and women 21 and over, by 0-98d. (5s. 5-33d. to 5s. 4-35d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21, and by 0-65d. (3s. 7-55d. to 3s. 6-9d.) for those under 18.
Cotton	Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire (77)	First full pay period following 31 Aug.	Skilled maintenance mechanics, electricians, etc., employed in cotton spinning and weaving establishments	Increases in minimum time rates of 10s. a week for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rate after change for men 21 and over 19s. 11d. a week.
Flax Spinning	Northern Ireland (87)	23 July	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	New schedule of basic rates for a 45-hour week introduced, based on a system of points assessed by job evaluation, grading of occupation and subsistence allowance according to age, resulting in increases of varying amounts. Basic rates after change: male workers 21 and over—grade 1 occupations 140s. a week, 2 136s., 3 132s., 4 128s., 5 124s., 6 120s., 7 116s., 8 112s., 9 108s. (negotiated minimum rates in excess of points evaluation in grade 9 to be 112s. generally with 116s. for preparing room cleaners and hoist men, and in grade 8 116s. for yarn storemen and 120s. for general labourers); female workers 18 and over—grade 1 92s. 3d., 2 89s. 9d., 3 87s. 1d., 4 84s. 6d., 5 81s. 10d., 6 79s. 2d., 7 76s. 7d., 8 73s. 11d., 9 71s. 3d., 10 68s. 8d. (negotiated minimum rates in excess of job evaluation for all occupations in grades 9 and 10 to be 73s. 11d., and in grade 4 88s. 9d. for ring spinners).

\* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.  
† Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men, of 9d. for youths 18 and under 21 years, and of 6d. for boys.  
‡ These decreases affected employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association.  
§ These decreases affected mainly the employees of firms which are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the districts concerned being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district.  
|| These decreases affected employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the principal districts concerned being the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South Yorkshire (excluding Sheffield special steels district), Lincolnshire, South Wales and West of Scotland.  
¶ This increase was agreed on 12th September, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.  
\*\* These decreases affected employees of firms which are members of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during September—continued

Table with columns: Industry, District (see also Note at beginning of Table), Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change (Decreases in italics).

\* These increases were agreed between the Wholesale Clothing Manufacturers' Federation of Great Britain and the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers. Increases of 2½d. an hour for all adult male and female workers and proportional amounts for juveniles have also been agreed for workers receiving rates in excess of the minimum rates. † Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. ‡ The workpeople concerned are employees of members of the British Federation of Master Printers and the London Master Printers Association, and are members of the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers and the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants. The revised cost-of-living bonus is based upon an index of retail prices figure of 155 (June, 1947 = 100) instead of the figure of 150 as hitherto (see footnotes § and ¶ on page 68 of the February issue of this GAZETTE). § The revised cost-of-living bonus is based upon an index of retail prices figure of 155 (June, 1947 = 100) instead of the figure of 150 as hitherto (see footnotes ¶ and § on page 68 of the February issue of this GAZETTE). ¶ Including boiler attendants, storemen, transport mechanics, transport drivers, charge-hand cleaners, cleaners, commissionaires, doormen and gatemen, charge-hand painters, painters, painters' mates, carpenters, carpenters' mates and general labourers.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during September—continued

Table with columns: Industry, District (see also Note at beginning of Table), Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change (Decreases in italics).

\* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. † This increase was authorised in September and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

Index of Rates of Wages

The index figure of rates of wages measures the movement, from month to month, in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages in the principal industries and services in the United Kingdom compared with the level at 30th June, 1947, taken as 100. The industries and services covered by the index and the method of calculation were described on page 41 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1948. The index is based on the recognised rates of wages fixed by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. The percentage increases in the various industries are combined in accordance with the relative importance of the industries, as measured by the total wages bill in 1946. The index does not reflect changes in earnings due to such factors as alterations in working hours, or in piecework earnings due to variations in output or the introduction of new machinery, etc. As indicated on page 327 of the September issue of this GAZETTE, the index of actual weekly earnings in April, 1956, the latest available, was 191 for all workers combined as compared with 165 for rates of wages in those industries covered by the earnings enquiries (and 163 in all the principal industries and services). For manufacturing industries alone, the index of actual weekly earnings in April, 1956, was 189 for all workers combined, as compared with 162 for rates of wages. Where necessary, figures published in previous issues of this GAZETTE have been revised to include changes arranged with retrospective effect or reported too late for inclusion in the current figures. The first part of Table I below shows, for all industries and services, the separate index figures for men, women, juveniles and "all workers" for December in each of the years 1947 to 1954, inclusive, for March, June, September and December, 1955, and for each month of 1956 to date. The second part of the Table shows the figure for "all workers" for each month since June, 1947. Similar figures for manufacturing industries alone are given in Table II below. All figures in the Tables are on the basis of 30th June, 1947 = 100, and relate to the end of the month.

I.—All Industries and Services

Table with columns: Date, Men, Women, Juveniles, All Workers. Shows index figures from 1947 Dec to 1956 Sep.

All Workers

Table with columns: Year, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. Shows monthly index figures from 1947 to 1956.

II.—Manufacturing Industries only

Table with columns: Date, Men, Women, Juveniles, All Workers. Shows index figures from 1947 Dec to 1956 Sep for manufacturing industries only.

All Workers

Table with columns: Year, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. Shows monthly index figures from 1947 to 1956 for manufacturing industries only.

### Industrial Disputes

#### DISPUTES IN SEPTEMBER

The number of stoppages of work\* arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in September, was 250. In addition, 19 stoppages which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The approximate number of workers involved during September in these 269 stoppages, including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes, is estimated at nearly 42,000. The aggregate number of working days lost during September at the establishments concerned was about 217,000.

The following Table gives an analysis by groups of industries of stoppages of work in September due to industrial disputes :-

Industry Group	Number of Stoppages in progress in Month			Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in Month	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress in Month
	Started before beginning of Month	Started in Month	Total		
Coal Mining	3	209	212	22,200	42,000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	4	6	10	11,500	135,000
Vehicles	3	6	9	2,300	23,000
All remaining industries and services	9	29	38	5,700	17,000
<b>Total, September, 1956</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>41,700</b>	<b>217,000</b>
<i>Total, August, 1956</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>191</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>41,000</i>	<i>160,000</i>
<i>Total, September, 1955</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>251</i>	<i>279</i>	<i>69,700</i>	<i>224,000</i>

Of the total of 217,000 days lost in September, 181,000 were lost by 39,400 workers involved in stoppages which began in that month. Of these workers, 32,000 were directly involved and 7,400 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The number of days lost in September also included 36,000 days lost by 2,300 workers through stoppages which had continued from the previous month.

#### Duration of Stoppages

Of 249 stoppages of work owing to disputes which ended during September, 108, directly involving 8,300 workers, lasted not more than one day ; 69, directly involving 7,400 workers, lasted two days ; 35, directly involving 5,400 workers, lasted three days ; 29, directly involving 5,000 workers, lasted four to six days ; and 8, directly involving 5,800 workers, lasted over six days.

#### Causes of Stoppages

Of the 250 disputes leading to stoppages of work which began in September, 16, directly involving 7,100 workers, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 99, directly involving 12,700 workers, on other wage questions ; 7, directly involving 2,900 workers, on questions as to working hours ; 13, directly involving 1,500 workers, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons ; 111, directly involving 7,100 workers, on other

questions respecting working arrangements ; and 3, directly involving 300 workers, on questions of trade union principle. One stoppage, directly involving 400 workers, was in support of workers involved in another dispute.

#### DISPUTES IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1956 AND 1955

The following Table gives an analysis by groups of industries of all stoppages of work through industrial disputes in the United Kingdom in the first nine months of 1956 and 1955 :-

Industry Group	January to September, 1956			January to September, 1955		
	Number of Stoppages beginning in Period	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress	Number of Stoppages beginning in Period	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	1	100	↑	2	2,200	36,000
Coal Mining	1,542	175,300	364,000	1,317	293,900	1,062,000
Other Mining and Quarries	2	↑	1,000	1	↑	↑
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	7	300	1,000	10	1,200	47,000
Chemicals and Allied Trades	6	800	6,000	7	2,600	9,000
Metal Manufacture	41	19,300	230,000	36	6,900	22,000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	61	45,900	278,000	65	9,300	42,000
Engineering	63	32,400	68,000	52	10,000	49,000
Vehicles	43	78,600	310,000	59	43,900	111,000
Other Metal Industries	7	1,500	6,000	7	3,900	16,000
Textiles	22	3,300	26,000	10	2,300	12,000
Leather, etc.	1	100	↑	1	↑	↑
Clothing	4	2,200	1,000	7	600	6,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco	1	1,000	1,000	7	400	2,000
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	8	2,500	3,000	16	900	14,000
Paper and Printing	2	16,400	371,000	1	17,900	73,000
Other Manufacturing Industries	8	3,900	16,000	6	1,200	1,000
Building and Contracting	81	10,200	62,000	70	9,800	62,000
Gas, Electricity and Water	4	2,600	3,000	2	100	↑
Transport, etc.	64	13,100	25,000	90	145,600	1,677,000
Distributive Trades	9	3,100	5,000	7	800	7,000
Other Services	6	700	1,000	9	1,600	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>413,300</b>	<b>1,778,000</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>555,200</b>	<b>3,195,000</b>

The number of days lost in the period January to September, 1956, through stoppages which began in that period was 1,731,000, the number of workers involved in such stoppages being 412,300. In addition, 47,000 days were lost at the beginning of the year by 1,000 workers through stoppages which had begun towards the end of the previous year.

#### PRINCIPAL DISPUTES DURING SEPTEMBER

Industry, Occupations† and Locality	Approximate Number of Workers involved		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object	Result
	Directly	Indirectly‡	Began	Ended		
COAL MINING :- Fillers and other colliery workers— Edlington, Doncaster (one colliery)	1,330	170	25 Sept.	28 Sept.	Dissatisfaction with payment for waiting time	Work resumed unconditionally.
SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIRING :- Caulkers, burners, apprentices and other workers employed in shipbuilding—Aberdeen (three firms)	60	510	17 Aug.**	25 Sept.	Rejection of a demand for an increase in the minimum rate of wages	Minimum rates which had varied between 5s. 2½d. and 5s. 4½d. per hour to be levelled at 5s. 4½d. per hour at all three yards and piecework to be extended wherever practicable.
Platers, welders, caulkers, burners and other workers employed in shipbuilding—Clyde (various firms)	5,150	5,100	3 Sept.	19 Sept.	Rejection of a demand for guaranteed hourly rates of pay for pieceworkers	Payment to a pieceworker employed on work for which it is mutually agreed that a piecework price cannot be arranged, or on a job involving special difficulties, to be made at the rate of his average hourly earnings for normal working hours in the four preceding weeks, and existing piecework price lists to be jointly reviewed.
AIRCRAFT :- Fitters, machinists and other workers employed in the manufacture of aircraft—Stockport (one firm)	680	—	23 Aug.	—	Dissatisfaction with rates of pay when employed on jobs for which no agreed price had been fixed	No settlement reported.

\* The statistics relate to stoppages of work due to disputes connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour. They exclude stoppages involving fewer than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, except any in which the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision ; those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information.

† Less than 50 workers or 500 working days.  
‡ Some workers, largely in the coal mining industry, were involved in more than one stoppage and are counted more than once in the totals. The net number of individuals involved in coal mining stoppages in the period under review in 1956 was approximately 137,000, and in the corresponding period in 1955 was approximately 207,000. For all industries combined the corresponding net totals were approximately 346,000 and 429,000.

§ Two stoppages of work in February involved workers in more than one industry group, but each has been counted as only one stoppage in the total for all industries taken together.

¶ A sympathetic stoppage involved workers in more than one industry but has been counted as only one stoppage in the total for all industries taken together.

† The occupations printed in italics are those of workers indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

\*\* Work was resumed on 24th August, but the stoppage recommenced later the same day.

### U.K. Index of Retail Prices

#### INDEX FOR 18th SEPTEMBER, 1956

ALL ITEMS (17th January, 1956 = 100) ... 102

At 18th September, 1956, the retail prices index was 102 (prices at 17th January, 1956 = 100), the same figure as at 14th August.

The index of retail prices measures the change from month to month in the average level of prices of the commodities and services purchased by the great majority of households in the United Kingdom, i.e., by practically all wage earners and most small and medium salary earners. As with most indices of this kind it is based on the price movements of a large and representative selection of goods and services. The index is a measurement of price changes only and does not reflect changes in expenditure resulting from variations in the nature and quantities of goods purchased from time to time. Accordingly the price comparisons used in compiling the index figures relate in general to a fixed list of items in given quantities. In order to ensure that, so far as possible, the index figures reflect real changes in price levels, no account is taken of changes in the prices quoted which are attributable solely to variations in the quality of the items on sale.

The index is not calculated in terms of money but in percentage form; the average level of prices at the base date being represented by 100. Some goods and services are relatively much more important than others and the percentage changes in the price levels of the various items since the base date are combined by the use of "weights". The weights now in use have been computed from information provided by a large-scale household expenditure enquiry made in 1953-54, adjusted to correspond with the level of prices ruling in January, 1956.

#### DETAILED FIGURES FOR 18th SEPTEMBER, 1956

(Prices at 17th January, 1956 = 100)

The following Table shows, for the 10 main groups, the indices at 18th September, on the basis of prices at 17th January, 1956 = 100, together with the relative weights which are used in combining the separate group figures into a single "all items" index.

GROUP	INDEX FIGURE FOR 18th SEPTEMBER, 1956 (17th January, 1956 = 100)	WEIGHT
I. Food	100.8	350
II. Alcoholic drink	101.9	71
III. Tobacco	105.3	80
IV. Housing	103.7	87
V. Fuel and light	101.9	55
VI. Durable household goods	101.3	66
VII. Clothing and footwear	100.9	106
VIII. Transport and vehicles	102.6	68
IX. Miscellaneous goods	103.2	59
X. Services	105.4	58
<b>All items</b>	<b>102.1</b>	<b>1,000</b>

The "all items" index figure at 18th September was therefore 102.1, taken as 102.

#### PRINCIPAL CHANGES DURING MONTH

##### Food

Between 14th August and 18th September there were substantial reductions in the average prices of apples and pears and smaller reductions in the average prices of eggs and fresh vegetables. These changes were partly offset by increases in the average prices of butter and bacon. For the food group as a whole the average level of prices fell by nearly 1 per cent, and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 101 at 18th September, compared with 102 at 14th August.

##### Fuel and Light

There was a slight rise during the month under review in the average price of household coal due to a seasonal increase in prices in London and the south of England at the beginning of September. There were also increases in the charges for gas in many areas. For the fuel and light group as a whole, the average level of prices and charges rose by nearly 1 per cent, and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 102 at 18th September, compared with 101 at 14th August.

##### Other Groups

In the eight remaining groups, covering alcoholic drink, tobacco, housing, durable household goods, clothing and footwear, transport and vehicles, miscellaneous goods, and services, there was little change in the general level of prices during the month under review. The index figures for these groups, expressed to the nearest whole number, were 102, 105, 104, 101, 101, 103, 103 and 105, respectively.

### ALL ITEMS INDICES, JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER, 1956

The following Table shows the index figure for "all items" for each month from January, 1956, onwards, taking the level of prices at 17th January, 1956, as 100.

Date	All Items Index
1956 —	
17th January	100
14th February	100
13th March	101
17th April	103
15th May	103
12th June	102
17th July	102
14th August	102
18th September	102

#### SUPPLEMENTARY CALCULATION ON BASIS JUNE, 1947 = 100

Up to 17th January, 1956, the Interim Index of Retail Prices was in use and was published as an index figure with prices at 17th June, 1947, taken as 100. The Index of Retail Prices now in use is calculated as an index figure with prices at 17th January, 1956, taken as 100. The "all items" index numbers in the two series can be linked together in order to permit of a continuous series of figures showing the average change in the level of prices compared with that at 17th June, 1947. Taking the level of prices at this latter date as 100, the calculation of the index figure for 18th September, 1956, is as follows :-

All items index at 17th January, 1956 (17th June, 1947 = 100)	153.4
All items index at 18th September, 1956 (17th January, 1956 = 100)	102.1
∴ All items index at 18th September, 1956 (17th June, 1947 = 100)	153.4 × $\frac{102.1}{100}$ = 156.6 taken as 157

The corresponding figure for 14th August was 156.9, taken as 157.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE INDEX

The Ministry of Labour and National Service have prepared a booklet, "Method of Construction and Calculation of the Index of Retail Prices", which is being published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. 9d. net (1s. 11d. including postage). The booklet consists of three main sections, dealing with (a) the scope and structure of the index, including the "weighting" basis, (b) the methods of collecting prices, and (c) the calculation and presentation of the index figures. There are also appendices giving (a) the groups and sections into which the index is divided, together with the weights of these groups and sections, and listing in detail the items priced in each, and (b) particulars of the localities from which information is collected for the purpose of the index.

The method of construction and calculation of the index is based on the recommendations of the Cost of Living Advisory Committee and the advice of a smaller Technical Committee. A list of members of these Committees is given.

Copies of the booklet may be ordered through any bookseller or direct from H.M. Stationery Office.

### Retail Prices Overseas

The latest information received is given in the Table below.

Country	Base of Index* and Month for which Index Figure is given	Index Figure	Rise(+) or Fall(-) of Index Figure (in Index Points) compared with	
			Month before	Year before
<b>European Countries</b>				
France (Paris)	1949 = 100			
All Items	July, 1956	146.7	- 0.4	+ 3.6
Food	" "	136.0	- 2.0	+ 3.2
Germany (Federal Republic)	1950 = 100			
All Items	Aug., 1956	113	Nil	+ 3
Food	" "	118	- 2	+ 3
Irish Republic	Aug., 1947 = 100†			
All Items	Aug., 1956	135	+ 1‡	+ 7
Italy (Large towns)	1938 = 1			
All Items	July, 1956	62.85	- 0.14	+ 2.84
Food	" "	74.05	- 0.28	+ 2.66
<b>Other Countries</b>				
Canada	1949 = 100			
All Items	Aug., 1956	119.1	+ 0.6	+ 2.7
Food	" "	115.9	+ 1.5	+ 3.5
India*	1949 = 100			
All Items	July, 1956	107	+ 1	+ 11
Food	" "	107	+ 1	+ 13
United States	1947.49 = 100			
All Items	July, 1956	117.0	+ 0.8	+ 2.3
Food	" "	114.8	+ 1.6	+ 2.7

\* The items of expenditure on which the "all items" figures are based are food, clothing, house-rent, fuel and light, and other or miscellaneous items. The index for India is an All-India average of the indices for a number of areas.

† A figure for "Food" is not available on this base. On base August, 1953 = 100 it was 104.6 at August, 1956.

‡ The index is quarterly and comparison is with the previous quarter.

§ The figure for the latest month is provisional.

# ARBITRATION AWARDS, NOTICES, ORDERS, ETC.

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## Industrial Disputes Order, 1951, and Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration (Northern Ireland) Orders, 1940 to 1945

### Industrial Disputes Tribunal Awards

During September the Industrial Disputes Tribunal issued eleven awards, Nos. 897 to 907.\* Two of the awards are summarised below; the others related to individual employers.

**Award No. 900** (11th September).—*Parties*: Members of the Association of British Roofing Felt Manufacturers Limited who are covered by the original Memorandum of Agreement with the Trade Unions dated 3rd October, 1941, and members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the Amalgamated Union of Asphalt Workers in their employment. *Claim*: For an increase of 4d. an hour in the rate for adult male workers. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded that the minimum basic rates of wages for adult male workers should be 3s. 4½d. an hour in the London area (within a radius of 15 miles from Charing Cross) and 3s. 3d. an hour in the rest of England and in Scotland and Wales.

**Award No. 906** (26th September).—*Parties*: Local Authorities represented by the Employers' Side of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative, Professional, Technical and Clerical Services (England and Wales), and members of the trade unions represented on the Staff Side of the Council in their employment. *Claim*: For an increase on all salary scales of the National Joint Council. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded that as from 1st October, 1956, the salary scales at present applicable to the officers covered by the claim should be increased by 2½ per cent.

### National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) Awards

During September the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued three awards, which are summarised below.

**Award No. 1166** (5th September).—*Parties*: The Electricity Board for Northern Ireland and certain employees of the Board. *Claim*: For an increase in salary scales for clerical and administrative staff employed by the Board. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded that the salary scales for clerical and administrative staff employed by the Board shall be increased by amounts specified in the Schedule to the award. The award to have effect from 1st May, 1956.

**Award No. 1167** (8th September).—*Parties*: The member firms of the Northern Ireland Master Butchers' Association and certain employees of the member firms. *Claim*: For an increase of £1 a week to operate on and from Monday, 4th June, 1956, thus making the minimum weekly rate for journeymen £9 a week. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded that the minimum rates of wages of the workers to whom the claim relates shall be increased by 4s., from £8 to £8 4s. a week. This award is without prejudice to the right of any person who, at the date hereof, is in receipt of higher wages than the wages herein provided to continue to receive such higher wages. The award to have effect from 2nd July, 1956.

**Award No. 1168** (17th September).—*Parties*: The firms represented on the Employers' side of the Joint Industrial Council for the Wholesale Grocery and Allied Trades (Northern Ireland) and certain employees. *Claim*: Application made by the Employers' Side of the Joint Industrial Council:—(1) That male members—warehouse workers and motor vehicle drivers—be granted an increase of 10s. a week and female workers 7s. 6d. a week; (2) that the present proportionate increases to young people be reconsidered. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded:—(1) That the present rates of wages of adult male workers—warehouse workers and motor vehicle drivers—shall be increased by 10s. a week. (2) That the present rates of wages of adult female workers shall be increased by 7s. 6d. a week. (3) That proportionate increases shall be paid to all young persons covered by part 2 of the claim. The award to have effect from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

### Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal

During September the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal issued one award, No. 316\*, which is summarised below.

**Award No. 316** (28th September).—*Parties*: The Civil Service Union and the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. *Claim*: For increased salary scale with retrospective effect for Writers of H.M. Coastguard. *Award*: The Tribunal found that the claim had not been established and awarded accordingly.

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 391.

## Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896

### Industrial Court Awards

During September no awards were issued by the Industrial Court.

### Single Arbitrators and *ad hoc* Boards of Arbitration

During September one award was issued by a Single Arbitrator appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. The award is summarised below.

*Parties*: The Transport and General Workers' Union and Sessions and Sons Limited, The Sandridge Company, Messrs. F. Bowles and Sons, Messrs. J. and R. Griffiths Limited, and Associated Companies. *Claim*: For an increase of 20s. a week on all basic rates for members of the Union employed as crews of vessels operated by the said Companies. *Award*: The rates, basic and otherwise, shall not be increased except to the members of the crew of the vessel operated by the Sandridge Company where the basic rate shall be increased by 10s. a week and the trip rate shall be decreased by 2s. 6d. for each of the first four trips only a week. These alterations to be effective from the first pay day in September, 1956.

## Wages Councils Acts, 1945-1948

### Notices of Proposals

During September notice of intention to submit a wages regulation proposal to the Minister of Labour and National Service was issued by the following Wages Council:—

**Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Wages Council (Great Britain)**.—Proposal R.M. (63), dated 14th September, for fixing revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers.

Further information concerning the above proposal may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council in question, at Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

### Wages Regulation Orders

During September the Minister of Labour and National Service made the following Wages Regulation Order\* :—

**The Wages Regulation (Retail Food) (England and Wales) (No. 2) Order, 1956**: S.I. 1956 No. 1387 (R.F.C. (23)), dated 4th September and effective from 1st October. This Order, which gives effect to proposals of the Retail Food Trades Wages Council (England and Wales), sets out the statutory minimum remuneration payable and the holidays to be allowed. New provisions affect managerial grades only, by re-defining managers and manageresses and substituting a revised table of minimum remuneration for them.

## Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945

### Notices of Proposals

During September notice of intention to submit wages regulation proposals to the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance was issued by the following Wages Councils:—

**Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Wages Council (Northern Ireland)**.—Proposal N.I.F. (N.50), dated 14th September, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers in the trade.

**Road Haulage Wages Council (Northern Ireland)**.—Proposal N.I.R.H. (N.15), dated 28th September, for (1) fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male workers and (2) reducing the normal working week applicable to a worker whose home depot is situated in an area other than the County of the City of Belfast and districts situated within a radius of 15 statute miles from the Belfast City Hall and the County of the City of Londonderry from one of 46 hours to one of 44 hours.

Further information concerning either of the above proposals may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council concerned at Tyrone House, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast.

### Wages Regulation Orders

During September no Wages Regulation Orders were made by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance.

\* See footnote \* in first column on page 391.

## Agricultural Wages Act, 1948

### Orders relating to England and Wales

Orders Nos. 2091 to 2137 were made on 12th September by the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales with effect from 24th September, 1956, raising the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages for male and female workers employed in agriculture in England and Wales.—See pages 364 and 382.

## Legal Cases Affecting Labour

**Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948, Regulations 2(1) and 4—Workman employed by building contractor—Injured by falling from platform—Erected by Lift Sub-Contractors—Liability of Master for negligence of fellow servant—Contributory negligence.**

The plaintiff was a foreman-bricklayer employed by building contractors in the construction of a building in which sub-contractors were to install a lift. Workmen employed by the sub-contractors erected a temporary platform across the scaffolding inside the lift shaft. Without examining the platform the plaintiff, in the course of his work, stepped on to the platform. One of the boards tipped and he fell into the well of the shaft and was injured. The plaintiff sued both the building contractors and the sub-contractors for damages for negligence and breach of statutory duty under the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948.

The case was heard by Mr. Justice Barry, at Chester Assizes, who held that the work of preparing the lift shaft for the lift was work to which the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948, applied and the sub-contractors through the action of their workmen in erecting the temporary platform were in breach of the regulations relating to scaffolds. The building contractors were guilty of negligence because their scaffolding foreman knew of the insecurity of the temporary platform and should have foreseen the danger and provided a safer method for the plaintiff to carry out his work. On the same basis the sub-contractors were liable at Common Law to the plaintiff as their workmen who erected the temporary platform should have realised its dangers, but the plaintiff should have looked more carefully before stepping on to the platform and therefore must be held responsible for 10 per cent. of the damages.—*Simmons v. Bovis, Limited and Another*. Chester Assizes, 7th, 8th and 9th February, 1956.

**Factory—Dangerous Machinery—Factories Act, 1937, Section 14(1)—Horizontal Milling Machines Regulations, 1928 and 1934—Common Law duty.**

The plaintiff was a fitter and miller. His employers purchased a horizontal milling machine from reputable manufacturers, who installed it in their factory. The machine was provided with a partial guard in the shape of a hood, but when the machine was installed it was demonstrated with this hood up. After the machine had been in use for two months there was an accident when the plaintiff failed to press far enough the button which would have stopped the revolving cutter and then inserted his hand without noticing that the cutter was still in action so that the fingers of one of his hands were caught in the cutter. If the hood with which the machine was supplied had been down it would have made an accident of this type less likely to happen although it was not a complete guard.

The Court of Appeal (Lords Justices Singleton, Morris and Romer) held: His employers were liable to the plaintiff for breach of their statutory duty to fence dangerous machinery under Section 14(1) of the Factories Act, 1937, as the actual process being carried out was exempted from the provisions contained in Regulation 3 of the Horizontal Milling Machine Regulations, 1928, and the Regulations therefore did not apply. They were also in breach of their Common Law duty to prevent their employees being exposed to unnecessary risk. There were insufficient grounds for upsetting the original decision that the plaintiff was himself 50 per cent. to blame for the accident.—*Quinn v. Horsfall and Bickham, Limited*. Court of Appeal, 8th, 9th and 10th May, 1956.

**Factory servant of independent Contractor electrocuted—Factories Act, 1937, Section 61, as amended by the Factories Act, 1948, Section 12(1) and Schedule 1—Factories Act, 1937, Section 133—Regulations for the Generation, etc., of Electrical Energy, 1908, Definitions and Regulation 1.**

At a factory at a height of 21 feet from the floor was a system of electric wires to a travelling crane. The supply of power was originally controlled by a near-by switch which had been replaced by a switch some distance away in an electric sub-station although there was no sign on or near the original switch showing that it had been disconnected. A firm of contractors were called in to paint the walls and the crane work in the factory and one of their painters before starting work asked whether the power had been cut off. The crane driver turned the original local switch to the "off" position thinking that by so doing the current had been turned off. The painter on touching the electric wires was electrocuted and killed. The occupiers of the factory were prosecuted under Section 133 of the Factories Act, 1937, on the grounds that they had contravened Regulation 1 of the Regulations for the Generation, etc., of Electrical Energy, 1908.

The Court of Queen's Bench (Lords Justices Goddard, Streetfield and Donovan) held: The occupiers of the factory had contravened Regulation 1 of the Regulations of 1908 as the Regulations applied to any person employed in the factory whether the servant of the occupier or a servant of an independent contractor so long as he was employed upon work in the factory.—*Massey-Harris-Ferguson (Manufacturing) Limited v. Piper*. Queen's Bench Division, 6th June, 1956.

**Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948, Regulation 84, Schedule 2(2)—Workman making hole in reinforced concrete with power-operated tool within the Regulations.**

A hole was being driven into reinforced concrete by means of a portable electrically-driven hammer driving a chisel into the concrete with a succession of rapid blows. The chisel was rotated by a hand-operated arm to make the hole circular and to clear away the waste. The workman operating the hammer was injured by a piece of concrete which hit him in the eye. He had not been provided with goggles. His employers were charged under the Factories Act, 1937, Section 133, for contravening Regulation 84 of the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948, which provide that suitable goggles or effective screens shall be provided to protect the eyes of persons cutting . . . concrete . . . by means of a portable tool driven by mechanical power.

The Justices had dismissed the information.

The Court of Queen's Bench (Lords Justices Goddard, Ormerod and Donovan) held: As the operation involved the cutting of concrete it came within the processes specified in Paragraph 2 of the Second Schedule to the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948, and an offence had therefore been committed in not providing goggles or effective screens to protect the eyes of the person employed in the process.—*Fallaize v. Troughton and Young Limited*. Queen's Bench Division, 16th July, 1956.

## Decisions of the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts

The Commissioner is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and appointed by the Crown (see Section 43 of the National Insurance Act, 1946, and Section 42 of the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946). His decisions\*, which are final, are binding on Insurance Officers and Local Tribunals and must be followed in appropriate cases. They are thus the "case law" which is the principal means of maintaining consistency of decisions.

Appeals to the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts may be made by an Insurance Officer, or by an association of which the claimant is a member, or by the claimant himself with the leave of the Tribunal or the Commissioner, or without such leave if the decision of the Tribunal was not unanimous.

Appeals to the Commissioner under the Industrial Injuries Acts may be made by an Insurance Officer, or by a person whose right to benefit is or may be, under the fourth Schedule to the 1946 Act, affected by the decision, or by an association of which the claimant or the deceased was a member, or by the claimant himself. No appeal may be made without the leave of the Tribunal or of the Commissioner.

Recent decisions of general interest are set out below.

### Decision No. R(U) 13/56 (26th May)

A deckhand fisherman regularly worked only in the summer months. He had failed to register for employment for nine days in the last two years. Held that nine days was an "inconsiderable period" within the meaning of regulation 2(1)(e) of the Seasonal Workers Regulations, but that unemployment benefit was not payable because the claimant could not satisfy the further condition of regulation 2(1)(b).

### Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claim for unemployment benefit dated 30th September, 1955, is disallowed, on the ground that the claimant is a seasonal worker as defined by regulation 2(2)(a) of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations, 1950 [S.I. 1950 No. 1220] as amended by the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Amendment Regulations, 1952 [S.I. 1952 No. 1466], whose claim was made in respect of a day during his off-season, which is from 26th September, 1955, to 28th June, 1956 (both dates included), and that the claimant fails to satisfy the additional condition prescribed by regulation 2(1)(b) of these regulations."

"The claimant is a married man, aged 49 years, registered for employment as a deckhand fisherman. An examination of his record of employment shows that he is generally employed in the summer only."

"On 29th October, 1955, the local insurance officer decided that his claim for unemployment benefit dated 30th September, 1955, was disallowed, on the grounds that he was a seasonal worker within the meaning of the relevant regulations; that his off-season was from 30th September, 1955, to 27th June, 1956; that the claim was made in the off-season; and that the claimant had failed to prove a reasonable prospect of obtaining a substantial amount of employment during the off-season, as required by regulation 2(1)(b) of the regulations."

"On 1st December, 1955, the local tribunal upheld these findings, and found in addition that the claimant did not satisfy the additional condition of regulation 2(1) of the regulations."

"That the claimant is a seasonal worker admits of no doubt. The computation of his current off-season has been slightly revised, and, in accordance with the submission of the insurance officer now concerned with the case, I hold it to be from 26th September, 1955, to 28th June, 1956 (both dates included). Unemployment benefit in respect of any day within the off-season is payable therefore only if the claimant satisfies the additional conditions (a) and (b) prescribed by regulation 2(1) of the regulation above cited."

"Under head (a) he is required to have been 'registered for employment at an employment exchange throughout the period of

\* Selected decisions of the Commissioner are published periodically in the following series: Series "R(U)"—decisions on unemployment benefit; Series "R(P)"—decisions on retirement pensions; Series "R(S)"—decisions on sickness benefit; Series "R(G)"—decisions on guardian's allowance, maternity benefit, death grant and widow's benefit; Series "R(O)"—decisions on all benefits and on any other questions arising under the Industrial Injuries Acts. An Index to Commissioner's Decisions, which is kept up to date by amendments published at monthly intervals, is also available. Applications and enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown in the second column on page 391.

two years immediately preceding the date of claim . . . other than during any of the following periods, namely—(i) any period during which he was employed or was incapable of work; (ii) any inconsiderable period; (iii) any temporary period throughout which he was not available for employment by reason only of domestic necessity or compulsion of law, or by reason of any other circumstances which in the opinion of the determining authority are of an exceptional character.

"During the two years immediately preceding the date of claim the claimant failed to register in respect of a total of nine days. If nine days be regarded as an 'inconsiderable period' he satisfies the 'registration' condition. In Decision R(U) 26/55 a period of three weeks and one day (or 19 working days) was held to be not inconsiderable in this context. I am not aware of any decision in which a period represented by nine days in all has been held to be not inconsiderable. The insurance officer now concerned with the case submits that such a period should be accepted as inconsiderable, and I see no reason to differ. I therefore hold that the additional condition prescribed by regulation 2(1)(a) is satisfied in the present case.

"Under head (b) the claimant must show that during his off-season he has had a substantial amount of employment, or that he could reasonably expect to obtain employment which, together with such off-season employment as he may already have had, constitutes a substantial amount of employment. 'A substantial amount of employment' means employment which is equal in duration to not less than one-fourth (or such other fractional part as the determining authority may, in the circumstances of any particular case, consider reasonable) of the current off-season. The claimant's current off-season extends to 238 days (excluding Sundays).

"It does not appear that the claimant has ever maintained that he had any reasonable prospect of obtaining the necessary amount of off-season employment. He says that he is 'ready to accept a local job any time at reasonable wages', but that is another matter. At the date of the submissions by the insurance officer now concerned with the case, the claimant had in fact had no off-season employment. In the circumstances it is quite impossible to say that he satisfies regulation 2(1)(b).

"The claimant has complained of delay in dealing with his claim. The insurance officer's decision on his claim dated 30th September, 1955, was promulgated on 29th October, 1955. A delay of a month in dealing with such a claim is *prima facie* excessive. But it has been ascertained that no answer was received to the original inquiry sent to him inviting him to give particulars of expected off-season employment. The claimant says that he returned the form with his answer; but there is no record of this having been received. In due course a duplicate form of inquiry was issued, and the claimant's reply thereto was dated 24th October, 1955. In these circumstances, the delay in promulgating a decision appears to have been accidental, and in any event it appears to have no bearing on the merits of the claimant's appeal. The appeal of the claimant is dismissed."

#### Decision No. 14/56 (19th June)

Following an accident a van driver was instructed not to drive. He did drive and was dismissed. The local tribunal found that he should not have driven but that he really misunderstood the instruction. They reduced the period of disqualification imposed by the insurance officer. Held that, as the misconduct alleged was that claimant disobeyed an order properly given to him by his employer and as he acted on a genuine misunderstanding, there was no misconduct. That being so, no period of disqualification could be imposed.

#### Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that from 22nd December, 1955, to 11th January, 1956 (both dates included) the claimant is not disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit.

"The claimant is a married man aged 26 years who was employed as a motor van driver-salesman by a firm of bakers. He was dismissed from that employment on account of a 'breach of company's regulations'. It appears that, after an accident in which the claimant was involved, he was instructed by the transport manager not to drive a company vehicle until further notice. The next day the claimant arrived at the bakery as usual and drove his bread van as usual. The local insurance officer decided that the claimant had lost his employment through his misconduct within the meaning of section 13(2)(a) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, and that he was disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit for six weeks in terms of that subsection. On appeal the local tribunal upheld the finding of misconduct but reduced the period of disqualification to three weeks, from 22nd December, 1955, to 11th January, 1956.

"As I understand it, the misconduct alleged against the claimant is not that he was a reckless driver, or prone to accident, but that he disobeyed an order properly given to him by his employer. In various statements, and (through his wife) at the hearing before the tribunal, the claimant explained that he misunderstood the instruction in question. He understood that he was being taken off driving, but did not understand that that instruction was to take effect forthwith; and when he arrived at work next day (not having been directed to any other duty) and found his van waiting loaded as usual, he took it out on the usual journey. The tribunal held (1) Claimant should not have driven. (2) He probably misunderstood that he had to stop driving forthwith. (3) Firm had van ready and no alternative duties were assigned to claimant. (4) Reduced period of 3 weeks is reasonable." In granting leave to appeal to the Commissioner the tribunal explained—'Tribunal considered that there were extenuating circumstances and that claimant really misunderstood position. It may be that Commissioner will regard this as exculpating claimant. Tribunal took the view that a reduction of period of disqualification met the case.'

"It is plain that the tribunal, having considered the evidence and the explanations tendered, were satisfied (unanimously) that

the claimant acted on a genuine misunderstanding. That is a question of fact; and on a scrutiny of the case papers I see no sufficient justification for differing from the tribunal in regard to that question of fact. But if it be once accepted that the claimant in fact acted on a genuine misunderstanding, I do not think it can properly be said that he was guilty of misconduct within the meaning of section 13(2) of the Act. It seems to me, with respect, that either the claimant in taking out the vehicle contrary to orders was wilfully disobeying instructions, in which case he should suffer the full period of disqualification, or the claimant in taking out the vehicle contrary to orders was acting on a genuine misunderstanding, in which case he was not guilty of misconduct at all. Since I accept the tribunal's finding that there was a genuine misunderstanding, I hold that he was not guilty of misconduct. That being so, no period of disqualification can be imposed. I allow the claimant's appeal."

### STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

Since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, the under-mentioned Statutory Instruments,\* relating to matters with which the Ministry of Labour and National Service are concerned, either directly or indirectly, have been published in the series of *Statutory Instruments*. The list also includes certain regulations, etc., published in the series of *Statutory Rules and Orders of Northern Ireland*, additional to those contained in the lists appearing in previous issues of the GAZETTE. The prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage. Where no price is shown, the Instrument costs 2d. net (4d. including postage).

*The Wages Council (Rubber Proofed Garment Making Industry) Order, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 1437; price 3d. (5d.)), made on 13th September by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 364.*

*The Wages Regulation (Retail Food) (England and Wales) (No. 2) Order, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 1387; price 11d. (1s. 1d.)), made on 4th September by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 388.*

*The Fire Services (Conditions of Service) (Scotland) Amendment No. 2 Regulations, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 1334 (S.64); price 3d. (5d.)), made on 22nd August by the Secretary of State for Scotland under the Fire Services Act, 1947. These Regulations came into operation on 1st September. Their principal effect is to increase the fees payable to retained part-time members of fire brigades and to whole-time members who undertake the duties of retained members.*

(i) *The National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Widow's Benefit and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1956 (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland 1956 No. 136; price 3d. (5d.)), dated 21st August; (ii) *The National Insurance (Widow's Benefit and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1956 (S.R. & O. 1956 No. 138; price 9d. (11d.)), dated 17th August. These Regulations were made (i) by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts (Northern Ireland), 1946 to 1956; (ii) by the National Insurance Joint Authority and the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance, under the National Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland), 1946 to 1956. They are similar in scope to the corresponding Regulations made in Great Britain (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 336).**

*The National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Benefit) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1956 (S.R. & O. 1956 No. 139; price 3d. (5d.)). These Regulations were made on 27th August by the Industrial Injuries Joint Authority under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts (Northern Ireland), 1946 to 1956. They provide for an increase, from 28th August, of the weekly rate of unemployment supplement under Section 81 of the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act (Northern Ireland), 1946, in the case of certain former policemen and firemen.*

### FACTORY FORMS

The undermentioned Factory Forms have been issued or reprinted since the previous list was published in the June, 1956, issue of this GAZETTE (page 251) and may be purchased at the prices shown. The prices in brackets include postage.

- | No. | Title and Price  |
|-----|--|
| 1   | Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Abstract for Factories, 1954. Reprinted, 1956. Price 9d. (11d.).  |
| 22  | Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Prescribed Form for Over-time Register and Report. (Women and Young Persons over 16.) Reprinted, 1956. Price 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).   |
| 36  | Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948, and Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920. Form prescribed for the General Register for Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction, including Particulars of Certificates of Fitness of Young Persons for Employment. October, 1948. Reprinted, 1956. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).   |
| 86  | Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Docks Regulations, 1934. Regulations 19(a) and 22(a). (This Form may also be used for the Purposes of Regulation 35(a) of the Shipbuilding Regulations, 1931.) Certificate of Test and Examination of Chains, Rings, Hooks, Shackles, Swivels and Pulley Blocks, before being taken into use. Reprinted May, 1956. Price, each, 2d. (4d.); 100, 5s. (5s. 10d.). |
| 96  | Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948. Regulations 52(1)(a) and (b) and (2) and 57(2)(b) and (c). Part I. Form of Certificate   |

\* See footnote \* in first column on next page.

of Test and Thorough Examination of Crane. Part II. Makers Certificate as to Standard Construction of a Scotch Derrick, Guy Derrick or Tower Derrick Crane Manufactured after 30th September, 1931. (Regulation 57(2)(a)). February, 1956. Price, each, 2d. (4d.); 100, 7s. 6d. (8s. 3d.).

- 105 Guide to the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948, as amended by the Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Amendment Regulations, 1952. October, 1948. Reprinted, 1956. Price 1s. 9d. (1s. 11d.).
- 278 Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Fencing and Other Safety Precautions for Power Presses. October, 1952. Reprinted, 1956. Price 3d. (5d.).
- 331 Dermatitis. Memorandum on Prevention of Industrial Dermatitis. Dermatitis from Glues used in Aircraft Construction. February, 1943. Reprinted, 1956. Price 4d. (6d.).
- 327 Memorandum on Carbon Monoxide Poisoning. Reprinted, 1956. Price 3s. (3s. 2d.).
- 950 Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Regulations for the Casting of Brass. S.R. & O. 1908, No. 484. April, 1951. Reprinted, 1956. Price 6d. (8d.).
- 983 Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. India Rubber Regulations, 1922. Reprinted, 1956. Price 6d. (8d.).
- 998 Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Cinematograph Film Stripping Regulations, 1939. S.R. & O. 1939, No. 571. January, 1949. Reprinted, 1956. Price 6d. (8d.).
- 1229 Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Underground Rooms. Form of Notice and Particulars prescribed in the Work in Underground Rooms (Form of Notice) Order, 1946 (S.R. & O. 1946, No. 2247) under Section 53(2)(a) of the Factories Act, 1937. December, 1946. Reprinted, 1956. Price, each, 2d. (4d.); 25, 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.).

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED\*

(Note.—The prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage.)

*Careers.—Choice of Careers, New Series. No. 52. Physiotherapy and Remedial Gymnast. 2nd Edition, 1956. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 9d. (11d.).*

*Coal Mining.—Quarterly Statistical Statement of the Costs of Production, Proceeds, and Profit or Loss of Collieries for the second quarter of 1956. National Coal Board. Price 5d. (6d.).—See page 364.*

\* Copies of official publications (including Orders, Regulations, etc.) referred to in this GAZETTE may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown opposite or through any bookseller.

*National Insurance.—National Insurance Advisory Committee. (i) Report in accordance with Section 41(3) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, on the Question of Contribution Conditions and Credits Provisions. Cmd. 9854. Price 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).—See page 368. (ii) Report in accordance with Section 41(3) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, on the Question of Dependency Provisions. Cmd. 9855. Price 1s. 9d. (1s. 11d.).—See page 367.*

*Retail Prices.—Method of Construction and Calculation of the Index of Retail Prices. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 1s. 9d. (1s. 11d.).—See page 387.*

*Social and Economic Research.—Report of Interdepartmental Committee on Social and Economic Research. Price 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).—Office of the Lord President of the Council and H.M. Treasury.—See page 364.*

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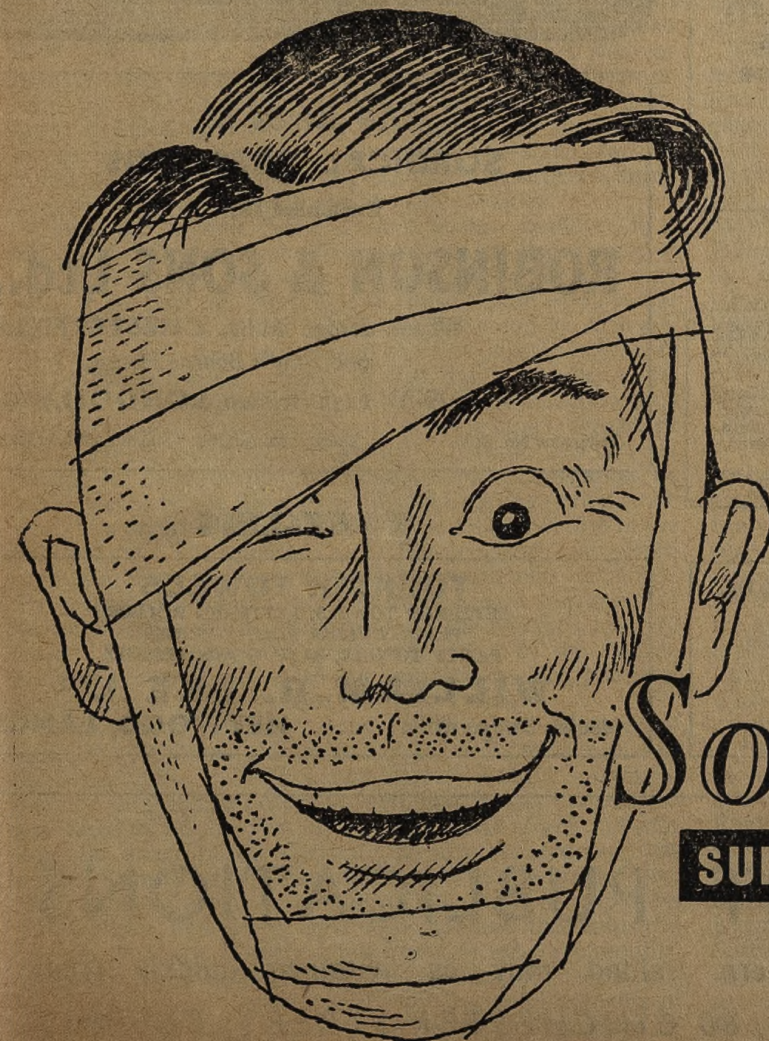
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