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## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT.

The decline in employment, which began in July, continued in August. Among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed was 11.5 at 27th August, compared with 11.3 at 23rd July and with 11.0 at 25th June; at the end of August, 1922, the corresponding percentage was 12.3. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 27th August in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was approximately 1,266,000, of whom 943,000 were men and 237,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 30th July the total was 1,235,000, of whom 936,000 were men and 223,000 were women. The percentage unemployed among members of Trade Unions from which returns are received was 11.4 at the end of August, compared with 11.1 at the end of July.

The industries showing most decline included the pigiron, tinplate, shipbuilding, wool textile, hosiery, textile bleaching, dyeing, &c., furniture, and pottery trades, and some sections of the clothing trades. On the other hand, there was an improvement in the building trades in some districts. Employment was still good in the tinplate and steel sheet trades, fairly good in coal mining and in the coachbuilding, brick-making and carpet trades, and fair in the building, tailoring, paper, and printing trades; but in most of the other principal industries it was slack.

#### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are collected by the Department the changes in rates of wages reported as having taken effect in August resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £24,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 250,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of about £14,000 in the wages of over 180,000 workpeople.

The increases occurred mainly in the iron and steel trades, as the result of recent increases in selling prices. There were increases generally amounting to about 3\frac{3}{4} per cent. on current rates in the rates of wages of steel smelters and steel millmen in various districts in England and Scotland, and about 5 per cent. in those of steel sheet millmen and of iron puddlers, and millmen in the Midlands. In other industries the principal groups of workpeople affected by increases in wages included tinplate workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, whose current rates were increased by nearly 3\frac{1}{2} per cent., and hosiery workers in the Midlands, whose bonus was increased by 1d. on each shilling earned.

There was a decrease of 1s. per week in the wages of tramway workers, under arrangements by which wages are adjusted from time to time in accordance with changes in cost of living. Similar arrangements resulted in reductions also in the wages of furniture trade operatives in London and Manchester, and of workpeople employed in the non-trading services of

local authorities in London. Other large bodies of workpeople whose wages were reduced included men employed in flour mills and iron ore miners in Cumberland. Under the Trade Boards Acts there were reductions in the minimum rates of women and girls employed in the stamped or pressed metal wares trade, and of workpeople employed in the made-up textile trades and the hair, bass and fibre trades.

Since the beginning of 1923 the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of over £500,000 in the wages of over 3,200,000 workpeople, and a net increase of over £290,000 in the wages of nearly 1,200,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1922 there was a net reduction of over £3,600,000 in the wages of 7,500,000 workpeople, and a net increase of nearly £3,500 in the wages of 18,000 workpeople.

#### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st September the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 73 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 71 per cent. at 1st August. For food alone the corresponding percentage was 68 at 1st September, compared with 65 a month earlier. The rise in the index-number was mainly due to increases in the prices of eggs, bacon, butter, and cheese; there was practically no change in the figures for items other than food.

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

For further particulars and details of the results for 1st September reference should be made to the article on page 326.

#### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August, was 45. In addition, 28 disputes which began before August were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in August (including those workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 68,000, as compared with 95,000 in the previous month and 31,000 in August, 1922. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during August was about 1,200,000 working days, as compared with 1,665,000 days in July, 1923, and 312,000 days in August, 1922.

The principal dispute in progress was that involving members of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders in federated shippards, which continued throughout August and is still unsettled.

#### GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT.

THE following is an account of the principal measures which have been taken by the Government during the continuance of the present trade depression to relieve unemployment, to pro-vide alternative employment, and to encourage the development and restoration of foreign trade and of enterprises likely to give employment to workpeople in this country.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Unemployment Insurance Act of general scope came into operation on the 8th November, 1920. The Act applied compulsory insurance against unemployment to nearly 12,000,000 persons, as compared with about 4,000,000 previously. Subsequent amending Acts modified the conditions as regards rates of benefit, extended the periods of benefit and increased the contributions. As from November, 1921, the Unemployed Workers' Dependants' (Temporary Provision) Act, 1921, made temporary provision for grants in respect of wives, dependent husbands, and children, and imposed a special levy to provide for these grants. The Unemployment Insurance Act, 1922, amalgamated the dependants' grants with unemployment benefit, and the special levy with the unemployment insurance contributions, and extended until June, 1923, the special periods during which benefit might be drawn. The Acts gave authority to borrow money from the Treasury up to £30,000,000. By the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923, which came into operation on the 12th April, 1923, the special periods for the payment of benefit have been extended to October, 1923. Special provision has also been made by this Act for the following benefit in ending in October, 1924. ending in October, 1924.

ending in October, 1924.

The payments of unemployment benefit (including benefit in respect of dependants) during the two and a half years from the 8th November, 1920, have been at the rate of about 50 million pounds a year. The moneys required for this purpose have been provided by contributions from employers, employed persons and the State, plus the balance in the old fund on the 8th November 1920, arounting the case 1922 2020 2020. 8th November, 1920, amounting to some £22,000,000, and loans from the Treasury amounting on the 30th June, 1923, to £15,600,000.

#### EMERGENCY WORKS AND OTHER MEASURES.

One of the first acts of the present Government, in November, 1922, was to appoint a Cabinet Unemployment Committee, in succession to that appointed to advise the previous Adminis-

tration.

The new Committee decided to continue the various measures which had been taken from the autumn of 1920 onwards to remedy the evils of unemployment. At least 300,000 men have had employment on these schemes at various times, and at the present time over 130,000 are directly employed on such schemes. This estimate takes no account of the increased demand for labour in "auxiliary" occupations (i.e., in providing tools, materials and equipment generally) which cannot be expressed numerically. So, too, the effect of the Export Credits Scheme (referred to below) cannot be reduced to the terms of so many man-hours' work provided.

Trade Stimulation Schemes.

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Trade Facilities Acts.—By the Trade Facilities Act, 1921, the Trade Facilities Acts.—By the Trade Facilities Act, 1921, the Treasury were empowered to guarantee, up to a total of £25,000,000, the payment of interest and principal of loans raised by any public authority or other body of persons for the purpose of carrying out capital undertakings calculated to promote employment in Great Britain and Ireland. The Trade Facilities and Loans Guarantee Act, 1922, sanctioned the increase of the aggregate capital amount of the aggregate capital amount.

Facilities and Loans Guarantee Act, 1922, sanctioned the increase of the aggregate capital amount of loans which might be guaranteed from £25,000,000 to £50,000,000. The guarantees actually given or sanctioned up the 13th September, 1923, amounted to a total of £29,469,645.

The Export Credits Scheme provides for the granting of credits and the undertaking of insurances for the purpose of reestablishing overseas trade. The guarantee may be as great as 100 per cent. of the cost, with recourse against the exporter for 57½ per cent. only. Credits may be sanctioned up to £26,000,000, and a large proportion of that amount has at one time or another been involved. The credits are, of course, in constant circulation, the completion of one scheme releasing the credit involved for the guaranteeing of another scheme; and on the 10th September the amount of credit actually in use was £11,249,394, leaving an available balance of £14,750,606.

Relief Works.

#### Relief Works.

Ministry of Transport.—Grants up to 50 per cent. of the total cost are made to Local Authorities in respect of approved works for the construction and improvement of roads, in addition to the construction and improvement of roads, in addition to

for the construction and improvement of roads, in addition to the normal programme of maintenance and repair work.

From the autumn of 1920 to the end of the winter of 1921-22, grants had been sanctioned through the Road Fund in respect of schemes costing in all some £12,000,000.

A sum of £5,300,000 from the Road Fund was also set aside by the late Company of the second fundament.

by the late Government for assisting further works of this nature during the winter of 1922-23. Of this sum £1,500,000 was provisionally intended for the Liverpool-Manchester road. The present Government have sanctioned the provision of a further £3,000,000 for entirely new schemes, and also £1,400,000 for extensions of earlier schemes, and the schemes of earlier schemes and the schemes of earlier schemes.

for extensions of earlier schemes, making a total of £4,400,000. The total cost of the schemes to which contributions have been offered through the Road Fund during the past three winters is approximately £27,000,000. During the present

financial year it is estimated that the total expenditure on the schemes now in progress will reach £7,500,000, representing approximately a full year's work for 27,000 men.

Two Light Railway schemes, costing £325,000, were approveduring the winter of 1921-22, towards which the Ministry Transport undertook to provide half the cost. One of thes light railways is not yet completed, and a considerable number of men are still being employed on it.

Unemployment Grants Committee. - Grants to Local Author rities, on the basis of 60 per cent. of the wages bill of work normally defrayed out of revenue, were sanctioned during the winter of 1920-1921 in respect of schemes costing over £10,000,000.

An extension of this scheme was authorised during November 1922, when the Committee were authorised to make grants to total of something between £500,000 and £750,000. The Com mittee have authorised the expenditure so far of nearly £550,000 It is proposed to add £100,000 to the balance remaining, and a a result work to the estimated value of £1,000,000 will initiated during the coming winter.

Grants to Local Authorities have also been approved on the following bases, in respect of works of public utility financed by way of loan:—

For revenue-producing schemes, grants equal to 50 per cent. of the interest on loans raised for not less than 10 years, grants being paid for 5 years.

For non-revenue-producing schemes, grants equal to 65 per cent. of the interest and sinking fund charges for half the terms of the loans, subject to a maximum of 15 years.

The Government first sanctioned £12,000,000 worth of work to be financed on these bases, and an additional £18,000,000 worth was subsequently approved, making in all £30,000,000. Schemes for practically the whole of this amount have been sanctioned by the Committee

For the winter of 1923-24, the Government propose to afford arther financial assistance to schemes promoted by Local Authorities on the bases last described, and also to increase the grants rities on the bases last described, and also to increase the grants in respect of work undertaken in connection with, or as part of, revenue-producing undertakings when the competent department is able to say that the works will not themselves directly produce revenue or are not likely to produce revenue for a considerable number of years. Additional financial assistance will also be forthcoming for the purpose of securing the acceleration of revenue-producing works in which a substantial part of the expenditure will take the form of orders for material giving employment in an industry seriously affected, though red giving employment in an industry seriously affected, though not necessarily in the area in which the work is to be carried out. Grants in respect of such revenue-producing undertakings will be equal to 50 per cent. of the interest on loans raised for a period of not less than ten years, and will be payable for a period of 15 years or for the period of the loan, whichever is the less.

These extensions will, it is hoped, not only assist Local Authori These extensions will, it is noped, not only assist Local Authorities to provide employment in their own areas, but will help in the provision of employment in the more depressed industrial centres. Particularly it is hoped that schemes will be promoted which will result in employment being available for skilled workmen in their normal occupations, and thus meet, in part, the objection frequently raised that ordinary relief works do not provide any appreciable volume of employment for skilled workments.

A further scheme with a view to stimulating the activities of private corporations and companies in undertaking development work of public utility has recently been announced. In approved cases State assistance will be available up to a maximum of 50 per cent. of the interest on capital raised for development work for a period during which the capital expenditure is not earning

Full particulars of grants to be made by the Unemploymen Grants Committee, and the conditions imposed, can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 23, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W. 1.

Agricultural and kindred schemes .- The Ministry of Agricultural ture and Fisheries have assisted Drainage Authorities durin the winters 1921-1922 and 1922-1923 with land drainage scheme the winters 1921-1922 and 1922-1923 with land drainage schemes, primarily intended to provide employment for unemployed agricultural workers. The whole of the approved cost in these cases was advanced, and a proportion refunded by the Authorities on the completion of the scheme. Works for the supply or improvements in the supply of water to farms were also assisted; but instead of advancing the whole cost and recovering a proportion from the owners, grants were made to cover part only of the cost.

During the winters of 1921-22 and 1922-23 schemes costing £670,000 have been approved, of which about £177,750 will be repaid. Similar schemes under the Scottish Board of Agriculture have been approved, amounting approximately to £100,000. The Forestry Commission have assisted works of afforestation during the winters 1921-22 and 1922-23 to the extent of about £200,000 by way of free grants of a fixed sum, amounting approximately to 60 per cent. of the labour bill.

It is proposed during the coming winter to make provision for assisting land drainage and improvement schemes and water supply schemes in England and Wales on the same bases as heretofore. The Forestry Commissioners also propose an increase of their normal programme of planting and preparation, and additional work in Crown woods, on the same lines as last winter. The exact extent of the financial provision in these cases is still under consideration.

Acceleration of Government Contracts.

A considerable amount of work has been accelerated during the ast three winters on contracts for Government Departments,

with a view to providing employment.

During the coming winter, the Post Office are proposing to lay additional trunk telephone cables at a cost of over £500,000. The Post Office London railway will also be pressed forward at a cost of £500,000, and will secure employment for something

a cost of 2500,000, and will see the morphisms like 900 unskilled men for twelve months.

The War Office, the Admiralty, the Air Ministry and the Scottish Office are all considering plans for acceleration. The Admiralty's proposals, to the extent of approximately £500,000, will be nearly all expended in areas where unemployment is

The total programme as outlined above will, it is hoped, provide direct employment for at least 200,000 men during the coming winter and for at least a further 100,000 men indirectly.

#### THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE Fifty-Fifth Annual Trades Union Congress was held at Plymouth on the 3rd September and the five following days. The President was Mr. J. B. Williams, Chairman of the General

The number of delegates appointed to attend the Congress, as shown in the Statistical Statement compiled by the General Council, was 702; the number of organisations paying affiliation fees to the Congress (including a few organisations, with a membership of about 60,000, who paid such fees but did not appoint delegates) was 167 with a membership of approximately appoint delegates) was 167, with a membership of approximately 4,369,000. In the following Table these figures are analysed by groups of unions (the classification adopted being that used by this Department for its annual statistics of membership of trade unions), and corresponding figures are given for 1922. The figures for 1923 are provisional and subject to slight correction; those for 1922 have been revised since their publication in the September, 1922, issue of this GAZETTE.

1,828	1922.			1923.		
Group of <b>Organisation</b> s	Number of Organisations	Number of Delegates.	Number of Members.	Number of Organisations.	Number of Delegates.	Number of Members.
Agriculture Mining and Quarrying	1 7	8 162	70,000 839,902	1 7	175	30,000 784,617
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding Textile	42 26* 10	103 112 29	847,274 544 502 170,512	42 26• 10	96 90 32	706,231 417,958 164,817
Woodworking and Furnishing Paper, Printing, etc Building, Decorating,	8 12	9 36	89,298 168,477	7 13	11 37	73,443 159,806
etc	11 3 9 7	45 24 59	396,641 464,794 407,570	10 3 8 7	28 28 67	335,685 447,374 405,650
Commerce and Finance Public Administration Miscellaneous	7 9 19 7	23 21 25 67	193,000 152.692 110 976 673,010	10 18 5	24 26 24 60	168,650 183 264 89,512 402,261
Total	171	723	5,128,648	167	702	4,369,268

The total membership represented at the Congress showed a reduction of 759,000 (or 14.8 per cent.) as compared with 1922. This reduction was due mainly to losses in individual membership, and only to a minor extent to the non-representation in 1923 of unions included in the 1922 figures. More than one-half of the total decrease was accounted for by the General Labour group and the Metal, Engineering, etc., group; and there was a proportionately large decrease in the Agriculture group. The large decrease in the Textile group was partly due to the non-representation at the 1923 Congress of an important organisation which sent delegates in 1922. The only group showing an increase was Public Administration, and in this case the increase was due rather to new affiliations than to increases in the membership of organisations represented at both Congresses.

The subject of unemployment was raised on a resolution ex-

The subject of unemployment was raised on a resolution ex-ressing deep dissatisfaction with the Government's plans for ealing with unemployment, and calling upon them to formulate dequate and effective measures both to alleviate the grave hysical and mental consequences to the unemployed population, nd to remedy the serious social distress, and urging the use f State funds to relieve the financial burden of heavily rated interior to the consequence of the c The resolution was carried unanimously.

Another resolution expressed "emphatic disapproval" of the commendations of the Cave Committee‡ on Trade Boards, and called on the Labour Party to resist to the utmost legislation of the Labour Party to resist to the definest registation of the defined registation of the definest registation o

\*In some of the textile trades, not only are amalgamated associations represented as such, but the branch associations of which they consist send separate delegates. These branch associations have not been reckoned as separate accomplisations.

parate organisations.
Including general unions of enginemen, etc.
See the May, 1922, issue of this GAZETTE, page 200.

siderable attention at the Congress. A resolution was passed insiderable attention at the Congress. A resolution was passed instructing the General Council to promote a Bill giving effect to the legal establishment of an eight-hour day and a 48-hour week. After some opposition, a resolution declaring that the time had arrived to demand a six-hour working day was also passed by a majority of 2,000,000 votes. It was decided to propose amendments to the Shops Act limiting the hours of distributive employees (wholesale and retail) to a 48-hour week, and in other respects bettering the working conditions. Resolutions were also carried urging the prohibition of night work in bakeries, and suggesting amendments to the Factory Act with a view to improving conditions in trades (tailoring, etc.) carried on in private

The provision of adequate grants to local authorities for housing schemes, to meet the urgent needs of working-class families, was pressed in a resolution, which also demanded continued legal protection against excessive rents.

A resolution opposing the principle of unemployment by industries was debated, and an amendment adopted by a large majority proposing that the General Council should be instructed to examine the question and report to the next

Congress.

A considerable part of the earlier sessions of the Congress was taken up with discussions on domestic affairs, notably the "Back to the Unions" campaign, the amalgamation of trade unions, the relations between competing unions in the same industry, the organisation of foremen and supervisors, and the organisation of women workers. The resolution discussed at last year's Congress\* regarding joint defence for the preservation of trade union standards by giving greater powers to the General Council was again proposed, and, after discussion, rejected on a card vote by a majority of over 1,600,000.

A recommendation from a sub-committee in support of the

A recommendation from a sub-committee in support of the principle of giving legal force to voluntary agreements of Joint Industrial Councils, which was left by the General Council to a free vote of the Congress, was defeated by a decisive majority.

The question of workers' education was discussed in the course

of the discussion on the report of the General Council, some delegates wishing that such education should be definitely adapted to fit the students to take their part in the class

adapted to nt the students to take their part in the class struggle. No vote was taken on this question.

As a result of a delegation from the General Council to the directors of the Co-operative Wholesale Society a telegram was received during the Congress that the Society agreed to refer all labour disputes to arbitration, in accordance with the finding of the joint committee of trade unionists and co-operators.

of the joint committee of trade unionists and co-operators.

A considerable amount of time was devoted to a discussion of the position of the "Daily Herald" newspaper. Finally, a resolution was passed to the effect that, if the amount of £12,500 is raised before the end of September, the General Council is instructed to continue the publication of the paper at least until the end of the present year, and that in the meantime a committee of enquiry is to be set up to examine and report upon any economies that could reasonably be effected.

Among many other topics in regard to which resolutions were

any economies that could reasonably be effected.

Among many other topics in regard to which resolutions were passed during the Congress the following may be mentioned:—
Old age pensions, pensions for mothers, pensions for the blind, co-partnership, railway fares, the nationalisation of railways, the civil and political freedom of civil servants, the report of the Anderson Committee,† the French occupation of the Ruhr, and the disagreement between Italy and Greece

the disagreement between Italy and Greece.

An amendment to the Standing Orders was carried by a large majority to the effect that the Secretary of the General Council majority to the elect that the Secretary of the General Council should give his whole time to his duties; this involved his being ineligible for Parliament. Subsequently Mr. F. Bramley was elected to the post, in succession to Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., who retires under the age limit. The General Council for the ensuing year remains as before.

#### WOMEN'S TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT.

The Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment have issued a Report‡ upon their work up to 31st December, 1922.

The Committee were originally appointed at the outbreak of war to administer the Queen's Work for Women Fund, a fund raised by public subscription to relieve distress amongst women arising from the war. The Queen's Work for Women Fund became part of the National Relief Fund, and the work of the Central Committee was carried on in collaboration with that body and with the Government Committee on the Prevention and Relief of Distress. At the outset the direct prevention and

and Relief of Distress. At the outset the activities of the Committee were mainly concentrated upon the direct prevention and relief of unemployment; but during 1915 the increased demand for women's labour greatly reduced industrial distress, and as a result of the decreased claims upon their funds the Committee had still a balance to their credit at the end of the war.

In 1920, to alleviate the distress amongst women caused by the transition from war to peace conditions, the Minister of Labour re-appointed the Committee, with the following terms of reference:—"To consider, devise, and carry out special "schemes of work and training for women unemployed, or "women whose earning capacities and opportunities have been "injuriously affected as a result of conditions arising out of

\* See the September, 1922, issue of this GAZETTE. page 362.
† See pages 321-322 of this GAZETTE.
‡ Second Interim Report of the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment. H.M. Stationery Office, 1923. Price 6d. net. (For first interim report, see Cd. 7848, H.M. Stationery Office, 1915. Price 4½d.)

the war," and on 8th April, 1921, an addition was made to the terms of reference to enable the Committee to undertake the provision of equipment to candidates trained by the Committee who were unable to set up in trade owing to the lack of necessary appliances; and the provision of equipment for women who did not require assistance from the Committee to enable them to train, but who, without equipment, were unable to obtain em-

Under the new terms of reference the Committee employed their funds, augmented by grants from the National Relief Fund and the Ministry of Labour, mainly for training women for suitable occupations under various schemes, as follows:— Scholarship Scheme.—Under this scheme grants were made to selected candidates to enable them to receive training in non-

industrial occupations, such as teaching, massage, nursery nursing, midwifery, cookery, etc., assistance being given in the form of scholarship grants to cover the cost of fees at recognised training cchools, and, where necessary, maintenance during training. On the 1st January, 1923, 2,511 women had completed training under this scheme, of whom 1,567 were known to have obtained posts in the occupation for which they were trained, while 1,333 were in training or awaiting training.

Home Crafts Scheme.—This scheme has provided training

(with maintenance) in domestic subjects for over 10,000 unemployed women undertaking to enter resident domestic service. During the period May, 1921, to 31st December, 1922, 214 courses

ere provided.

Domestic Outfits Scheme.—Under this scheme 2.538 outfits of clothing were given to women who were qualified for and willing to enter domestic service without further training, but were unable to accept suitable employment owing to the lack of an adequate outfit, at an average cost of £3 12s. 3d.

Homemakers Scheme.—This scheme has provided training (with maintenance) in domestic subjects for 1,560 unemployed

women, who were awaiting the opportunity to return to their own trades. It thus differs from the Home Crafts scheme described above, which is intended to train women for resident domestic service. The curriculum was designed with a view to assisting women with the domestic work of their own and the syllabus was modified in various respects from that laid down for the Homecraft Centres.

#### Present Position.

The Committee decided, early in 1922, in view of the prospect The Committee decided, early in 1922, in view of the prospect of their funds coming to an end, and of the industrial distress still being acute, to concentrate upon the Homecrafts and Homemakers' courses; and the 1st March, 1922, was appointed as the final date for the receipt of applications for training under the Scholarships scheme. With the aid of a further grant from the Ministry of Labour in 1922, the Committee were able to continue the Homecraft courses throughout the whole of that year, and they hope to maintain this branch of their work so long as unemplayment among women remains abnormal employment among women remains abnormal.

#### OUTWORKERS AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

THE Report of the Committee appointed by Dr. Macnamara when Minister of Labour, "to consider and report whether the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Acts should be extended to cover any classes of out-workers, not employed under a contract of service," has been issued.\*

The Report refers to measures taken to provide for the inclusion of out-workers in the benefits of Part. I. (Health Insurance) of the National Insurance Act; but it states that the problem is considerably more complex in the case of unemployment insurance. Further, the results obtained from the issue of circular letters to various Trade Boards, Joint Industrial Councils, and employers' and workpeople's organisations requesting their views as to the desirability and practicability of the proposal showed both by the tardiness and the nature of the replies received that the demand for the inclusion of out-workers was not clamant. The Report adds that this apparent apathy was no doubt partly due to the fact that out-workers are, to a considerable extent,

The Committee point out that the cardinal difficulty is control, and unless this can be overcome no unemployment scheme worked on the principles of insurance is possible. They discuss the difficulties attending satisfactory proof of the fulfilment of the statutory conditions for the receipt of benefit, and particularly the evidence of unemployment. They continue: "We have already pointed out that unless this initial difficulty can be overcome within the limits of the administrative machinery likely to be available extension of the scene of the Intermely. likely to be available, extension of the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Acts to out-workers not under a contract of service, however desirable from a social standpoint, cannot be countenanced. Any serious contemplation of such a step could be justified only on the grounds of the strongest evidence that there was pressing need for such action, and that acute hards in world he action are to the counterpoints. would be entailed were it not taken. In our view there is almost, if not quite, complete absence of any such evidence."

In their recommendations the Committee state that they do not regard the inclusion of out-workers in the present scheme of unemployment insurance as a practicable business proposition; such workers are not, in their opinion, an insurable risk. They assume that the class of out-workers whom Dr. Macnamara had in mind were those who in normal times are regularly employed

Report of the Committee appointed to consider the position of out-workers in relation to Unemployment Insurance, H.M. Stationery Office, 1923, Price 6d. net.

for the whole of every day, just as "in-workers" are; but they add: "Even supposing a workable scheme for whole-time out-workers could be devised, the smallness of their numbers would in itself rule out all possibility of administration at a reasonable cost. The system of administration of the national reasonable cost. The system of administration of the hational unemployment insurance scheme is already sufficiently involved, and greatly to complicate it, by the introduction of a special scheme for a very small class of workpeople who would be controllable only at great cost, would in our opinion be unjustifiable in any event. We are of opinion that the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Acts should not be extended to cover the cost of the cos any class of out-workers not employed under a contract of service, and we recommend accordingly."

#### PROFIT-SHARING AND CO-PARTNERSHIP IN 1922.

THE Report on Profit-sharing and Labour Co-Partnership in the United Kingdom\*, prepared by the Ministry of Labour in 1919, gave an account of the progress of the Profit-sharing and Labour gave an account of the progress of the Proft-snaring and Labour Co-Partnership movement up to that date, together with statistics showing the results of the operation of profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes up to and including the year 1918. In the issues of this GAZETTE for July, 1920, September, 1921, and October, 1922, supplementary statistics were given relating to the operation of schemes (other than schemes in Co-operative Societies) in 1919, 1920, and 1921 respectively. Enquiries have now been made as to the progress of this movement in 1922, and the information collected is summarised below. The figures relate only to schemes providing for the allotment to employees

relate only to schemes providing for the allotment to employees of a definite share of profits, determined on a pre-arranged basis.

For a period of about two years immediately following the war—a period of great industrial activity—there was a marked advance in the profit-sharing movement; but this advance received a severe check in the succeeding period of industrial depression. Thus in 1919, the number of schemes known to have depression. Thus in 1919, the number of schemes known to have been introduced was 48, and in 1920 a further 47 schemes were started; only 12 schemes, however, have been brought to the notice of the Department as coming into existence in 1921, and only six schemes in 1922. The schemes abandoned numbered 9 in 1919, 12 in 1920, 9 in 1921, and 4 in 1922.

#### SCHEMES IN OPERATION IN 1922.

According to the returns received in connection with the enquiries made this year, 220 firms, with 288,043 workpeople in their constant employment, were known to be practising profit-sharing or co-partnership at the end of 1922. Five of these firms had each two separate schemes in operation, so that the total number of schemes was 225. Five other schemes were in abeyance, though not abandoned, at the end of 1922; and in addition there were six schemes as to which no particulars could be obtained.

be obtained.

Of the 220 firms known to have been actively practising profitsharing at the end of 1922, 34 (employing 36,963 workpeople) were gas companies, 30 (employing 59,866 workpeople) were in the engineering, shipbuilding and other metal trades, 25 (employing 41,431 workpeople) were textile manufacturing firms, and 35 (employing 30,235 workpeople) were merchants, warehousemen, retail traders, &c. The remaining firms were distributed among a variety of different trades.

Profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes appear to have

Profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes appear to have achieved their largest measure of success when practised by gas companies. In other industries the number of abandoned schemes frequently equals or exceeds the number of schemes still in existence; and the proportion of businesses which have adopted schemes is usually too small to provide any sound indication as to the extent to which conditions in the sound indication as to the extent to which conditions in the industry favour profit-sharing arrangements. In the gas owned undertakings have adopted profit-sharing arrangements, and very few abandonments have been reported. The type of scheme which is almost invariably adopted in connection with this industry provides for a bonus on the employees' wages at a rate varying inversely with the price charged for gas.

Somewhat less than one-half of all the schemes in operation in 1902 provided for the property of a prop

Somewhat less than one-half of all the schemes in operation in 1922 provided for the payment to the employees of a proportion of the profits, either in cash, or in sums credited to a savings or deposit account from which amounts may be withdrawn at short notice. In a much smaller number of schemes (although this is the normal type of scheme in the gas industry), a proportion of the profits is partly or wholly retained for investment, on behalf of the employees, in the capital of the undertaking, or is set aside for provident purposes, superannuation, &c. A type of scheme which has become prominent in recent years consists in the issue of employees' shares, either free, or on specially favourable terms as to price or dividend; over forty such schemes are at present in operation. A further twenty schemes are based on arrangements for the payment of interest, at a rate varying with the profits, on money deposited with the firm by its employees.

#### BONUS PAID.

In the following Table particulars are given, as regards those schemes for which such information is available, of the bonuses paid or credited in 1922. For a considerable number of schemes the Department has been unable to obtain detailed particulars of this nature, owing in some cases to the firms' inability to

\* Cmd. 544 : price 1s. net.

furnish the required figures, and in others to the nature of the furnish the required figures, and in others to the flature of the scheme itself, which makes it impossible to state the amount of the bonus and the proportion which it bears to earnings. There are also certain schemes of recent introduction in which the first bonus did not become payable in 1922. The particulars given in the Table, therefore, relate only to 173 out of the total of 225 schemes in operation at the end of 1922.

NOTE .- In a number of schemes included in these statistics the "bonus" consists of interest, at a rate varying with the profits, paid on sums deposited with the firm by its employees; and the amount of the bonus in such cases is therefore limited by the extent to which employees use the deposit fund. The figures italicised in this and in the succeeding Table show the result of excluding such schemes from the statistics.

Ratio of Bonus to Earnings.	Number of Schemes to which particulars relate.	Average Number of Employees in Constant Employment	Number of Employees Partici- patin 't in 1922.	Amount of Bonus paid (or credited) in 1922.
Nil	\begin{cases} 71 \\ 68\\ 13 \\ 9 \\ 17 \\ 13 \\ 8 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 6 \\ \{ 16 \\ 9 \end{cases} \end{cases} \end{cases} \\ \{ 16 \\ 9 \end{cases} \end{cases} \]	54,426 26,458 28,945 5,084 28,715 12,463 6,372 2,000 4,335 1,190 1,233 4,156 68,167 38,495	26 007† 23,566† 8,715 4,925 24,622 11,210 5,330 1,202 3,380 114 703 3,684 31,474 26,289	£ Nil. Nil. 8,053 5,745 133,837 72,058 50,610 32,451 50,777 3,763 29,256 109,506 234,576 230,148
TOTAL	{ 173 154	212,002 125,451	116,441‡ 105,024‡	724,887 718,151

The following Table shows the results of these same schemes classified according to the industry or business in which the firms

Industry or Business.	Number of Schemes to which particulars relate.	Number of Employees participating in 1922.‡	Average Amount of Bonus per head.	Average Ratio of Bonus to Earnings.
Agriculture Engineering, Ship- building and other metal Food and Drink (Manufacture) Textile Paper, Printing, Book- binding, Publishing, &c	$ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 7 \\ 6 \\ 20 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 10 \\ 21 \\ 18 \\ 16 \\ 16 \\ 10 \\ 9 \\ 30 \\ 2 \\ 26 \\ \end{array} \right. $	307 207 13,089 7,665 5,271 4,484 11,842 10,221 5,511 5,560 18,255 18,148 28,780 13,814 5,570	£ s. d. 1 19 1 2 18 0 1 1 7  1 10 10 17 16 3 20 13 4 6 15 3 7 13 5 5 17 11 6 1 2 10 8 6 10 9 9 4 4 10 3 15 3 10 15 4	Per cent.  0.8 1.2 0.7 1.0 14.6 15.7 4.9 5.6 4.1 4.2 2.7 2.8 2.4 13.0 5.7
TOTAL	{ 173 154	116,441 105,024	6 4 6 6 16 9	3.8

In a number of schemes profit-sharing is restricted to certain classes of employees, or is available only to those who are able and willing to deposit savings with the firm; and in most schemes employees have to fulfil certain conditions, such as serving for a minimum period, in order to qualify for benefit. Thus it will be seen, from the foregoing Tables, that of the total number of workneonle, employed by profit-sharing firms the proportion workpeople employed by profit-sharing firms the proportion entitled to participate in any bonus distributed was rather more than one-half. Of those entitled to participate, nearly 80 per cent. received a bonus in 1922, the remainder, who received no bonus, being employed by firms whose profits did not admit of any distribution to employees under the schemes in that year.

The effects of depression in trade are again reflected in the statistics of bonuses paid in 1922. In the schemes included in the scheme Tables the average amount paid per head was 46.4s.6d.

above Tables the average amount paid per head was £6 4s. 6d., as compared with £6 14s. 0d. in 1921, and with £9 18s. 6d. in 1920. Excluding the cases in which the ratio of bonus to earnings was not known, the bonuses paid in 1922 and in 1921 represented an average addition to ordinary earnings of 3·8 per cent. and of 3·5 per cent., respectively. In 1920 the bonuses

\* Casual or seasonal workers are rarely eligible for profit-sharing, except in some gas companies' schemes, and then only under certain conditions. The aggregate maximum number of casual workers employed by the firms to which the Table relates was 2,816.
† This was the numbe entitled to participate if any bonus had been paid.
‡ Including those entitled to participate, in cases where the bonus was nil.
‡ Calculated on the number of employees participating, including, where the bonus was nil, the number entitled to participate.

‡ Taking into account the schemes in which the bonus was nil, but excluding (necessarily) those in which the ratio of bonus to earnings could not be stated.

averaged 6.4 per cent. on earnings. In calculating these averages allowance has been made for schemes which failed to pay a bonus, numbering 71 in 1922, as compared with 64 in 1921, and with 32 in 1920.

with 32 in 1920.

As was the case in 1921, a very high rate of bonus was paid in 1922 by firms engaged in food and drink manufacture—viz., 146 per cent., or nearly £18 per head. Among firms manufacturing chemicals, soap, oils, paints, etc., an average of over £10 per head was paid in 1922, compared with about £16 per head in 1921. One very large undertaking in this group, although able to state the total bonus paid to employees, is not able to state the total bonus paid to employees, is not able to express this as a percentage on earnings; as this firm pays relatively high bonuses, the average ratio of bonus to earnings for this group, as shown in the Table, therefore, is lower than would be the case if figures for this firm were included. On the other hand, owing to the impossibility of expressing, in the form of a percentage on earnings, the bonus paid by one large insurance company, the average ratio of bonus to earnings among

insurance company, the average ratio of bonus to earnings among insurance companies, as given in the Table, is too high.

Groups which paid a noticeably low rate of bonus in 1922 were engineering, shipbuilding and other metal firms (0.7 per cent.) and the agricultural group (0.8 per cent.). Only one scheme in agriculture is known to have paid a bonus. Gas companies showed some recovery from the low average rate of bonus which had been paid for several years past, though the average addition to earnings in 1922 was still only at the rate of 2.4 per cent.

#### NEW SCHEMES IN 1922.

In the following Table the main features of the six new schemes known to have been started in 1922 are briefly summarised :-

Industry.	Approximate number in constant employment.	Type of Scheme.
Confectionery manufacture	600	Bonus on employees' wages or salaries at same rate as dividend on the company's ordinary shares, conditional upon the dividend being at a rate of not less than 10 per cent. Bonus paid in weekly portions in cash.
Gas Works	295	Bous on wages and salaries according to decreases in the price charged for gas, until the rate of bonus equals the rate of dividend on the company's new ordinary "B" stock; and thereafter rising and falling with such rate of dividend. Two-thirds of the bonus is retained for investment in the company's ordinary or preference stock and the remaining third accumulates at interest being withdrawable in special circumstances.
Gas Works	1,000	Whenever the price of gas falls below a certain "basic rate," one sixth of the difference between the total realised by selling at the price actually charged and the total which would have been realised had the "basic rate" been charged is divided among the employees. One half of the bonus is paid to a stock account and the remaining half to a cash account.
Drapery and Furnishing	180	Provided the turnover and gross profit reach a certain figure, a fixed percentage of the net profits is distributed among employees it cash, being divided in proportion to wages but with variations in respect of the recipients' efficiency, punctuality, etc.
Metal and Ore Merchants	90	A bonus, distributed in cash, is paid on the salaries or wages of the staff at the same rate as the dividend paid to shareholders.
Printing, Publishing, &c.	130	After payment of the fixed dividend on preference shares and of a cumulative dividence of 10 per cent on ordinary shares, one half of the balance of the certified annual profits is allocated to employees. The amount thus allocated is divided amons employees in proportion to wages, and it credited to savings bank accounts, where unless withdrawn, it receives interest at 7 per cent. per annum.
San Maria Maria San San San San San San San San San Sa		A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY O

#### SCHEMES ABANDONED IN 1922.

The four schemes abandoned in 1922 had been in operation for twenty, thirteen, ten and six years respectively. In the first of these cases—a firm of grocers, provision merchants, bakers, etc., with about 300 employees—the sharing of profits with employees (other than the manager and heads of departments) was discontinued owing, as stated by the firm, to strikes of the employees. In the second case—a gas company with about 300 workpeople—the business has ceased to exist as a separate concern, having amalgamated with another undertaking also practising profit-sharing. The third scheme was in a small printing business employing about eight workpeople, and was dropped after these employees had stopped work in connection with a trade dispute. In the fourth case, that of a firm of millers, corn marchants, etc. two schemes were in operation, and one of these merchants, etc., two schemes were in operation, and one of these has now been abandoned with a view to its replacement by a new scheme now under preparation. About 950 employees were covered by the abandoned scheme in this case.

#### COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

The following Table shows the total number of firms known to have been practising profit-sharing or co-partnership at the end of each of the past ten years and the total number of schemes in operation in connection with these firms, and also gives particulars, so far as available, of the average bonus paid. As explained above, it is not possible, in the case of a number of schemes, to obtain statistics of bonuses paid, and the figures given in the last two columns, therefore, relate only to those schemes for which this information is available:—

			Bonuses	Paid.
Year.	No. of Firms.*	No. of Schemes.*	Amount per Head.†	Percentage addition to Earnings.†
1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922	140 151 150 142 145 149 189 222 222 222	142 155 154 147 161 154 193 228 228 231	£ s. d. 5 6 0 5 4 9 3 18 0 3 4 3 3 15 2 3 15 2 5 0 7 9 18 6 6 14 0 6 4 6	Per Cent. 5 9 6 7 5 3 4 6 5 3 5 1 4 9 6 4 3 5 5 3 8

The total number of employees of the 140 firms practising profit-sharing at the end of 1913 was approximately 110,000. In 1922 the total number of employees of the 226 firms with profit-sharing schemes in operation was approximately 300,000. Of a total of 467 schemes of profit-sharing that are known to have been adopted at any time in this country, slightly under one-half are still in operation. Although the majority of existing schemes are of comparatively recent origin a few have been in continuous operation for over 40 years and nearly one-half date from before the war.

from before the war.

The following Table shows the total numbers of schemes started in various periods, the numbers of such schemes no longer in existence, and the numbers still in operation at the end of

Period in start		eh	Total Schemes started.	Schemes abandoned by the end of 1922.	Schemes suspended at the end of 1922.	Schemes still in operation at end of 1922.‡
Up to 1880 1881-90 1891-1900 1901-05 . 19.6-10 1911-15 1916-18 1919-20	1:::::::		35 79 76 25 54 63 22 95 18	29 67 63 18 21 20 4 9	- 1 - 1 - 2	6 11 13 7 32 43 17 84 18
Total			467	231	5	231

#### SCOPE OF THE STAMPED OR PRESSED METAL-WARES TRADE BOARD AND THE BUTTON-MAKING TRADE BOARD: REPORT OF INQUIRY.

REPORTS, dated 26th July, 1923, have been made by Sir William Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C., on the Public Inquiry held by him on 6th and 7th June, 1923, in London, and on 19th and 20th June, 1923, in Birmingham, with regard to the scope of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board and the Button-Making Trade Board. The Inquiry was held on the direction of the Minister of Labour as the result of objections received by him to his Notices of Intention dated 28th March, 1923, to vary the definition of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade, and to make certain consequential variations in the definition of the to make certain consequential variations in the definition of the Button-Making Trade for the purposes of the Trade Boards Acts.

The principal Report deals with the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board. After briefly indicating the circumstances

which led to the Inquiry, the Report records for the Minister's consideration certain objections to the proposed variation of definition which were lodged on general grounds. These are, briefly, that the present moment is inopportune for any amendment or extension of scope in view of the fact that further Trade Board legislation is pending, and that the Minister's powers under the present many act was a power of the fact that further trade. under the new Act may be more limited than now, and the considerations to be taken into account in extending the scope of a Trade Board may be different. On behalf of the Trade Board it was urged that amendment was a pressing and urgent necessity and that it should be dealt with under the 1918 Act.

and that it should be dealt with under the 1918 Act.

The Report outlines the history and growth of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade and arrives at the conclusion that the trade "primarily consists of the general stamper and presser or piercer who makes stampings and pressings for the trade, that is, sells the product of his manufacture to the wholesaler or retailer or to the manufacturer of a composite article for the purpose of being assembled or worked into such composite article." A manufacturer stamping or pressing parts for his own use, where the operations of stamping or pressing are merely incidental to the main operations on the completed pro-

\* The figures exclude a few schemes temporarily suspended, though not and oned, but include schemes as to which no recent particulars have

abandoned, but include schemes as to which he been received.

† The amount per head and the percentage addition to earnings are calculated on the basis of the numbers and earnings of those narticipating, including those entitled to participate in cases where, owing to insufficient profits, the honus was nil.

† The figures as to schemes still in operation at the end of 1922 include 6 schemes as to which no recent particulars have been received.

duct and where this final product is only to a small extent stamped or pressed, is outside the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares trade: for example, the manufacture of bedsteads for which the mounts are stamped or pressed, or of umbrella frames for which the fittings are stamped or pressed. If, however, a composite article is mainly composed of stamped or pressed parts, the manufacture of such an article is part of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares trade; and the manufacturer who, though stamping or pressing parts incidentally to the main operation on the completed product, also sells stamped or pressed parts of articles in the open market is, to the extent to which he sells such parts or articles, engaged in the Stamped or Pressed Metal

Wares trade.

The Report then deals with specific claims for exclusion from the definition made either by (1) manufacturers who, while manufacturing articles wholly or mainly stamped or pressed, claim to be in a well-defined trade distinct from that of the general stamper or presser, or by (2) manufacturers who are mainly engaged in other processes of manufacture and whose output of stamped or pressed goods is small. Each such claim for exclusion is considered on its individual merits in the light of the conclusions already reached with regard to what constitutes the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares trade as a whole, and recommendations are made accordingly; some general considera-tions which should be taken into account in considering claims for exclusion are also set out, e.g., in the case of manufacturers who claim to be in a distinct trade or branch of trade, rates of wages and conditions of service, nature of any wage-regulating machinery, organisation of employers and workers, effect of exclusion upon other employers and workers manufacturing the same class of article; in the case of manufacturers who claim to be mainly engaged on some other manufacture, the proportion of output of stamped or pressed articles; and in both classes of

of output of stamped or pressed articles; and in both classes of case the factor of competing jurisdiction, in one workshop, of a Trade Board and trade organisations.

The Report deals with the objection that the work covered by the Minister's Order does not constitute a trade at all but a conglomeration of trades, and concludes that in the light of the evidence given there is such a trade as the general Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares trade; although, like many other trades, it has numerous branches.

After dealing with various suggestions for minor and drafting

has numerous branches.

After dealing with various suggestions for minor and drafting amendments of the definition which was the subject of the Inquiry, the Report concludes by recommending the re-drafting of the proposed Definition along simpler lines and so as to incorporate the other recommendations arising from the Inquiry. Such modifications, together with a sympathetic administration of the Order, should, in the view of the Commissioner holding the Inquiry, go far towards removing the difficulties which have hitherto beset the operations of the Trade Board.

The Report on the Button-Making Trade Board enumerates the circumstances which led to the Inquiry and records the fact that the alterations in the definition of the trade are necessitated by and consequential upon the amendments made in the definition of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

The Ministry of Health have issued their fourth Annual Report, relating to the year ended on 31st March, 1923.\*

#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE POOR LAW, ETC.

Persons in receipt of relief.—The average of the weekly number of persons in receipt of relief in England and Wales during the year under review was 1,499,937, compared with 1,244,726 during 1921-22.† The number at no time during the year fell below 1,300,000, a number which had never been attained before July, 1921. On the 1st April, 1922, the number of persons in receipt of relief was 1,475,187 (equivalent to 1 in 26 of a total population of 37,885,000), and this number increased continuously to 1,668,348 on the 29th April. Throughout this period unemployed insurance benefit, both "covenanted" and "uncovenanted," was paid; and the increase was presumably due largely to the disputes in the engineering and shipbuilding trades which had begun in March. A slight decrease to 1,603,308 on the 13th May followed the end of the dispute in the shipbuilding trade on the 8th May. About the 11th May the first "gap" of five weeks in the payment of "uncovenanted" benefit began; and the dispute in the engineering trade extended on the 3rd May to other trade unions. A further continuous increase in the numbers in re-Persons in receipt of relief .- The average of the weekly numengineering trade extended on the 3rd May to other trade unions. A further continuous increase in the numbers in receipt of relief began on the 13th May, which terminated with the beginning of the second period of "uncovenanted benefit" in the record figure of 1,837,980 (equivalent to 1 in 21 of the total population) on the 17th June. On the 1st July the number of persons in receipt of relief had exceeded 1,600,000 for eleven successive weeks. The engineering dispute ended gradually during the period between the 6th and 21st June, and by the 24th June the number of persons in receipt of relief had decreased by 68,593. This improvement was maintained throughout July and August. The period of the "gap" during these and the two following months was by the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1922, reduced from five weeks to one week only. The bottom of the curve (1,416,193) was reached on the 2nd September; and an increase began which, interrupted only by a decrease from 1,459,295 to began which, interrupted only by a decrease from 1,459,295 to

• Cmd. 1944 H.M. Stationery Office. Price 4s. net. † These figures exclude (a) lunatics in county and borough asylums, registered ospitals and licensed houses; (b) casuals; and (c) persons in receipt of domitiliary medical relief only. The numbers of these persons were approximately

1,448,331 between the 23rd September and the 7th October, brought the total figure to 1,518,034 on the 4th November. Thence a decrease, continuous except for a seasonal rise at Christmas, led to the figure of 1,345,634 at the end of March.

September, 1923.

Christmas, led to the figure of 1,345,534 at the end of March.

Returns obtained as to the average weekly number of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in the months of June, September, December, and March, show that the proportions which belonged to families whose heads were insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts were 61.5 per cent., 52.7 per cent., 49.5 per cent., and 46.7 per cent. respectively; and the Report adds that "there is in these returns some prima-facie evidence in the proposed of of the effect of the incidence of unemployment benefit upon Poor Law statistics, and a demonstration that the burden of the ratepayer would have been substantially heavier but for the

existence of the insurance scheme."

The figures relating to out-door relief during the year are analysed on a new basis, which it is stated must be accepted with caution owing to uncertainty whether the returns have been rendered with exact uniformity. Subject to this reservation, the Report states that the number of unemployed insured persons the desired analysis receiving relief varied during the year ice of the insurance scheme." (and their dependants) receiving relief varied during the year from 1,090,525 (in June, 1922) to 636,048 (in March, 1923), the mean figure for the year being 798,708. A second class, for whom separate numbers are now available, is that for uninsured persons who are ordinarily employed. The number of such persons receiving relief is not large, the total at the end of the year being only 66,314, slightly more than the number (65,281) at the beginning of the year. The third class, covering all other persons in receipt of outdoor relief, is a more substantial one, and increased, except for a slight break in July, from the beginning to the end of the year, the numbers being in April, 1922, 395,165, and in March, 1923, 438,380. The Report states that it must be assumed that these figures include persons who would, in less trying times, have been assisted by relatives, and these persons, until their relatives have an opportunity of re-establishing their position, will remain as a permanent charge on the Poor Rate.

Very wide variations were shown in the proportion borne by the number of persons relieved to the population of the several Unions, the highest ratio being 1 in 5, which was reached at least once in the course of the year by Poplar, Sheffield, Bootle (Cumberland), Middlesbrough, Crickhowell and Guisborough. Other areas which reached a high proportion (from 1 in 6 to 1 in 10 inclusive) during the year were:—Bermondsey, Greenwich, Limehouse, West Ham; Newcastle-upon-Tyne, South Shields, Stockton, Hartlepool, Durham, Auckland; Birmingham, Coventry, West Bromwich, Walsall, Stourbridge; Barrow-in-Furness, Bedwellty, Clutton, Dartford, Derby, Ecclesall Bierlow (Sheffield), Lincoln, Neath, Redruth, West Derby (Liverpool).

The amount raised by rates to meet expenses of Poor Law (and their dependants) receiving relief varied during the from 1,090,525 (in June, 1922) to 636,048 (in March, 1923),

Bierlow (Sheffield), Lincoln, Neath, Redruth, West Derby (Liverpool).

The amount raised by rates to meet expenses of Poor Law Authorities in the year 1922-23 is estimated to be £38,100,000, as compared with £12,078,000 in the year before the war, and with approximately £36,250,000 in the year 1921-22. As in the previous year, Boards of Guardians borrowed considerable sums under the provisions of the Local Authorities (Financial Provisions) Act, 1921, and legislation extending certain of these provisions to loans borrowed in the course of the year 1923-24 has been enacted. The maximum number of Unions at any one time during the year in possession of authority to borrow under the Act was 104. The highest total sum authorised to be borrowed at any time during the year was £8,032,076, as comthe Act was 104. The highest total sum authorised to be borrowed at any time during the year was £8,032,076, as compared with £5,819,258 in 1921-22. At the end of the year the number of Unions dropped to 54, and the total sum to £5,714,000. The total amount actually borrowed at any time during the year was very considerably below the total sum authorised, and probably not more than half the Unions holding sanctions utilised them to the full at any one time.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT

Out of about £24,000,000 which Local Authorities were authorised to borrow for expenditure on public works during the year, over £8,400,000 was for works certified to have been undertaken with a view to the provision of employment; and grants were made by the Unemployment Grants Committee in aid of schemes of local authorities in England and Wales of the estimated total cost of £14,794,808.\*

cost of £14,794,808.\*

By the Expiring Laws Act, 1922, the operation of the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, has been indefinitely extended. The principal activity of bodies acting under the Act has been the use of farm colonies for the reception, maintenance and training of able-bodied men in receipt of Poor Law relief. Nineteen Metropolitan Unions have taken advantage of the Hollesley Bay colony, belonging to the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, and large numbers of men have been sent to the colony for varying periods. In August, 1922, the number of men in training reached 348. There was a seasonal decrease to 180 on the 1st January, but by the 31st March, 1923, the number had again risen to 351. had again risen to 351

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

The total number of pensions payable in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the 30th March, 1923, was 936,953, of which 331,146 were payable to men and 605,807 to women; the total included 12,355 pensions awarded under the Blind Persons Act, 1920. Of the total number of pensions payable, 872,912, or 93.2 per cent., were at the maximum rate of 10s. a week. As compared with the 31st March, 1922, the number of pensioners in England shows an increase of 4.4 per cent., in Wales an increase of 4.8 per cent., and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland an increase of 4.2 per cent.

• See also the August issue of this GAZETTE, page 277, and the article on page

Housing.

On the 31st March, 1923, the assisted scheme authorised by the Housing Act of 1919, which the Government decided in 1924 to limit to 176,000 houses, was almost complete. Less than 17,000 houses remained to be erected under it by Local Authorities and Public Utility Societies; tenders had been approved for over 13,000 of these, and 9,435 had been started. Since the original scheme came into operation over 159,000 houses have been completed by Local Authorities and Public Utility Societies under it. The total capital cost of assisted housing schemes will be about £190,000,000, or about £1,080 per house. The amount which Parliament will be asked to vote as a grant in aid of the deficit on housing schemes during 1923-24 is £8,710,000, nearly £1,000,000 less than in the preceding year.

Loans to local authorities amounting to £100,361 were sanctioned under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 and 1919, to assist the purchase by occupiers of houses not exceeding £800 in value. The loans sanctioned under these Acts since the Act of 1899 was passed amount to £836,127, the loans being sanctioned to 62 Local Authorities.

Other Subjects.

#### OTHER SUBJECTS.

Among the other subjects dealt with in the Report are :-Public Health (infectious diseases, maternity and child welfare, welfare of the blind, inspection and supervision of food, general health questions, sanitary administration, town planning); Local Government and Local Finance; National Health Insurance. There is a special section dealing with the Welsh Board of Health. Various statistical and other appendices are added to the Report.

#### PAY, ETC., OF STATE SERVANTS: REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed\* in March last "to enquire into the "present standard of remuneration and other conditions of employment of the various classes of State servants employed in the Civil Service and in the three Fighting Services, and to make recommendations thereon," have issued their Report.† In discussing the factors governing rates of pay in these Services the Committee express the view that "there is only one "principle in which all the factors of responsibility, cost of living, marriage, children, social position, etc., are included—"the employer should pay what is necessary to recruit and "retain an efficient staff." They also lay down two general considerations in regard to the pay of State servants; (i) that the State should hold the scales even between its own servants and those through whose enterprise its servants are paid; and

considerations in regard to the pay of State servants; (i) that the State should hold the scales even between its own servants and those through whose enterprise its servants are paid; and (ii) that employees of the Crown would have a real ground for complaint if their pay were related to wages in industry only in the time of low wages. "If they do not get pay relative to the "boom, they must be spared the full severity of the slump. The "State as a model employer offers security, a pension, a dignified service, and a moderate wage, in exchange for the excitement and possibilities of private employment."

The Report contains a series of graphs showing the course of wages between the years 1919 and 1925 in a number of industries which are subject to world competition (cotton, coal mining, iron and steel, mercantile marine and agriculture), and in certain "sheltered" trades, i.e., trades not exposed to world competition (bricklayers, dock labourers, gas stokers, and labourers employed in the non-trading services of local authorities). The Committee find that in the "competitive" trades the level of wages at the present time shows a reduction ranging from about 10 per cent. to 40 per cent. on the amounts paid in 1919; while in the "sheltered" trades the reduction is only from 5 to 15 per cent. As regards the Fighting Services the Committee refer with approval to a scheme which was laid before them by the Army Council for a reduction in the pay of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Army. They consider that the pay of naval ratings is now too high, and should be reduced parallel with reductions in the pay of the rank and file of the Army. They also suggest certain reductions in the pay of junior officers in the Army and in the Navy, but not in that of the higher ranks of officers. Substantial reductions might also, in their opinion, be made in the rates of pay of junior officers and of men in the Air Force.

As regards the Civil Service, they point to the great increase in the total cost, owing to the incr

Cost in 192	3 express	sed as 1	percentage
0)	f cost in	1914.	man hand
			per head.
Mainly salaried staff:— (191	4 = 100	. (191	4 = 100).
Administrative	206		139
Professional, scientific and			
technical	243		179
Inspectorate	215		193
Executive and clerical	402		170
Mainly wages staff:—			
Writing assistants and typing	728	22.3400	197
Manipulative (mainly Post			
Office)	208		220
Messengers, charwomen, etc	300		203
	199.		176
Industrial	100.		1.0
A Co. MINIORDY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for April	. 1923, page	153.	

mittee on Pay, &c., of State Servants. H.M. Stationery Office

The Committee deal with each of these classes in turn, and make various suggestions as to their remuneration. In most cases they do not recommend any change in the present rates of pay; but the following recommendations of the Committee may be noticed :-

The rates of pay of the *inspectorate* class should be examined in detail in the near future. The Government should limit as much as possible the number of Ministries which have to interfere with each industry, in view of the indirect, as well as the direct, burden of inspections upon industry.

industry.

For the routine clerical classes the normal attendance should be eight hours, with three-quarters of an hour off for

should be eight hours, with three-quarters of an hour on for lunch.

The Post Office should consider whether such high maximum rates as are now paid [to postmen and other "manipulative" grades] are necessary.

The increase in staff [in the Civil Service generally] is fully accounted for by the extra work which has been thrown on the Civil Service since 1914, and the average individual output is not less than in 1914.

Young women should be recruited for administrative, executive and clerical grades at a lower rate than young men; a woman's value is lower owing to the prospect of marriage, and the consequent doubt whether the woman will be able to give continuity of employment.

On the general question of the total increase in the cost of staff

On the general question of the total increase in the cost of staff On the general question of the total increase in the cost of staff (which, as stated above, is a distinct question from that of increase in cost per head), the Committee say that they were furnished with information which convinced them that "no "power except Parliament can materially reduce the load." Our public business is so huge that no one except "Parliament can order reform; and, till Parliament gives the "word, duties which need never have been imposed or have long "since lost their value employ the staff who still have to be "paid."

#### EX-SERVICE MEN IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

EX-SERVICE MEN IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

A COMMITTEE was appointed by Mr. Stanley Baldwin (then Chancellor of the Exchequer) on the 2nd May last, to enquire into the action taken throughout the Civil Service in consequence of the Report of the Lytton Committee\* in regard to the appointment of ex-Service men to posts in the Civil Service; and to consider the initial rates of remuneration of such men, etc. The Committee, which meets under the chairmanship of Lord Southborough, has presented two interim Reports.†

In the first Report the Committee recommend that, "with "effect from 1st April, 1923, or the date of permanent appoint-"ment, if later, a basic increase of £20, making with present cost of living bonus; slightly over £32 per annum inclusive, or approximately 12s. 6d. per week, should be granted to successful candidates, both male and female, who, under existing arrangements, enter either the London scale for the clerical "class at the basic rate of £80 per annum (i.e., £144 inclusive of bonus;), or the scales laid down for the provincial clerical and departmental classes at the corresponding incremental points." Basic increases for those entering at £90 and at £100 (or the provincial clerical and departmental class scales at corresponding incremental points) were also recommended, as a follows: Region and the provincial clerical and follows: Region and the provincial clerical and departmental class scales at corresponding incremental points) were also recommended, as a follows: Region and the provincial clerical and departmental class scales at corresponding incremental points) were also recommended, as a follows: Region and the provincial clerical and departmental class scales at corresponding incremental points) were also recommended, as a follows: Region and the provincial clerical and departmental class scales at corresponding incremental points). £100 (or the provincial clerical and departmental class scales at corresponding incremental points) were also recommended, as follows:—Basic rate £90, making with bonus,‡ £162, — a basic increase of £15 (or including bonus‡ slightly over £21); basic rate £100, making with bonus‡ £176, — a basic increase of £10 (or, including bonus‡, slightly under £14).

These recommendations were subject to the proviso that in no case should an officer, under the Committee's proposals, become entitled to a rate in excess of that which would be received by an officer of the same age, recruited at the normal age at the minimum of the clerical or of the departmental class scale, as the case might be.

The second interim Report deals with the general question of

The second interim Report deals with the general question of the action taken by the various Government Departments in pursuance of the recommendations of the Lytton Committee as to substitution and the employment of ex-Service men in a

temporary capacity in the Civil Service.

The following figures, given in the Report, show how the proportion of ex-Service men has increased among the temporary staff in the Government service during the last four years:—

		1st July 1919.	1st July 1920.	1st July 1923.
Ex-Service men		24,271	 42,919	 39,218
Non-Service men	/	34,163	 16,564	 2,882
Women		115,680	 62,432	 19,517
Total		174,114	 121,915	 61,617

No fewer than 16,301 of the ex-Service temporary personnel at present employed are disabled men, who thus comprise slightly over one-quarter of the total temporary staff.

In view of these figures the Committee consider that "a very genuine endeavour has been made to give full effect to the "recommendations of the Lytton Committee, and to the Govern-

\* See LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1920, page 481, and for August, 1921,

p. 293.

† The initial salary of "Lytton entrants," and the appointment of ex Service men to posts in the Civil Service; Interim Report and Second Interim Report.

H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1d. net, each.

† The Report is dated 20th June, 1923; the cost of living bonus throughout the Civil Service was reduced as from the 1st September.

ment's policy of according to ex-Service men preference in the

"ment's policy of according to ex-Service men preference in the matter of employment in the Civil Service." Of the women temporarily employed on the 1st July, 1923, approximately 1,700 were ex-Service women; and slightly over 10,000 were typists, telegraphists, nurses, charwomen, etc. Of the remainder, approximately 2,500 were employed in the Ministry of Pensions, and nearly 4,000 were employed on work appropriate to or normally performed by women. (In the Ministry of Pensions, two successive Ministers have given definite pledges that a portion of the work of the Department should be reserved for women. The proportion of non-service personnal

nite pledges that a portion of the work of the Department should be reserved for women. The proportion of non-service personnel in the substitutable grades has already been reduced far below the proportion—33\(^\frac{1}{3}\) per cent.—recommended by the Lytton Committee; and further large discharges of women are to take place during the course of the financial year.)

After making these allowances, there remain not more than 1,200 women at most to be accounted for. A small percentage of these have qualified for permanent appointments; and a large proportion of the remainder will be discharged by the Inland Revenue Department, in which they are employed, at the end of the financial year in March next.

The non-Service men now temporarily employed number 2,882.

The non-Service men now temporarily employed number 2,882; and this includes a considerable body of technical and professional officers, and also an appreciable number of part-time staff, both urban and rural.

sional officers, and also an appreciable number of part-time stan, both urban and rural.

The Committee consider that, generally speaking, the Departmental Substitution Committees have discharged adequately the task assigned to them; though recently, as the number of cases has grown less and less, it has become increasingly difficult to reach agreement between the interested parties.

The Committee have also received testimony to the value of the work done by the Joint Substitution Board. They suggest an alteration in the constitution of the Board, by the addition of a third member (the other two representing, as now, the Treasury and the Ministry of Labour), who should be "a person "of standing, a man of affairs, not in the Civil Service, nor "representative of any particular interest affected." They consider, however, that the Board should have only advisory functions, and that the final responsibility should remain, as at present, with the Minister at the head of each Department.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

AT 28th August, 1923, the number of men in training was 11,934, and the number awaiting training 6,965. Since 1st August, 1919, 75,476 men have terminated training.

#### INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS

Up to the 5th September, 1923, 44,706 apprentices had been accepted for training with 17,859 employers. The apprentices rejected up to the 5th September, 1923, numbered 2,179. Of those accepted 43,315 had terminated their training and 1,391 were still in training. The number of men who have received institutional training is 2,313.

#### NATIONAL SCHEME (KING'S ROLL).

On the 31st August, 1923, the names of 27,851 employers were entered upon the King's National Roll.

The undertakings given by these employers under the provisions of the National Scheme for the Employment of Disabled Ex-Service Men cover approximately 300,000 disabled ex-Service

#### PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUN-CILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECON-STRUCTION COMMITTEES IN AUGUST.

DURING the five weeks ended 1st September there were reported to the Ministry of Labour one meeting of a Joint Industrial Council, one of an Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee and one of a District Council.

#### OUTPUT, COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL Summary\* of output, and of the costs of produc tion, proceeds, and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 31st March, 1923, has been prepared by the Mines Department in continuation of similar quarterly statements previously published for earlier dates.

ments previously published for earlier dates.

The Summary shows that at undertakings which produced about 95 per cent. of the total quantity of saleable coal raised during the quarter, 67,077,543 tons of coal were raised, and that after deducting 4,073,982 tons used at the mines and 1,667,669 tons supplied to the miners, the quantity disposable commercially was 61,335,892 tons. According to the Monthly Trade and Navigation Accounts the total quantity of coal shipped for export and foreign bunkers during the quarter was 23,262,722 tons.

ne costs of production at the undertakings covered by the

September, 1923.

mmary were as shown below .—	Amount.	dispo	
			rcially.
	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	8.	
Wages	35,441,768		6.68
Other Costs (management, salaries, insurances, repairs, office and general expenses,	6,358,536	2	0.88
depreciation, etc.) Miners' Welfare Fund contribu-	7,331,354	2	4.69
tions	279,453	0	1.09
where worked by the pro-			
prietor)	1,613,156	0	6.31
Total Costs	51,024,267	16	7-65
Deduct proceeds of miners' coal	361,064	0	1.41
Net Costs	50,663,203	16	6.24
me proceeds of commercial disposal	e were £58	156 716	equiv

Net Costs ... 50,663,203 16 6.24

the proceeds of commercial disposals were £58,156,716, equivato 18s. 11.56d. per ton, leaving a credit balance of 183,513, or 2s. 5.32d. per ton. In the quarter ended 31st ember, 1922, there was a credit balance of 1s. 6.39d. per ton. analysis by 13 districts shows that in South Staffs and p, Cumberland, Bristol and Kent there were debit balances in from 2.82d. to 1s. 2.97d. per ton, and in other districts it balances ranging from 5.96d. to 3s. 2.96d. per ton. he number of workpeeple employed was 1,087,733, the number nan-shifts worked was 73,504,058, and the number of man-ts lost that could have been worked was 6,163,833. The age output per man-shift worked, based on the tonnage of able coal raised, was 18.25 cwts. This figure compares with 0 cwts. in the previous quarter. The average earnings per shift worked were 9s. 7.72d., this figure being calculated the number of man-shifts worked by workers of all ages the following Table the net costs, proceeds, and wages per disposable commercially, and the output and earnings per shift worked, are shown for the various districts:—

District.		r ton disposal commercially	Per man-shift worked.		
	Net Costs.*	Proceeds.	Wages.†	Output.	Earnings.
eotland forthumberland urham Wales and Mon. orks and E. Mids‡ ancs, N. Staffs and	s. d. 15 11·18 16 9·80 17 0·05 18 2·73 14 11 48	s. d. 19 2·14 19 11·80 19 11·93 20 5·65 17 6·78	s. d. 11 4·28 11 4·88 11 2·16 12 3·63 10 10·86	Cwts, 19·63 17·31 17·68 16 91 20·84	s. d. 9 11:86 8 11:56 9 2:03 9 6:51 10 5:70
Cheshire	18 0·25 17 7·26 15 0·92 21 2·77 21 5·55 17 1·74 17 3·74 18 10·46	18 11·26 18 1·21 14 10·10 19 11·80 20 8·13 18 0·54 18 9·57 18 2·31	12 9.95 13 3.00 9 3.98 14 8.82 15 4.17 12 6.40 12 0.99 13 8.41	15·05 13·95 18·36 14·10 11·43 14·68 14·06 21·53	8 8:81 8 0:81 7 7:48 9 4:99 7 10:84 7 10:60 7 6:81 12 9:91
Great Britain	16 6.24	18 11.56	11 6.68	18.25	9 7.72

#### OURS OF LABOUR OF COAL TIPPERS AND TRIMMERS IN SOUTH WALES.

REPORT OF COURT OF INQUIRY

Interim Report of the Court of Inquiry appointed by the lister of Labour on the 20th March, 1923,§ to enquire into necessity of putting on a third shift for coal tippers and liners in the South Wales coal-exporting district, has been

Court first met on the 23rd March, and sat for the hearing the Court first met on the 23rd March, and sat for the hearing evidence, at Cardiff, on the 9th, 10th and 11th April. After employers' case had been closed the Court, at the request both parties, adjourned the further hearing; and, in the ntime, in the capacity of mediators, discussed with both is the practicability of a settlement by agreement. A promal agreement was concluded on the 12th April, and, after ther negotiations, in which the members of the Court again das mediators, a further supplementary agreement was coneed on the 12th May. The texts of the agreement are ended to the Report.

ended to the Report.

the general effect of these agreements was to provide for the itution of a partial third shift, for an experimental period of months, and for steps to be taken to stabilise tariffs until 30th June, 1924, or for such shorter period as the third shift

costs represent total costs less proceeds of coal supplied to miners.
amounts shown in this column are included in those shown as net costs.
uding Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and

MANIFE.

the April issue of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, page 153.

ort by a Court of Inquiry concerning Hours of Labour of Coal Tippers

immers in South Wales. Cmd. 1948. H.M. Stationery Office, 1923.

The agreements also provided for the establishment of a Consultative Joint Committee at each port, to meet once a month, for the purpose of considering any suggestions from either side for the furtherance of the work and promotion of efficiency.

It was considered that it would not be necessary, during the provisional period, to work more than one-third of the tips on the interest of the state of the six months.

third shift; if the employers at any time during the six months considered the trade warranted the working of a larger number the matter was to be referred to the above-mentioned Consulta-

The Court state that they have thought it best in the mean-time to adjourn the further hearing of the case *sine die* in the hope that these agreements will form the basis of a permanent settlement, which will obviate the necessity of further inquiry.

#### MINERS' WELFARE FUND: REPORT FOR 1921-1922.

Secrion 20 of the Mining Industry Act, 1920, provides for the institution of a fund "to be applied for such purposes connected with the social well-being, recreation, and conditions of living of workers in or about coal mines, and with mining education and research, as the Board of Trade, after consultation with any

and research, as the Board of Trade, after consultation with any Government Department concerned, may approve."

The fund is provided by a levy of a penny a ton on the output of every mine, for a period of five and a half years. Four-fifths of the levy must be allocated to the districts in which the levy was raised—not necessarily, of course, to any individual collieries or villages therein—and one-fifth is not subject to any such restriction. This latter sum has been mainly allocated for mining education, or for research regarding health and safety problems of coal mining.

problems of coal mining.

The allocation of the fund is vested in a Committee of five persons appointed by the Board of Trade; and the first Report of this Committee (which is called the Miners' Welfare Committee), covering the years 1921 and 1922, has now been published.\*

In allocating the fund, the Committee have allowed great freedom as regards choice of objects, and as regards details of procedure. They have allowed "the largest possible measure of self-determination" to the District Welfare Committees, with whom they have worked in close co-operation throughout. One of the very few schemes proposed to them to which they have not been able to assent, as being contrary to the intentions of the Act, was that put forward by the District Welfare Committee for Lancashire and Cheshire, which involved the utilisation of the fund for the augmentation of the wages of miners working on short time.

The financial position of the fund on 31st December, 1922, was

			S. BEST COLOR DE SERVER
District.	Four-fifths of total contributions received.	Total Allocated.	Total paid of account of allocations.
Fife and Clackmannan Lothians Lanarkshire Ayrshire Northumberland Durham Cumberland Lancashire and Cheshire North Wales South Yorkshire Nottinghamshire Derbyshire South Derbyshire South Derbyshire Lancock Chase South Staffordshire Cannock Chase South Staffordshire Leicestershire Warwickshire South Wales Minor Districts;	£ 28,488 14,714 70.162 15,518 46,907 126,526 7.156 76,568 10,770 102,807 55,958 51,221 55,222 7,790 24,076 21,414 6,441 9,694 18,880 179,805 14,929	£ 11,595 — 49 635 50,000 28,815 — 3,250 86,522 34,558 49,528 67,777 2,220 50 6,000 17,369 87,500 11,622	£ 1,964 1,024 12,000 3,380 7,667 1,728 9,903 17,089 1,420 50 2,800 6,018 46,294 7,133
Total earmarked for District Funds†	945 <b>,</b> 046 236 <b>,</b> 949	509,441 14,570	118,470 3,828
Total	1,181,995	524,011	122,298

It will be observed that in two districts (Ayrshire and Derby-It will be observed that in two districts (Ayrshre and Derpyshire) the sums allocated exceed the contributions levided. In these districts, and in Nottinghamshire and in West Yorkshire, allocations have been made in advance of contributions, the money, in many cases, having been advanced by colliery companies, on account of subsequent instalments. In Ayrshire a mansion standing in large gardens, with various subsidiary buildings, has been bought and equipped for use as a convalescent home for miners and their wives; the purchase price and alterations amounted to £20,000, and the remaining £30,000 is to be invested to provide partial endowment, while the miners will pay a levy of a penny a week to provide the miners. will pay a levy of a penny a week to provide the rest of the cost of maintenance.

The sums allocated to district funds (as given in the Table above) amount to £509,441. This includes £3,937 allocated and

\* Miners' Welfare Fund. First Report. H.M. Stationery Office. Price Is. 6d. net. † Four-fifths of the contributions of each district are earmarked for allocation

that district.

† Shropshire, Forest of Dean, Somerset, Bristol, and Kent.

<sup>\*</sup> Cmd. 1949. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 2d.

aid for administration expenses: the remaining £505 504 was

paid for administration expenses, the rem	aming 20	,00,001 1145
distributed as follows:—		Total Allocated.
Recreation grounds, playing fields, swim-		
ming pools, etc	125	311,175
Institutes, clubs, libraries, etc. (including		
small grants for purchases of books)	. 99	78,665
Pit-head baths and drying-rooms, slipper		
baths, wash-houses, etc	. 4	29,500
Hospitals (structural additions, equipment,		
or endowment for existing public insti-		
tutions)	. 16	12,190
Convalescent home		50,000
District nursing services	. 4	8,000
Ambulance services		2,170
Mining education (lectures, scholarships,		
structural additions to existing public		
buildings, etc.)	*5	*12,604
Colliery bands, pit-head shelters	. 3	1,200
	261	505,504
m a 1 1 111 1 that all a		

The Committee have laid it down that allocations will normally be made for purposes of capital expenditure only, as opposed to casual outlay in aid of recurrent maintenance expenses; also that allocations must be for the provision of new welfare facilities, and not for the relief of already existing schemes; this involves, as a corollary, that the fund shall not be used in relief of existing charges which fall either upon local rates or upon the national exchequer. Thirdly, safeguards must normally be provided, usually in the form of a trust deed.

Allocations from the "general" fund (i.e., the one-fifth not earmarked for separate districts) for research purposes are normally administered, through the Secretary for Mines, by the Safety in Mines Research Board, and are accompanied by similar conditions and safeguards. The Committee have laid it down that allocations will normal

similar conditions and safeguards.

#### MINERS' BLINDNESS (NYSTAGMUS.)

THE Committee appointed by the Medical Research Council to enquire into the causation and means of prevention of miners' nystagmus have issued a second Report. Since the date of the first Report. The Home Office and the Secretary for Mines especially invited the attention of the committee to the great increase that was taking place in claims for compensation, and in the first section of the present Report the incapacity that results from the disease is treated in detail, with special reference to its relation to the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The results of the Committee's investigations are summarised in the Report as follows:—

A large proportion of underground miners exhibit signs which, if complained of, might establish a claim for com-

Consideration of the records for compensation claims in Consideration of the records for compensation claims in other countries as well as in this country, and of the factors which have been at work influencing these claims, leads to the conclusion that there is no sound evidence of increase in the clinical entity, miners' nystagmus.

The standard of incapacity in this country is governed by the nomenclature of the disease in the schedule of the Workmen's Compensation Act. This standard differs from, and is decidedly loss stringent than that adopted on the

decidedly less stringent than, that adopted on the Continent.

The nomenclature which determines the standard of in-capacity has an important influence upon the duration of incapacity. Hence we find that the duration of incapacity is unreasonably extended in this country as compared with the Continent

The standard of physical signs which is in vogue in this country for deciding whether any case should be certified as suffering from miners' nystagmus too readily admits psychoneurotic cases to whom harm and not benefit accrues from compensation. A stricter standard based on physical signs should be adopted.

Impartial assessment of the amount of incapacity found in cases in receipt of compensation points to a need for periodic reassessment

The Committee have therefore reached the following con-

The official figures show an apparent increase in the disease. The official figures show an apparent increase in the disease. The cases, however, fall into two groups:—(i) Severe cases of the type recognised as incapacitating in France and Belgium. This group has not increased in these countries in recent years, and appears even to have diminished as the safety lamps have improved. (ii) Cases in which the psychological element largely predominates, owing to the wide interpretation placed upon the definition of the disease in the schedule of the Weylemen's Compensation Act. This in the schedule of the Workmen's Compensation Act. This group is the one which has increased the reported cases.

The decision as to whether any given case belongs to Group 1 or Group 2 is purely a medical question, and should

be left to medical men who have had special experience

Most cases of miners' nystagmus are only partially capacitated; they benefit physically and psychologically work. Some require work above ground; others are fit suitable work below ground. All men in this group she receive every encouragement to start work as soon

A few exceptional cases with short mining experies should never return to work below ground; these men shou in their own interests be drafted out of the industry im

The second section of the Report deals with the relative importance of errors of refraction in the incidence of the d

#### DUNDEE JUTE WORKERS' DISPUTE.

The dispute in the jute industry in Dundee, which had been progress since February, terminated on 29th August.

As has been reported in previous issues of this GAZETTE, \* the dispute arose out of a difference between a firm and the workpeople respecting the number of spinners to be emplated that stoppage of occurred on 23rd February, involving about 1,800 workpemployed by the firm in question. Subsequently the stop extended to other works belonging to the company of the firm originally affected was a branch, and by 13th about 11,000 workpeople, were involved in the distance. about 11,000 workpeople were involved in the of This led to a general lock-out on 23rd March, affecting all the jute spinning and weaving factories in Dundee, the number of workpeople involved in the dispute being al 29,000. On 18th April the lock-out was raised, pending expending expendin nation of the facts by a Joint Committee and conferences, the whole of the workpeople resumed work, except about the proposed change in whose working conditions had the cause of the original strike.

Attempts to secure a settlement having failed, the gene lock-out of about 29,000 workpeople was re-imposed 1st June, but all the works were re-opened on 8th June, ex those in which the dispute originated, at which about workpeople continued to be involved. These works re-opened on 9th July, and there was some resumption work during July and August until, on 29th August, the was declared at an end, and work was generally resumed the following day. By the terms of the settlement the assistan of a number of orra spinners is to be given in certain of t

#### HOURS OF LABOUR IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY.

In recent issues of this GAZETTE+ reference has been made negotiations and settlements in regard to wages, hours and conditions in the building industry. On the question of the Award of the Arbitrator, Sir Hugh Fraser, was issue 20th August. The Award provides that the existing whereby 41½ hours per week are worked during December January shall be rescinded, and that the working time of hours per week shall proceed throughout the year, except du the period of summer-time as determined by statute, when working time shall be extended to 46½ hours per week. Provi is also made that in December and January the interval of hour for dinner may be reduced to half an hour on works with the statute of the statut artificial light cannot be reasonably supplied, so that work a terminate at 4.30 p.m. If, however, on any such work majority of the operatives request that the interval of one for dinner may still be maintained and the weekly hours conquently reduced to 41½, the employer shall be at liberty arrange accordingly. Nothing in the Award is to present the supplementary and converting in the according to the supplementary and converting in the according to the supplementary and converting in the supp arrange accordingly. Nothing in the Award is to prevere mployers and operatives in any town or area from maintaining by mutual consent, the 44-hour week throughout the year. The Award became operative on 17th September, 1923.

#### MIGRATION OF POOR PERSONS AT THE COST OF THE POOR RATES.

A CIRCULART has been issued to Boards of Guardians by the Ministry of Health setting out the conditions upon which more raised from the poor rates may, with the consent of the Ministry of Health, be expended on the migration of (1) any orphandeserted child under 16 chargeable to the Union who has consented the chargeable that the sented thereto before Justices in Petty Sessions, and (2) at other poor persons residing in the Union, whether in receipt

relief or not.

The Empire Settlement Act, 1922, provides for the establishment of schemes under which His Majesty's Government and the Government of the Dominion concerned may co-operate in the promotion of migration from the United Kingdom to the Dominions, and the Circular states that it is obviously desirable that the migration of persons at the cost of the poor rates should be the cost of the poor rates should that the migration of persons at the cost of the poor rates shot be brought into co-ordination with those schemes. Up to present time the only suitable schemes brought into operat are for assisted passages for adults (with or without familiary).

Australia, and for children and certain juveniles to Canada; details of these schemes are embodied in the Circular, with lal reference to the cost of assistance in each case to the

it is pointed out that the Minister of Health and the Oversea It is pointed out that the Minister of Health and the Oversea tellement Department are agreed that the settlement of juveniles decilidren, under proper supervision, is the most beneficial desuccessful form of migration. It is felt that more general tion could with advantage be taken in this direction, and the inister wishes to commend the subject to the special conderation of every Board of Guardians. At the same time, it is garded as most important, with a view to preventing increased equality of sex distribution, to endeavour as far as possible ensure that the girls who proceed overseas should not be fewer number than the boys.

number than the boys.
Appended to the Circular are two memoranda, the first dealing the procedure to be followed by Boards of Guardians in where they consider migration to be desirable, and the giving details (supplied by the Superintendent of Immiton for Canada) of the system which has been in operation 1888 for the settlement in Canada of Poor Law and other le children from the United Kingdom.

#### UNITED STATES COAL COMMISSION: SECOND REPORT.\*

Report of the United States Coal Commission+ was and on 8th July, and is concerned with the anthracite branch the coal industry. The first Report, which dealt with the uminous branch, was noticed in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR ZETTE for April, 1923, page 127. The final Report will contain commendations for both branches.

The chief recommendations made by the Commission to Conare stated to be as follows:-

(1) Congress shall give the President authority in the event of a cessation of operations in the industry to declare an emergency, take charge of mines, fix wages and the compensation to be paid to the owner, subject to review by the courts, and distribute the product as he deems wise and just.

(2) The Commission is opposed to Government ownership of coal mines, but considers that coal is as much a public utility as gas or any other service or commodity that has

atility as gas or any other service or commodity that has been brought under public regulation. In the operation of coal mines as in the operation of railroads, telephones, water companies or banks, the public interest must be respected

and served.

(3) But there is not yet sufficient basis in knowledge or experience to determine what form of regulation will ultimately be most advantageous. It may be that the principle of individual or corporate responsibility should be maintained as most likely to insure economical and efficient management of the interest of the statement of ment of the industry, and that the public interest may be adequately safeguarded by the creation of a Governmental authority with power to require financial and operating reports, to prescribe uniform methods of cost accounting and determine the conditions on which coal may be shifted

interstate commerce.

(4) The Commission is convinced that publicity as to osts, prices and profits is necessary to protect the interests of the public

(5) As freight charges alone take from 16 to 30 cents. of each dollar paid by the anthracite consumer, the Commission urges the Interstate Commerce Commission to re-examine the reasonableness of freight rates.

(6) Re-adjustment of the royalties paid to owners of leased coal lands.

he Survey, commenting on these recommendations, considers the first is neither new nor very important, and that the sident probably already has power to seize the mines in a

tional emergency.

The opinion that the time has come for coal mining to be recogthe opinion that the time has come for coal mining to be recog-ed as a public utility is also criticised as not being rew. It is suggested by the Anthracite Strike Commission in 1902-03, to the Commission appears to have ignored recent judicial isions which would effectively prevent the recognition of coal ling as a public utility. Attention is drawn especially to the ision of the United States Supreme Court on the Kansas art of Industrial Relations in which it is expressly stated the prover been supposed since the adoption of the "it has never been supposed since the adoption of the itution that the business of the butcher or the baker, the the woodchopper, the mining operator or the miner, was thed with such public interest that the price of his product his wages could be fixed by State regulations." Labour rnals also emphasise the ignoring by the Commission of recent cial decisions

The same is held to apply to the recommendation that a overnmental authority should determine the conditions on which all may be shipped in interstate commerce. Congress on a evious occasion authorised the Federal Trade Commission to out this and voted funds for the purpose. But the Courts t down that the "mere act of production is not commerce"; that the production of coal, like the production of steel, is so related to interstate commerce as to justify its regulation

Survey, 1st August; Literary Digest, 21st July, and American Federationist, 1923. The appointment of this Commission was reported in the Ministry of BOUR GAZETTE, December, 1922, page 479.

A second set of recommendations, more concrete and explicit, is addressed not to Congress but to the coal owners and miners who were attempting to conclude a new agreement to take the place of the one which expired at the end of August. These

place of the one which expired at the end of August. These aim at strengthening the conciliation machinery and making it possible for differences to be settled within the industry itself without outside interference.

The Commission "awaits with interest whether the new agreement shall show a co-operative spirit, a clear idea of partnership on the part of all concerned in it, and a proper conception of the rights of the American people."

The Report also includes elaborate data on wages, cost of living prices, cost of production, etc.

#### "PEACEFUL PICKETING "FILLEGAL ON U.S. RAILWAYS.\*

DURING the strike of railway shopmen in the United States last year [See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, July, 1922, page 289, and October, 1922, page 404] a temporary Federal injunction was issued on 5th October restraining the striking railway shopmen from interfering in any way with the operation of the railways. The reasons stated for its issue were the acts of violence committed by the strikers, which in some cases had resulted in loss of life and considerable damage to property. The injunction made the officials of the Union concerned liable to arrest and imprisonment in the event of further illegal action on the part of the strikers. Theoretically the strike is still in force, as no general settlement was reached; practically it is over, and the vast majority of the men have either returned to their former

vast majority of the men have either returned to their former work or been re-engaged.

The temporary injunction was made permanent by the Federal District Court of Chicago on 12th July last. It not only prohibits all interference with the operation of the railways, but renders peaceful picketing illegal and ties up the funds of the Unions in so far as their use for strike purposes is concerned. It prohibits Union officials from publishing any statements in connection with the strike and from holding meetings or processions. The injunction is made applicable to the leading officials of the various Unions concerned, who are mentioned by name.

#### TRADE BOARDS IN NORWAY: EXTENSION OF ACT.†

THE Norwegian provisional Act on Industrial Outwork, of which THE Norwegian provisional Act on Industrial Outwork, of which a full account was given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1918, page 265, was extended by an Act of 6th July, for a further period of five years, till 30th June, 1928. The amendments introduced in the new Act are unimportant. The general supervision of the carrying out of the Act is to be in the hands of the Board of Health, while previously it was largely in the hands of the Outwork Board, and both these Boards, as well as the Wages Board, are in future to have access to was lists and the Wages Board, are in future to have access to wage lists and workers' wage books, and may take copies of lists of workers

#### REDUCTION OF WAGES IN SWEDEN BETWEEN 1920 AND 1922.±

A Report on Collective Agreements in 1922, issued by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs, gives certain particulars of the percentage reductions in the "peak" wage-rates of 1920 which had been effected by the end of 1922. (For a general summary of this Report see the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1923, page 163). The following Table shows the reductions effected in individual industries:-

Industry.	Percentage reduction in wages in 1922 as compared with 1920.	Industry.	Percentag reduction i wages in 19 as compare with 1920.
Ore Mines: (Central Sweden) (Northern Sweden)	40 25	Baking Sugar Manufacture Breweries (Stockholm)	25 47–50 35
Coal Mines	43 45–50	Slaughterhouses Boot and Shoemaking	20 35
Small Glass Manufacture Bottle Glass Manufacture	45 39	Rubber Goods Manufacture	45
Saw Milling Woodwork and Cabinet	43	Artificial Manures Match Manufacture	39 34
Wood Pulp Manufacture	48	Building Trades:— Bricklayers and Car-	1000
Paper making Bookbinding	52-54 35	penters Plumbers	43§ 36
Printing Flour milling	30 40	Unskilled Labourers Commercial and Shop	45§
Electric Fitting	33	Assistants, &c. (Stock-	-
Telegraph Linesmen	33–40 40	holm) Dock Labour	38
Clothing	30 33	Seamen Agriculture	44–50 40–45
24444	00	1	1

\* Despatch from H.M. Embassy at Washington, dated 20th July.
† Norsk Lovtidende, 9th July, 1923.
‡ Sociala Meddelanden, No. 5, 1923, and a despatch from H.M. Commercial secretary at Stockholm dated lat June, 1923.
§ The reduction in the case of piece workers was about 40 per cent.

<sup>•</sup> These are additional to any grants that may be made from the "general I in aid of mining education or research.

Second Report of the Miners' Nystagmus Committee. H.M. Stationery Office,

i. Price 9d. net. Miners' nystagmus is an occupational disease peculiar to
ers, the chief symptom and physical sign of which is a rotatory oscillation of

the eyeballs.

‡ See the May, 1922, issue of this GAZETTF, page 204.

<sup>\*</sup> See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTES for April, p. 123, May, p. 159, and

<sup>†</sup> April 1923. page 122: June, 1923. page 198, and August, 1923, page 280. ‡ Empire Settlement Act. 1922: Ministry of Health Circular No. 409 to Bod of Guardians, 28th July, 1923. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1d. net.

#### CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st SEPTEMBER.

#### Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914. All Items included ... ... 73% Food only ... ... ... 68%

#### FOOD.

AT 1st September the average increase in the cost of the pre-war working-class dietary, as shown by the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour, was 68 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. at 1st August. The retail prices of eggs, bacon, butter and cheese rose consider-ably during the month, and milk and fish were also somewhat dearer, on the average, on 1st September than a month earlier. On the other hand, there was a considerable fall in the prices of potatoes, and sugar and British mutton were also cheaper on 1st September than on 1st August.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, at 1st August, 1923, and at 1st September, 1923:—

Article.	otherw	Price (per rise indic ne nearest	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Sept., 1923, as compared with			
	July, 1914.	1st Aug., 1923.	1st Sept., 1923.	July, 1914.	1st Aug., 1923.	
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. a.	s. d.	s. d.	. a.	
Ribs	0 10 0 6½	1 5¾ 0 10¼	1 53 0 101	+ 0 7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> + 0 3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>		
Ribs	0 7½ 0 4¾	0 10½ 0 5½	0 10½ 0 5½	+ 0 3 + 0 03	Ξ	
Mutton, British— Legs	0 101 0 61	1 8± 0 11±	1 8 0 111	+ 0 9½ + 0 4¾	$\begin{array}{c cccc} - & 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \\ - & 0 & 0\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	
Mutton, Frozen— Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)*	0 63 0 4 0 111	1 0½ 0 5¼ 1 5¼	1 04 0 54 1 7	+ 0 5½ + 0 1½ + 0 7¾	- + 0 13	
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart Butter—	0 10½ 0 5¾ 1 6½ 0 2 0 3½	1 3½ 0 8¾ 2 6½ 0 6¾ 0 5½	1 3½ 0 8¾ 2 6½ 0 6½ 0 5¾	+ 0 5 + 0 3 + 1 04 + 0 41 + 0 21	- - - 0 01 + 0 01	
Fresh	1 2½ 1 2¼ 0 8¾ 0 7 0 1¼ 0 4¾	1 8 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 1 7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 1 1 0 6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 0 1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> 0 10	1 10½ 1 9 1 2 0 6¾ 0 2½ 0 8¾	+ 0 8 + 0 63 + 0 54 - 0 01 + 0 14 + 0	+ 0 13 + 0 14 + 0 1 + 0 1 + 0 03 - 0 14	

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

		1st Sep	Percentage I t., 1923, as co with July, 191	mpared	Corre- sponding
Article.		Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	figure for 1st August, 1923.
D. ( D. W.)	NY.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British-		82	TC.	70	50
Ribs Thin Flank		54	76 55	79 54	79 56
Beef, Chilled or Frozen		04	30	04	00
Ribs		41	38	40	40
Thin Flank		12	18	15	16
Mutton, British	***				
Legs		94	92	93	95
Breast		76	70	73	75
Mutton, Frozen		00	70	70	70
Legs		86	72 29	79 28	78 29
Decem (-tue-1-1-		73	63	68	54
Fish	-	117	96	107	103
TO STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA			30		100
Flour		45	47	46	47
Bread	1	54	49	52	52
Tea	-	66	68	67	67
Sugar (granulated)		226	207	217	228
Milk		57	65	61	58
Butter—		51	58	54	47
Golt.	**	47	49	48	43 39
Cheeset		61	63	62	51
Margarine	-	- 5	- 7	- 6	-6
Eggs (fresh)		98	98	98	51
Potatoes		95	67	81	108
All above articles of Fo	(ho		The state of the state of	Nove State	
(Weighted Percenta	ge	70	66	68	65
Increase).	-				

\* If this kind is seidom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

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

#### RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Increase of Rent an Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act indicate that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1911 and 1st September, 1923, was approximately 47 per cent. On the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increase on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increase on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Act falling within the remaining one-fifth. As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into by the Act falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotation both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to wh different articles and qualities have been affected by changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation increase in prices; but information as to the movement prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and he textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the re

In the fuel and light group the retail prices of coal september showed little change on those of a month eand averaged approximately 85 per cent. above those of and averaged approximately so per cent. above that 1914. The prices of gas and lamp oil remained at about 6 cent., and those of candles at about 35 per cent., above the cent., and those of candles at about 35 per cent., above the cent. war level. The prices of matches, also, showed no appr change during the month. Taking the fuel and light gr a whole, the average increase at 1st September, as with July, 1914, was about 80 per cent.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing are combined in accordance with their relative importance pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic immongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspa (averaging about 85 per cent.), the resultant general ave increase for 1st September is approximately 73 per cent. The pre-war level, as compared with 71 per cent. for 1st Aug.

The result of this calculation (in which the same qua The result of this calculation (in which the same quant and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are to in 1923 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing working-class families before the war, irrespective of whe such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variation the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure been effected in many families, especially in those cases we incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been rations one families in which wages have been increased in green and the standard of the s in some families in which wages have been increased in g proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the for for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to trustworthy statistics are not available.

#### SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1923.

The following Table shows the average percentage increases compared with July, 1914, for all items included in statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1915 Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914-All Items

(Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c.)

Month (beginning of).	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	19
January February March April May June	10-15 15 15-20 15-20 20 25	35 35 35–40 35–40 40–45 45	65 65–70 70 70–75 75 75–80	85–90 90 90 90–95 95–100 100	120 120 115 110 105 105	125 130 130 132 141 150	165 151 141 133 128 119	92 88 86 82 81 80	00000000
July August = September October November December	25 25 25 30 30–35 35	45–50 45–50 50 50–55 60 65	80 80 80–85 75–80 85 85	100-105 110 110 115-120 120-125 120	105-110 115 115 120 125 125	152 155 161 164 176 169	119 122 120 110 103 99	84 81 79 78 80 80	

#### NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistic was given on page 236 of the July issue of this GAZETTE. more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921

\* If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, average increase at 1st September, 1923, is about 5 per cent. less.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN AUGUST.

#### GENERAL SUMMARY.

te decline in employment, which began in July, continued in the decline in employment, which began in July, continued in agust. The industries principally affected included the pigna, tinplate, shipbuilding, wool textile, hosiery, textile eaching, dyeing, etc., furniture and pottery trades. On the her hand there was an improvement in the building trades some districts. Employment was still good in the tinplate ade, fairly good in coal mining, coachbuilding, brick-making, d the carpet trade, and fair in building, tailoring, paper and ting trades; but in most of the other principal industries it

#### SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.\*

Among 1,149,588 members of Trade Unions from which remin were received the percentage unemployed was 11'4 at the of August, compared with 11:1 at the end of July, and h 14.4 at the end of August, 1922. Among workpeople ered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering apperced by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,750,000, and working in practically every instry except agriculture and private domestic service, the reentage unemployed at 27th August was 11.5, compared with 3 at 23rd July and 12.3 at the end of August, 1922. For less alone the percentage was 12.3 at the 27th August, compared with 12.2 at 23rd July; for females the corresponding figures were 9.4 and 8.8. The number of workonding figures were 9.4 and 8.8. The number of workople on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges at
the August was approximately 1,266,000, of whom men numred 943,000 and women 237,000, the remainder being boys and
els. The corresponding total for 30th July was 1,235,000,
whom 936,000 were men and 223,000 women. (It should
noted that some unemployed persons, e.g., some of those
to have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who
insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, do
tregister at the Employment Exchanges, and the Live
gister figures, therefore, do not indicate the total number
employed.)

#### EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—At coal mines employment continued rly good on the whole. The total number of wage earners on a colliery books at 25th August was 1,165,787, an increase of 2 per cent. as compared with July, 1923, and of 6.4 per cent. compared with August, 1922. The average number of days with a compared with 4.89 in July and 5.33 in August, 2020.

At iron mines employment showed little general change as ompared with the previous month; in the Cleveland istrict it continued bad. At the mines covered by the eturns received there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. In the number employed, as compared with July, and in increase of 47.8 per cent. over the numbers employed in least 1922. ust, 1922. The average number of days worked per week he mines was 5-32, as compared with 5-29 in July and in ust, 1922. At shale mines employment continued fair. At stone quarries it declined to fair in the Buxton district; it slack in the Weardale district and bad in the Clitheroe dis-At slate quarries employment was fair generally, and ed a further improvement. At whinstone quarries in the of Scotland, and at grindstone and building stone quarries e Stanton-in-Peak and Rowsley districts employment was erate. At the Clee Hill quarries employment declined and bad, with much short time. At china clay quarries employntinued good.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.—
mployment in the pig iron industry showed a further decline
iring August and was slack. Of a total of 487 furnaces, the
imber in blast at the end of August was 196, as compared with
to at the end of July, and 126 at the end of August, 1922.
The numbers employed showed an increase of nearly 20 per
ent, as compared with August, 1922. At iron and steel works
imployment was, generally speaking, moderate; it showed little
lange compared with the previous month, but was considerably
etter than in August, 1922. In the tinplate and sheet steel
ades employment continued good on the whole, but there was a des employment continued good on the whole, but there was a ther decline in the tinplate section. At the end of August mills were reported to be in operation, as compared with in July, and 486 in August, 1922.

ngineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades .- In the trade employment continued bad. At many normal holidays were extended. The textile hinery and marine engineering sections were still very de-sed, and there was a further seasonal decline in the motor ion. At railway works employment on the whole tinued fairly good. In the shipbuilding and ship tiring trades employment continued very bad; there was improvement on repair work, but on new work employ-was affected by the boilermakers' dispute and showed a ine. It was fair in the brasswork, wire, sheet-metal, stove-e and hollow-ware trades, but bad in the bedstead, lock and

tch, nut, bolt and nail, cutlery, file, needle, tube, chain and lechor, and jewellery and plated ware trades.

Textile Trades.—Employment continued depressed in all secons of the cotton industry, except in the branch engaged in binning Egyptian cotton, which was still well employed. In many

cases annual holidays were extended, and production was also greatly curtailed by short time and other means. In the woollen and worsted trades employment continued bad, and in the worsted trade a further decline was reported. In many cases annual holidays were extended. In the hosiery trade employment declined and was bad, with much short time.

clined and was bad, with much short time.

In the silk trade it was moderate in the Eastern Counties; in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton district it continued slack. In the lace trade employment continued bad on the whole, with much short time. Employment in the carpet trade was fairly good; in the jute trade it declined considerably at the end of August. In the linen trade employment continued very slack, and in Ireland a decline was reported. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment continued slack on the whole, and short time was general. A further decline was reported with silk dyers at Macclesfield and Leek and with hosiery trimmers and finishers at Leicester and Basford.

Clothing Trades—In the tailoring trade employment declined

Clothing Trades.-In the tailoring trade employment declined. but was fair on the whole; at Bristol, Nottingham, Liverpool and Glasgow it was slack. In the dressmaking and women's light clothing trades employment declined and, on the whole, was only fair, while in some districts it was reported as slack. In only fair, while in some districts it was reported as slack. In the felt hat trade employment was fair on the whole, but was not so good as in July. With corset makers the usual seasonal slackness continued. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued slack on the whole, with much short time and extended holidays. Employment in the leather trades was fair generally in the tanning and currying section, and in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather sections; with saddle and harness makers it was had

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades showed a further improvement in some districts, and was fair on the whole. It was generally good with bricklayers and masons, fairly good with carpenters and joiners, and fair with plasterers. A shortage of skilled workmen, particularly bricklayers, was again reported. Employment with painters declined, and it continued bad with builders' labourers and workpeople on construction of works. In the brick trade employment, continued construction of works. In the brick trade employment continued fairly good, on the whole, and at Peterborough and Oxford it

was very good.

In the furnishing trades employment showed a further decline and was only moderate to fair. It also declined with coachbuilders, but was still fairly good. With millsawyers and woodcutting machinists employment was bad, except in London, Birmingham and the Eastern Counties, where it continued fair to good. With coopers it was fair, except in Liverpool and Manchester, where it continued bad; with brush, basket and packing case makers employment was slack, and showed a decline on the previous month.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.-Employment in the paper trade was fair, but not so good, on the whole, as in the previous month. With letterpress printers it continued fair generally, and with readers, electrotypers and stereotypers in London it was good. At Newcastle, Manchester and Birmingham and with compositors in London it was slack. In the lithographic printing trade employment was fair, on the whole, and better than in July. Employment in the bookbinding trade remained generally slack.

Pottery and Glass. - In the pottery trade employment continued slack, and a decline from the previous month was reported; in the sanitary earthenware and tile sections, however, employment was good. In the glass trades it continued bad on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishery .- In agriculture the supply of labour was generally sufficient, and casual labour for haymaking and the corn harvest was readily obtainable in practically all districts. In the fishing industry employment continued fair on the whole Dock Labour and Seamen .- Employment among dock labourers

was moderate, on the whole, With seamen employment continued moderate, and showed a slight improvement on the previous month, but at the majority

of ports large numbers of men failed to obtain engagements. The following Table shows the percentages unemployed (a) among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained and (b) among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland month by month since August, 1922:—

	Date			Percentages unemployed among				
(End	of Mo			Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.			
1922.						Cational Park Inc.		
August	4-100				14-4	12.3		
September	1 447		START OF		14-6	12.2		
October					14.0	12.3		
November	3.00				14-2	12.6		
December				1	14.0	12.4		
1923.				245 25	位于1000年1000年12月1日日	ALTONO BOARS		
January	BE COM	ON THE		240000	13.7	13.0		
February	th colu	(4)(00)	10 11019	3	13-1	12.1		
March	40 L	e10			12.3	11.4		
April	000.3	3 3 3 6	200		11.3	11.2		
May					11:3	11.0		
June	1000	NO MARK			11:1	11.0		
July		ale total			11.1	11 3		
August			S. William		11.4	11.5		

Further details and statistics as to the state of employment in a number of the principal industries are given on pages 329 to 333.

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland

PER CENTAGE

#### TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 1,149,588 reported 131,486 (or 11.4 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of August, 1923, compared with 11.1 per cent. at the end of July, 1923, and 14.4 per cent. at the end of August, 1923.

Trade.	Member- ship of Unions reporting	Unempater Au 192	d of	inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a		
Traue.	at end of Aug., 1923.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Buildingt Coal Mining Coal Mining	118,143 133,887	5,969 1,429	5·1 1·1	- 0.4	- 1.8 - 88	
Engineering and Ship- building	383,864 54,058	86,744 5,016	22·6 9·3	+ 0.4 + 0.5	- 4·9 - 2·8	
Textiles:— Cotton Woollen and Worsted Other	60,076 12,232 58,500	5,408 581 2,329	9·01 4·7 4·0	- 0.6 + 0.9	+ 4·7 + 3·6 - 0·2	
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Furnishing Woodworking	93,019 26,053 44,332	4.963 1,870 2,515	5·0 7·2 5·7	+ 0.6 - 0.2 + 0.6	- 1.5 + 2.1 - 2.3	
Clothing:  Boot and Shoe. Other Clothing  Leather Glass Pottery Tobaccos	75,420 44,066 5,978 1,230 28,000 4,730	4,513 867 607 30 7,400 1,245	6·0 2·0 10·2 2·4 26·4 26·3	+ 0.8 - 0.3 + 1.8 + 0.4 + 9.3 - 0.4	+ 1.9 + 0.6 - 2.4 + 2.8 -24.8	
Total	1,149,583	131,486	11.4	+ 0.3	- 3.0	

#### UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.5 per cent. (males 12.3 per cent., females 9.4 per cent.) at 27th August, as compared with 11.3 per cent. (males 12.2 per cent., females 8.8 per cent.) at 23rd July. A Table showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appears on page 335.

#### SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in August, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 329 to 333.

	Workpeople included	August,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a			
Trade.	in the Returns for August, 1923.	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Coal Mining Shale n	1,165,787 8,241 4,319	Days Worked per week by Mines. 5·14 5·32 5·94	Dava. +0.25 +0.03 +0.05	Days. 0·19 + 0·03 + 0·01		
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet	69,389	Furnaces in Blast 196 Mills Working 518 Shifts Worked (one week). 366,872	- 5	Number. + 70 + 32 Per cent. + 23·1		

#### (b) OTHER TRADES.

			r of Work		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Trade.		Week		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
		25:h Au'., Month Year 1923. ago. ago.		25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.¶		
Textiles:— Cotton — Woollen — Worsted — Boot and Shoe Pottery — Brick	:::::::	79,537 15,298 29,314 50,871 11,596 6,888	Per cent 0.9 - 1.7 + 0.5 + 0.2 - 1.4 + 1.0	Per cent 9.6 + 0.5 - 1.7 - 0.8 + 6.2 + 25.6	£ 138.864 31.096 60,697 109,803 20,482 16,153	Per cent. + 1.5 - 0.4 - 4.5 + 0.2 - 6.4 + 2.4	Per cent17.2 - 3.4 -14.2 - 6.4 + 5.5 +23.8	
Total		193,504	- 0.4	- 3.6	367,095	_ 0.3	-10.5	

- \* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short time working. Persons on strike or locked-out are also excluded.

  † The percentage is based on returns relating to woodworkers and plumbers, and as regards woodworkers, who constitute the bulk of the membership, the returns relate to the end of July.

  † In addition to those totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."

  § The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly clarar makers.
- mainly cigar makers.

  || These figures include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of systematic short time.

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

#### EMPLOYMENT CHART.

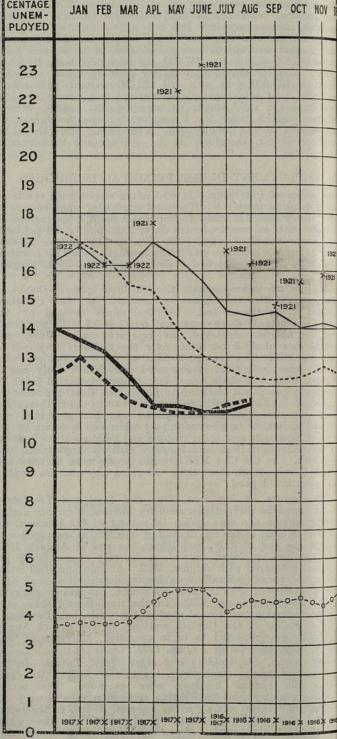
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNION MAKING RETURNS :-

= 1923.Thick Curve -Thin Curve -= 1922.Chain Curve ---- = Mean of 1913-22.

imes The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade  $U_{nl_{00}}$  members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1893-1922.

(2) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT:

> Thick Dotted Curve ----- 1923. Thin Dotted Curve ----- 1922.



The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Trade Union returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are escluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the pre-

The figures for insured workpeople include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of short-time working Detailed figures for July and August, 1923, are given of page 335.

## DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and (except as regards coal mining) not the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, remembered to age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be ment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males and females, of adults and juveniles, and of skilled unskilled workers in the respective industries. The particulars given relate only to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

#### COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during August remained fairly good. In Scotland here was a slight improvement in the numbers employed, while he average time worked showed a marked increase compared with the average for July, due to the latter having been affected by holidays. In England and Wales, taken as a whole, there was little change. In North Wales and in parts of the Midlands are represented. holidays. In England and Wales, taken as a whole, there is little change. In North Wales and in parts of the Midlands provements were reported. Employment declined, however, Northumberland and Durham, where more time was lost on ount of want of trade and transport difficulties, but in the e lost on account of holidays. The increase in the average e lost at pits in South Yorkshire was almost entirely due to idays. In the remaining districts, except Cumberland and stmorland, where employment was again affected by a oute, the chief factors responsible for loss of time were want trade, and, to a smaller extent, transport difficulties. Comed with a year ago, employment both in England and Wales in Scotland showed an improvement in the numbers emped, but a slight decline in the average time worked. The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining disting the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books, the average number of days worked per week\* during the might ended 25th August, 1923, as indicated by the returns ained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of work-ple employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals er than coal are included in the totals:—

	Wage Ea	al Numberners on Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*			
Districts.	25th August,	(-) as c	or Dec. ompared h a	Fort- night ended	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th August, 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
NGLAND AND WALES: Northumberland Durham Cumberland and West-	62,816 171,135	Per cent + 0.4 - 0.3	Per cent + 6.3 + 8.4	Days. 4.98 4.97	Days. - 0.31 - 0.04	Days. - 0.46 - 0.24	
morland	12,116 111,865 68,023 104,102	+ 0·1 + 0·3 + 0·4 - 0·5	+ 7.6 + 9.1 + 6.2 + 1.1	4·39 5·00 4·93 4·63	- 0.02 - 0.13 - 0.21 + 0.15	- 1.04 - 0.10 - 0.13	
Derbyshire Notts. and Leicester. Warwick North Staffordshire	64,746 65,239 21,662 34,655	+ 0.5 - 0.1 - 0.6	+ 4·4 + 4·9 + 3·6 + 4·6	4·80 4·79 5·74 5·22	+ 0.01 + 0.21 + 0.36 + 0.17	- 0.55 - 0.56 + 0.04 + 0.17	
South Staffs.,† Worc. and Salop Glouc. and Somerset Kent North Wales	35,239 14,709 1,878 17,824	- 0·3 - 0·8 + 1·6	+ 5.4 + 4.2 +11.5 + 5.7	5·20 5·34 5·68 5·36	+ 0.67 + 0.21 - 0.01 + 0.54	- 0.20 + 0.50 + 1.27 - 0.38	
South Wales and Mon.	240,841	+ 0.1	+ 6.5	5.80	+ 0.05	+ 0.02	
England and Wales	1,026,850	ALC: UNIVERSAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON OF	+ 6.1	5.14	+ 0.03	- 0.18	
Mid & East Lothians Fife and Clackmannan Rest of Scotland	15,715 30,331 92,891	+ 1·1 + 0·2 + 1·9	+ 6.9 + 6.6 + 9.9	5·08 4·93 5·18	+ 1·12 + 2·13 + 1·95	- 0.43 - 0.58 - 0.28	
Scotland	138,937	+ 1.4	+ 8.8	5.12	+1:90	- 0.36	
Great Britain	1,165,787	+ 0.2	+ 6.4	5.14	+ 0.25	- 0.19	

ng workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance

mong workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance s, the number registered as unemployed was 44,306 at 27th must, 1923, compared with 37,706 at 23rd July, 1923. The average weekly number of coal-winding days lost by all in the fortnight ended 25th August was 0.62 of a day, of the 0.51 of a day was due to want of trade and transport culties, the corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 28th being 0.88 of a day and 0.45 of a day respectively. For the night ended 26th August, 1922, the average weekly number oal-winding days lost was 0.44 of a day, of which 0.33 of by was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The winding time in each of these three periods averaged about quarter of a day per week. quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended th August, 1923, was returned to the Mines Department at 107,800 tons, compared with 20,060,400 in the four weeks ded 28th July, 1923, and with 19,051,200 tons in the four leks ended 26th August, 1922.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of camers engaged in the foreign trade, and the coal equivalent coke and manufactured fuel, amounted in August to 8,758,217 18, or 1,774 tons less than in July.

The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowce being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron,
b, was got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily
plied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not
bright are unitted in computing the average number of days worked.
Including Cannock Chase.

#### IRON AND SHALE MINING.

#### IRON MINING.

Although a slight increase was shown in the number of work-people employed, chiefly in the Cumberland and Laucashire district, there was no appreciable improvement in employment during August. In the Cleveland district it was still bad. Comparison with a year ago, however, shows very considerable im-

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

Districts.	Number of Work- people employed at Mines included in the Returns.			Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort- night ended 25th	Dec.(-)	Inc. (+) or Dec.(-) as com- pared with a		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as com- pared with a	
101 Page 1	Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ClevelandCumberland and Lanca-	3,489	Per cent. + 0.5	Per cent. + 64.4	Days. 5.18	Days. + 0.31	Days. + 0.27
shire Other Districts	3,402 1,350	+ 3.0	+ 49·3 + 14·8	5.53 5.17	- 0.02 - 0.53	- 0.04 - 0.28
All Districts	8,241	+ 0.8	+ 47.8	5.32	+ 0.03	+ 0.03

#### SHALE MINING.

Employment continued fair. At mines employing 4,319 work-people in the fortnight ended 25th August practically no change was shown in the total number employed, as compared with the previous month, but there was a decrease of 0.9 per cent. as compared with August, 1922. The average number of days\* worked per week by the mines was 5.94 in August, 1923, 5.89 in July, 1923, and 5.93 in August, 1922.

#### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed a further decline, and was slack. It was much better, however, than a year ago.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of August, as shown by returns collected by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, was 196, compared with 206 at the end of July and 126 at the end of August, 1922.

Returns received by the Federation from 83 firms, employing 20,379 workpeople at the end of August, showed a decrease of 6.7 per cent. compared with the number employed at the end of July, but an increase of 19.5 per cent. compared with August, 1922.

The following Table shows the total number of furnaces in

The following Table shows the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of August, 1923, July, 1923, and August, 1922, according to returns collected by the Federation:—

District.	Total Number		ber of Fu Blast at e		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., on a	
AMS to 180.1 say be	of Furnaces	Aug. 1923.	July, 1923.	Aug. 1922.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:— Durham and Cleveland Cumberland and W. Lancs.	115 46	42 12	47 12	28 9	- 5	+ 14 + 3
Other parts of Lancs. and Yorks., including Sheffield.	38	17	17	12		+ 5
Derby, Leicester, Notts.	73	38	39	25	-1	+ 13
Lincolnshire Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick.	<b>22</b> 58	17 16	19	9 13	- 2 - 3	+ 8 + 3
South Wales and Mon- mouth.	33	9	10	10	- 1	- 1
Total (England and Wales)	385	151	163	106	-12	+ 45
SCOTLAND	102	45	43	20	+2	+ 5
TOTAL	487	196	206	126	-10	+ 70

The production of pig iron in August amounted to 599,800 tons, as compared with 655,100 tons in July and 411,700 tons in August, 1922.

<sup>\*</sup> See \* footnote in previous column.

#### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

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EMPLOYMENT in iron and steel works during August was generally speaking moderate and was considerably better than a year ago. On the North-East Coast it remained slack, being affected adversely by the boilermakers' dispute. In Staffordshire and at Sheffield there was also a decline. The large increase in employment over last month recorded in Scotland is due in part to the fact that many firms which had shut down for extended holidays during July reopened during August.

According to returns received from firms employing 69,389 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 25th August (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each case) was equal to that of the previous month, and showed an increase of 23.1 per cent., as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open in the week ended 25th August was 5.5, the same as in the corresponding weeks for May, June and July, but an increase of 0.3 as compared with August, 1922.

	empl	f Workp oyed by ing retu	firms	Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 25th August,	Dec.	(+) or (-) as pared h a	Week ended 25th August,	Inc. ( Dec. ( comp with	-) as	
	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.	
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Crucible Furnaces Bestemer Converters Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers.	7,866 314 601 3,149 24,777 3,183 8,421 5,232 15,846	+ 2.4 - 7.9 - 1.0 + 7.1 + 2.2 - 0.5 + 4.4 - 2.0 - 3.1	+ 39·7 + 41·4 - 11·9 - 12·1 + 20·9 + 19·0 + 12·8 + 24·6 + 9·1	44,463 1,395 2,821 13,635 123, 88 16,591 46,7(4 27,712 90,163	+ 2.5 - 10.2 - 0.2 + 1.1 + 2.7 - 2.3 + 3.9 - 6.9 - 3.8	+ 44·0 + 63·7 - 16·2 - 9·3 + 32·0 + 31·6 + 19·8 + 28·4 + 11·0	
Total	69,789	,+ 0.9	+ 16.7	366,872	+ 0.0	+ 23.1	
Northumberland and Durham	5,697 5,623	- 3·3 - 25·5	+ 6·1 + 62·8	30,201 30,524	- 1·5 - 28·0	+ 14·6 + 67·4	
ham	19,458 2,690	- 3·9 + 1·1	+ 15.8 + 33.1	101,878 13,778	- 5·3 - 5·5	+ 22.4 + 41.2	
Cumberland, Lancs, and Cheshire	7,919 7,661 4,030 9,551	+ 2.9 - 7.0 + 5.0 + 1.9	+ 8.0 + 16.9 + 11.4 + 19.8	41,941 39,623 21,416 52,554	+ 5·1 - 8·9 + 4·1 + 1·3	+ 15 5 + 23 ·8 + 25 ·3 + 20 ·1	
Total, England and Wales Scotland	62,629 6,760	- 4·4 +106·2	+ 17·9 + 6·4	331,915 34,957	- 5·5 +121·4	+ 24·4 + 11·8	
Total	69,389	+ 0.9	+ 16.7	366,872	+ 0.0	+ 23.1	

The production of steel ingots and castings in August, as returned to the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 582,700 tons, compared with 624,300 tons in July, and with 520,800 tons in August, 1922.

#### TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good, on the whole, during August, but showed a further decline in the timplate section. At the end of the month 518 timplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 523 at the end of July and 486 at the end of August, 1922.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number registered as unemployed was 1,681 at 27th August, 1923, compared with 1,066 at 23rd July, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received at the end of August, 1923:—

	Number	r of Work	s Open	Number of Mills in Operation			
Works.	At end		(+) or -) on a			(+) or -) on a	
	August, 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	of	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Tinplate Steel Sheet	75 13	+ 'i	+ 2	395 123	- 10 + 5	+ 26 + 6	
TOTAL	88	+ 1	+ 2	518	- 5	+ 32	

<sup>•</sup> The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, &c., and it is not implied that the number of shifts shown was actually worked by all the men application.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets August, 1923, amounted to 83,585 tons, or 3,065 tons more thin July, 1923, but 636 tons less than in August, 1922.

#### ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained bad during August. A many works the normal holiday periods were extended. The textile machinery and marine engineering sections were still verdepressed, and the seasonal decline in the motor section continued. At railway works, however, employment continue fairly good generally, though it showed a decline in some cases. In constructional engineering and electrical engineering, also employment at some centres was fairly good.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insure under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 27th August, 1923. For an explanation of the method compiling the figures, see page 335.

compiling the figures, see page 335.

	Number of Insured Contributors Unemployed 27th August, 1923.								
Divisions.	Engi- neering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Stove, Grate, Pipe. &c., and General Iron Founding	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler Making.	Con-	TOTAL.	or Dec. (- as con pare with 23rd July 1923.		
South Eastern South Western Midlands North Eastern North Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	14,492 6,358 3,923 17,597 32,661 35, 465 22,813 858 1,978	473 287 178 5,391 3,279 1,600 3,452 296 384	482 266 94 1,299 477 1,160 206 20 5	113 182 976 71 10,045 555 4,719 11 104	150 51 82 474 934 134 586 6	15,710 7,144 5,252 24,832 47,396 38,814 31,776 1,191 2,479	- 24 - 10 + 3 - 20 + 1,6 + 1 - 5 + 11 - 11		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	} 136,045	,15,340	4,009	16,775	2,425	174,594	+ 9		
Males Females	133,504 2,541	14,500 840	3,451 558	16,735 40	2,390 35	170,580 4,014	+ 6		

On the North-East Coast employment continued very On the North-East Coast employment continued very no general improvement being reported. Large numbers men were unemployed or on short time, especially in marine engineering section, which showed a further decin consequence of the shipbuilding dispute. Some improvem was reported, however, on repair work in the Tyne distrement in the locomotive section was not so good at the previous month. In the electrical and motor sections the Tyne and at constructional engineering works on the Tit continued fair. In Lancashire and Cheshire there little general change. The textile machinery section remain very depressed, and much short time was still worked. Railworks at Crewe continued well employed, but at Horwich decline was reported. In the electrical engineering section employment improved slightly at some centres. In Yorksh employment improved slightly at some centres. In York employment continued bad, except at Otley, where pri machinery makers remained well employed, and at York, we employment was fair on the whole.

employment was fair on the whole.

At Nottingham conditions were still quiet, and showed li general change; in Lincolnshire a decline was report at some centres. At Derby the railway works remained by and in the motor section employment was fairly good, but general engineering it was bad. The improvement with founders at Leicester was maintained, but employment general decline. showed a tendency to decline. The seasonal decline in t motor car industry at Birmingham, Coventry and Wolve hampton was not quite so severe as was expected, and there w some slight improvement in this district in general engineer Employment continued fair at Rugby, but at Stafford it

bad, and worse than in the previous month.

At Norwich and Chelmsford employment remained fair, At Norwich and Chelmsford employment remained fair, and there was some improvement at Ipswich, but at other centre in the Eastern Counties conditions were still slack. There was considerable variation in the London area, but conditions showed little change on the whole. The motor section shows signs of slackening, and the wireless section continued to depressed; employment on aircraft work, however, was reported to have improved. There was a further slight improvement the Southern and South-Western Counties, employment Swindon remaining fairly good. In South Wales employment continued quiet, but the improvement previously reported was maintained.

In Scotland conditions remained very unfavourable, and the marine engineering section employment was worse than the previous month, partly owing to the continuance of the dispute in the shipbuilding industry. At Belfast employment remained bad generally.

#### SHIPBUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industri continued very bad during August. There was some improvement on repair work, but on new work employment showed decline. The lock-out of boilermakers at the yards of members

of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation continued through

of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation continued throughout the month, and the number of other workpeople rendered idle by the dispute further increased (see p. 336), some yards being entirely closed and others almost at a standstill.

In districts not involved in the dispute employment on repair work was moderate on the whole. On the Mersey it remained fair. At the Bristol Channel ports it continued to improve, but was still unsatisfactory. At Falmouth it declined to slack. At Southampton there was a temporary improvement at the beginning of the month. On the Thames employment slightly improved, except with barge repairers, who reported a decline.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed

under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 27th August, 1923. For an explanation of the method of compiling the figures see p. 335.

Divisi	ons.	300	90	Total number of insured contributors unemployed 27th August, 1923.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 23rd July, 1923.
London				3,481	- 219
South Eastern	••			1,307	+ 50
South Western				7,783	- 223
Midlands				264	+ 98
North Eastern				41,039	+ 129
North Western				14.842	+ 1,468
Scotland				40,761	+ 1,635
Wales				4,236	- 393
Northern Ireland	••			6,133	- 341
GREAT BRITAIN AL	ND NOI	RTHE	RN		
IRELAND				J19,846	+ 2,204
Males				119,506	+ 2,220
Females				340	- 16

#### COTTON TRADE.

During August employment continued very depressed in all sections of the industry, except in that portion of the spinning section in which Egyptian cotton is used, which continued to be well employed. The annual holidays were in many cases extended, and production was also greatly curtailed by short time and other means. The American section of the general committee of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations decided, on 10th August, to recommend the continuance of short-time working during September by a curtailment of 50 per cent. in production, exclusive of the annual holidays.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts the number registered as unemployed was 123,916 at 27th August, compared with 122,895 at 23rd July, 1923.

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

se employers who supplied returns for the three dates :-

	Number of Workpeople.			Total all	Wages p Workped	aid to
references a	Week ended 25th	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Week ended 25th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
or vehicle with	Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*
DEPARTMENTS. Preparing	10,582 19,9 1 33,410 7,986 7,608	Per cent 3.2 - 2.5 + 0.4 + 1.6 - 1.5	Per cent 10.7 - 10.4 - 10.8 - 4.9 - 5.1	£ 17,112 32,8+1 55,189 18,158 15,594	Per cent. + 4.4 + 1.7 - 0.7 + 1.9 + 5.7	Per cent 17.6 - 17.5 - 19.6 - 13.5 - 11.2
Total	79,537	- 0.9	- 9.6	138,864	+ 1.5	- 17.2
DISTRICTS. Ashton Stockport, Glossop and Hyde Oldham Bolton and Leigh Bury, Rochdale, Hey- wood, Walsden, and Todmorden Manchester	3,956 5,055 8,209 14,078 6,972 5,629	- 1·7 + 3·0 - 4·1 - 0·2 + 3·5 - 9·2	- 2·9 - 9·4 - 16·8 - 0·5 - 10·1 - 18·0	7,099 7,578 14,689 24,615	+ 7·3 - 0·6 +16.5 + 0 9	- 5.6 - 13.2 - 26.5 - 5.5 - 17.6
Preston and Chorley Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen Burnley, Padiham, Colne	5,942 8,721	- 0·1 + 3·7	- 3·3 - 15·5	9,399 9,885 16,599	- 4·3 - 5·0 - 2·6	- 21.3 - 14·2 - 23·9
and Nelson Other Lancashire Towns Yorkshire Towns Other Districts	2,762 3,604 3,447	+ 1·9 -13·3 - 2·1 - 3·6	- 4.5 - 26.4 - 7.0 - 12.0	22,251 4,447 5,798 5,880	- 1.5 -13.3 - 6.9 +24.3	- 18·3 - 35·7 - 20·3 - 0·3
Total	79,537	- 0.9	- 9.6	138,864	+ 1.5	<del>- 17·2</del>

Returns from firms employing 8,893 workpeople in the Oldham listrict showed that, during the four weeks ended 25th August, learly one-half of these workpeople were on full time, about a purter were working half time, and the remainder were losing time in various other forms, some more and some less than half time. In the other districts the source and some less than half me. In the other districts, taken collectively, about 26 per nt. of the workpeople reported on were on short time, to the tent of about fifteen hours a week on the average, in the week ded 25th August. The districts most affected were again Bury de Rochdale, where 66 per cent. were on short time, to the exnt of fifteen hours a week on the average; and Stockport, where

57 per cent. were on short time, to the extent of thirteen hours a week on the average.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment in

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment in the spinning section continued very bad, although there was some improvement in Oldham and Ashton as compared with July; extended stoppages for the holidays took place. In the manufacturing section employment continued bad. At Bolton and Leigh employment with spinners continued good, but with weavers in the Bolton district it was reported as bad. In the Bury and Rochdale districts there was some improvement as compared with July, but employment was still very bad, and several firms extended their holiday stoppage.

In all the principal weaving districts, including Blackburn, Burnley, Preston and Darwen, employment continued very bad. There was much short time and unemployment, and some of those who were still working were engaged upon less than the normal number of looms. The annual trade holidays at Preston were extended, in many cases, to a fortnight or even more.

were extended, in many cases, to a fortnight or even more.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 46,470,900 lbs. in August, 1923, compared with 35,385,500 lbs. in the previous month and with 74,876,300 lbs. in August, 1922.

The exports of cotton yarn were 12,802,800 lbs. in August, 1923, compared with 9,514,400 lbs. in July, 1923, and 15,408,500 lbs. in August, 1922.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 329,945,600 square yards, as compared with 316,083,600 square yards in the previous month and with 377,985,000 square yards in August, 1922.

### WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

During August employment continued bad, and on the whole was worse than in July. It showed no improvement in the woollen trade, and a further decline in the worsted trade. The usual trade holidays (six days) were extended in many cases; in the Shipley, Bingley, and Keighley districts a large number of firms closed down for a full fortnight, and in the Bradford district the normal six days were in many instances extended to nine or twelve days. Overtime working has almost entirely ceased.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts the number registered as unemployed was 30,506 on the 27th August, compared with 25,536 on the 23rd July, 1923.

#### WOOLLEN TRADE.

Employment confinued bad. In the Huddersfield district one or two firms were busy at the end of the month, getting out orders before the holidays, but most of the works were on short time; in one part of the district, where the trade holidays fell in August, they were extended from the usual week to a fortnight. In the heavy woollen trade in the Dewsbury and Batley district employment was bad, and showed a decline on the whole; though some firms were temporarily busy on urgent orders. In the rag and shoddy trade employment continued bad. In the blanket and rug trade it was fair, and some firms were able to run their machinery at full pressure. At Leeds much under-employment was reported, and in addition a number of piecers and weavers were totally unemployed. Employment with flannel workers continued to be fairly good; though the depression was beginning to be felt in the flannel and blanket trades, which have hitherto largely escaped: some short time was worked, and a few firms extended the trade holidays from a Employment confinued bad. In the Huddersfield district one worked, and a few firms extended the trade holidays from a

week to a fortnight or even longer.

In Scotland the position varied greatly from one firm to another; on the whole there was a further decline, and the output was much below the normal.

The following Table summarises the information received from

on the state of the		umber o		Total all V	Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
1881 13 (2 <u>1)</u> 12.8 3 18	Week ended 25th		(+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (+) er Dec. (-) on a			
constitutions of a	Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*		
Departments. Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not Specified	342 3,688 5,971 4,443 854	Per cent. + 1·2 - 1·2 - 0·8 - 4·2 + 2·3	Per cent. + 5.6 + 1.7 + 1.3 - 1.1 - 3.6	£ 800 7,499 10,758 10,057 1,982	Per cent. + 3.4 + 1.0 + 1.1 - 3.3 - 0.1	Per cent. + 0.6 - 3.1 - 2.2 - 4.5 - 7.2		
TOTAL	15,298	- 1.7	+ 0.5	31,096	- 0.4	- 3.4		
Districts. Huddersfield District Leeds District Dewsbury and Batley	1,270 1,597	Per cent 0.9 - 5.3	Per cent 0.5 - 0.7	£ 3,258 3,446	Per cent. + 3.0 - 3.7	Per cent 2.5 + 0.0		
Other Parts of West Riding	1,630 1,956	+ 1.9	+ 10·7 - 3·4	3,649 4,432	- 4·7 + 0·4	+ 8.8		
Total, West Riding Scotland	6,453 4,687 4,758	- 2.9 - 1.5 - 0.3	+ 1·1 - 3·8 + 3·5	14,785 7,501 8,810	- 1·3 - 3·1 + 3·7	+ 1·0 - 16·7 + 3·1		
TOTAL	15,298	- 1.7	+ 0.5	31,096	- 0.4	- 3.4		

<sup>·</sup> Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

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

Returns from firms employing 14,652 workpeople in the week ended August 25th showed that about 31 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time to the extent of about 12 hours a week

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#### WORSTED TRADE.

Employment was bad, and showed a further decline in all the principal departments. Much short time was reported.

With wool sorters and combers employment was bad, worse than a month earlier, and much worse than in August of last year; practically all the mills were running short time. There was also a decline in the spinning and in the weaving department; spinners of the finest ("botany") wool, and workpeople engaged in weaving departments making fine cloths were particularly slack.

In the Bradford district there was more unemployment and slack time in August than in July. There was also a further marked decline in the Huddersfield district: the worsted trade (and especially the fine worsted trade) in this district was in a much worse position than the woollen trade. Short time was also general in the weaving department at Halifax.

The Control of the Co		umber		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
AT THE RESERVE OF STREET	Week	Inc. (		Week		(+) or -) on a	
	25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Departments. Wood Sorting and Combing Spinning Weaving Other Departments Not specified	4,334 14,773 4,846 3,039 2,322	Per cent. + 1.2 + 0.9 - 1.2 - 1.1 + 3.1	Per cent 5.6 - 0.7 - 7.9 + 6.9 + 3.2	9,587 21,083 9,180 7,157 3,690	Per cent 5·1 - 4·4 - 4·7 - 3·3 - 4·8	Per cent. - 24.4 - 11.9 - 15.2 - 2.0 - 15.5	
TOTAL	29,314	+ 0.5	- 1.7	50.697	- 4.5	- 14.2	
Districts. Bradford District Keighley District Halifax District Huddersfield District	14,942 4,618 2,735 3,130	+ 0.2 + 0.4 + 1.1 + 1.3	- 2.5 - 3.6 - 2.6 - 1.4	27,321 8,503 4,178 4,619	- 5.0 + 2.4 - 0.9 - 13.0	- 13.8 - 6.4 - 18.8 - 27.2	
Other Parts of West	2,417	- 0.1	+ 6.4	3,621	- 8:9	- 13.7	
Total, West Riding Other Districts	27,842 1,472	+ 0.4 + 2.7	- 1·8 + 0·8	48,242 2,455	- 4·6 - 1·7	- 14·5 - 7·1	
TOTAL	29,314	+ 0.5	- 1.7	50,697	- 4.5	- 14.2	

Returns from firms employing 25,882 workpeople in the week ended August 25th showed that about 33 per cent. of these workpeople were working short time to the extent of about 16 hours week on the average.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep or lambs) were 13,182,100 lbs. in August, 1923, compared with 10,709,000 lbs. in July, 1923, and 70,167,700 lbs. in August, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,004,800 lbs., compared with 3,796,200 lbs. in July, 1923, and 4,333,800 lbs. in August, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 19,016,400 square yards, compared with 20,236,600 square yards in July, 1923, and 17,525,900 square yards in August, 1922.

The exports of blankets were 116,984 pairs, 88,443 pairs and 61,457 pairs in August, 1923, July, 1923, and August, 1922, re-

#### BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change in August, and was very slack on the whole, with much short time. During the first few days of the month there was some increased activity in a few districts, resulting from orders due to the holiday season; but the ensuing holidays were very frequently extended to ten days or even longer.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts the number registered as unemployed was 15,644 on the 27th August, as compared with 15,047 on the 23rd July, 1923.

August, as compared with 15,047 on the 23rd July, 1923.

Employment in London showed a further decline, and was much worse than last year. At Leicester employment was slack, and about the same as in July; extended holidays were common. At Hinckley a slight improvement was recorded. There was little change at Northampton; short time working was fairly general, and the holidays were extended in many cases. Employment was poor at Kettering and at Wellingborcugh; few of the factories at Kettering were on full time. In the Higham and Rushden and Irthlingborcugh districts the holidays were extended to ten days, or in some cases a fortnight. At Leeds there was a decline, and employment was bad on the whole, though some firms engaged in the heavy boot trade were well employed. At Norwich employment improved in some sections of the trade and declined in others; on the whole it was slack, with 50 per cent. of the workpeople losing from one-quarter to one-half time; the trade holidays were extended in many cases. Employment at Stafford remained slack. In the Bristol and Kingswood district it showed a further improvement, but most of the factories trict it showed a further improvement, but most of the factories were still working only a little more than half time.

Employment at Arbroath was bad, and worse than in July: while at Glasgow and at Kilmarnock there was also a decline. There was no change at Ayr and at Edinburgh, but an improve-

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

		ber of people.	Work-		Wages pa Workpeo		
	Week ended 25th	Inc. (		Week ended 25th	Inc. (-	+) or -) on a	
	Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	
England and Wales:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
London	1,985 8,756	- 0.8 - 1.8	- 10·2 - 0·9	4,345 19,322	- 2·1 + 2·9	- 17 9 - 6.6	
Leicester Country Dis- trict	2,330 6,915	+ 0.5 + 1.4	- 4·2 - 4·3	4,858 16,193	- 1.9 - 1.6	- 13·3 - 6·5	
Northampton Country District Kettering Stafford and District Norwich and District	7,711 3,426 2,514 3,817	+ 0.7 + 1.5 - 0.8 + 1.8	+ 3·0 + 6·5 + 2·1 - 10.2	17,151 8,667 5,049 7,371	+ 2.5 + 0.1 - 3.3 + 2.6	- 0.7 + 5.9 - 2.0 - 17.0	
Bristol, Kingswood and District Leeds and District	2,262 1,852	+ 0.8 + 2.5	+ 4.9	4,454 3,911	+ 4.4	- 8·9 - 12·8	
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	4,372	- 1.1	+ 5.6	8,954	- 6.8	- 7.0	
Birmingham and Dis- trict	1,006	+ 0.7	_	1,871	- 6.1	- 7.5	
Other parts of England and Wales	1,391	- 0.6	+ 2.1	2,324	- 0.9	- 12.0	
England and Wales _	48,337	+ 0.2	- 0.9	104,470	- 0.1	- 6.8	
Scotland	2,534	+ 1.1	+ 0.1	5,333	+ 5.9	+ 2.0	
United Kingdom	50,871	+ 0.5	- 0.8	109,803	+ 0.5	- 64	

Returns from firms employing 40,172 workpeople in the week ended 25th August, 1923, showed that about 43 per cent. of these workpeople worked short time in that week to the extent of thirteen hours each on an average.

The exports of boots and shoes in August, 1923, amounted to 99,411 dozen pairs, or 2,004 dozen pairs more than in July, 1923, and 24,461 dozen pairs more than in August, 1922.

#### BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades, taken as a whole, was generally fair during August, and again showed an improvement in a number of districts, particularly in London. It was reported as very good in certain districts, including Harrogate, Huddersfield, Mansfield, Oxford, West Middlesex, North-West Surrey, Eastbourne, Bournemouth and Exeter, and a little overtime was worked at some centres; on the other hand, it was reported as bad or very slack in some districts, including Grimsby, Carlisle and Chatham, and slack or quiet at certain other centres, short time being worked in a few cases.

Employment showed some improvement, on the whole, wit Employment showed some improvement, on the whole, with each of the skilled classes of operatives except painters, and in a number of districts a shortage of skilled labour, particularly bricklayers, was again reported. Employment was good in most districts with bricklayers and masons, fairly good with carpenters and joiners, and generally fair with plasterers; it declined a little with painters, but continued fair in most districts; with plumbers it was generally moderate, and it continued bad with builders' labourers and workpeople on construction of works struction of works.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 27th August, 1923, and the increase or decrease in the numbers as compared with 23rd July. For an explanation of the method of compiling the figures, see page 335.

	Number o	of Insured at 27th	Contribute August, 19	ors Unemployed
Divisions.	Building.	Construc- tion of Works.	Total.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 23rd July, 1923.
London South Eastern South Western Midlands North Eastern North Western Sectland Wales Northern Ireland	20,105 9,150 8,223 9,874 10,072 12,178 7,757 2,626 2,615	3,241 2,344 3,088 3,120 3,731 2,882 2,991 1,843 462	23,346 11,494 11,311 12,994 13,803 15,060 10,748 4,469 3,077	- 4,913 + 1,322 + 310 - 567 - 386 - 72 + 706 + 37 + 19
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	82,600	23,702	106,302	- 4,545
Males	82,391 209	23,682	106,073	- 4,571 + 26

<sup>\*</sup> Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

#### BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during August continued fairly EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during August continued fairly good on the whole; there was little change as compared with the previous month, but a considerable improvement on a year ago. It was reported as very good at Peterborough and Oxford, and as good generally in the East Midland and Eastern Counties, but as very slack at Brierley Hill.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number registered as unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades was 4,517 at 27th August, 1923, compared with 4,655 at 23rd July, 1923.

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

nder review :-

	Numbe	r of Wor	kpeople	Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Districts.	ended Dec. (-) on a		Week Inc. (- ended Dec. (-				
	25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	25th Aug., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,240	Per cent. + 0.5	Per cent. + 9.8	£ 3,005	Per cent. + 5.6	Per cent. + 6.4	
fidlands and Eastern Counties	4,300	+ 1.5	+37 7	9,975	+ 29	+36.7	
outh and South-West Counties and Wales	1,138	+ 1.4	+10.7	2,696	- 08	+10.8	
ther Districts	210	- 6.7	+ 1-4	477	- 8.8	- 2.7	
TOTAL	6,888	+ 1.0	+25.6	16,153	+ 2.4	+23.8	

Returns from firms employing 6,104 workpeople show that only about 3 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time, to the extent of 11 hours on the average, during the week ended 25th Anonst.

#### POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades continued slack generally during August, and a decline was reported as compared with the previous month. In the sanitary earthenware and tile sections of the trade, however, it was good. At Poole employment was reported as exceptionally good, at Derby and Worcester as fairly good, and at Bristol as fair.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts the number registered as unemployed was 10,541 at 27th August, 1923, compared with 9,520 at 23rd July, 1923.

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

		umber orkpeop		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 25th	Inc. (	(+) or -) on a	Week ended 25th	Inc. (	+) or -) on a	
The Control of the	August, 1923	Month ago.	Year ago.	August, 1923.	Mouth ago.	Year ago.	
Palvama		Per ceut.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
BRANCHES. China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture	1,326 8.557	- 0.2 - 1.7	- 11.5 + 9.0	2,359 15,041	- 12·3 - 6·6	+13.2	
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,713	- 0.6	+ 9.1	3,082	- 05	- 13.3	
TOTAL	11,596	- 1.4	+ 6.2	20,482	- 6.4	+ 55	
DISTRICTS. Potteries	8,846 2,750	- 1·9 + 0·2	+ 7·8 + 1·4	15,068 5,414	- 6·2 - 7·2	+ 8.0	
TOTAL	11,596	- 1.4	+ 6.2	20,482	- 6.4	+ 5.5	

Returns from employers relating to short time working showed that of 10,890 workpeople employed, 29 per cent. were working, on an average, about 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th August, 1923.

#### SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT with seamen during August was moderate on the whole. It showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month, but at the majority of the ports large numbers of men still failed to obtain engagements.

On the Thames the demand for men was quiet during the first

On the Thames the demand for men was quiet during the first half of August, and brisk afterwards. Employment was very quiet on the Tyne and on the Wear. It was fair at Hull and at Southampton. The demand at Bristol and Avonmouth remained quiet. At Newport it declined, and was reported as quiet at the end of the month. It was fair at Cardiff early in August, but fell off subsequently. Employment at Swansea declined, and was moderate at the end of the month. In the foreign-going trade on the Monroev it was moderate.

on the Mersey it was moderate.

On the Clyde there was a decline early in the month, but employment showed a considerable improvement afterwards.

At the end of the month employment was very quiet at Leith and

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

	Nu	mber of	Seamen*	shipped	in
Principal Ports.	August,		(+) or -) on a	Eight months ended	
	1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.	August,	August 1922.
ENGLAND & WALES:					
East Coast— Tyne Ports Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Grimsby	908 192 457 2,206 57	- 379 - 91 + 298 + 1,546 + 35	- 1,310 - 78 - 21 + 622 + 29	9 719 1,428 3,005 11,754 136	13,766 1,406 2,987 10,198 193
Bristol Channel— Bristol† Newport, Mon. Cardiff‡ Swansea	1,141 712 2,127 773	+ 119 - 287 - 1,042 - 257	- 80 + 85 - 1,116 + 109	8,122 7,743 22,106 6,469	8 427 7,307 24,764 5,130
Other Ports— Liverpool London Southampton	15,207 7,221 11,451	+ 486 + 2,119 + 1,659	- 46 - 350 - 45	102,438 56 223 74,692	92 886 † 6.812 69.705
SCOTLAND:					
Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and	346	- 72	- 13	2,989	2,852
Grangemouth Glasgow	88 3,580	- 328 + 61	- 202 + 182	1,927 23,105	1,956 18 370
NORTHERN IRELAND: Belfast	483	+ 220	+ 199	2,014	2.115
TOTAL	46,949	+ 4,087	- 2,035	333,870	318,874

#### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during August was moderate on the whole

London.—In London employment was affected by the strike during the first half of the month. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in each week of the

	Average Dai Docks and	ly Numbe d at Princ	r of Lal	oourers en arves in I	ployed in condon.	
	In	Docks.				
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.	
Week ended— 4th July, 1923 1lth " 18th " 25th "	2.554 2.652 3.135 5,530	283 279 1,670 3,472	2,837 2,931 4,805 9,002	5,190 5,915 6,831 7,565	8,027§ 8,846§ 11,636§ 16,56 <b>7</b>	
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th Aug., 1923	} 3,503	1,476	4,979	6,395	11,374	
Average for July, 1923	3,286	401	3,687	3,534	7,221§	
Average for Aug., 1922	4,744	2,535	7,279	7 381	14 660	

Tubury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in August was 1,949, as compared with 943 in the previous month, and with 922 in August, 1922.

East Coast.—With coal trimmers on the Tyne and Wear and at Blyth employment continued good; with other classes of workers it was fair on the whole, and better than in July. At Middlesbrough a further decline occurred, but at Hartlepool employment continued good. At other East Coast ports it was fair generally.

Western and Southern Ports—At Liverpool employment was

fair generally.

Western and Southern Ports.—At Liverpool employment was fair, and somewhat better than in the previous month. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the Clearing Houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme, as employed in the four weeks ended 27th August, was 15,049, compared with 14,788 in the five weeks ended 30th July, and with 13,928 in the corresponding period of last year.

At Manchester employment was fairly active on account of the arrears of work accumulated after the dispute.

At the South Wales ports employment was slack. At Swansea, however, it continued good. At Southampton employment

sea, however, it continued good. At Southampton employment was fairly good. At Plymouth it was slack, and at other South-

Western ports it continued fair.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow employment was moderate. It was fair and better than in July at Dundee and

<sup>\*</sup> Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages

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

<sup>\*</sup> It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate gagements, and not of separate individuals.
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
† Including Barry and Penarth.
§ These figures were affected by the strike of dock workers.

## MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\*

The number of persons remaining on the "live registers" of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland—i.e., of applications for employment outstanding from work-people—at 27th August, 1923, was 1,266,128†, of whom 942,513 were men, 44,903 boys, 237,107 women, and 41,605 girls. Compared with 30th July, there was an increase of 31,611, which was distributed as follows: Men, 6,340; women, 14,491; and invented as 10,780

puveniles, 10,780.

During the four weeks ended 27th August the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 59,464, of which 34,690 were for men, 14,991 for women, and 9,783 for juveniles.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 27th August, 1923:—

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	Applica-		Applications outstand- ing at end of week.		
Week ended	tions by Employers.	Vacancies Filled.	Workpeople (Live Register.) †	From Employers	
30th July, 1923	18,847	16,647	1,234,517	18,346	
6th August, 1923	15,523 18,279 19,362 17,047	13,937 14,538 16,195 14,794	1,230,222 1,250,584 1,261,461 1,266,128	16,891 17,647 17,471 16,114	
Total (4 weeks)	70,211	59,464		6 A. 122 1330	

A detailed analysis of the figures in the preceding paragraphs is not yet available, but statistics for the five weeks ended 6th August are dealt with below:—

6th August are dealt with below:—

Applications from Workpeople.—The total number of 677,143 applications from workpeople during the five weeks ended 6th August showed a daily average of 23,350—a decrease of 3.3 per cent., compared with the daily average of the previous month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 14,777, women for 6,063, and juveniles for 2,510—a decrease of 3.6 per cent. and 8.6 per cent. respectively in the case of men and women, and an increase of 15.5 per cent. in the case of juveniles, compared with the previous month.

with the previous month.

Vacancies Notified.—During the five weeks ended 6th August there were 95,496 vacancies notified, representing a daily average of 3,293, as compared with 3,157 during the preceding period. Of this daily average, 1,708 were for men, 1,027 for women, and 558 for juveniles. Compared with the previous month, the daily average number of vacancies notified for men remained about the same, while in the case of women and juveniles there were increases of 11·1 per cent. and 7·1 per cent. respectively.

Vacancies Filled.—The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 80,643—a daily average of 2,781, as compared with 2,621 during the preceding statistical month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 1,533, women for 765, and juveniles for 483. The corresponding figures for the previous month were: Men, 1,517; women, 659; and juveniles, 445.

were: Men, 1,517; women, 659; and juveniles, 445.

Juveniles.—During the period, 35,819 applications were received from boys, and 36,974 from girls. The number of vacancies notified for boys was 8,351, and 7,271 vacancies were filled. In the case of girls, 7,811 vacancies were notified, and 6,745 were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles, 18.4 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

Statistics relating to Building Trades (men) and to Domestic Service occupations (women) for the five weeks ended 6th August have been summarised under the principal occupations, and the outstanding features are dealt with below:—

and the outstanding features are dealt with below:—
In the building trades 10,362 vacancies were notified for men and 8,707 vacancies were filled. The principal occupations concerned were: Carpenters, 2,369 vacancies notified and 2,054 filled; bricklayers, 1,520 vacancies notified and 1,000 filled: painters, 2,464 vacancies notified and 2,181 filled; and builders labourers, 1,540 vacancies and 1,454 placings.

The number of men on the "live register" in the building trades was 66,752† at 6th August, compared with 75.495† at 2nd July.

The number of vacancies notified for women in domestic service during the five weeks ended 6th August was 17,677. Of this number, 7,266 were for resident domestic servants, 3,697 for non-resident domestic servants, 3,432 for charwomen, and 2,232 for waitresses; other domestic occupations accounting for 1,050.

Of the 12,314 vacancies filled, 3,952 were placings in resident domestic service, 2,770 as non-resident, 3,051 as charwomen, and 1,798 as waitresses.

The total number of women remaining registered on 6th August for work in domestic services was 20,783, compared with 30,257 on 2nd July.

The figures above, except those in the first three paragraphs, are exclusive of dock labourers and coal porters. The number of casual jobs found for men in these occupations during the period of five weeks ended 6th August was 2,758.

\* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The figures for Great Britain alone, as already published in the Press, show that on 27th August, 1923, there were on the Live Registers 916,800 men, 225,800 women, and 85,600 juveniles, compared with 1,165,000 men, 235,000 women, and 85,800 juveniles at 1st Janusry, 1923.

† Workmen on short time are not included.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas and for the principal towns therein the number of persons remaining on the "live registers" at the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th August, 1923. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange Area:

London I South Eastern Division Chatham Ipswich Rest of South Eastern  South Western Division Bristol Plymouth Portsmouth Reading Southampton	37,495 46,915 2,567 3,331 3,102 4,227 33,688 55,643 11,692 11,692 11,692 12,293 7,288 1,323 7,288 1,323 24,015	31,796 7,904 302 430 367 727 6,078 9,996 3,692 753 669 139 551	Juveniles.  17,874  4,728 354 437 337 406 3,196 6,022 1,612 424	Total.  186,665 59,547 3,223 4,198 3,806 5,359 42,961 71,661 16,996	with 30th July, 1923.  - 7,763 + 1,630 + 249 + 274 - 104 + 462 + 649
South Eastern Division  Brighton Chatham Ipswich Norwich Rest of South Eastern  South Western Division Bristol Plymouth Portsmouth Reading Southampton	46,915 2,567 3,331 3,102 4,227 33,688 55,643 11,692 5,293 7,288 1,323 5,290 742 24,015	7,904 302 430 367 727 6,078 9,996 3,692 763 669 139	.,728 354 437 337 406 3,195 6,022 1,612	59,547 3,223 4,198 3,806 5,359 42,961 71,661	+ 1,530 + 249 + 274 - 104 + 462
Plymouth	5,293 7,288 1,323 5,290 742 24,015	753 669 139	424		+ 1,937
Rest of South Western		105 4,087	618 291 375 273 2,429	6,470 8,575 1,753 6,216 1,120 30,531	+ 1,351 + 21 + 99 + 183 - 723 + 135 + 871
Midlands Division Birmingham Coventry Cradley Heath Derby Leicester Northampton Nottingham Smethwick Stoke-on-Trent Walsall West Bromwich Wolverhampton Rest of Midlands	128,707 29,947 4,723 4,031 1,840 3,341 1,441 7,099 3,815 8,578 4,756 3,165 5,955 45,016	\$5,589 9,050 624 946 645 1,568 2,072 1,130 4,697 751 484 1,842 11,432	10,486 2,170 352 167 294 260 159 420 418 641 895 177 354 4,129	169,732 41,167 5,699 5,104 2,779 5,159 9,591 5,363 13,916 6,402 3,826 8,151 60,577	+ 10,630 + 2,473 + 967 + 386 - 292 + 1,016 + 77 + 612 + 129 - 1,632 + 350 + 76 + 57 + 3,157
North Eastern Division.  Barnsley.  Bradford.  Darlington  Dewsbury  Doncaster  Gateshead  Grimsby.  Halifax.  Hartlepool  Huddersfield  Huil  Leeds  Lincoln  Middlesbrough.  Newcastle-on-Tyne  Rotherham  Sheffield  South Shields  Stockton-on-Tees  Sunderland  York  Rest of North Eastern	192,656 1,082 6,629 2,268 1,024 218 5,866 1,483 2,148 6,916 3,016 3,022 9,224 18,411 2,446 21,842 6,562 8,110 15,558 1,588 53,789	27,298 225 3,212 145 254 176 4/9 160 1,525 220 1,752 894 3,510 3,510 2,178 24,178 343 167 821 299,141	18,254 98 294 159 80 182 589 153 169 276 238 1,010 1,107 243 1,359 315 1,646 409 392 860 549 2,919	### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##	+ 75 + 378 + 998 + 1,314 + 2
North Western Division Accrington Ashton-under-Lyne Barrow Birkenhead Blackburn Blackpool Bolton Burnley Bury Chorley Liverpool Manchester Nelsou Oldham Preston Rochdale St. Helens Salford Stockport Warrington Wigan Rest of North Western Scotland Division Aberdeen Clydebank Dundee Edinburgh Glasgow Greenock Motherwell Paisley Rest of Scotland Wales Division Cardiff Llanelly Newport Swansea Rest of Wales Northern Ireland Belfast Londonderry Lurgan Lisburn Newry Rest of Northern Newry Rest of Northern Ireland	192,542 2,327 2,327 3,231 6,401 6,707 4,181 4,221 1,167 4,211 1,762 1,163 1,16	88,338 1,561 2,135 312 423 3,877 201 1,811 5,219 1,815 427 5,522 6,521 704 11,574 2,306 4,844 286 4,121 3,098 3,932 26,856 22,477 78 2,41 1,688 687 164 7,44 6,718 2,356 588 98 1191	### ### #### #########################	\$02,076 4,089 5,642 7,249 8,298 8,601 662 8,133 9,992 3,836 1,696 52,384 31,537 1,906 28,111,462 2,911 13,772 7,156 3,321 6,844 78,586 171,094 6,334 4,722 11,966 2,068 6,976 41,940 84,200 6,511 577 2,683 2,906 21,536 22,906 21,536 37,958 23,487 2,874 1,154 8,624	+ 13,181 - 185 + 13 - 166 + 1,064 - 1,385 - 167 - 1,385 - 103 - 136 - 291 - 136 - 291 + 643 + 7,077 - 997 - 494 - 495 - 496 - 496 - 306 - 307 - 308 - 308
Total Gt. Britain and	942,513			1,266,128	21 011

#### UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AT 27th AUGUST, 1923.

UNDER the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 and 1921, substantially all persons for whom Health Insurance contributions have been paid, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Employees of local authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation chème, may, in certain circumstances, be exempted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under 16 years of age. An applicant for unemployment benefit must, inter alia, prove continuous unemployment, and it is provided that for this purpose any three days of unemployment within a period of six consecutive days shall be treated as a continuous period of unemployment, and any two such continuous periods separated by a period of less than three weeks shall be treated as one continuous period of unemployment. Persons employed in establishments where, owing to trade depression, the number of working days has been reduced on a systematic basis in such a manner as to fall within the above provision are accordingly eligible for benefit. Payment of unemployment, benefit is subject to certain statutory conditions and provision are accordingly eligible for benefit. Payment of unem-ologous benefit is subject to certain statutory conditions and disqualifications. Concurrently with the exchange of Insurance Books in the middle of July opportunity has been taken to revise the classification of insured workpeople so as to bring it, so far as practicable, into conformity with the industrial grouping adopted in connection with the 1921 Census of population. Since the composition of the several industrial groups has undergone

modification this change, which will have great permanent advantages, has the temporary disadvantage of making the returns given in this and subsequent issues of the GAZETTE not returns given in this and subsequent issues of the GAZETTE not strictly comparable with those in issues prior to July 1923. In the present issue the numbers of persons unemployed are arranged according to the industry of the employers by whom they were last employed. At the annual exchange of insurance books insured persons are being classified according to the industry of their present or last employer, under precisely the same groupings as those presented below. Some two or three months will elapse before the results of that tabulation are available, and until then it will not be possible to give the total numbers of insured persons in each industry, and consequently it will not be possible to give during that period the industrial percentages of unemployment which have been regularly given in recent years. As soon as the totals referred to are available the full Table of figures will be restored and comparative statistics will be presented for each of the intervening months.

full Table of figures will be restored and comparative statistics will be presented for each of the intervening months.

It should be noted that in arriving at the figures shown in the Table below account is taken not only of claims to benefit current at the date of the return, but also of a due proportion of claims to benefit in respect of systematic short time.\* The figures also include insured persons who, though not claiming benefit, are either maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges or are known to be unemployed.

known to be unemployed.

Insured persons who have lost their employment owing to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which they were employed are not generally eligible for benefit, and are not included in the figures.

						1		Contraction of the Contraction o			
INDUSTRY.	MEN.	WOMEN.	JUVE- NILES.	TOTAL.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 23rd July, 1923.	INDUSTRY.	MEN.	WOMEN.	JUVE- NILES.	TOTAL.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 23rd July, 1923.
Building	81,209	188	1,203	82,600 23 702	- 4,619	Commercial, Banking, Insurance,				HE HA	Exchange of
Construction of Works	23,529 1,609	20 24	153 73	1,606 .	+ 74 - 380	Finance	5,746 10,380	1,157 250	345 134	7,248	+ 5 - 739
Electrical Wiring and Contracting Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Engineering: Engineers' Iron	117,704	334	1,808	119 846 -	+ 2,204	Tramway and Omnibus Service	3,140 25,202	95 83	48 357	3,283 25,642	- 93 - 131
and Steel Founding	131,436	2,368	2,241	136,045	- 955	Fishing Shipping Service	2,987 20,758	61 335	75 352	3,123 21,445	+ 161 - 527
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., Making and General lion Founding	14,126	770 481	444 208	15,340 4,009	+ 346	Canal, River, Dock, Harbour	3 All (1997)	113	147		
Electrical Engineering Marine Engineering and Marine	3,320				\$1600 St	Service	45,553			45,813	− <b>€,</b> 640
Boiler Making Constructional Engineering	16,511 2,353	38 35	226 37	16,775 2.425	+ 1,931	tion and Storage	4,660 42,720	397 441	1,145	5,141 44,306	-150 + 6,600
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Aircraft	18,911	1,480	864	21,255	+ 2,557	Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	4,383	3	65	4,451	- 121
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	3,700	217	112	4,029	+ 288	Lead, Tin and Copper Mining Stone Quarrying and Mining	1,091	15	25	1,104	- 20 + 345
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramear Building	2,314	35	37	2,386	_ 115	Slate Quarrying and Mining Other Mining and Quarrying	1,602	183	35	1,820	- 56 + 7
Saw Milling and Machined Wood work	6,204	199	330	6,733	+ 95	Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	674	34	8	716	+ 90
Furniture M'kg, Upholstering, etc. Wood Box and Packing Case M'kg	6,880	1,168 241	425 112	8,473 2,151	+ 1,168	Paper and Paper Board Making	3,083	977	213	4,273	- 339
Other Woodworking	2,947	1,110	214	4,271	+ 370 - 406	Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	1,085	2,760	304	4,149	- 79
Explosives Manufacture	10,103	1,582	392	12,077	- 206	Printing, Publishing and Book-		3,818		ACCUSAGE A	HA TO THE REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PERTY ADD
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match etc., Manufacture	5,048	1,419	341	6,808 931	- 780	binding Wall Paper Making and Paper	8,633		755	13,206	+ 333
Paint, Varnish. Japan, Red and	897	26	8		- 128	Stationery and Typewriter Requi-	138	69	16	223	-+ 13
White Lead Manufacture Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast	445	127	44	616	- + 38	sites (Not Paper)	104	149	44	297	+ 38
Furnaces)	3,917	8	29	3,954	+ 1,027	Woollen and Worsted Industry	40,511 12,769	75,789 16,284	7,616 1,453	123,916 30,506	+ 1,021 + 4,970
Rolling Mills	44,936	376	1,159	46,471	+ 1,668	Silk industry	1,028 4,544	1,920 10,533	185 813	3,133 15,890	+ 577
Zinc. Tin, Lead, etc Manufacture of Tin Plates	6,182 1,347	503 229	172 105	6,857 1,681	+ 94 + 615	Jute Industry Weaving,	1,734	2,650	74	4,458	- 78
Electrical Cable, Wire & Electric	SECTION STATES	2,138	556	7,219	- 127	Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	868 1,682	1,885 5,714	221 769	2,974 8,165	- 15 + 1,106
Lamp Manufacture Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File M'kg	4,525	886	229	4,928	- 335	Lace Industry	2,963	2,173	164	5,300	- 109
From and Steel Tube Making Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope	3,921		75			Other Textile industries	620 1,471	762 4,685	74 506	1,456 6,662	+ 146 + 470
Bolt, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails,	2,123	309	163	2,595	+ 180	Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dye- ing, etc	11,735	3,742	588	16,065	+ 2,413
etc., Manufacture Heating and Ventilating Engin-	3,077	1,926	251	5,254	+ 130	Tailoring Dress and Mantle Making and	6,962	10,525	1,363	18,850	+ 6,324
eering Brass and Allied Metal Wares	291	13	11	315	- 66	Hat and Cap (Including Straw	937	7,324	1,284	9,545	+ 2,219
Manufacture Other Metal Industries	4,322 12,030	2,320 6,764	261	6,903	+ 206 + 931	Plait) Manufacture	1,139	1,730	176	3,045	+ 221
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	4,271	2,058	168	6,497	- 260	clothing, etc., Making Other Dress Industries	339 1,290	4,304 2,749	417 334	5,060 4,373	+ 65 + 465
Musical Instrument Making Scientific and Photographic In-	1,046	128	58	1,232	- 205	Boot, Shoe, Slippers and Clog	11,229	3,710	705	15,644	+ 597
strument and Apparatus Manu-	685	156	52	893	- 33	Bread, Biscuit, Cake, &c., Making	11,025	3,366	990	15,381	- 473
facture Toys, Games and Sports Requisites						Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture	1,094	2,026	183	3,303 1,708	+ 159
Manufacture	593	587 2,480	113 299	1,293 6,787	+ 77	Grain Milling (ocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con-	1,427	243	38	The state of the s	- 113
Tanning, Currying and Leather Dressing	4,029	946	183	5,158	+ 388	Other Food Industries	1,868	4,518 6,343	682	10,617	+ 1,603
Dressing	1,968	1,146	162	3,276	- 32	Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply	4,893	1,934	240	7,067	+ 618
Bricks, Pipes, Tiles, Fireclay Goods		860	137	4,517	- 138	Industries Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufac-	11,874	333	92	12,299	- 147
Manufacture	4,426	5,563	542	10,541	+ 1,021	ture	436 481	98 487	11 54	545 1,022	- 266 + 15
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting	1,798	25	35	1,858	STATE OF THE PARTY OF	Distributive Trades	50,131 17,308	20,708 2,070	7,007	77,846 19,594	+ 3,338
Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Man-				A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		Local Government	14,100 2,990 5,398	410	74 213	14.584	+ 126 - 58
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical	1,470	80	22	1,572	+ 49	Professional Services	5,398	1,219	245	4,422 7,857	- 510
& Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making	7,379 3,191	343 149	166 254	3,888 3,t94	- 403 - 182	Other Industries and Services	26,097	2,876	637	29,610	+ 1,504
Services Club	10,631	14,424	959	26,014	+ 702	Total Control of Contr		Q 20 3 A 1	CONTRACTOR OF STREET	23/20/20/20	
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Clean- ing	1,062		344	5,981	+ 632	Totals		277,831	49,641	1,354,750	+ 30,249
				SECTION.		etic short time at 27th August was 72 0	CONTRACTOR OF STREET	70 304	The Action	- 00 515 -	4:

The number of insured contributors claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time at 27th August was 72,067, of whom 37,384 were men, 29,515 women, and 5,168 juveniles. Of these, about one-half may be assumed to have been unemployed at the date of the return, and these have been included in the figures.

#### TRADE DISPUTES.\*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.-The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 45, as compared with 37 in the previous month and 32 in August, 1922. In these new disputes, approximately 6,700 workpeople were directly involved, and 2,300 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 59,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 28 disputes which began before August, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 73, involving approxinumber of new and old disputes was thus 73, involving approximately 68,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during August of about 1,200,000 working days. The dispute involving members of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders in federated shipyards, which began on 30th April, continued throughout August. The strike of dock workers which began in July and was still in progress in London at the beginning of August, was settled on 20th August. A settlement was also affected in the case of the protracted dispute in the Dundee jute industry.

the Dundee jute industry.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in August by groups of industries :-

Groups of Industries.		er of Dispuess in Au	Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration inWorking	
	Started before 1st August.	Started in August.	Total.	volved in all Dis- putes in progress in August.	Days of all Dis- putes in progress in August.
Building Mining & Quarrying Metal, Engineering	5 2 7	5 7 6	10 9 13	1,000 8,000 37,000	16,000 80,000 856,000
and Shipbuilding Textile Transport Other Trades	1 2 11	5 6 16	6 8 27	1,000 19,000 2,000	14,000 214,000 20,000
Total, August, 1923	28	45	73	68,000	1,200,000
Total, July, 1923	37	37	74	95,000	1,665,000
Total, August, 1922_	85	32	67	31,000	312,000

Causes .- Of the 45 disputes beginning in August, 11, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 17, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, on other wages questions; 7, directly involving 600 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 4, directly involving 2,100 workpeople, on questions of unionism and non-unionism; and 6, directly involving 1,100 workpeople, on other questions

Results.—Settlements were effected during August in the case of 28 new disputes, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, directly involving 23,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 11, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 12, directly involving 19,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 19, directly involving 5,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 4 disputes, directly involving 300 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1922 AND 1923.+

	Janu	ary to Aug	ust, 1922.	January to August, 1923.			
Groups of Industries.	No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people involved in all Dis- putes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Dis- putes in progress,	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work- people involved in all Dis- putes in progress.	Aggrega Duration in Work ing Days of all Dis putes in progress.	
Building	49	8,000	143,000	43	18,000	347,000	
Mining and Quarrying	116	104,000	1,217,000	114	142,000	1,004,000	
Engineering and Ship-	45	750 000+	17,122,0001	70	40,000	0000000	
building Other Metal	43	10,000	250,000	39 30	42,000 5,000	2,908,000	
m411-	14	4,000	56,000	23	35,000	64,000 1,213.000	
Clothing	18	3,000	45,000	18	4,000	28,000	
Transport	30	5,000	49,000	39	56,000	972,000	
Agriculture and Fishing Printing, Paper, &c.,	3	2,000	53,000	7	9,000	248,000	
Trades Woodworking and Fur-	9	19,000	318,000	12	6,000	169,000	
nishing	16	1,000	35,000	18	2,000	34,000	
Pottery, etc	9	1,000	25,000	22	3,000	67.000	
Food, &c., Trades	14	4,000	61,000	17	9,000	154,000	
Other Trades	18	2,000	25,000	33	3,000	13,000	
Employees of Public Authorities	26	4,000	89,000	25	4,000	58,000	
Total	409	523,000	19,488,000	440	338,000	7,279,000	

Occupations and Locality. §	Number	ximate of Work- nvolved.	Date whe	n Dispute	Cause or Object.§	Result.\$
Occupations and Locality,	Directly.	Indi- rectly.§	Began.	Ended.		Has lings investing the
MINING AND QUARRYING:— Coal miners, etc. — Whitehaven (near).	2,4	1 123	1923. 15 May	1923. 6 Sept.	Dispute as to proposed change in method of working and altera-	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Coal miners, etc.—Newcastle-on- Tyne (near)	1,3	300	11 June	10 Aug.	tions in rates of wages of hewers. Refusal to work with certain men who had left the Miners' Association and joined the Deputies' Association.	Some of the men in question re joined the Miners' Association Subsequently the miners decide to resume work so far as work
Coal miners, etc.—Cardiff (near).  METAL. FNGINEERING, AND SHIP-	2,0	000	2 Aug.	4 Aug.	Refusal to work with non- members of the South Wales Miners' Federation.	ing places remained available.  Non-members joined the Federation.
BUILDING:— Platers, rivetters, caulkers, etc. (shipbuilding and repairing) and other workpeople—Federated Districts.	10,000¶	24,000¶	30 April		Lock-out to enforce acceptance of an Agreement governing overtime and night-shift work- ing mide between the Em- ployers' Federation and the	No settlement reported.
Patternmakers (light castings manufacture) — Falkirk and other centres.	350		30 July	29 Aug.	Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Traces. Strike in Falkirk and Luton districts against proposed reduction in wages, followed by lock-out of members of the United Patternmakers' Association employed at other centres by firms affiliated to the National Light Castings	Reduction in wages in Falkir and Luton districts to take effect by two instalments.
TEXTILE TRADES:— Jute workers—Dundee.	900**		23 Feb.	29 Aug.	Ironfounder. Federation. Dispute respecting the number of spinuers to be employed on certain frames at one establish-	(See page 324.)
CRANSPORT:— Dock labourers, lightermen, etc.— London††	18,000‡‡		3 July	20 Aug.	ment. Against reduction in minimum wag of 1s. per day, with corre- sponding reduction in piece- work rates, in accordance with terms of national agreement of September, 1922. (See page 239 of July GAZETTE and page 280	Work resumed on terms of the national agreement.
Canal boatmen, carters, ware- housemen, and other work people.— Birmingham, Midlands, London, Ellesmere Post, etc.	617	67	13 Aug.		of August GAZETTE.) Against proposed reduction in wages of caual boatmen.	No settlement reported.
OTHER TRADES:— Sawyers, wood-cutting machinists and labourers.—Belfas.	.300		6 Aug.	11 Aug.	For advance in wages	Modified advance granted.

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

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than one in the totals; the extent of such duplication is, however, very slight.

† Two disputes which together involved about 350,000 workpeople occurred in 1922 in the engineering and shipbuilding industries.

† The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons

| The districts involved include the Clyde, East Scotland, North-East Coast, Hull, Southampton, Birkenhead, and Barrow.

| Estimated numbers involved by the end of August, exclusive of workpeople unemployed when the stoppage began.

| Estimated number involved in August. For numbers involved at earlier dates see the article on page 324.

| Estimated number.

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

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in August in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an in August in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £24,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 250,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £14,000 in the weekly wages of over 180,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected are as follows:—

Group of Industries.	Approx Number people af		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.		
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases	
Iron and Steel Other Metal cextile Public Utility Services Other	147,000 31,000 56,000 — 15,000	350 13,750 250 96,000 72,500	£ 16,300 2,£00 3,900 — 1,200	£ 35 1,050 10 6,000 6,900	
Total	249,000	182,850	23,900	13,995	

In the iron and steel group, steel smelters and millmen in various districts in England and Scotland had their wages increased by 5 per cent. on standard rates (generally equivalent to an increase of about 3\frac{3}{4} per cent. on current rates), and in consequence of this change there were also increases in the wages of a large number of subsidiary workers in iron and steel works. The current rates of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands and of steel sheet millmen generally were increased by about 5 per cent., while there was an increase of 5 per cent. on the standard rates of Siemens steel workers in South and West Wales (equivalent to nearly 3\frac{1}{2} per cent. on current rates in the case of the lower-paid men).

In the other metal group there was an increase of nearly 3\frac{1}{2} per cent. on current rates in the wages of tinplate workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire. There were decreases of varying amounts in the wages of certain classes of workpeople in the Thames ship repairing industry, and in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for women and girls in the stamped or pressed metal wares trade.

stamped or pressed metal wares trade.

The principal change in the textile group was an increase of 1d. on each shilling earned in the bonus of hosiery workers in the Midlands. There were also increases in the wages of hosiery bleachers, dyers, etc., amounting in the case of adult timeworkers to ½d. or ¾d. per hour.

In the public utility services there was a decrease of 1s. per week in the wages of tramway workers in most of the principal towns in Great Britain. Workpeople employed in the non-trading departments of various local authorities in the London district had their bonuses reduced, and reductions in wages were also sustained by similar classes in Northumberland and Durham, and by employees of electricity supply undertakings in the North-Western Counties of England, and in Scotland. In trades other than the above the principal reductions affected

In trades other than the above the principal reductions affected men employed in flour mills, iron ore miners in Cumberland, heavy chemical workers in Scotland, leather belt makers, and furniture trade operatives in London and at Manchester. Furniture trade operatives at High Wycombe received an increase in wages

Under the Trade Boards Acts there were decreases (in addi-

Under the Trade Boards Acts there were decreases (in addition to those mentioned above) in the minimum rates fixed for workpople in the hair, bass and fibre and the made-up textile trades in Great Britain and for certain classes in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Scotland and the hat, cap and millinery trade in Northern Ireland.

Of the decreases taking effect in August, twenty-four, amounting to nearly £9,100 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; thirteen, amounting to £6,700 per week, were arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople (including £6,350 under cost of living sliding scales, incorporated above); five, amounting to £2,700 per week, took effect under Trade Board Orders; two, amounting to £500 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; six, amounting to £130 per week, were arranged by arbitration; and the remaining eighteen cases, amounting to £1,230 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties, or by individual action on the part of employers. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppages of work accounted for less than £120 per week. Of the increases in wages, fifty, amounting to £19,300 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices or the proceeds of the industry; eight, amounting to over £4 400 mer week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales: or the proceeds of the industry; eight, amounting to over £4,400 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; and the remaining six were arranged by direct negotiation or

#### Summary of Changes in January-August, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the eight completed months of 1923:—

Group of Industries.	Approx Number peo affected	of Work- ple†	Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.		
ngion and between the	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases	
			£	£	
Building	2,900	464,000	590	74,900	
Mining and Quarrying -	928,000	16,000	257,300	2,500	
Iron and Steel	145,000	5,000	32,000	1,000	
Engineering and Ship-	The second second				
building	5,000	155,000	550	27,300	
Other Metal	29,000	143,000	3,000	26,600	
Textile	300	190,000	60	17,900	
Clothing	1,000	541,000	30	85,800	
Transport	2,750	730,000	275	120,700	
Paper, Printing, &c Furniture and Wood-		163,000	-	19,000	
	100	54,000	15	11,400	
Chemical, Glass, Brick,	100	04,000	10	11,400	
Pottery, &c	200	123,000	30	20,500	
Food, Drink and Tobacco	100	239,000	10	32,600	
Public Utility Services	1,850	299,000	200	48,000	
Other		107,000	-	14,600	
Total	1,116,200	3,229,000	294,060	502,800	

In the corresponding eight months of 1922 there was a net reduction of over £3,600,000 in the weekly wages of 7,500,000 workpeople, and a net increase of nearly £3,500 in the wages of 18,000 workpeople.

#### Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in August.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN PATES OF WAGES REPORTED DUDING AUGUST

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.  (Decreases in italice).
	Service State Stat	and the same	BUILDING AND ALLIED	TRADES.
	Gravesend, North- fleet and District	23 Aug	Building trade operatives	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5½d.) and ¾d. per hour for labourers (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1½d.).
	Aberystwyth	1 Aug.	Building trade operatives	Decreaset of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: crafts-
Building	Aberdeen Dundee and Dis- trict	21 Aug. 16 July	Plumbers	men, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s. Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). (See Decision No. 837 on p. 349).
	Douglas and Dis- trict (Isle of Man)	1st pay day in Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plas- terers and painters	Decreaset of ½d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 3½d.).
	tori to dis territori	ton officer	MINING AND QUARRY	NG.
Coal Mining	Radstock	30 Aug.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those workpeople whose wages are regulated by movements	Increase of 0.64 per cent. on standard base rates of 1918, making wages 36.52 per cent. above the standard of 1918.

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of general changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, are included in the list of principal changes reported. The statistics relate to full-time rates of wages, and do not take into account the effect of short time working.

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 120,000 workpeople (mainly in the iron and steel and textile trades) whose wages have been both increased and reduced during the year.

‡ The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

#### PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1923—(continued)

Industry.	Locality,	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
AND THE LABOR			MINING AND QUARRYING—(	continued)
Coke and By-	West Yorkshire	1 Aug.	Cokemen and by product	Increase* of 10.25 per cent. on standard base rate making wages 60.60 per cent. above the standard Rates after change: coke fillers, 6s. 2d. per day rammen and pipe fitters. 6s.: trammers. dauber
Manufacture	South Wales	1 Aug.	Cokemen and by - product	winchmen, coke screeners, scrubbers, 5s. 9d.; pu mill men and labourers, 5s. 4d., plus in each cas 60.60 per cent. Increase of 2½ per cent. on standard base rates 1916 and 1917, making wages 25 to 35 per cent. above the standard.†
	Cumberland	20 Aug.	Winding enginemen Other underground and surface	Decrease* of 6d. per shift in the bargain price (11s. 5d to 10s. 11d.), and of 6d. per shift in the minimum wage (8s. 9d. to 8s. 3d.).  Decrease* of 4½d. per shift (9s. 9½d. to 9s. 5d.).
Iron Mining	North Lincoln	5 Aug.	workers	for boys under 16 years of age. Rates after change underground 1st class or leading labourers, 6s. 10d per shift; blacksmiths, 9s. 7d. per shift.
	shire West Cumberland	13 Aug.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen  Limestone quarrymen	Increase* of 7½ per cent. on standard rates of 190 making wages 50¾ per cent. above the standard, plu 1s. 1d. per shift.  Decrease* of 3d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiner
Quarrying	South-West of Englandt	1st pay	Roadstone quarryworkers	of 4½d. per shift for other men, and of 2½d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: da borers (1st class), 8s. 9½d.; day labourers, 8s. 1½d ruddmen, 7s. 7½d. per shift.
AND THE PARTY OF		June	IRON AND STEEL MANUFA	The residence of the section of the
	ESS SHARKS	(	Blastfurnacemen	Increase* of 7½ per cent. on standard rates of 1909 making wages 50% per cent. above the standard. Mini
Pig Iron Manufacture	North Lincoln-shire	5 Aug. {	Engineers, electricians, apprentices, improvers, etc., employed on maintenance work at ironstone mines, at blast furnaces, and in steel works	mum rate after change for labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift plus 50½ per cent., plus 1s. 1d. per shift.  Increase* of 4 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 35½ per cent. above the standard plus a tonnage bonus. Rates after change: patternmakers, 44s.; boiler smiths, 43s.; fitters, turners, smiths, electricians and armature winders, 42s.; machinemen (millers, borers planers, etc.), 30s. to 38s.; strikers (after one year' service), 32s. 6d.; plus, in each case, 35½ per cent., plu a tonnage bonus.
	England and West of Scotland	5 Aug.	Men employed in steel smelting shops:— Melters, 'pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producermen and charge wheelers Semi-skilled workers and labourers:— Men on 8-hour shifts¶  Men whose wages are based on a 47-hour week¶	Increase,* under sliding scale, of 5 per cent. on the standard of 1905, making wages 383 per cent. (basi process) and 133 per cent. (acid process) above the standard.  Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rates of 1921, making wages 383 per cent. above the standard.  Increase* of ,†2 of the total amount of advance in wage given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making the total decrease in such advance since 1 May, 1921
	England and West of Scotland	5 Aug.	Roll turners	about 80 per cent. Increase* of the total amount of advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making the total decrease in such advance since 1 May, 1921
Soli o sau e GOO (Frair to Torresponde	England and Wales Certain districts in England**	6 Aug. 5 Aug.	Steel sheet millmen  Bricklayers employed at blast- furnaces and in iron and steel works Semi-skilled workers, labourers,	about 80 per cent. Increase* of 8 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 70 per cent. above the standard of 1891. Increase* of 5 per cent. on basis rate, making wages 11:375d. per hour, plus 383 per cent., plus a tonnage bonus.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Australia de Sancial Ses Al Indiana	CHOSO	eto., in puddling forges and rolling mills:—  Men on 8-hour shifts¶  Men whose wages are based on a 47-hour week¶	Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 383 per cent. above the standard.  Increase* of 182 of the total amount of advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making the total decrease in such advance since 1 May, 1921
	North of England	5 Aug.	Engineers, electricians, strikers, motor attendants, are lamp trimmers, boilermakers, patternmakers, employed at blastfurnaces and in iron and steel works	about 80 per cent.  Increase* of **rf** of the total amount of advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30 April, 1921, making the total decrease in such advance since 1 May, 1921 about 80 per cent.
	Managida (asstai	E 4	Bricklayers' labourers at blast- furnaces and in iron and steel works	Increase* of 0.40d. per hour (9.85d. to 10.25d.).
\$ 15 AZ	Tees-side /certain works)	5 Aug.	Men employed on direct pro- duction in steel rolling mills Steel millmen, engineers' labourers and general	Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 38% per cent. above the standard.  Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 38% per cent. above the standard.
	Workington Barrow-in-Furness	5 Aug. 6 Aug.	labourers Engineers employed at steel works Wire and hoop millmen	Increase* of 5 per cent. on standard rate, making rate 42s. per week, plus 38% per cent., plus a tonnage bonus. Increase* of 7% per cent. on standard rates, making wages
	Shotton	5 Aug.	Steel melters, gas producer- men, steel rolling mill workers, etc., and semi-skilled and unskilled workmen	57½ per cent. above the standard rates, making wages 57½ per cent. above the standard rates, making wages 28½ per cent. above the standard plus an additional 2 per cent. to those with a base rate of not more than 30s. per week, an additional 6d. per shift to those with a base rate of 30s. 1d. to 40s. per week, and an additional 4d. per shift to those with a base rate of 40s. 1d. to 50s. per week.

\*|This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.

† The above increase was given under the terms of an agreement by which it was decided that two reductions totalling 17½ per cent. which were made in December, 1921, and May, 1922, should be partially restored to the extent of 5 per cent. on 1st February, 5 per cent. on 1st May, and 2½ per cent. on 1st August, 1923.

‡ Including Berkshire, Cernwall, Devonshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire, Somerset, and Wiltshire.

§ This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

| The change applied to firms who are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, those in England being situated principally in the North-East Coast district, Cumberland, Lancashire, South and West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and the Midlands.

¶ The men on 8-hour shifts referred to are those who do not receive allowance hours and/or extra payment for night shift during the normal week. The men whose passed on a 47-hour week are member, men in engineering shows or working with craftsmen, who receive the allowance or extra payment mentioned.

whose wages are based on a 47-hour week are mainly men in engineering shops or working with craftsmen who receive the allowance or extra payment mentioned.

\*\* The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association the West Coast Ironmasters' Association, and the Lincolnshire Ironmasters' Association with the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1923-(continued). Date from which change took effect. Particulars of change. Industry. Locality. Classes of Workpeople. (Decreases in italics.) IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE -(continued). Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers, engineers' labourers and general lebourers and general Scunthorpe 5 Aug labourers, etc. joiners' Increase\* of 0.48d. per hour (9.86d. to 10.34d.). Bricklayers' and labourers
Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen
Non-scale workers (chiefly labourers, etc.)

Increase\* of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages
57½ per cent. above the standard.
War bonus increased\* by 1s. 6d. per week for men, 9d.
per week for youths 18 to 21 years of age, and 4½d. Increase\* of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 57½ per cent. above the standard.

War bonus increased\* by 1s. 6d. per week for men, 9d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years of age, and 4½d. per week for boys under 18.

Increase to a uniform basis rate of 8s. per shift for locomotive drivers and to 7s. for shunters.

Increase\* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 28½ per cent. above the standard, plus an additional 20 per cent. to those with a base rate of not more than 30s. per week, an additional 6d. per shift to those with a base rate of 30s. 1d. to 40s. per week, and an additional 4d. per shift to those with a base rate of 40s. 1d. to 50s. per week, and an additional 3d. per shift for boys under 18 years of age.

Basis rate increased from 7.33d. per hour to 7.66d. per hour (plus the percentage and other additions mentioned above). Midlands (including parts of South Yorkshire and South Lan-6 Aug. cashire) Lecomotive drivers and shunters in Siemens steel works Workpeople (excluding main-tenance men) engaged in Siemens steel manufacture 30 July 5 Aug. Fron and Steel South and West Manufacture (contd.) Lower paid labourers in Siemens steel works Men employed in steel rolling Increase\* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 38% per cent. above the standard. Millmen, gas producermen, enginemen, cranemen, firemen, etc.
Semi-skilled workers and labourers Increase of the total amount of advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, making a total decrease in such advance since 1st May, 1921, about 80 per cent.

Bricklayers' labourers in steel

Bricklayers' labourers in steel

Bricklayers' labourers in steel

Bricklayers' labourers in steel West of Scotland ... 5 Aug. ENGINEERING, SHIPBUIL DING, ETC. Gravesend, Maid-stone, Northfleet and Rochester; Basis rate fixed at ½d. per hour above the basis rate for fitters and turners during the first six months of employment as a millwright, and at 1d. per hour above the rate for fitters and turners after serving continuously for six months as a millwright.

Rate adopted for a 47-hour week of 1s. 1d. per hour, plus a war bonus of 10s. per week. 1st pay after Skilled millwrights 18 Aug. Engineering London District § 1st pay after Skilled moulders ... Burton-on-Trent ... 1 July Ironmoulders and pattern-Seel footnote below. makers
Ship wrights, blacksmiths, joiners, painters, sheet metal workers, french polishers, electricians' assistants, rivet heaters under 18 years, galleymand tiles Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change: ship-wrights and blacksmiths, 63s. 6d.; painters, joiners and sheet metal workers, 65s.; french polishers, 64s. 6d.; electricians' assistants, 50s.; rivet heaters under 18 years, 27s. 9d.; galleymen and tilers, 58s. 6d. men and tilers Decrease of 2½d. per day (except Saturday). Rate after change: Saturday, 7s. 9d.; other weekdays, 11s. 2d. Decrease of 1s. 2d. per week (54s. 6d. to 53s. 4d.). Decrease of 1s. per week for platers, rivetters, Riggers 1 Aug. Thames District .. Repairing Hammermen Decrease of 1s. per week for platers, rivetters, burners and welders, and of 10d. per week for holders-up. Rates after change: platers, 82s. 10d.¶; rivetters, 75s. 7d.¶; burners, 89s. 6d.; welders, 94s.; holders-up, 69s. 1d.¶ Platers rivetters, burners, welders and holders-up OTHER METAL TRADES. Increase\* of 33 per cent. on weekly base earnings, making, with the special temporary allowance of 7½ per cent. previously paid (which is to be continued), 11½ per cent. on weekly base earnings (which include 25 per cent. special bonus consolidated in South Wales and 5 Aug. Workpeople employed in tin-plate manufacture (except Tinplate Manufacture maintenance craftsmen) England and Wales (certain firms\*\*)
North - Western District of Eng-Increase\* of 8 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 70 per cent. above the standard. Galvanising Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (exclud-Decreases varying according to Zone of from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per week for plumber-jointers and jointers, and of 1s. 6d. or 1s. 5d. per week for jointers' mates. Decreases varying according to Zone of from 1s. 8·2d. to 1s. 11·12d. per week; for plumber-jointers and jointers, and of from 1s. 3·82d. to 1s. 4·91d. per week for jointers and jointers' mates.

Decreases in the general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates, fixed under Trade Boards Acts, as follows (see also p. 311 of August GAZETTE):—Decrease in time rates of ½d. per hour for those 15 years and over, and of ½d. per hour for those under 15 years; also a decrease of ½d. per hour (10½d. to 10d.) in the piecework basis time rate. Rates after change for timeworkers 18 years and over: 8d. during first 12 months' employment and 9d. afterwards.

Decrease in time rates of ½d. per hour for those 15 years and over, and of ½d. per hour for those under 15 years; also a decrease of ½d. per hour (9½d. to 9d.) in the piecework basis time rate. Rates after change for timeworkers 18 years and over: 7d. during first 12 months' employment and 8d. afterwards. ing process of annealing) Plumber-jointers, jointers and jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable making Making Scotland†† . 1 Aug. industry Female workers employed in the stamped or pressed metal wares trade:— Polishers or drop stampers Hand brush japanners, or handbrush lacquerers who are capable of finishing all classes of work, blow-pipe braziers or solderers using ordinary hand iron or blow-pipe with bar strip or wire solder Stamped or Great Britain ... 13 Aug. Manufactur or wire solder
All other female workers not included above

Decrease in time rates of \( \frac{1}{2}d \), per hour for those 15

years and over, and of \( \frac{1}{2}d \), per hour for those under 15 years; also decreases in piecework basis time rates of \( \frac{1}{2}d \), per hour for those 15 years and over, and of \( \frac{1}{2}d \), per hour for those under 15 years. Rates after change for those 18 years and over: timework, 6\( \frac{1}{2}d \), piecework. 7\( \frac{1}{2}d \).

Infield, Erith, Hayes, Romford, Thames Ditton and watham.

In the August issue of this GAZETTE particulars were given of an increase of 2s. per week in the rates of wages of moulders and patternmakers at Burton-on-Trent as from 1st July. The Department has since been informed that the increase applied only to iron moulders and patternmakers, and not to brass moulders.

The rates for platers, rivetters and holders-up include a speed allowance of 20 per cent. on basis rates.

\* Members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

† These changes took effect under arrangements made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Electrical Cable-Making Industry.

#### PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1923-(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
		Ass	TEXTILE TRADES.	UPL NOSE
Cotton Industry	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derby- shire, and West Riding of York- shire	Week ending 4 Aug.	Weavers employed in the cotton industry:— Cloths made with two kinds of twist	Addition to standard prices of 5 per cent. for weaving cloth with two kinds of twist (twist way and weft way), tinted or otherwise, both same counts; if woven on two beams the addition to be 10 per cent., to include payment for second beam. (This arrangement does not apply to selvedges made in a similar manner).
Hill to	Various districts	Week ending 2 June	Pickfinding	Addition to standard prices varying according to weft from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent. for pickfinding in plain cloths and from 5 per cent. to 12½ per cent. for pickfinding in two-and-two twill cloths.
Hosiery Manufacture	in Midland Counties*	Week beginning 20 Aug.	hosiery (except dyers, trim-	Bonus of 7d. in the 1s. on earnings increased to 8d. in the shilling.
Silk Dyeing and Finishing	Macclesfield	Pay day in week ending 18 Aug.	mers, finishers, etc.) Male workers employed in the silk dyeing and finishing trades	Decreasest of 6d. per week for those 14 to 18½ years of age, of 9d. for those 19 to 20½ years, of 1s. for those 21 to 22 years, and of 1s. 3d. for those 22½ years of age. Rates after change: 15s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 49. 6d. at 22½ years.
Calico Printing	Great Britain and Northern Ire- land	Pay pre- ceding 1st pay day in Sept.	Machine calico printers	ing to 49s. 6d. at 22½ years.  Supplementary "cost of living" wage increased† from 59.5 per cent. to 60.35 per cent. on basis wages, the flat-rate bonus of 10s. per week for journeymen and 9s. per week for apprentices remaining unchanged.
Hosiery Bleaching, Dyeing,	Leicester, Lough- borough, Not- tingham, Derby	24 Aug. (	Timeworkers	Increase of 3d. per hour for dyers, scourers and trimmers, 2d. per hour for menders and for male and female auxiliary workers 18 years and over, and proportionate increases for auxiliary workers under 18.2 Rates after change: dyers and scourers, 1s. 3d.; trimmers, 1s. 6d.; auxiliary workers (Leicester, Loughborough and Hinckley): men 18 to 21, 10d.; 21 and over, 1s. 2d.; women 18 and over, 9d.; qualified menders, 11d.
and Finishing	and Hinckley		Trimmers (other than web trimmers and jersey trimmers)	Bonus of 50 per cent. on list prices, previously paid, increased to 60 per cent.
			Web trimmers and jersey trimmers Dyers, scourers, menders, and other pieceworkers	Bonus of 32½ per cent. on list prices, previously paid, increased to 40 per cent.  Increase of 1s. in £.
Dressmaking	Scotland	6 Aug,	CLOTHING TRADES.  Female learners employed in	Decrease in the minimum time rates fixed, under the
and Women's Light Clothing	USEC CARDS STORY	gaint sto	the retail branch (during 2nd, 3rd and 4th year of employment)	Trade Boards Acts, of ½d. or ¾d. per hour. (See also p. 311 of August GAZETTE.)
Trade			learners) employed in the hat, cap and millinery trade:—	Decreases in the minimum rates fixed, under the Trade Boards Acts, of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See also p. 350):—  Decrease of 4d. to 12d. per hour in time rates and 12d.
And the second of the second o			Female workers employed in	per hour in the piecework basis time rate (1s. 3\frac{1}{2}d.\) to 1s. 2d.). Minimum time rates after change: under 15 years, 2\frac{1}{2}d., increasing to 6\frac{1}{2}d.\) at 18 and to 1s. 0\frac{1}{2}d.\) at 22 and over.
Hat, Cap, and Millinery	Northern Ireland	20 Aug.	the retail branch:  22 years and over, with not less than 3 years' experience after learnership Workers (excluding homeworkers) under 22 years or having attained the age of 22 years have not had three years' experience after learnership	Decreases of 1½d. per hour in Class A\$ areas, and of 1½d. per hour in Class B\$ areas. Minimum time rates after change: Class A, 8½d.; Class B, 7½d.  Decrease of 1d. per hour for Class A\$ and 1½d. per hour for Class B\$. Minimum time rates after change: Class A\$, 7½d.; Class B, 6½d.
the fact of the section of the secti	To test of order		Homeworkers  Female workers employed in branches other than the retail branch	Decrease of 1d. or 2d. per hour. Minimum time rates after change: Class A\( \), 7\( \frac{1}{2}d. \); Class B\( \), 6\( \frac{1}{2}d. \) Decrease of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rates after change: knife cutters and blockers, 10d.; other workers (including homeworkers), 7d.
		Week	Tailors:— "Log" workers	Decrease of 5 per cent. in percentage payable on pre- war rates, leaving wages 100 per cent. above pre-war rates.
Tailoring	Bradford	24 Mar. 1st pay { in July {	Timeworkers Pieceworkers (other than "log" workers)	Decrease of 2d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 3d.).  Decrease of 2d. per hour in the piecework basis time rate (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 4½d.).
Experience of the control of the con	TO THE STATE OF	F	URNITURE AND WOODWORKIN	G TRADES.
			Timeworkers:— Cabinet makers, wood-carvers, chairmakers, gluers, cram- pers-up, wood-cutting machi-	Decreaset of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: spindle and four-cutter hands, 1s. 9½d.; other classes, 1s. 8½d.
S SSSSSSSSS	AN TOT BUTTO TOTAL		nists and upholsterers French polishers (men), japan- ners and chair shapers	Decreaset of ½d. per hour (1s. 8½d. to 1s. 8d.).
1482 C7 1482 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	tell	To the late of the	French polishers (women) Operatives employed in the carpet and blind section	Decreaset of ½d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 0½d.). Decreaset of ½d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 7½d.).
Furniture Manu-	London	1 Aug.	Packers and porters (whole-sale trade)	Decreaset of 1d. per hour for those paid hourly rates, and 1s. 10d. per week for those paid weekly. Rates after change: packers, 1s. 41d. per hour or 60s. 3d. per week; porters. 1s. 3d. per hour or 54s. 5d. per week.
facture	My sorty of the or other	1 0100 A	Learners, improvers and apprentices	Decreaset of 2.38 per cent. for those who have pre- viously received advances pro rata to those granted from time to time to journeymen.
	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE		Pieceworkers:— Upholsterers  Operatives employed in the white enamelled (deal)	Decrease† in total of agreed percentage payable of basic rate from 75 to 70.83, except for those employed by certain firms (see p. 315 of the June, 1921, issue of this GAZETTE), for whom the percentages payable are 10 per cent. plus 10 per cent. plus 70.83 per cent. (calculated cumulatively).  Decrease† of 2.38 per cent. on existing rates.
40 0 10 10 10 10 km	Named State Long of the	to the same	section (dear)	Service of the servic

\* Viz.: Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sutton in Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley, and Coventry districts.

† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

† It is understood that the increase did not apply to auxiliary workers at Nottingham.

† Class A.—Workers employed within the areas of the County Boroughs of the Cities! of Belfast and Londonderry. Class B.—Workers employed in other areas.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
		FURNI	TURE AND WOODWORKING TRA	DES—(continued).
ro : ogusti sis - sis sis con ; sis sis sis con por vicin con year chang	Manchester, Sal- ford, Altrincham, Bolton and Stock- port	1 Aug.	Furniture trade operatives	Decrease* of 1d. per hour for male workers and be per hour for female workers, with proportionate decreases for apprentices and improvers. Rates after change: cabinet makers, chairmakers, carver machinists (after 4 years on machines), upholsterer, polishers, and mattress makers, 1s. 7d.; labourer 1s. 2d.; glass workers—bevellers, silverers, and cutter 1s. 7d.; brilliant cutters, 1s. 8d.; fitters, 1s. 5d. packers, 1s. 4d.; upholstresses and female polisher. 11½d.
Furniture	North-East Lanca- shire† and Tod- morden	1 Aug	Cabinet makers, carvers, chair makers, upholsterers, polishers and machinists Cabinet makers	Decrease* of ½d. per hour for journeymen (1s. 8d. ts. 7½d.)., and of proportionate amounts for apprentices and improvers.  Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.).  Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.).
Manufacture (cont.)	Oliham Wigan	1 Aug. Pay day	Upholsterers and french polishers Cabinet makers, upholsterers, and french polishers Carpet and blind fitters	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 7d.).  Decrease* of ½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4½d.).
police its:	Birmingham and West Bromwich	in week enging 10 Aug.	Journeymen	Increase* of &d. ner hour. Rates after change, thou
and control and	High Wycombe	Pay day in week ending 25 Aug.	Labourers Apprentices	engaged on skilled processes, 1s. 6d.; Windsor, can and cheap rush bottom chairmakers, packer markers-out and benders, 1s. 5½d.  Increase* of ½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d.).  Increase* of from 3d. to 10d. per week. Rates after change: 1st six months, 10s. 6d., increasing the 16s. 6d. during 4th six months and to 32s. during 8t six months.
	Manchester, Sal- ford and District,	26 May 23 July	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers Timber yard labourers, slingers,	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.).  Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: timbe
Mill Sawing	and Ashton- under-Lyne Sheffield and Rotherham	Week ending 1 Sept.‡	and power driven crane drivers Machinists, sawyers, etc	yard labourers, 1s. 1d.; slingers, 1s. 14d.; crandrivers, 1s. 12d.  Increase* of 4d. per hour. Rates after change: planin and moulding machinists, 1s. 52d.; band and circuls sawyers, 1s. 5d.; horizontal sawyers, 1s. 4d.; dec
	Scotland	Pay day in week ending	Woodcutting machinists	frame sawyers, 1s. 4d.  Decrease of 1d. per hour for journeymen. Minimu rate after change for journeymen, 1s. 31d.
Packing Case Making	Scotland (except Aberdeen)	Pay day in week ending 11 Aug.	Packing case makers and wood- cutting machinists employed in packing case shops	Decrease of ½d. per hour for journeymen and of ½ per hour for apprentices. Rates after change: pacing case makers: Glasgow, 1s. 3½d.; Edinburgh, Leit Dunfermline, and Dundee, 1s. 2½d.; woodcuttin machinists (all districts), 1s. 3½d.
Picture Frame Making	Glargow	1st pay day in Aug.	Picture frame makers	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 7d.).
	A DE TO SE TO AND ADDRESS	and the same of	CAL, GLASS, BRICK, POTTERY,	
Chemical Manu-	Scotlands	6 Aug.§	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals	Decrease of 2s. per week for timeworkers and 2s. 6 per week for shiftworkers.
facture Brick, Tile,	London	2 Aug.	Plumbers employed in chemical works Dayworkers Pieceworkers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 10½d. to 1s. 9½d).¶  Increase of 1s. per week (38s. to 39s.).  Rates adjusted so as to yield at least 25 per cent. above
Cement Manufacture	Bridgwater		FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO	daywork rates.
an tour out o	7 217 02 315 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	1-t pay	Male workers (including motor lorry drivers, carriers and horse carmen where previously included with mill employees):—	
Flour Milling	Great Britain**	day in Aug.	21 years and over	Decrease* of 1s. per week. Rates after change: fix rollermen—Grade I: Class A mills, 67s.; Class A 64s. 6d.; Class B, 62s.; Class BB, 58s. 6d.; Class 55s.; Grade II: Class A, 65s.; Class AA, 62s. 6d.; Class BB, 60s.; Class BB, 56s. 6d.; Class C, 53s.; Grade II. Class BB, 54s. 6d.; Class C, 51s.; general laboure (all grades): Class A, 51s.; Class AA, 48s. 6d.; Class A6s.; Class BB, 42s. 6d.; Class C, 39s.
	Lordon (Metropolitan Police	lst pay day in Aug.	Under 21 years of age Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confec- tionery trade by members of the London Master Bakers' Protection Society	46s.; Class BB, 42s. 6d.; Class C, 39s.  Decreases* varying from 6d. to 1s. per week.  Decreases* of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male baker and confectioners, 2s. per week for allied workers, 9 per week for juveniles and 5d. per day for jobber Minimum rates after change for adult male worker forehands, 65s. 6d., 69s. 6d. or 73s. 6d.; singlehand 61s. 6d.; secondhands and doughmakers, 59s. 66 63s. 6d. or 65s. 6d.: ovenmen. machine minder
Baking and Confectionery		25 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confec- tionery trades by certain mem- bers of the Incorporated Society of Principal Whole- sale and Retail Bakers	63s. 6d. or 65s. 6d.; ovenmen, machine minder stokers, etc., 60s. 6d.; tablehands, 57s. 6d.  Increase* of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male bake and confectioners. 2s. for allied workers, 1s. 3d fe adult female workers, 9d. for juniors, and 5d. pe day for jobbers. Minimum rates after change adult male workers: forehands, 65s. 6d., 69s. 6d., 73s. 6d.; singlehands, 61s. 6d.; secondhands and doug makers, 59s. 6d., 63s. 6d., or 65s. 6d.; ovenmen machine minders, stokers, &c 60s. 6d.; tablehand 57s. 6d.; adult female workers, forewomen 43s. 9d
. 192	Pirmingham and Midland District††	Pay day in week ending 1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confec- tionery trade	others 39s.  Increase* of 2s. 4d. per week for adult workers an proportionate increases for juniors. Minimumtt rate after change for adults: foremen, 63s. 8d. or 68s. 8d doughmakers, singlehands and secondhands, 62s. 8d platers, 60s. 8d.; tablehands, 58s. 8d.

\* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
† Including Accrimation, Blackburn, Blackbool, Burnley, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Haslingden, Padiham and Preston.
‡ The increase was to be paid in respect of the full pay preceding the pay day in the week ending lst September.
§ The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Scottish Committee of Chemical Manufacturers. It is understood that in the case of some firms the reductions took effect from a later date.
§ Excluding tradesmen whose wages are regulated by movements in their own trades.
¶ Plumbers employed in fertiliser works receive an additional id. per hour but are not paid for Bank holidays.
\*\* The change took effect under an arrangement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Flour Milling Industry.
†† Including Brierley Hill, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Coventry, Darlaston, Dudley, Leamington, Rugby, Smethwick, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Willenhall, and Wolverhampton.
‡‡ The rates quoted are for daywork; ls. per night extra is added for each night worked, making 6s. per week extra on continuous night work.

#### PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
		FOOD,	DRINK AND TOBACCO TRADES	—(continued).
Baking and Confectionery (cont.)	Leicester Dundee	1st pay lay after 20 Aug. 1st pay day in Aug.	Adult workers  Youths and deliverers under 21 years of age Bakers and confectioners  MISCELLANEOUS TRADE	Increase* of 3s. per week. Rates after change: ordinary bakeries—forehands, 68s.; singlehands and secondhands, 66s.; tablehands, 64s.; factories, 5s. per week more in each case.  Increases* of 1s. 9d., 2s. 3d., and 2s. 7d. per week for those 18, 19, and 20 respectively.  Decrease of 2s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 72s.  S.
Leather Belt Manufacture Saddlery, Harness, etc.,	Great Britain  Lancashire and Cheshire	lst pay day in Aug.	Pieceworkers and cutters on day work Saddlers, harness makers, and horse collar makers (retail	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: skilled—London, 1s. 3½d.; Provinces, 1s. 3½d.; semi-skilled—London, 1s. 0½d.; Provinces, 11½d.  Percentage payable on base rates embodied in agreement of November, 1922, reduced* from 74 to 69.  Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: saddlers and harness makers, 1s. 5d.; collar makers, 1s. 6d.
Manufacture	Various Districts in England†	Aug. 4 June	trade) Basket makers employed on Government work	Bonus of 52½ per cent. on revised London price list of 1919 previously paid reduced to 45 per cent. Time rate after change for repair work, 1s. per hour plus 45 per cent.
Basket Making	Cheshire‡	201 Aug.	Agricultural basket makers	<ul> <li>Increase* of 5 per cent. on Lancashire price list, making wages 95 per cent. and 85 per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively. Rate after change for timeworkers, 8d. per hour plus 95 per cent.</li> <li>Bonus of 100 per cent. on pre-war price list previously paid increased* to 105 per cent.</li> </ul>
Warehousing India Rubber Manufacture Boiler and Pipe Covering	Livervool  Lancashire  London	lst full pay day in July lst full pay after	Permanent warehousemen (cotton, rubber, etc.) Workpeople employed in india rubber manufacture Boiler and pipe coverers	Decrease of 5s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 55s.  Decrease* of ½d. per hour for men and ½d. per hour for women and young persons. Minimum rate after change for men, 38s.  Decrease of ½d. per hour for qualified men 21 years and over (1s. 5d. to 1s. 4½d.).
Artificial Limb Making	Birmingham	22 Aug. 10 Aug.	Artificial limb makers  Workpeople employed in the hair, bass, and fibre trade:—	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Rate after change for skilled men, 1s. 9d.  Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (See also p. 311 of August GAZETTE):—
*		.0.365A	Horse hair sorters, hacklers, drawers or bunchers, power loom weavers, winders, damask seating hand loom weavers, curlers, spinners, hair dyers, cloth starchers, and carpet weavers with not less than three years' experience	Decreases in time rates of from \$\frac{1}{4}d\$. to \$\frac{3}{4}d\$. per hour for male workers and \$\frac{1}{4}d\$. or \$\frac{1}{2}d\$. per hour for female workers; and decrease of \$\frac{3}{4}d\$. and \$\frac{1}{2}d\$. per hour in the piecework basis time rate for male and female workers respectively. Minimum time rates after change: male workers, 7\frac{1}{4}d\$. at 17 years, increasing to 1s. 2\frac{1}{4}d\$. at 21 and over; female workers, 5\frac{1}{2}d\$. at 17 and under 17\frac{1}{2}years, increasing to 7\frac{1}{4}d\$. at 18 and over.
Hair, Baes, and Fibre	Great Britain	6 Aug.	Fibre drafters, dressers or dyers, bass sorters, dyers, cutters, roughers, mixers, or finishers with not less than three years' experi- ence	Decreases in time rates of ½d. or ¾d. per hour for male workers, and ¼d. or ¾d. per hour for female workers; and decrease of ¾d. and ½d. in the piecework basis time rates for male and female workers respectively. Minimum time rates after change: male workers, 7d. at 17, increasing to 1s. 1¾d. at 21 and over; female workers, 5½d. at 17 and under 17½, increasing to 7d. at 18 and over.
		,515¢(T) (1	Male and female workers employed in the weaving of hair machine belting, and in all preparatory, finishing, warehousing, or packing operations incidental to, or appertaining to, such weaving	General minimum time rates, piecework, basis time rates and overtime rates previously fixed cancelled.
	Company Comments of the Commen		All other workers 16 years of age and over (except those employed on hand loom weaving other than damask seating hand loom weaving) Workpeople employed in the	Decrease in time rates of ½d. to ¾d. per hour for male workers, and ¾d. or ½d. per hour for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers, 4½d. at 16 and under 16½, increasing to 11¼d. at 21 years and over; female workers, 4¼d. at 16 and under 16½, increasing to 6¾d. at 18 and over.  Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade
Made-up Textiles	Great Britain	27 Aug.	made-up textile trade:—  Foremen and forewomen, awl and needle stitchers (leather and canvas), cutters, letter writers (other than stencillers), machinists (sewing), mixers, palm and needle hands, ropers of tents and coal sacks, splicers of ropes over 12 ins, in circumference	Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (See also p. 350):—  Decrease of 1d. and ½d. per hour for male and female workers respectively. Minimum time rates after change: men. 21 years and over, 1s. 1d.; women, 18 and over, 62d.
A STATE OF S		**************************************	All other workers (except learners)  Learners	Decreases in time rates of \$\frac{1}{4}d\$. to \$\frac{3}{4}d\$. per hour for male workers and \$\frac{1}{4}d\$. or \$\frac{1}{2}d\$. per hour for female workers, and in the piecework basis time rates of \$\frac{3}{4}d\$, and \$\frac{1}{2}d\$. per hour for male and female workers respectively. Minimum time rates after change: male workers, \$21 and over, \$10\frac{3}{4}d\$.; female workers, \$18 and over, \$6\frac{1}{4}d\$. Decreases of \$\frac{1}{4}d\$. or \$\frac{1}{2}d\$. per hour in minimum time rates.
	DB 201 1 940 7000	104 00	PUBLIC UTILITY SERVI	The state of the s
Gas Electricity Supply	Barmingham, Smethwick and Walsall North Western Areas	18 to 23 July 1 Aug.	Gas fitters (fully qualified) employed in Corporation Gas Undertakings All classes of adult male workers	

• The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
† Including Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, London, Birmingham, Lei ester and Nottingham.
† Including Ashton-under Lyne, Blackburn, Bolton, Heywood, Knutsford, Leigh, Liverpool, Manchester; Northwich, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Stockport

and Warrington.

§ The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the North Western Area Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry

#### THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. September, 1923.

PRINCIPA	AL CHANGES 1	N RAT	ES OF WAGES REPOR	TED DURING AUGUST, 1923—(continued).
Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
	Transmission of a		PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES—(	(continued).
	Scotland*	1 Aug.	Adult male workers (excluding	Decrease of 21 per cent. on total wages at 1 January,
Electricity Supply (contd.)		22 June	electrical fitters, wiremen an engineers)	for general labourers: Group A, 11.96d.; Group B, 11.68d.; Group C, 11.12d. per hour.*
Man collection	Londonderry	1st pay	Workpeople employed by Electricity Undertaking	greasers, cleaners, and general helpers, 1s.; stokers, 1s. 4d.: leading stokers 1s. 44d
	atalia laguaga	in July	Motormen, conductors, etc.	Decreaset of 1d. per hour. Decreaset of 1s. per week for workpeople 18 years of
	Great Britain;	1st full pay in Aug.	Youths, under 19 years of age employed as parcels, messer ger, point and trolley boys	n- 15 years, 13s. 6d.; 15 to 16 years, 15s. 6d.; 16 to 17 years, 17s. 6d.: 17 to 18 years, 22s. 18 to 19 years
Tramways	Lancaster	9 Aug.	and or estable to	Decrease of 1s. 3d. per week. Rates after change.
alle beat	Dundee	2 Aug.	United the second	Decreaset of 1s. per week. Rates after change:
Manufacture of the second	Belfast	8 Aug.	Motormen, conductors, etc	Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change for motormen and conductors—minimum. 52s.: maxi-
RANGE TO STATE OF THE STATE OF	Northumberland and Durham	lst pay day in Aug.	Able-bodied male manua	mum, 64s. per week.
sarrite son magnitudite	York	2 Aug.	Manual workers	than Grade A area rates.    Decrease of 1/2d. per hour. Rates after change   labourers, day carters and refuse collectors, 1s. 1/2d.; day scavengers, 1s. 1/2d.; night scavengers and carters
Non-trading Departments of Local	London (certain Authorities)¶	1st pay in Aug.	Manual workers	1s. 23d.; wagon and road roller drivers, 1s. 3d.; paviors, 1s. 63d. per hour.  Decrease of the fire cost of living bonus as revised in July, 1922. Scheduled minimum rates after change include: general labourers, 60s. 4d. or 60s. 5d.; scavengers, 57s. 1d.; female bath and lavatory attentions.
Authorities	London (certain other ties)**	1st pay in Aug.	Manual workers	dants, 45s. 1d. per week.¶  Decrease† of ½ths of the original bonus, as agreed in June, 1920, making a total reduction of ½ths. Scheduled minimum rates after change include: general labourers, 56s. 8d. or 56s. 9d.; scavengers, 54s.; female
7.00	Acton, Edmonton, Hanwell, Ilford, Tottenham, Mid- dlesex C.C.	1 Aug.	Manual workers	bath and lavatory attendants, 41s. 11d. per week.**  Decreaset of *ths of the original bonus on minimum rates. Rates after change for road labourers. Con. 53s. 7d.; Edmonton, 53s. 6d.; Hanwell, 46s. 6d.; Ilford, 53s.; Tottenham, 1s. 3d. per hour; Middlesex C.C.,
Constance of	East Ham	1 Aug.	Manual workers	41s. 1d. to 49s. 11d.  Decrease in bonus varying from 4s. per week for those in receipt of a basis wage of 51s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. for those with a basis rate of 31s. Rates after change road scavengers, 58s. 6d.; refuse collectors, 59s. 6d.
Macropale	Carnaryonshire	Aug	Roadmen employed by Count	per week.

#### CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1923.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.  (Decreases in italics).
Local Authority Services	Carnaryonshire	25 Aug.	Roadmen employed by County	Working hours increased from 47 to 48 per week. ‡‡

• The undertakings affected by the reduction are those which follow the wages agreements of the Scottish Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry and include the following, which are shown in their respective groups:—Group A: Cambuslang Electric Supply, Clyde Valley Electric Power Co., Falkirk, Paisley, Edinburgh and Wishaw; Group C: Alloa, Kirkealdy, Kilmarnock, Stirling and Perth.

† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

† This decrease took effect under the sliding scale of the National Joint Council for the Tramways Industry. The decrease was put into operation by the majority of the principal undertakings, but it is reported that it has not taken effect in the case of the following:—Camborne and Redruth, Colchester, Dundee, Glasgow, Great Yarmouth, Lancaster, Llandudno and Colwyn Bay, Musselburgy, Perth, Sunderland (Corporation and Sunderland and District Electric Tramways. Lid.), Southend-on-Sea, Scarborough, West Ham, and York; while at East Ham the full reduction did not apply to all classes, and at Cheltenham the reduction took effect from 6th September. Particulars of the changes which applied at Lancaster and Dundee are given above.

§ In the case of Liverpool the reduction for youths under 18 years employed as parcels, etc., boys was 6d per week.

§ The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Northumberland and Durham for Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services) and include:—Grade A: Darlington, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Blaydon (from 20th September) Blyth, Chester-le Street, Consett, Earsdon, Felling, Leadgate, Longbenton, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Newburn-on-Tyne, Prudhoe, Ryton, Seaton Delaval, Stanley, Durham C.C. and R.D.C.s of Durham, Easington, South Shields; Grade B: Brandon and Byshottles, Shildon, Tanfield, and R.D.C.s of Auckland, Sedgefield, Weardale; Grade C: Amble and Benfeldside. The rates ac

#### CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN SEPTEMBER, 1923.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by changes already reported as having been arranged to take effect in September:—Increases in Wages.—Coal miners in Northumberland, Durham, South Wales and Monmouthshire, and in the Forest of Dean; silversmiths, jewellery workers, etc., at Birmingham; and workpeople employed in the boot and shoe repairing, paper box, and brush and broom trades (under Trade Board Orders). Decreases in Wages.—Coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midlands, and in Scotland; iron ore miners and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland; men employed in the Thames ship-repairing industry; bolt and nut makers in Lancashire; road transport workers and coal porters in London; cement workers; and men employed in the gas industry. Change in Hours.—Building trade operatives (see page 324 of this issue). Further particulars will be given in the October issue of this GAZETTE.

#### BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

RETURNS have been received from 135 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed in August, 1923. The summarised figures for August are given in the following Table, together with similar figures relating to plans passed in these localities in the first eight

relating to plans passed in these localities in the first eight months of this year.

In the 135 localities to which the figures relate, plans were passed in August for buildings of an estimated cost of nearly £2,300,000, compared with an average of about £3,650,000 in the preceding seven months. In a considerable number of towns, however, no plans were approved during August owing to the fact that the Councils concerned were in vacation during the month.

Estimated	i C	ost o	f Bu	ildings	for wh	nich	plans	were
approved	in						ch re	turns
		na	ve b	en rec	erveu.			

which returns have been received.	Dwelling Ho	Factories and W	Shops, Offices, Wand other busines	Churches, Scho Public Build	Other, Buildin Additions and Al	TOTAL.
the least research	(a) A	UGUST,	1923.	1 7 8 8 1		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES-	- A District	THE SECTION OF THE PERSON OF T	THE REAL PROPERTY.			
Northern Counties	70 503	1 700	0.700	17 000	34,800	135,700
Yorkshire (2,089,000)	76,500	1,700 12,000	9,700 31,400	13,000 77,100	139,600	472,800
Yorkshire (2,089,000) Lancashire and theshire	212,100	12,000	01,400	11,100	100,000	472,000
(2,183,000)	229,500	61,800	31,500	16,300	53,400	392,500
North and West Midland	20,000		No. 1			
Counties (2,911,000)	168,600	112,300	12,000	8,700	106,900	408,500
South-Midland and East-	Wife 1923		10000	1 100	0.500	117 500
ern Counties (580,000)	80,000	6,800	16,900	1,100	8,700	113,500
Outer London* (1,986,000)	250,300	4,600	25,300	7,700	53,200	339,10
South-Eastern Counties (909,000)	65,500	5,300	6,300	27,400	18,600	123,100
South-Western Counties	65,500	0,000	0,000	21,400	10,000	120,10
(432,000)	40,500	800	1,500		2,200	45,000
Wales and Monmouth-	10,000		. 152 . 1520			
shire (795,000)	64,500	2,000	3,800	7,000	6,700	84,00
SCOTLAND (2,146,000)	58,300	8,100	1,300:	30,700	84,700	183,10
Total (14,836,000)	1,246,400	215,400	137,700	189,000	508,800	2,297,30

(b) .	JANUARY	TO AUG	UST, 1923	•		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES-	WY BEEN	X 1500 5 150		15 1157 114		
Northern Counties (805,000)	659,600	70,600	76,900	93,400	193,800	1,094,300
Yorkshire (2,089,000)	2,409,000	307,400	357,600	395,500		4,375,300
Lancashire and Cheshire						
(2,183,000)	2,153,300	380,900	281,100	140,100	493,600	3,449,00
North and West Midland	2,536,900	744,100	399,700	308,800	977,700	4,967,20
Counties (2,911,000) South-Midland and East-	2,030,900	744,100	333,700	000,000	011,100	7,001,20
ern Counties (580,000)	1,219,800	79,400	131,700	42,400		1,616,80
Outer London* (1,986,000)	3,602,400	274,900	444,600	276,300	595,500	5,193,7
South-Eastern Counties	1 711 000	E7 000	165 700	112,900	433,400	2,477,20
South-Western Counties	1,711,800	53,800	165,300	112,500	400,400	2,411,20
(432,000)	505,100	15,200	52,900	45,300	85,900	704,40
Wales and Monmouth-						
shire (795,000)	694,000	37,800	92,600	93,000	135,100	1,057,50
SCOTLAND (2,146,000)	959,100	256,600	115,800	360,700	1,222,200	2,914,40
Total (14,836,000)	16451000	2,220,700	2,118,200	1,873,400	5,186,500	2784980

#### ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during August, 1923, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act (see March, 1923, GAZETTE, page 84), and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the numbers of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

well was annived have books to get was one of the ford and side has deles as put, s	Assisted Pass-	Pas	Assisted sages	Departures	Total Departures.		
recorded, Berlines, Tellurus Loro Mans do Concentre, Let	Granted in Aug., 1923.	Aug., 1992 Aug 1923.		1922.	Jan.— Aug., 1923.		
Assisted Passage Schemes: To Australia , New Zealand	2,370 725	7,058 1,133	19,409 3,923	1,924 553	<b>6,118</b> 694	15,126 2,900	
" Canada: Dominion of Canada Province of Ontario	258 74	Ξ	1,821 1,530	109 68	=	1,658 1,175	
Minor Schemes	108	421	1,063	89	-	990	
TOTAL	3,535	8,191	27,746	2,743	6,812	21,849	

The figures given in the above Table include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

#### DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.\*

The total number of cases+ of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during August, 1923, was thirty-three. Ten cases of lead poisoning (including two deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during August, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

rugust, but notification of the	1000	capes is flot opingatorj.
(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING	j.	(b) Cases of Other Forms of
Among Operatives engaged in		Poisoning.
	3	Mercury Poisoning 1
Smelting of Metals		Phosphorus Poisoning
Plumbing and Soldering	3	Arsenic Poisoning
Printing		Toxic Jaundice—
File Cutting and		Arseniuretted Hydrogen
II and and and	_	Gas
m: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :		Other
Other Contact with		Epitheliomatous Ulcera-
Molten Lead	1	tion—
		Paraffin
White and Red Lead	3	Pitch 1
Works		Tar
‡Pottery	6	Oil
Vitreous Enamelling		Chrome Ulceration—
Electric Accumulator		Manufacture of
Works	8	Bichromates
Paint and Colour Works	1	Dyeing and Finishing
		Chrome Tanning
Indiarubber Works		Other Industries
Coach and Car Painting	1	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF -
		POISONING - 2
Shipbuilding		-
Paint used in other In-		(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—
dustries	4	Wool
Other Industries		Handling of Horsehair 1
		Handling and Sorting
TOTAL OF ABOVE.	30	of Hides and Skins
TOTAL OF ADOVE.	50	(Tanners, Fellmongers,
		&c.) Other Industries
HOUSE PAINTING AND		Other Industries
PLUMBING	10	real realment :
		TOTAL, ANTHRAX - 1

#### FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.§

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during August, 1923, was 191, as compared with 230 in the previous month, and with 165 a year ago. The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various

trades is as follows:-	
RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS
Brakesmen and Goods	(continued):
Guards 1	Boiler Making & Con-
Engine Drivers 1	structional Engineering
Firemen	Locomotives, Railway &
Guards (Passenger)	Tramway Carriages,
Permanent Way Men 10	Motors, Aircraft 7
Porters	Other Metal Trades 2
Shunters 1	Shipbuilding - 5
Mechanics 1	Wood 1
Labourers ···	Gas 1
Miscellaneous - 4	Electric Generating Sta-
Contractors' Servants	tions! 2
Continuous Sortanes III	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc 5
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 18	Chemicals, etc 4
TOTAL, MAIL WILL SELL	Food and Drink 2
MINES.	Paper, Printing, etc
Underground 86	Tanning, Currying, etc 2
Surface 7	Rubber Trades
Bullace	Other Non-Textile Indus-
TOTAL, MINES 93	tries
TOTAL, MINES	Ulles
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep 7	TOTAL FOR FACTORIES
QUARRIES OVEL 20 TOOL GOOP	AND WORKSHOPS - 49
- CHARLES AND WORKSHOPS	Docks. Wharves, etc.,
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	
Cotton 2	s. 104 11 Buildings, s. 105 10
W Ool, W Olsbea, a Miday	Warehouses, s. 104 and
Other Textiles	Railway Sidings, s. 106 2
Textile Bleaching and	Italiway Blumgs, S. 200
Dyeing	TOTAL 72
Metal Extracting and	TOTAL .a
Iteming	Accidents reported under
Metal Conversion, inclu-	Notice of Accidents Act,
ding Rolling Mills and	1894 1
I WOO III WILLIAM	1002
Metal Founding 4 Engineering and Machine	Total (excluding Sea-
Engineering and Machine	men) 191
Making 2	шеп) 102
THE PARTY OF THE P	Tabout for

- Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.
- † Cases include all attacks reported to the Home Office during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.
- † Of the 6 persons affected in the Pottery industry 1 was a female. § Based on Returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

## POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

September, 1923.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

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

THE number of persons relieved on one day\* in August, 1923, in the 31 selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 519 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of 27 per 10,000 on the previous month, and a decrease of 46 per 10,000 on a year ago.

As compared with July, 1923, the total number relieved showed a decrease of 46,779 (or 4.9 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief decreased by 263 (or 0.2 per cent.), while the number of outdoor recipients was less by 46,516 (or 5.6 per cent.). Fifteen districts showed decreases and sixteen districts showed an increase. The greatest decreases were in the Hull district (392 per 10,000), in the West Ham district (163 per 10,000), and in the East district of the metropolis (105 per 10,000). All the increases were small.

As compared with August, 1922, the total number relieved decreased by 80,775 (or 8.2 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients increased by 1,162 (or 1.0 per cent.), but the number of outdoor recipients decreased by 81,937 (or 9.5 per cent.).

Nine districts showed increases, and every other district showed decreases. The most marked changes were increases in the Paisley and Greenock district (534 per 10,000), and in the East district of the metropolis (225 per 10,000), and decreases in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (701 per 10,000), in the Stockton and Tees district (481 per 10,000), and in the Sheffield district (440 per 10,000). Four other districts showed decreases ranging from 104 to 291, and fifteen districts showed decreases ranging from 4 to 82 decreases ranging from 4 to 82.

but dusassing-cities	01 poor	in Au	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per				
Selected Urban Areas,†	Indoor	Out-	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti- mated	10,000 of Population as compared with a		
and addition and and an			nu	Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES.	C A A	133	1 3/1	3			
Metropolis. West District	8,948	8,490	17,438	214	- 1	- 2	
North District	10,132	22,964 2,993	33,096	329	- 12	- 1	
Central District East District	2,513 9,801	2,993 63,011	5,506 72,812	1,149	- 31	+ 22	
South District	19,590	84,968	104,558	551	-105 $-74$	+ 22	
TOTAL, Metropolis	50,984	182,426	233,410	521	- 50	+ 2	
West Ham	4,184	66,582	70,766	961	-163	+ 5	
Other Districts. Newcastle District	2,627	35,858	38,485	792	+ 4	+ 119	
Stockton and Tees Dis-		Second.					
Bolton, Oldham, etc	1,130 3,923	23,707 7,961	24,837	945 152	+ 24	- 481 + 18	
Wigan District	1,740	11,129	12,869	296	+ 6	- 104	
Manchester District Liverpool District	8,500 9,387	31,452 55,679	39,952 65,066	395 550	- 32	- 16 - 148	
Bradford District	1,697	4,675	6,372	174	- 3 + 13	- 30 - 30	
Halifax and Hudders- field	7 101	3,588	4.700	100			
Leeds District	1,181 2,385	9,887	4,769 12,272	126 256	+ 2 + 5	- 13 - 30	
Barnsley District Sheffield District	895	7,581	8,476	271	+ 1	- 83	
Hull District	2,528 1,788	39,890 14,371	42,418 16,159	843 521	+ 14 -392	- 440 + 8	
North Staffordshire	1,974	6,168	8,142	201	+ 6	- 58	
Nottingham District Leicester District	2,013 1,170	9,920 2,913	11,933 4,083	261	- 1	- 4 - 52	
Wolverhampton Dis-					+ 8	- 52	
trict Birmingham District	<b>3,220</b> 6,879	25,749 45,129	28,969 52,008	413 565	+ 6	- 149	
Bristol District	2,474	13,972 12,728	16,446	406	+ 12 + 23	- 291 + 59	
Cardiff and Swansea	2,296	12,728	15,024	325	+ 14	- 42	
			-				
TOTAL "Other Districts"	57,807	362,357	420,164	416	- 10	- 97	
SCOTLAND.	4,582	115 911	110.007	1.077	Transition of		
Glasgow District	717	115,211 21,425	119,793 22,142 17,750	1,237	- 46 + 63	+ 21 + 534	
Paisley & Greenock Dist. Edinburgh & Leith Dist.	1,440	16,310	17,750	422	+ 14	+ 1	
Dundee and Dunfermline Aberdeen	615 493	21,425 16,310 3,490 5,179	4,015 5,672	194 357	- 6 - 1	- 58 - 45	
Coatbridge and Airdrie	321	6,335	6,655	656	- 12	- 701	
FOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts	8,168	167,860	176,028	860	- 14	+ 17	
Scottish Districts			DEE		14	T 11	
TOTAL for above 31 Dis-) tricts in August, 1923	121,143	779,225	900,368	519	- 27	_ 46	

• The figures for England and Wales relate to 25th August, and those for Scotland to 18th August.

† These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one poor law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

‡ Exclusive of casuals; of patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only. The figures for Scotland include destitute able-bodies unemployed in receipt of poor law relief.

#### COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES ABROAD IN JULY, 1923.

[N.B.—The method by which the index-numbers in the following table have been computed was explained in an article in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1923, pages 236-238. The numbers relate to purchasing-power in terms of food alone, and, for the reasons given in the article referred to, they can only be accepted as affording a very rough indication of the differences that existed, on or about the date at the head of the table, between the real wage levels (in terms of food), in the various capitals, of the selected categories of typical urban male labour. The numbers are comparable horizontally but not

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages, 1st July, 1923. (London=100)

Occupation.	London	Amster	Berlin.	Brussels	Christia	Copenha	New Yo	Ottawa.	Paris.†	Prague.	Stockho	Sydney	Vienna.	Warsaw
BUILDING TRADES. Skilled:	NA STATE		7.04								G CHO		76312	
Mason Bricklayer Carpenter.	100 100 100	106 106 106	=	62 62 67	85 85 81	=	=	255 255 191	89 79 79	58 - 50	95 95 95		52 52 55	67 67 67
Joiner Plumber Painter (General) Unskilled:	100 100 100	106 106 105	=	65 57 58	81 81 90	-		191 204 175	79 79 83	- 71	95 88 111	111	43 59	70
Labourer (General)	100	115	-	59	106	-	-	135	98	62	111	-	E6	62
ENGINEERING TRADES. Skilled:		100	AR	100		THE REP								
Fitter Ironmoulder	100	105	-	64	100	-	-	192	99	85	77	_	58	69
(Hand) Patternmaker	100 100	92	=	67	102	-	-	191 208	107 126	62	78 72	=	=	70 64
Turner Unskilled;	100	105	-	69	100	_	-		105	55	77	200	62	69
Labourer	100	108	-	68	132	-	-	180	104	63	93	-	52	70
FURNITURE TRADES. Skilled: Cabinetmaker	100	81	_	61	79		_	130	_	65	78		39	
PRINTING AND BOOK- BIN FING TRADES. Skilled:								100						
Compositor (Book and Job) Hand Do. Machine	100 100 100	82 85 82		51 52 53	78 72 78			170 158 155	60 — 65	74	74 76 74		35	89 117 89
Bookbinder	100	91	_	56	91	=	=	184	67	66	75	=	34	69
Average, 1st July, 1923	100	99	_	62	90	_	-	186	88	65	86	2	50	76
Do. 1st June, 1923 Do. 1st May, 1923 Do. 1st April, 1923 Do. 1st March, 1923	100 100 100 100	100 99 102 103	- 57 57	*64 *65 70	87 86 93	_  145	209	182 182 174	87	67 67 68	*84 83 85	_ 	47 43	96 98 101
Do. 18t March, 1925.	100	103	57	70	92	-	217	180	68	67	87		55	85

In the case of Paris the difference between the average indexnumbers for 1st June and 1st July and the corresponding figure for 1st March does not necessarily reflect a corresponding relative improvement in real wages in that city, and may be explained by the fact that it has since been possible to obtain, through H.M. Commercial Counsellor at Paris, up-to-date figures as to the rates of wages current in that capital for all but two of the selected occupations, namely, cabinet making and machine composing. The Paris prices for June were known and have been used. July prices were not available; but, the Paris cost-of-living index-number for July being the same as for March, the prices for March have, provisionally, been used.

As regards the Copenhagen index-number for April, the warn-As regards the Copenhagen index-number for April, the warning published last month must be repeated, namely, that the comparability of the figure with those for other cities is impaired by the fact (communicated by the Director of the State Statistical Office at Copenhagen) that the wages figures are (a) provisional and (b) based on average earnings. No later wages and price statistics have yet been obtained in respect of Copenhagen.

The omission from the table of figures for Berlin is still due to the special conditions prevailing in that city. The New York and Sydney columns will be completed as the requisite statistics of wages and prices become available.

The drop in the July index-figure for Warsaw is due to an average increase of prices of 62 per cent., accompanied by an average increase of wages of only 18 per cent.

The average index-numbers for 1st May are now added to the able. The material on which these figures are based was avail-Table. The material on which these figures are based was available last month, but, owing to pressure of work, it was not possible to complete the calculations in time to permit of the figures being included in the Table published in August.

[Erratum.—The figure given as 120 in line 38, column 2, on page 281 of the August GAZETTE should have been 115.]

\* Amended figures. † Provisional figures. † The wage rates used in computing the Paris average index-number for t March were derived in a number of cases from the Annuaire Statistique or 1921.

<sup>\*</sup> Particulars are not available for the London County Council Area.

#### RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

#### I.-FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS

		Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*							
Country.		July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July,	July, 1922.	Latest figures available.			
		1919.	1920.	1921	1322.	Rise.	Date.		
United Kingdom		Per cent. 109	Per cent. 158	Per cent. 120	Per cent. 80	Per cent.	1923. Sept.		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES, Austria (Vienna) Belgium; Czechoslovakia; Denmark France (Paris); ,, (other towns); Germany Holland (The Hague) , (Amsterdam) Italy (Rome) ,, (Milan) Norway Poland (Warsaw) Sweden; Switzerland United States		112 161 1889  110 106 2210 189 210	359 153 882 273 288 143 117 218 345 219 197	9,700† 310 1,246 1,36 1,178 206 2500 1,391 113 85 302 406 195 45,555 132 110 45	328,600 281 1,330 84 1,005 197 212 6,736 80 44 359 392 133 129,711 79 57 39	1233400 378 821 88 88 888 228 237 60 41 391 390 120 1636550 61 64 44	Aug. Aug. July June Aug. May Aug. July June May Aug. July June		
British Dominions, &c. Australia Canada India (Bombay) New Zealand South Africa	1::11	47 86  44 39	94 127 88 67 97	61 48 74 64 39	48 38 60 44 16	64 42 49 43 16	July Aug. Aug, Aug.		

<sup>•</sup> Exceptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; Germany, average, 1913-14; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome, Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Poland, January, 1914; Amsterdam, average, 1913; South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ The increases shown are for families of the lowest income class; in Aug., the increase for all working-class families ranged from 374 to 378 per cent. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. §Figure for August. ¶ 67,048,490.

#### II.-ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIRE-

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.*	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†					
		July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1922.	Latest figures available.	
						Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1923
UNITED KINGDOM FOREIGN COUNTRIES Austria (Vienna) Belgium Bulgaria Denmark Finland France (Paris) Germany Italy (Rome) (Milan) Luxemburg. Norway, Poland Spain (Madrid) (Barcelona) Sweden Switzerland.	A, C, D, E A, D, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D, E A, B, C, D A, B, C, D A, B, C, D, E A, D A, D A, D A, D	105 180 180 741 811 157	353 162 811 263‡ 213 341 202§ 90‡ 91‡ 170	279 1,512 137 1,039 195‡ 287 394 284 202§ 25,609 84 78 136	266 2,331 99 1,018 189‡ 5,282 329 388 259 155§ 78,698 79 73 90	73 1049500 339 [2,641 104 987 231 ¶ 349 383 349 1277867 70 66 74 66	Aug, April July June 2nd Otr. 10-16 Sep May Aug, June June April June June June Juny July
United States BRITISH DOMINIONS,&C. Australia Canada Egypt (Cairo) India (Bombay) Irish Free State New Zealand South Africa	A, B A, B, D A, D A, B, C, D A, B, C, D, E A, B, D	77\$ 33\$ 56	117§ 67‡ 90 89 49 62	80µ 46‡ 52 93 77 57 30‡	431 46 72 65 85\$ 44	70 43 49 54 54 80 45 19	June 1st Qtr. Aug. June Aug. July June July

<sup>•</sup> A=Food; B=House-Rent; C=Clothing; D=Fuel and Light; E=Other or Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Rome, Milan, and New Zealand, January to June, 1914; Egyptand Germany, average, 1913-1914; Poland, January, 1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Bulgaria, average, 1901-1910. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. § Figure for June. | Figure for May. ¶ 505,104,500.

#### EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

IN.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries, are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 327-328 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

Unemployment in August.—The total number of unemployed remaining on the "live register" at the Employment Exchanges in the week ended 1st September, 1923, was 9,964 (6,458 men and 3,506 women). In the preceding week the corresponding figure was 9,943, and in the last week of August, 1922, 9,638. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled was 9,519 (4,898 for men and 4,421 for women), as against 10,219 in the preceding week, and 10,358 in August, 1922. During the week under review the exchanges succeeded in placing 28,084 persons (22,477 men and 5,607 women) in situations, and, in addition, found employment for 4,391 foreign immigrants.

According to the latest returns six departmental and thirty According to the latest returns six departmental and thirtyseven municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 6th September, the number of persons in receipt
of out-of-work benefit through their agency being 1,502 (1,380
men and 122 women). This shows a decrease of 72 when compared with the corresponding figure for the preceding week, and
of 1,973 when compared with the figure for 8th September, 1922.
It is to be noted that these figures do not fully represent the number of persons out of employment, since some localities are without unemployment funds, and where they do exist their record of unemployed persons is not complete.

#### GERMANY.+

Employment in July.—During July, as in previous months, in spite of isolated unfavourable symptoms, a further slight improvement in employment was generally reported. In the first half of August, however, the symptoms indicating the beginning of more unfavourable conditions in the labour market increased

Unemployment among organised workers showed a further fall during July. Thirty-nine trade unions, with an aggregate of 5,474,000 members covered by the returns, had 190,078 of these, or 3.5 per cent. of the total, out of work at the end of the month, as compared with 4.1 per cent. in the preceding month, and 0.6 per cent. in July, 1922. The following Table gives particulars for the leading unions:—

STATE OF THE STATE	Member- ship reported	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.			
Unions.	at end of July, 1923.	July, 1923.	June, 1923.	July, 1922.	
All Unions making Returns	5,474,000	3•5	4-1	0.6	
Building (Soc. Dem.) (Christian)	502,000 58,000 52,000 1,367,000 120,000 667,000 131,000 35,000 64,000 476,000 63,000 91,000 413,000 20,000 75,000 75,000 75,000 75,000 132,000 210,000	3·4 1·2 2·6 3·4 2·7 4·1 3·8 2·7 3·4 8·0 4·7 2·4 3·1 0·9 8·3 13·8 2·2 3·4	4·2 1·4 3·1 4·1 3·7 1·7 3·4 6·6 5·7 2·7 2·7 2·7 3·4 6·6 14·9 3·3 4·1 1·5	0.5 0.1 0.5 0.1 0.4 0.1 1.4 0.5 0.8 1.6 0.7 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.7 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.5 0.7 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.4	

The above figures relate to persons totally unemployed. In addition, thirty-six unions, with an aggregate of 4,904,735 members, reported that 708,546, or 14.5 per cent. of the total, worked short time in July, as against 15.3 per cent. in June.

A further decline took place in the number of unemployed in receipt of assistance from public funds. On 1st August the total was 138,278, as against 184,859 on 1st July. This total increased, however, during the first part of August, 145,320 being in receipt of assistance on the 15th of the month.

Returns from Employment Exchanges indicate that the more favourable conditions reported last month continued during July. The number of applications for employment decreased from 1,055,329 in June to 934,309 in July, while the vacancies reported rose from 510,238 to 519,512. On the average there were thus 212 applicants for each 100 situations for men, and 131 for each 100 for women. In June the corresponding figures were 245 (men) and 149 (women).

September, 1923.

100 for women. In June the corresponding natures were 240 (men) and 149 (women).

Sickness insurance statistics show an increase in the number of members under obligation to insure (and therefore assumed to be in work). Returns from 4,459 societies report a total of 10,912,672 members on 1st August, as against 10,833,812 on 1st July, an increase of 0.4 per cent.

#### ATISTRIA

Unemployment in July.—According to the issue of Statistische Nachrichten (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th August, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in the principal industrial districts was 87,349 at the end of July, as compared with 92,788 at the end of the preceding month, and 30,969 at the end of July, 1922. In Vienna alone (included in the foregoing totals) there were 55,858 unemployed in July, and 58,218 in June.

#### BELGIUM.\*

Unemployment in June and July.—The most recent figures available relate to July, but are provisional in character. Returns received by the Belgian Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,616 approved unemployment funds, with a total membership of 638,389, show that 13,457 of these were either wholly or partially unemployed at the end of that month. The aggregate days of unemployment in July numbered 195,574, or 1.03 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; for June the corresponding percentage was 1.22, and for July, 1922, 2.97.

Revised and final figures are given for June, in which month 1,649 funds, with an aggregate membership of 660,850, reported 5,605 (or 0.8 per cent.) wholly unemployed, and 11,653 partially so, on the last working day of the month. The percentage of members totally unemployed in May was 1.2 per cent., and in June, 1922, 2.7 per cent.

During July 12,656 applications for employment were received at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 13,234 in June. Vacancies notified by employers numbered 13,299 (12,341 in June). For every 100 situations registered as vacant there were thus ninety-five applications, as compared with 107 in June. Unemployment in June and July.—The most recent figures

#### HOLLAND

Unemployment in July .- H.M. Commercial Secretary at The H.M. Commercial Secretary at The Hague reports that, according to figures supplied by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance, in the week ended 28th July, out of 280,632 members of unemployment funds making eturns, 28,635 (or 10·2 per cent.) were unemployed for six days in the week, and 8,173 (or 2·9 per cent.) were unemployed for six days at the week, and 8,173 (or 2·9 per cent.) were unemployed for six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding north (ended 30th June) the percentages were 8·7 and 2·3, and in the week ended 29th July, 1922, 7·4 and 2·1.

Unemployment in June.—According to a report received from H.M. Commercial Secretary at Rome, 216,287 persons were reported to be totally unemployed on 30th June, as compared with 243,928 at the end of May and 372,001 on 30th June, 1922. In addition, 39,288 were partially unemployed at the latest late, 57,715 on 31st May and 95,334 on 30th June, 1922. On 30th June, 1923, the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of benefit was 61,547, as compared with 64,517 on 31st May and 123,767 on 30th June, 1922.

#### DENMARK.

nemployment in August+-Returns supplied to the Danish The transfer of the Danish tatistical Department by trade unions and by the Central imployment Exchange covered a total of 247,997 workpeople, whom 7.6 per cent. were unemployed on 31st August, as compared with 7.4 per cent. on 27th July, and 11.1 per cent. at e end of August, 1922.

H.M. Commercial Secretary at Copenhagen states that in the reek ended 31st August 20,648 persons were reported unemloyed, as compared with 20,764 in the previous week and 32,400 in the corresponding week of last year.

#### SWITZERLAND.

SWITZERLAND.‡

Unemployment in July.—According to figures compiled by the entral Employment Department of Switzerland on the basis of returns from Employment Exchanges, the number of appliants for work remaining on the "live register" on 31st July as 22,722 (as compared with 25,583 at the end of the preceding onth and 52,180 at the end of July, 1922). Of these 8,816 are employed on relief works, leaving 13,906 entirely without ork. Among the applicants for employment were 3,331 normally engaged in the building trades, 2,635 in the metal, enginging and electrical trades, 2,302 in the textile trades, and 2,188 the watch, clock and jewellery trades. In addition to the pregoing persons entirely without work 12,592 were reported as ally partially employed, including 7,462 in the textile trades, 402 in the metal, etc., trades, and 1,311 in watchmaking, etc. the vacancies reported by employers remaining unfilled at the

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

end of July numbered 2,579, as against 2,366 at the end of June and 1,794 at the end of July, 1922.

During the month of July on an average 291 applications were made for each 100 vacancies for men and ninety for each 100 for women. In June the figures were 297 and 101 respectively.

#### SWEDEN.

Unemployment in June.\*—Trade unions with a total membership of 131,587 reported 12,903, or 9.8 per cent., as unemployed on 30th June, 1923. The percentage unemployed at the end of the preceding month was 10.6, and on 30th June,

The following Table gives corresponding particulars for the principal unions covered by the returns:—

	Membership	Percentage Unemployed.			
Unions.	reporting on 30th June, 1923.	30th June, 1923.	31st May, 1923.	30th June, 1922.	
All Unions making Returns	131,587	9.8	10.6	20-9	
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—  Iron and steel Engineering	8,702 30,401 4,718 4,206 6,140 3,575 7,594 6,696 7,658 6,145 6,096 12,008	8·5 15·3 1·1 5·1 2·9 5·9 12·2 13·3 3·3 1·8 7·2 20·4	9·8 15·6 3·6 3·8 12·7 6·7 9·4 16·4 3·5 1·8 8 0 15·0	20 7 32 6 4 3 6 1 28 2 8 6 16 2 33 6 8 5 2 5 11 0 29 2	

Total Number Unemployed.—According to Ekonomisk Oversikt (the journal of the Swedish Board of Trade) for 1st September, the total number of persons out of work in Sweden at various dates in the present year is estimated by the Unemployment Commission to have been as follows:—49,200 (28th February), 43,400 (31st March), 35,200 (30th April), 24,100 (31st May), 20,700 (30th June), 19,000 (31st July).

#### CANADA.+

CANADA.†

Employment in August.—For 1st August, 1923, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,862 firms, with an aggregate pay-roll of 323,605. On 1st July the same firms reported 818,535 employed. There was thus an increase of 5,070 at the later date. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index number of employment for 1st August is 100 2, as compared with 99.5 for the 1st July and 93.1 for 1st August, 1922. It is pointed out that the present is the first occasion since December, 1920, that the index number has exceeded 100.

Trade Union Unemployment at End of July.—At the end of July, 2.9 per cent. of membership of trade unions were reported to be unemployed, as compared with 3.4 per cent. on 30th June, and 4.1 per cent. on 31st July, 1922.

#### AUSTRALIA. ±

Unemployment in Second Quarter, 1923.—The percentage of members of trade unions unemployed in the second quarter was 7·1, as compared with 7·2 in the preceding quarter and 9·6 in the second quarter of 1922.

#### UNITED STATES &

UNITED STATES.§

Employment in July.—The Federal Department of Labour presents figures relating to the volume of employment in July, 1923, from 6,739 representative establishments in 51 manufacturing districts, covering 2,353,258 workpeople. These establishments in June reported 2,396,012 persons employed, and the July figures consequently indicate a net decrease amounting to 1.8 per cent. This decrease in employment is the first shown since April, 1922, in this series of reports, and is largely due to seasonal causes, many establishments making a practice of closing temporarily soon after 1st July for inventory or repairs, while many workpeople take their holidays during July and August. The aggregate wages paid show a decrease of 4.7 per cent. in the same period. Twenty of the 51 industries show increases in employment in July, the greatest being 8.4 per cent. in the fertiliser industry, 5.2 per cent. in electric car building and repairing, 4.2 per cent. in baking, and 3.9 per cent. in women's clothing. Among the 29 industries showing a falling off in employment automobile tyres reports a decline of 10.3 per cent. in the numbers employed, stoves 8.3 per cent., cotton goods 7.8 per cent. and glass 7.1 per cent.

As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of last year, it is reported that 37 industries out of 43 furnishing information show for the most part increases in employment as between July, 1922, and July, 1923, steam railway car building and repairing and foundry and machine shop products both showing over 50 per cent.

\* Sociela Meddelanden, No. 8, 1923. Stockholm.
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Canadian Labour Department, Ottawa.
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Commonwealth High Commissioner in London.
§ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington.

<sup>\*</sup> Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 7th September, 1923. Paris. † Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, 1st September, 1923. Berlin.

Revue du Travail, August, 1923. Brussels. Statistiske Efterretninger, 12th September, 1923. Copenhagen Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th August, 1923. Berne.

#### OFFICIAL NOTICES, Etc.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

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#### DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire appointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit, are published by H.M. Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed.

Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual subscription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office, or at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The following are recent decisions of general interest :-

CASE No. 4976, SECTION 7 (1) (ii).—NOT UNEMPLOYED—MORNING AND EVENING WORK UNDER ONE CONTRACT—MORNING WORK DROPPED—EVENING WORK NOT AN ADDITIONAL OCCUPATION.

The applicant stated that he had been employed for nine years The applicant stated that he had been employed for nine years up to 25th March, 1923, at a picture theatre as general utility man and attendant. His hours of work as utility man were from 9 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. daily, and, as an attendant, from 6 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. each evening, at a total wage of 50s. per week, or 35s. for the morning and 15s. for the evening work. He could not have had the morning work without also doing the evening work. Owing to slackness of work he was given two weeks notice to terminate his morning work on 25th March, but he retained his evening employment at a wage of 15s. per week. He contended that he was entitled to claim benefit as from the date his morning employment ceased, but his claim was dis-

He contended that he was entitled to claim benefit as from the date his morning employment ceased, but his claim was disallowed under Section 7 (1) (ii).

Recommended by the Court of Referees, that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court thought that the morning and evening employments were under the same contract, and that, therefore, the evening work was part of the applicant's main employment. They did not think Section 7 (2) (a) applied, but leave to appeal was given in order to obtain the Umpire's decision.

Decision .- "On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed.
"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees.

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees.
"The applicant had for many years been employed at a theatre
as cleaner and general handyman in the mornings and as doorkeeper in the evenings. The working hours were 4½ hours in
the morning and 4½ in the evening, and he would not have had
the morning work unless he had taken the evening work also. I
think the morning and evening work must be regarded as
together constituting his usual employment, and, therefore, that
he has not ordinarily followed the occupation of door-keeper in addition to and outside the ordinary working hours of his usual

CASE No. 5117. SECTION 8 (1)—TRADE DISPUTE—EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION DECLARED GENERAL LOCK-OUT OWING TO DISPUTE AT WORKS OF ONE FIRM—DISPUTE EXTENDED.

The applicant, a weaver at the Midwynd Factory, Dundee, lost employment on 22nd March, 1923, in consequence of a lock-out. It appeared that in February, 1923, a dispute as to certain terms of employment arose between the employers at some mills, known as the Camperdown Works, and those of their employees who were members of the Dundee and District Union of Jute and Flax Workers. On 13th March, 1923, all employers who were members of the Employers Federation, and including those owning the mill at which the applicant was employed, gave notice that their works would be closed as from 23rd March, and notice that their works would be closed as from 20rd March, and accordingly the applicant's employment ended on 22nd March. The applicant contended that there was no dispute at the premises at which she had been employed. Her fellow workers had no dispute with their employers, the whole question in dispute being confined to the Camperdown Works.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court were satisfied that the applicant was unemployed owing to a trade dispute.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire and an appeal of the court of

oral hearing of the case took place

Decision .- " On the facts before me my decision is that the

claim for benefit should be disallowed.

"In February last there was at the Camperdown Works in Dundee a trade dispute between the employers at those works and certain of their employees connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of employment of those employees, and as a result thereof there was a stoppage of work at those

works.

"On the 13th of March all employers belonging to the Association of Jute Spinners and Manufacturers, to which Association the applicant's employers belonged, gave notice that their works would be closed on the 23rd March, and would remain closed until further notice, and, in accordance with that notice, the Midwynd Factory (at which the applicant worked as a weaver) was closed, and she thereby lost employment.

"The applicant was a member of the Dundee and District Union of Jute and Flax Workers, with whom the employers at the Camperdown Works were in dispute; but the notices given

by the members of the Employers' Federation applied not only to the members of that Union, but to all their employees

indifferently.

"At a hearing before me it was argued by Mr. Patrick Hastings, K.C., M.P., for the applicant, that there was no dispute at all at the Midwynd Factory. The dispute arose at the Camperdown Works, and the lock-out notice given at the Midwynd Factory, though an act done in furtherance of the dispute at the Camperdown Works, could not in itself be treated as showing that there was a dispute at the Midwynd Factory, which was closed pursuant to the general lock-out notice. Accordingly the stoppage of work at the Midwynd Factory was due to the lock-out notice which was given by reason of the due to the lock-out notice which was given by reason of the dispute at the Camperdown Works and not to a dispute at the Midwynd Factory.

Attorney General submitted on behalf of the Insurance Officer that the dispute was between the Employers' Federation and the Jute Workers' Union, and that it existed at all the factories belonging to members of the Federation at which members of the workers' union were employed, and that accordingly it must be inferred that there was a dispute between the employers and the employees at Midwynd Factory with regard employers and the employees at Midwynd Factory with regard to the terms of employment or the employment or non-employment of persons at the Camperdown Works. And he pointed out that if the interpretation of Section 8 (1), for which the applicant was contending was accepted, it would follow that a sympathetic strike by workmen, in furtherance of a dispute at one factory only, would not constitute a dispute at the other factories, and that the men on strike would be entitled to benefit, except in so far as they might be disqualified for voluntarily leaving without just cause, or for being not unable to obtain without just cause, or for being not unable to obtain leaving without just suitable employment.

suitable employment.

"The Attorney-General also submitted that the case fell within the principles of numerous decisions by the Umpire, in which a general lock-out declared in support of masters or workers who are in dispute has been held to extend the dispute to factories or premises other than those in which the dispute

"If the question had in this case been raised for the first time I should have had to decide for myself whether a stoppage time I should have had to decide for myself whether a stoppage of work brought about by a lock-out at a factory at which there was not otherwise a dispute, but which was declared in support of one of the parties to a trade dispute at another factory, is a stoppage of work which is due to a trade dispute at the factory from which the employees are so locked out, but the question has already been decided by the Umpire in a number of cases, and I do not feel at liberty (whatever my own opinion unaided by the wisdom of my predecessor might have been) to depart from those decisions. In several cases on the Act of 1911 the Umpire in similar circumstances decided that 'the lock-out in itself constitutes a trade dispute' or 'extended the trade dis-

Umpire in similar circumstances decided that 'the lock-out in itself constitutes a trade dispute' or 'extended the trade dispute' to the premises at which the lock-out was declared. This principle he applied in Decisions 336 and 1753 (Benefit, 1911 Act), 2170, 2239, 3793 (O.W.D.) and 437 among others.

"The construction put upon the Act of 1911 by the Umpire was well known at the time of the passing of the Act of 1920, and I must assume that, when re-enacting in the Act of 1920 the trade dispute section of the Act of 1911, Parliament intended that the later Act should be construed in the same way that the earlier Act had been construed.

earlier Act had been construed.
"I am bound, therefore, to hold that the applicant le employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to trade dispute at the factory at which she was employed."

Case No. 5125, Section 8 (1)—Trade Dispute—Lock-out in Accordance with Policy of Employers' Association Because of Strike Elsewhere—Applicant Totalia TINCONNECTED WITH STRIKERS.

The applicant, a carpet weaver, employed by a firm of ju The applicant, a carpet weaver, employed by a firm of jute and flax manufacturers and jute carpet manufacturers, lost employment on 22nd March, 1923, owing to the closing of the works at which he had been employed in consequence of a decision of the Employers' Association that all establishments of its members should be closed down because of a strike of certain spinners and weavers, members of the Jute and Flax Workers' Union, employed elsewhere (Case No. 5117, above).

The applicant contended that neither he nor his Union had any dispute with the employers. Carpet weavers were not governed by the same Boards and Councils as the members of the Union in dispute. The trade of carpet weaving was quite distinct from the jute trade. No jute spinning or weaving was

distinct from the jute trade. No jute spinning or weaving done at the factory where he was employed and his work co have been carried on without difficulty, but the Employed Association had ordered his firm to close down, although member of the Jute and Flax Workers' Union was employed.

Recommended by a majority of the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed, in view of the decis on Cases Nos. 2170 (O.W.D.), 1753 (Benefit, 1911 Act) and and 1083, on the ground that the employers had extended area of the dispute by locking out the carpet weavers. insured contributors' representative dissented on the ground to approximate the contributors are separate trade. carpet weaving was a separate trade, and had no industre connection with jute and flax weaving and spinning, and a that an agreement, which had been cited, between the applicant Association and the employers, showed that the carpet weave were not in dispute with the Employers' Association. The applicant's Association declined to accept the Court's lation, and appealed to the Umpire

recommendation, and appealed to the Umpire.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed.

"Following the principle of the decision on Case No. 5117, I must hold that the applicant lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work at the factory at which he was employed.

"Although the Union of which he was a member was not concerned in the trade dispute at the Camperdown Works, the employers by closing the factory on the 22nd March in support of the employers who were in dispute at Camperdown thereby constituted a dispute at the factory at which the applicant was employed. It is clear that the employers locked out their employees in accordance with a resolution of the Employers' Association calling on its members to close down all their works. applyees in accordance with a resolution of the Employers' ssociation calling on its members to close down all their works ving to the dispute at the Camperdown Works, in order to we support to the members of the Employers' Association in a dispute and not merely on account of a difficulty of carrying a owing to actual or expected shortage of materials or loss of salest for their cutters. arket for their output.

#### RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

#### THE INDUSTRIAL COURT

EDINBURGH FIRE BRIGADE—REDUCTION OF PAY FROM SCALES COMMENDED BY "MIDDLEBROOK" COMMITTEE.—Edinburga reporation v. National Union of Corporation Workers. The ries required a Decision of the Court as to whether in all circumstances existing at the time, the reduction of 5 per recently made in the wages of the Edinburgh Fire Brigade s justified, and, consequentially, whether wages should be tored to the previous level, as claimed by the workers. cision.—In the circumstances the Court are not prepared to d that the reduction referred to in the terms of reference was justified. Issued 2nd August, 1923. (832.)

SSUERS AND STORESMEN IN GENERAL STORES—SWINDON AND HER DEPOTS ON GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY—FIXING OF RATES GRADING.—Great Western Railway v. Workers' Union and tional Union of Railwaymen. Decision.—The Court decided at at Swindon 7s. per week of the war wage or bonus should incorporated in the base rates of the issuers and storesmen, wing a present war wage or bonus of 16s. 6d. per week, and at the base rates at Swindon should be:—

e Court consider that in the other Stores Department depôts different issuers and storesmen should be graded and rated the parties as far as may be, and having regard to their ies, in the manner shown above for Swindon. The Decision, th as regards Swindon and the other depôts, is to come into eration on 1st October, 1923, and in the event of a settlement peration on 1st October, 1923, and in the event of a settlement of being reached by that date, it will be open to the management to fix a rate and/or grade for any employee, who will, if ggrieved, have a right of appeal to the Court. Any resultant iteration of pay exceeding 2s. per week shall take effect to be extent of 2s. per week as from 1st October, 1923, and at the ate of 2s. per week (or such part thereof as may remain) as something the period of the first day of each succeeding calendar month. In the event of any national or general settlement being made in respect for the rates for men in Stores Departments of Railway Companies, he rates prescribed in the Decision may come under review. rates prescribed in the Decision may come under review sued 2nd August, 1923. (833.)

WHELL TURNERS, TENDER FITTERS.—Amalgamated Engineering Union v. London and North Eastern Railway (North Eastern Section). Decision.—It being agreed that the men contended are fully skilled fitters and turners, the Court consider they are entitled to be paid the fitters' and turners' rate. The Decision is to operate as from the beginning of the payoriod next after 28th March, 1923. Issued 3rd August, 1923.

OINER AT BUCHLYVIE-CLASSIFICATION-JOINERS AT CARSTAIRS Joiner at Buchlyvie—Classification—Joiners at Carstairs—Meal Allowance—Decision No. 728, Schedule F, Condition Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers v. London and North Castern Railway at Buchlyvie and London, Midland and Scotish Railway at Carstairs. Decision.—The joiner at Buchlyvies paid in accordance with an agreement between the Scottish Railway Companies and the various Unions. The Court felt, lowever, that there are circumstances special to the case which high twell be made the subject of further consideration by the company. The case of the joiners at Carstairs is not one which omes within Condition 9, Schedule F, Decision No. 728, and the nen are now therefore entitled to meal allowance thereunder.

Defense Manney And Manney Research Research

DRESSMAKERS AND MILLINERS-RATES OF PAY-EXCESS OVER PADE BOARD MINIMUM RATES.—The Northern Co-operative ociety, Ltd., v. The National Amalgamated Union of Shop ssistants, Warehousemen and Clerks. Decision.—That, as from

the first full pay week after the date of the Decision, the rates of pay of the workpeople shall be as follows :-

(1) Learners, Trade Board rates, plus a bonus of 5 per

(2) Those with over four years' and not exceeding six ears' experience, a minimum of 7½d. per hour, plus a bonus

of 5 per cent.

(3) Those with over six years' experience, a minimum of 83d. per hour. These workers are not to receive any fixed bonus addition to the minimum of 83d., but the Society should consider favourably the case of individuals who show exceptional ability.

The Decision is to remain in force unless and until there is an alteration of the Trade Board rates, in which case the matter would fall to be reconsidered. Issued 10th August, 1923. (836.)

PLUMBERS, DUNDEE-RATE OF WAGES .- The Dundee and Dis-Plumbers, Dundee—Rate of Wages.—The Dundee and District Master Plumbers' Association v. United Operative Plumbers' and Domestic Engineers' Association. The question before the Court was the rate payable as from 16th July, 1923. Decision.—The case is raised as a purely local issue, and no case was made out for a higher rate than that now prevailing in Glasgow and Edinburgh, viz.: 1s. 7d. per hour; on the question as to whether the plumbers' rate should be on a basis higher than that of other craftsmen in the Building Industry, the Court on this occasion offered no opinion, as such a matter should only be considered and decided in its wider aspects. Issued 10th August, 1923. (837.)

BOILER AND PIPE COVERERS-LONDON-CLAIM FOR REDUCTION IN WAGES—PAYMENT FOR HOLIDAYS.—The Master Boiler Coverers' Federation (1915), London Section, v. The National Amalgamated Union of Labour, London District. This case involved London employers and London workpeople only.

Decision.—The Court decided that a case had been made out for Decision.—The Court decided that a case had been made out for a reduction of wages, but not to the full amount claimed, and further decided that the standard rate of wages of the men concerned should be reduced by ½d. per hour as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the Decision, by a further ½d. per hour as from the beginning of the first full pay period in October, 1923, and by a further ½d. per hour as from the first full pay period in November, 1923, making the rate thereafter 1s. 3¾d. per hour. On the question of the continuance during the present year of the paid holiday arrangement, the Trade Union representatives proposed for the consideration of the Court a grant of pay to such of the workers as could not now be given a holiday. Having regard to all the circumstances of the case, the Court are of opinion that the suggestion recently made by the employers of payment of wages for one-half of the holiday period which would otherwise have been due is a fair one, and should be acted upon. Issued 22nd August, 1923. (838.)

Employees at Royal Military College and Staff College.

EMPLOYEES AT ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE AND STAFF COLLEGE, EMPLOYEES AT ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE AND STAFF COLLEGE, CAMBERLEY—INCREASE IN BASE RATES.—The Official and Trade Union Sides of the Miscellaneous Trades Joint Council for Government Industrial Establishments. Decision.—The Court were of opinion that a claim had been established for some increase in basic rates of pay, and they decided that, as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the Decision, an advance of 1s. 3d. per week should be made in the basic rate of wages of the men concerned. Issued 22nd August, 1923. (839.)

NAVVIES AND LABOURERS ON SEWERAGE CONTRACTS—RATES OF PAY.—Rural District Council of Llantrisant and Llantwit Vardre v. The "Altogether" Builders' Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society. The question at issue was as to whether the workmen should be paid in accordance with the rates of payment applicable to a Grade I. or Grade II. Area. rates of payment applicable to a Grade I. or Grade II. Alec. Decision.—Having regard to the nature and character of the neighbourhood where the works are being carried out, the Court came to the conclusion and so decided that Grade I. or Class I. is not the appropriate rate, and that the rate that should be paid is that which is paid for a Class II. Area. Issued 28th August, 1923. (840.)

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

Gasmen and Cleaners: Blochairn Works.—Iron and Steel Trades Confederation v. Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association (No. 1 Division). Difference: As to the manning in regard to gasmen and cleaners respectively of the producers regard to gasmen and cleaners respectively of the producers fitted with mechanical feed and Chapman Agitator at the Blochairn Works of the Steel Company of Scotland, Limited. Board of Arbitration: Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. (Chairman), Mr. W. Simons (Employers' representative) and Mr. W. Dodgson (Workpeople's representative). Award: The manning of the producers should be one gasman and one cleaner to four producers. Issued 1st August, 1923. (I.R. 1228/2/1923.)

Boilermen, Rateau Drivers, etc.: Blaenavon.—National Boilermen, Rateau Drivers, etc.: Blaenavon.—National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics. Motormen and Electrical Workers v. Blaenavon Company, Limited, Blaenavon. Difference: (a) Whether the boilermen (top and bottom landing), rateau drivers, electric generating engine drivers and sub-station attendants, while not paid in accordance with blast furnace conditions normally, should continue to receive the holiday payment of time-and-a-half for ten holidays in each year. (b) Or what payment for holidays should obtain.

Board of Arbitration: Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. (Chairman), Mr. George Pate, O.B.E. (Employers' representative), and the Rt. Hon. J. R. Clynes, M.P. (Workpeople's representative). Award: The workers concerned should not in future continue to be paid the holiday payment of time-and-a-half for ten holidays in each year, but should be paid in future in lieu thereof at the rate of double time for five holidays in each year, i.e., Christmas and Boxing Days, Easter Monday, Whit Monday and the August Monday Bank Holiday. Issued 31st August, 1923. (I.R. 1369/2/1923)

#### AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

CARTERS: STEPNEY.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. E. Lloyd and Sons, Limited, Mile End, contracting for the Stepney Borough Council. Difference: Claim for annual holidays with pay and for payment for statutory holidays in accordance with the London Road Transport Agreement of February, 1922. Agreement: The difference between the parties should be referred to the Road Transport Council for settlement. Signed 13th August, 1923. (I.R. 1375/1923.)

CLAY WORKERS: BRIDGWATER.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Bridgwater Clay Employers' Association. Difference: Application for wages increases. Agreement: Dayworkers should receive an advance of 1s. per week as from the 2nd August, 1923, with stabilisation until March, 1924. Various other grievances were rectified. Agreed 2nd August, 1923. (I.R. 1202/1923.)

QUARRYMEN: LLANDEBIE.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Lime Firms, Limited, Llandebie. Difference: Dismissal of some of the older employees and the retention of younger men. Agreement: The men would resume work on the understanding that a joint conference would be held. Agreed 30th August, 1923. (I.R. 1388/1923.)

#### TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

#### ORDERS.

Orders confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the following Trade Boards have been made under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918:—

#### Made-up Textiles Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order M.T. (7), dated 14th August, 1923, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying the 27th August, 1923, as the date from which the rates as varied should ecome effective.

General Minimum Time-Rates:—(a) for certain specified

General Minimum Time-Rates:—(a) for certain specified classes of workers, 1s. 1d. per hour for males of 21 and over, and  $6\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour for females of 18 and over; (b) for other male workers of 21 and over,  $10\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour; (c) for other female workers of 18 and over,  $6\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour; (d) lower rates for younger workers and learners of both sexes.

Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates:—(1) 1s. 2d. and  $7\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour respectively for the workers specified in (a) above; (2)  $11\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour for all other male workers; (3)  $7\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour for all other

female workers.

The definitions, conditions and provisions governing the application of the minimum rates set out in M.T. (7) are contained in a separate pamphlet, M.T. (8).

#### Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order J. (31), dated 27th August 1923, confirming a piecework basis time-rate of  $7\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour and overtime rates (as varied) for female weavers employed on piece-work in the area of Carnoustie (i.e., the Burgh of Carnoustie, the parish of Barry and the parish of Panbride), and specifying the 3rd September, 1923, as the date from which the rates as fixed and as varied

should become effective.

Order made by the Minister of Labour for Northern Ireland under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the undernoted Trade

#### Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.H.M. (8), dated the 3rd August, 1923, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying the 20th August, 1923, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rates (as varied) are:—
(a) 1s. 0½d. per hour for male workers of 22 years of age and

(b) 23d. to 103d. per hour (according to age) for male workers

under 22 years of age.
(c) For female workers of 22 years of age and over with not less than three years' experience in the retail branch of the trade —8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. per hour in Belfast and Londonderry and 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. per hour in other areas

(d) For other female workers (other than learners) in the retail branch— $7_2^{\rm t}$ d. per hour in Belfast and Londonderry and  $6_2^{\rm t}$ d. per hour in other areas.

For female workers employed as knife cutters and blockers For other female workers (other than learners) 7d. pe

The piece-work basis time-rates (as varied) are:-

(a) 1s. 2d. per hour for male workers.
(b) 7½d. to 11d. per hour for female workers according to

#### CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE "COST-OF-LIVING" FIGURE.

The "cost of living" index figure having risen to 71, a recorded in the August issue of this GAZETTE, the minimum rate of wages effective from 1st September, 1923, are those appliable during the period when the "cost of living" figure fal within the limits specified by the respective undermentione Trade Boards.

These rates will remain in operation so long as the "cost of living" figure remains within the limits so specified.

#### Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain).

The rates applicable are those set out in the Board's Notices D. (19), (20) and (21) for the period when the "cost of living" figure is not more than 90 but more than 70. The principal rates operative during this period are as follows:— General Minimum Time-Rates:—

(A) Male Workers.

(i) Surgical bootmakers, 1s. 8d. per hour.
(ii) Male workers of 21 and over with at least 3 months' experience in operating-

(a) Power sole stitchers or both power sole stitchers and Blake (or Richardson) machines and employed whole time in operating such machines, 74s. per week.

(b) Blake or Richardson machines and employed whole

time in operating such machines, 70s. per week.

(iii) Pressmen responsible for cutting and costing, 70s. per

(v) Foremen and managers, 74s. per week.
(v) Male workers other than those specified above, 60s. per

(vi) Learners and apprentices. Lower rates operate for these younger workers providing conditions laid down by the Trade Board are complied with.

(B) Female Workers.
(i) Surgical bootmakers, 1s. 8d. per hour.

(ii) Foremen and managers, 74s. per week.
(iii) Workers other than learners employed on benching and/or

finishing, 60s. per week.

(iv) All other workers of 21 and over, 42s. per week.

(v) Learners and other younger workers. Lower rates are

A guaranteed time-rate of 74s. per week is effective for foremen and managers, and for female workers employed as foremen and managers a guaranteed time-rate of 70s. is in force.

General Minimum Piece-Rates.—The rates for repairing and certain items of surgical work set out in the Board's Notice D. (21) must be reduced by 7½ per cent.

NOTE.—A week means a week of 48 hours.

#### Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain).

The rates applicable as from 1st September, 1923, are those set out in the Board's Notices M. (35), (36) and (37) for the period during which the "cost of living" figure is less than

The principal rates operative during this period are a

General Minimum Time-Rates :—(a) Male workers of 21 year of age and over employed on (i) certain specified occupations 1s. 13d. per hour; (ii) all other operations, 11d. per hour; (b) female workers: (i) pan hands (all ages), 6½d., 10d. or 1s. 13d per hour according to nature of work; (ii) other workers of 2 years of age and over, 6½d. per hour; (c) lower rates for younge male and female workers, learners and apprentices.

Guaranteed time-rates for female learners, 23d. to 53d. pe

hour according to age at entry and experience.

Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates: (a) Female workers (other that pan hands), 74d, per hour; (b) female pan hands (other that learners), 74d, and 11d, per hour according to the operations of which employed.

General Minimum Piece Put

General Minimum Piece-Rates: A reduction of  $21\frac{1}{4}$  per cen from the rates specified in the Board's Notice M. (37).

#### Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

The rates applicable per week of 48 hours are those set on in the Board's Notice P. (9) for the period when the "cost or living" figure is less than 81 but not less than 71, and ar summarised below:—

General Minimum Time Rates :-

(A) Male Workers.

(i) Machine tacklers, 23 years of age and over, 69s., with

lower rates for younger workers.

(ii) Paper bag cutters, 23 years of age and over, 62s. 6d., with lower rates for younger workers.

(iii) Hydraulic pressers, slitters, stock-keepers, packers and despatchers of 21 years of age and over, 55s., 56s.

#### September, 1923. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

57s. 6d., 59s. 6d. during the first, second and third twelve months and subsequent employment in the same occupation

respectively.
(iv) All other workers other than learners, 55s., with lower rates for learners.

(B) Female workers, including home workers, 30s. 6d., with

Piece-work basis time-rate for all female workers, 32s.

#### Paper Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

The rates applicable per week of 48 hours are those set out in the Board's Notice B. (10) for the period when the "cost of figure is less than 81 but not less than 71, and are

General Minimum Time-Rates :-

(A) Male Workers.

(i) Machine minders, die makers, forme setters, cutters (including shears and guillotine) and head stock-keepers of 23 years of age and over, 68s. 6d., with lower rates for younger workers.

(ii) All other male workers other than learners, 51s., with

lower rates for learners.
(B) Female workers other than learners, 30s. 6d., with lower

rates for learners.

Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates: (i) Male workers other than those specified in (A) (i) above, 57s. 6d.; (ii) female workers, 32s. 6d.

Copies of Orders relating to Great Britain may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, at the addresses shown on the cover, price 3d. net. Orders relating to Northern Ireland may be obtained either directly or through any bookseller, from W. Erskine Mayne, Donegall Square West, Belfast.

#### NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Notices of proposal to vary minimum rates of wages have been issued by the following Trade Boards:—

#### Cotton Waste Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain)

Proposal C.W. (13), dated 20th August, 1923, to vary, by eduction, the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates or male and female workers.

## Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making Trade Board (Great Britain)

Proposals U. (11) and (12), dated 28th August, 1923, to vary, reduction, general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-es and overtime rates for female workers [U. (11)], and to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male workers in the coffin furniture section of the trade for periods dependent upon the "cost of living" index figure [U. (12)].

#### Milk Distributive Trade Board (Scotland).

Proposal M.D.S. (7), dated 3rd September, 1923, to vary, by reduction, general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for nale and female workers of certain ages.

## Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.H.H.G. (N. 22), dated 24th August, 1923, to vary eneral Minimum Piece-Rates and Overtime Rates for certain assess of Female Workers.

Particulars of the minimum rates proposed above may be btained by reference to the London, Edinburgh or Belfast

#### REPORT OF INOUIRY.

Public Inquiry held by Sir William Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C., into the Scope of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board and the Button-Making Trade Board.

[A summary of the Reports made by Sir William Mackenzie nto the Scope of these Trade Boards is given on page 320].

#### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

THE Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated the 11th Septem ber, that he proposes, at the expiration of forty days from the publication of the notice, to make an Order, in pursuance of sections 54 and 59 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, rescinding the provisions of the Order of the 21st May, 1913, which relate to the night employment of male young persons of sixteen years and upwards in parts of factories in which reverberatory, and reconcertive furnesses are researched. eratory and regenerative furnaces are used; and re-enacting

those provisions in a modified form.

Copies of the draft of the proposed Order may be obtained on application to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

#### COAL MINES ACT, 1911, AND MINING INDUSTRY ACT, 1920.

EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES AS MANAGERS AND UNDER-Managers and for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines.

An Examination for First and Second Class Certificates of Com-AN Examination for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under-Managers of Mines will be held on the 21st and 22nd November, 1923, at Edinburgh, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff and Birmingham.

The written part of an Examination for Certificates of Quali-

fication as Surveyors of Mines will be held at the same Con the 22nd November, 1923.

Applications for the necessary Forms should be made not later than the 1st October, 1923. In order that the appropriate Forms may be sent, it is important that Candidates should state whether they have already sat at one or more of the Board's examinations.

Letters should be addressed to "The Secretary, Board for Mining Examinations, Mines Department, Dean Stanley Street, Millbank, London, S.W. 1."

#### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED RELATING TO LABOUR.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.—Interim report on meat, poultry and eggs. Departmental Committee on distribution and prices of agricultural produce. Ministry of Agriculture. (Cmd. 1927:

ALIENS.—Aliens Order, 1920. A return of alien passengers, excluding transmigrants, landed, embarked, and refused leave to land, in the United Kingdom during the three months ending June 30, 1923. (Cmd. 1688-1: price 2d.)

CENSUS.—Census of England and Wales, 1921 (a) County of Monmouth, (b) County of Stafford, (c) County of Warwick, (d) County of Worcester. (S.O. publications: price 8s. 6d., 12s., 6s. 6d., 8s. each.)

COAL TIPPERS AND TRIMMERS.—Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Report by a court of enquiry concerning hours of labour of coal tippers and trimmers in South Wales. Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 1948: price 3d.) (See page 323.)

EX-SERVICE MEN.—Second interim report of the Committee on the initial salary of "Lytton entrants," and the appointment of ex-Service men to posts in the Civil Service. Treasury. (S.O.publication: price 1d.) (See page 322.)

Health, Ministry of.—Fourth annual report, 1922-1923. Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 1944: price 4s.) (See page 320.)

Housing.—(1) Second interim report of the Interdepartmental Committee appointed to survey the prices of building materials. Ministry of Health and Board of Trade. (Cmd. 1935: price 6d.) (2) Interdepartmental Committee appointed to survey the prices of building materials. Chairman's report for the month of August, 1925. Ministry of Health and Board of Trade. (Cmd. 1956: price 2d.)

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.—Second report of the miners' nystagmus Committee. Medical Research Council. (S.O. publication price 9d.) (See page 324.)

MINING.—Miners' Welfare Fund. First report (1921-1922) of the Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to allocate the Fund. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publica-tion: price 1s. 6d.) (See page 323.)

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—Reports of decisions on appeals and applications under section 67 of the National Insurance Act, 1911, and section 27 of the National Insurance Act, 1913.
Vol. 2, Part I. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication: price

STATE SERVANTS.—Report of Committee on pay, etc., of State servants. (S.O. publication: price 6d.) (See page 321.)

TRADE BOARDS.—Report by Sir William Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C., Commissioner appointed by the Minister of Labour, concerning the scope of the Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board and the Button-making Trade Board. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication: price 1s. 3d.) (See page 320.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—Report of the Committee appointed to consider the position of out-workers in relation to unemployment insurance. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication price 6d.) tion: price 6d.) (See page 318.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1921. Text. (New Annual Series No. 1.) (S.O. publication: price 5s.)

Women's Training and Employment.—Second interim report of the Central Committee on women's training and employment, for the period ending 31st December, 1922. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication: price 6d.) (See page 317.)

#### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, AUGUST, 1923.

#### ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.)

Accumulators: Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.—Blowers, Motor-driven, Blast Mains, Forges, etc.: Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., Aylesbury, Nottingham and London.—Brass, Naval, Bars: J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., and London.—Brass, Naval, Bars: J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham.—Brass, Naval, Plates and Sheets: Vivian & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Caps, Reconditioning: S. Schneiders & Son, London, E.—Cells: London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.; Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.—Cocks, Gunmetal and Plated: H. Bisseker, Ltd., Birmingham: Sir, I Laing & Song Itd. Syndesland, Hayward Essex.—Cocks, Gunmetal and Plated: H. Bisseker, Ltd., Birmingham; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; The Stroud Metal Co., Ltd., Stroud, Glos.; Hyde & Sons, Wolverhampton.—Cocks, Steam, Gunmetal and Torpedo Fittings: W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse; Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; C. S. Madan & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Crane, Travelling, Electric: Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Cranes, Wall: Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—Engines, Oil: Vickers-Petters, Ltd., Ipswich.—Engines, Pumping, Parts for: Fullerton, Hodgart & Barclay, Paisley.—Floating Stages: Frank Bevis, Ltd., Portsmouth.—Generating Sets: Douglas & Grant, Ltd., Kirk-caldy.—Hawse Pipes Steel Castings: J. Rogerson & Co., Ltd., Wolsingham, Durham.—Ingots, Manganese Bronze: Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Jam: J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester; Scott Preserve Makers, Ltd., Hayes; J. Keiller & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.—Lamps, Lanterns and Coast. Eli. Chilithe & Son, Elizable Research. Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S. W.—Jam: J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester; Scott Preserve Makers, Ltd., Hayes; J. Keiller & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.—Lamps, Lanterns and Gear: Eli Griffiths & Sons, Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Leather Straps: S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. H. Fenner & Co., Hull; G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—Machine, Cylinder Grinding: Churchill Machine Tool Newcastle.—Machine, Cylinder Grinding: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester.—Machine, Universal Gear Cutting: J. Holroyd & Co., Ltd., Milnrow, Rochdale.—Nails, etc., Copper: Harrison & Cook, Birmingham; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Combination Metallic Packing Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Plant, Steam Generating: J. S. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight.—Tapes: Bole Hall Mill Co., Tamworth; G. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley; J. Lilley & Sons, Derby.—Test Bed, Cast Iron: Fullerton, Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley.—Threads: Lindsay, Thompson & Co., Ltd., Belfast.—Ties, Black Silk: Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Timber, English: The Baltic Saw Mills Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells; R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—Tubing, Canvas Hose: F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—Turntables, Parts for: Manchester; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—Turntables, Parts for: Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—Vinegar: Crosse & Blackwell (Mfg.) Co., Ltd., London, W.—Water Closets and Gear: R. Brown & Son, Ltd., Paisley; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Paisley; Shanks & Co., Ltd., Barrhead, Glasgow.—Water Tubing and Fittings: Harry W. Wyld, West Bromwich; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Winches, Mine-hauling: Brown Bros., Ltd., Edinburgh,

#### ADMTRALTY

#### (CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.)

Portsmouth: Portland Cement: The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Shotley: Reconstruction of Roads: Mr. E. J.

#### WAR OFFICE

Batteries, Elect: Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., London, S.W.; C. A. Vandervell & Co., Ltd., London, W.—Boots: Northants Productive Society, Wollaston; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Raunds; S. Walker, Walgrave.—Brassfoundry, Plumber and Hot Water: United Brass Founders & Engineers Co., Ormskirk.—
Buckets, Pails and Tubs: S. Turner & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge.—
Clothing, Miscellaneous: J. Hammond (1922), Ltd., Newcastleunder-Lyme.—Copper Ingot: Brandies, Goldschmidt & Co.,
London, E.C.; British American Metals Co., Ltd., London, E.C.
—Copper, Sheet: Broughton Copper Co., Ltd., Manchester.—
Cotton Waste, Coloured: A. Smart & Sons, Manchester.—Cotton Cotton Waste, Coloured: A. Smart & Sons, Manchester.—Cotton Waste, White: C. E. Austen & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—Dowlas, Tan: Brookfield Linen Co., Ltd., Belfast.—Flannel, Grey: J. Bradbury & Co. (Saddleworth), Ltd., Upper Mill, Lancashire.—Flannelette: W. N. Berry & Sons, Colne; Schofield, Preston & Co., Ltd., Nelson.—Galvanised Corrugated Steel Sheets: Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall.—Glazed Ware, Drain Pipes, etc.: Harriman, W., & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Harness, Collars, etc.: Wilmot Bennett, Walsall.—Hose Pipes, Canvas: The Raven Hose & Belting Co., Ltd., Salford.—Helmet Bodies: E. Day (St. Albans), Ltd., St. Albans.—Kettles, Tea: Thos. Sheldon & Co.,

Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Leathers, Stirrup, etc.: D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Linoleum: M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Lockers, Steel: Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., Stratford.—Metal Rod, Copper Alloy: Delta Metal Co., Ltd., East Greenwich.—Meters, Steam: Electric Flow Meters Co., London.—Motor Bodies: T. H. Gill & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; Hoods & Bodies, Ltd., Harlesden.—Nickel: Mond Nickel Co., Ltd., Swansea.—Motor Spares: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—Paving Bricks: Bispham Hall Colliery Co., Wigan.—Pins, Sliding (Beds): Samuel Lewis & Co., Ltd., Dudley.—Pneumatic Covers: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., London, N.W., and Birmingham.—Pyjamas: Barron Walton, Manchester; Bryce & Weston, London, E.C.—Repair of Locomotives: Avonside Enginering Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Sashes, Silk and Worsted: Dalton, Barton & Co. Pyjamas: Barron Walton, Manchester; Bryce & Weston, London, E.C.—Repair of Locomotives: Avonside Enginering Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Sashes, Silk and Worsted: Dalton, Barton & Co., Coventry.—Sheets, Cotton: G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.—Sheets, Linen: Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Brechin, N.B.—Shoes, Canvas: Stead & Simpson, Ltd., Leicester.—Slop Pails: Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Steel Framework for Huts: Wood, H., & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Steel, Round: Barrow Hematite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—Steel, Square: Cammel Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—White Spirit: Gas Lighting Improvement Co., Ltd., West Ham.—Wire, Barbed: Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington.—Zinc or Spelter Ingots: British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London.—Works Services: Maintenance Works: Shorncliffe: Thos. Carr, Halifax. Dover (East): C. J. Else & Co., Matlock, Derby. Maryhill Barracks: J. Dunbar & Co., Glasgow. Dover (West): F. Holdsworth, Shipley, Yorks. Lichfield—Whittington Barracks: R. S. Kerrington & Sons, Derby. Longmoor: Henry Mellor, Woking. Sandhurst: Morgan & Son, Ash Vale, Surrey. Ballykinlar: R. D. Pollock & Co., Bangor, Co. Down.—Building Works: Canterbury: G. Browning, Canterbury. Reforming Roads at Richmond Barracks: Coxhead & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Alteration to Stores, etc., Canterbury: L. T. Dadds, Canterbury. Hilsea: F. Metteill & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Glasgow—Maryhill Barracks, Resurfacing Roads: W. G. Walker & Sons, Parkhead, Glasgow. Provision of a Quarter for Quartermaster Weedon Equitation School: W. W. Webster, Guilsborough, Northants.—Painting: Chatham: F. Holdsworth, Shipley, Yorks.

AIR MINISTRY.

Accumulators: Peto & Radford, London, S.W.—Aeroplanes: Fairey Aviation Co., Hayes, Middlesex; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Edgware, Middlesex.—Aeroplane Spares: A. V. Roe & Co., Manchester; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Bristol.—Aircraft: H. G. Hawker Eng. Co., Kingston-on-Thames; Armstrong Whitworth Co., Coventry; Fairey Aviation Co., Hayes, Middlesex.—Aircraft (Reconditioning): A. V. Roe & Co., Newton Heath, Manchester; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., Cowes, I.W.; Short Bros., Rochester.—Aircraft Spares: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol, A. V. Roe & Co., Newton Heath, Manchester; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; G. Parnall & Co., Bristol; Supermarine Aviation Co., Southampton; Westland Aircraft Co., Yeovil.—Airscrews: D. M. Davies, London, N.—Battery Booster to Power House. J. Enock & Co., Sheffield.—Building Works Services—Permarent Barrack Blocks (Uxbridge): J. Parkinson & Sons (Blackpool), Ltd., London, W.C. Barrack Blocks (Northolt): AIR MINISTRY. nent Barrack Blocks (Uxbridge): J. Parkinson & Sons (Black pool), Ltd., London, W.C. Barrack Blocks (Spittlegate): Laing & Son, Ltd., London, W.C. Barrack Blocks (Northolt W. Willett, Ltd., London, S.W. Boundary Fencing (Uxbridge Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Wolverhampton. Heating Flig Sheds (Biggin Hill): Brightside Foundry Co., Sheffield. Man—Underground (Digby): Macintosh Cable Co., Walton, Live pool. Married Quarters (Manston): J. W. Heath, Ltd., Chelse S.W. Married Quarters (Digby): Hutchinson & Sons, Sleafor Lincs. Married Quarters (Digby): Hutchinson & Sons, Claivers & Sons, Norwich. Cartridges Signal: Brock & Co., Sutton, Surrey. Lincs. Married Quarters (Netheravon): W. E. Chivers & Sons, Devizes. Married Quarters (Bircham Newton): E. J. Edwards, Norwich. Cartridges Signal: Brock & Co., Sutton, Surrey.—Cotton Waste: Richard Garside, Ltd., Manchester.—Engine (Aircraft) Spares: W. Jessop & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—Engine Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engine (Aircraft) Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engine (Aircraft) Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engine (Aircraft) Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines (Experimental Work and Supply of Parts)—Seven Contracts: Ricardo & Co. (Engines), Ltd., London, S.W.—Fire Extinguishers: The General Fire Appliance Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Floats for Seaplanes: Fairey Aviation Co., Hayes, Middlesex.—Ford 1-ton Vans: Wallace Harmer Motors, Ltd., London, W.C.—Gas Coke (Halton): A. G. Dawbarn, London, E.C.—Magnetos: Simms Motor Units (1920), Ltd., London, W.—Metal Hull for Aircraft: English Electric Co., London, W.C.—Patent Impulse Starters: S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—Piping, Galvanised, W.I.: S. Dixon & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—Radiators (Crossley): Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—Radium Compound: F. Harrison Glen, London, S.W.—Rolls Royce Chassis Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Standard Terne Plates: Skimwell & Co., London, E.—Timber: Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.O.—Tyres: Avon India Rubber Co., Melksham, Wilts; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Rapson: Rapson Tyre & Jack Co., Ltd., New Malden, Surrey. GENERAL POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonie: Automatic Telephone Manfg. Co., Ltd., jiverpool; British L.M. Ericsson Manfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.; General Electric Co., Ltd., (Peel-Conner Tele. Wks.), Goventry; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Phoenix Pelephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Stros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Sterling Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, Ltd., London, W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, Ltd., London, W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., (Peel-Leads, Ltd., Ltd., Ltd., Ltd., (Peel-L E.—Apparatus, Testing and Protective: Evershed & Vig-noles, Ltd., London, W.; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Peel-Conner Telephone Works), Stoke, Coventry; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.; Ernest Turner, High Wycombe.—Bends and Couplings, Cast Iron: Planet Foundry Co., Ltd., Guide Bridge, Manchester; John Varley & Co., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.— Manchester; John Varley & Co., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.— Brackets, Iron: McGregor Bros., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.—Cabinets, Telephone: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Cable, Submarine: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, , Prescot; Connolly's (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Man ster; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric chester; Enneld Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Peel-Conner Telephone Works), Coventry; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; G. R. Jackson, Ltd., Reading; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex.—Caps, Lamp: British L.M. Ericsson Manfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.—Castings, Joint Box: Frederick Bird & Co., West Drayton, Middlesex; United Steel Companies, Ltd. (Thomas Butlin & Co. Branch), Irthling-Steel Companies, Ltd. (Thomas Butlin & Co. Branch), Irthling-borough, Wellingborough.—Gloth, Cotton: John Booth & Co., Ltd., Manchester; W. E. Goodwin & Co., Manchester; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. Hunter & Son, Ltd., Manchester; Kllett, Woodman & Co., Ltd., Bradford; John R. Smith, Ltd., Manchester; F. Taylor & Sons, Manchester.—Condensers: Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex; General Electric Co., Ltd., (Peel-Conner Telephone Works), Coventry.—Cords for Telephones: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Covers, Tyre: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Cycles, Motor: H. Collier & Sons, London, S.E.; Enfield Cycle Co., Ltd., Redditch.—Ducts: Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville, Burton-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Springfield, Dudley, Worc., and St. Helens, Lancs.; Hepworth Iron Co., Ltd., Hazelhead, Sheffield; George Jennings, Parkstone, Dorset; Mountford, ead, Sheffield; George Jennings, Parkstone, Dorset; Mountford hillips & Co. (1920), Ltd., Llantrisant; Oates and Green, Ltd. forley Green, Halifax; J. Place & Sons, Ltd., Darwen; Rainford Horley Green, Halifax; J. Place & Sons, Ltd., Darwen; Rainford Potteries, Ltd., Rainford, St. Helens; Robinson and Dowler, Ltd., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent; Stanley Brothers, Ltd., Nundaton; Sutton & Co. (Overseal), Ltd., Overseal, Ashby-de-la-Louch; J. H. Turner & Lisney, Ltd., London, N.; James Woodward, Ltd., Swadlincote.—Fuses: British L.M. Ericsson Manfg. Do., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.—Handcarts: Thomas Holyoak & Sons, Varborough, Leicester.—Huts, Portable: W. Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., London, N.—Insulators: Taylor, Tunnicliffe & Co., Ltd., Hanley, Staffs.—Kiosks, Concrete: Bristol Concrete Co., Ltd., Backwell; A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, W.; D. G. Somerville & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Line, Sash: J. T. Davis, Ltd., London, E.—Paper: Reed and Smith, Ltd., Silverton, Cullompton.—Signs, Call Office: J. A. Jordan & Sons, Ltd., Bilston; Willings, E.I. Dept., Birmingham.—Sleeves, Lead: G. Cullompton.—Signs, Call Office: J. A. Jordan & Sons, Ltd., Bilston; Willings, E.I. Dept., Birmingham.—Sleeves, Lead: G. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sleeves, Paper: Samuel O'Neill & Sons, Ltd., Castleton, Manchester.—Solder: Tyne Solder Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Spindles for Insulators: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.; P. W. Lench, Ltd., Blackheath, Birmingham.—Swivels, Stay: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—Tube, Lead: T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., London, S.W.—String: Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belast; I. N. 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