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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, DISPUTES, AND PRICES IN NOVEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued bad during November. In some industries, including coal, iron, and shale mining, tinsplate and steel sheet manufacture, and the hosiery and silk trades, an improvement was reported, but in a number of others, including the engineering, shipbuilding, brick, cement, pottery and building trades, there was a further decline.

The percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received was 15·9 at the end of November, compared with 15·6 at the end of October. The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act was 15·7 on 2nd December, as compared with 14·9 on 4th November. The percentages for males and females at 2nd December were 17·7 and 10·6 respectively.

The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 2nd December was approximately 1,834,000, of whom 1,415,000 were men and 318,000 were women, and the remainder were boys and girls. At 4th November the number on the live register was 1,729,000, of whom 1,332,000 were men and 294,000 were women.

In addition to those unemployed, 155,000 males and 113,000 females were registered on 2nd December as working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At 4th November the corresponding figures were 153,000 males and 99,000 females.

The number of vacancies notified by employers to Exchanges and unfilled at the 2nd of December was 18,100, of which 4,400 were for men and 11,800 for women, compared with 19,600 at the 4th of November.

WAGES.

Changes in rates of wages reported as having come into operation in November, in the industries for which statistics are compiled by the Department, resulted in a total reduction of approximately £1,150,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 3,450,000 workpeople.

The wages of coal miners were reduced in all districts as a result of adjustments made on the basis of the proceeds of the industry in September, the decreases on the rates current in October varying from 12 to 30 per cent., and exceeding 20 per cent. in most districts. In the engineering and shipbuilding trades one-third of the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. on earnings granted in 1917 and 1918 to adult male timeworkers and pieceworkers, respectively, was withdrawn. There was a reduction of 45 per cent. on the standard rates of steel melters (equal to about 19 or 21 per cent. on current rates). Tinsplate makers in South Wales and Monmouthshire sustained a net decrease equivalent to about 19 per cent. on current rates. There were also numerous reductions under the operation of sliding scales by which wages fluctuate with the index numbers of cost of living, the workpeople affected by such reductions including civil engineering workers, women and girls in the engineering trade, brass, bedstead, hollow-ware and edge

tool workers in the Midlands, electric cable makers, silversmiths and jewellery, etc., makers, woollen workers in the West of England, silk workers at Macclesfield, road transport workers in Scotland, furniture trade operatives and bakers in various districts, vehicle builders, coopers, and employees of gas, electricity, and tramway undertakings.

Since the beginning of 1921 changes in rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of £5,560,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 7,000,000 workpeople, and a net increase of £20,000 in the wages of nearly 120,000 workpeople.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in November was 74. In addition, 47 disputes, which began before November, were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress at any time in November (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 36,000, as compared with 25,000 in the previous month, and 1,138,000 in November, 1920, when a dispute involving over 1,000,000 workpeople was in progress in the coal mining industry of Great Britain.

The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during November was about 250,000 working days, as compared with nearly 200,000 days in October, 1921, and 3,500,000 days in November, 1920.

The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes reported as in progress during the first eleven months of the present year was about 88,000,000 working days. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was approximately 1,700,000. In the corresponding period of 1920 nearly the same number of workpeople were involved in disputes having an aggregate duration of approximately 27,000,000 working days.

RETAIL PRICES.

At 1st December 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 about 99 per cent. above that of July, 1914. This figure is the lowest recorded since May, 1918. The corresponding figure for 1st November, 1921, was 103 per cent., and that for 1st December, 1920, was 169 per cent. The decrease in the percentage since 1st November is mainly due to reductions in the prices of bread, flour and meat. For further particulars reference should be made to the article on page 630.

The statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, 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.

LABOUR LEGISLATION IN 1921.

The following is a brief review of the more important enactments affecting labour passed during the year 1921. In the first place, the phenomenal increase in the volume of unemployment during the year has been met by a series of measures designed (a) to make more adequate provision for the unemployed than was made by the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and (b) to decrease the amount of unemployment by assisting the revival of industry and by the provision of relief work. Secondly, there have been important Acts dealing with the decontrol of the coal industry, the reorganisation of the railways industry and agriculture. In addition there have been various other enactments which deal with miscellaneous points affecting workers generally.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Unemployment Insurance Scheme set up under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, has twice been amended during the year. The *Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921*,* which came into operation on the 3rd March, increased the weekly rates of benefit to 20s. for men and 16s. for women, and to half these amounts for boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 18. An increase of contributions was also provided for, and would have taken effect from the 4th July but for the passing of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act referred to below.

For the purpose of benefit, two special periods were introduced, one from the commencement of the Act to 2nd November, 1921, and the other from 3rd November, 1921, to 2nd July, 1922. During each of these special periods a maximum of 16 weeks' benefit could be drawn. In addition to the existing statutory conditions for the receipt of unemployment benefit, certain further requirements were introduced, namely, the furnishing of (a) proof of employment in insurable work in each of twenty weeks (or ten weeks in the case of ex-Service men) since the 31st December, 1919, and (b) proof that the applicant is normally in insurable employment, is genuinely seeking whole-time employment, and is unable to obtain it. Where this requirement was satisfied, the rule limiting the amount of benefit payable to one week's benefit for every six contributions was suspended during the two special periods. The new requirements did not affect the rights of employed persons to benefit under the principal Act of 1920, or, until its expiration on the 31st March, 1921, under the Unemployment Insurance (Temporary Provisions Amendment) Act, 1920.

After the termination of the second special period on 2nd July, 1922, the Act provides for the return to the rule under which the number of weeks' benefit that may be drawn is proportionate to the number of contributions paid in the ratio of 1 to 6, and for this purpose 25 added contributions are to be placed to the credit of every person who is insured at 2nd July, 1922. Benefit drawn during the two special periods is not to be taken into account for the purpose of this rule. After the 2nd July, 1922, the maximum benefit that may be drawn in any insurance year will be 26 weeks.

A further important provision of the Act gave power to the Treasury to make advances, not exceeding at any time £10,000,000, at interest, to enable the Unemployment Fund to meet its liabilities.

Unemployment during the first half of the year having exceeded all expectations, the *Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1921*,† which received Royal Assent on the 1st July, reduced the weekly benefit to the rates originally fixed by the 1920 Act, viz., 15s. in the case of men and 12s. in the case of women, and at the same time increased the joint weekly contributions of employers and employees as from the 4th July to 1s. 3d. in respect of men and 1s. 1d. in respect of women. There were corresponding reductions of the rates of benefit and increases of the rates of contributions in the case of boys and girls. Furthermore, the waiting period was increased from three days to six. On the other hand, the Minister of Labour was given power to provide two additional periods of benefit of not more than six weeks each, in addition to the periods of 16 weeks laid down in the previous Act. A minor provision was the repeal of Section 44 of the Principal Act, which allowed, during the first twelve months, the payment of 8 weeks' benefit to insured persons in respect of whom 4 contributions had been paid.

Apart from the alterations in the rates and periods of benefit, the conditions for the receipt of benefit were modified in so far as the additional requirement introduced by the first Act of 1921 (that an applicant must prove that he is normally in insurable employment, genuinely seeking whole-time employment, but unable to obtain it), was made to apply equally to insured persons claiming benefit on the basis of their contributions, unless 20 contributions had been paid in respect of them since the beginning of the last preceding insurance year. Other important provisions were the suspension of the power of the Minister to make or approve Special Schemes under Section 18 of the principal Act, and the raising of the limit of the amount of advances that may be made to the Unemployment Fund by the Treasury to £20,000,000.

On the 8th November the *Unemployed Workers' Dependents (Temporary Provision) Act, 1921*,‡ became law. This provides for the payment of temporary grants for a period of six months from the 10th November, 1921, to unemployed workers in receipt of unemployment benefit, towards the maintenance of their wives, dependent husbands and dependent children. In certain

circumstances a grant is payable for a housekeeper residing with the applicant for the purpose of having the care of his dependent children. The grants are at the rate of 5s. a week for a wife, housekeeper or dependent husband and 1s. a week for each dependent child. The necessary funds are derived from special contributions payable in respect of all persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The contributions are payable for six months from the 7th November, 1921, but this period may be extended, if necessary, to secure the solvency of the fund.

The next important Act passed after the conclusion of the Autumn Recess to meet the unemployment situation was the *Trade Facilities Act*, amplifying the provisions of the Overseas Trade, Credits and Insurance Act of 1920, and enabling the Treasury, after consultation with an Advisory Committee, to guarantee the payment of the interest and principal, or of either the interest or the principal, of any loan proposed to be raised and applied in a manner calculated to promote employment in the United Kingdom. The *Local Authorities Financial Provisions Act* and the *Poor Law Emergency Provisions (Scotland) Act*, also passed after the Autumn Recess, were designed, amongst other things, to provide employment by aiding Local Authorities to carry out various forms of beneficial public works.

It may also be observed that by the Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1921, the *Unemployment (Relief Works) Act, 1920*,* which would have expired on the 3rd December, 1921, has been continued until the 31st December, 1922. The object of the Act is to expedite the processes by which Local Authorities may exercise their compulsory powers for the entry upon and acquisition of land required for public works.

COAL DE-CONTROL.

The *Coal Mines De-Control Act, 1921*,† received Royal Assent on the 24th March, 1921, and brought to an end the Government control of the coal-mining industry on the 31st March, by terminating on that date the operation of the Coal Mines (Emergency) Act, 1920, so far as that Act was limited in duration, and by repealing Section 3 of the Mining Industry Act, 1920.

RAILWAYS.

The *Railways Act, 1921*,‡ which received Royal Assent on the 19th August, deals with the re-organisation of the railways in view of the cessation of Government control on the 14th August. Parts I. and II. of the Act deal with the amalgamation of the Companies into six groups. Part III. establishes a Railway Rates Tribunal to deal with questions of railway charges. The Tribunal consists of three members who are permanent, and the Minister of Transport has power to add to the Tribunal two other members, selected from panels, whenever it is considered necessary for the purpose of dealing with any particular case. Part IV. of the Act dealing with wages and conditions of service is the most important from the labour point of view. Its principal provision is the reconstitution of the Central and National Wages Boards, which will be continued at least until the 1st January, 1924, up to which date all questions relating to rates of pay, hours of duty, etc., will, failing mutual agreement, be referred to the Central Wages Board or, on appeal, to the National Wages Board. The Central Wages Board is to be composed of eight representatives of railway companies and eight representatives of railway employees. The National Wages Board is to be composed of six representatives of the companies, six representatives of the employees and four representatives of the users of railways, with an independent chairman nominated by the Minister of Labour. The representatives of the users of railways are nominated, one each, by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, the Co-operative Union, the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, and the Federation of British Industries.¶

Furthermore, provision is made for the establishment of one or more councils for each railway company affected, consisting of officers of the railway company and representatives of the men employed by the company. With regard to the railway police, provision is made for the establishment, for each company affected, of a conference of an equal number of representatives of the company and of the members of the police force of the company. There is also a central conference to which any appeal can be referred. In the event of disagreement between the two sides of the central conference an independent chairman is to be appointed either by mutual agreement or, failing that, by the Minister of Labour, with power to give binding decisions.

AGRICULTURE.

On the 19th August the *Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921*,§ received Royal Assent. This Act repealed the Corn Production Act, 1917, and Part I. of the Agriculture Act, 1920, under the former of which the Agricultural Wages Board and District Wages Committees were established. In place of these there are now to be set up in various districts quasi-statutory Conciliation Committees to deal with wages, hours and conditions of employment. Each Committee will consist of representatives of employers and workmen in agriculture, and each side will have one collective vote on any question. The agree-

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1920, page 536; and December, 1920, page 666.

† See LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1921, page 122.

‡ See LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1921, page 457.

§ Now the General Council.

¶ These Boards have now been finally constituted. For particulars, see page 627.

‡ See LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1921, page 458.

ments at which they arrive will be enforceable at law after confirmation by the Minister of Agriculture and advertisement in the districts to which they apply.

The formation of these Committees is voluntary, but is to be encouraged by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries as regards England and Wales and by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland as regards Scotland. In order to maintain continuity with the District Wages Committees, the representative members of the District Wages Committees, now abolished, are treated as a Joint Conciliation Committee under the new Act until a Joint Conciliation Committee is actually established or until the expiration of two years, whichever happens first.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *National Health Insurance (Prolongation of Insurance) Act, 1921** prolongs the insurance of persons who are able to show that their absence from work has not been due to any change of normal occupation, but to inability to obtain employment. This Act is retrospective from 31st December, 1920, and will continue until the 31st December, 1922.

The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1921, provides for the continuance of the *Workmen's Compensation (War Addition) Act, 1917*, which would otherwise have expired six months after the termination of the war. It now remains in force until the 31st December, 1922, and will then expire unless further continued. The effect of the Act is to increase by one-fourth the weekly payments payable by way of compensation under the *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906*, during total incapacity.

Among other Acts which have been continued by the Expiring Laws Continuance Act, may be mentioned the *Shops Early Closing Act, 1920*, which requires shops, with certain exceptions, to be closed not later than 8 o'clock on every day, except Saturday, and not later than 9 o'clock on Saturday; and the *Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919*, Sections 3, 4 and 5, which give power to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to acquire land for small holdings and allotments, for reclamation or drainage and for small holding colonies. Similarly the *Land Settlement (Scotland) Act, 1919*, is continued.

The *Education Act, 1921*, consolidates the provisions of the Statutes relating to education and the employment of young persons and children in England and Wales. In particular, it substantially re-enacts the provisions of the *Education Act, 1918*, relating to the establishment of Continuation Schools and compulsory attendance at such schools for 320 hours in each year (which may during the first seven years be reduced to 280) of young persons up to the age of eighteen. During the first seven years, however, the attendance of young persons between the ages of 16 and 18 is not obligatory. An important provision re-enacted is that giving power to the Local Education Authority for Higher Education to require a young person's employment to be suspended on any day when his attendance at a Continuation School is required, not only during the actual school hours, but also for a sufficient period, not exceeding two hours, to render him mentally and bodily fit to receive full benefit from his attendance at the school.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the *Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Act, 1914*, expired on the termination of the war, the date of which was fixed by Order in Council as 31st August, 1921.

COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

OPERATION OF PART II. OF THE MINING INDUSTRY ACT, 1920.†

Part II. of the Mining Industry Act, 1920, which became law on the 16th August, 1920, provided for the establishment in the mining industry of Pit and District Committees and Area and National Boards, each composed of representatives of the owners or management and representatives of the workers in equal numbers. Their constitution was made dependent upon regulations to be made by the Board of Trade.

The functions of the Pit Committees are to discuss and make recommendations with respect to—

- safety, health and welfare;
- output;
- inspections on behalf of workmen under the Coal Mines Act, 1911;
- disputes, including disputes as to wages;
- other questions relating to the mine prescribed by the regulations to be made by the Board of Trade.

The District Committees, the Area Boards and the National Board have similar functions for their respective territories. In addition it is the duty of an Area Board to formulate schemes for the adjustment of wages within the area, having regard, *inter alia*, to the profits of the industry within the area, and it is the duty of the National Board to determine, subject to the approval of the Board of Trade, the principles on which such schemes should be formulated and to consider the schemes when made. There is provision for recommendations made by District Committees, by Area Boards or by the National Board, to be made compulsory on persons engaged in the industry if the Board of Trade so directs.

Section 17 of the Act lays down that if, at the expiration of one year it should appear that the scheme formulated in Part II. of the Act (outlined above) has been rendered abortive by reason of the failure on the part of those entitled to appoint representatives to the committees and boards to avail themselves of such right, Part II. of the Act shall cease to have effect

when the Board of Trade have laid a report of the circumstances before Parliament for thirty days of Session unless a resolution to the contrary is in the meantime passed by both Houses of Parliament.

Owing to the state of the mining industry since the passing of the Act, and in view of the protracted negotiations which took place during the period from November, 1920, to August, 1921, between the Mining Association and the Miners' Federation regarding the adjustment of wages, the regulations required by Part II. of the Act, without which the scheme could not come into operation, were not made.

On the 16th August, 1921, on which date the period of one year from the passing of the Act expired, the Mining Association informed the Mines Department that, "having regard to the course of events in the coal industry since the passing of the Act, the Central Committee of the Mining Association are of opinion that the machinery proposed under Part II. of the Act is now unnecessary. They have decided not to take part in the establishment of the committees and boards provided for therein." The Mining Association accordingly suggested that the Board of Trade should report to Parliament that the scheme had been rendered abortive by reason of the failure of those entitled to appoint representatives to the committees and boards to avail themselves of such right. The Mines Department pointed out, however, in reply, that there could be no failure on the part of those entitled to appoint representatives until an opportunity of appointing representatives had been given by the making of the required regulations. Further, the Mines Department did not agree that the events of the past year had rendered the scheme of Part II. of the Act unnecessary, and in view of the obligation imposed by statute to make the required regulations it was proposed to prepare draft regulations and to obtain the views of the Mining Association and the Miners' Federation upon them.

On 24th August, 1921, a deputation from the Mining Association met the Secretary for Mines, and urged that the making of regulations under the Act should be postponed on the grounds that a settlement on the main question of wages had been reached between the Mining Association and the Miners' Federation without having recourse to the scheme of Part II. of the Act, and that accordingly the scheme was no longer necessary. It was pointed out by the deputation that for a whole year Part II. of the Act had been ignored, and accordingly it should now be regarded as a dead letter.

The Secretary for Mines replied to the deputation that, so far as the Government were concerned, Part II. of the Act had never been regarded as a dead letter, and the only reason that it had not been put into operation was the chaotic state of the industry hitherto which had made this impossible. It had always been the intention of the Government to get the scheme working as soon as possible and the opportunity for this had now come. His own opinion was that, so far from the events of the past year having made the scheme unnecessary, it did, in fact, appear almost more necessary now than it was before.

On the 13th October, 1921, the Council of the Mining Association considered the position, and passed a resolution expressing the opinion that:—

- the voluntary agreement made on 1st July last between the owners and the workmen has achieved the objects aimed at in Part II. of the Mining Industry Act;
- the re-imposition of any measure of Government control over wages and allied questions would be contrary to the best interests of the industry itself and of the community;
- the administration of Part II. of the Mining Industry Act would add unnecessarily to the burden of taxation.

The resolution further expressed the view that "it is incumbent upon the Board to issue forthwith and lay before Parliament a report under Section 17 of the Act that Part II. of the Act has been rendered abortive."

In reply to (1) of the resolution the Mines Department explained that the objects aimed at in Part II. of the Act are broadly three. Firstly, it sets up machinery for the participation of the workpeople in Pit and other Committees in order that full and regular opportunity should be given to each party to bring forward for discussion any question of mutual interest. Secondly, it provides for the regulation of wages by reference to profits. Thirdly, it contemplates a reversion to the system of district settlement of wages. While it was agreed that the second and third objects had been attained by voluntary agreement, the first of the objects had not, in the view of the Secretary for Mines, been so attained, and it was understood that this was also the view of the workpeople's representatives.

In reply to (2) of the resolution, it was pointed out that the Act only gives power to the Secretary for Mines to give mandatory force to recommendations which have already been made by the industry itself and not to modify such recommendations. In reply to (3) it was stated that any additional burden on the taxpayer was extremely unlikely, and, in any event, the amount involved would be negligible.

On the 3rd November the Mining Association replied that they were unable to depart from their previous decision, embodied in the resolution of the 13th October, and the Secretary for Mines subsequently intimated his intention of proceeding with the preparation of the regulations. The regulations have now been drafted, and notice was given in the *London Gazette* for 13th December that objections to the draft regulations must be sent to the Secretary for Mines before 16th January, 1922.

Copies of the correspondence on this subject between the Mines Department and the Mining Association, together with a report of the meeting between the Secretary for Mines and a deputation from the Association on 4th August, have been published as a Command Paper. (Cmd. 1551.)

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1921, page 570.

† See LABOUR GAZETTE for January, 1921, p. 7.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

NATIONAL SCHEME.

UP to and including the 9th December, 1921, 29,230 employers have enrolled under the National Scheme, and their names are inscribed on the King's National Roll. The undertakings given by these employers cover 365,624 disabled ex-Service men.

The following statement gives particulars of the number of Local Authorities in Great Britain, of the categories referred to below, who have enrolled under the Scheme, and whose names are accordingly entered on the King's Roll:—

Authority.	Number on Roll.	Number not on Roll.	Total.
ENGLAND AND WALES.			
LONDON—			
County Council	1	—	1
Corporation of the City of London	1	—	1
Metropolitan Boroughs	26	2	28
Boards of Guardians	16	15	31
Total	44	17	61
PROVINCES—			
County Councils	31	31	62
County Boroughs	79	3	82
Town Councils	145	102	247
Urban District Councils	353	443	796
Rural District Councils	117	532	649
Boards of Guardians	95	517	612
Total	820	1,628	2,448
SCOTLAND (excluding Parish Councils).			
County Councils	7	26	33
County District Committees	10	89	99
Town Councils	57	146	203
Total	74	261	335
Total for Great Britain	938	1,906	2,844

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At the 29th November the number of men in training was 23,251. Since 1st August, 1919, 45,617 men have terminated training. The number of men awaiting training on 29th November was 35,543. At the 25th of October the number of men in training was 22,478. The following Table shows how they were distributed among the chief trades in which training is given under the Scheme:—

Trade.	Number in training.
Building	3,905
Tailoring	2,417
Furniture	2,171
Vehicle Building	1,760
Commercial	1,500
Engineering, General and Electrical	1,315
Gold, Silver and Allied Trades	1,311
Motor Driving and Mechanics	1,243
Rural Handicrafts	995
Manual Instructors	972
Distributive Trades	800
Boot and Shoe	630
Other Trades	3,459
Total in training	22,478

INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to November 30th, 1921, 44,586 apprentices had been accepted for training with 17,762 employers, as compared with 44,543 apprentices with 17,741 employers on October 26th, 1921. Of the 43 apprentices accepted during the five weeks ended November 30th the largest number was under engineering (16). The apprentices rejected up to November 30th numbered 2,147, compared with 2,143 on October 26th. Of those accepted 34,032 terminated training and 10,494 were still in training. The corresponding numbers on October 26th were 32,744 and 11,799 respectively. The number of apprentices who have received institutional training has been increased during the five weeks from 1,740 to 1,820.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES.

BETWEEN 31st October and 4th December twenty-two meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and five of Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees were reported to the Department. Meetings of District and Provincial Councils and of various Sub-Committees have also taken place.

WAGES.

Wage reductions have been negotiated by the following Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees: *Optical Instrument Manufacturing*, men's and women's wages; *Flour Milling*, women's and youths'; *Chalk* Sectional Council of the *Quarrying* Joint Industrial Council for the *Thames and Medway* area.

Sliding scales, based on the cost of living figure, have been

agreed upon by the Joint Industrial Councils for the *Gas and Electricity Supply Industries* and by the Provincial Council for *Dorset, Devon and Cornwall of the Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers) Joint Industrial Council*. The employers of the *Welsh Plate and Sheet Joint Industrial Council*, in view of the fall in the sliding scale bonus to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above base rates, offered a temporary addition of 10 per cent. until the next ascertainment in February, 1922, which the workers accepted by a large majority.

HOURS.

The *Northern Counties District Council of the National Wool (and Allied) Textile Joint Industrial Council* met on 28th November to consider an alleged breach of agreement by certain firms in employing protected persons in excess of 48 hours a week. The employers on the Council admitted a breach of agreement, and proposed that the operatives should accept their assurance that the principle of a 48-hours week was not being attacked, as even the firms who were working overtime were paying approved overtime rates for hours in excess of 48.

OTHER TOPICS.

The *Flour Milling Joint Industrial Council* on 24th November resolved that the employment of women should be confined to such jobs as work in the sack shop, packing small bags under 60 lbs. in weight, sweeping, cleaning (not machinery) and mess room attendance. Women who are not already on such work are to be replaced by youths or men by the end of the year. They agreed that Monday and Tuesday, 26th and 27th December, should be regarded as Christmas Day and Bank Holiday for the purposes of pay, in view of their Agreement on Hours and Overtime, which allows for six Bank Holidays a year at ordinary rates, and they also discussed and approved a scheme for the settlement of disputes.

The Joint Industrial Council for the *Tramways Industry*, on 10th November, discussed at length a proposal to revise the agreement of March, 1919, which deals with hours and working conditions. No agreement was reached, and the employers' representatives are to consult their constituents before the next meeting of the Council.

The reconstituted *Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers) Joint Industrial Council* is to be recognised by the Minister of Labour. The scheme provides that the employers' side of the National Council should be composed of representatives from the employers' sides of Provincial Councils, the four local authorities' associations, and the London County Council. On 3rd November the Provincial Council for *Kent, Surrey and East and West Sussex* made important modifications in the constitution of the Council with a view to bringing all the Local Authorities in the area into closer touch with the Council.

The Industrial Council for the *Building Industry* on 10th and 11th November considered reports of various Sub-Committees, and it was decided that the *Resettlement Committee* should be dissolved and a Parliamentary Committee, with a slightly different personnel, set up in its place. The proposals of the *Management and Costs Committee* with regard to unemployment insurance were recommended to the consideration of the national adherent bodies, who were asked to take steps to obtain favourable consideration for the principles involved. The *Education Committee* reported that the National Federation of Building Trade Employers had approved of their scheme, subject to certain amendments, and the Council instructed the Committee to proceed with propaganda work and to print indentures. The *Administrative Committee* is to consider the working of the Council to ascertain whether a remodelling of the constitution is advisable in order to increase the efficiency of the Council.

At a meeting of the *Electrical Cable Making Joint Industrial Council* on 16th November the Chairman reported on the progress made by the various Committees dealing with unemployment and the position created by the depressed state of trade. He also announced the result of the deputation to the Minister of Health from a joint conference of Joint Industrial Councils and employers in the Electrical Industry.

All sections of the *National Maritime Board* met on 18th November to consider a proposal to reconstitute the panel covering stewards and other members of the Catering Department, who, by the resignation of the National Union of Ships' Stewards, Cooks, Butchers and Bakers from the Board in September, have not been adequately represented. The amended constitution received the approval of the Board.

Constitutions of Works Committees for three depôts in the Aldershot Command and for two Departments at Woolwich were approved by the Executive Sub-Committee of the *War Department Industrial Council*.

Notice of a meeting of the National Council for the *Administrative and Legal Departments of the Civil Service* on 28th October was received too late for record in the November issue of the *LABOUR GAZETTE*. Discussion centred on the competence of the National Council to deal with questions affecting the remuneration or grading of posts carrying salaries above £500. The Official Side held that managerial and controlling posts were not appropriate subjects for administration by a Whitley Council, although other posts with similar salaries might well be so dealt with, and the Staff Side recorded their opinion that in theory the National Council might deal with any matter that might affect Civil Servants with salaries of over £500 per annum. It was stated by the Staff Side that permanent ex-Service Civil Servants were opposed to the discharge of conscientious objectors.

CONDITIONS OF BOY LABOUR ON THE DOCKS AT LIVERPOOL.

THE conditions of the casual employment of boys in ship-repairing and on dock work at Liverpool are described in a Report recently issued by the Ministry of Labour.*

The boys engaged in ship-repairing are employed either as scalers or as rivet-lads. The work of the scalers consists in chipping off the incrustations which form on the steel plates and in the boilers through impurities in the water, in scraping and painting water tanks, and in cleaning out the bilges of ships. They also clean the engine-room and funnel. The work of the rivet-lads is to keep the riveters supplied with hot rivets, the more experienced boys doing the actual work of heating the rivets, and the junior boys being engaged, where required, in handing them to the riveters. Scalers and rivet-lads are organised in the National Amalgamated Union of Labour.

In dock work the operations of turning on steam (for winches), guiding the fall-rope, stitching bags, brushing up, making slings for pulleys, giving signals to winch drivers, etc., are generally regarded as boys' employments. In addition, during the war, boys were engaged in the docks on the more skilled work of trucking and storing of cargo, weighing over, etc., but with the return of ex-Service experienced men the amount of this kind of work available for boys has diminished. The dock boys are organised in the National Union of Dock Labourers.

The ship-repairing work of the scalers and rivet-lads is not regarded as leading to continuous employment when the youths attain adult age, or as being in any sense a training for further employment in the docks. It is, however, usual for the boys engaged in those branches of dock work which are generally regarded as belonging to junior or disabled workers to become absorbed as porters on attaining adult age, and to this extent their employment as youths does fit them for future work.

A feature of the boys' employment which receives severe comment is the absence of any systematic method of engagement. The boys take their place at a stand each day in the hope of obtaining a job, and if no work is available for them they are idle for the rest of the day. The work, when obtained, may last for a few days only, or it may last several months, but it does not appear to be usual for the boys to remain for a long period on the same work. The result of the intermittent character of the employment is said to be to render the boys unsuitable and unwilling ever to settle down to continuous employment. There is stated, further, to be no special provision made for the health and the welfare of the boys, with the exception of a Y.M.C.A. canteen, which was started in March of last year. In connection with this, difficulty is said to have been experienced in the attitude of the boys, who "cannot understand . . . anyone wanting to help them unless prompted by some ulterior motive."

The general conclusion arrived at in the Report is that the system of employment, as a rule, offers no permanent prospects to the boys engaged under it, and makes a very bad preparation for adult life.

LABOUR CO-PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATION.

THE thirty-fifth Report of the Labour Co-partnership Association, recently issued, records the activities of the Association during the year 1920. The most important meeting of the year was the Co-partnership Congress, held at the Royal Society of Arts from 26th to 28th October, 1920, when a resolution was adopted urging that all possible means should be taken to advance the adoption of co-partnership in industry. Amongst the means recommended are legislation to remove any legal obstacles that may exist in the way of its adoption by statutory and other companies, and the setting up of a special department of the Board of Trade or the Ministry of Labour to study the practical aspects of the question. A further resolution of the Congress emphasised the fact that the Association recommends a system of industry which would give the workers a share (i) in profits, (ii) in capital, and (iii) in control and responsibility. Notes on the more important industrial profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes in existence are given, and particular attention is paid to the gas companies' schemes, which appear to have been seriously and adversely affected by conditions arising from the war, notably the high cost of coal.

RAILWAYS ACT, 1921.

(1) NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.

The National Wages Board, as reconstituted under Section 64 (1) (b) of the Railways Act, 1921,† is composed as follows:—

Chairman: Sir William W. Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C.

Railway Companies' representatives (six):—

Chosen from the following panel of 14:—Mr. D. A. Matheson (Caledonian), Mr. D. Cooper (Glasgow and South Western), Sir Sam Fay (Great Central), Sir Henry Thornton, K.B.E. (Great Eastern), Mr. C. H. Dent (Great Northern), Mr. F. J. C. Pole (Great Western), Mr. A. Watson, C.B.E. (London and

* Report of an Enquiry into the Conditions of Boy Labour on the Docks at Liverpool, August 1920. Published by H.M. Stationery Office. Price 6d. net.

† See *LABOUR GAZETTE* for September 1921, page 457.

North Western), Sir Herbert A. Walker, K.C.B. (London and South Western), Sir William Forbes (London, Brighton and South Coast), Mr. F. Tatlow, C.B.E. (Midland), Mr. J. Calder (North British), Sir A. Kaye Butterworth (North-Eastern), Mr. P. C. Tempest, C.B.E. (South Eastern and Chatham), Mr. E. A. Prosser, C.B.E. (Taff Vale).

Railway Unions' representatives (six):—

Mr. J. Marchbank and Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P. (National Union of Railwaymen), Mr. C. Jarman and Mr. S. Garrison (Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen), Mr. T. H. Gill, J.P., and Mr. G. Latham (Railway Clerks' Association).

Representatives of Users of Railways (four):—

Mr. E. L. Poulton, J.P. (Trades Union General Council), Mr. H. J. May (Co-operative Union), Mr. E. Manville, M.P. (Association of British Chambers of Commerce), Sir T. Robinson, M.P. (Federation of British Industries).

(2) CENTRAL WAGES BOARD.

The Central Wages Board, as reconstituted under Section 64 (1) (a) of the Railways Act, is composed of the following representatives:—

Railway Companies' Representatives: Messrs. W. Beveridge (Caledonian), W. Clower (Midland), A. Oldham (Great Central), F. J. Lean (Great Western), Kenelm Kerr (North-Eastern), E. Wharton (London and North Western), G. McLaughlan (North British), and W. Major (South Eastern and Chatham).

Railway Unions' Representatives: Messrs. E. Barnett, C. T. Cramp, H. Ellison and J. Henderson (National Union of Railwaymen), Mr. J. Bromley and Mr. H. J. Oxlade (Amalgamated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen), Mr. A. G. Walkden and Mr. T. H. Gill, J.P. (Railway Clerks' Association).

The first meeting of the Central Wages Board was held on 17th November, Sir David Shackleton, of the Ministry of Labour, being in the chair, when matters of procedure were discussed.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE.

IN the last issue of the *LABOUR GAZETTE** an account was given of the opening of the third session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation of the League of Nations, and the setting up of eight Commissions to deal with those items which were retained on the agenda. During the session, which commenced on the 25th October and terminated on the 19th November, the Conference, after considering the reports of the Commissions, adopted seven draft conventions, eight recommendations, and a number of resolutions. The official texts of the draft conventions and recommendations have not yet been communicated to the members of the organisation by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, and the action to be taken by H.M. Government under Article 405 of the Treaty of Versailles remains to be decided.

AGRICULTURE.

Three of the draft conventions adopted relate to agricultural workers. The *first* provides that States which ratify the convention undertake to secure to all those engaged in agriculture the same rights of association and combination as are secured to industrial workers. The *second* prohibits the employment of children under the age of 14 years in agriculture except outside the hours fixed for school attendance, and prescribes that employment outside school hours shall not be such as to prejudice attendance at school. Employment of children on light agricultural work, and in particular on light work connected with the harvest, for the purpose of practical vocational instruction, is permitted, provided that thereby the period of school attendance is not reduced to less than eight months in the year. The *third* of the draft conventions dealing with agriculture requires the extension to all agricultural wage-earners of the existing laws and regulations which provide for compensation to workers for personal injury by accident arising out of or in the course of their employment.

Apart from the above draft conventions, seven of the eight recommendations adopted by the Conference relate to agriculture. Two of these recommend the regulation of night work of women, young persons and children in agriculture in such a way as to secure for them a period of rest compatible with their physical necessities. In the case of women the minimum period of rest is 9 hours, which should, wherever possible, be consecutive; in the case of young persons between the ages of 14 and 18 years, the minimum period is 9 consecutive hours, and in the case of children under the age of 14 years it is 10 consecutive hours. Another recommendation is that members of the organisation should consider measures for the prevention of unemployment among agricultural workers suitable to the economic and agricultural conditions of the country, and with this in view should examine particularly the advisability (a) of adopting modern technical methods and improved systems of cultivation, (b) of providing transport facilities for increasing mobility of labour,

* See *LABOUR GAZETTE* for November, 1921, p. 571.

(c) of developing supplementary employments to occupy agricultural workers during seasonal unemployment, (d) of encouraging the creation of co-operative societies for the working and purchase or renting of land, and taking steps to this end to increase agricultural credit, especially in favour of co-operative associations of land workers established for the purpose of agricultural production. Other recommendations relating to agricultural workers require the regulation of living-in conditions, the promotion of technical education, the protection of women before and after childbirth on the lines of the Washington Convention (which does not apply to women employed in agriculture), and the extension to agricultural wage-earners of the existing laws and regulations establishing systems of insurance against sickness, invalidity, old age, and other similar social risks. Two resolutions, one declaring the competency of the Conference to deal with matters relating to agricultural labour, and the other deciding that the regulation of hours of work in agriculture shall be discussed at a future Conference, were referred to in the account of the opening of the Conference.*

WEEKLY REST DAY IN INDUSTRY.

After prolonged discussion a draft convention was adopted requiring that the whole of the staff employed in any industrial undertaking shall, simultaneously where possible, enjoy in every period of seven days a period of rest comprising at least 24 consecutive hours. Exceptions are, however, allowed, and provision is made for each State to draw up its own list of exceptions and to communicate it to the International Labour Office. In cases where suspension or diminution of the normal weekly rest is found necessary, the convention requires provision to be made as far as possible for compensatory periods of rest. States which ratify the convention are to bring its provisions into force not later than 1st January, 1924. The provision of a similar weekly rest in commercial undertakings is the subject of a recommendation, but the precise methods of applying the recommendation are left to be worked out by the States which adopt it. A resolution was also passed in favour of the voluntary extension of the weekly rest of all workers to 36 hours.

USE OF WHITE LEAD IN PAINTING.

The Commission considering the prohibition of the use of white lead in painting at first presented a majority report recommending the regulation of the use of white lead, and a minority report recommending its prohibition either completely or at least for interior painting. After very prolonged discussion in plenary session of the Conference, a compromise was reached, and the draft convention finally adopted prohibits, after the lapse of six years, the use of white lead or sulphate of lead, and of all products containing these pigments, in the internal painting of buildings. Exceptions are provided for in the case of (a) railway stations or industrial establishments where considered necessary by the competent authority after consultation with the employers' and workers' organisations concerned, and (b) artistic painting or fine lining. The convention further provides that members undertake to regulate the use of white lead, sulphate of lead, and all products containing these pigments, in operations for which their use is not prohibited. The principles on which such regulation should be based require, *inter alia*, (a) that the pigment containing the white lead must be in the form of paste or of paint ready for use, (b) that measures be taken for avoiding danger from applying paint in the form of spray and from dust caused by dry rubbing-down, (c) the provision of proper cleansing facilities, etc., and (d) compulsory notification of saturnism and, when necessary, the medical examination of workers. The employment of women and young persons in any work of an industrial character involving the use of white lead, etc., is prohibited altogether, except in the case of painters' apprentices who may be so employed for instructional purposes after consultation with the employers' and workers' organisations concerned.

ANTHRAX.

The Commission dealing with the disinfection of wool infected with anthrax spores came to the conclusion that the question of universal compulsory disinfection of wool infected with anthrax had not yet been sufficiently studied to justify the adoption of a draft convention. The Conference accordingly adopted a resolution put forward by the Commission for the appointment of an Advisory Committee, representative of the chief producing and manufacturing countries, to study the question and submit a report in time for the 1923 Conference. The eradication of the disease among animals is also to be considered by the Advisory Committee, this being thought to be the ultimate solution of the problem, and a report on this subject is also to be submitted.

MERCANTILE MARINE.

Two draft conventions were put forward by the Maritime Commission dealing with questions left over from the Genoa Conference of 1920. The first of these prohibits, with certain exceptions, the employment of young persons under the age of 18 as trimmers or stokers on vessels. The exceptions allow the employment of young persons in these capacities (a) under the supervision of public authority on school-ships and training-ships, (b) on vessels mainly propelled by other means than steam, and (c) in the case of young persons over 16 years of age in the coastal trade of Japan and India, subject to medical examina-

tion and appropriate regulations. The convention also allows the employment of two young persons not less than 16 years of age in lieu of one man, if no man is available in the port of engagement. The second convention makes it compulsory, except in urgent cases, for all children or young persons under 18 years of age to be medically examined before employment on board ship, and subsequently at least once a year. Neither of these two draft conventions apply to fishing vessels.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the question of *Unemployment* a resolution was adopted inviting the International Labour Office to institute an inquiry into the national and international aspects of the unemployment crisis and the means of combating it, and to invite the collaboration of the Financial and Economic Section of the League of Nations. The Governing Body was also instructed to take the necessary steps for the convocation of an international conference on the subject. A further resolution requires a report to be presented, at the next session of the Conference, on the question of the distribution of raw materials. Finally, a series of resolutions on the reform of the constitution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office charge the Governing Body with the duty of making definite proposals at the next Conference for an amendment of the Peace Treaty, in order to ensure equitable representation as between European and non-European States. The Council of the League is also being urged to expedite its decision on the question of the eight States of chief industrial importance who shall be permanently represented on the Governing Body. As a temporary solution it was resolved that four of the twelve Governments represented on the Governing Body, and at least one each of the six employers' delegates and the six workers' delegates, should be non-European. Furthermore, the system of allowing ordinary members of the Governing Body to be accompanied by substitute members, not necessarily of the same nationality, is extended, with a view to securing a wider representation.

RECENT WAGES REDUCTIONS IN FRANCE.

In the July-September issue of the Bulletin of the French Ministry of Labour particulars are given of a large number of wage reductions effected since the maximum point was reached in 1920. The examples cited are classified according to the circumstances in which the reductions took place.

(1) *Reductions in pursuance of the terms of earlier collective agreements.*—Coopers (Lyons), 19 to 20 per cent., between December, 1920, and July, 1921; clothing workers (Dijon), 12 per cent., between January and July, 1921; dockers (Havre), 16 per cent.; dockers (Marseilles), 9 per cent.

(2) *Reductions in accordance with agreements concluded in 1921.*—Builders (Marseilles), 10 per cent.; furniture makers (Marseilles), 10 per cent.; metal workers (St. Etienne), 10 per cent., also a further 10 per cent. in August; metal workers (Troyes), skilled 11 per cent., semi-skilled 13 per cent.

(3) *Reductions imposed by employers' associations.*—Builders (St. Quentin and Noyon), 10 per cent.; builders (Reims), 10 to 20 per cent.; textile workers (Epinal), 11 per cent.; textile workers (Belfort), 15 per cent.; umbrella makers (Paris), 15 per cent.; makers of railway material (Paris), 15 to 16 per cent.

(4) *Reductions in particular establishments, accepted without a strike.*—Silk workers (Lyons), 15 per cent.; leather dresses (Larn), 25 per cent.

(5) *Reductions effected after a strike.*—Table workers (Lyons), 25 per cent.; wagon builders (Paris), 20 per cent.; button makers (Méru, Oise), 10 per cent.; builders (Vienne), 25 per cent.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN GERMANY.

In an article in the October issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE (p. 523) dealing with unemployment relief in Germany, reference was made to the grant of Federal subsidies for the relief of the unemployed. Certain amendments have since been introduced in the provisions governing such relief by a Decree of 1st November.

As regards the Federal subsidy to local authorities for the provision of work for those who would otherwise be entitled to relief, the Decree provides that in future Federal assistance may also be given to States, to assist them in paying their contribution (one-third) towards the total cost of relief in cases where such share is found to be excessively burdensome.

In computing the money relief due to a family, in which there are several wage earners, it is now laid down that the total relief for such household must not exceed three times (previously two-and-a-half times) the maximum donation due to any one member of it. Furthermore, in addition to deductions previously authorised, it is stated that the sum earned by casual work will not be taken into account in assessing a man's donation unless in any week it exceeds 10 per cent. of what he would be entitled to if he were totally unemployed. Should such casual earnings exceed 10 per cent., then 60 per cent. of the excess will be taken into consideration in fixing his rate of relief.

RECENT UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF LEGISLATION IN SWITZERLAND.*

THE Swiss Government has recently had under consideration the question of giving unemployment relief in a form that would lead to productive labour and the revival of industry. Two measures with this end in view have lately been adopted.

(1) On 30th September, the Federal Council issued a decree modifying the decree of 29th October, 1919,† on unemployment relief. *Inter alia*, a new article 9 (a) is inserted. This article provides that, by special agreements, enterprises that would be compelled by the economic crisis to close down and dismiss their staffs may be granted subsidies under the following conditions:—

(a) that the continued employment of workpeople who would otherwise be dismissed shall thus be assured;

(b) that, without the subsidy, the enterprise would be working at a loss;

(c) that the total amount of the subsidy shall not exceed the sum which would otherwise have to be paid to the staff as unemployment relief;

(d) that the subsidy shall be refunded in any case where this is justified by the results.

When the object in view can be achieved by means of a loan, the assistance must take the form of a loan.

(2) On 19th October, the National Council approved a decree, submitted to it by the Federal Council, authorising the grant of a subsidy to the watch-making industry to enable it to combat unemployment and to dispose of its products. The subsidy is to be employed as a contribution either towards the cost of production or towards neutralising the effect of adverse foreign exchanges. It is not to exceed in amount the sum that would otherwise be paid out in the form of unemployment relief, or a total of 20 million francs. The Federal Council is to decide as to the branches of this industry to which the subsidy may be extended. The decree is to remain in force until the end of 1922. The value of watchmaking exports in the first half of 1921, as compared with the first half of 1920, dropped from 163 to 89 million francs, i.e., by 45.5 per cent. The Swiss Government calculated that the number of workers engaged in the industry in the third quarter of 1921 was from 45,000 to 50,000. At the end of August 19,685 were wholly and 12,829 partially unemployed—i.e., 32,514 in all, or from 65 to 72 per cent. of the total.† The cost of unemployment relief in one year, if the number of watchmakers receiving relief remained stationary as at 31st August, 1921, i.e., 13,414, was estimated to amount to 30 million francs. To remedy the evil of depreciated currencies in foreign countries, the manufacturers' associations proposed that the Government should establish for each country with a depreciated exchange a nominal rate of exchange higher than the real rate. Business would be done by the exporter on the basis of the nominal rate, the loss resulting from the difference between the nominal and the actual rate of exchange being met in whole or in part by State subsidies. While accepting the principle of a subsidy to facilitate export trade, the Government reserved to itself full liberty as to methods of application.

(3) Other recent measures promulgated by the Swiss Government for the relief of unemployment include:—

(a) Federal Decree of 20th October, authorising a further credit of 20 million francs for unemployment relief works (building, civil engineering, etc.), making a total of 92 millions assigned for this purpose.

(b) Federal Decree of 21st October, authorising an extraordinary credit of 66 million francs for unemployment relief works on behalf of certain Government Departments—Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, War Office, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Finance.

(c) Federal Decree of 21st October, authorising the issue of a special lump sum allowance, varying from 40 to 120 francs, according to domestic liabilities, to persons who have been unemployed for 90 days prior to 30th November, 1921, to enable them to make necessary winter purchases. The Confederation contributes 50 per cent. of the cost, up to 2½ million francs; the Cantons the remaining 50 per cent.

(d) By Federal Council Decree of 30th September, the cantons were also authorised, *inter alia*, to make it compulsory for unemployed persons in receipt of assistance to attend technical or other educational courses; to substitute relief in kind for part of the relief in cash; and, where justifiable, to increase from 60 to 120 days the period during which relief may be paid in the course of one year.

* *Feuille Federale*, 12th October, 1921, and *Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt*, November, 1921.

† See LABOUR GAZETTE, January, 1920 (p. 11).

‡ At the end of October the total had increased to 34,327, viz., 20,525 wholly unemployed and 13,802 partially, corresponding to from 69 to 76 per cent. of the total employed in the industry. (See also p. 648.)

MASTER AND SERVANT IN AGRICULTURE: NEW DANISH LAW.*

A LAW dated 6th May, 1921, to come into force six months after promulgation, supersedes all previous legislation dealing with legal relations between farmers and their workers. Former laws on the subject date back to 1854 and 1867.

The new law relates chiefly to permanent workers who are under 18 years of age at the time of beginning service. The term of a contract must not exceed one year. Where food forms part of the wages, it is to be of good quality and sufficient; each worker is to have his own place at table; no alcoholic drink is to be given to him, nor may it be stored or consumed in his room. Where a bedroom is provided for the worker it must be light and airy, sixteen cubic metres of air space being prescribed for one person and twenty-five for two. In regard to buildings already existing, however, the provision as to air space is not to be enforced for at least three years.

Wages are to be paid at specified intervals, varying according to the length of the engagement. In case of the worker's sickness the farmer is to provide proper nursing. If the employer does not wish the sick worker to remain in the house, he may remove him to a public hospital. In general, however, the employer is made responsible should such removal prejudice the recovery of the worker. Where the sickness is not due to any fault of the worker or of the employer, the latter must pay wages and provide board and lodging while the worker remains in his house. After a month's sickness the contract of service may be terminated by either party. Minors under 16 must not be given work beyond their strength, nor be employed for longer than their normal working hours. Time must be given, if desired, for attendance at school, evening classes or technical institutes. The amount of holiday leave is also prescribed.

Contracts with workers over 18 years of age must include the provisions as to healthy sleeping accommodation, and those relating to the removal of a sick worker to hospital. If contracts with men over 18 do not contain divergent clauses, the provisions laid down for minors are to apply.

A conciliation committee (on which women may serve) is to be elected by the parish council in each rural commune. It is to comprise four members, including the chairman, and both farmers and workers are to be represented upon it. All disputes as to the legal relations between farmers and their workers must in the first instance be referred to these committees. If agreement is not reached, the matter may be carried to a court of law. Penalties are prescribed for specified breaches of the law, varying in amount from 10 to 500 kroner.

WAGES ON GERMAN STATE RAILWAYS, 1914-1921.

THE British Commercial Secretary at Berlin, in a recent despatch to the Department of Overseas Trade, reproduces certain figures published in the German Press illustrating the rise in wages and salaries in the State Railway Service as compared with the pre-war period.

The wages of manual workers show the greatest increase, being approximately from 12 to 15 times the peace-time rates. Engine-drivers, for example, were receiving about 11½ times the corresponding rate for 1st August, 1914, stokers 13½ times, guards 13½ times, signalmen 14½ times.

The remuneration of non-manual workers has advanced more slowly. Among executive officers, chief inspectors were in receipt of 7½ times the pre-war salary, inspectors and chief clerks 7 times, clerks 7½ times. The salaries of administrative officials were from 6 to 7 times the 1914 rate.

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN ALGERIA.

ACCORDING to a report recently issued by the Department of Overseas Trade,† the cost of living in Algeria probably attained its maximum about the middle of 1920. Since then the prices of most articles have diminished, but no index figures are available as to the extent of such movement.

A considerable amount of unemployment prevailed, particularly among the native population in the rural districts, as the result of the commercial and industrial crisis. In the town of Algiers some 10,000 persons were unemployed in June, and a fund was raised for their assistance. The increased use of machinery in certain industries, notably tobacco, as the result of the high cost of labour, is one factor of unemployment.

Generally speaking, wages have trebled since 1914. During the present year, however, there has been a marked tendency towards reduction, particularly in the clothing trades. Joint Boards, known as *commissions paritaires*, have been established in Algiers, Oran, Bona, Bougie and Philippeville, for the purpose of settling wages disputes.

The regulations for applying the eight-hour day principle to Algeria had not been issued in 1920, but in practice the eight-hour day was being fairly generally observed.

* *Social Forsorg*, September, 1921.

† Report on the Economic and Commercial Situation in Algeria, August, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. Published by H.M. Stationery Office, 1921. Price 2s.

STATISTICS OF RETAIL PRICES.

RETAIL PRICES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

STATISTICS FOR 1st DECEMBER, 1921.

SUMMARY: AVERAGE INCREASES SINCE JULY, 1914.

Table with 2 columns: Item (All Items, Food only) and Percentage Increase (99%, 95%).

FOOD.

The average increase since July, 1914, in the cost of the pre-war working-class dietary was about 95 per cent. at 1st December, as compared with 100 per cent. a month earlier and with 182 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of average prices of the articles of food included in these statistics in July, 1914, and on 1st November and 1st December, 1921 :-

Table with columns: Article, Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated) for July 1914, 1st Nov 1921, 1st Dec 1921, and Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Dec., 1921, as compared with July, 1914.

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st December in relation to the prices of July, 1914, and 1st November, 1921 :-

Table with columns: Article, Average Percentage Increase at 1st December, 1921, as compared with July, 1914, for Large Towns, Small Towns and Villages, and United Kingdom.

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the Returns quote the price for another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, special enquiries have been made into the increases which have taken effect under the operation of the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920, and from the results of these enquiries it is estimated that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st December, 1921, was about 55 per cent.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st December the level of retail prices of clothing, quality for quality, taking goods of the kind purchased by the working classes, averaged between 150 and 160 per cent. higher than in July, 1914, prices showing a slight reduction, on the average, since 1st November.

In the fuel and light group, the average increase in the retail prices of coal, as compared with July, 1914, was about 130 per cent. at 1st December. For gas the increase was about 115 per cent., for lamp oil 100 per cent., and for candles (cheap kinds) 90 per cent. Matches show a much greater increase. Taking the group as a whole, the average increase was about 130 per cent. at 1st December, as compared with between 130 and 135 per cent. a month earlier.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (estimated at an average of about 100 per cent.), the resultant figure for 1st December, 1921, is about 99 per cent.* as compared with 103 per cent. for 1st November. At 1st December, 1920, the corresponding percentage was 169.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1921 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics at the beginning of each month from January, 1915, to the present time :-

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

Table with columns: Month (beginning of), 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921.

NOTE.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1921, contained a full account of the scope and method of compilation of the above statistics.

* If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, the average increase at 1st December, 1921, was about 6 per cent. less.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following paragraphs and in the Summary Table are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information in each country, 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.]

FRANCE (PARIS).*

The index number representing the general level of retail prices of food, fuel and lighting in November was 1.5 per cent. lower than in October, but was 226 per cent. above that for July, 1914. The computation of the movement of the general prices level is based on the pre-war budget of a typical Parisian family of the working class.

BELGIUM.†

The index number of the cost of food required by families whose incomes (in 1910) fell below 5 francs per day, at the prices prevailing on 15th October, 1921, was 334 per cent. greater than the cost at the prices current on 15th April, 1914.

The general level (unweighted) of retail prices of food and other necessaries on 15th October, 1921, as computed from returns of retail prices in 59 localities shows an increase of 1.3 per cent. as compared with 15th September, and 291 per cent. as compared with 15th April, 1914.

ITALY.

(a) Rome.‡

The general level of food prices in Rome in November shows an increase of 1.5 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and of 359 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. If the prices of other household necessaries (clothing, fuel, lighting, rent, etc.) be also taken into consideration, the general level in November shows an increase of 2.0 per cent. as compared with October, and of 323 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914.

(b) Milan.§

The weekly cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living in Milan in the case of a family consisting of five persons, at the prices current in November, 1921, shows, as regards food alone, an increase of 1.7 per cent. when compared with the preceding month, and of 470 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. The total family expenditure (including also the cost of clothing, rent and heating and lighting) shows in November an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with October, and is 441 per cent. higher than in 1914.

GERMANY. ||

According to the official index number representing the cost of necessaries assumed to be required by a family of five persons, an increase of 22 per cent. was recorded in November, as compared with the preceding month, and of 1297 per cent., as compared with the average for 1913-14. The increase in the cost of food alone in November was 25 per cent. as compared with October, and 1814 per cent. as compared with the figure for 1913-14. The standard budget of this family includes food, the rent of two rooms and a kitchen, and the cost of fuel and light.

NORWAY. ¶

The official index number representing the expenditure of a family upon food at the prices prevailing in November shows a decrease of 2.4 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, but an increase of 181 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. The figures are based upon the cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living of an average urban family which had (in 1914) an income of about £83 per annum.

SWEDEN.**

At the prices prevailing in November the cost of maintaining the standard pre-war budget of a typical Swedish household in the matter of food, fuel and lighting represents a decrease of 3.2 per cent. upon the cost in the preceding month, but an increase of 111 per cent. in comparison with July, 1914. The typical family is one consisting of a man and wife and two children who had an expenditure (in 1914) of £111 per annum. The above figures relate to the principal towns of Sweden taken together:

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the General Statistical Department of France. † Rome du Travail, November, 1921. Brussels. ‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Municipal Labour Office, Rome. § Information supplied through the courtesy of the Municipal Labour Office, Milan. || From information published in the German Press. ¶ Meddelelser fra det Statistiske Centralbyra, No. 11, 1921. Christiania. ** Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Department of Social Affairs, Stockholm.

if Stockholm alone be considered the November index shows a decrease of 2.8 per cent., as against October, but an increase of 110 per cent. as compared with July, 1914.

UNITED STATES.*

The general level of retail prices of food in the United States in October shows no change when compared with the preceding month, but a decline of 23 per cent. below that of October, 1920. The index number for the latest date is 50 per cent. above that of July, 1914. In the computation of the general level each article of food is weighted according to its importance in consumption.

CANADA.†

The estimated weekly expenditure upon food by a family of five in October, 1921, as computed from returns of retail prices prevailing in 60 towns in the Dominion, shows a decrease of 2.9 per cent. when compared with that of the preceding month, but, an increase of 55 per cent. upon the expenditure in July, 1914. The total expenditure upon food, fuel, lighting and rent combined shows a decrease of 1.5 per cent., as compared with that for September, but a rise of 55 per cent. as compared with the cost in July, 1914.

NEW ZEALAND.‡

The index number of retail prices of food in November, based on returns relating to 25 representative towns in New Zealand, shows a decrease of 2.9 per cent. when compared with that for the preceding month, but is 52 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. In the computation of the general index numbers regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in consumption before the war.

INDIA (BOMBAY). §

The index number compiled by the Bombay Labour Office shows a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the general level of retail food prices in October as compared with the preceding month, but an increase of 80 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. If fuel and lighting, clothing and house rent be also taken into consideration, in addition to food, the general level of retail prices in October shows a decrease of 1.1 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and an increase of 83 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. In the computation of the general index numbers regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in household expenditure.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington. † Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa. ‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Government Statistician of New Zealand. § Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Bombay Labour Office.

(Continued on page 649.)

FOOD PRICES—GENERAL SUMMARY.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.—PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.

Table with columns: Country, Percentage Increase in Retail Food Prices since July, 1914 (July 1917, July 1918, July 1919, July 1920, July 1921), Latest figures available (Rise, Date).

* It should be noted that the figures for the United Kingdom relate to food only. For all items the increase is 99 per cent. (see p. 630). † The increases shown are for families of the lowest income class; in October the increase for all working-class families ranged from 323 to 334 per cent. ‡ Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. § Figures for 3rd Quarter. ¶ Figures for August. ** Figures for June.

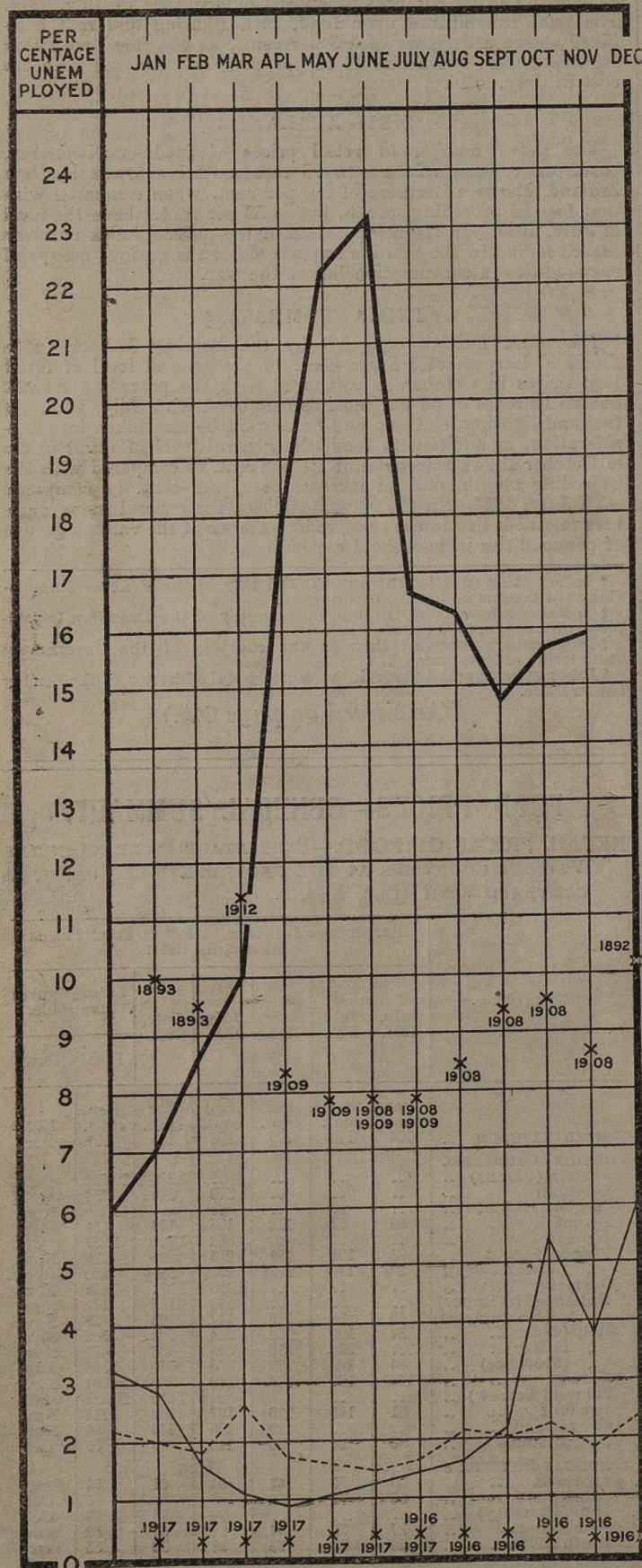
EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.*

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1921. — Thin Curve = 1920.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1911-20.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1891-1920.



* The Chart is based on Returns furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick, or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given on page 633.

EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued bad during November, with much unemployment and short-time working. In some industries, including coal, iron and shale mining, tinplate and steel sheet manufacture, and the hosiery and silk trades, an improvement was reported, but in a number of others, including the engineering, shipbuilding, brick, cement, pottery and building trades, there was a further decline.

The percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns were received was 15.9 at the end of November, compared with 15.6 at the end of October and 3.7 at the end of November, 1920.

Among the workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act, numbering over 11,900,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 2nd December was 15.7. At 4th November it was 14.9. For males alone the percentage claiming benefit was 17.7 at 2nd December, as compared with 16.8 at 4th November; for females the corresponding figures were 10.6 and 10.0.

The number of workpeople on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges at 2nd December was approximately 1,834,000, of whom men numbered 1,415,000 and women 318,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 4th November was 1,729,000, of whom 1,332,000 were men and 294,000 were women. Some unemployed persons not insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act do not register at the Employment Exchanges, and the Live Register figures, therefore, do not indicate the total number unemployed.

In addition to those totally unemployed, large numbers of workpeople were registered as working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At 2nd December these numbered 268,000, of whom 155,000 were males and 113,000 females; the corresponding numbers on 4th November were 252,000 (153,000 males and 99,000 females).

The total number of vacancies notified to the Employment Exchanges and unfilled at 2nd December was 18,100, of which 4,400 were for men and 11,800 for women; the corresponding number at 4th November was 19,600, of which 5,100 were for men and 12,600 for women.

Employment at coal mines showed a general improvement, but was still slack on the whole, and unemployment and short-time working continued to be reported. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 26th November was 1,063,363, an increase of 1.7 per cent. as compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 12.8 per cent. as compared with November, 1920. The average number of days worked by the pits during the fortnight ended 26th November was 4.97, as compared with 4.58 in the fortnight ended 29th October, 1921, and 5.70 in the fortnight ended 27th November, 1920.

At iron mines employment showed a further slight improvement, but a large proportion of the mines still remained idle, particularly in the Cleveland district. At shale mines there was also some improvement, but employment was still much below the level of a year ago. At lead and zinc mines employment continued bad on the whole; at tin mines work was still practically suspended. In the quarrying industry employment was generally moderate; a considerable amount of short time was worked, and in some instances work was interrupted by bad weather. In slate quarrying, however, employment was fairly good.

In the pig iron industry employment continued bad, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. At the end of November 70 furnaces were in blast at those works covered by the returns received, a decrease of 70 per cent. as compared with the number in operation in November, 1920.

Employment at iron and steel works also continued bad, except in Wales and Monmouth, where it improved and was moderate. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade there was a further improvement, and employment was fair on the whole. At the end of the month 443 mills were reported to be in operation, as compared with 398 at the end of October.

In the engineering trades employment was very bad generally, and rather worse than in October; in the textile machinery section, however, it continued fair on the whole, and at some of the motor works an improvement was reported. In the shipbuilding and ship repairing trades employment was also very bad, and worse than in the previous month. In a few branches of the other metal trades a slight improvement was reported, but employment continued bad on the whole.

In the cotton trade employment showed a further general decline, and was bad in all the principal departments. In the woollen and worsted trades it also continued bad generally, and short time and unemployment were prevalent in most of the departments; in the wool-combing, sorting and worsted spinning sections, however, the operatives were well employed. In the hosiery trades the improvement reported in October

was maintained, and employment was on the whole fair; in the jute trade it showed a decline and was bad.

In the linen trade employment improved in Ireland, but was still slack; in Scotland it continued bad. In the carpet trade employment was fair, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. In the silk trade employment, though still slack, showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. It continued bad in the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing trades; in the lace trade it showed a decline and was bad.

In the bespoke branch of the tailoring trade employment continued moderate on the whole; in the ready-made section it was still slack. With dressmakers and milliners and in the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, etc., trades in London employment continued fair. In the corset trades there was a further slight improvement, but short time continued to be worked; in the felt hat trade it was quiet on the whole; in the shirt and collar trades it continued slack.

Employment in the leather trades was slack in the tanning and currying section, and fair with portmanteau, etc., makers and fancy leather workers. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued slack on the whole, with much short time and unemployment. In the paper, printing and bookbinding trades employment continued bad generally, though some improvement was reported in certain sections of the printing trade at a number of provincial centres.

Employment in the building trades showed a further decline. It continued good with plasterers, moderate, on the whole, with bricklayers, carpenters and plumbers, and slack with masons. With painters it was very bad and there was also much unemployment among navvies and builders' labourers. In the brick trade employment showed a further decline in most districts; in the cement trade it also declined and was very bad generally. In the woodworking and furnishing trades employment continued slack on the whole; with coopers, however, it was reported as fairly good at Burton and Glasgow, and fair at several other centres.

In the pottery trades employment showed a general decline and was slack; in the glass trades it also declined and was bad. In the food preparation trades employment was still only moderate and short time was worked in most sections; in the sugar-refining branch, however, it was fair on the whole.

Agricultural operations were helped by the favourable weather, autumn work was well advanced, and the supply of labour, especially of the unskilled class, was in excess of the demand in nearly every part of the country.

With dock and riverside labourers employment was slack. With fishermen employment showed some decline, but was still fair on the whole; with seamen it continued slack, and at almost all the ports large numbers of men were unemployed.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES SUMMARY.

THE number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1920 and 1921 is estimated at about 11,900,000.* Of these 1,865,170, or 15.7 per cent., were totally unemployed at 2nd December, 1921, as compared with 14.9 per cent at 4th November, 1921.

In addition, at 2nd December, 268,148 persons, or 2.3 per cent. of the total number of insured persons, were working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The percentage at 4th November, 1921, was 2.1.

A summary of the principal figures for unemployment insurance is given below. Detailed particulars for the principal industries will be found on pages 646 and 647.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated Number Insured*	8,506,100	3,395,900	11,902,000
Total Unemployment.			
Number of Unemployment Books lodged at 2nd December, 1921..	1,505,590	359,580	1,865,170
Percentage of all Insured..	17.7	10.6	15.7
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage compared with 4th November	+0.9	+0.6	+0.8
Short Time.			
Number of persons claiming benefit at 2nd December, 1921	155,294	112,854	268,148
Percentage of all Insured ..	1.8	3.3	2.3
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage compared with 4th November	-	+0.4	+0.2

* The estimated numbers of insured workpeople and their distribution among the various industries have been revised in accordance with the information now available in respect of the Exchange and Issue of Unemployment Books since July, 1921.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 1,432,659, from which returns are received, reported 228,484 (or 15.9 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of November, 1921, compared with 15.6 per cent. at the end of October, 1921, and 3.7 per cent. at the end of November, 1920.

Trade.	Membership of Trade Unions making Returns at end of Nov., 1921.	Unemployed at end of November, 1921.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building†	99,869	4,214	4.2	+ 0.4	+ 3.6
Coal Mining	182,178	30,732	16.9	- 3.2	+16.8
Engineering and Ship- building	519,173	140,488	27.1	+ 2.1	+21.6
Miscellaneous Metal ..	75,520	11,823	15.7	- 0.5	+13.0
Textiles—					
Cotton	72,755	5,909	8.1†	+ 0.8	+ 4.5
Woolen and Worsted	12,050	655	5.4	+ 0.6	- 1.4
Other	82,639	4,869	5.9	- 0.2	+ 2.6
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	101,922	8,567	8.4	- 0.1	+ 5.6
Furnishing	39,653	2,287	5.7	- 1.3	+ 2.7
Woodworking	53,975	5,528	10.2	+ 0.3	+ 8.3
Clothing—					
Boot and Shoe.. ..	78,339	3,362	4.3	- 0.6	- 1.8
Other Clothing ..	62,725	3,859	6.2	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Leather	11,101	1,303	11.7	+ 0.9	+ 2.9
Glass	1,287	59	4.6	- 0.6	+ 4.6
Pottery	34,700	3,800	11.0	+ 1.5	+10.8
Tobacco‡	4,773	1,059	22.2	- 3.2	+14.7
Total	1,432,659	228,484	15.9	+ 0.3	+12.2

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

(a) MINING AND OTHER METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Nov., 1921.	Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining	1,063,363	4.97	+0.39	-0.73	
Iron	5,652	4.60	+0.43	-0.63	
Shale	3,418	5.96	+0.06	+0.04	
Pig Iron	—	Furnaces in Blast. 70	No. -1	No. -165	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	—	Mills Working 443	+45	-20	
Iron and Steel	71,804	Shifts Worked (one week). 346,785	Per cent. -6.4	Per cent. -46.9	

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number Employed.		Wages Paid.			
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
				Month ago. †	Year ago. ‡	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Textiles—						
Cotton	90,895	- 3.4	- 6.0	189,331	- 7.9	-18.8
Woolen	15,427	+ 2.2	-17.0	31,263	- 0.1	-31.4
Worsted	28,723	+ 1.9	- 8.9	61,103	+ 2.9	-16.1
Linen	24,357	+ 5.4	-10.0	34,427	+ 4.3	-16.3
Jute	15,932	- 5.1	-20.7	24,755	-11.0	-26.3
Hosiery	14,949	+ 3.3	- 7.7	30,005	+ 3.9	+ 4.5
Lace	3,717	- 3.0	-14.8	7,358	-10.1	+ 2.7
Other Textiles ..	13,233	+ 1.7	- 9.7	24,780	- 0.7	-23.6
Bleaching, etc. ..	22,111	- 0.5	-11.3	61,986	- 5.2	-23.6
Total Textiles	229,344	- 0.6	- 9.7	465,028	- 4.0	-19.2
Boot and Shoe ..	51,149	- 0.3	- 2.1	117,148	- 0.3	+ 8.8
Shirt and Collar ..	10,216	+ 0.2	-20.1	15,597	+ 0.8	-18.3
Readymade Tailoring	18,008	+ 2.2	-19.7	29,205	+ 5.7	- 9.4
Paper	10,748	+ 1.8	-14.1	29,051	+ 0.8	-24.9
Printing and Book-binding	13,581	- 1.3	-13.4	41,969	+ 0.1	-19.9
Pottery	12,718	- 2.0	- 8.1	29,417	- 7.5	-18.5
Glass	7,454	- 7.6	-26.5	21,570	- 8.6	-38.2
Brick	7,877	+ 2.3	- 6.8	23,189	- 5.3	-26.6
Cement	6,350	-14.5	-41.8	21,576	-20.3	-53.7
Food Preparation ..	63,638	- 0.6	- 1.3	148,012	- 0.8	- 7.8
Grand Total	431,083	- 0.3	- 9.7	941,482	- 3.1	-17.1

* 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.

† The percentage is based on returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.

‡ 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 cigar makers.

¶ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

The percentage of persons claiming unemployment benefit in respect of systematic short-time working was 1.2 at 2nd December compared with 1.3 at 4th November.

Employment on the Tyne continued bad, although a slight improvement was reported in some yards, and with ship joiners employment was reported as moderate. It was bad, or very bad, on the Wear and Tees, where the volume of unemployment was materially increased by further discharges of workpeople. At the East and South Coast ports employment was slack and showed a further decline, though with barge builders on the Thames it continued good. There was no substantial change at the Bristol Channel Ports, where great slackness continued to prevail. On the Mersey unemployment was considerable, though increased activity in the ship repairing trade was reported. Short-time working continued at Barrow.

On the Clyde employment was reported to be worse than in the previous month; for most classes of men it was described as bad, but for ship joiners it was reported as fair. On the East Coast of Scotland employment remained at a low level. It continued to be bad at Belfast, except with joiners, who reported an improvement.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was very bad generally, and rather worse than in October. In the textile machinery trade, however, it remained fair on the whole, and at some of the motor works an improvement was reported.

The following Table* shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 2nd December, 1921:—

Division.	Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 2nd Dec., 1921.	Percentage of Unemployment at 2nd Dec., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 4th Nov., 1921.
London	29,579	21.1	- 0.4
Northern Counties	27,239	30.9	+ 1.2
North Western	57,380	26.2	+ 2.5
Yorkshire	33,886	28.2	+ 2.6
East Midlands	16,741	29.7	+ 3.0
West Midlands	49,959	32.8	+ 0.2
S. Midlands and Eastern S. E. Counties	15,577	20.9	-
South Western	7,463	20.7	+ 0.6
Wales	9,223	17.0	-
Scotland	3,591	29.5	+ 0.9
Ireland	47,110	27.7	+ 2.1
	6,078	27.6	+ 1.4
UNITED KINGDOM	303,836	26.5	+ 1.2
Males	291,273	27.5	+ 1.3
Females	12,563	14.9	- 0.1

The proportion of persons claiming unemployment insurance benefit in respect of days of work lost owing to systematic short time was 4.1 per cent. of the insured workpeople at 2nd December, compared with 3.9 per cent. at 4th November.

In all the divisions employment remained bad, with much short time, the percentages of unemployment varying from 17.0 (South-Western Division) to 32.8 (West Midlands Division). The increases in the percentages compared with those for 4th November were greatest in East Midlands (3.0) and Yorkshire (2.6).

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued bad on the whole, and short time working was again prevalent. In a few sections there was a slight improvement as compared with last month.

Returns were received from trade unions covering 75,520 workpeople, of whom 15.7 per cent. were reported unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 16.2 per cent. at the end of October and 2.7 per cent. at the end of November, 1920.

Brasswork.—On the whole employment, although it was slightly better than last month, continued bad. The principal trade union reported that 4,500 of its 32,400 members were unemployed at the end of the month, while 5,000 others were working, on an average, 25 hours per week short of full time. At Birmingham employment was reported as fair.

Bedsteads.—Employment was again very slack with bedstead-makers at Birmingham, and much unemployment and short time working was reported.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—At Blackheath and Halesowen employment remained bad with makers of black nuts, bolts, rivets and spikes, while at Darlaston it was reported as quiet with makers of best nuts and bolts. In the shoe rivet, wire nail and cut nail trades at Birmingham the majority of shops worked on an average only three days per week.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups.—Employment in the cutlery and file trades at Sheffield continued bad, and short time working

was again general; at Wednesbury employment was bad among edge-tool workers. In the saddle and harness furniture making and the bit and stirrup making trades at Walsall employment declined during the month, and was reported as very bad.

Needles, etc.—At Redditch employment in the needle, fish-hook and fishing tackle-making trades improved to fair.

Tubes.—Employment with tube makers at Wednesbury was quiet, while at Birmingham it remained very bad. At Landore employment was again slack, but showed some improvement on last month.

Chains, Anvils, Axles, Springs, etc.—At Cradley Heath employment was again bad with anchor-smiths, ship tackle, cable chain and block chain makers. It was slack in the anvil and vice trade at Dudley, and in the axle and spring trade at Wednesbury.

Sheet Metal.—Employment in the sheet metal industry continued bad, on the whole, and short time was again prevalent; an improvement was reported in Scotland and in the Manchester district, but in other localities there was little change compared with the previous month.

With iron plate workers at Birmingham employment was fair and slightly better than last month, while in the Lye, Bilston and Dudley districts it was reported as fairly good.

Wire.—Employment was very slack on the whole, and short time working was general in a number of centres.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment was bad at Falkirk, with short time working in operation; at Sheffield, Luton and Norwich it was reported as slack, and at Leeds as very fair, and better than in the previous month.

Jewellery, Plated-ware, etc.—Employment in these trades continued very bad on the whole, and a great deal of short time was worked. At Birmingham it was specially bad in the gold and silver section, in which short time working was very prevalent: conditions were somewhat better in the electro-plate section, but employment declined towards the end of the month.

Hollow-ware, Hardware, Locks, Latches.—At Wolverhampton employment was fair with galvanised hollow-ware, spade and shovel, and hurdle and fence makers; it was quiet with tin and enamel hollow-ware workers, but slack with makers of cast-iron hollow-ware and builders' ironmongery. Employment remained very bad in the Wolverhampton and Willenhall lock and latch trade, the majority of firms working, on an average, only three days per week.

Farriers.—With farriers employment was quiet, on the whole, and a fair amount of short time was worked.

The exports of hardware in November, 1921, amounted to 6,243 cwts., or 557 cwts. more than in October, 1921, but 18,134 cwts. less than in November, 1913.

The exports of hollow-ware in November, 1921, amounted to 583 tons, or 79 tons less than in October, 1921, and 2,290 tons less than in November, 1913.

COTTON TRADE.

DURING November employment in the cotton trade showed a further general decline, and was bad in all the principal departments. It was worse than in November of last year, when trade was already depressed. The re-introduction of organised short time amongst spinners of American cotton was considered during the month; and, though, on a ballot of employers, the necessary majority in favour of organised short time was not secured, action by individual firms resulted in a large-scale curtailment of production. In the weaving department employment continued very slack, large numbers of looms being idle in all the principal districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.9 at the 2nd December, as compared with 10.1 at the 4th November. In addition, 9.0 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time, as compared with 5.7 per cent. at the 4th November.

In the Oldham, Stockport, and Rochdale districts a number of spinning mills closed down during the month; of the firms that continued working, some were on full time, others on short time, according to the orders in hand. At Ashton nearly all the firms that were working were on short time. In the weaving department in the Oldham district short time was prevalent, especially with women overlookers.

In the Bolton district employment with spinners was bad; it was also bad with spinners at Bury, but at Chorley it was reported as fair. In the weaving department nearly two-thirds of the operatives at Bolton were on short time, working either three days a week or alternate weeks. At Todmorden there was a decline, with much short time and under-employment.

In the Manchester district employment with spinners was de-

scribed as fair, but not so good as in October; a considerable amount of short time was reported.

In all the principal weaving districts employment was bad, and worse, on the whole, than in October. At the end of the month there was an increase in the number of closed mills, and, in addition to total stoppages, there was a considerable increase in under-employment. In the Blackburn district employment was very depressed; some weaving sheds were closed entirely, others were working only alternate weeks, or had a large number of looms stopped. Employment was also bad, and worse than in October, in the Preston, Darwen, Burnley, and Nelson districts.

In the Yorkshire district employment was bad, and slightly worse than in October; the great majority of operatives were working only two or three days a week.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.				
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Per cent.	Per cent.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*			
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.			
Preparing	11,165	- 4.2	- 6.1	22,708	- 8.1	- 21.5			
Spinning	22,671	- 3.1	- 9.1	44,740	- 7.6	- 21.0			
Weaving	39,446	- 3.6	- 5.4	77,216	- 8.4	- 18.1			
Other	3,204	- 1.0	- 8.1	25,474	- 4.4	- 17.4			
Not specified	8,409	- 4.2	+ 3.2	19,193	- 10.6	- 14.6			
Total	90,895	- 3.4	- 6.0	189,331	- 7.9	- 18.8			
DISTRICTS.									
Ashton	4,895	- 6.5	- 4.5	10,342	- 6.5	- 19.8			
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	6,409	- 1.0	- 4.2	12,534	- 7.0	- 19.1			
Oldham	10,157	- 1.2	- 5.6	25,796	- 3.8	- 26.8			
Bolton and Leigh	13,788	+ 0.2	- 1.4	26,986	- 3.9	- 2.4			
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, and Todmorden	8,467	- 5.9	- 17.2	15,136	- 17.2	- 41.2			
Manchester	6,461	- 5.4	- 13.0	11,928	- 6.2	- 27.0			
Preston and Chorley	6,811	- 7.6	+ 0.1	13,278	- 13.8	- 13.8			
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	17,345	+ 3.6	+ 5.4	22,194	- 2.8	- 5.0			
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	11,464	- 4.1	- 0.8	23,366	- 9.5	- 14.9			
Other Lancashire Towns	3,371	- 25.3	- 31.8	6,576	- 26.7	- 33.5			
Yorkshire Towns	4,738	+ 1.2	- 7.8	8,984	- 5.3	- 15.2			
Other Districts	3,990	+ 0.4	- 6.2	7,321	+ 1.6	- 1.0			
Total	90,895	- 3.4	- 6.0	189,331	- 7.9	- 18.8			

The following Table summarises the statistics of imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton, and the exports of cotton yarn and piece goods in November, 1921, in comparison with October, 1921, and November, 1913:—

Description.	Nov., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A month ago.	Nov., 1913.
Imports (less Re-exports):—					
Raw Cotton (including cotton linters) (100 lb.)	1,838,052	535,303	3,357,137	+ 1,702,749	- 1,519,085
Exports of British Manufacture:—					
Cotton yarn (1,000 lb.)	20,619	18,645	18,248	+ 1,974	+ 2,371
Finished thread (1,000 lb.)	1,661	1,557	1,732	+ 104	- 71
Cotton piece goods ..	363,633†	342,412†	563,650†	+ 21,221	..

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

DURING November employment in these trades continued bad, except in the wool-combing and sorting and worsted-spinning departments, and in the blanket and flannel trades, in all of which the workers were well employed. With these exceptions short time and unemployment were still prevalent; this was particularly the case in the fine cloth trade at Bradford and Huddersfield.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.2 at the 2nd December, as compared with 14.3 at the 4th November. In addition, 4.8 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at the 2nd December, as compared with 5.9 per cent. at the 4th November.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.
† Thousands of square yards.
‡ Thousands of linear yards.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

In this trade employment continued bad, and on the whole showed little change compared with the previous month. It was much below the level of November last year, when the depression was already severe.

In the Huddersfield district employment continued quiet, with a considerable amount of short time; although a few firms were working full time, and, in isolated cases, overtime and night work were reported. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment continued bad. The blanket trade was busy, and better than in November last year; but employment in the fancy rug trade was only moderate, and the rag and shoddy trades continued to be very depressed.

In the Leeds district employment on the whole was bad, and about the same as in the previous month; overlookers reported employment as bad, with 65 per cent. of their members on short time. In the Yeadon and Guiseley district employment slightly improved in the early part of the month, but declined later; warp-dressers at Yeadon, however, were fully employed. In the Rochdale district there was a further improvement, and employment was good, owing to a brisk demand for underwear flannels, and full time was worked.

In Scotland employment was reported as bad, and much below the level of November last year. A large proportion of the operatives were still unemployed or under-employed at the end of November. At Hawick, however, there was a slight improvement.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns showing the numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 26th November, as compared with the previous month and with a year ago:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.				
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Per cent.	Per cent.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.*	Year ago.*			
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.			
Wool Sorting	360	+ 11.5	- 9.8	880	+ 16.6	- 25.6			
Spinning	3,590	+ 5.2	- 20.7	7,274	+ 2.7	- 31.2			
Weaving	6,072	+ 0.5	- 15.2	10,741	- 3.5	- 32.8			
Other Departments ..	4,643	+ 0.5	- 15.7	10,342	- 1.7	- 32.4			
Not Specified	756	+ 9.1	- 23.0	2,046	+ 11.7	- 20.0			
TOTAL	15,427	+ 2.2	- 17.0	31,283	- 0.1	- 31.4			
DISTRICTS.									
Huddersfield District ..	1,251	+ 3.4	- 14.5	3,037	+ 6.3	- 15.6			
Leeds District	1,234	+ 4.4	- 21.5	2,851	- 0.1	- 19.8			
Dewsbury and Batley District	1,762	+ 6.2	- 6.8	3,812	+ 6.2	- 27.7			
Other Parts of West Riding	2,017	+ 7.6	- 8.0	4,315	+ 0.4	- 21.6			
Total, West Riding ..	6,264	+ 5.7	- 12.0	14,015	+ 3.1	- 21.8			
Scotland	4,502	- 0.5	- 25.5	7,710	- 5.3	- 50.5			
Other Districts	4,661	+ 0.4	- 14.1	9,558	- 0.3	- 20.9			
TOTAL	15,427	+ 2.2	- 17.0	31,283	- 0.1	- 31.4			

At the end of November about 59 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were working short time, as compared with 51 per cent. at the end of October; the average amount of short time was about 16 hours in November, as compared with 18 hours in October.

WORSTED TRADE.

In this trade the improvement in the wool-combing and worsted-spinning departments, which began about the end of June, continued; but employment in the weaving department was still very slack.

In the wool-combing department the majority of firms were fairly well employed, and running full time. With wool-sorters also employment continued good, and showed a further improvement in November; there was little or no unemployment or short time in this department. There was an improvement also in the spinning department, owing to the continued demand for hosiery yarns.

In the Bradford district employment was fairly good in the combing and worsted-spinning departments, but was still very quiet in the weaving department, especially in the fine cloth trade. Some firms, however, were beginning to employ a few more weavers. At Keighley about 70 per cent. of the power loom overlookers were on short time; at Halifax there was a further improvement, and employment was better than in November last year; at Huddersfield there was again a decline, and employment was much worse than in November last year.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns showing the numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 26th November, as compared with the previous month and with a year ago:—

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

Departments.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wood Sorting and Combing	4,113	+ 1.1	+ 4.4	12,494	+ 2.4	+ 10.3
Spinning	14,827	+ 1.1	- 4.1	26,879	+ 1.9	- 5.8
Weaving	5,111	+ 5.8	- 25.4	9,834	+ 3.7	- 45.3
Other Departments ..	2,522	- 0.2	- 16.3	6,991	+ 1.3	- 25.1
Not Specified	2,150	+ 2.6	- 6.1	4,905	+ 11.4	+ 10.6
Total	28,723	+ 1.9	- 8.9	61,103	+ 2.9	- 16.1
Districts.						
Bradford District ..	14,165	+ 1.1	- 9.0	31,183	+ 1.0	- 17.9
Keighley District ..	5,375	+ 6.4	- 6.5	11,057	+ 5.7	- 15.2
Halifax District ..	3,587	+ 1.6	+ 0.7	7,888	+ 7.3	+ 8.7
Huddersfield District ..	2,407	- 0.1	- 23.2	4,988	- 5.7	- 36.0
Other parts of West Riding	2,340	- 0.6	- 1.9	4,661	+ 0.1	- 9.6
Total, West Riding ..	27,874	+ 1.9	- 9.0	59,777	+ 3.0	- 16.1
Other Districts	849	+ 1.7	- 6.6	1,326	+ 0.2	- 15.5
Total	28,723	+ 1.9	- 8.9	61,103	+ 2.9	- 16.1

At the end of November about 22 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were working short time, as compared with about 29 per cent. in October, the average amount of short time being about 16 hours a week in both periods.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Description.	Nov., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A month ago.	Nov., 1921.
Imports (less Re-exports):—					
Raw wool (sheep or lambs) (100 lb.)	377,214	221,469	236,452	+155,745	+ 90,762
Woolen and worsted yarn (1,000 lb.)	816	650	2,331	+ 186	- 1,515
Exports of British Manufacture:—					
Wool tops (100 lb.)	30,456	32,786	36,857	- 2,230	- 6,401
Woolen yarn (1,000 lb.)	812	647	234	+ 165	+ 513
Worsted yarn (1,000 lb.)	3,526	3,333	4,229	- 133	+ 703
Woolen tissues	6,932†	7,038†	7,658†	+ 106	..
Worsted tissues	4,027†	3,958†	4,389†	+ 69	..
Flannels and delaines	258†	282†	693†	- 4	..
Blankets pairs	37,907	44,386	73,886	- 6,479	- 35,979

HOSIERY TRADE.

The improvement in this trade was maintained during November, and employment was fair on the whole.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the hosiery trade, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 5.1 at 2nd December, as compared with 6.2 at 4th November. In addition 2.1 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 2nd December, as compared with 2.6 per cent. at 4th November.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns showing the numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 26th November, as compared with the previous month and a year ago:—

District	No. of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.*		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leicester	7,713	+ 3.6	+ 0.6	16,303	+ 5.7	+ 20.8
Leicester County Dist.	1,506	- 1.3	- 11.8	2,308	+ 1.2	- 0.5
Notts and Derbyshire ..	3,592	+ 3.5	- 17.2	6,029	+ 3.1	- 13.2
Scotland	1,923	+ 6.1	- 13.8	3,898	+ 11.6	- 11.1
Other Districts	305	- 1.0	- 14.8	409	- 7.5	- 30.8
Total, United Kingdom	14,949	+ 3.3	- 7.7	30,005	+ 3.9	+ 4.5

Of 12,272 workpeople employed by firms making reports as to short time, about 16 per cent. were losing, on the average, about 16 hours a week.

Employment in Leicestershire showed a further improvement, and comparatively little short time was reported. A slight improvement was reported in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire,

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.
† Thousands of square yards.
‡ Thousands of linear yards.

where, however, many workers were still under-employed. In Scotland employment generally was somewhat better than a month ago.

The exports of cotton hosiery in November, 1921, amounted to 41,167 dozen pairs, as compared with 39,170 dozen pairs in October, 1921, and 53,590 dozen pairs in November, 1913.

The exports of woollen hosiery in November, 1921, amounted to 203,491 dozen pairs, as compared with 206,725 dozen pairs in October, 1921, and 165,689 dozen pairs in November, 1913.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during November in Dundee and the surrounding districts was bad, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.6 at 2nd December, as compared with 11.8 at 4th November. In addition 22.9 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 2nd December, as compared with 11.7 per cent. at 4th November.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.*		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	3,934	- 6.6	- 22.0	5,797	- 11.8	- 25.7
Spinning	4,628	- 7.2	- 22.7	6,371	- 14.2	- 30.6
Weaving	4,359	- 3.3	- 23.9	6,392	- 9.4	- 25.8
Other and not specified	3,011	- 2.3	- 9.3	6,195	- 8.4	- 21.5
Total	15,932	- 5.1	- 20.7	24,755	- 11.0	- 26.3

Returns relating to short time were received from firms employing 12,566 workpeople. Over 50 per cent. of these workpeople were working short time to the extent of about 20 hours per week less than full time.

The exports of jute yarn of British manufacture were 3,839,400 lbs. in November, 1921, as compared with 3,020,900 lbs. in October, 1921, and 3,019,900 lbs. in November, 1913.

The exports of jute piece goods of British manufacture, including jute carpets and rugs, were 10,657,900 square yards in November, 1921, compared with 6,541,500 square yards in October, 1921, and 14,544,000 linear yards in November, 1913.

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the linen trade in Ireland, though still slack, showed an improvement on the previous month. In Scotland employment continued bad. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the flax, linen, and hemp trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 17.4 at 2nd December, as compared with 16.9 at 4th November. In addition, 16.4 of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working, as compared with 14.1 per cent. at 4th November.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns relating to numbers employed and wages paid:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.*		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	3,630	+ 9.6	- 12.0	5,031	+ 6.1	- 16.4
Spinning	6,991	+ 11.8	- 13.1	8,354	+ 13.0	- 18.0
Weaving	6,908	+ 3.8	- 6.2	9,293	+ 0.9	- 14.5
Other	4,053	- 0.5	- 12.1	7,659	+ 0.7	- 21.5
Not specified	2,775	- 1.2	- 5.2	4,040	+ 5.0	- 4.9
Total	24,357	+ 5.4	- 10.0	34,427	+ 4.8	- 16.3
DISTRICTS.						
Belfast	10,632	+ 9.7	- 5.4	15,459	+ 16.2	- 10.2
Other places in Ireland ..	7,317	+ 2.7	- 7.8	9,925	+ 2.9	- 15.8
Total, Ireland ..	17,949	+ 6.7	- 6.4	25,384	+ 10.6	- 12.5
Fifeshire	1,349	+ 3.0	- 6.9	1,937	- 3.3	- 12.1
Other places in Scotland	5,059	+ 1.6	- 21.5	7,106	- 9.9	- 22.5
Total, Scotland ..	6,408	+ 1.9	- 18.8	9,043	- 8.6	- 25.5
TOTAL	24,357	+ 5.4	- 10.0	34,427	+ 4.8	- 16.3

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

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the lace trade continued bad during November, being worse on the whole than in the previous month, and much below the level of a year ago. In all the principal districts there was a large amount of unemployment and short-time working.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.1 at 2nd December, as compared with 14.8 at 4th November. In addition 6.4 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time at 2nd December, as compared with 6.8 per cent. at 4th November.

At Nottingham and Long Eaton employment was generally bad, and worse than in October. According to the returns received from employers relating to short time about 67 per cent. of the operatives worked on the average 13 hours less than full time in the week ended 26th November. Employment in Scotland remained quiet, but showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. About 34 per cent. of the workpeople employed by firms reporting on the subject were on short time, and lost on the average nearly 19 hours in the week ended 26th November.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 26th November, as compared with the previous month and a year ago:—

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.*		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Levers	981	- 7.6	- 20.6	1,644	- 25.1	- 16.3
Curtain	1,408	- 1.9	+ 1.0	3,320	- 2.6	+ 32.6
Plain Net	750	+ 1.1	- 31.4	1,230	- 12.0	- 19.4
Others	578	+ 0.5	- 9.4	1,154	- 1.3	- 0.5
Total	3,717	- 3.0	- 14.8	7,358	- 10.1	+ 2.7
Districts.						
Nottingham City	1,552	- 2.7	- 13.8	2,886	- 1.4	- 10.6
Long Eaton and other English Districts ..	1,151	- 6.9	- 25.8	2,038	- 25.4	- 7.1
Scotland	1,014	+ 1.5	+ 0.5	2,434	- 3.5	+ 39.9
Total	3,717	- 3.0	- 14.8	7,358	- 10.1	+ 2.7

Returns received from certain firms employing about 2,400 workpeople showed that in the week ended 26th November 50 per cent. of these employees worked on the average 16 hours per week less than full time.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the carpet trade during November was fair, and showed little change compared with the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the carpet and rug trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.5 at 2nd December, as compared with 9.5 at 4th November. In addition 2.9 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 2nd December, as compared with 3.1 per cent. at 4th November.

Returns received from firms employing 7,637 workpeople in the week ending 25th November, and paying £15,470 in wages, showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 6.0 per cent. in the number employed and of 24.2* per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Returns covering 5,096 workpeople showed that in the week ended 25th November, 31 per cent. were working on the average 9 hours less than full time.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades during November remained bad, on the whole, very little variation being noticeable as compared with the previous month. In all districts a large proportion of the operatives employed worked short time.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.7 at 2nd December, as compared with 10.9 at 4th November. In addition, 5.7 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming

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

Returns from firms in Ireland employing 17,000 workpeople showed that about 37 per cent. of the workpeople were working on an average about 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 26th November. Similar returns from firms in Scotland employing 5,000 workpeople showed that about 68 per cent. were working on an average about 14 hours less than full time.

Exports of linen piece goods in November, 1921, amounted to 5,614,400 square yards, as compared with 4,204,300 square yards in the previous month, and 14,350,400 linear yards in November, 1913.

Imports (less re-exports) of flax in November, 1921, amounted to 2,477 tons, as compared with 914 tons in October, 1921, and 4,037 tons, of which 3,289 tons were from Russia, in November 1913.

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment during November, though still improving, continued slack, and much short time was worked. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.4 at 2nd December, as compared with 7.9 at 4th November. In addition, 4.6 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 2nd December, as compared with 5.8 per cent. at 4th November.

The following Table summarises information received from employers who furnished returns relating to numbers employed and wages paid:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.*		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Throwing	897	+ 3.7	+ 1.6	1,299	+ 1.5	+ 15.4
Spinning	1,591	+ 9.0	- 22.1	2,590	+ 13.4	- 44.1
Weaving	1,627	+ 0.4	- 19.7	2,480	+ 4.9	- 25.2
Other	1,055	+ 1.7	- 7.5	2,058	- 1.2	- 7.6
Not specified	426	-	- 4.5	883	- 3.9	+ 21.3
Total	5,596	+ 3.5	- 14.4	9,310	+ 4.3	- 22.6
DISTRICTS.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	1,812	+ 9.5	- 16.3	3,096	+ 17.8	- 45.0
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	1,263	-	- 19.9	2,132	+ 1.6	- 13.9
Eastern Counties	1,718	+ 1.8	- 2.8	3,023	- 4.1	+ 15.9
Other Districts, including Scotland	803	- 0.1	- 22.1	1,059	+ 0.8	- 19.2
Total	5,596	+ 3.5	- 14.4	9,310	+ 4.3	- 22.6

Reports relating to short time were received from firms employing 3,800 workpeople, and show that 52 per cent. of these workpeople worked short time to the extent of about 22 hours on the average during the week ended 26th November.

In the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton districts employment continued slack; about 50 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns worked short time to the extent of nearly 26 hours each on the average. In the Lancashire and West Riding districts employment, although a little better than in the previous month, was still bad, and nearly 85 per cent. of the operatives worked an average of 15 hours per week less than full time. In the Eastern Counties a slight improvement was shown.

The following Table summarises the statistics of imports (less re-exports) of raw and thrown silk, spun silk yarn and silk broadstuffs in November, 1921, in comparison with October, 1921, and November, 1913:—

Description.	Nov., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A month ago.	Nov., 1913.
Imports (less Re-exports)					
Raw Silk lb.	53,490	43,324	73,775	+ 10,166	- 20,285
Thrown Silk lb.	218	218	42,577	-	- 42,359
Spun Silk Yarn lb.	37,323	29,063	38,078	+ 8,260	- 755

benefit in respect of systematic short time working, as compared with 6.2 per cent. at 4th November.

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

District.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*	
				£	Per cent.
Trades:					
Bleaching	2,324	+ 2.7 - 1.9	5,705	+ 2.7 - 14.1	
Printing	758	- 4.9 - 15.4	2,379	+ 9.7 - 32.8	
Dyeing	11,384	- 0.8 - 14.2	33,867	- 5.1 - 25.9	
Trimming, Finishing, and other Departments	7,030	- 0.9 - 7.9	18,234	+ 5.9 - 20.9	
Not specified	615	+ 3.2 - 17.1	1,801	+ 0.9 - 18.8	
Total	22,111	- 0.5 - 11.3	61,986	- 5.2 - 23.6	
Districts:					
Yorkshire	10,528	- 1.7 - 13.6	31,927	- 5.6 - 23.7	
Lancashire	7,314	- 0.8 - 11.0	19,300	- 8.1 - 29.8	
Scotland	1,359	+ 5.9 - 8.1	3,132	+ 3.4 - 13.0	
Ireland	503	- 0.2 - 1.4	830	- 0.6 - 24.1	
Other Districts	2,407	+ 2.1 - 4.6	6,797	+ 1.0 - 1.1	
Total	22,111	- 0.5 - 11.3	61,986	- 5.2 - 23.6	

Returns received from firms employing over 18,000 workpeople showed that in the week ended 26th November about 58 per cent. of these employees worked, on the average, sixteen hours less than full time.

In Yorkshire and Lancashire employment continued bad, much short time being worked. With silk dyers it improved to good at Macclesfield and fair at Leek, and was reported as moderate at Congleton. At Nottingham employment with dyers was reported as bad on cotton laces and good on silk and artificial silk laces.

FELT HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the felt hat trade continued quiet, and showed a decline on the previous month. Trade Unions at Denton, Stockport, Bredbury, Bury and Hyde, with a membership of 5,103, reported that 9.5 per cent. of the members were unemployed at the end of November, compared with 5.0 per cent. at the end of October.

At Denton employment was very quiet, and worse than in October; 75 per cent. of the workpeople were reported to be working short time. At Stockport employment was bad, and showed a decline on the previous month; 90 per cent. of the workpeople were reported to be working short time. In Warwickshire employment showed a decline on the previous month, a little short time was reported.

TAILORING TRADES.

BESPOKE.

London.—During November employment in the bespoke branch of the tailoring trade remained moderate on the whole. Returns received from firms paying £12,978 to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor) during the month ended 26th November showed an increase of 5.6 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 5.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago.*

Other Centres.—Tailors in Leeds were fairly well employed; a slight improvement was also noticed at Bradford and Huddersfield, but short time was again reported in the majority of places in the North. Employment at Bristol was slack, and as compared with a month ago showed little change. In the North and West Midland Counties employment was bad generally, and short time was prevalent. In the South Midland and Eastern Counties employment was fair, while in the Devon and Cornwall district it was slack. Employment in Glasgow and Aberdeen continued bad. At Cork it was bad, and worse than in the previous month.

READY-MADE.

During November employment in this branch of the tailoring trade was still slack. About three-fifths of the employees covered by the returns relating to short time lost on an average about 19 hours per week.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns regarding numbers employed and wages paid during the week ended 26th November:—

District.	Number of Indoor Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Indoor Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*	
				£	Per cent.
Leeds	4,631	+ 2.5 - 20.2	6,704	+ 10.1 - 3.3	
Manchester	2,126	+ 9.8 - 36.5	3,543	+ 5.2 - 36.7	
Other places in Yorks., Lancs. and Cheshire	2,410	+ 0.4 - 6.6	4,011	+ 9.4 - 19.3	
Bristol	1,220	- 10.6 - 32.4	1,577	+ 2.8 - 34.9	
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	1,573	+ 5.6 - 13.6	2,275	+ 21.1 + 2.1	
South Midland and Eastern Counties	1,562	+ 8.1 - 20.0	2,107	+ 8.4 - 10.5	
London	2,231	+ 2.0 - 10.0	5,441	+ 4.0 + 3.0	
Glasgow	834	- 0.8 - 13.5	1,495	- 6.3 - 10.2	
Rest of United Kingdom	1,401	- 1.1 - 15.0	1,952	+ 11.1 - 14.1	
Total, United Kingdom	18,008	+ 2.2 - 19.7	29,205	+ 5.7 - 9.4	

In the Northern district employment remained slack, and short time was worked by over three-fifths of the workpeople covered by the returns received. Employment at Bristol was reported as worse than a month ago, and the majority of workmen in this district were on short time. In the North and West Midland Counties and in the South Midland and Eastern Counties there was a little improvement. Over three-fourths of the workpeople in these districts were working short time. In London employment was moderate, and very little short time was reported. In Glasgow over half the workpeople were on short time. Employment in the remaining parts of the United Kingdom was slack.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during November in the shirt and collar trade continued slack on the whole, very little variation in numbers employed being noticeable. Nearly 60 per cent. of the workpeople covered by returns received from firms employing 7,700 workpeople in the week ended 26th November were reported to have worked, on an average, 12 hours less than full time.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers employed and wages paid:—

District.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*	
				£	Per cent.
London	2,975	+ 2.1 - 26.6	4,085	+ 2.8 - 25.0	
Manchester	1,782	- 5.2 - 16.7	3,243	- 0.1 - 3.8	
Rest of Lancs., Yorks. and Cheshire	1,112	+ 3.9 + 7.0	1,482	+ 5.5 + 50.5	
South Western Counties	1,065	- 1.1 - 25.4	1,330	- 0.7 - 40.3	
Rest of England and Wales	568	- 1.0 - 19.7	838	- 0.2 - 9.1	
Glasgow	1,526	- 0.2 - 13.4	2,453	- 2.4 - 13.3	
Londonderry	1,107	+ 5.8 - 32.5	1,540	- 2.4 - 39.0	
Belfast	481	- 3.6 - 14.6	626	- 3.1 - 15.6	
Total, United Kingdom	10,216	+ 0.2 - 20.1	15,597	+ 0.8 - 18.3	

In London employment was still slack, although a slight improvement took place; there was a little less short time than in October. Employment at Manchester was generally fair. In other parts of Lancashire and in Yorkshire and Cheshire the improvement shown during the previous two months was maintained, and the majority of workpeople covered by returns worked full time. Employment continued bad in the South-Western Counties. In the remaining parts of England and Wales employment was about the same as during October. At Glasgow, out of about 1,100 workpeople covered by the returns received, over 50 per cent. lost on the average about 16 hours per week. There was an improvement in numbers employed at Londonderry, but short time working continued very prevalent both in that centre and at Belfast.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

EMPLOYMENT with dressmakers in London was again fair on the whole, and the slight improvement still continued. Returns from retail firms (chiefly in the West End) employing 998 workpeople in the week ended 26th November showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed as compared with October, but a decrease of 9.0 per cent. in comparison with a year ago.

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

Employment with milliners in the West End continued fair, and no short time was reported.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, ETC., TRADES.

Employment in London was fair on the whole, but showed a further decline, with a considerable amount of short time. Returns from firms employing 1,787 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) showed a decrease in the number employed of 8.6 per cent. on October, and of 5.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment again showed a slight improvement, but continued only moderate on the whole, a fair amount of short time still being worked in the costume and mantle trades. Returns from firms employing 3,095 workpeople in the week ended 26th November showed an increase in the number employed of 2.9 per cent. compared with October, and of 9.1 per cent. on a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade still continued bad, and, on the whole, showed a slight decline on the previous month. Returns from firms employing 1,103 workpeople in the week ended 26th November showed a decrease in the number employed of 3.7 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 18.2 per cent. compared with November, 1920.

CORSET TRADE.

The slight improvement in the corset trade was maintained during November, but some short time continued to be worked. Returns from firms employing 4,971 workpeople in the week ended 26th November showed an increase in the number employed of 1.3 per cent. compared with October, but a decrease of 8.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the tanning and currying section again showed a slight improvement, but continued slack on the whole. In the manufactured leather goods section it ranged from very bad in some branches to fair in others, and there was very little general change compared with the previous month. A considerable amount of short time was worked in most sections of this group. Returns received from Trade Unions covering 11,101 workpeople showed that 11.7 per cent. of their members were unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 10.8 per cent. in October and 8.8 per cent. in November, 1920.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.3 per cent. at 2nd December, as compared with 13.4 at 4th November. In addition, 1.7 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 2nd December, as compared with 1.6 at 4th November.

With skimmers, tanners, and curriers employment continued slack on the whole, with signs of improvement in a few centres. Short time continued to be fairly general. With saddle, harness, and horse collar makers at Walsall it was reported as very bad, and worse than in the previous month, those workpeople employed working only a few hours each week; at Birmingham it was very quiet, and here also very considerable short time was worked. Among portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather works in London, Birmingham, and other centres employment was again fair on the whole, but a large amount of short time was worked.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

In this trade employment on the whole continued slack during November, with much short time and unemployment. There was an improvement in some districts, but in others there was a decline; on the whole, there was little change as compared with October.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in boot, shoe and slipper making and repairing establishments, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9.5 at the 2nd December, as compared with 9.7 per cent. at the 4th November. In addition, 2.4 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at the 2nd December, as compared with 2.5 per cent. at the 4th November. According to the returns received from firms furnishing returns, however, over 40 per cent. of the workpeople were working short time at the end of November, to the extent of 13 hours a week on the average.

In London employment was bad. At Leicester a slight improvement was reported, but employment was still slack, with much short time. At Northampton and at Kettering employment continued slack, with nearly all the factories on short time. At Wellingborough there was an improvement, and most of the factories were on full time; there was also an improvement at Higham and Rushden, where many factories were on full time, and there was even a little overtime. A marked improvement was reported at Stafford.

At Bristol and Kingswood employment was slack, with much short time. At Leeds employment continued bad, with much short time. At Norwich employment on the whole was fair, and slightly better than in October, with a reduction in the number unemployed and an increase in the average hours worked;

the turnshoe department was busy, a little overtime being worked in this department.

In Scotland employment was bad at all the principal centres, except at Maybole and Kilmarnock, where it was fair.

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

District.	Number of Workpeople.		Total wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*	
				£	Per cent.
England and Wales:—					
London	2,120	+ 0.8 + 8.9	5,204	- 0.3 + 17.3	
Leicester	8,936	- 2.1 - 0.5	20,476	+ 1.6 + 5.3	
Leicester Country District	2,715	+ 0.0 + 9.5	6,484	- 4.2 + 26.0	
Northampton	6,944	- 0.7 - 2.1	15,241	- 7.8 + 8.1	
Northampton Country District	7,306	- 0.5 - 1.7	17,579	+ 0.6 + 13.3	
Kettering	3,186	+ 0.1 - 0.6	8,034	- 2.5 + 9.9	
Stafford and District	2,357	- 0.4 - 3.0	5,230	+ 13.5 + 23.4	
Norwich and District	3,843	+ 2.8 - 2.7	8,716	+ 4.3 + 22.2	
Bristol and District	509	- 3.2 - 13.9	1,253	+ 3.8 + 38.8	
Kingswood	1,414	+ 0.2 + 1.9	3,166	- 2.3 + 13.1	
Leeds and District	1,716	+ 2.8 - 1.4	4,245	+ 9.4 + 1.4	
Lancashire (mainly Rosendale Valley)	3,326	- 0.9 - 15.5	8,123	+ 2.9 - 8.0	
Birmingham and District	957	+ 1.6 + 5.7	1,979	- 3.3 + 30.3	
Other parts of England and Wales	2,775	+ 0.1 - 5.4	5,058	- 4.2 - 4.8	
England and Wales	48,134	- 0.3 - 1.8	110,878	- 0.1 + 10.0	
Scotland	2,695	- 1.1 - 4.8	5,635	+ 4.6 - 8.3	
Ireland	320	+ 3.2 - 14.4	635	+ 2.4 - 11.7	
United Kingdom	51,149	- 0.3 - 2.1	117,148	- 0.3 + 8.8	

The exports of boots and shoes in November, 1921, amounted to 45,515 dozen pairs, or 1,104 dozen pairs more than in October, 1921, but 90,918 dozen pairs less than in November, 1913.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK.

EMPLOYMENT during November showed a further decline in most districts. Many workpeople were discharged and some works partially or completely closed down. In Norfolk, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, and South Wales employment continued fair.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick and tile and cement trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 2nd December was 16.3, as compared with 14.5 at 4th November.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*	
				£	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	2,572	- 1.3 - 6.7	7,312	- 6.5 - 27.5	
Midlands and Eastern Counties	3,180	- 2.9 - 4.4	8,550	- 7.0 - 24.8	
South and South-West Counties and Wales	621	- 1.0 + 2.1	1,880	+ 3.5 - 18.7	
Other Districts	1,504	- 3.2 - 14.6	5,447	- 4.0 - 30.6	
Total	7,877	- 2.3 - 6.8	23,189	- 5.3 - 26.6	

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment during November was very bad generally, and showed a further decline.

Returns from firms employing 6,350 workpeople in the week ended 26th November, 1921, showed a decrease of 14.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 20.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month. Compared with November, 1920, there was a decrease of 41.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 53.7* per cent. in the amount of wages paid by these firms.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades during November continued to show a decline, which was more marked than in the previous month. It was reported as slack at the majority of centres, and in some cases short time was worked. In the geographical divisions shown in the Table given below there was a general decline, most marked in Ireland, Scotland, and the East Midlands.

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

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

Employment continued good with plasterers, a shortage of labour being reported from some centres; it was moderate, on the whole, with bricklayers, carpenters, and plumbers, there being much unemployment in certain districts. With masons employment was slack, and with painters it was very bad, and much worse than in October. The percentage of unemployed among navvies and other occupations in works of construction was still very high.

The following Table* shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 2nd December, 1921, and the increase or decrease in the percentage as compared with 4th November:—

Occupation.	Number of Unemployment Books Remaining Lodged at 2nd Dec. 1921	Percentage Unemployed at 2nd Dec., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 4th Nov., 1921.
Building Trade.			
Carpenters	10,399	7.5	+ 1.3
Bricklayers	4,889	7.7	+ 2.3
Masons	2,972	11.7	+ 2.2
Painters	459	2.6	+ 0.4
Plasterers	28,156	23.5	+ 4.1
Plumbers	3,088	8.3	- 0.4
All other occupations ..	99,965	25.8	+ 2.1
Total	149,928	19.0	+ 2.2
Construction of Works.			
Navvies	12,693	34.9	+ 3.1
All other occupations ..	21,846	26.9	+ 3.6
Total	34,539	29.4	+ 3.5
Grand Total	184,467	20.3	+ 2.3
Divisions.			
London	41,157	21.9	+ 1.0
Northern Counties	8,160	20.7	+ 2.5
North Western	23,376	20.8	+ 2.6
Yorkshire	11,684	18.0	+ 2.5
East Midlands	5,759	20.6	+ 3.7
West Midlands	14,956	24.7	+ 1.8
South Midlands and Eastern	13,621	15.2	+ 1.4
South Eastern Counties ..	10,268	15.8	+ 1.3
South Western	14,850	15.9	+ 2.4
Wales	8,113	22.3	+ 3.5
Scotland	16,503	19.8	+ 4.1
Ireland	16,020	33.7	+ 5.2
United Kingdom	184,467	20.3	+ 2.3
Males	183,998	20.4	+ 2.3
Females	469	6.5	+ 0.4

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

In these trades employment continued slack generally during November. Returns were received from Trade Unions covering 93,628 workpeople, of whom 8.3 per cent. were stated to be unemployed at the end of November (exclusive of considerable numbers on short time), as compared with 8.7 per cent. at the end of October, and 2.4 per cent. in November, 1920.

Mill-Sawing and Machining.—Employment remained bad generally in this trade during the month, with much short time. It was reported as fair, however, at Sheffield and in certain localities in the Eastern Counties. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the mill-sawing and machine wood-working trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 2nd December, was 14.9, as compared with 14.5 at 4th November. In addition 1.4 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 2nd December, compared with 1.3 at 4th November.

Furnishing.—In this trade employment continued bad on the whole during November, short time being worked at most centres. In London and at High Wycombe, however, it was stated to be improving, whilst upholsterers reported an improvement at Nottingham, Bradford and Manchester.

Coach Building.—Employment remained bad in this trade and was slightly worse than in October. Short time was general. At Coventry, however, employment was reported to be fair and rather better than a month ago. It was also reported as fair at Ealing and Stratford in the London district, and at Salford, and there was an improvement at Brighton.

Coopering.—Employment with coopers was reported as fairly good at Burton and Glasgow, and fair at Birmingham, Leeds, Bristol and Edinburgh. At Liverpool it was reported to be bad. Short time was worked in several districts.

Miscellaneous.—In the brushmaking trade employment remained bad during November, though it was reported as fair on the Tyne and good with ivory and bone brush makers in London. Short time was general. With basketmakers employment was bad generally, but showed a slight improvement on a month ago.

* See footnote on page 646.

Short time was reported from several centres. With packing-case makers employment was bad on the whole, but showed a slight improvement on the previous month in the Manchester and Bolton districts. With wheelwrights and smiths employment slightly declined, and was bad generally during November.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper, printing and bookbinding trades continued bad generally during November, although some improvement was reported in certain sections of the printing trade at a number of provincial centres. Much short time was still being worked in all branches.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the printing, publishing and bookbinding trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.1 at 2nd December, as compared with 8.2 at 4th November.

In addition 1.0 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 2nd December, as compared with 1.2 at 4th November.

With letterpress printers the state of employment remained substantially the same as in the previous month in London, being bad in most sections. In certain offices overtime was worked among compositors, whilst in others many compositors and readers were on short time. In the provinces employment showed a slight improvement at some centres, but short time was frequently reported. In the lithographic printing trade employment continued bad, and much short time was worked. Some improvement on October was reported, however, with lithographic artists and plate printers in London, and with lithographic printers at Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin. Of over 6,600 workpeople in the letterpress and lithographic printing trades covered by the returns received by the Department 16.2 per cent. worked on an average 13 hours per week short of full time.

Employment also continued bad in the bookbinding trade, and presented no general change from the previous month. Short time was again prevalent, and 28.0 per cent. out of over 3,700 workpeople covered by the returns received worked an average of 10 hours per week short time.

In the paper trade employment was still bad, many of the mills being partially or completely closed down. From all districts much short time was reported, and of over 8,300 workpeople for whom returns were made to the Department 40 per cent. were losing on an average 18 hours per week.

The following Table summarises the returns from Trade Unions relating to unemployment in November:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1921.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Nov., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1920.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Printing	77,435	7.4	8.2	2.9	- 0.8	+ 4.5
Bookbinding	16,252	9.0	8.9	1.2	+ 0.1	+ 7.8

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns of the number of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid:—

	Number of Workpeople				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Paper	10,748	+ 1.8	- 14.1	29,051	+ 0.8	- 24.9		
Printing	8,774	- 1.1	- 12.1	31,518	+ 0.4	- 18.7		
Bookbinding	4,807	- 1.8	- 15.8	10,471	+ 1.7	- 23.3		
Total	24,329	+ 0.0	- 13.7	71,040	+ 0.4	- 22.0		

The following Table shows the imports of wood pulp and paper and the exports of paper in November, 1921, in comparison with October, 1921, and November, 1913:—

Description.	Nov., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A month ago.	Nov., 1913.
Imports:					
Wood pulp for paper making tons	66,232	46,942	79,020	+ 19,290	- 12,788
Paper cwt.	712,308	798,016	977,186	- 85,708	- 264,878
Exports of paper .. cwt.	135,257	120,944	269,854	+ 14,313	- 134,597

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

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades continued slack generally during November, and showed a decline in all districts. There was a noticeable increase both in the numbers unemployed and in the extent to which short time was worked. At Bristol and in the white earthenware section of the trade at Glasgow, Kirkcaldy and Bo'ness employment was reported as fair, but not up to the level of the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.6 at 2nd December as compared with 8.3 at 4th November. In addition 0.7 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 2nd December, as compared with 0.5 per cent. at 4th November.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns relating to numbers employed and wages paid:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
BRANCHES.						
China Manufacture	1,677	- 0.6	- 6.6	4,367	- 2.7	- 12.6
Earthenware Manufacture	9,240	- 2.4	- 7.8	21,219	- 8.6	- 18.6
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,801	- 1.3	- 10.6	3,831	- 6.5	- 23.4
Total	12,718	- 2.0	- 8.1	29,417	- 7.5	- 18.5
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries	9,655	- 2.5	- 6.8	21,997	- 8.2	- 16.0
Other Districts	3,063	- 0.5	- 11.9	7,420	- 5.2	- 25.0
Total	12,718	- 2.0	- 8.1	29,417	- 7.5	- 18.5

Of over 10,000 workpeople covered by Returns received from employers relating to short time working, about 23 per cent. worked, on an average, 18 hours short of full time in the week ended 26th November.

The exports of china, earthenware and pottery in November, 1921, amounted to 238,784 cwt., or 47,388 cwt. less than in October, 1921, and 104,842 cwt. less than in November, 1913.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was bad during November, and worse, on the whole, than in the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the glass trades (excluding optical and scientific glassware), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20.1 at 2nd December, as compared with 21.3 at 4th November. In addition 4.0 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 2nd December, as compared with 2.6 per cent. at 4th November.

As in the previous month, the greatest decline in employment was among glass bottle workers. At Birmingham, employment among plate glass bevellers was still slack, with much short time, but flint glass cutters and makers reported a slight improvement. At Stourbridge and Wordsley employment was bad with flint glass makers and slack with flint glass cutters. At Leeds, Castleford, and Wakefield, employment among glass bottle makers was very slack.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the number of workpeople employed and amount of wages paid:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Branches.						
Glass Bottle	4,868	- 10.2	- 31.1	14,562	- 11.0	- 41.8
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,970	- 1.1	- 11.9	5,209	- 1.2	- 26.5
Other Branches	616	- 5.8	- 27.1	1,499	- 8.7	- 35.7
Total	7,454	- 7.6	- 26.5	21,270	- 8.6	- 38.2

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North of England	377	+ 2.7	- 54.8	1,139	+ 11.7	- 60.1
Yorkshire	3,470	- 15.8	- 20.8	10,556	- 16.6	- 32.9
Lancashire	1,029	+ 7.7	- 38.6	2,704	+ 5.1	- 48.0
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	574	- 4.3	- 16.1	1,512	- 4.3	- 32.3
Scotland	799	+ 0.1	- 23.9	2,035	- 2.9	- 39.5
Other parts of the United Kingdom	1,205	- 1.6	- 20.8	3,324	- 0.8	- 34.2
Total	7,454	- 7.6	- 26.5	21,270	- 8.6	- 38.2

Returns covering 6,500 workpeople showed that in the week ended 26th November 21 per cent. were working, on the average, 15 hours less than full time.

The exports of glass bottles during November, 1921, amounted to 29,137 gross, or 200 gross more than in October, 1921, but 50,774 gross less than in November, 1913.

The exports of all other manufactures of glass during November, 1921, amounted to 41,146 cwt., or 1,107 cwt. more than in October, 1921, but 29,796 cwt. less than in November, 1913.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the food preparation trades was again only moderate, and, in most sections, considerable short time was still worked.

In the sugar refining industry employment was fair on the whole, and less short time was worked than in October. A little overtime was reported. Employment was only moderate in the cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery trade, and of 28,797 workpeople reported upon, 17 per cent. lost on an average over 11 hours in short time. At Bristol, however, there was an improvement. Trade was dull on the whole in the biscuit and cake making trades. Returns show that, of 15,041 workpeople, 55 per cent. worked 9 hours less than full time in the week ended 26th November. In the jam and marmalade trades employment was bad, and much short time was worked. Employment was fair in the bacon and preserved meat trade, and in the pickle and sauce-making trades also, except at Birmingham, where a considerable amount of short time was reported.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns relating to the numbers of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid:—

Trade.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 26th Nov., 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Per cent.						
Sugar Refining, etc. ..	6,458	- 1.6	- 4.2	21,093	- 1.1	- 17.4
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ..	31,761	- 0.5	+ 2.3	72,606	- 2.5	- 6.2
Biscuits and Cakes, etc. ..	15,178	- 0.1	- 8.4	32,173	+ 4.5	- 8.3
Jams, Marmalade, etc. ..	6,350	- 1.9	+ 1.8	13,391	- 4.3	+ 2.6
Bacon and Preserved Meats	2,981	+ 1.7	- 5.5	7,119	+ 1.3	- 7.5
Pickles and Sauces, etc.	910	- 0.5	+ 0.7	1,630	- 0.7	- 8.2
Total	63,638	- 0.6	- 1.3	148,012	- 0.8	- 7.8

AGRICULTURE.†
ENGLAND AND WALES.

WEATHER conditions during November were very favourable for outdoor farm work, which was unusually well advanced for the time of year. Rapid progress was made with autumn cultivation. The supply of labour was in excess of the demand in nearly every part of the country, especially as regards unskilled workers, with whom there was a considerable amount of unemployment in many districts.

No great amount of unemployment was reported among skilled men, on the whole, but in Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, Buckingham, Oxford and Berkshire a tendency was reported for farmers to reduce the numbers of their regular workers.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages. † Based on information supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during November was fair on the whole, but showed a decline as compared with the previous month. The number of fishermen whose unemployment books were lodged at Employment Exchanges at 2nd December was 3,350, as compared with 2,552 at 4th November.

East, South, and West Coasts.—At Hull employment improved to fairly good generally. At Grimsby it was reported as moderate in all branches. At Yarmouth it was fair generally with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and fairly good with fish curers. At Lowestoft it showed a decline in comparison with the previous month, but remained fair on the whole. On the Devon and Cornwall coasts also it was not so satisfactory, weather conditions being unfavourable. At Cardiff, Swansea, and Milford Haven it was fair.

Scotland.—Employment at Aberdeen improved to good. At Peterhead there was very little employment for fishermen and fish-curers on their return from the English coast in the third week of the month, and employment continued bad with the fish dock labourers. At Macduff it improved to good with fishermen and fish dock labourers, but remained fair with fish curers. At Fraserburgh there was a general decline in employment, and it was only moderate with fishermen, and bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of fish landed in the United Kingdom in November, 1921, as compared with November, 1920:—

	Quantity of fish landed.		Value.	
	Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with Nov., 1920.	Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with Nov., 1920.
Fish (other than shell):—				
England and Wales	1,761,491	-115,023	1,517,295	-702,657
Scotland	256,147	+3,867	312,087	-67,562
Ireland	32,462	+3,505	25,883	-2,597
Total	2,050,100	-107,651	1,855,265	-772,816
Shell Fish			50,601	-15,353
Total			1,905,866	-788,169

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

DURING November employment among dock labourers continued slack. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the canal, river, harbour, dock and wharf service, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 2nd December was 23.2 as compared with 21.7 at 4th November.

London.—In London employment generally was slack, and about the same as during October. The following Table shows the average daily number of labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in each week of the month:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
5th Nov., 1921 ..	5,524	2,881	8,405	8,341	16,746
12th " ..	2,939	2,441	5,380	8,420	13,800
19th " ..	6,052	2,441	8,503	8,681	17,184
26th " ..	6,242	2,358	8,600	8,569	17,169
Average for 4 weeks ended 26th Nov., 1921	5,994	2,655	8,649	8,503	17,152
Average for Oct., 1921	6,016	2,620	8,636	8,164	16,800
Average for Nov., 1920	7,661	3,112	10,773	8,666	19,439

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in November was 1,444, as compared with 1,661 in October and 1,862 in November, 1920.

East Coast.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear and at Blyth was slack with trimmers and teamers. With steam packet men on the Tyne and with tugboatmen on the Tyne and Wear it was fair, but with steam packet men on the Wear it had declined and was bad. With dockers at Blyth employment was slack, but on the Tyne it was fair in the import trade, though slack in the export trade. At Middlesbrough and Hull it was still slack. It continued fair at Yarmouth, Lowestoft, and Ipswich.

Southern and Western Ports.—Employment was slack at Plymouth but fair at the Bristol Channel Ports. On the Mersey it was moderate. The average weekly number of dock labourers employed at Liverpool during the five weeks ended 28th November was 15,037, compared with 14,644 in the four weeks ended 24th October, and 19,213 in the corresponding period of 1920.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow employment remained slack, but at Dundee, though still quiet, it showed an improvement on a month ago. At Belfast there was a further slight improvement, but at Cork it was bad, and worse than during October. At Limerick and Waterford it was fair.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT among seamen continued slack during November, and showed, on the whole, a slight decline in comparison with October. At almost all the ports large numbers of men were unemployed.

The percentage of seamen unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 28.9 at 2nd December, as compared with 24.1 at 4th November.

On the Thames a fair demand for men early in the month was followed by a decline. At the Tyne ports employment was reported as moderate. On the Tees the demand, which remained very poor in the first half of the month, improved considerably in the week ended 26th November. No appreciable change was experienced on the Wear, where employment remained slack. Except during the third week of the month, in which the demand improved, employment at Hull was very poor. At Grimsby the demand was very slight throughout the month. The demand at Goole was very small, but recovered slightly at the end of November.

At Southampton a very poor demand improved a little at the end of the month. Employment was very slack at Bristol, particularly in the middle of the month. At Avonmouth the demand continued moderate, improving a little, however, in the second half of the month. Employment at Cardiff was quiet, showing an improvement in the latter part of the month. At Swansea the demand was dull, especially in the middle of the month. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey employment was moderate on the whole, a steady improvement in the first half of the month being followed by a decline.

On the Clyde the demand varied, showing a revival in the third week of the month and becoming very quiet afterwards. At the beginning of November the demand at Aberdeen and Leith was fair, and revived after becoming very small in the middle of the month. At Dundee the demand was poor in the first part of the month, and later became practically negligible.

Employment at Dublin and Belfast was very quiet, except for the first few days at the latter port, when the demand was fairly brisk.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports during November:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	Nov., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Eleven months ended		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Nov., 1921.	Nov., 1920.	Nov., 1913.
ENGLAND & WALES:						
<i>East Coast—</i>						
Tyne Ports	1,591	+ 203	- 52	15,265	20,780	29,490
Sunderland	227	- 20	+ 34	1,818	2,963	4,472
Middlesbrough	335	+ 56	+ 32	3,399	5,558	3,427
Hull	1,099	- 342	- 65	12,354	14,543	15,491
Grimsby	3	+ 2	- 7	88	249	1,108
<i>Bristol Channel—</i>						
Bristol	861	- 295	+ 232	9,765	11,938	12,876
Newport, Mon.	771	- 120	- 54	6,258	9,459	9,719
Cardiff	2,837	+ 41	- 36	22,190	31,470	47,726
Swansea	451	- 115	+ 16	4,662	3,988	5,040
<i>Other Ports—</i>						
Liverpool	10,011	-2,018	-3,141	120,963	133,851	191,537
London	3,274	+ 951	- 112	75,197	88,247	93,528
Southampton	6,872	- 326	+ 212	71,683	57,091	55,309
SCOTLAND:						
Leith	461	- 95	+ 107	3,885	4,468	4,273
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	229	+ 22	+ 138	1,167	1,866	2,298
Glasgow	2,270	+ 192	- 228	22,612	25,349	49,677
IRELAND:						
Dublin	146	- 16	+ 99	1,277	864	685
Belfast	79	- 191	- 179	2,324	3,438	2,197
Total	36,517	-2,071	-3,004	374,887	416,022	529,753

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

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

STATISTICS from Employment Exchanges during the four weeks ended 25th November showed that the average weekly increase in the number of workpeople on the Live Register was approximately 55,400. The number remaining on the Live Register at 25th November was 1,833,185. The increase (221,709) during November was common to all departments, men accounting for 159,137, women for 55,599, and juveniles for 6,973. The average weekly number of applications from workpeople during the four weeks ended 25th November was 208,003, compared with a weekly average of approximately 200,000 during the four weeks ended 28th October.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 25th November, 1921:—

Week ended	Applications by		Vacancies Filled.	Applications outstanding at end of week.	
	Work-people.	Employers.		From Workpeople (Live Register.)	From Employers.
28th Oct., 1921	290,450	19,265	18,525	1,611,476	21,566
4th Nov., 1921	276,434	19,634	18,059	1,728,839	19,614
11th " "	206,031	20,558	17,407	1,783,432	19,827
18th " "	182,663	19,961	17,654	1,816,736	19,079
25th " "	166,884	19,585	17,067	1,833,185	18,304
Total (4 weeks)	832,012	79,738	70,187	—	—

Of the total number of workpeople on the Live Register at 25th November, 1,411,254 were men, 61,370 were boys, 318,880 were women, and 41,681 were girls. Of the 18,304 vacancies unfilled, 4,437 were for men, 11,914 were for women, and 1,953 for juveniles. The daily average number of vacancies notified and vacancies filled showed a slight decrease (1.5 per cent. and 0.3 per cent. respectively), as compared with the previous period.

Details of the figures given in the preceding paragraphs are not yet available, but the outstanding features of the work of the Employment Exchanges during the four weeks ended 4th November, 1921, are dealt with below:—

Applications from Workpeople.—The daily average number of applications from workpeople (37,601) during the four weeks ended 4th November showed an increase of 12,828, or 51.8 per cent., compared with the previous month. Of the daily average (37,601), men accounted for 26,846, women for 8,098, and juveniles for 2,657—an increase of 58.7 per cent. in the case of men, 48.7 per cent. in the case of women, and 10.2 per cent. in the case of juveniles.

The large increase in the number of applications from men was common to all the principal trade groups, the greatest increases occurring in miscellaneous metal trades (65.8 per cent.), shipbuilding (62.0 per cent.), engineering and ironfounding (61.6 per cent.), the transport trades (50.3 per cent.), textiles (48.6 per cent.), and building and construction of works (37.4 per cent.). In the case of women, also, all trade groups showed increases, the principal being engineering and ironfounding (186.6 per cent.), miscellaneous metal trades (109.6 per cent.), the transport trades (80.5 per cent.), and textile trades (53.8 per cent.).

Of the total applications from men, 21.3 per cent. were in engineering and ironfounding, 12.2 per cent. in building and construction of works, 9.6 per cent. in the transport trades, and 8.7 per cent. as general labourers. Of the total applications from women, the textile trades accounted for 33 per cent. and domestic service for 19 per cent.

Vacancies Notified.—The average daily number of vacancies notified by employers during the four weeks ended 4th November was 3,382, as compared with 3,010 during the preceding period. Of this daily average, 1,963 were for men, 964 were for women, and 455 were for juveniles—increases of 28.2 per cent. and 3.6 per cent. respectively in the case of men and juveniles, and a decrease of 7.3 per cent. in the case of women. Increases occurred in the number of vacancies notified for men in building and construction of works, commercial and clerical occupations, the textile trades, and as general labourers; there were slight decreases in engineering and ironfounding, shipbuilding, domestic service, and the transport trades.

Of the total vacancies notified for men, 42.2 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 5.6 per cent. in commercial and clerical occupations, and 27.9 per cent. for general labourers.

There was a decrease in the number of vacancies notified for women in domestic service, the textile trades, and dress (including boots and shoes), while there was an increase in the case of commercial and clerical occupations, the transport trades, and agriculture. Of the total vacancies notified for women, 15,602, or 67.8 per cent., were in domestic service.

Vacancies Filled.—The average daily number of vacancies filled during the period ended 4th November was 2,853, as compared with 2,410 during the previous period, and 2,904 during the corresponding period a year ago. Compared with the previous month, the average daily number of vacancies filled by men and juveniles increased by 35.1 per cent. and 4.6 per cent. respectively, while in the case of women there was a decrease of 7.7 per cent.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified during the period was 84.4 per cent., as compared with 80.1 per cent.

during the previous period. Of the total vacancies filled by men, 42.8 per cent. were in building and construction of works, while commercial and clerical occupations accounted for 5.8 per cent., and general labourers for 28.1 per cent. In the women's department, domestic service accounted for 62.3 per cent. of the total vacancies filled.

In the men's department, there were increases in the number of vacancies filled in building and construction of works, shipbuilding, commercial and clerical occupations, agriculture, and by general labourers. Slight decreases occurred in the transport trades and domestic service. In the case of women, there was a slight decrease in the number of vacancies filled in most of the principal trade groups, the only exception being an increase of 39 per cent. in commercial and clerical occupations.

Juveniles.—With reference to juveniles, 35,351 applications were received from boys, and 4,480 vacancies were notified for boys. Of the vacancies notified, 3,935, or 87.8 per cent., were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by boys, 32.6 per cent. were in the transport trades, 11.8 per cent. in engineering and ironfounding, and 8.5 per cent. in commercial and clerical occupations.

The number of applications received from girls was 28,418. The number of vacancies notified was 6,428, of which 5,357, or 83.3 per cent., were filled. Of the total vacancies filled, domestic service accounted for 32.7 per cent., dress (including boots and shoes) for 11.5 per cent., the transport trades for 10.2 per cent., and commercial and clerical occupations for 7.3 per cent.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for boys among the more important trade groups was greatest in building (94.0 per cent.), commercial and clerical occupations (90.5 per cent.), engineering and ironfounding (89.6 per cent.), and the transport trades (88.1 per cent.). In the case of girls, the percentages were:—Food, tobacco, drink and lodging occupations (96.6), the transport trades (93.8), dress (including boots and shoes) (91.2), and commercial occupations (89.8).

Of the total vacancies (9,292) filled by juveniles, 1,693, or 18.2 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The following Table shows, for men and for women, the number of applications from workpeople, vacancies notified and vacancies filled, during the four weeks ended 4th November, and the number remaining on the Live Registers. It should be noted that the number on the Live Registers of Employment Exchanges does not include persons on short time:—

Group of Trades.*	Men.			
	Applications from work-people.	Live Register.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Building	66,483	112,696	5,710	5,009
Construction of Works	12,192	21,553	14,212	13,936
Engineering and Ironfounding	137,134	313,938	1,400	1,282
Shipbuilding	48,457	98,598	1,534	1,459
Construction of Vehicles	3,604	8,836	76	58
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	51,234	97,096	132	136
Domestic Service	7,200	15,116	390	293
Commercial and Clerical	10,693	24,879	2,643	2,565
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	62,012	128,583	1,258	1,132
Agriculture	3,168	6,083	1,169	1,046
Textiles	30,974	50,093	488	428
Dress (including Boots and Shoes)	8,928	18,492	263	199
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodgings	6,560	13,578	227	188
General Labourers	56,181	119,968	13,155	12,409
All other Trades	139,487	255,511	4,425	4,087
Total	644,307	1,285,019	47,162	44,227
Women.				
Engineering and Ironfounding	9,758	19,020	135	118
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	8,403	14,916	176	155
Domestic Service				
Resident domestic servants	7,269	5,852	7,339	2,814
Non-resident domestic servants	9,770	11,380	2,912	2,116
Other domestic offices and services	19,935	28,774	5,351	4,294
Commercial and Clerical	8,789	18,088	914	770
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	5,768	9,675	492	389
Agriculture	381	397	581	463
Textiles	64,326	86,389	1,362	1,069
Dress (including Boots and Shoes)	20,865	35,358	1,963	1,334
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodgings	7,122	11,808	313	235
General Labourers	4,673	7,064	226	216
All other Trades	27,281	45,588	1,337	901
Total	194,340	293,309	23,101	14,964

* Casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers) are excluded from this Table and from all other figures above except those in the first three paragraphs. The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations during the period of four weeks ended 4th November was 1,317.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

A.—TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT.

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 scheme may, in certain circumstances, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under 16 years of age. The number of persons insured under the Act at 31st October last is estimated at 11,902,000,* of whom 8,506,100 are males and 3,395,900 are females. Payment of unemployment benefit is subject to certain

statutory conditions and disqualifications. The procedure requires the "lodging" of an unemployed person's unemployment book, and the record of books lodged thus affords a measure of the extent to which unemployment is prevalent in the insured industries.

At 2nd December, 1921, the number of unemployment books lodged in respect of total unemployment was 1,865,170, or 15·7 per cent. of the total number insured, as compared with 14·9 per cent. at 4th November, 1921. The following Table shows by industries and sex the number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and the number and percentage of persons totally unemployed whose unemployment books remained lodged at 2nd December:—

Industry.	Estimated number of Insured Workpeople*			Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 2nd Dec., 1921.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED.								
							Percentage at 2nd Dec., 1921.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 4th Nov., 1921.					
	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
Building and Construction of Works:—															
Building	784,170	6,230	790,400	149,549	379	149,928	19·1	6·1	19·0	+ 2·2	+ 0·5	+ 2·2			
Construction of Works other than Building	116,600	1,000	117,600	34,449	90	34,539	29·5	9·0	29·4	+ 3·4		+ 3·5			
Shipbuilding	352,760	6,030	358,790	122,768	863	123,631	34·8	14·3	34·5	+ 2·2	+ 0·4	+ 2·2			
Engineering and Ironfounding	1,060,830	84,210	1,145,040	291,273	12,563	303,836	27·5	14·9	26·5	+ 1·3	+ 0·1	+ 1·2			
Construction and Repair of Vehicles	183,310	30,870	214,180	37,049	5,948	42,997	20·2	19·3	20·0		+ 0·7	+ 0·4			
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	181,900	41,060	222,960	28,464	4,826	33,290	15·6	11·8	14·9	+ 0·6	+ 0·2	+ 0·4			
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc.	180,350	69,810	250,160	30,938	6,888	37,826	17·1	9·9	15·1	+ 0·8	+ 0·3	+ 0·6			
Metal Trades:—															
Iron, Steel and Tinplate, and Galvanized Sheet Manufacture	283,150	17,040	300,190	94,583	2,440	97,023	33·4	14·3	32·3	+ 1·6	+ 2·9	+ 1·4			
Brass, Copper, Zinc, etc., Manufacture	48,910	12,830	61,740	14,837	3,383	18,220	30·3	26·4	29·5	+ 1·9	+ 0·7	+ 1·4			
Electrical and Surgical Instruments, etc.	68,280	40,020	108,300	11,037	5,760	16,797	16·2	14·4	15·5	+ 0·9	+ 0·3	+ 0·5			
Hand Tools, Cutlery, etc.	18,760	8,300	27,060	7,402	1,442	8,844	39·5	17·4	32·7	+ 10·1	+ 2·7	+ 7·8			
Needles, Pins, Steel Pens, Dies, Seals, etc.	5,540	9,360	14,900	1,862	2,671	4,533	33·4	28·4	30·9	+ 0·9	+ 0·4	+ 0·1			
Wire and Wire Goods	20,940	6,360	27,300	5,005	1,129	6,134	23·9	17·8	22·5	+ 1·4	+ 0·9	+ 0·9			
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Chains, Anchors, etc.	21,030	15,840	36,870	5,721	4,596	10,316	27·2	29·4	28·1	+ 2·5	+ 0·3	+ 1·5			
Hardware and Hollow-ware	55,880	49,890	105,770	9,461	11,709	21,170	17·0	23·5	20·1	+ 0·6	+ 0·6	+ 0·3			
Watches, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	28,830	18,410	47,240	3,887	2,661	6,548	13·5	14·5	13·9	+ 0·3	+ 0·2	+ 0·1			
Miscellaneous Metal Goods (including Musical Instruments)	35,230	17,780	53,010	4,986	2,512	7,498	14·2	14·1	14·1	+ 0·2	+ 0·4	+ 0·1			
Rubber and Leather Trades:—															
Rubber & Rubber & Waterproof Goods	35,480	30,820	66,300	5,749	4,966	10,715	16·2	16·1	16·2	+ 1·4	+ 0·8	+ 1·2			
Leather and Leather Goods	48,160	20,950	69,110	6,372	2,829	9,201	13·2	13·5	13·3	+ 0·2	+ 0·1	+ 0·1			
Brick, Tile, etc.	67,710	10,280	77,990	11,046	1,628	12,674	16·3	15·8	16·3	+ 1·9	+ 0·7	+ 1·8			
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	28,830	35,700	64,530	4,341	4,283	8,624	15·0	12·4	13·6	+ 5·2	+ 5·4	+ 5·3			
Class Trades (excluding Optical, Scientific, etc.)	34,220	9,140	43,360	7,354	1,382	8,736	21·5	12·1	20·1	+ 1·7	+ 0·8	+ 1·2			
Hotel, College, Club, etc., Service	95,510	221,060	316,570	13,173	22,944	36,117	13·8	10·4	11·4	+ 1·1	+ 0·3	+ 0·5			
Laundry Service	16,500	89,950	106,450	1,358	5,645	7,003	8·2	6·3	7·3	+ 0·9	+ 0·5	+ 0·6			
Commercial, Clerical, Insurance and Banking	116,770	97,740	214,510	9,125	4,427	13,552	7·8	4·5	6·3	+ 0·1	+ 0·1	+ 0·1			
Transport Services:—															
Railway Service	286,340	16,620	302,960	30,595	1,434	32,029	10·7	8·6	10·6	+ 0·9	+ 0·4	+ 0·9			
Tramway and Omnibus Service	89,940	5,430	95,370	4,180	247	4,427	4·6	4·5	4·6	+ 1·1	+ 0·1	+ 0·1			
Other Road Transport	149,030	3,520	152,550	29,918	203	30,121	20·1	5·8	19·7	+ 1·3	+ 0·8	+ 1·3			
Seamen	107,520	1,380	108,900	31,307	186	31,493	29·1	13·5	28·9	+ 4·8	+ 1·1	+ 4·8			
Canal, River, Harbour, etc., Service	200,700	3,410	204,110	47,071	364	47,435	23·5	10·7	23·2	+ 1·6	+ 1·1	+ 1·5			
Warehousemen, Packers, Porters, etc.	34,650	5,960	40,610	3,489	976	4,465	16·4	16·4	16·4	+ 3·5	+ 0·5	+ 0·5			
Mining Industry:—															
Coal Mining	1,131,340	9,330	1,140,670	138,146	1,189	139,335	12·2	12·7	12·2	+ 1·7	+ 0·5	+ 1·7			
Iron Mining and Ironstone Quarrying	24,250	120	24,370	12,014	12	12,026	49·5	10·0	49·3	+ 4·7	+ 2·5	+ 4·7			
Other Mining	9,340	270	9,610	3,915	58	3,973	41·9	21·5	41·3	+ 4·5	+ 4·5	+ 4·4			
Quarrying (other than Ironstone), Clay, Sand, etc., Digging	59,130	720	59,850	8,689	83	8,772	14·7	11·5	14·7	+ 2·8	+ 2·1	+ 2·9			
Printing and Paper Trades:—															
Paper Making and Staining	41,860	18,010	59,870	4,467	2,048	6,515	10·7	11·4	10·9	+ 0·8	+ 1·7	+ 1·1			
Manufactured Stationery	21,320	47,870	69,190	2,007	4,232	6,239	9·4	8·8	9·0	+ 1·0	+ 0·1	+ 0·3			
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	141,560	76,940	218,500	11,746	6,053	17,799	8·3	7·9	8·1	+ 0·1	+ 0·1	+ 0·1			
Textile Trades:—															
Cotton Trade	199,050	378,660	577,710	26,137	54,391	80,528	13·1	14·4	13·9	+ 3·7	+ 4·0	+ 3·8			
Woolen and Worsted Trades	112,110	155,640	267,750	15,980	22,139	38,119	14·3	14·2	14·2	+ 0·6	+ 0·6	+ 0·1			
Silk Trade	11,980	21,900	33,880	1,049	1,445	2,494	8·8	6·6	7·4	+ 1·0	+ 0·2	+ 0·5			
Flax, Linen and Hemp Trades	29,660	62,580	92,240	10,917	16,009	26,926	36·8	17·2	27·0	+ 0·6	+ 0·8	+ 0·8			
Jute Trade	14,830	33,380	48,210	1,445	4,610	6,055	9·7	13·8	12·6	+ 0·6	+ 0·8	+ 0·8			
Rope, Twine, Cord and Net Manufacture	6,860	14,300	21,160	954	1,870	2,824	13·9	13·3	13·3	+ 2·6	+ 2·0	+ 2·3			
Hosiery Trade	19,110	63,090	82,200	945	3,256	4,201	4·9	5·2	5·1	+ 1·8	+ 0·9	+ 1·1			
Lace Trade	11,160	16,780	27,940	2,587	1,909	4,496	23·2	11·4	16·1	+ 3·0	+ 0·1	+ 1·3			
Carpet and Rug Manufacture	9,820	13,110	22,930	1,159	1,258	2,417	11·8	9·6	10·5	+ 3·9	+ 0·2	+ 1·0			
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.	75,570	28,330	103,900	9,548	2,538	11,883	12·6	8·9	11·7	+ 1·5	+ 1·4	+ 0·8			
Other Textiles	13,580	31,040	44,620	1,856	4,282	6,138	13·9	13·8	13·8	+ 1·3	+ 0·6	+ 0·8			
Clothing Trades:—															
Tailoring Trades	68,870	142,130	211,000	7,885	17,933	25,818	11·5	12·6	12·2	+ 1·2	+ 1·4	+ 1·3			
Dress, etc., Making, Millinery, Furriers, etc.	22,860	211,170	234,030	1,666	21,485	23,151	7·3	10·2	9·9	+ 0·5	+ 0·5	+ 0·4			
Hats, Caps and Bonnets	13,060	20,520	33,580	1,942	1,987	3,929	14·9	9·6	11·6	+ 3·3	+ 0·5	+ 1·5			
Corset Trade	1,810	11,830	13,640	184	675	859	10·2	5·7	6·3	+ 0·4	+ 0·7	+ 0·6			
Boot, Shoe, etc., Trades	95,220	62,690	157,910	10,534	3,452	13,986	11·1	6·6	9·5	+ 0·2	+ 1·0	+ 0·2			
Other Clothing	18,470	22,170	40,640	2,196	2,250	4,446	11·9	10·2	11·0	+ 0·1	+ 0·1	+ 0·1			
Food, Drink and Tobacco:—															
Manufacture of Food and Drink	285,570	177,070	462,640	26,130	19,939	46,069	9·1	11·3	10·0	+ 1·0	+ 0·8	+ 1·0			
Tobacco, Cigar and Cigarette Manufacture	13,960	34,020	47,980	1,212	2,648	3,860	8·7	7·8	8·0	+ 0·1	+ 0·1	+ 0·1			
Miscellaneous Trades and Services:—															
Public Utility Service	228,680	18,310	246,990	18,773	1,158	19,931	8·2	6·3	8·1	+ 0·4	+ 1·3	+ 0·5			
Oilcloth, Linoleum and Cork Carpets	10,370	3,640	14,010	924	170	1,094	8·9	4·7	7·8	+ 1·7	+ 0·1	+ 1·2			
Distributive Trades	553,520	442,560	996,080	45,883	24,690	70,573	8·3	5·6	7·1	+ 0·4	+ 0·1	+ 0·3			
National and Local Government Service	277,770	122,720	400,490	29,445	6,945	36,390	10·6	5·7	9·1	+ 0·3	+ 0·1	+ 0·2			
Professional Services	66,970	106,690	173,660	4,132	2,863	6,995	6·2	2·7	4·0	+ 0·5	+ 0·2	+ 0·3			
Other Industries and Services	157,780	73,530	231,310	44,642	10,604	55,246	28·3	14·4	23·9	+ 1·6	+ 0·5	+ 1·2			
TOTAL	8,506,100	3,395,900	11,902,000	1,505,590	359,580	1									

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[NOTE.—The following reports 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 countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 632-633 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 pp. xxiv-xxvi and 8-20 of the Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics, Cd. 5415 of 1911, also "International Labour Review," July-August, 1921, issued by the International Labour Office.]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in November.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" at employment exchanges in France for the week ended 25th November was 19,437 (14,309 men and 5,128 women). The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled was 5,856 (2,590 for men and 3,266 for women). During the week under review the exchanges succeeded in placing 23,811 persons (19,219 men and 4,592 women) in situations, and, in addition, found employment for 153 foreign immigrants.

Out-of-Work Benefit in November.—According to the latest returns, 8 departmental and 75 municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 2nd December, the total number of persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit through their agency being 12,374 (9,023 men and 3,351 women). Of this total 3,686 were resident in the Seine Department, including 3,888 in Paris. It is pointed out that these figures do not fully indicate the total number of persons out of employment. Ever where unemployment funds are in operation, particulars under this head are not complete, while in localities where no fund exists (as, for example, in the "liberated" districts), the numbers out of work are not recorded.

BELGIUM.†

Unemployment in September and October.—Returns relating to September were received by the Belgian Ministry of Industry, Labour and Supplies from 2,291 unemployment funds with an aggregate membership of 746,030. On the last working day of the month 132,204 of these, or 17·7 per cent., were out of work, 71,246 being totally unemployed and 60,958 partially so. The corresponding percentage for the previous month was 21·7. The days of unemployment in September numbered 2,284,740, as compared with 2,654,130 in August.

Employment exchange returns are available for a later period. During October 15,691 applications for employment were received, as compared with 15,197 in September. Offers of situations numbered 9,207 (9,555 in September). For every 100 situations registered as vacant there were thus 170 applications, as against 159 in September.

GERMANY.

Employment in October.—The *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger* of 1st December reports as follows:—

"October has not as yet brought the reaction in the labour market that was feared. The swift and deep fall in the value of the mark which occurred during the month as the result of the Upper Silesian decision had the effect of further stimulating sales and replacements of stock, a movement to which additional impetus was given by early Christmas purchases on the part of consumers. Under these joint influences manufacturing industries were even busier than in the preceding month, thus compensating for the seasonal decline experienced in other industries. Something has already been said as to the deceptive character of this business activity and as to the adverse results which will ensue for German industry. Apart from the fact that internal purchasing power must soon be paralysed, the purchase of raw materials from abroad, which is necessary for the carrying on of industry and the maintenance of employment, is rendered many times more costly, so that even if sales should continue at their present favourable level a collapse of business undertakings—especially those working with a modest capital—seems inevitable."

The number of wholly unemployed persons in receipt of out-of-work donation again showed a decline. On 1st October the number was 185,482, and on 1st November this total had fallen to 151,871, a decrease of 18·1 per cent in the month.

Returns from trade unions show that out of 5,960,815 members of these organisations 71,730, or 1·2 per cent., were unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 1·4 per cent. in September, and 4·1 per cent. in October, 1920.

Employment Exchanges reported that the number of persons applying for work fell from 896,113 in September to 890,771 in the month under review, or by 0·6 per cent. The situations offered by employers in the same periods numbered 679,965 and 697,717 respectively. For every 100 vacancies notified there were thus 128 applicants, as compared with 132 in the preceding month.

The statistics of the sickness insurance societies also indicate more abundant employment. The number of persons under obligation to insure in the 6,023 societies making returns, or, in other words, the number of persons presumed to be in employment, increased from 12,892,531 on 1st October to 13,030,640 on 1st November, an increase of 138,109, or 1·1 per cent. The corresponding increase on 1st October was 0·7 per cent.

* Journal Officiel, 3rd December, 1921. Paris.

† Revue du Travail, November, 1921. Brussels.

HOLLAND (AMSTERDAM).

Unemployment in October.—According to a statement issued by the Amsterdam Municipal Statistical Bureau, the percentage of members of trade unions affiliated to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund in that city who were out of work in October was 16·2, as compared with 17·2 in September and 12·8 in October, 1920. The figures include diamond workers, of whom 60·6 per cent. were unemployed in October, 67·7 per cent. in September, and 49·3 per cent. in October, 1920.

SWITZERLAND.*

Unemployment in October.—According to figures compiled by the Central Employment Department on the basis of returns from employment exchanges throughout Switzerland, the number of applicants for employment remaining on the "live register" of the exchanges on 31st October was 74,238. Of this total 14,526 were employed on relief works, leaving 59,712 entirely without work, of whom 39,072 were in receipt of out-of-work donation. The total number of applicants for employment included 20,525 persons engaged in the watch and clockmaking and jewellery trades, 9,190 in the building trades, 9,148 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 6,539 in the textile trades. In addition 59,835 persons were reported partially unemployed, including 21,089 textile workers, 18,079 metal, etc., workers, and 10,400 in the watchmaking, etc., trades. The vacancies offered by employers on the same date numbered 821.

Taking October as a whole, 818 applications for employment were registered for each 100 vacancies for men and 457 for each 100 for women; in September the figures were 793 and 427 respectively, the ratios for the more recent month thus showing an increase in both cases.

ITALY.†

Unemployment on 1st October.—According to figures published in the *Popolo Romano* of 10th November, the number of unemployed in Italy on 1st October was 473,216 (excluding persons affected by strikes and lock-outs), showing an increase of 2,674 during the month of September: the corresponding increase during August amounted to 56,795.

The number of unemployed in certain provinces on 1st October and 1st September respectively was as shown below:—

	1st September.	1st October.
Lombardy	110,161	110,886
Veneto	93,761	86,410
Piedmont	67,868	68,336
Emilia	55,527	63,429
Tuscany	43,284	42,039
Liguria	27,717	27,895
Sicily	27,064	28,913
Apulia	22,415	21,349

The province returned as having the least unemployment is the Basilicata with 148.

SWEDEN.‡

Unemployment in September and October.—The percentage of unemployed among members of Swedish trade unions on 31st October was 27·2, as compared with 25·8 at the end of the preceding month, and 4·3 on 31st October, 1920.

Full particulars, however, are not available for the latest date, and the following table relates to the end of September:—

Unions.	Membership reporting on 30th Sept., 1921.	Percentage Unemployed		
		30th Sept. 1921.	31st Aug. 1921.	30th Sept. 1920.
All Unions Making Returns.	154,271	26·2	26·8	2·9
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Blast furnacemen	11,122	36·1	32·9	0·7
Engineering workers	35,479	34·9	34·4	2·1
Electrical workers	2,911	15·5	19·1	2·6
Textile workers	5,396	15·4	26·4	1·3
Clothing workers	3,784	9·4	13·2	3·3
Boot, shoe & leather workers	5,624	10·2	13·5	0·2
Baking and confectionery workers	4,507	6·5	5·7	2·0
Brewery workers	3,306	5·3	4·6	0·5
Tobacco workers	4,043	6·7	4·1	—
Sawmill workers	9,793	47·4	50·9	1·8
Woodworkers	9,130	30·6	29·7	4·3
Municipal workers	8,009	3·0	2·1	0·6
General and factory workers (trades not specified)	24,237	34·4	32·3	7·2
Commercial em. loyees	6,260	10·4	13·1	1·9

* Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, November, 1921. Berne.

† Information furnished to the Department of Overseas Trade by H.M. Commercial Secretary at Rome.

‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm, and also Societa Meddelanden, No. 12, 1921. Stockholm.

UNITED STATES.*

Employment in October.—The following tabular statements, showing the volume of employment in representative establishments in thirteen manufacturing industries, and in bituminous coal mining in the United States in October, 1921, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) October, 1920, are compiled from reports received by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics:—

(a) October, 1921, as compared with September, 1921.

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (—)	Earnings.†		Per cent.
		Sep., 1921.	Oct., 1921.		Sep., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	
Coal mining (bituminous)	94	24,919	26,239	+ 5·3	1,885,743	1,859,693	+17·3
Iron and steel	109	111,970	118,799	+ 6·1	4,318,153	4,989,732	+15·1
Railway and tram-car building and repairing	63	47,339	50,928	+ 7·6	2,759,235	3,091,619	+12·0
Automobiles	52	93,296	89,687	- 3·9	2,944,511	2,627,442	-10·8
Cotton manufacturing	61	62,246	63,597	+ 1·2	1,066,787	988,259	- 7·4
Cotton finishing	17	13,336	13,579	+ 1·8	292,693	284,611	- 2·8
Hosiery and underwear	65	30,641	32,106	+ 4·8	501,727	546,206	+ 8·9
Woolen	52	51,459	51,496	+ 0·1	1,155,993	1,052,143	- 9·0
Silk	44	12,635	12,498	- 1·1	494,161	501,892	+ 1·6
Men's ready-made clothing	50	34,600	33,936	- 1·9	1,092,015	915,799	-16·1
Boots and shoes	82	63,747	62,748	- 1·6	1,458,276	1,369,013	- 6·1
Cigars	55	16,945	17,144	+ 1·2	322,910	310,575	- 3·8
Leather	36	13,287	13,494	+ 1·6	297,400	283,449	- 4·3
Paper	58	22,596	23,068	+ 2·1	538,681	568,438	+ 5·7

The figures in the above table show that there were increases in the number of persons employed in October in ten industries and decreases in four. The greatest increases are shown in railway and tramcar building and repairing (7·6 per cent.), iron and steel (6·1 per cent.), and bituminous coal mining (5·3 per cent.); the greatest decrease is 3·9 per cent. in automobiles. Six industries show an increase and eight a decrease in the aggregate earnings. The greatest increase (17·3 per cent.) appears in bituminous coal mining. Other increases are 15·1 per cent. in iron and steel, 12·0 per cent. in railway and tramcar building and repairing, and 8·9 per cent. in hosiery and underwear. A decrease of 16·1 per cent. is shown for men's ready-made clothing, and one of 10·8 per cent. for automobiles.

(b) October, 1921, as compared with October, 1920.

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (—)	Earnings.†		Per cent.
		Oct., 1920.	Oct., 1921.		Oct., 1920.	Oct., 1921.	
Coal mining (bituminous)	102	27,590	25,858	- 6·3	2,487,472	1,837,681	- 26·1
Iron and steel	117	191,870	119,269	- 37·8	15,931,871	4,989,018	- 67·6
Railway and tram-car building and repairing	62	71,116	50,772	- 28·6	5,342,742	3,081,558	- 42·3
Automobiles	50	116,615	89,346	- 23·4	4,299,731	2,620,491	- 39·1
Cotton manufacturing	61	59,623	63,597	+ 6·7	1,066,067	988,259	- 7·3
Cotton finishing	17	10,457	13,579	+ 29·9	236,900	284,611	+ 20·1
Hosiery and underwear	63	25,623	30,283	+ 18·2	461,991	515,561	+ 11·6
Woolen	52	33,770	51,496	+ 52·5	760,706	1,052,243	+ 38·3
Silk	45	12,884	14,137	+ 9·7	548,775	560,132	+ 2·1
Men's ready-made clothing	48	25,872	33,757	+ 30·5	766,571	910,885	+ 18·8
Boots and shoes	82	53,460	64,940	+ 21·5	1,143,759	1,406,932	+ 23·0
Cigars	54	16,214	15,865	- 4·0	344,282	304,799	- 11·5
Leather	37	14,160	13,617	- 3·8	375,563	296,025	- 21·2
Paper	58	34,367	24,498	- 28·7	1,055,025	585,721	- 44·5

Comparing the figures for October, 1921, with those for October, 1920, it appears that there were increases in the number of persons employed in eight industries and decreases in six. The largest increase (52·5 per cent.) appears in the woollen industry, while the largest decrease (37·8 per cent.) is shown in iron and steel. Six of the fourteen industries show an increase in the aggregate earnings, the most important being 38·3 per cent. in the woollen industry. An increase of 23 per cent. appears in boots and shoes and one of 20·1 per cent. in cotton finishing. The most important percentage decrease is 67·6 in iron and steel. Paper shows a decrease of 44·5 per cent. and car building and repairing one of 42·3 per cent.

DENMARK.

Unemployment in November.—H.M. Commercial Secretary at Copenhagen, reporting on 9th November, states that the total number of unemployed in the capital was 23,804, in the Islands 11,103 and in Jutland 17,821—a total of 57,728, or 1,628 more than in the preceding week.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington.

† The figures represent the aggregate wages-bill for two weeks in the case of coal mining, the iron and steel, railway and tram-car building and repairing, and silk industries, and for one week in other industries.

Unemployment in October.—Out of a total of 233,975 work-people covered by the returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange, 18·3 per cent. were unemployed on 28th October, as compared with 16·6 at the end of September, and 3·6 per cent. on the 29th October, 1920.

Locality.	Number of Workpeople included in Returns for 28th Oct., 1921.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		28th Oct., 1921.	30th Sept., 1921.	29th Oct., 1920.
Copenhagen	115,304	20·6	20·1	4·3
Provinces	168,671	15·7	14·3	3·1
Total	283,975	18·3	16·6	3·6

NORWAY.†

Unemployment in September.—The percentage of members reported as unemployed at the end of September in certain trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics was the same as in the preceding month, viz., 14·7, as compared with 1·7 in September, 1920.

Unions.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Sep. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Sep. 30, 1920.	Sep. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Sep. 30, 1920.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania)	944	946	909	4·0	4·0	5·0
Carpenters	994	1,044	1,404	13·5	11·2	0·7
Painters (Christiania)	562	621	699	1·4	0·6	—
Metal workers	7,700	7,981	9,753	20·2	20·1	1·4
Boot and shoe makers	772	787	1,007	4·3	8·3	0·2
Printers	2,553	2,573	2,541	7·2	6·2	1·2
Bookbinders	801	803†	888	22·5	26·4†	3·7
Cabinetmakers	570	575	613	15·1	17·6	4·9
Bakers	550	550	580	9·3	8·2	4·3
Total	15,446	15,880†	18,394	14·7	14·7†	1·7

* Statistiske Efterretninger, 21st November, 1921. Copenhagen.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

‡ Revised figures.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

(Continued from p. 631.)

AUSTRIA (VIENNA).*

The index number representing the cost of supplying the food required by a Viennese family of four persons shows a rise of 55 per cent. in October as compared with June, and reached a figure 207 times that computed for July, 1914. Almost identical results are shown if the comparison be based on the total cost of living, viz., 54 per cent. rise since June and a 205-fold increase since July, 1914.

HOLLAND.

(a) The Hague.†

Index numbers of retail prices of food at The Hague, as compiled by the Statistical Department of the municipality of that city, indicate a rise of 0·8 per cent. between 1st August and 1st September. At the latter date the general level was 112 per cent. above that of the first six months of 1914. In arriving at the general index the average for each group of articles is weighted in accordance with the standard of living prevailing in families of subordinate public officials.

(b) Amsterdam.‡

The index number representing the total food bill of working-class families in Amsterdam, calculated at the prices current in November, shows a decrease of 8·4 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and an increase of 59 per cent. above the level of 1913.

SWITZERLAND.§

According to figures compiled by the Union of Swiss Co-operative Societies, the general level of retail prices of food in twenty-three Swiss towns on 1st November was 0·9 per cent. lower than in the preceding month, but 96 per cent. above the level of June, 1914. If the computation be extended to include fuel, lighting and soap, the index number for 1st November also shows a decrease of 0·9 per cent. when compared with that of 1st October, but is 98 per cent. above the level of June, 1914.

* Mitteilungen des Bundesamtes für Statistik, 1921, No. 13.

† Maandcijfers van het Statistisch Bureau der Gemeente 's-Gravenhage, August, 1921.

‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Municipal Statistical Office of Amsterdam.

§ Schweizerischer Konsum-Verein, 3rd December, 1921. Basle.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in November, was 74, as compared with 64 in the previous month, and 60 in November, 1920. In these new disputes nearly 26,000 workpeople were directly involved, and 2,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition to the numbers involved in new disputes nearly 8,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 47 other disputes which began before November, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of new and old disputes in progress in November was thus 121, involving about 36,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during November of about 250,000 working days.

The following Table classifies the disputes by groups of trades and indicates the number of workpeople involved (whether directly or indirectly) at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during November in all the disputes in progress:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Disputes in progress in November.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in November.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in November.
	Started before 1st Nov.	Started in Nov.	Total.		
Building	6	11	17	4,000	30,000
Mining & Quarrying ..	11	23	34	15,000	96,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	13	6	19	1,000	9,000
Other Trades	17	34	51	13,000	117,000
Total, Nov., 1921 ..	47	74	121	36,000	252,000
Total, Oct., 1921 ..	49	64	113	25,000	187,000
Total, Nov., 1920 ..	76	60	136	1,138,000†	3,631,000

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN NOVEMBER, 1921.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
BUILDING TRADES:— Plumbers—Manchester district..	970	40	19 Sept.	19 Nov.	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per hour, and against future regulation of plumbers' wages by the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Trade.	Proposed reduction accepted on the understanding that any future proposals for changes in wages be submitted to a joint meeting of master plumbers and workpeople. (See also page 651.)
MINING AND QUARRYING:— Miners, etc.—Sunderland (near).	1,558	..	3 Oct.	..	Men demanded reinstatement of two putters, dismissed for alleged malingering under the protection of the Minimum Wage Act. Subsequently men desired to resume work, but employers demanded abolition of certain colliery customs.	No settlement reported.
Miners, etc.—Wigan (near) ..	1,904	..	3 Nov.	7 Nov.	Against proposed new conditions of employment, involving reduction in wages below the rates fixed by the District Wages Board.	Proposed new conditions withdrawn, and District rates to be paid.
Miners, etc.—Kirkcaldy (near).	1,000	..	18 Nov.	19 Nov.	Against proposed reduction in wages of certain men.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Miners, etc.—South Shields (near).	3,290	..	24 Nov.	25 Nov.	Alleged departure by employers from the terms of a recent agreement, involving wages concessions by the workpeople, under which work had been resumed after stoppage through trade depression.	Amicable settlement effected.
OTHER TRADES:— Rope and twine makers, fitters, smiths, engine drivers, etc.—Liverpool.	550‡	..	2 May	..	Against proposed reduction in wages.	No settlement reported.
Shopmen, storemen and other railway employees.—Cork.	160	510	7 Nov.	7 Dec.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Bookbinders and machine rulers.—Belfast.	260	60	31 Oct.	3 Nov.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Modified reduction accepted. (See also page 650.)
Farm workers—North-West Norfolk.	220	..	1 Oct.	..	Against proposed reduction in wages.	No settlement reported.
Rubber workers—Lancashire and Cheshire.	6,000	..	3 Nov.	12 Nov.	Against proposed increase in working hours from 47 to 52½ per week, without change in day-work rates of wages; piece-work rates and output bonuses to be reduced by 7½ per cent.	Standard working week to be 48 hours, but no extra rate to be paid for overtime up to 52½ hours. Wages to be reduced at the rate of 7½ per cent. on total earnings, subject to minimum weekly rates of 48s. for men and 25s. for women. (See also page 653.)
Engineers, etc., employed in Municipal Gas, Electricity and Tramways Departments—Manchester.	700	..	19 Oct.	5 Nov.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Work resumed pending negotiations.

* 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.
 † Including over 1,000,000 workpeople in the coal mining industry in Great Britain.
 ‡ 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 during the year are counted once only in the statement of the number of workpeople involved.
 § The figures have been revised to include the estimated number of workpeople rendered idle (though not themselves parties to the dispute) by the ship joiners' dispute which lasted from December, 1920, to August, 1921, and the estimated number of working days lost by such workpeople.
 ¶ 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.
 †† Estimated number.

Causes.—Of the 74 new disputes, 41, directly involving nearly 11,000 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 11, directly involving nearly 2,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 5, directly involving over 6,000 workpeople on questions respecting working hours; 5, directly involving nearly 6,000 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 12, directly involving about 1,000 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—During November settlements were effected in the case of 36 new disputes, directly involving over 19,000 workpeople, and 22 old disputes, directly involving over 3,000 workpeople. Of these disputes, 13, directly involving over 4,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 20, directly involving over 4,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 25, directly involving over 14,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 10 disputes, directly involving about 7,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

DISPUTES IN FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1920 AND 1921.†
 The following Table gives comparative statistics for the first eleven months of 1920 and 1921:—

Groups of Trades.	Jan. to Nov., 1920.			Jan. to Nov., 1921.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	241	45,000	872,000	128	26,000	530,000
Mining and Quarrying ..	232	1,105,000	17,376,000	122	1,155,000	74,588,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding and Other Metal ..	110	73,000	2,361,000	85	76,000	699,000
Textile	125	78,000	834,000	58	12,000	283,000
Clothing	74	37,000	1,430,000	26	379,000	6,928,000
Transport	144	71,000	746,000	33	5,000	81,000
Woodworking and Furnishing ..	98	31,000	552,000	50	30,000	334,000
Other Trades	294	76,000	972,000	40	6,000	135,000
Employees of Public Authorities ..	122	27,000	1,187,000	156	38,000	495,000
Total	1,663	1,678,000	26,567,000	737	1,735,000	87,607,000

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 (see note in next column) the changes in rates of wages arranged to come into operation in November resulted in a total reduction of approximately £1,160,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 3,450,000 workpeople. The groups of trades principally affected are shown below:—

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Reduction in Weekly Wages.
Mining and Quarrying ..	1,238,000	£ 822,000
Iron and Steel	110,000	61,100
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal	1,523,000	202,800
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	101,000	11,600
Public Utility Services ..	210,000	23,700
Other	272,000	41,800
Total	3,454,000	1,163,000

The wages of coal miners were re-adjusted on the basis of the proceeds of the industry during September, and reduced in all districts, the decreases on the rates current in October varying from about 12 per cent. in the Cumberland and Yorkshire and East Midland coalfields to between 27 and 30 per cent. in South Wales, Northumberland, Scotland, Bristol and Kent.

In the iron and steel trades the principal decreases affected workpeople whose wages are governed by changes under the steel melters' sliding scale. In the case of the melters, wages were reduced by 45 per cent. on the standard (about 19 or 21 per cent. on current rates). Iron puddlers and millmen sustained decreases of 10 and 15 per cent. on standard rates in the North of England and West of Scotland respectively.

The principal reductions in the engineering and shipbuilding trades resulted from the withdrawal of one-third of the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. granted in 1917 and 1918 to adult male timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively. Decreases under "cost of living" sliding scales affected women and girls in the engineering trade, and also workpeople in various other metal trades, including those employed in the electric cable making industry, males in the brass, hollow-ware and edge-tool trades in the Birmingham and Wolverhampton districts, and silversmiths, jewellery makers, etc., in London, Birmingham and Sheffield. Tinplate makers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, sustained a decrease under their sliding scale of 37½ per cent. on base rates (nearly 26 per cent. on current rates), but received a special advance of 10 per cent. on base rates, making the net decrease about 19 per cent.

In the food, etc., group there were reductions varying from ½d. to 1d. per hour for workpeople in the sugar, confectionery and food preserving trades. Adult males in the seed crushing and oil milling industry sustained a decrease of 4s. per week, while there was a reduction of 1s. per week in the wages of sugar refiners. There were also reductions in the wages of bakers in various districts.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921.

[NOTE.—The following Table relates mainly to changes which came into operation in November, with effect either from that month or from earlier dates. Certain earlier changes, however, of which particulars were received during November, are also included. The weekly rates quoted are in respect of a full ordinary working week and do not take into account the effect of short time working.]

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
BUILDING AND CERTAIN TOWNS IN THE MANCHESTER AREA†	Durham City	18 Nov.	Plumbers	Decrease of ½d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1½d.).
	Certain towns in the Manchester area†	21 Nov.	Plumbers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour (2s. 3d. to 2s. 1½d.).
	Macclesfield	28 Nov.	Plumbers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 0½d.).
	Bury St. Edmunds ..	1 Oct.	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 4½d.; other tradesmen, 1s. 7½d.; labourers, 1s. 2d.
	Aberdeen	7 Nov.	Masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ½d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10½d.).
Building	Blairstown	Nov.	Painters	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 10½d.).
	Belfast	1 Nov.	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 0½d.).
	Douglas and District	28 Oct.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decreases to rates of 1s. 7d. per hour for tradesmen, and 1s. 3d. per hour for labourers.
Works of Construction	Great Britain	1st pay after 17 Nov.	Men employed on civil engineering constructional work	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ½d. per hour. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: County of London, 1s. 5½d.; other centres, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d.
Electrical Installation	Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow districts	1 Nov.	Qualified men employed by electrical contractors	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10d.).
Gas Fitting	Birmingham and District	1st pay day after 18 Nov.	Gas fitters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 3d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 8d.).

* Including the employees of tramways and omnibus, and gas, water, and electricity undertakings; and of port, harbour, and river and other public authorities. Building trade operatives, transport workers, &c., directly employed by such authorities, are also included in this group.
 † Including Alderley Edge, Altrincham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Atherton, Bolton, Bury, Cheadle, Denton, Disley, Dukinfield, Eccles, Edenfield, Farnworth, Glossop, Heywood, Horwich, Hyde, Leigh, Manchester, Middleton, Mossley, Oldham, Openshaw, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Rochdale, Sale, Salford, Stalybridge, Stockport, Tyldesley, Whitefield and Wilmslow.

Under national agreements adult workpeople employed in gas, electricity and tramway undertakings had their wages reduced by ½d. per hour or 2s. per week.

In trades other than those included in the above groups the principal reductions affected civil engineering constructional workers, road transport workers, paper bag and paper box makers, coachbuilders, coopers, cement workers, furniture trade operatives in London, and rubber workers in Lancashire.

There were also numerous reductions in the wages of agricultural labourers (who are not covered by the above statistics). Of the changes taking effect in November, three, affecting over 9,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration; 114, affecting nearly 1,847,000 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales or other arrangements for the automatic adjustment of wages; and the remaining 164 changes, affecting about 1,598,000 workpeople, took effect under other arrangements, or as the result of Orders under the Trade Boards Act. In 13 cases the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppages of work.

Changes taking effect in January—November, 1921.

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Building & Allied Trades	2,400	445,000	£ 780	£ 303,900
Mining and Quarrying ..	200	1,291,000	40	2,660,000
Iron and Steel Smelting ..	500	239,000	10	431,700
Engineering and Shipbuilding	3,700	1,359,000	950	652,200
Other Metal Trades	6,300	360,000	1,350	200,000
Textile	2,700	1,004,000	80	594,800
Clothing	79,000	222,000	11,200	44,500
Transport (excluding Tramways)	6,000	906,000	1,700	383,000
Printing & Allied Trades	300	202,000	50	47,500
Furniture and Woodworking	400	83,000	240	53,400
Chemical, Glass, Brick, Pottery, &c.	1,300	230,000	290	122,900
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	3,500	195,000	620	47,400
Other Miscellaneous Trades	8,600	123,000	2,080	56,700
Public Utility Services ..	2,700	314,000	600	125,000
Total	117,600	6,973,000	20,100	5,563,000

Hours of Labour.

The only important change reported in November involved india rubber workers in Lancashire, whose ordinary working hours were increased from 47 to 48 per week.

[NOTE.—The statistics given above are exclusive of changes affecting Government employees, domestic servants, police, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics.]

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	
			MINING AND QUARRYING.		
Coal Mining.	Northumberland ...			Decrease of 91.74 per cent. on standard base rates of 1879, leaving wages 121.19 per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
	Durham ...			Decrease of 54.56 per cent. on standard base rates of 1879, leaving wages 142.89 per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
	Cumberland ...			Decrease of 18.13 per cent. on standard base rates of 1915, leaving wages at the minimum of 30 per cent. above the standard of 1915.	
	Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase, and Warwickshire			Decrease of 29.64 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 110.55* per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
	Lancashire, North Staffordshire, and Cheshire			Decrease of 35.75 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 75.25 per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
	South Staffordshire and Salop			Decrease of 26.37 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 52.44 per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
	Bristol ...	1 Nov.	Workpeople (both underground and surface) employed in or about coal mines, other than those workpeople whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Decrease of 48.68 per cent. on standard base rates of 1917, leaving wages 31.13 or 32.79† per cent. above the standard of 1917.	
	Forest of Dean ...			Decrease of 51.91 per cent. on standard base rates of 1919, leaving wages at the minimum of 62 per cent. above the standard of 1919.	
	Radstock ...			Decrease of 47.31 per cent. on standard base rates of 1918, leaving wages 67.29 above the standard of 1918.	
	Newbury ...			Decrease of 35.99 per cent. on standard base rates of 1916, leaving wages at the minimum of 22 per cent. above the standard of 1918.	
Iron Ore Mining	Kent ...			Decrease of 49.98 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages at the minimum of 32 per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
	South Wales and Monmouthshire			Decrease of 50.08 per cent. on standard base rates of 1915, leaving wages 28.95 above the standard of 1915.	
	North Wales ...			Decrease of 34.4 per cent. on standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 59.1 per cent. above the standard of 1911.	
	Scotland ...			Decrease of 104.1 per cent. on standard base rates of 1888, leaving wages 141.91 per cent. above the standard of 1888.	
	Furness District ...	13 Nov.	Iron ore miners and surfacemen (except blacksmiths and fitters whose wages are not regulated by sliding scale arrangements)	Decrease under sliding scale of 10d. per shift (1s. 9d. to 10s. 11d.) in the bargain price for miners; of 9d. per shift for surfacemen; of 4d. per shift for boys under 15.	
	Ironstone Mining	North Lincolnshire ...	16 Oct.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ...	Decreases as for blast furnacemen (see below).
		Banbury and District	24 Oct.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen ...	Decrease under sliding scale of 3½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 89 per cent. above the standard.
	Gypsum Mining	Gotham, Cropwell Bishop, Thrumpton, Newark-on-Trent and Chellaston	Nov. §	Gypsum miners, millhands and stone dressers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 7d. in the £ on earnings.
		Northumberland and Durham	1 Nov.	Freestone quarrymen and labourers	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. (quarrymen, 2s. to 1s. 11d.; labourers, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 5d.)
	Quarrying	Various Districts in Yorkshire	11 Nov.	Freestone quarrymen ...	Standard hourly rates adopted of 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. in Grade A towns, and rates 1½d. and 3d. per hour less in Grade B and C towns respectively.
Thames and Medway		10 Nov.	Chalk quarrymen ...	Decrease of 3d. per hour for day-workers (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 3½d.), and proportionate decrease for pieceworkers, and 3d. per hour for youths under 18.	
North Wales ...		1st pay in Nov.	Granite quarrymen ...	Decrease of 5 per cent.	
Carnarvonshire and Merionethshire		1 Nov.	Slate quarrymen ...	Decrease of 1s. 5d. per day on the standard letting price for pieceworkers and of 1s. 2d. for daymen. Letting standard per day after change for quarrymen, rock labourers and labourers respectively, 12s. 7d., 12s. 1d., 11s. 10d.; day wage after change for the three classes, 11s. 4d., 10s. 10d. and 10s. 7d.	
South Wales ...		24 Nov.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rate after change for labourers, 1s. 4d. per hour.	
Fifeshire and other districts in East Scotland		11 Nov.	Quarrymen, setmakers, kerbdressers, luggers, breakers, cutters, and labourers	Decrease of 10 per cent. †	
				IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE.	
Pig Iron Manufacture		Cleveland ...	23 Nov.	Non-scale men employed at blast-furnaces	Decrease of 8s. 6d. per week.
		North Staffordshire ...	1 Nov.	Loco drivers, shunters, firemen, shedmen and cleaners	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted reduced to 8½ per cent.
			16 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 30** per cent. on the standard of 1909, leaving wages 94 per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift.
		27 Nov.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 24** per cent. on the standard of 1909 for skilled men, and of 14** per cent. for labourers, leaving wages 70 per cent. and 80 per cent. respectively above the standard, plus 1s. 1½d. per shift.	
	North Lincolnshire ...	4 Nov.	Engineers, electricians' apprentices, improvers, etc., employed on maintenance work at blastfurnaces and iron and steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 22.2 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 71.3 per cent. above the standard.	

* In the case of West Yorkshire, surface workers' percentage addition above the 1911 standard from 1st November was 108.89 for the Eastern Area and 105.55 for the Western Area.
 † The lower percentage applies to hewers and pieceworkers and the higher to other workers on the north side of Bristol; on the south side the percentages were 3.33 higher in each case.
 ‡ It was agreed by the District Board that the Owners should contribute 6d. on each ton of coal produced for the purpose of supplementing the wages of the lower paid workers.
 § The decrease took effect on dates varying from 10th to 25th November.
 ¶ The new conditions took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Quarrying Joint Industrial Council (Freestone Section) for the Yorkshire Area. The areas covered by the Districts A, B and C are as follows:—A, Huddersfield, Bradford, Thornton, Keighley, Halifax and Brighouse and District; B, Shepley and District; and C, Pateley Bridge.
 ** The decrease took effect under an agreement made between the East of Scotland Quarrymasters' Association and the Amalgamated National Union of Quarryworkers and Setmakers.
 †† The decrease of 30 per cent. quoted took effect from 16th October and was in anticipation of a further fall in wages due under the next ascertainment. The actual decrease resulting from this ascertainment, to take effect from 6th November, was 21½ per cent., which was merged in the 30 per cent. quoted. From 27th November a further reduction under the sliding scale was anticipated, and the percentages of 24 and 14 quoted were to merge in any subsequent decreases under the scale.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE	
			Workpeople employed in steel smelting shops:—	
			Steel melters, pitmen, gas producermen, charge wheelers, etc.	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 45 per cent. on the standard of 1905, leaving melters' wages 93½ per cent. (basic process) and 68½ per cent. (acid process) above the standard.
			Semi-skilled workers and labourers:—	
	England and Scotland	6 Nov.	(a) Not on a 47 hour week ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 45 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 93½ per cent. above the standard.
			(b) On a 47 hour week ...	The total advance in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, reduced, under sliding scale, by 1½% (about 24 per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 51 per cent. since May, 1921.
		28 Nov.	Iron puddlers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 10 per cent. on standard rates, leaving the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton, plus 90 per cent.
			Iron and steel millmen ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 10 per cent. on standard rates.
			Semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., in puddling forges and rolling mills:—	
			(a) Not on a 47 hour week ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 45 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 93½ per cent. above the standard.
			(b) On a 47 hour week ...	The total advance in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, reduced, under sliding scale, by 1½% (about 24 per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 51 per cent. since May, 1921.
	North of England ...	6 Nov.	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works:—	
			Engineers, electricians, strikers, motor attendants, arc lamp trimmers, boilermakers, patternmakers	The total advances in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, reduced, under sliding scale, by 1½% (about 24 per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 51 per cent. since May, 1921.
			Bricklayers' labourers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3.57d. per week. Rate after change: 1s. 2.61d. per hour.
			Bricklayers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3.7d. per week. Rate after change: 1s. 7.09d. per hour.
	Midlands ...	7 Nov.	Non-scale workers employed in iron and steel works	War bonus reduced by 2s. per week for men, by 1s. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and by 6d. per week for boys under 18.
	Tees-side (certain firms)	6 Nov.	Workpeople engaged in the rolling mills and production departments	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 45 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 93½ per cent. above the standard.
	North-East Coast ...	6 Nov.	Gas producer firemen, etc. ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 45 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 93½ per cent. above the standard. Rate after change: 5s. per shift, plus tonnage bonus, plus 93½ per cent.
				Decrease, under sliding scale, of 37½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 52½ per cent. above the standard, plus an additional 10 per cent. to those with base earnings of not more than 30s. per week; workpeople whose base earnings are slightly in excess of this amount to receive an adjustment of such an amount in proportion to the 10 per cent. addition to make their total earnings not less than those of men with a base rate of 30s. per week.
	South-West Wales ...	6 Nov.	Workpeople, excluding maintenance men engaged in Siemens steel manufacture	Temporary increase of 6d. per day for men 18 years and over, and of 3d. per day for boys under 18.
	South-West Wales ...	7 Nov.	Maintenance men (engineers, fitters, electricians, blacksmiths, moulders, etc.) employed in Siemens steel works	Decrease of 3s. per week for fully skilled craftsmen, and a proportionate decrease for semi-skilled men. Rate after change: craftsman 33s. per week.
			Iron puddlers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 15 per cent. on standard rates, leaving the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton, plus 90 per cent.
		28 Nov.	Iron millmen ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 15 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 90 per cent. above the standard.
		1 Nov.	Mechanics, etc., employed in puddling forges and rolling mills whose wages are not regulated by sliding scale arrangements	Bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted, reduced to 8½ per cent.
			Steel millmen, gas producermen, charge wheelers, enginemmen, crane-men, and firemen etc.	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 45 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 93½ per cent. above the standard.
	West of Scotland ...	6 Nov.	Semi-skilled workers and labourers	The total advance in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, reduced, under sliding scale, by 1½% (about 24 per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 51 per cent. since May, 1921.
			Bricklayers' labourers in steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3.34d. per hour (1½% of total war advances). Rate after change: 1s. 1.55d. per hour.
		1 Nov.	Engineers, boilermakers, smiths, hammermen, patternmakers, electricians, etc., engaged on the maintenance, upkeep and running of steel plants and mills (men 21 years and over, whose wages are not regulated by sliding scale arrangements)	Bonus on earnings of 12½ per cent. previously granted, reduced to 8½ per cent.
			ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.	
Engineering, Boiler-making, Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	Various districts in the United Kingdom (excluding Swansea and certain other districts in South Wales and Monmouthshire)	1 Nov.	Males, 21 years of age and over, employed in the engineering, boiler-making and foundry trades (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in industries other than engineering or shipbuilding)	Bonuses on total earnings of 12½ per cent. for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. for pieceworkers, granted in 1917 and 1918, reduced to 8½ per cent. and 5 per cent. respectively.

* The decrease of 1½% of war advances is based on the reduction in steel smelting shops of 45 per cent. on standard rates, i.e., 36 steps of 1½ per cent. † Under the sliding scale regulating the war bonuses of these workers, a reduction of 16s. per week for men was due last August, but only 10s. of this was deducted on the understanding that the balance of 6s. and any subsequent reductions under the scale should be cleared off by monthly instalments; a further instalment of 2s. 6d. is to take effect in December, and afterwards the reductions each month are to be subject to a maximum of 3s. per week.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Engineering, Shipbuilding, Tinplate, Aluminium, Railway, Tube, Brass, Wire, and Electric Cable Making.

* In the railway shops in Scotland the reduction generally took effect as from 31 October.
† The above decreases took effect under an arrangement made by the Engineering and National Employers' Federations.
‡ Further decreases are to take effect as follows:—5 per cent. from 11th January for pieceworkers and lieuworkers, 5 per cent. for pieceworkers and 7½ per cent. for lieuworkers from 1st March.
§ Including fitters, turners, smiths, ironmoulders, brassmoulders and machinists; patternmakers receive an additional 2s. to 2s. 6d. per week "tool money."
|| Inclusive of the 25 per cent. "special bonus" consolidated into base rates as from July, 1920.
** The change took effect under an Agreement arrived at between the Associated Railway Wagon Builders and Repairers and the trade unions concerned.
*** In the case of men who received a bonus in lieu of the 12½ per cent. referred to above, such bonus was to be reduced by one-fifth on 7th November.
†† The change took effect under an Agreement arrived at between the Engineering and National Employers' Federations and the trade unions concerned.
††† The rates shown were to take effect as from the date shown, but the reductions from the existing rates were made in four equal instalments on 22nd August, 19th September, 17th October and 14th November.
§§ Including spinners and straighteners, cutters up, polishers, testers, picklers, cleaners, warehouse and yard labourers and furnacemen engaged on hardening, softening, patenting and galvanising.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Nut and Bolt, Screw, Nail Making, Bedstead, Lock Latch, Gold, Silver and Allied Trades, Edge Tool, Hollow-ware, Textile, Sheet Metal, Weighing Machine, and Spring Manufacture.

* The reductions took effect under arrangements made by the Birmingham Jewellers' and Silversmiths' Association and the Gold, Silver, Electro-plate and Allied Trades Manufacturers' Federation, and were not embodied in any formal agreement made with the trade unions concerned.
† The new conditions were embodied in an Agreement made between the London and District Association of Engineering Employers and the National Amalgamated Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers (London District). It was agreed that the new rate should not apply to men at present employed by Federated firms until after 1 February, 1922. In the case of pieceworkers, where no rate already exists, the price is to be calculated on the new basis rate plus 33½ per cent., but no existing rates are to be altered before 1 February.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for OTHER METAL TRADES, TEXTILE TRADES, Woollen and Worsted Industry, Jute Industry, Silk Manufacture, Lace Manufacture, and Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc., Trades.

* For further particulars, see page 668.
† The change took effect from the pay preceding pay day in week ending 8th October.
‡ For a list of the occupations comprised in each Class, see p. 492 of September LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for TEXTILE TRADES, CLOTHING TRADES, and TRANSPORT TRADES.

* The change took effect under an Agreement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Coir Mat and Matting Industry.
† See also p. 614 of November LABOUR GAZETTE.
‡ See also p. 668.
§ See also p. 613 of November LABOUR GAZETTE.
|| Except at Immingham, where the percentage payable on basis rates was reduced from 16½ to 16¼.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			TRANSPORT TRADES—(continued).	
	London*	1st pay day in Nov.	Workpeople employed in the road transport industry	Decrease of 4s. per week for horse drivers, etc., and of 3s. per week for drivers and mates of mechanically propelled vehicles (men 21 years of age and over, and youths doing adults' work). Youths under 21 years (including van-guardians) to sustain half the amount of these decreases.†
	London	16 July	Coalporters	Decrease of 1½d. per ton for loading and delivering coal.‡
	Newcastle-on-Tyne and Leeds	5 or 7 Nov.		Decrease of 4s. per week for horse drivers, and of 3s. per week for motor and steam wagon drivers.‡
	Hebden Bridge	12 Nov.		Decrease of 5s. per week for horse carters, and of 3s. per week for wagon drivers.‡
	Keighley	18 or 19 Nov.		Decrease of 3s. per week for single horse drivers and steam wagon steerers, of 2s. for light motor and steam wagon drivers, and of 5s. for heavy motor drivers and mates.‡
	Bradford	1st pay day after 12 Nov.		Decrease of 5s. per week.‡
	Halifax	11 Nov.		Decrease of 4s. per week for horse carters, of 3s. for mechanical vehicle drivers, and of half these amounts for juniors.§
	Liverpool and Birkenhead	1st pay day in Nov.		Decrease of 4s. per week for horse drivers, and of 5s. for steam and petrol wagon drivers.§
Road Transport Industry	Birmingham	1st pay day in Nov.	Workpeople employed in the road transport industry	Decrease of 4s. per week for horse drivers, of 3s. for motor and steam wagon men, and of 2s. for all under 18 years.‡
	Nottingham	1st pay day in Nov.		Decrease of 4s. per week.‡
	Bristol	1st pay day in Nov.		Decrease of 3s. per week. Rates after change: one-horse carters, 59s.; two-horse, 61s.; steam wagon and heavy petrol wagon drivers, 67s. per week.
	Plymouth	1st pay day in Nov.		Decrease of 4s. per week for horse drivers, and of 3s. for petrol and steam wagon drivers and steerers. Rates after change: one-horse carters, 60s. per week.
	Cardiff	1st pay day in Nov.		Decrease of 4s. per week for horse drivers, and of 3s. for motor drivers. Rate after change for one horse carters, 68s.
	Swansea	1st pay day in Nov.		Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 2s. per week for those 18 years of age and over, and of 1s. per week for those under 18.¶
	Scotland (excluding Forfarshire)	31 Oct.		Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 3s. per week for those 18 years and over, and of 1s. 6d. for those under 18 years. Rate after change: Arbroath and Forfar—one-horse drivers, 58s.
	Forfarshire	12 Nov.		Decrease of 2s. per week. Rates after change: one-horse carters, 63s.; two-horse, light 68s., heavy, 71s.; steam wagon drivers, 77s.
	Belfast	1 Oct.		
			AGRICULTURE.	
			Agricultural workers:—	
			Males	Rates adopted up to 2nd February, 1922, for skilled workers for a week of 63 hours of 50s. for those 21 years and over, with proportionate rates for those between 16 and 21 years, and for other workers 21 years and over of 37s. 6d. for a week of 54 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter.¶
			Females	Rate of 6d. per hour adopted for those 16 years of age and over up to 2nd February, 1922.¶
			Agricultural workers:—	
			Males 16 and under 21 years of age	Rate of 40s. per week adopted for those 20 to 21 years of age, with proportionate rates for those under 20 years.¶
			Females 18 years of age and over	Rate of 6d. per hour adopted.¶
Agriculture	West Riding	Nov.**	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 40s. per week of 50 hours adopted for workers 21 years and over up to 30th November, with proportionate rates for workers under 21.¶
	Lancashire (except Furness District)	13 Nov.	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 40s. adopted for a week of 54 hours.**
	Cheshire	1 Nov.	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rates adopted up to 31st December of 45s. per week for teamsters and stockmen in southern area, of 47s. 6d. for a week of 60 hours in northern area, and of 50s. for a week of 60 hours in eastern area.¶
	Gloucestershire	Nov.**	Adult male agricultural workers	Rate of 40s. 6d. adopted for a guaranteed week of 64 hours up to 31st December.¶
	Leicestershire:— Market Bosworth, Ashby, Hinckley and Atherstone Districts	4 Nov.	Male agricultural labourers	Rate of 36s. adopted for a week of 50 hours for general labourers, with higher rates for special classes.**
	Market Harborough and Lutterworth Districts	11 Nov.	Male agricultural labourers	Decrease of 1s. per week for those 21 years and over (39s. to 38s.), and proportionate rates adopted for those between 17 and 21 years; to operate for a week of 50 hours up to 31st December.††

* The decrease took effect under arrangements made between the London Cartage and Haulage Contractors' Association and Haulage Contractors' Association, the Motor Transport Employers' Federation, and the Metropolitan and Home Counties Road Transport Contractors' Association on the one side and the National Transport Workers' Federation on the other.
 † For the rates previously paid, see p. 314 of June LABOUR GAZETTE.
 ‡ For the rates previously paid, see pp. 369-370 of July LABOUR GAZETTE.
 § For the rates previously paid, see p. 431 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.
 ¶ For the rates previously paid, see p. 496 of September LABOUR GAZETTE.
 ** The new rates of wages and working hours referred to above are those which have been agreed upon by the local Conciliation Committees set up under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921. Particulars of the statutory minimum rates in force for ordinary adult labourers up to 30th September are given on pp. 455-456 of the September LABOUR GAZETTE. In the case of male workers these rates were generally applicable to a week of 50 hours from the first Monday in March to the last Sunday in October and 48 hours during the rest of the year, overtime rates being payable in respect of time worked in excess of these hours.
 †† No agreement as to wages was arrived at between employers and workpeople in this area, but representatives of the employers recommended that the rate shown should be paid during November.
 ‡‡ The new rates and hours were embodied in an agreement arrived at by the local Conciliation Committees. In October a uniform rate was agreed upon by the County Conciliation Committee for the whole of Leicestershire.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
			AGRICULTURE—(continued).	
	Leicestershire (contd.) Melton Mowbray and Belvoir Districts	2 Nov.	Male agricultural labourers	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week for those 21 years and over (39s. to 36s. 6d.), and proportionate rates adopted for those under 21 years; to operate for a week of 50 hours up to 31st December.*
	Lincolnshire	Nov.†	Adult male agricultural labourers Able-bodied agricultural workers:— Males	Rate of 38s. per week adopted for workers 21 years and over for a week of 50 hours, with proportionate rates for those under 21.†
	Nottinghamshire	16 Nov.	Females	Rate of 6d. per hour adopted for those 18 years and over, with proportionate rates for those under 18.†
	Warwickshire	1 Nov.	Male workers of fair average ability regularly employed in agriculture	Decrease of 3s. per week in minimum rate for workers 21 years and over (39s. to 36s.), and of proportionate amounts for those under 21 years; to operate for a week of 48 hours.†
	Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire	Nov.†	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 9d. per hour adopted up to 31st December.†
	Essex	22 Nov.	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rates adopted up to 14th January, 1922, of 45s. 6d. per week for those 21 years and over employed as horsemen or milkmen, with proportionate rates for those between 18 and 21 years, and of 35s. for a week of 48 hours for other male workers 21 years of age and over, with proportionate rates for those under 21.†
	Isle of Ely	19 Nov.	Male agricultural workers	Rates adopted up to 28th January, 1922, for ordinary labourers of 9d. per hour up to 50 hours per week with a guaranteed week of 48 hours, and for carters, stockmen, cattlemen, etc., of 47s. 6d. for a week of 60 hours.†
	Middlesex (South-West Area)	28 Nov.	Adult male agricultural workers	Rate of 36s. 6d. per week adopted for those 21 years and over for a week of 48 hours up to 31st December, with proportionate rates for those under 21.†
	Northamptonshire	1 Nov.	Male agricultural labourers	Rate of 36s. 6d. per week adopted for those 21 years and over for a week of 48 hours up to 31st December, with proportionate rates for those under 21.†
	Oxfordshire	1 Nov.‡	Able-bodied adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 36s. 6d. adopted for a week of 48 hours up to 31st December.†
	Dorset	5 Nov.	Able-bodied adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 36s. adopted for a week of 48 hours up to 31st December.†
	Kent	1 Nov.	Able-bodied agricultural workers:— Males	Rate of 38s. adopted for those 21 years and over for a week of 50 hours up to 31st December, with proportionate rates for those under 21 years.†
			Females	Rate of 6d. per hour adopted up to 31st December for those 18 years and over, with proportionate rates for those under 18 years.†
	Isle of Wight	Nov.†	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 38s. adopted for a week of 5½ hours.†
	Somerset	5 Nov.	Male agricultural workers	Rate of 38s. adopted for those 21 years and over for a week of 50 hours up to 30th November, with proportionate rates for those under 21.†
	Surrey	1 Nov.	Male agricultural workers 21 to 65 years of age	Rates adopted up to 31st January, 1922, for ordinary labourers, of 38s. for a week of 48 hours, and for carters, cowmen and shepherds of 47s. 6d. for a week of 60 hours.†
	Sussex (East) (except parish of Llyfaen)	Nov.†	Adult male agricultural labourers	Minimum rate of 35s. per week adopted.†
	Denbigh and Flintshire, also parish of Llyfaen (Carnarvonshire)	14 Nov.	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rates adopted for special class workers of 38s. for a week of 60 hours up to first Monday in March, 1922, and 61 hours from then up to 13th May, 1922, and for ordinary class workers of 35s. for a week of 48 hours up to first Monday in March, 1922, and 50 hours from then up to 13th May, 1922.†
	Monmouthshire	28 Nov.	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 37s. 6d. adopted for a week of 50 hours up to 31st December.†
	Coleraine	10 Oct.	Potato pickers and storemen	Rate of 38s. adopted for a week of 48 hours up to 31st December.†
			PAPER, PRINTING, AND ALLIED TRADES.	
			Males 18 years of age and over (machine minders, die makers, forme setters, cutters (including shears and gullotine) and head stock-keepers)	New scale of minimum time rates fixed, under Trade Boards Acts, resulting in decreases of from 1d. to 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 18 years, 8½d., increasing yearly to 1s. 6½d. at 23 years and over.¶
			Females:— Workers (including home-workers) other than learners	Decrease, under Trade Boards Acts, of 1d. per hour in the minimum time rate (9½d. to 8½d.) and piecework basis time rate (9½d. to 8½d.).¶
			Learners	New scale of minimum time rates fixed, under Trade Boards Acts, resulting in decreases of from 1d. to 1½d. per hour.¶
			Workpeople employed in the paper bag making trade:—	
			Males:— Machine tacklers	1d. to 1½d. per hour.¶
			Paper bag cutters	1d. to 1½d. per hour.¶
			Hydraulic pressers, slitters, stock-keepers, packers, and dispatchers	1d. per hour for those 21 years and over.¶
			Other workers (except learners)	1d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 3½d.).¶
			Learners	1d. to 1½d. per hour.¶
			Females:— Workers (including home-workers) other than learners	1d. per hour in minimum time rate (9½d. to 8½d.) and piecework basis time rate (9½d. to 8½d.).¶
			Learners	1d. to 1½d. per hour.¶

* See note †† on p. 658.
 † No agreement as to wages was arrived at between employers and workpeople in this area, but representatives of the employers recommended that the rate shown should be paid during November.
 ‡ The new rates of wages and working hours referred to above are those which have been agreed upon by the local Conciliation Committees set up under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921. Particulars of the statutory minimum rates in force for ordinary adult labourers up to 30th September are given on pp. 455-456 of the September LABOUR GAZETTE. In the case of male workers these rates were generally applicable to a week of 50 hours from the first Monday in March to the last Sunday in October and 48 hours during the rest of the year, overtime rates being payable in respect of time worked in excess of these hours. The Minister of Agriculture has confirmed the agreements made for Isle of Ely, Surrey and Denbigh and Flintshire.
 § The rate of 36s., though not formally agreed upon, was in partial operation during October.
 ¶ See also p. 614 of November LABOUR GAZETTE.
 †† The piecework basis time rates are applicable to all females employed on piecework.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Paper Tube Making, Printing and Allied Trades, Furniture and Woodworking Trades, and Vehicle Building.

* Including Bradford, Keighley, Huddersfield, Oldham, Rochdale and Castleton. † For rates previously paid, see pp. 496 and 497 of September LABOUR GAZETTE. ‡ Including Accrington, Blackburn, Blackpool, Burnley, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Haslingden, Nelson, Padiham and Preston. § For particulars of the various towns affected and the minimum rates previously applicable to each, see note § on p. 497 of September LABOUR GAZETTE. ¶ For the towns affected and the rates previously paid, see p. 498 of September LABOUR GAZETTE. †† The towns affected besides London included the following, against each of which is inserted in brackets the new minimum rate for skilled grades: Bedford (1s. 7d.), Biggleswade (1s. 8d.), Chester (1s. 6d.), Dover (1s. 7d.), Godalming (1s. 6d.), Guildford (1s. 6d.), Huddersfield (1s. 9d.), Ipswich (1s. 6d.), Leicester (1s. 9d.), Liverpool (1s. 9d.), Manchester (1s. 9d.), Northampton (1s. 8d.), Norwich (1s. 8d.), Oldham (1s. 9d.), Reading (1s. 7d.), Sheffield (1s. 9d.), Edinburgh (1s. 8d. and 1s. 9d.) Standard rates have been defined for Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham and Bury, which are now 2s. 1d. for Liverpool and 2s. 0d. for the other three towns. ††† Rates varying from 3d. to 6d. (4d. for most skilled men) in excess of the minimum rates are paid by certain firms (mainly in the West End).

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Furniture and Woodworking Trades, Packing Case-Making, Coopering, Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade, Athletic Goods Manufacture, Explosives Manufacture, Chemical Manufacture, Glass Bottle Manufacture, Glass Working, Brickmaking, Cement Manufacture, Marl Industry, and Pottery Manufacture.

* See also p. 614 of November LABOUR GAZETTE. † The decreases took effect under an agreement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cement Manufacturing Industry. ‡ The change took effect from the first day which began a new week after 24th October. § In addition to these war bonuses basic time and piece rates which were in operation at 24th March, 1921, are subject to an addition of 20 per cent. and 25 per cent. respectively.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Baking and Confectionery Trades, Brewing, and Sugar Refining.

* The rates quoted refer to table-hands. † Including Manchester, Salford, Stockport, Didsbury, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Stretford, Urmston, Flixton, Irlam and Cadishead, Barton, Patricroft, Eccles, Swinton, Pendlebury, Prestwich, Middleton, Oldham, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Walkden, Hyde, Denton, Royton, Shaw, Crompton and Glossop. ‡ Including Brierley Hill, Burton, Cannock, Coventry, Darlaston, Dudley, Leamington, Rugby, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Willenhall and Wolverhampton. § The rates quoted are for daywork and 1s. per night extra is added for each night worked, making 6s. per week extra on continuous nightwork. ¶ See also p. 663. ** The change took effect under Agreements arrived at by the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee of the Cocoa, Chocolate, Sugar Confectionery and Jam Industries, the National Federation of General Workers, the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, and the National Union of General Workers (Women's Section). *** A further decrease of 1s. 6d. per week for those 18 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for those under 18 years, takes effect on the fifth pay day after 24th November.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes sections for Seed Crushing Industry, Leather Working, Brush and Broom Manufacture, India Rubber Manufacture, Other Trades and Occupations, Gas Undertakings, Waterworks Undertakings, Electricity Undertakings, and Tramway Undertakings.

* See p. 613 of November LABOUR GAZETTE. † See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour." ‡ The rates quoted are on the basis that neither food nor lodging is provided. § This change represents the first under a "cost of living" sliding scale, adopted as result of an agreement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Gas Industry. ¶ The decrease described forms the fourth instalment of a total reduction of 4d. per hour, in accordance with a resolution of the South Wales and Monmouthshire District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry. ** This change represents the first under a "cost of living" sliding scale, adopted as result of the agreement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry. *** The sliding scale referred to was embodied in an agreement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Tramway Industry, and affects the great majority of undertakings. It has been reported that the scale does not apply to certain municipal undertakings, including Glasgow. †† The authorities affected, so far as known to the Department, and their respective grades, are as follows:—Grade A.—Corporations of Darlington, Newcastle-on-Tyne and Wallsend; Urban District Councils of Chester-le-Street, Earsdon, Hebburn, Longbenton, Newburn and Whickham; Rural District Councils of Eastington, Houghton-le-Spring and South Shields. Grade B.—Urban District Council of Willington and Rural District Council of Sedgfield. In some districts the minimum rates paid are slightly different from the Grade minima.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES—(continued)				
Local Authority Services (continued)	Lancashire and Cheshire*	1 Nov. 1st full pay in Nov.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities	"Cost of living" bonus reduced, under sliding scale, from 145 per cent. to 135 per cent. on basic rates. Area grading scheme adopted under which the districts affected are divided into five zones, and basic rates fixed for able-bodied workpeople 21 years of age and over. The new basic rates for general labourers are as follows:—Zone A, 28s.; B, 26s.; C, 25s.; D (roadmen), 21s.; E (roadmen), 20s.* Decrease of 1d. per hour (57s. 3d. per week to 53s. 4d.).
	St. Helens ...	1 Nov.	General labourers employed in the Borough Engineer's Department	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1/4th of original bonuses of 160 per cent. of first 30s. of basic rates, of 70 per cent. on next 50s., and of 45 per cent. on any amount in excess of 80s. per week, fixed by the Joint Industrial Council. For particulars of basic rates and inclusive rates previously paid see p. 502 of September LABOUR GAZETTE.
	Administrative County of London†	1st pay day in Nov.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1/4th of the original bonuses of 160 per cent. on the first 30s. of basic rates, etc.
	City of London ...	1st pay in Nov.	Manual workers employed in Public Health Department	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1/4th of the original bonuses of 160 per cent. on the first 30s. of basic rates, etc.
	Lewisham, Leyton (U.D.O.) and Stoke Newington	1st pay in Nov.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1/4th of the original bonuses of 160 per cent. on the first 30s. of basic rates, etc.
	Acton ...	1 Nov.	Able-bodied manual workers in non-trading departments	Cost of living bonus reduced under sliding scale from 145 per cent. to 140 per cent.
	Hanwell ...	1 Nov.	Council employees	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1s. 6d. per week in bonus.
Ilford ...	1 Nov.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1/4th of the original bonus of 160 per cent. on minimum basic rates.	
Middlesex (County Council)	Nov.	Adult manual workers employed in non-trading departments	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1/4th of the original bonus of 160 per cent. on minimum basic rates.	
South Wales and Monmouthshire‡	14 Nov.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities	Decrease of 1d. per hour. The rates after change are 3d. per hour less than those quoted on p. 503 of September LABOUR GAZETTE.	

CHANGE IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1921.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.
India Rubber Manufacture	Lancashire ...	14 Nov.	Workpeople employed in india rubber manufacture	Increase of 1 hour per week (47 to 48).§

* The basic rates described are in accordance with recommendations made by the Lancashire and Cheshire Provincial Council for Local Authorities' Non-trading Services (Manual Workers), and are exclusive of the bonus fixed from time to time by the Provincial Council. The rates quoted are for able-bodied workpeople, 21 years of age and over; for those under 21, percentages of adult minimum inclusive rates (i.e., basic rate plus bonus) have also been fixed. The Council's recommendations are reported to have been adopted by the following authorities:—Grade A.—Corporations of Liverpool and Manchester; Grade B.—Corporations of Bury, Crewe, Haslingden, Leigh (partly), Middleton, Rawtenstall and Widnes; Urban District Councils of Brierfield, Failsforth, Hindley, Horwich, Hurst, Lees, Littleborough, Little Lever, Swinton and Tyldesley; Grade C.—Corporations of Macclesfield and Macclesfield and Macclesfield; Urban District Councils of Bury, Aspall, Bollington, Dalton-in-Furness, Hale, Irlam, Little Hulton, Padiham, Springhead, Turton and Urmston; Grade D.—Urban District Councils of Billinge, Prescarr, Trawden and Withall; Rural District Councils of Blackburn, Burnley and Chorley.

† Including the London County Council, Westminster City Council, Borough Councils of Battersea, Chelsea, Deptford, Finsbury, Fulham, Greenwich, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, Kensington, Lambeth, St. Marylebone, St. Pancras, Southwark and Wandsworth.

‡ The decrease described, for men who received the advances of August, 1920, and January, 1921, forms the fourth instalment of a total reduction of 4d. per hour, the first, second and third instalments of which took effect in August, September and October. In the case of men who received only the advances granted in August, 1920, the above reduction does not apply.

§ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages." It was provided that no extra rate should be paid for overtime till 5 1/2 hours per week have been worked.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN DECEMBER.

The second of the three instalments by which the bonuses of 1 1/2 and 7/8 per cent. given to timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively in the engineering, shipbuilding and various metal trades are to be withdrawn, operated from 1st December. Other important reductions operating in December affect coal miners in various districts, iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, cotton operatives, pottery workers, and soap and candle workers. Details will be given in the next issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON TRADE.

The results of recent ascertainties of the selling price of iron are given below:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit on	
		Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
Pig Iron:			
Northamptonshire	s. d. 118 9 1/2	s. d. -25 11 1/2	s. d. -111 11 1/2
Nottinghamshire	146 6 1/2	-26 7	-108 11
West of Scotland	161 6	-6 4	†
Manufactured Iron:			
North of England (Bars and angles.)	313 6 1/2	-19 10	-287 14
West of Scotland (Rounds, squares, flats, tees, hoops, angles and rods.)	310 2 1/2	-29 11 1/2	-306 3 1/2

* Stated to the nearest farthing.
† No ascertainment was made for this period.

Pig Iron.—The reduction in the ascertained selling price of Northamptonshire pig iron for the quarter ended September, resulted in a decrease, from 19th October, of 32 1/2 per cent. on the standard rates for blastfurnacemen and ironstone and limestone quarrymen in that county. In Nottinghamshire the wages of blastfurnacemen and in Leicestershire and Lincolnshire the wages of ironstone miners were reduced, from 26th October, by 17 1/2 per cent. on standard rates as a result of the Nottinghamshire ascertainment for the quarter ended September. The West of Scotland ascertainment for the same quarter resulted in a decrease, generally from 30th October, of 5 per cent. on standard rates. Particulars of these decreases were shown on pp. 598 and 599 of the November LABOUR GAZETTE.

Manufactured Iron.—In consequence of the fall in the selling price of manufactured iron for September and October in the North of England the wages of puddlers and millmen were reduced by 10 per cent. on standard rates from 28th November, 1921, whilst in the West of Scotland the fall in the ascertained price for the same two months resulted in a reduction on standard rates of 15 per cent. Particulars of both these decreases are shown on p. 653.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(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 November, 1921, in the 31 selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 522 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of 27 per 10,000 on the previous month, and an increase of 365 per 10,000 on a year ago.

Compared with October, the total number relieved decreased by 45,903 (or 4.8 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief increased by 1,211 (or 1.0 per cent.), while the number of outdoor recipients decreased by 47,114 (or 5.7 per cent.). Five districts showed increases, and every other district showed a decrease. The greatest increase was in the Barnsley district (153 per 10,000), and the Birmingham district showed the largest decrease (132 per 10,000).

Compared with November, 1920, the total number relieved increased by 634,936 (or 233.7 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief increased by 11,372 (or 10.2 per cent.), and the number of outdoor recipients increased by 623,564 (or 388.7 per cent.). Every district showed an increase, the greatest being in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (975 per 10,000), and in the Sheffield district (845 per 10,000). Seventeen districts showed increases ranging from 200 to 770, and twelve districts showed increases varying from 37 to 195.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Number of persons in receipt of poor-law relief on one day in November, 1921.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
Metropolis	9,215	17,658	26,873	330	+ 7	+195
West District	10,441	27,081	37,522	373	- 25	+181
North District	2,747	3,426	6,172	466	- 42	+165
Central District	10,000	43,705	53,705	847	- 51	+531
East District	19,311	84,275	103,586	546	- 16	+337
South District
TOTAL, Metropolis	51,714	176,144	227,858	508	- 20	+299
West Ham	4,240	47,657	51,897	705	- 63	+513
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,469	23,302	25,771	530	+127	+380
Stockton and Tees District	1,121	23,094	24,215	921	- 52	+770
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	3,766	4,817	8,583	110	- 4	+ 37
Wigan District	1,738	19,482	21,220	484	- 32	+346
Manchester District	8,461	38,989	47,450	470	- 61	+341
Liverpool District	10,057	67,203	77,260	656	- 4	+485
Bradford District	1,774	8,367	10,141	276	+ 4	+189
Halifax and Huddersfield	1,142	6,155	7,297	193	- 15	+113
Leeds District	2,416	7,400	9,816	204	- 9	+100
Barnsley District	929	9,594	10,523	337	+153	+184
Sheffield District‡	2,664	45,567	48,231	958	+100	+845
Hull District	1,823	12,108	13,931	450	- 55	+250
North Staffordshire	1,790	6,076	7,866	196	- 14	+ 68
Nottingham District	2,024	8,550	10,574	232	- 23	+105
Leicester District	1,150	5,273	6,423	274	- 83	+152
Wolverhampton District	3,200	41,782	44,982	641	- 55	+531
Birmingham District	6,733	70,342	77,075	838	-132	+734
Bristol District	2,639	13,740	16,379	404	- 25	+281
Cardiff and Swansea	2,321	16,287	18,608	402	- 57	+236
TOTAL "Other Districts"	58,217	428,098	486,315	482	- 19	+355
SCOTLAND.†§						
Glasgow District	4,544	83,817	88,361	913	- 79	+700
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	751	13,858	14,609	763	- 44	+631
Edinburgh & Leith Dist.	1,568	11,371	12,939	308	- 15	+174
Dundee and Dunfermline	692	6,136	6,828	331	-101	+200
Aberdeen	519	5,354	5,873	369	- 36	+219
Coatbridge and Airdrie	402	11,536	11,938	1,176	-108	+975
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts	8,476	132,072	140,548	687	- 63	+512
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Nov., 1921	122,647	783,971	906,618	522	- 27	+365

* 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 Vagrants; 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 numbers included for the Sheffield Union do not cover changes which have taken place since the 15th October, 1921.

§ The figures for Scotland include destitute able-bodied unemployed in receipt of poor relief. The number of recipients given in some cases is an estimate, exact figures not being available.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.*

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment during November, 1921, was 218 as compared with 170 in the previous month and 254 a year ago. The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—(continued):
Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	Non-Textile—continued:
Engine Drivers ...	Gas ...
Firemen ...	Wood ...
Guards (Passenger) ...	Clay, Stone, etc. ...
Permanent Way Men ...	Chemicals ...
Porters ...	Laundries ...
Shunters ...	Food ...
Mechanics ...	Drink ...
Labourers ...	Paper, Printing, etc. ...
Miscellaneous ...	Other Non-Textile Industries ...
Contractors' Servants
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ...
23	75
MINES.	
Underground ...	ACCIDENTS REPORTED UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5—
Surface ...	Docks, Wharves and Quays ...
6	Warehouses ...
TOTAL, MINES ...	Buildings to which Act applies ...
86	11
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	
6	TOTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5 ...
27	27
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	
Textile—	Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 ...
Cotton ...	1
Wool and Woisted ...	2
Other Textiles ...	3
1	6
Non-Textile—	
Extraction of Metals ...	2
Conversion of Metals ...	3
Founding of Metals ...	3
Marine, Locomotive, and Motor Engineering ...	6
Ship and Boat Building ...	13
2	Total (excluding Seamen) ...
13	218

* Based on Home Office, Mines Department and Ministry of Transport Returns.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The total number of cases* of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during November, 1921, was 24. Three deaths due to lead poisoning in the pottery industry were reported during the month. Three cases of lead poisoning among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during November, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. The cases of poisoning and anthrax are analysed below:—

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Mercurial Poisoning—
Smelting of Metals ...	Barometer and Thermometer Making ...
Plumbing and Soldering ...	Other Industries ...
Printing ...	Phosphorus Poisoning ...
File Cutting and Hardening ...	Arsenic Poisoning ...
Tinning of Metals ...	Toxic Jaundice—
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	Arseniuretted Hydrogen Gas ...
White and Red Lead Works ...	Other ...
3	Epitheliomatous Ulceration—
†Pottery ...	Paraffin ...
4	Pitch ...
Vitreous Enamelling ...	Tar ...
2	Chrome Ulceration ...
Electric Accumulator Works ...	2
Paint and Colour Works	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF POISONING ...
2	2
Indiarubber Works ...	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—
Coach and Car Painting	Wool ...
1	Handling of Horsehair ...
Shipbuilding ...	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ...
Paint used in other Industries ...	Other Industries ...
4	1
Other Industries ...	3
3	TOTAL ANTHRAX ...
TOTAL OF ABOVE ...	1
21	1
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	
3	3

* 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 4 persons affected in the Pottery industry 1 was a female.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, ETC.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) Shops Act, 1912.

SHOP ASSISTANTS' HALF-HOLIDAY.—EMPLOYEES IN MULTIPLE SHOPS.—HIGH COURT RULING SAFEGUARDING ASSISTANTS.

Section 1 of the Shops Act, 1912, provides as follows:—

"On at least one week day in each week a shop assistant shall not be employed about the business of a shop after half-past one o'clock in the afternoon."

This case raised the question whether the proprietor of multiple shops could transfer employees to a shop other than that at which they normally worked, on the day fixed for their weekly half-holiday under the above Act.

A confectionery business was carried on at Old Street and Goodge Street, London. During a half-holiday at Goodge Street one of the assistants regularly employed there was sent to work at the Old Street branch of this business for the half-day. This matter went before the magistrate at Old Street as an alleged breach of the provisions contained in section 1 of the Shops Act, 1912, and it was sought to justify the employer's action on the ground that a shop meant the shop at which the assistant regularly worked, and did not prohibit employment in another shop. The Stipendiary Magistrate upheld this contention and dismissed the information. The London County Council appealed against this decision.

The Lord Chief Justice, in delivering judgment, said that the words "employed about the business of a shop" clearly are, and are intended to be, capable of a very wide application, and are readily contrasted with the words "employed in a shop" and "in or about a shop." Strictly speaking, a shop cannot be said to have a business, but for the purpose of the case may be paraphrased as the business carried on in the shop by the shopkeeper. The business of the shop at Old Street was also the business of the shop at Goodge Street, and it would not be straining the language of the section to say that a person employed at Old Street was employed "about the business" carried on at Goodge Street. The Court held that the magistrate was wrong and the appeal must be allowed. The case would go back to the magistrate to deal with according to law.—*King's Bench Division, 4th November, 1921. Wettman v. London County Council.*

(2) Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.*

A.—REFERENCE BY MINISTER OF LABOUR TO THE HIGH COURT UNDER SECTION 10 (1), PROVISO (ii): JOHN SMITH AND JOHN GRAY: EMPLOYED UPON AN AGRICULTURAL ESTATE: CARTER AND FENCE REPAIRER.

Mr. Fuller, the owner of the agricultural estate of Neston Park, Corsham, of about 5,000 acres, employs Smith and three other men as carters on the estate. Their duties consist in hauling home-grown timber, quarry stone and stone tiles and other material for repairs to agricultural buildings on the estate. They work in the cultivation of some eight acres of arable land and in the haulage of stone quarried on the estate for the repair of the accommodation roads for the estate farms. Gray and another man are employed as repairers of fences, gaps in hedges, post and rail fences and iron fencing. Their work covers all fences on the estate, with the exception of walls. These two cases were referred by the Minister to the Court for decision whether Smith and Gray are employed in agriculture.

Mr. Justice Roche, in the course of his judgment, said that in both the cases this point is one and the same point, and broadly stated, it is whether estate workmen employed by the landowner are, in the circumstances of these cases, insurable persons, or whether they fall within the exception, as being persons employed in agriculture, including horticulture and forestry. If they are employed in agriculture, horticulture or forestry then they are excepted, and contributions need not be paid by them, or in respect of them by their employer. The facts are very simply stated. Their employer, the landowner, keeps the fences on his estate in repair, and keeps the farm buildings in repair. The two men are employed by him in connection with estate work. Gray is mainly employed in repairing fences of all sorts, whether hedge or post and rail fences or other fences. John Smith is employed as a carter for the purpose of hauling timber and for the purpose of hauling stone and other materials used for repairs and for the purpose of making up accommodation roads, which the landlord keeps in good order.

"In these cases," said his Lordship, "and in cases like them, 'in my opinion the persons employed are employed in agriculture. They are skilled men of the agricultural worker class. The making up of fences, whether it is done by a farmer or a landowner, is, in my judgment, agricultural work.' "Carting about the country, whether the carter is employed by the farmer or the landowner for estate purposes, is, in my judgment, agricultural work, and I accordingly decide that the men are not insurable."—*High Court of Justice, King's Bench Division, 10th October, 1921. In the matter of an application by George P. Fuller (de John Smith and de John Gray).*

B.—REFERENCE BY MINISTER OF LABOUR TO THE HIGH COURT UNDER SECTION 10 (1), PROVISO (ii): IS A HOUSEMAID EMPLOYED IN THE BOARDING HOUSE OF THE FULHAM AND SOUTH KENSINGTON BRANCH OF THE Y.M.C.A. INSURABLE?—BUSINESS CARRIED ON FOR PURPOSES OF GAIN.

Among the employments excepted from the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, is:

"Employment in domestic service, except where the employed person is employed in any trade or business carried on for the purposes of gain" (*Schedule I., Part II. (b)*).

The facts of this case were that the boarding house carried on by the Fulham and South Kensington branch of the Y.M.C.A. is available for any young man in the manager's discretion. The boarding house is used exclusively for the purposes of board and lodging, and profits are devoted to the work of the branch. The principal source of income of the branch is derived from receipts in respect of board and lodging; a comparatively small amount is subscribed by members and non-members. The branch does not, as a whole, make profits. The house is run by a salaried manager and his wife with the assistance of two maids. The question to be decided was whether or no the housemaid concerned is employed in a business carried on for the purposes of gain.

Mr. Justice Roche, in the course of his judgment in this case, said: "The question that I have to decide and the Minister has asked me to decide is whether that branch of the Y.M.C.A. (namely the Fulham and South Kensington branch) are carrying on a trade or a business which is carried on for the purposes of gain." His Lordship then referred to the school cases (see *LABOUR GAZETTE* for November, 1921, p. 612), and said: "The reasons that I gave in the school cases cover this case. It is no doubt true this hostel might be assessable as earning profits under the decision which Mr. Lilley has cited (*Grove v. Y.M.C.A.*, 88 L.T.R., p. 696). That, I think, is not at all conclusive in the matter. It is certain that the organisation—I do not mean the whole Y.M.C.A., but the branch in question—is not, as a whole, carried on for the purposes of making profits or for the purposes of gain. It is, I think, true to say that neither the branch itself nor the hostel is carried on for the purposes of gain. The whole thing cannot be better expressed than by saying that, unlike a commercial institution, it is philanthropic, carried on for quite other purposes than for the purposes of gain, and the housemaid employed by the Association under those circumstances is, in my judgment, not employed in any trade or any business carried on for the purposes of gain."—*King's Bench Division, High Court of Justice, 10th October, 1921. In the matter of an application by the Y.M.C.A. (Fulham and South Kensington Branch) (de Maude Hayden, Housemaid).*

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.

WOMEN EMPLOYEES—H.M. DOCKYARDS AND ADMIRALTY ESTABLISHMENTS.—Official Side of the Shipbuilding Trade Joint Council v. Trade Union Side of the Council. Decision—The rates of women employed in the colour lofts on sewing work, in laundries, in rope works on spinning and preparatory processes, and in a number of other miscellaneous occupations, who are in receipt of not less than 38s. 6d. a full ordinary week, shall be reduced by 2s. 6d. a week as from the beginning of the first pay period following 1st January, 1922. This decision shall not operate so as to reduce the rate of any worker below that to which she may be entitled in virtue of any Act of Parliament. Issued 18th November, 1921. (694)

Public Utility Services.

CLERICAL AND TECHNICAL STAFF—ESTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.—Municipal Employees' Association v. Eston Urban District Council. Decision—Reduction of $\frac{1}{10}$ in the amount of bonus payable as from 1st October, 1921, with a further reduction of $\frac{1}{10}$ from 1st January, 1922. The bonus to be reviewed on 1st March, 1922, and at half-yearly intervals thereafter on the basis of the average of the cost of living index figures for the preceding six months, and shall be subject on each such occasion to increase or decrease by $\frac{1}{10}$ for each five-point variation above or below 130. Issued 23rd November, 1921. (695)

MANUAL WORKERS—NON-TRADING DEPARTMENTS, EDINBURGH CORPORATION.—National Union of Corporation Workers v. Corporation of the City of Edinburgh. Decision—Confirmation by the Court of the scheme put into operation by the Edinburgh Corporation at 1st July, 1921, for the revision of the war advances payable to the manual workers in their employment, except with regard to the scale embodied in the scheme by which future changes in the bonus are to be governed. They decide that the scale, which is based on a cost of living figure of 152, shall be modified so that any future changes shall be calculated on the basis of an advance or reduction of 1s. for each five-point variation in the cost of living index figure above or below 103, the figure for 1st November, 1921. Issued 25th November, 1921. (696)

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

Building and Allied Trades.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES: IRLAM.—National Federation of Building Trades Operatives v. Irlam Urban District Council and Messrs. J. Gerrard and Sons (1920), Limited. Difference—As to what walking time and travelling allowances, if any, are payable to the workmen employed on the Irlam Housing Scheme. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—The walking time and travelling allowances to the workmen concerned, in and subsequent to August, 1921, were payable under the conditions laid down in the decision of the Northern Centre Board of Conciliation dated 12th November, 1918, but payment as regards the future would be subject to reconsideration and revision by the appropriate Conciliation Board or other competent authority or to settlement by completion of the working rules of the North Western Centre (Building Trade) No. 1 Area. It was recommended that such reconsideration should take place as soon as possible. Issued 21st November, 1921. (I.R. 2080/2.)

Transport Trades.

MAIL CART DRIVERS: DUBLIN.—Irish Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. John Wallis and Sons, Dublin. Difference—Claim by the Union for a minimum wage of 65s. per week, with an extra 3s. for double horse drivers and other working conditions. Conciliator—The Rt. Hon. Sir Dunbar Plunket Barton. Agreement—The firm agreed to employ three extra drivers at single horse rate and to rearrange the work to ensure an eight-hour day with a limited spread-over. Double time rates should be paid for Sundays. Payment should be made for Bank Holidays, and work on Bank Holidays should be paid for at double time rates. The firm agreed to dispense as far as possible with casual labour, which, when employed, should be guaranteed half a day. Agreed 23rd November, 1921. (I.R. 600/10: I.B. 299/2.)

MAIL CART DRIVERS: DUBLIN.—Irish Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. John Wallis and Sons, Dublin. Difference—Claim by the Union for a minimum wage of 65s. per week with an extra 3s. for double horse drivers and for payment at 15s. per day for casual men. Arbitrator—The Rt. Hon. Sir Dunbar Plunket Barton. Award—An increase of 4s. per week should be given to regular employees, and the daily rate for casual men should be 1s. more than that for regular employees. Issued 1st December, 1921. (I.R. 600/10: I.B. 299/2.)

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Building and Allied Trades.

PAINTERS: BLAIRGOWRIE.—Scottish Operative Painters' Society v. Three firms employing painters in Blairgowrie and district. Difference—Arising out of a proposed reduction of wages by 4d. per hour. Agreement—A rate of 1s. 10d. per hour should be paid, the wages question to be reviewed early in January, 1922. Agreed 5th November, 1921. (I.R. 473/4.)

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES: ABERYSTWYTH.—National Federation of Building Trades Operatives v. P. B. Loveday, Aberystwyth. Difference—As to a reduction of the wages of tradesmen from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 6d. per hour, and of labourers from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 1d. per hour. Agreement—As from the date of resumption of work the craftsmen's rate should be 1s. 7d. per hour, to correspond with a "Cost of Living" index figure of 110. This rate should remain in operation until the first day of the first working week in February, 1922, from which date a revision of wages should take place based on the average "Cost of Living" index figure for the three preceding months as published in the *LABOUR GAZETTE*, a similar revision to take place every thirteen weeks, the method of revision to be on the basis of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour for every variation of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ points. The rate for labourers should be 4d. per hour below the rate for craftsmen as from the first day of the first working week in February, 1922, and in the meantime the rate for labourers should be 1s. 2d. per hour. The working hours for craftsmen and labourers should be 44 per week. Other conditions fixed. Three months' notice of termination of the agreement should be given by either side. Agreed 10th November, 1921. (I.R. 2219.)

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES: TILBURY.—Operative Bricklayers' Society, Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, United Operative Plumbers' and Domestic Engineers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland and the "Altogether" Builders' Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society v. Tilbury Urban District Council and Messrs. Trollope and Colls, Contractors. Difference—Arising out of the action of the contractors in posting a notice to the effect that on and after 14th November payment of "country" money would cease. Agreement—The operatives agreed to resume work under protest pending the result of a further conference. Agreed 15th November, 1921. (I.R. 1805.)

Mining and Quarrying.

SAND AND BALLAST WORKERS: RICHMOND.—National Union of General Workers v. Ham River Grit Company, Ham Works,

Richmond. Difference—As to a proposed reduction of the wages of certain employees of the firm by 2d. per hour, making the rate 1s. 6d. per hour, and the future regulation of wages according to the agreements made by the joint body set up as a result of Lord Shaw's Report. Agreement—The reduced rate of 1s. 6d. per hour should remain in operation until 30th April, 1922. A month's notice previous to 1st May, 1922, of an alteration of this rate could be given by either side. Any alteration resulting from joint negotiations could be brought into operation on 1st May, 1922. Agreed 10th November, 1921. (I.R. 1115.)

QUARRY WORKERS: SWANSEA.—Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers and the National Builders' Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society v. Purbeck Stone and General Trading Company, Ltd., Swansea. Difference—Arising out of a claim on behalf of eight quarrymen not employed on a contract basis for a rate of 1s. 6d. per hour in place of the current rate of 1s. 3d. per hour. Agreement—The men concerned would be re-instated at 1s. 6d. per hour. Lines of demarcation between labourers' and quarrymen's work were arranged. Signed 22nd and 23rd November, 1921. (I.R. 2355.)

Other Metal Trades.

FURNACEMEN, SVELTER TRADE: SWANSEA. Workers' Union v. Swansea Vale Svelter Co. Difference—Arising out of the action of the firm in instituting a wage system partly based on a system of payment by results. Agreement—The firm undertook to make good the men's wages in the event of any exceptional occurrences resulting in loss of output over which the men had no control. The men agreed to give the tonnage system a trial, and the firm promised to assist them in every possible way to make it a success. Agreed 23rd November, 1921. (I.R. 2232.)

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

CLOG SOLE WORKERS: HEBDEN BRIDGE.—Workers' Union v. J. Maude & Sons, Hebden Bridge. Difference—Proposal by the employers for a reduction of 3d. per hour as from 11th November. Agreement—The wages of the workpeople concerned should be reduced by 1d. per hour as from 12th November, and by a further 1d. per hour as from 29th December. The latter reduction should operate until 23rd February, 1922, from which date 14 days' notice should be given of any further variation in wages. Agreed 8th November, 1921. (I.R. 2347.)

Food, Drink and Tobacco Trades.

FLOUR MILL LABOURERS: OXFORD AND BANBURY.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Edmund and Kentch, Ltd., Banbury; S. Spokes and Sons, Ltd., Twyford Mills, Banbury; T. H. Munsey, Ltd., Oxford; and F. Holton and Sons, Little Ducklington. Difference—Claim for standard rates for flour mill operatives. Agreement—Work should be resumed on a 48-hour week at the rates of wages as set out in Class "BB," Grade 2, of the wages schedule of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Flour Milling Industry. Agreed 5th November, 1921. (I.R. 2316.)

OPERATIVE BAKERS: GLASGOW. Scottish Union of Bakers and Confectioners v. Glasgow Master Bakers and Confectioners' Association. Difference—Refusal of the employers to meet the Union as a Local Joint Committee of the Industrial Council, and a difference upon the question of a starting hour earlier than 4 a.m. Agreement—Strike notices should be suspended until a further conference, which should be independent of the Joint Industrial Council, had taken place between the parties. Agreed 10th November, 1921. (I.R. 602/6.)

FLOUR MILL EMPLOYEES: LUTON.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Wm. Looker and Sons, Limited, Luton. Difference—Adoption by the firm of a reduced scale of wages. Agreement—A schedule of rates of wages for the employees was agreed upon, to come into force from the 18th November, 1921. Should any alteration be made in the rate for lorry drivers' mates at the next meeting of the District Council of the Joint Industrial Council for the Flour Milling Industry, a similar alteration should be made in the rate for this class of labour employed by the firm. Any future alterations of wages of all operatives should be at the same rate as those decided upon by the above-named District Council. Signed 17th November, 1921. (I.R. 2446.)

OPERATIVE BAKERS: YORKSHIRE.—Operatives' Side v. Employers' Side of the Conciliation Board for the Baking Industry, Yorkshire. Difference—As to a proposal for a reduction of wages. Agreement—A reduction of 2s. 6d. per week should be made for each fall of 10 points in the "Cost of Living" index figure from a level of 120, the first reduction to take effect in the week ending 10th December, 1921. Subsequent reductions should take effect in the week following the publication of the index figure in the *LABOUR GAZETTE*. The agreement should last until 28th February, 1922, and a meeting should be held on 1st February, 1922, to discuss readjustment. Signed 24th November, 1921. (I.R. 1799/5.)

Public Utility Services.

OMNIBUS WORKERS: CHESTER-LE-STREET.—United Vehicle Workers v. Northern General Transport Company, Limited, Chester-le-Street. Difference—As to a reduction of 2s. per week which the employers had put into operation on 11th November after seven days' notice. Agreement—The Union

* The decision of the High Court in these two cases was notified in the *LABOUR GAZETTE* for November, 1921, at page 617.

accepted the 2s. reduction as from 1st November, and agreed to the payment of travelling time (taking up or returning from duty) at the flat rate, and not as overtime. The company agreed to merge war wages into base rate provided the Union raised no retrospective claim for overtime. The rates of wages to apply from 18th November were laid down, together with a scheme for quarterly adjustment on a cost of living basis. The agreement would be terminable by two months' notice on either side. Agreed 18th November, 1921. (I.R. 2431.)

Miscellaneous Trades.

CORK WORKERS: LONDON.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. United Kingdom Cork Trade Association. Difference—Arising out of a notification by the employers that they had decided to discontinue payment of the rates embodied in a sliding scale agreement made between the parties on 22nd August, 1919. Agreement—The agreement referred to should be renewed until the end of June, 1922. The rates of pay for October/December, 1921, should be basic rates plus 10 per cent.; for January/March, 1922, basic rates plus 5 per cent.; and for April/June, 1922, basic rates plus 2½ per cent. Other conditions fixed. The question of short time should be discussed as soon as possible after Christmas. Agreed 11th November, 1921. (I.R. 2350.)

RUBBER WORKERS: RENFREW.—Amalgamated Society of Indiarubber, Cable and Asbestos Workers v. Clyde Rubber Works Company, Limited, Renfrew. Difference—Arising out of a proposed increase of working hours from 47 to 52½ per week, and a reduction of piece work rates. Agreement—Work should be resumed on the same terms as were accepted in Lancashire and Cheshire, providing for a reduction in total earnings and an increase of working hours to 48 per week. Agreed 15th November, 1921. (I.R. 2412.)

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

ORDERS.

ORDERS, confirming minimum rates of wages, as fixed and/or as varied by the following Trade Boards, have been made by the Minister of Labour under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918:—

Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order, dated 5th December, 1921, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, guaranteed time-rates, and overtime rates (as varied) for female workers employed in Great Britain, excluding the Orkney and Shetland Islands; and specifying 12th December, 1921, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rate and guaranteed time-rate for workers of 18 years of age and over are 7½d. and 6¼d. per hour respectively, with lower rates for younger workers. The piece-work basis time-rate for all female workers is 9d. per hour. For female workers specially employed for emergency work, or whose employment is of a casual nature, the general minimum time-rates fixed for workers of 18 years of age and over and for workers under 18 years of age are 8d. and 7½d. per hour respectively, and the piece-work basis time-rate for workers of all ages 9½d. per hour.

Linen, Cotton and Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland).

Order, dated 7th December, 1921, confirming (a) general minimum time-rates and general minimum piece-rates for female workers engaged on thread drawing, drawn thread work, hand embroidery (excluding sparring), and sparring; (b) general minimum time-rates for female workers engaged on clipping, and (c) general minimum piece-rates for female workers engaged on dicing and German embroidery on household linens; and specifying 13th December, 1921, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rates for (a) thread drawing, (b) drawn thread work, (c) sparring are 4½d., 3½d. and 5d. per hour respectively, and in the case of chain stitched tamboured handkerchiefs 3½d. per hour; while the general minimum time-rates for clipping and hand embroidery (including sparring) are 5d. and 3½d. per hour respectively.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order, dated 12th November, 1921, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates (as varied) for certain classes of female workers (other than apprentices and learners); and specifying 21st November, 1921, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rate for (a) female workers of 20 years of age and over who have completed not less than five years' total employment, including not less than three years as an apprentice and/or learner in the trade, is 10½d. per hour, (b) all other female workers (excluding apprentices and learners), 8½d. per hour.

The piece-work basis time-rate for the class of workers specified in (a) above is 11½d. per hour; for all other workers, including learners but excluding apprentices, 9½d. per hour.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).

Order, dated 10th November, 1921, confirming general minimum time-rates for certain classes of male and female workers and piece-work basis time-rates for certain classes of female workers; and specifying 14th November, 1921, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rate for all male workers (excluding learners, apprentices, cutters and trimmers and workers who

have completed four years' apprenticeship or learnership in the trade) of 22 years of age and over, is 1s. 2d. per hour. The general minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates for female workers of 19 years of age and over with not less than four years' experience employed as button-holders, finishers, or machinists, other than machinists who do the whole machining on a garment, are (a) in areas administered by Rural District Councils, and areas administered by Urban District Councils or other local authorities having a population not exceeding 2,000, 10d. and 11d. per hour respectively, (b) in other areas 10½d. and 11½d. per hour respectively.

Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order, dated 22nd November, 1921, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates (as varied) for male and female workers; and specifying 24th November, 1921, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The principal rates are as follows:—General minimum time-rates: (a) for male workers and certain classes of female workers, of 24 years of age and over, 1s. 1½d. per hour, (b) for female workers (other than the special classes) of 18 years of age and over, 7½d. per hour; with lower rates for younger male and female workers; piece-work basis time-rates: (a) for all male workers and certain special classes of female workers, 1s. 4d. per hour, (b) for all other female workers, 9d. per hour.

Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order, dated 14th November, 1921, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates (as varied) for male and female workers; and specifying 21st November, 1921, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rates per week of 48 hours are as follows:—(a) Male workers of 21 years of age and over (i) employed as knife hands or press hands, 64s., (ii) other workers, 56s.; (b) female workers of 18 years of age and over, 32s.; with lower rates for younger male and female workers. The piece-work basis time-rates for the classes of workers specified above are (a) (i) 80s., (ii) 70s.; (b) 40s. respectively; with lower rates for younger male and female workers.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL to fix and/or to vary minimum rates of wages have been issued by the following Trade Boards:—

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain).

Notice of Proposal, dated 9th December, 1921, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for female workers (other than pan hands and learners).

The general minimum time-rate proposed for workers of 21 years of age and over is 7½d. per hour, lower rates being proposed for younger workers, and the piece-work basis time-rate for workers of all ages, including home-workers, 8½d. per hour.

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

Notice of Proposal, dated 22nd November, 1921, to vary and fix general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed are as follows:—(a) Coffin furniture section: (i) workers of all ages employed as polishers, heavy press workers and stamper, from 28s. to 40s. per week of 47 hours, according to experience; (ii) workers of 18 years and over, from 22s. 6d. to 29s., according to operation and experience; (b) cerement-making section: (i) workers of 18 years of age and over, from 6½d. to 8d. per hour, according to experience. Lower rates are proposed for younger workers in both sections of the trade. The proposed piece-work basis time-rates for workers of 18 years of age and over are: (a) in coffin furniture section, 15 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time-rate proposed; (b) cerement making section, 1d. per hour in addition to the appropriate general minimum time-rate proposed.

Flax and Hemp Trade Board (Great Britain).

Notices of Proposal, dated 5th November, 1921 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male hemp rollers and breakers and male apprentices and improvers in tenting and dressing.

The general minimum time-rate proposed for male workers of 21 years of age and over employed as hemp rollers on non-reciprocating machines or as hemp breakers is 54s. per week of 48 hours (or the customary number worked, but not less than 44). For female improvers in tenting and dressing, the proposed rates are 40s. and 32s. per week respectively.

Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (England and Wales).

Notice of Proposal, dated 21st November, 1921, to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed are as follows:—(a) for male workers (i) certain specified classes, 1s. 5d. per hour, (ii) all other workers of 22 years of age and over 1s. 1d. per hour, (iii) younger workers from 11d. to 2½d. per hour; (b) for female workers, including homeworkers, 8d. per hour, with rates ranging from 7½d. to 1½d. per hour for learners. The piece-work basis time-rates proposed are (a) for male workers (i) certain specified classes 1s. 6½d. per hour, (ii) for all other workers 1s. 2½d. per hour; (b) for all female workers, including homeworkers, 8½d. per hour.

Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Ireland).

Notice of Proposal, dated 24th November, 1921, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rate proposed for male workers of 22 years of age and over is 1s. 0½d. per hour, with lower rates for younger workers; while the piece-work basis time-rate for male workers of all ages is 1s. 2d. per hour. The general minimum time-rates proposed for female workers are as follows:—(a) In the retail branch (alternative rates according to area): (i) workers of 22 years of age and over with not less than three years experience after learnership, 8½d. and 7½d. per hour, (ii) other workers, including homeworkers, 7½d. and 6½d. per hour; (b) in other than the retail branch (all areas) (i) knife cutters and blockers, 10d. per hour, (ii) other workers, including homeworkers, 7d. per hour; and the piece-work basis time-rates for the classes of workers specified above (a) (i) 9½d. and 8½d. per hour, (ii) 8½d. and 7½d. per hour; (b) (i) 11d. per hour, (ii) 8d. per hour respectively.

Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

I. Notice of Proposal, dated 10th November, 1921 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary, as from 9th February, 1922, the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed per week of 48 hours are as follows:—(a) For male workers of 21 years of age and over 40s. 7½d., with lower rates for younger workers; (b) for female workers employed as (i) spinning shifting mistresses 39s., (ii) orra (or spare) spinners of 18 years of age or over 30s. 10½d., (iii) spinners (other than orra (or spare) spinners (all ages) from 30s. 6d. to 49s. 10d. for single spinners, and from 32s. 6d. to 47s. 8d. for double spinners, according to size of bobbins and number of spindles attended, (iv) other female workers of 18 years of age and over 26s., with lower rates for younger workers and weaving learners.

II. Notice of Proposal, dated 29th November, 1921, to fix overtime rates for male and female workers employed on piece-work.

Milk Distributive Trade Board (Scotland).

Notice of Proposal, dated 26th November, 1921, to vary general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed per week of 48 hours (or the number customarily worked but not less than 40) for workers of 21 years of age and over are as follows:—(i) For male shop assistants and clerks 52s., (ii) for all other male workers and for roundswomen 50s., (iii) female clerks 32s. 6d., (iv) female shop assistants 29s., (v) all other female workers 27s.

For the purpose of the application of the overtime rates, the Board propose to declare the normal number of hours of work to be 48 in any week and 4 on Sundays and customary public and statutory holidays.

Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade Board (Great Britain).

Notice of Proposal, dated 11th November, 1921 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed for workers of 21 years of age and over range as follows:—(a) Males from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 3½d. per hour according to operation and experience, and 1s. 2½d. per hour for all other workers; (b) females from 11d. to 8d. per hour, according to operation and experience. Lower rates are proposed for younger male and female workers.

The proposed piece-work basis time-rates are 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time-rate now proposed.

Ready-Made and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).

I. Notice of Proposal, dated 15th November, 1921, to vary and fix general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for female workers.

The general minimum time-rate proposed for female workers, including homeworkers, is 7d. per hour, with lower rates for younger workers, and the piece-work basis time-rate 8d. per hour.

II. Notice of Proposal, dated 18th November, 1921 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed (a) for certain specified classes of workers range from 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 1d. per hour; (b) for all other workers of 22 years of age and over (including warehousemen and packers with limited experience, and porters) 1s. per hour, with lower rates for learners and workers under 22 years of age. The piece-work basis time-rates proposed for the classes of workers referred to above are: (a) from 1s. 7½d. to 1s. 2½d. per hour, and (b) 1s. 1½d. per hour respectively.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain).

Notice of Proposal, dated 17th November, 1921 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male workers (other than apprentices and learners).

The proposed general minimum time-rates for certain classes of male workers range from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 3d. per hour, accord-

ing to experience, and for workers other than cutters and trimmers, learners, apprentices and the workers referred to above 1s. 1d. per hour. The piece-work basis time-rates proposed range from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 4½d. per hour.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).

Notices of Proposal, dated 15th November, 1921 (issued with the Minister's consent), to vary general minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates for certain classes of female workers, and general minimum time-rates for male apprentices and learners, and to fix overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed for female workers with not less than four years' experience and employed on certain specified operations vary according to area as follows:—(a) Workers of 20 years of age 10½d. and 10¾d. per hour; (b) workers of 19 years of age 9d. and 9½d. per hour; and the piece-work basis time-rates (a) 11½d. and 11¾d. per hour, and (b) 10d. and 10½d. per hour respectively.

Sack and Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

Notice of Proposal, dated 7th December, 1921, to fix minimum rates for female workers as follows:—A general minimum time-rate of 7d. per hour for workers of 18 years of age and over, with lower rates for younger workers, a piece-work basis time-rate of 8d. per hour and overtime rates for workers of all ages. For the purpose of the application of the overtime rates the Board propose to declare the normal number of hours of work in the trade to be 48 in any week, 5 on Saturday and 9 on any other day.

Sugar, Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain).

Notice of Proposal, dated 2nd December, 1921, to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed are (a) for male workers of 22 years of age and over 1s. 0½d. per hour, (b) for female workers of 18 years of age and over 7d. per hour, with lower rates for younger male and female workers. The piece-work basis time-rates proposed for male and female workers of all ages are 1s. 3d. and 8d. per hour respectively.

Further particulars regarding these minimum rates of wages proposed or fixed and varied by the Trade Boards may be obtained from the Secretary of the Trade Board concerned, at 7-11, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4, in the case of Trade Boards in Great Britain, and at 21, Parliament Street, Dublin, in the case of Trade Boards in Ireland.

Objections to the proposed rates, which should be in writing and signed by the person making the same (adding his or her full name and address), may be lodged with the Trade Board issuing the notice, within two months from the day following the date of the Notice of Proposal, and should be sent to the Secretary of the Trade Board at the appropriate address as set out above.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

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 His Majesty's Stationery Office. The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

CASE No. 1,262, SECTION 7 (1) (ii)—NOT UNEMPLOYED—CUSTOMARY HOLIDAY WAIVED BY AGREEMENT—WORK WAS NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH TRADE DEPRESSION.

The applicants had been intermittently employed from February up to 1st August, when their department of the works was closed down altogether until 6th August. In previous years it had been the custom for the annual holiday to be taken in the first week of August, but an agreement was reached between the employers and the Associations representing most of the workmen to work during that week at the usual rates owing to the prolonged stoppage which had been caused by the miners' dispute. This arrangement was not carried out, however, owing, according to the applicants, to shortage of orders. The steel works department to which the agreement also applied continued to work during this period. The Association contended that the week in question, during which their members were suspended, could not be considered a customary holiday.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be allowed. The Court were of opinion that by virtue of the Agreement between the parties the workpeople must be treated as unemployed. The Insurance Officer declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees. He contended that the arrangement for working through the usual holiday period had been cancelled in consequence of the refusal of one section of workmen to agree to the proposal.

Decision.—“On the facts before me my decision is that the claims should be allowed. The applicants, through their representatives, had entered into an agreement to waive the customary holidays. No work was available for them, however, for reasons beyond their control. In the circumstances I agree with the Court of Referees that they were unemployed and entitled to benefit.”

CASE No. 1,306, SECTION 7, (1) (iii)—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT, UNABLE TO OBTAIN—SUSPENDED WORKMEN WENT HOME—ECONOMY OF RESOURCES—KEPT IN TOUCH WITH MEANS OF EMPLOYMENT.

The applicant had been employed at a rolling mill, but since the 11th February had been working short time up to the suspension of work, owing to coal shortage. On the 12th May he reported at the Local Employment Exchange, and notified his intention of going to his home on the ground that the £1 per week unemployment benefit which he was receiving was insufficient to enable him to remain in his lodgings. The Employment Exchange handed him a vacant ticket, which he presented at the Exchange in his home area, but payment of benefit was suspended on the question as to whether he was on holiday or unable to obtain employment in the area. The applicant admitted that there were pits and bottle works near his home where he might possibly have obtained employment had he sought for such work, but stated that the firm by which he had been employed promised to notify him of the reopening of the works. He also kept in touch with his branch secretary, and on 12th July he was recalled to his previous employment and was still working there.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court, the Insured Contributor's Representative dissenting, were of opinion that the applicant was not available for work. Leave to appeal was granted.

Decision.—“On the facts before me my decision is that the claim should be allowed. The applicant lived in lodgings whilst at work, and appears to have gone to stay with his parents whilst temporarily unemployed simply for economy. In all the circumstances of this case, there is not sufficient ground in my judgment for holding that he went for a holiday.”

CASE No. 1,321, SECTION 7 (1) (ii)—NOT UNEMPLOYED—BUSINESS SAID TO BE MANAGED BY WIFE—NOT AN OCCUPATION CARRIED ON IN ADDITION TO USUAL OCCUPATION—BUSINESS BOUGHT WITH APPLICANT'S GRANT FROM KING'S FUND.

The applicant in this case was in receipt of an 80 per cent. wound pension and received a grant from the King's Fund in 1918, which enabled him to start a small fried fish business. His pre-war occupation was as a miner, but he was unable to follow this employment. He admitted that he had followed no other occupation since 1918, but he contended that his wife was solely responsible for the carrying on of the business. Trade was slack owing to the miners' dispute and the resultant lack of money. In normal times a profit of from 10s. to 15s. per week was made by his wife in the business.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were of opinion that the applicant was capable of work which there was a reasonable prospect of obtaining—e.g., watchman or caretaker. The Insurance Officer declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees. In his opinion the fish business was the applicant's normal occupation, and it was clear that he had not carried on this business in conjunction with his normal occupation; he could not, therefore, be deemed to be unemployed merely because of the fluctuations of his business.

Decision.—“On the facts before me my decision is that the claim should be disallowed. The business was purchased with money granted to the applicant from the King's Fund, and cannot be regarded as other than his business. He has had no other occupation since his discharge from the Army, and this business must accordingly be regarded as his usual occupation, and he cannot be held to be unemployed.”

CASE No. 1,354, SECTION 7 (1) (iii)—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT, REFUSAL OF—GLOVE-MAKING, HANDS OFFERED DOMESTIC SERVICE—INFORMED OF DEMAND FOR SUCH EMPLOYMENT IN SURROUNDING DISTRICTS—DUTY OF RECIPIENT OF BENEFIT ACTIVELY TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT APART FROM REGISTRATION AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The applicants had last been employed as glove makers, and had been unemployed for various periods approaching six months. Their ages averaged between 18 and 21 years. On the 15th June the manager of the Local Employment Exchange notified them that vacancies for domestic servants existed in the surrounding districts, and gave some particulars as to distance from the district, rates of pay and conditions of service. There appeared no likelihood of them ever getting employment in their previous occupation in the district. The Women's Sub-Committee, after interviewing the applicants, recommended domestic service as suitable employment, and the applicants expressed their willingness to accept this employment. There were no openings in the district for domestic servants. On notification by the Employment Exchange they one and all declined to accept posts of this nature on various grounds, which were not substantiated at the hearing of the Court of Referees (viz., domestic circumstances, distance and lack of experience), but made no effort to enquire as to the fuller conditions governing the employment offered. Payment of benefit was therefore suspended, but the applicants' Association appealed to a Court of Referees. The Association contended that their members were not specifically offered employment, and that therefore they could not be held to have refused suitable employment. Further, there were other unemployed women nearer to the district in which the situations offered existed.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be disallowed. The Court were of opinion that the applicants had refused suitable employment. The Association declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees and appealed to the Umpire.

Decision.—“On the facts before me my decision is that the claims should be disallowed. I see no reason for doubting that there were vacancies in domestic service, of which the applicants could have obtained particulars if they had been anxious to do so. As pointed out in Decision 1,131 (Out-of-work Donation) and in previous cases it is their duty actively to seek employment and to ask for particulars of situations when told that there is a demand. I am not satisfied that they were unable to obtain suitable employment.”

DECISIONS OF THE HIGH COURT ON REFERENCES MADE UNDER SECTION 10 (1) OF THE 1920 ACT.

CONTRIBUTIONS NOT PAYABLE.

ON the 22nd November the Minister referred to the High Court for decision the questions whether persons employed as:—

- (1) Porter, to clean a hospital, to deliver messages and to answer calls;
- (2) River keeper on a private estate;
- (3) Attendant at a museum, to open and close the galleries and to dust and keep tidy the objects exhibited;
- (4) Trainer of greyhounds, by the owner of a private kennel of greyhounds;
- (5) Gamekeeper on a private estate;
- (6) Huntsman, first whip, second whip and stableman, and kennelman, all employed by the Master of a Hunt on behalf of the Hunt Committee;
- (7) Porter to take charge of the entrance lodge at a hospital and to record the names of all visitors to the patients;
- (8) Stores porter at a hospital, to supervise the issue and receipt of all stores and the cutting up of all meat, etc.;
- (9) Stoker in an engine-house by the governors of a college, to provide hot water, lighting and heating for a residential building;
- (10) Dairymaid on the home farm of a large private estate;
- (11) Green-keeper of a members' golf club

were or were not employed persons within the meaning of the Act of 1920.

The Judge held that the persons employed as indicated in (1) to (9) above were excepted from liability to insurance as being employed in domestic service within the meaning of paragraph (b) of Part II. of the First Schedule to the Act of 1920, and that the employment of the green-keeper was excepted as being employment in horticulture within the meaning of paragraph (a) of Part II. of the First Schedule to the Act of 1920. The employment of the dairymaid was held by the Judge to be employment in domestic service and in agriculture, and therefore excepted under both paragraphs (a) and (b) referred to above.

Consequently no contributions under the Act are payable in respect of any of the persons so employed.

CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE.

ON the same date the Minister also referred for decision the questions whether persons employed as:—

- (1) Driver of a motor lorry, by a farmer and market gardener to carry vegetables from the market garden to stalls, and to convey town manure to the farm and market gardens on the return journey;
- (2) Private secretary, by the owner of a large private estate;
- (3) Painter, by a college in the upkeep and repair of the inside and outside of the residential buildings;
- (4) Cobbler, by the governors of an orphan home and school to repair boots of the boy and girl inmates

were or were not employed persons within the meaning of the Act of 1920.

The Judge held that the employment of the motor lorry driver was not employment in agriculture, and was therefore not excepted under paragraph (a) of Part II. of the First Schedule to the Act of 1920; and that the employment of the secretary, painter, and cobbler was not employment in domestic service, and was therefore not excepted under paragraph (b) of Part II. of the First Schedule to the Act of 1920.

Consequently contributions under the Act are payable in respect of the persons so employed.

Decisions Reconsidered by the Minister of Labour and now Regarded as no Longer in Force.

IN view of the judgments of the High Court and the observations of the Judge at the hearing of the cases recorded above and in the LABOUR GAZETTE for November, the decisions mentioned below, which were given by the Minister under Section 10 of the Act, have been reconsidered, and are no longer regarded as in force:—

- Decisions Nos. 18, 19, 21, 22, 32, 47, 69, 70, 72, 73, 93, 95 and 102, notified in LABOUR GAZETTE for January, 1921.
- Decisions Nos. 71, 94, 104 and 110A, notified in LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1921.
- Decisions Nos. 153, 154, 156, 157, 161, 165, 182, 197, 198 and 201, notified in LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1921.
- Decisions Nos. 200, 208, 215, 223 and 224, notified in LABOUR GAZETTE for April, 1921.
- Decisions Nos. 196, 222, 227 and 243, notified in LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1921.
- Decision No. 199, notified in LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1921.

Accordingly, persons employed in occupations precisely similar to those indicated in the decisions mentioned above are not now required to be insured, and no contributions under the Act are payable in respect of them while so employed.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1901-1920.

(a) Draft Regulations for the handling of dry or dry-salted hides and skins imported from Africa or Asia.

ON the 29th October, 1920, the Home Secretary gave notice of his intention to make Regulations under Section 79 of the *Factory and Workshop Act, 1901*, for the handling of dry or dry-salted hides or skins imported from Africa (including Madagascar) and from Asia (including Japan and the Malay Archipelago). In accordance with the procedure laid down in Section 80 of the Act, the regulations were at the same time issued as a draft.* The Home Secretary, having considered the criticisms and suggestions submitted by interested parties, issued a revised draft of the regulations on the 22nd November, 1921, at the same time giving formal notice of his proposal to make them. The period of twenty-one days, within which objections by, or on behalf of, persons affected could be submitted, has now expired.

The draft regulations apply to premises in which the handling of dry or dry-salted hides or skins imported from the specified areas is carried on. They require employers (1) to provide and maintain a "First-Aid" box, (2) to exhibit a cautionary notice as to Anthrax, (3) to provide suitable accommodation for clothing put off during working hours, (4) to provide a suitable mess-room, which must be outside any room or shed in which hides or skins are handled, and (5) to provide a lavatory, with proper cleansing facilities. The draft regulations further lay down that in tanneries all wrapping material in which hides or skins have been packed shall, if not disinfected in a specified manner, be destroyed by burning.

Upon the employed persons is laid the duty of abstaining from handling hides or skins after receiving any cut or sore until it has been treated, and the duty of washing their hands after handling hides or skins before partaking of food or leaving the premises. The taking of food or articles of clothing, other than those being worn, into rooms where the hides or skins are handled is prohibited.

The regulation regarding the provision of accommodation for clothing and the provision of a mess-room and lavatory does not apply to docks, wharves and quays. Furthermore, in the case of warehouses, it applies only to those used wholly or mainly for the storage of hides or skins, and in the case of tanneries, it applies only to persons engaged in processes up to and including "liming."

(b) Draft Regulations for the Manufacture of Aerated Water.

ON the 1st April, 1921, the Home Secretary gave notice of his intention to make regulations for the manufacture of Aerated Water and processes incidental thereto, and issued the regulations as a draft.† A revised draft of the regulations, embodying certain alterations as a result of criticisms and suggestions received from persons affected, was issued on the 18th November, 1921, and the period of twenty-one days during which objections could be lodged has accordingly expired.

The draft regulations provide for the protection of workers

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1920, page 653.
† See LABOUR GAZETTE for April, 1921, page 181.

in the event of a bottle or syphon bursting during the processes of filling, polishing of fittings, corking, labelling, etc. The protection consists in the construction, placing or fencing of the machines used and in the provision of suitable face guards and gauntlets. Waterproof aprons and waterproof boots or clogs are to be supplied for the use of all persons employed in any process involving exposure to wet, but the Chief Inspector of Factories is given power to exempt employers by certificate from the requirement as to waterproof boots and clogs where the conditions of work in any factory make it unnecessary. The provision and maintenance of "First-Aid" boxes is a further duty laid on all employers in the industry.

Upon the persons employed in the industry is laid the duty of making use of the safety appliances and the protective clothing provided.

(c) Orders relating to Employment of Women and Young Persons in Lead Processes.

IN THE LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1921 (page 234), an account was given of three Orders proposed to be made under the *Women and Young Persons (Employment in Lead Processes) Act, 1920*, which is construed as one with the *Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901-1911*. These Orders* were duly made by the Home Secretary on the 8th November, 1921. The first declares what is a lead compound for the purposes of the Act, and prescribes the method of ascertaining whether any compound is a lead compound within the definition; the second prescribes the periodic medical examination required under Section 2 (1) (b) of the Act; and the third prescribes the cloakroom, mess-room and washing accommodation to be provided under Section 2 (1) (e) of the Act.

(d) Regulations for the Manufacture of Celluloid and Articles wholly or partly made of Celluloid.

THE Secretary of State for the Home Department gave notice on the 29th November, 1921, that on the 28th November, 1921, he made Regulations* under Section 79 of the *Factory and Workshop Act, 1901*, to apply to all factories and workshops, or parts thereof, in which celluloid or any article wholly or partly made of celluloid is manufactured, manipulated or stored. A notice of the proposal to make these regulations appeared in THE LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1921, at page 509.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.

THE Secretary of State for the Home Department gave notice on the 29th November, 1921, that on the 15th November, 1921, he made an Order* under Section 8 (6) of the *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906*, extending the provisions of the Act to cases of cataract caused by exposure to rays from molten or red hot metal in processes normally involving such exposure in the manufacture of iron or steel. This Order came into force on 1st December, 1921.

* Copies can be purchased through any bookseller, or directly from H.M. Stationery Office.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING NOVEMBER.

[All the Official Publications (distinguished as Cd., Cmd., H.L., H.C. or S.O. publication) may be purchased through any bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2, and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W. 1; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or from Eason & Son, Ltd., 43 and 41, Lower Sackville Street, Dublin.]

UNITED KINGDOM.

EX-SERVICE MEN.—*Ex-Service men employed in government offices on 1st October, 1921.* Treasury. [Cmd. 1530 : price 2d.]

FOOD SUPPLY.—*First report of the Royal Commission on wheat supplies, with appendices.* [Cmd. 1544 : price 5s.]

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.—*Staffs employed in government departments on 1st October, 1921.* Treasury. [Cmd. 1528 : price 2d.]

JUVENILE LABOUR.—*Report of an inquiry into the conditions of boy labour on the docks at Liverpool, August, 1920.* Ministry of Labour, Employment Department. M85/28. [S.O. publication : price 6d.]*

MINES.—(1) *Coal output (monthly statistics), 22nd October, 1921.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. [H.C. 137-VI : price 2d.] (2) *Copies of correspondence between the Mines Department and the Mining Association of Great Britain regarding*

* See special article on page 627.

the operation of Part II. of the Mining Industry Act, 1920. Board of Trade, Mines Department. [Cmd. 1551 : price 6d.]* (3) *Mines and quarries: general report, with statistics, for 1920.* Part II. Labour. Board of Trade, Mines Department. [H.C. 239 : price 2s.]

NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—(1) *Civil Services supplementary estimate, 1921-2.* Treasury. [H.C. 241 : price 3d.] (2) *Army supplementary estimate, 1921-2.* War Office. [H.C. 243 : price 2d.] (3) *Navy supplementary estimate, 1921-2.* Admiralty. [H.C. 242 : price 2d.]

PRISONS.—*Report of the Commissioners of prisons and the directors of convict prisons, with appendices (for the year ended 31st March, 1921).* Home Office. [Cmd. 1523 : price 9d.]

PUBLIC HEALTH.—*Annual report of the chief medical officer of the Board of Education, 1920.* Board of Education. [Cmd. 1522 : price 6s.]

RAILWAYS.—*Returns of the capital, traffic, receipts and working expenditure, etc., of the railway companies of the United Kingdom for the year 1920.* Ministry of Transport. [Cmd. 1430 : price 10s.]

DOMINIONS AND FOREIGN.—REPORTS.—(1) *Algeria.* Report on the economic and commercial situation. August, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication : price 2s.] (2) *Australia.* Report on economic and commercial situation to June, 1921.

* See special article on page 625.

Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 2s. 9d.] (3) *Cayman Islands (Jamaica)*. Report No. 1092 for 1918-19. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 3d.] (4) *Ceylon*. Report No. 1086 for 1920. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 2s.] (5) *China*. Report on commercial, industrial and economic situation in June, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 1s. 9d.] (6) *Cyprus*. Report No. 1093 for 1920. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 9d.] (7) *East Africa Protectorate*. Report No. 1089 for 1919-20. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 1s.] (8) *Gilbert and Ellice Islands*. Report No. 1088 for 1919-20. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 3d.] (9) *Honduras*. Report on the financial and commercial conditions for the fiscal year ended July 31st, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 9d.] (10) *India*. General conditions and prospects of British trade, 1919-20, and 1920-21. Revised to October, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 5s.] (11) *Mexico*. Report on economic and financial conditions, 1920-1. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 1s.] (12) *Sierra Leone*. Report No. 1090 for 1920. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 1s.] (13) *Venezuela*. Report on economic and commercial conditions. September, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 9d.] (14) *Zanzibar*. Report No. 1091 for 1920. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 6d.]

BRITISH DOMINIONS AND INDIA.

AUSTRALIA.—(1) *Pocket Compendium of Australian Statistics*, 1921. (Seventh issue.) Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. [Melbourne: A. J. Mullett.] (2) *Production. Summary of Commonwealth Production Statistics for the years 1909-10 to 1919-20*. Bulletin No. 14. Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co., 1921.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—(1) *The New South Wales Industrial Gazette*. 31st August, 1921. Department of Labour and Industry. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, 1921.] (2) *The Industrial Arbitration Reports*, New South Wales, 1921. (a) Vol. XX. Part I. 1921. (b) Vol. XX. Part 2, 1921. Department of Labour and Industry. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick.]

QUEENSLAND.—*Report of the Director of Labour and Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for year ended 30th June, 1921*. Department of Labour. [Brisbane: A. J. Cumming.]

VICTORIA.—*Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for the year ended 31st December, 1920*. Labour Department. [Melbourne: A. J. Mullett.]

NEW ZEALAND.—(1) *Monthly abstract of Statistics, September, 1921*. Government Statistician. [Wellington: M. F. Marks, 1921.] (2) *Twenty-third annual report of the Pensions Department for the year ended 31st March, 1921*. Pensions Department. [Wellington: M. F. Marks, 1921.]

TASMANIA.—*Sixth annual report of the Industrial Department for 1920-1 on factories, wages boards, shops, etc.* Industrial Department. [Hobart: J. Vail, 1921.]

CANADA.—(1) *Labour legislation in Canada as existing December 31st, 1920*. Department of Labour. [Ottawa: F. A. Acland, 1921.] (2) *Monthly Bulletin of agricultural statistics*. September, 1921. Dominion Bureau of Statistics. [Ottawa: F. A. Acland.]

INDIA.—(1) *Labour Gazette*. September, 1921. Prices, wages, cost of living index, industrial disputes, revision of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, etc. Labour Office, Bombay. [Bombay: Superintendent Government Printing and Stationery.] (2) (a) *First indigo forecast, 1921-2*. (b) *Second cotton forecast, 1921-2*. (c) *First rice forecast, 1921-2*. (d) *First groundnut forecast, 1921-2*. (e) *Second sugarcane forecast, 1921-2*. (f) *Second sesamum forecast, 1921-2*. Department of Statistics. [Calcutta: October 22nd, 1921.] (3) *Return showing the wholesale and retail prices of certain staple cereals, pulses, oilseeds, sugar (raw), salt, etc., in India by districts for the fortnights ending the 31st August and 15th September, 1921*. Department of Statistics. [Calcutta: Superintendent Government Printing, 27th September and 19th October, 1921.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—(1) *The northern hemisphere crops in 1921*. International Institute of Agriculture. Bureau of Statistics. [Rome, October, 1921.] (2) *International crop reports*. International Institute of Agriculture, Bureau of General Statistics. [Rome, 10th November, 1921.] (3) *International crop report and agricultural statistics*. (a) October, 1921. Part II. *Production*. Part III. *Trade and Stocks*. (b) November, 1921. Part I. *Prices*. International Institute of Agriculture, Bureau of Statistics. [Rome: Printing Office of International Institute.] (4) *International Labour Office. Official Bulletin*. (a) 26th October, 1921. Vol. IV. No. 17. (b) 2nd November, 1921. Vol. IV. No. 18. (c) 9th November, 1921. Vol. IV. No. 19. International Labour Office. [Geneva.] (5) *International Labour Office, Studies and Reports*. (a) *The International Congress of transport workers*. (Geneva, 18-22 April, 1921.) Series A. No. 22. (b) *The use of white lead in painting*. Memorandum of the Düsseldorf Chamber of Commerce. Series F. No. 4.

(c) *Prohibition of the use of white lead in painting*. Memorandum of the Union of Painters, Varnishers, Decorators, etc., of Germany. Series F. No. 5. (d) *First International Congress of Christian Land Workers' Unions* (Coblenz, 27th-28th April, 1921). Series K. No. 7. (6) *International Labour Directory*. International Labour Office. [Geneva: 1921.]

ARGENTINE.—*Cronica Mensual del Departamento Nacional del Trabajo*, September, 1921. Proposed amendments of law on old age pensions in the province of Cordoba; establishment of a provincial Department of Labour at Salta; proposed amendment of law on industrial accidents. Department of Labour. [Buenos Aires.]

AUSTRIA.—(1) *Mitteilungen der Statistischen Zentralkommission No. 12*. Retail prices at Vienna in October, 1921. [Vienna.] (2) *Bundesgesetzblatt für die Republik Oesterreich, Nos. 199, 201-209* (inclusive). Collection of laws, decrees and regulations of the Austrian Republic. [Vienna.] (3) *Ämtliche Nachrichten des Oesterreichischen Bundesministeriums für Soziale Verwaltung*, 1st November, 1921. Law of 21st October, 1921, extending the scope of sickness insurance; law of 27th October, 1921, increasing pensions to employees. Ministry for Social Affairs. [Vienna.]

BELGIUM.—(1) *Revue du Travail*, October. Unemployment during August, statistics of employment exchanges in September, labour disputes in August, index-numbers of retail prices in September. Ministry of Industry, Labour and Supplies. [Brussels.] (2) *Statistique du Mouvement de la Population et de l'Etat Civil en 1900. Do., 1901-1910*. Movement of population of Belgium in 1900 and 1901-1910. Ministry of the Interior. [Brussels.]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.—(1) *Rapports de l'Office de Statistique de la République Tchecoslovaque, Nos. 9 and 10*. Statistical Office. [Prague.] (2) *Socialni Revue, No. 5*. Journal of the Ministry of Social Affairs. [Prague.]

DENMARK.—(1) *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 3rd, 11th and 21st November. Statistics of rise in urban rents, 1916-1920; retail prices in October; unemployment in October. Statistical Department. [Copenhagen.] (2) *Statistisk Aarbog, 1921*. Danish Statistical Year Book for 1921. Statistics of population, agriculture, industry, prices, wages, sickness funds, employment exchanges, unemployment, labour disputes, employers' associations, trade unions, etc. Statistical Department. [Copenhagen.] (3) *Social Forsorg, October, 1921*. Journal of the Insurance Council, Unemployment Board, etc. [Hellerup.] (4) *Danmarks Sociallovgivning. Vols. II, III, and IV*. Abstracts of laws relating to assistance to fatherless children, State subsidies to sickness insurance funds, industrial accident insurance, State conciliation in labour disputes, Permanent Arbitration Court. Ministry of the Interior. [Copenhagen.] (5) *Den Offentlige Arbejdsanvisning i Danmark, Juli Kvartal, 1921*. Statistics of employment exchanges in period July-September, 1921. Department of Employment Exchanges. [Copenhagen.]

FINLAND.—*Social Tidsskrift, No. 10*. Proposed law on collective agreements; measures for relief of unemployment during third quarter; cost of living and retail prices in September. Ministry for Social Affairs. [Helsingfors.]

FRANCE.—(1) *Bulletin du Ministère du Travail, July-August-September, 1921*. Index numbers of cost of living, 1914-1921, variations in wages since the war, labour disputes April-June, 1921, collective agreements in 1920. Ministry of Labour. [Paris.] (2) *Tarifs de Salaire et Conventions Collectives pendant la Guerre (1914-1918): Tome Premier*. Laws, decrees and circulars on conditions of labour, and texts of collective agreements in various industries in the Department of the Seine. Vol. I. Ministry of Labour. [Paris.] (3) *Comptes-Rendus Statistiques, Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1921*. Movement of population in Alsace-Lorraine, 1871-1910, persons engaged in industry 1907, output of mines 1872-1920, preliminary figures of census in Alsace-Lorraine on 6th March, 1921, results of inquiry into wholesale and retail prices, cost of living from 1914-1921, results of inquiry into workmen's budgets. Statistical Office of Alsace-Lorraine. [Strasbourg.] (4) *Journal Officiel (Daily)*. Issues from 30th October to 28th November (inclusive). [Paris.]

GERMANY.—(1) *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt*, 31st October and 15th November, 1921. Employment in September, unemployment among trade unionists; statistics of employment exchanges on 19th October and 4th November; cost of living index numbers for August; wages and other working conditions fixed by current collective agreements; text of decree of 1st November, 1921, on unemployment relief; industrial accidents in 1920. Ministry of Labour. [Berlin.] (2) *Wirtschaft und Statistik, No. 10*. Cost of living index numbers for September, 1921; retail and wholesale prices; course of wages in book printing and mining. National Statistical Department. [Berlin.] (3) *Reichs-Gesetzblatt, Nos. 97-99* (inclusive). Laws, decrees, regulations, etc., of the German Federal Government. [Berlin.] (4) *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger (Daily)*. Issues from 28th October to 26th November (inclusive). [Berlin.]

HOLLAND.—(1) *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 31st October. State of employment during third quarter; unemployment in June; activities of employment exchanges in September; wages in various industries; minimum

ates of pay on public works; collective agreements. Central statistical Office. [The Hague.] (2) *Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland, No. 326. Overzicht van den omvang der 'akbeweging op 1 Januari, 1921*. Statistics of the trade union movement on 1st January, 1921. No. 328. *Statistiek van den op der bevolking in Nederland over 1920*. Movement of the population during 1920. Central Statistical Office. [The Hague.] (3) *Kosten van Levensonderhoud te's-Gravenhage*. Cost of living at the Hague of families of workers and officials; index-numbers, January 1920-September 1921. Municipal Statistical Office. [The Hague.] (4) *Maandbericht van het Bureau van Statistiek der Gemeente Amsterdam*. September, 1921. Statistics of wholesale and retail prices, index numbers, unemployment, etc. Statistical Bureau. [Amsterdam.] (5) *Jaarcijfers voor het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden: Koloniën, 1919*. Statistical Year Book of Dutch Colonies for the year 1919. Central Statistical Bureau. [The Hague.]

ITALY.—(1) *Bollettino Ufficiale del Ministero per il Lavoro e la Previdenza Sociale, 16th October*. Laws, decrees and circulars affecting labour. Ministry of Labour and Social Thrift. [Rome.] (2) *Bollettino della Emigrazione, August-September, 1921*. Report of sessions of the International Committee on Emigration on 29th July-11th August, at Geneva; studies, reports, enactments and statistics relating to emigration. General Commission on Emigration. [Rome.] (3) *Gazzetta Ufficiale (Daily)* Issues from 25th October to 25th November (inclusive). [Rome.]

NORWAY.—(1) *Meddelelser fra det Statistiske Centralbyra, Nos. 9 and 10*. Wages of female domestic servants in Christiania on 1st January, 1921; statistics of unemployment in June and July; unemployment among trade unionists in June. Statistical Bureau. [Christiania.] (2) *Norsk Lovtidende, Nos. 46 & 49* (inclusive). Norwegian laws, decrees and regulations. Christiania. (3) *Statistisk Maanedsskrift, July, August and September*. Statistics of Employment Exchanges; retail prices; cost of living, etc. Municipal Statistical Office. [Christiania.]

POLAND.—(1) *Revue Mensuelle de Statistique, Vol. 2, Nos. 3-6; Vol 3, No. 6*. Central Statistical Office. [Warsaw.] (2) *Revue Mensuelle du Travail, June-September*. Statistics of employment exchanges in period April to July, 1921; cost of living in various districts, December, 1920-August, 1921; retail prices; wages fixed by collective agreements; average wages of agricultural workers in April and May; labour disputes. Central Statistical Office. [Warsaw.]

SPAIN.—*Bulleti del Treball, 1st October*. Index numbers of retail prices at Barcelona in August-September; work of employment exchanges in August; state of employment in Barcelona. Section of Social Politics of the Provincial Government of Catalonia. [Barcelona.]

SWEDEN.—(1) *Sociala Meddelanden, No. 11, 1921*. Employment in September; rates of wages fixed by collective agreements in third quarter, 1921; activity of State Unemployment Committee during August; statistics of employment exchanges in September; unemployment in trade unions at 31st August; cost of living in third quarter of 1921. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm.] (2) *Ut och Invandring ar 1920*. Statistics of emigration and immigration, 1920. Central Statistical Bureau. [Stockholm.] (3) *Postsparbanken ar 1920*. Statistics of Post Office Savings Banks, 1920. Post Office Department. [Stockholm.] (4) *Yrkesinspektionens Verksamhet ar 1920*. Report of Factory Inspection Department for year 1920. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm.]

SWITZERLAND.—(1) *Feuille Fédérale et Recueil des Lois Fédérales, Nos. 43-46* (inclusive). Decree of 20th October, 1921, on provision of further funds for relief works; decree of 1st November on distribution of funds for relief works; instructions as to allocation of funds in relief of unemployment. [Berne.] (2) *Der Kommunale und Subventionierte Wohnungsbau in der Stadt Zürich bis zum Jahre 1920*. Report as to the housing policy of the municipality of Zürich up to 1920. Statistical Office. [Zürich.] (3) *Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 16th November*. Statistics as to unemployment on 31st October; Federal decrees, circulars, etc., relating to measures in relief of unemployment; cost of living index figures; membership of trade unions, 1903-1920. Central Employment Exchange. [Berne.]

UNITED STATES.—(a) *Federal*. (1) *Monthly Labor Review*, October, 1921. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Washington: Government Printing Office.] (2) *Prices and cost of living*. From the Monthly Labor Review, (a) June and (b) July, 1921. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921.] (3) *Changes in retail prices of food*. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Washington: November 9th, 1921.] (4) *Union scale of wages and hours of labor*, May 15th, 1920. Bulletin No. 286. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Washington: Government Printing Office, September, 1921.] (5) *Wages and hours of labor in cotton-goods manufacturing, 1920*. Bulletin No. 288. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Washington: Government Printing Office, September, 1921.] (6) *Children's week in Mexico*. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau. [Washington.] (7) *Child Labor in Colorado beet fields*. Department of Labor Children's Bureau. [Washington.] (8) *Physical standards for working children. Preliminary report of the Committee appointed by the Children's Bureau to formulate standards of normal development and sound health for the use of physicians in examining children entering employment and children at work*. Conference Series, No. 4. Bureau Publication, No. 79. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office.] (9) *Children deprived of parental care*. A study of children taken under care by Delaware agencies and institutions. Dependent, defective and delinquent classes, series No. 12. Bureau publication No. 81. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office.] (10) *The administration of the aid-to-mothers law in Illinois*. Legal series, No. 7. Bureau Publication No. 82. Department of Labor, Children's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921.] (11) *Women street car conductors and ticket agents*. Bulletin No. 11. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921.] (12) *The new position of women in American industry*. Bulletin No. 12. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office, 1920.] (13) *Industrial opportunities and training for women and girls*. Bulletin No. 13. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921.] (14) *A physiological basis for the shorter working day for women*. Bulletin No. 14. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office, February, 1921.] (15) *Some effects of legislation limiting hours of work for women*. Bulletin No. 15. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau. [Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921.]

—(b) *States.*—**NEW YORK.**—*The employment of women in 5 and 10 cent stores*. Special Bulletin No. 109. Division of Women in Industry. [September, 1921.]

—**WISCONSIN.**—*The Wisconsin labor market in October, 1921*. Bulletin 14. Industrial Commission of Wisconsin, Statistical Department.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, NOVEMBER, 1921.

ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.)

Air Reservoirs: P. Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Accumulators:** London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Badges, Embroidered:** R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; E. Day (St. Albans), Ltd., St. Albans; Madame Elsmere, Ltd., London, S.W.; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, W.; G. Kenning & Son, London, E.C.; R. Stevenson, London, E.; S. Simpson, Preston; Stokoe & Co., London, S.W.; H. & W. Towell & Co., Ltd., London, W.; War Service Legion, London, W.; M. Hand & Co., London, W.; Nutting & Kent, London, E.C.; E. Stillwell & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.; W. R. Virgo & Co., London, S.W.—**Braces, Web:** Halifax Brace Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Britannia Metal:** Barker Bros. (Silversmiths), Ltd., Birmingham; Cooper Bros. & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Bronze Hoses:** United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Cap Boxes:** Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Canvas Suit Cases:** Konrath, Dale & Fishwick, Walthamstow, E.; D. Stocks, Edinburgh.—**Cotton Waste, White and Coloured:** C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; H. Yates & Sons, Ltd., Darwen.—**Coils**

and Boxes: Fuller's United Electric Works, Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.—**Copper Sheets:** J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Copper Evaporator Coils:** G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Cathcart, Glasgow.—**Enamelware:** Anglo-Enamelware, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Electric Travelling Blocks:** H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Electrically-Driven Capstans:** Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Electric Travelling Crane:** H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Electric Light and Power Cable Systems:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent.—**Electric Travellers:** Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Parkhead, Glasgow.—**Electric Hoists:** W. Wadsworth & Sons, Bolton.—**Electric Cable:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent.—**Flour, Straight Run:** Craighall Milling Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. Herdman & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Hand Travellers:** Marshall, Fleming & Co., Motherwell.—**Helmets, Sun:** E. Day (St. Albans), Ltd., St. Albans; E. W. Vero & Co., London, S.E.—**Gaiters, Black Leather:** G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. Douglas, Son & Co., Dudley.—**Hollow Ware:** T. & C. Clark & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Iron Plate Workers' Wares:** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; D. McDonald & Son, Ltd., Hamilton West, Lanarkshire; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Pratt Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Insulating Materials:** Attwater & Sons, Preston; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Man-

chester; Ioco Rubber & Waterproofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Mica Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Bromley, Kent; Micanite & Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Lead, Sheet and Pipe:** A. D. Foulkes, Ltd., Birmingham; Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Knives:** A. H. Bisby & Co., Sheffield; J. Clarke & Son, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Marmalade:** C. Southwell & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Marrowfat Peas:** Willer & Riley (1910), Ltd., Manchester.—**Manganese Bronze Ingots:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Mooring Pendant and Chain Cable Gear:** Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill; N. Hingley & Sons, Ltd., Dudley.—**Motor and Control Gear:** Laurence, Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich; English Electric Co., London, W.C.—**Oil, Linseed, Raw and Boiled:** S. Banner & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Dixon & Cardus, Ltd., Southampton; F. F. Fox & Co., Bristol; J. M. Hamilton & Co., Hull; Price's Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; J. L. Seaton & Co., Ltd., Hull; Smith Bros. & Co., London, E.; Youngusband, Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—**Planing Machine:** J. Buckton & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Pitched and Rigging Chain:** Edge & Sons, Ltd., Shifnal; J. G. Walker & Son, Ltd., Old Hill; J. Wright & Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Phosphor Bronze Gauze:** W. Riddell & Co., Glasgow.—**Steel Wire Rope:** Allan, Whyte & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.; W. B. Brown & Co. (Bankhall), Ltd., Liverpool; Bullivant & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Caledonian Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Airdrie; W. Cooke & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Craven & Speeding Bros., Sunderland; J. Crawhall & Sons, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Dixon & Corbitt & R. S. Newall & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; E. Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Glaholm & Robson, Ltd., Sunderland; W. J. Glover & Co., St. Helens; Glover Bros., Mossley; R. Hood, Haggie & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Haggie Bros., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Latch & Batchelor, Ltd., Birmingham; R. S. Newall & Son, Ltd., Liverpool; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; T. & W. Smith, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd., Liverpool; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington; J. & E. Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Rotary Converter:** English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Steam Heating Equipment:** Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sliding and Surfacing Lathe:** G. & A. Harvey, Ltd., Govan, Glasgow.—**Steel Wire Hawser:** Glaholm & Robson, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Steel Plates:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Shirts, White (C.P.O.'s):** J. James & Co., London, S.E.; Salisbury Manufacturing Co., London, E.C.—**Suits, Bluetie Combination:** T. Sutcliffe & Son, Ltd., Hebden Bridge, Yorks.—**Solder:** E. Austin & Sons (London), Ltd., London, E.; C. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Sheldon Bush & Patent Shot Co., Bristol.—**Tobacco:** J. C. Muller & Co., London, E.C.; W. A. & G. Maxwell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; North Charterland Exploration Co. (1910), Ltd., London.—**Tin, in Bar and Block:** James & Shakspeare, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Varnishes:** Blundell, Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull; Craig & Rose, Ltd., London, S.E.; Griffiths Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Hanger, Watson & Harris, Ltd., Hull; Jenson & Nicholson, Ltd., London, E.; Naylor Bros (London), Ltd., Slough; C. W. Waters, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Water Closets and Gear:** R. Brown & Son, Ltd., Paisley; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Paisley.—**Wharf Crane:** H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Wall Crane:** T. Smith & Sons (Rodley), Ltd., Rodley, Leeds.—**Wire, Line and Strand:** Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Zinc, Slabs and Sheets:** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; London Zinc Mills, Ltd., London, N.

ADMIRALTY.

(CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.)

Dredging and Works re H.M.S. "Saxifrage" at R.N.V.R. Headquarters, London: Messrs. Kirk & Randall, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Painting Two Oil Tanks at Rosyth:** Mr. William Dewey, Barton-on-Humber.—**H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad:** Steel Oil Tanks; Messrs. Clayton, Son & Co., Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds.

WAR OFFICE.

Acids, Various: Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., London, E.—**Bedsteads:** Messrs. Geo. Lane & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boots:** Adams Bros., Raunds; J. & C. Claridge, Ltd., Rushden; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; St. Crispin Productive Society, Raunds; Wm. Evans, Leicester; W. Lawrence, Ltd., Raunds; C. E. Nichols, Raunds; Northants Productive Society, Wellingborough; Parker & Cooper, Finedon; Owen Smith, Raunds; S. Walker, Walgrave.—**Brushes, Clothes:** Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Messrs. A. Reid & Sons, London, S.E.; Messrs. Rigby & Batcock, London, E.—**Brushes, Sweeping:** Messrs. Phoenix Brush Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Messrs. Singleton, Flint & Co., Lincoln.—**Cables, Electric:** The Enfield Edison Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown.—**Caps, Service Dress, etc.:** E. Altman, Ltd., Aldershot.—**Cloth:** J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Copper, Ingot:** J. Batt & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cooking Apparatus, etc.:** Adams & Son, Clapham, S.W.—**Copper, Manganese:** C. G. Blackwell, Sons & Co., Liverpool.—**Cylinders, Iron:** Messrs. F. Francis & Son, Ltd., Deptford, S.E.—**Electric Batteries:** C. A. Vandervell & Co., Ltd., Acton, W.—**Electrical Equipment:** A. Lyon & Co., Westminster, S.W.; Park Royal Eng. Works, Ltd., Park Royal, N.W.; Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Fans, Electric:** General Electric Co., Birmingham.—**Flour Sacks:** A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—**Generators, Electric:** George Kent, Ltd., Luton.—**Hides, Enamelled and Grained:** Dixon, Sons & Taylor, Bermondsey,

S.E.—**Leather Strappings:** E. F. Kempton & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Mineral Jelly:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet.—**Motor Lorries, Re-conditioned:** Associated Equipment Co., Ltd., Walthamstow, E.—**Motor Spares:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—**Paint in Oil:** Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., City Lead Works, Liverpool.—**Pneumatic Covers, Tyre:** Beldam Tyre Co., Brentford; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Birmingham; Henley's Tyre and Rubber Co., Gravesend; Midland Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham; North British Rubber Co., Edinburgh.—**Repairs to Watercraft:** Rowledge Iron Works Co., Ltd., Colchester.—**Saddletrees, Repair to:** D. Mason & Sons, Birmingham.—**Screens, Latrine, Poles:** Messrs. J. Nutting & Sons, London, S.W.—**Stable Fittings:** Wilmer & Sons, Stratford, E.—**Tin, Ingot:** Williams, Harvey & Co., Ltd., Bootle, Liverpool.—**Works Services, Maintenance Works:** Melton Mowbray; John F. Bush, Nottingham. Plymouth: Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Redruth. Freshwater: T. Carr, Halifax. Preston: T. Carr, Halifax. Sandown: T. Carr, Halifax. Beverley: H. Mennell, Hull. Paull-on-Humber: H. Mennell, Hull. Scarborough: H. Mennell, Hull. Shrewsbury Barracks: A. Bagnall & Sons, Shipley, Yorks. Cardiff Barracks: T. Carr, Halifax.—**Building Works and Services:** Westminster: C. P. Roberts & Co., Ltd., Dalston, E. Belfast, Repair to Roads: R. D. Pollock & Co., Bangor, Co. Down. Fort George: R. Thomson & Sons, Stonehaven.—**Painting:** Beverley Barracks: Messrs. R. Skevington & Sons, Derby. Chilwell: Messrs. R. Skevington & Sons, Derby.—**Installations:** Hamilton Barracks: Pratt Bros., Ltd., Edinburgh. Castle Barracks, Carlisle: Williams, Gamon & Co., Chester. Regent's Park Barracks: Electric Installations, Ltd., London, E.C.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aeroplane Repairs: Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aeroplane Spares:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; A. V. Roe, Ltd., Manchester.—**Aircraft:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aircraft Spares:** George Parnall & Co., Bristol; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft Spares, Repairs to:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Battery, Electric Storage:** Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., Stratford; Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Boiler House, etc., Erection of:** Guest & Goodall, Ltd., Ascot.—**Bolts and Nuts:** Horton & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Booster Pump:** Rees Roturbo Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Breeze Building Blocks:** F. Jones & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Buildings, Shrewsbury, Repairs and Maintenance of:** A. Heathersby, Sheffield.—**Buildings, Shotwick, Repairs and Maintenance of:** Guest & Goodall, Ltd., Ascot.—**Conversion of Aircraft:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Conversion of Fire Extinguishers:** John Morris (Fire Snow), Ltd., Manchester.—**Crossley Spares:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**Disinfectors, Steam:** Grampian Engineering Co., Ltd., Stirling.—**Djinn Marine Engine Spares:** Commercial & Marine Engineering Co., Ltd., Hanwell.—**Dunlop Cord Tyres:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Felt, Roofing:** G. M. Callendar & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Engert & Rolfe, Ltd., London, E.—**Fencing, Iron:** Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill.—**Kelvin Motor Launch Spares:** Bergiu's Launch & Engine Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Magnets:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Married Quarters Erections:** Playfair & Toole, Southampton.—**Plumbers' Fittings:** Hyde & Sons, Wolverhampton.—**Propellers:** D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Quarters, Married:** S. & R. Horton & Sons, Ltd., Lincoln; R. Durie & Son, Inverkeithing; W. & J. Robertson, Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Quarters, Staff:** Guest & Goodall, Ltd., Ascot.—**Radiators:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Radiators, Conversion of:** Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Re-conditioning Buildings:** M. & F. Q. Foster & Co., Hitchin.—**Seaplane Spares:** G. Parnall & Co., Bristol.—**Slipway, Repairs to:** T. D. Ridley & Sons, Middlesbrough.—**Tubes and Fittings, Water:** Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Valves:** Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Wireless Valves:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Yellow Pine:** F. Parker & Co., Ancots, Manchester.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Testing, Protective, etc.: British L. M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.—**Boxes, Packing, Wood:** A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic:** Enfield Edison Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex.—**Castings, Joint Box:** United Steel Companies, Ltd. (Messrs. T. Butlin & Co. Branch), Wellingborough.—**Cords for Telephones:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Couplings, C.I.:** United Steel Companies, Ltd. (Messrs. T. Butlin & Co. Branch), Wellingborough.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville; Donington Sanitary Pipe & Firebrick Co., Ltd., Moira; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Springfield, near Dudley; J. Oakes & Co., Jacksdale, Notts.—**Conveyance of Mails:** Mr. H. J. Gibbs, Stockbridge, Hants.—**Air Compressors:** Liverpool H.P.O. Sub-Station: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Laying Conduits:** Stanningley; Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Stafford: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Smethwick: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. King's Norton (Birmingham): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Pontypridd: Taplin & Holland, Ltd., Birmingham. Shirley and Selly Oak (Birmingham): Taplin & Holland, Ltd., Birmingham. Colne: S. Jowett

& Sons, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancs. Islington (Essex Road): W. Griffiths & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**City of London:** J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Sloane Ex. Area and Nine Elms (S.W.):** J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Catton and Dereham:** J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**West Brompton, S.W.:** J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tottenham (Lansdowne Road):** J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Wilmslow:** E. Jowett, Chester. Stratford (Romford Road): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Castleford:** J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Preston-Blackburn-Burnley (Sections I, IV, and V.):** J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Harrow (Peterborough and Bessborough Roads) and Kensal Rise:** G. J. Anderson, London, E.—**Hoyleake:** Martin & Element, Ltd., Smethwick. Newport-Pontypool: H. Smith, Newport (Mon.). Low Moor (Bradford): Greig & Matthews, London, E.C.—**Cleckheaton:** Greig & Matthews, London, E.C.—**Frensham & Romsey:** Hardy & Co., Woking, Surrey. Wrexham and Wrexham-Ruabon: G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Northwich: G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Newquay: G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Liskeard: G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Chalfont St. Giles (Bucks): G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Hanley (Etruria Road): G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Crownhill: G. P. Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Farnham Common (Bucks): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—**Aberdeen:** R. Thorburn & Son, Edinburgh. Colney Hatch Lane: O. C. Summers, London, N.—**Stepney, etc.:** O. C. Summers, London, N.—**Bristol (Central South (Section II.) and Queen Square):** J. F. Hodge & Co., Rednal, near Birmingham. Manchester High Street (Section III.): W. Turner (Ardwick), Ltd., Manchester. Preston-Blackburn-Burnley (Section III.): R. & T. Howarth, Rochdale. Edinburgh (Newington): W. Dobson, Edinburgh. Ashton-Hyde Junction: W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Bolton (Lancs.): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Kendal: W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Eastbourne: H. Farrow, London, N.W.—**Halesowen-Blackheath:** A. Blair, Lyell & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing Cable:** London-Dorking (London District): W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hampton Court-Staines-Egham-Ascot:** W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Uxbridge-High Wycombe:** W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hawarden-Rhyl:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Leeds: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Aldershot:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sub-Contractors:** The Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Batteries; The English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machines. Dunfermline: Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: The Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Batteries; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Charging Machines. Broughty Ferry: Peel-Conner Telephone Works. Sub-Contractors: The Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junc., near Manchester, for Batteries; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Charging Machines.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Axeboxes: Messrs. W. Shaw & Co., London, E.C.—**Blankets:** Hepworth & Haley, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Boiler and Fittings:** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Boiler Tubes:** Messrs. Tubes, Ltd., Aston, Birmingham.—**Boots:** Mr. S. Walker, Walgrave, Northants.—**Cars, Hand Dump:** Magor & Leith, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cast Iron Pipes:** The Clay Cross Co., Ltd., near Chesterfield.—**Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., London, E.C.—**Cloth:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Leeds.—**Corrugated Sheets, etc.:** The Wolverhampton Corr. Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, near Birkenhead.—**Culvert Corrugated Iron:** Messrs. R. H. Brackenbury, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Drabette:** D. Gurteen & Sons, Haverhill.—**Dredger Spares:** Messrs. Wm. Simons & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, Scotland.—**Drill:** J. Booth & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Engines and Tenders:** The Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Newton-le-Willows, Lancs.—**Fire Engine, etc.:** Messrs. Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ferrules:** Messrs. Tylors (Water and Sanitary, Ltd.), London, N.—**Greatcoats, etc.:** Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Gunpowder Blasting:** Messrs. Curtis & Harvey, London, E.C.—**Lead:** Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Letterpress Cylinder Machine:** Messrs. Dawson, Payne & Elliott, Ltd., Otley.—**Metal Wire Screening:** Messrs. Wm. Riddell & Co., Bridgeton, Glasgow.—**Monotype Machine and Spare Parts:** The Lanston Monotype Corp., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Oil:** C. C. Wakefield & Co., London, E.C.—**Paint:** Humidine, Ltd., London, E.—**Permanent Way Materials:** The Horseley Bridge and Engg. Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Pipes:** The Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham.—**Pipework:** Messrs. Aiton & Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Piping, etc.:** Messrs. J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Printing Machine, etc.:** Messrs. Linotype & Machinery, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Printing Machine:** Messrs. Dawson, Payne & Lockett, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pumps and Boilers, etc.:** Messrs. Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Pumping Plant:** The Parsons Motor Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Postal Delivery Boxes:** Messrs. Withers & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Quinine, etc.:** Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ilford.—**Railing, etc.:** Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Repairs, etc., to Tug:** Messrs. J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Rivets:** The Phoenix Bolt and Nut Co., Ltd., Handsworth, Birmingham.—**Roofing and Footbridge:** Messrs. F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rope:** Messrs. Hawkins & Tipson, London,

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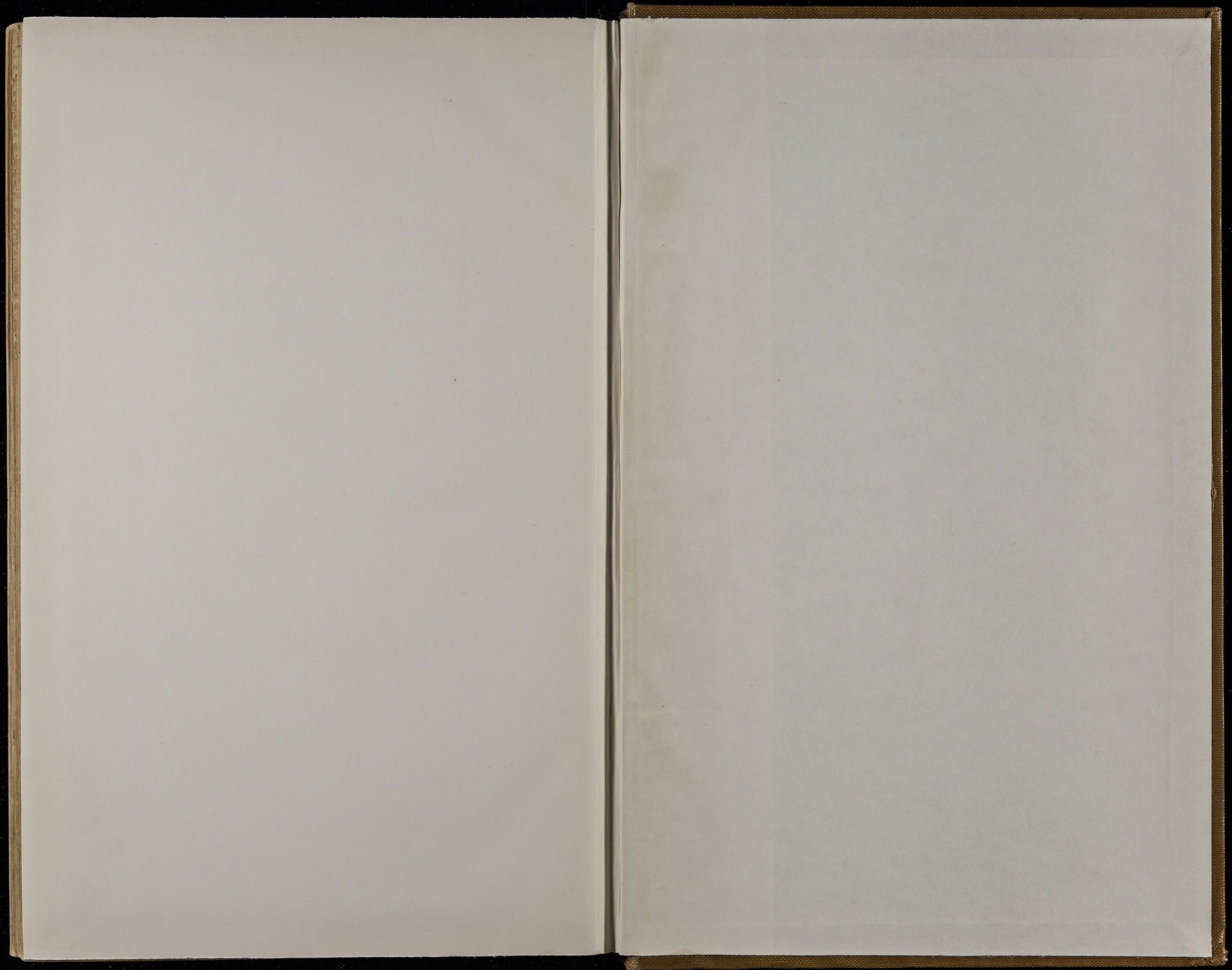
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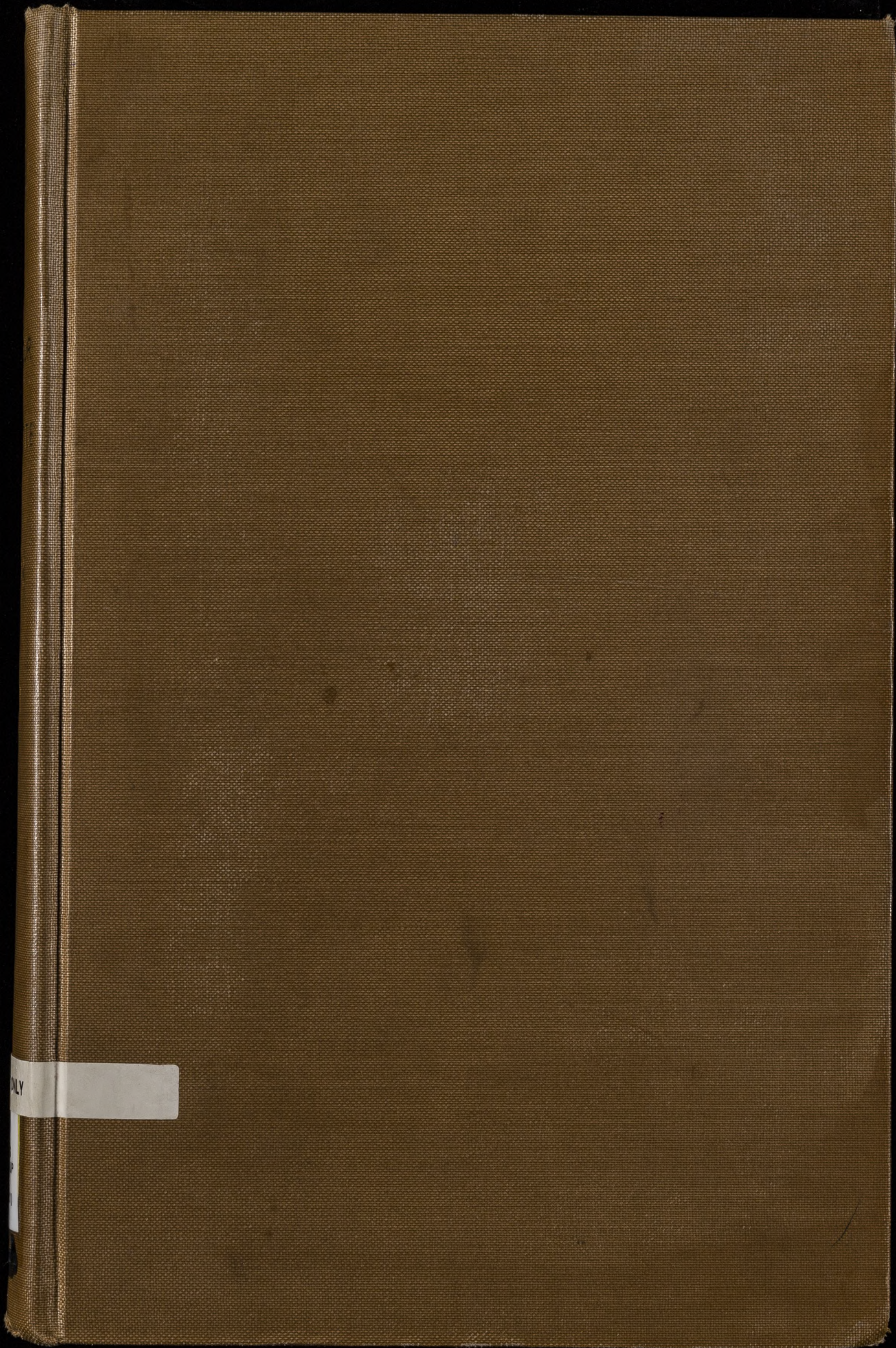
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