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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed an improvement during October. Among the 11,892,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 26th October, 1925, was 11·4, as compared with 12·0* at 21st September, 1925, and with 11·0* at 27th October, 1924. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 11·3 at the end of October, 1925, compared with 11·4 at the end of September, 1925, and with 8·7 at the end of October, 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 26th October, 1925, was approximately 1,295,000, of whom 1,032,000 were men and 196,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th September, 1925, it was 1,401,000, of whom 1,106,000 were men and 221,000 were women; and at 27th October, 1924, it was 1,247,000, of whom men numbered 943,000 and women 235,000.

The industries principally affected by the improvement in employment in October were coal mining, iron and steel manufacture, the tinplate trade, the cotton, wool, hemp, hosiery, and carpet trades, and textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. Employment continued good in the building and brick trades, though a seasonal decline was reported; and it was fairly good in the printing, furnishing and silk trades, and with coach-builders, millsawyers and coopers. In the coal and iron mining, iron and steel, shipbuilding, and marine engineering industries, however, it was still bad.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in October resulted in an aggregate increase of about £5,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 110,000 workpeople and in a reduction of about £2,700 in the weekly wages of 63,000 workpeople.

The principal group of workpeople whose wages were increased consisted of about 75,000 employees in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing, etc., trades, who received increases under the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales, amounting to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in Yorkshire, and 9d. or 10d. per week and 5d. per week in the case of men and women, respectively, in Lancashire and Scotland. There was also an increase of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the current rates of 11,000 steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in various districts. Other bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased included iron ore miners and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland, and workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry at Leicester.

* Revised percentage.

The principal reductions affected about 35,000 iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, whose wages were reduced by about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current rates, and upwards of 10,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, who sustained reductions of rather less than 1 per cent. Other reductions affected coal miners in the Radstock district, and blastfurnace workers in Staffordshire.

During the ten completed months of 1925, the changes reported to the Department, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, have resulted in net reductions amounting to over £150,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 890,000 workpeople, and in net increases of £77,000 in those of 840,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1924 there were net increases of nearly £540,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 2,700,000 workpeople and net reductions of over £67,000 in those of 575,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 31st October the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 76 per cent. above that of July, 1914; for food alone the percentage was 72. These figures are the same as those for a month ago, but appreciably below those for a year ago, when the increases were 80 and 79 per cent., respectively.

The principal changes in prices during October were decreases in the prices of bread, flour, sugar and potatoes, and increases in those of eggs and milk.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in October was 49. In addition, 31 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in October (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 43,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during October was about 440,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 44,000 workpeople involved and 413,000 days lost in the previous month.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first ten months of 1925 was about 6,519,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 405,000. The figures for the corresponding period of 1924 were 8,045,000 days and 587,000 workpeople respectively.

MEMBERSHIP OF TRADE UNIONS, TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS, AND TRADES COUNCILS.

TRADE UNIONS.

On page 402 statistical Tables are given relating to the membership of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the end of 1924, based on information collected by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and by the Registrar of Friendly Societies for Northern Ireland, from Trade Unions registered under the Trade Union Acts, and by the Ministry of Labour from unregistered Unions. They relate to all organisations of employees—including those of salaried and professional workers, as well as those of manual wage earners—which are known to include among their functions that of negotiating with employers with the object of regulating the conditions of employment of their members.

Totals for 1924,* and Comparison with 1923.

The total number of such Unions known to have been in existence at the end of 1924 was 1,155, as compared with 1,161 at the end of 1923. The number of Unions dissolved in 1924, so far as reported, was 18, with an aggregate membership of nearly 6,600 at the end of 1923; and in the case of 17 Unions, amalgamations reduced their number to 3. On the other hand 26 new Unions, with a total membership of over 11,000, were reported as formed during the year.

The total membership at the end of 1924 was approximately 5,531,000,* as compared with 5,410,000 at the end of 1923, showing an increase of 121,000, or 2.2 per cent., the first increase since 1920. The number of male members was about 4,720,000, showing an increase of 123,000, or 2.7 per cent., as compared with the previous year, and the number of female members was 811,000, showing a decrease of 2,000, or 0.2 per cent. The total of 5,531,000 includes about 30,000 members in Irish Free State branches, and 31,000 members in other overseas branches of certain Unions (compared with 29,000 in Irish Free State branches and 65,000 in other overseas branches, in the previous year). It also includes a number of persons (principally teachers) who are members of more than one society, and are therefore counted more than once in the figures. When allowance is made for these cases the net number of members in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated to have been 5,450,000 at the end of 1924, as compared with about 5,300,000 at the end of 1923. Of this total, approximately 85,000 was the membership of societies or branches of societies in Northern Ireland.

The detailed Table I on page 402 shows that, while there was no great change in the total membership in 1924 as compared with 1923, many groups of Unions showed considerable increases and other groups fairly heavy reductions.

An increase in the general labour group was largely accounted for by the amalgamation with a Trade Union in that group of a Union with a membership of over 40,000 previously included in the national and local government group. The latter group shows a decrease, the largest numerical decrease recorded in any group, which is wholly accounted for by this amalgamation. Apart from this there was a considerable increase in "general labour," and there were also large increases in "other transport" (65,000, or 18 per cent.), mining and quarrying (45,000, or 5 per cent.), railway service (28,000, or 6 per cent.), and builders' labourers (11,000, or 23 per cent.). A decrease of 29,000 in the carpenters and joiners' group was entirely in its overseas membership.

The metal, engineering and shipbuilding group showed a decrease of 32,000, or 5 per cent., and the group of agricultural, etc., workers a decrease of 18,000, or 23 per cent.

While the total male membership of all groups showed an increase of nearly 3 per cent. in 1924, the total female membership showed very little change. The female membership of the cotton group, however, which had sustained a heavy reduction during 1923, remained practically unaltered at the end of 1924. In the wool, worsted and shoddy group, and in the hosiery group, the female membership decreased by about 5 per cent.

Comparison with 1913 and with 1920.

The second of the detailed Tables given on page 402 shows the total membership (also sub-divided into male and female) in each of the main groups of Unions at the end of 1913 and of 1920, 1922, 1923 and 1924. The great decline which began in 1921 and continued during 1922 and 1923 was arrested during 1924. For the first time since 1920, when Trade Union membership reached its highest level, the total showed an increase, although still falling short of the total at the end of 1922. Membership of the agricultural labour group at the end of the year was less than one-third of its total in 1920, that of the general labour group less than one-half, and those of the metal, engineering and shipbuilding and the commerce, distribution and finance groups, less than three-fifths. The smallest decline was in the teaching group, which did not reach its maximum membership until 1922.

Compared with 1913 the cotton group showed a slight decrease; but in all other groups there were increases, ranging from about 5 per cent. in the mining and quarrying group to nearly 200 per cent. in the agricultural labourers' group. The "other textile" group doubled, and the paper, printing, etc., group more than doubled, its membership.

The female membership of the general labour group in 1924 was less than one-third that of 1920; in the commerce, distribution and

* The figures for 1924 are provisional and may be subject to slight revision when further information is available. The subdivision of the total membership into male and female is not exact, as estimates have been made for some Trade Unions which are unable to state precisely the numbers of males and of females comprised within their membership.

finance group it was under two-fifths, and in clothing under three-fifths. In comparison with 1913, however, there was an increase in every group, and most of the groups had more than doubled in size.

Totals for 1892-1924.

The following Table shows the total number of Unions known to have been in existence in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in each year from 1892 to 1924, and their aggregate membership to the nearest thousand. (The figures of membership include members in overseas branches and in Irish Free State branches of such Unions, but wholly exclude Unions having their head offices in the Irish Free State area):—

Year.	Number of Trade Unions at end of Year.	Membership* at end of Year.			Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Total Membership of previous Year.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
1892	1,233	1,576	1,576	1,576	...
1893	1,279	1,584	1,584	1,584	- 1.1
1894	1,314	1,530	1,530	1,530	- 1.9
1895	1,340	1,504	1,504	1,504	- 1.7
1896	1,358	1,466	142	1,608	+ 7.0
1897	1,353	1,584	147	1,731	+ 7.6
1898	1,326	1,608	144	1,752	+ 1.2
1899	1,325	1,761	150	1,911	+ 9.1
1900	1,323	1,868	154	2,022	+ 5.8
1901	1,322	1,873	152	2,025	+ 0.1
1902	1,297	1,857	156	2,013	- 0.6
1903	1,285	1,838	156	1,994	- 1.0
1904	1,256	1,802	165	1,967	- 1.3
1905	1,244	1,817	180	1,997	+ 1.5
1906	1,282	1,999	211	2,210	+ 10.7
1907	1,283	2,263	250	2,513	+ 13.7
1908	1,268	2,230	255	2,485	- 1.1
1909	1,260	2,214	263	2,477	- 0.3
1910	1,269	2,287	278	2,565	+ 3.5
1911	1,290	2,804	335	3,139	+ 22.4
1912	1,252	3,026	390	3,416	+ 8.8
1913	1,269	3,702	433	4,135	+ 21.0
1914	1,260	3,708	437	4,145	+ 0.3
1915	1,229	3,868	491	4,359	+ 5.2
1916	1,225	4,018	626	4,644	+ 6.5
1917	1,241	4,621	878	5,499	+ 18.4
1918	1,264	5,324	1,209	6,533	+ 18.8
1919	1,360	6,600	1,326	7,926	+ 21.3
1920	1,364	6,994	1,340	8,334	+ 5.1
1921	1,251	6,618	1,004	7,622	- 20.5
1922	1,203	4,744	870	5,614	- 15.2
1923	1,161	4,597	813	5,410	- 3.6
1924	1,155	4,720	811	5,531	+ 2.2

As will be seen from the following figures, a large part of the reduction in the total number of Trade Unions in recent years has been due to amalgamations.

Year.	New Unions formed (other than by amalgamations.)	Reductions due to		Net Increase (+) or Reduction (-).
		Dissolutions.	Amalgamations.	
1920	119	33	82	+ 4
1921	45	73	85	- 113
1922	28	40	36	- 48
1923	16	42	16	- 42
1924	26	18	14	- 6

FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS.*

Returns obtained by the Department show that at the end of 1924 the gross total membership of Federations of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as reported to the Department, was about 5,331,000. Corresponding figures are given below for the end of each year since 1913:—

Year.	Number of Federations.*	Approximate Gross Total Membership.*
1913	125	4,370,000
1914	137	4,750,000
1915	148	4,943,000
1916	163	4,980,000
1917	182	6,481,000
1918	152	8,631,000
1919	134	9,896,000
1920	114	10,744,000
1921	103	8,623,000
1922	93	6,232,000
1923	90	5,654,000
1924	87	5,331,000

The decline in the number of Federations between 1917 and 1924 is largely due to merging of local into national organisations.

In many instances Trade Unions, or branches of Trade Unions, are affiliated to more than one Federation, and therefore a large number of Trade Union members are counted more than once in the gross membership given above. In some cases, also, the total membership of Unions affiliated is reckoned by the Federation, although affiliation fees were not paid by the Unions in respect of all their members. In the following Table the actual or estimated federated membership of each federated Trade Union is counted once only, irrespective of the number of Federations to which the Trade Union was affiliated. The Table shows, for the years 1913, 1923, and 1924, (a) the total membership (to the nearest thousand) in each group of those Trade Unions (or of those sections or branches of Trade Unions) which were affiliated to Federations, and (b) the

* See note * in previous column.

COMMITTEE ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

The Minister of Labour has appointed a Committee of Enquiry, with the following terms of reference:—

"To consider, in the light of experience gained in the working of the Unemployment Insurance Scheme, what changes in the Scheme, if any, ought to be made."

The Committee is constituted as follows:—The Lord Blanesburgh, G.B.E. (Chairman); Miss Margaret Bondfield; Sir James Curtis, K.B.E.; Professor Carless Davis, C.B.E.; Mr. J. Hamilton; Sir Hugo Hirst, Bart.; Mr. Frank Hodges; Mr. A. Holmes; Mr. Laurence Holt; Sir James Lithgow, Bart.; Sir William McLintock, K.B.E., C.V.O.; Viscountess Milner; and Sir Glynn Hamilton West. The Secretary to the Committee is Mr. J. A. Dale, C.B.E., of the Employment and Insurance Department, Ministry of Labour. All communications should be addressed to him at Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.1.

COAL MINING: NUMBERS EMPLOYED, PRODUCTION, ETC.

A RETURN* has been issued by the Mines Department containing statistical tables relating to the production, consumption, and imports and exports of coal in the British Empire and the principal foreign countries in the period 1901-1924. Statements showing the production of lignite and of petroleum in the principal producing countries are also included.

The Return contains Tables showing, for the United Kingdom, India, and Australia, and for the principal coal-producing foreign countries, the quantity and value of coal produced, the number of persons employed, the imports and exports, the quantity available for consumption, and the country of origin of the coal consumed; also (for the United Kingdom) the quantity of coal brought to London, the coal shipped coastwise, and the coal consumed in the production of pig iron, in the manufacture of gas, and for locomotive purposes on railways.

The total coal production of the world, exclusive of brown coal or lignite, is estimated at 1,195 million tons in 1913 and at 1,180 million tons in 1923; while the particulars available for 1924 indicate a further reduction of about 13 million tons in that year. Of the principal producing countries, the United States show a small increase, from 509 million tons in 1913 to 512 million tons in 1924; the United Kingdom a reduction, from 287½ to 267 million tons; and Germany a much heavier reduction, principally, however, due to losses of territory. The output of the principal European coal-producing countries taken as a whole shows a reduction of 62½ million tons, or 11 per cent., between 1913 and 1924. This excludes the Netherlands, whose coal production has risen from less than half a million tons twenty years ago, and less than two million tons in 1913, to nearly six million tons in 1924.

The number of persons employed in coal mining in the United Kingdom and the quantity of coal produced annually per person employed during the period 1901-1924 were as follows:—

Periods.	Number employed†		Quantity of coal produced per annum per person.
	Below ground.	Above and below ground.	
1901-05 (average)	655,600	815,700	Tons. 281
1906-10 (")	768,300	953,000	275
1911-15 (")	847,531	1,053,604	255‡
1916-20 (")	851,432	1,074,009	224
1921	908,066	1,131,596	144
1922	921,737§	1,148,469§	217§
1923	966,136§	1,203,290§	229§
1924	966,158§	1,213,724§	220§

† Great Britain employs in the coal mining industry more persons than any other country. The following Table shows the numbers employed and the output per person employed in 1913 and in 1923 in the United Kingdom and in certain foreign countries:—

Country.	Persons employed.		Average output per person employed.	
	1913.	1923.	1913.	1923.
United Kingdom†	1,107,000	1,203,000§	260	229§
United States	748,000	861,000	681	682
Germany	654,000||	595,000	286|	103**
France	200,000	225,000**	197	136**
Belgium	145,000	160,000	155	141

* Coal Tables, 1924. H.C. 168; price 1s. net. The Return is in continuation of similar Returns issued before the War, the last being H.C. 285 of Session 1913 (issued in 1914).

† The figures are based on the total number of persons employed in mines under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, after deducting the estimated number engaged in raising minerals other than coal.

‡ From 1912 the figures of production exclude dirt raised with the coal, amounting in that year to 2,268,000 tons.

§ Excluding Ireland.

|| The number of persons employed in coal mining in 1913 in Germany as constituted to-day was 491,000, and the average output per person employed was 282 tons.

** The average output per person employed in 1922 was 169 tons; the decrease in 1923 is attributable to the occupation of the Ruhr.

** Figures for 1922, excluding 72,790 persons employed in the Saar coal-field, with an average output of 152 tons.

percentage proportion of federated membership to the total membership of each group as shown in the Table on page 402.

Group of Trade Unions.	Membership of Trade Unions affiliated to Federations. (000's omitted).			Percentage Proportion of Federated Membership to Total Membership (as shown on page 402).		
	1913.	1923.	1924.	1913.	1923.	1924.
Agriculture, Horticulture, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mining and Quarrying ...	905	898	942	98	98	98
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	523	366	350	96	51	92
Textile ...	422	587	565	81	97	93
Clothing (including Boot and Shoe) ...	97	140	64	91	87	39
Woodworking and Furnishing ...	55	71	73	92	79	77
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	82	178	179	98	99	96
Building ...	87	257	255	37	72	76
Railway Service ...	32	58	68	10	12	13
Other Transport ...	298	186	160	81	41	31
Commerce, Finance, etc.	15	101	98	11	45	42
National and Local Government ...	116	162	114	49	46	36
Teaching ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	47	102	95	46	66	64
General Labour ...	266	425	201	74	97	59
Totals ...	2,945	3,531	3,164	71	65	57

The proportion of federated membership at the end of 1924 showed a decrease in most of the groups. The decrease in the general labour group and in the national and local government group followed the amalgamation of three large Unions in those groups and the consequent suspension of the Federation to which they had formerly been affiliated. In the clothing group the decrease affected the boot and shoe section.

The General Federation of Trade Unions included, at the end of 1924, nearly 120 Trade Unions, which paid fees to the Federation on a membership of 834,000.

Among other Federations, those which had the largest memberships were the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, which included nearly all of the miners' Unions; the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades; the Northern Counties Textile Trades Federation and the United Textile Factory Workers' Association (representing the cotton industry); the National Association of Unions in the Textile Trades (representing other textile industries); the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives; the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation; the National Transport Workers' Federation; and the National Federation of Professional Workers.

TRADES COUNCILS.

At the end of 1924 the number of Trades Councils in Great Britain and Northern Ireland known to the Department as existing wholly or partly for industrial purposes (including industrial sections of local Labour Parties) was 479, as compared with 487 in the previous year and 329 in 1913. A few Councils, existing solely for political purposes, are excluded from these figures. The total Trade Union membership represented for industrial purposes on these Councils, through payment of fees by local Trade Union branches or by local Trade Unions, as shown by returns obtained by the Department from the Councils, was approximately 2,241,000 in 1924, compared with 2,339,000 in 1923 and with 1,495,000 in 1913. These figures represent about 41 per cent. of the total membership of Trade Unions in 1924, 43 per cent. in 1923, and 36 per cent. in 1913. It should be observed that the number of members in respect of whom fees are paid is sometimes considerably less than the full membership of the Trade Union or the Trade Union branch affiliated.

The following Table shows the geographical distribution of these Councils in 1913, 1923 and 1924:—

District.	Number of Trades Councils.			Total Trade Union Membership represented for industrial purposes, by payment of fees (000's omitted).		
	1913.	1923.	1924.	1913.	1923.	1924.
Northern Counties and Cleveland ...	14	23	22	60	100	105
Yorkshire (excluding Cleveland) ...	35	38	39	152	235	207
Lancashire, Cheshire and Isle of Man ...	58	70	68	403	490	455
N. and W. Midland Counties ...	53	70	68	266	436	439
S. Midland and E. Counties ...	39	73	73	74	173	165
London ...	17	24	24	103	260	255
South-Eastern Counties ...	27	54	53	46	85	92
South-Western Counties ...	14	33	28	21	71	71
Wales & Monmouthshire ...	36	54	52	126	177	171
Scotland ...	35	45	49	230	285	259
Northern Ireland ...	1	3	3	14	27	22
Totals ...	329	487	479	1,495	2,339	2,241

The majority of the districts showed a decline in membership in 1924; but in the Northern Counties and Cleveland, in the North and West Midland Counties, and in the South-Eastern Counties increases were shown, while there was no change in the South-Western Counties.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF PERSONS INSURED UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

On pages 396 and 397 of this GAZETTE figures are given for each industrial group showing the estimated number of persons in Great Britain and Northern Ireland who, at July, 1925, were insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The estimate includes all persons who, at the beginning of the insurance year 1925-26 (in the first week of July) were insured against unemployment and were either in insured employment (including those temporarily away through sickness or recognised holidays) or, if not in insured employment, were included within certain categories of insured workers whose unemployment books were lodged at Employment Exchanges.

The great majority of the unemployment books which are in use relate to persons who are in insured employment. These books have stamp spaces for one year only and at the end of the insurance year must be exchanged at an Employment Exchange for new books of the following year's currency.

This process of exchange furnishes the opportunity for taking a count, industry by industry, and distinguishing adults from juveniles and males from females, of the persons whose books are sent in for exchange. Usually over 99 per cent. of the books due to be exchanged are sent in by the end of September, and a close estimate can accordingly be formed, in October, of the numbers likely to be received during the remainder of the insurance year.

In addition to the books actually exchanged, however, it is known that there are numbers which should be exchanged but are not sent in. The books may have been lost, destroyed or suppressed, and the fact not reported, and when the insured person again requires a book he obtains a new one. The approximate number of such cases is indicated by the extent to which duplicate applications for unemployment books are received, and the alphabetical index of insured persons reveals the fact that a book has previously been issued to about one in every nine of those who now submit original application forms. These duplications are disproportionately high among adult females, and in the distributive trades and non-private domestic service. They arise largely, no doubt, from the fact that the individuals concerned are liable to frequent changes of employment, to spells of uninsured work, and to spells of unemployment without registration for other employment, particularly in the case of married women; and to a certain amount of negligence in the care of unemployment books.

After making a deduction from the gross figure of duplications to allow for cases where on the one hand the previous book has been in use during the current year and on the other where it has not been in use nor lodged at an Employment Exchange within the last six or eight months of the previous year, it is estimated that on this ground alone there should be added to the number of books actually exchanged a figure of about 85,000 to represent the books not received which were current at the beginning of the year and should have been exchanged. A further addition of about 15,000 is indicated by the disproportionate number of new books applied for in the first month of each insurance year. This is, no doubt, due to the wide advertisement of the need for exchanging old books and the consequent reminder in cases where books which should have been applied for in the previous year have not been obtained. There is also included in the estimate a small allowance for books received in respect of persons who have died or gone abroad or joined H.M. Forces in the new Insurance Year and whose previous year's books were not exchanged although the individuals were within the scheme of insurance at the beginning of the new insurance year.

Certain deductions must, however, be made from the gross figure thus arrived at to allow for cases where books were exchanged in respect of persons who are subsequently found to have gone out of insurance or who will never bring such books into use again. Some of these will be persons who within the last six months of the previous insurance year have paid contributions in respect of employment which is subsequently found not to have been insurable, but the great majority will consist of persons whose books were "lodged" at Employment Exchanges at the time of the exchange of books.

As a general rule, the "lodging" of an unemployment book takes place when the person to whom it relates either claims unemployment benefit; or registers for employment without claiming benefit; or is unemployed but is disqualified for or does not claim benefit, or does not maintain registration for employment; or becomes employed in an uninsured occupation; or becomes sick or otherwise incapacitated; or retires from employment altogether; or is granted an old-age pension. (In cases where the individuals are known to have died or gone abroad or joined H.M. Forces the books are not placed in the "lodged" files and are never included in the statistics.) In all cases where the individual had a claim for unemployment benefit current, or was maintaining registration at an Employment Exchange, at the beginning of the insurance year, he is included in the estimated number of insured persons. In all other cases "lodged" books are included in the figures only if they were placed in the files during the last six months of the previous year and the individuals to whom they relate are likely during the current year to become employed in an insured occupation, or to register for such employment, or to claim unemployment benefit.

Information is available concerning the numbers of books which remain "lodged" during specified periods and which are never re-issued—the individual concerned having completely lost touch with the Employment Exchanges—and by means of this information it is possible to calculate the proportion of books "lodged"—other than those relating to persons who have claims to unemployment benefit current at the end of the insurance year—which have been

included in the numbers of books exchanged but which will not in fact again come into use.

On these calculations the estimated number of insured persons in Great Britain at the beginning of July, 1925, was approximately 11,626,000, inclusive of those insured under Special Schemes for the insurance and banking industries, who number approximately 126,000. In the Table on page 396 this figure is increased to 11,892,000 by the inclusion of Northern Ireland.

It will be seen that this figure does not represent the total number of persons who have at any time paid contributions under the Acts but is intended rather to indicate the number of persons who are effectively in insurance and are actually in employment in the insured industries, together with those who, although unemployed at the date of the count, would normally be classified as seeking employment in those industries.

CHANGES BETWEEN JULY, 1924, AND JULY, 1925, IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS.

In the preceding article there is given a brief outline of the method by which the numbers of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts are estimated. On this basis, the increase between the beginning of July, 1924, and July, 1925, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is found to be 252,000, as shown below:—

	July, 1924.*	July, 1925.*	Increase.
Great Britain	11,382,000	11,626,000	244,000
N. Ireland	258,000	266,000	8,000
Great Britain and N. Ireland	11,640,000	11,892,000	252,000

It appears probable that over and above the normal increase in the insurable population, a larger number than usual were brought into insurance through the improvement in employment in 1924 as compared with the years 1921-1923, and such persons would appear in the figures for July, 1925, in spite of the decline in employment in certain industries during the current year.

The following Table shows the increases and decreases during the period in those industries where the change amounted to 4,000 or more. For various reasons it is desirable not to attach undue significance to the precise degree of particular changes. There is good reason to suppose, however, that the changes reflect in a general way the changes that have occurred in industry itself.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN THE NUMBERS INSURED, 1924-25.

Industry.	INCREASES.		
	Estimated Number Insured at July, 1924.	Increase at July, 1925.	Percentage Increase on July, 1924.
Silk	41,720	5,170	12.4
Brick, Tiles, etc.	70,490	8,020	11.4
Public Works Contracting	134,580	14,300	10.6
Electric Cable, etc.	74,940	6,410	8.6
Railway Carriage, etc., Building	52,180	4,070	7.8
Distributive Trades	1,352,110	106,090	7.8
Shipping Service	119,120	8,810	7.4
Electrical Engineering	71,530	5,190	7.3
Cocoa, Chocolate, etc.	72,170	4,960	6.9
Local Government	243,710	14,660	6.0
Construction and Repair of Motors, etc.	203,340	11,500	5.7
Misc. Food Industries	108,480	5,840	5.4
Furniture, Upholstery, etc.	96,760	4,920	5.1
Hosiery	93,410	4,290	4.6
Building	721,560	32,560	4.5
Gas, Water and Electricity	171,550	7,100	4.1
Laundries, Dyeing, etc.	112,870	4,420	3.9
Drink	108,900	4,280	3.9
Misc. Road Transport	189,450	6,490	3.4
Tailoring	175,550	5,270	3.0
Misc. Metal Industries	562,390	14,330	2.5
Cotton	240,140	5,200	2.2
Printing, Publishing, etc.	289,920	4,110	1.4
Hotels, Boarding Houses, etc.			
Total in above industries	5,057,300	293,780	5.8

Industry.	DECREASES.		
	Estimated Number Insured at July, 1924.	Decrease at July, 1925.	Percentage Decrease on July, 1924.
Pig Iron Manufacture	30,190	4,410	14.6
Marine Engineering	66,110	4,390	6.6
Shipbuilding	255,090	13,390	5.2
Steel Melting, Iron and Steel Rolling, etc.	207,270	7,140	3.4
Commerce, Banking, Finance, etc.*	226,740	6,630	2.9
National Government	160,970	4,480	2.8
Railway Service	173,210	4,600	2.7
Coal Mining	1,260,350	19,900	1.6
Total in above industries	2,379,930	64,940	2.7

* The figures include persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries.

It will be seen that these industries, which include 65 per cent. of the total number of insured workpeople, account for nearly 90 per cent. of the net increase in all industries, and that the main decreases are in those industries which have suffered most from unemployment.

REVISED PERCENTAGES OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN, JULY, 1924, TO JUNE, 1925.

The numbers of insured persons are estimated once a year at the beginning of July. The estimated figure at July, 1924, was 11,382,000; for July, 1925, it is estimated at 11,626,000. The increase of 244,000 shown by these figures obviously did not all take place at the end of the year, and the intervening monthly figures accordingly require some adjustment. The available evidence goes to show that the increase was fairly evenly spread over the twelve months, and the adjustment has been made on that basis. The amended figures with re-calculated percentages are given below. Persons insured under the Special Schemes for the banking and insurance industries have been included, and these raise the base number previously used for July, 1924, by 126,000.

The figures in the Table below relate to Great Britain only, and accordingly the percentages differ from those given in the Table on page 386, which relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Month.	Estimated number insured.	Percentage of insured persons un-employed.	Month.	Estimated number insured.	Percentage of insured persons un-employed.
1924.			1925.		
July	11,382,000	9.6	January	11,504,000	11.1
August	11,402,000	10.3	February	11,524,000	11.1
September	11,422,000	10.5	March	11,544,000	10.8
October	11,443,000	10.8	April	11,565,000	10.6
November	11,463,000	10.7	May	11,585,000	10.6
December	11,483,000	10.6	June	11,605,000	10.6

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, 1925.

In the issues of this GAZETTE for October, 1924 (page 353) and May, 1925 (page 157), statements were published giving the numbers of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain in each week from January 7th, 1921, to May 4th, 1925. In the Table below the series is continued up to the latest date for which figures are available.

NUMBERS OF PERSONS REGISTERED AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Date.	Number.	Date.	Number.
1925.		Aug. 3	1,260,407
May 11	1,184,251	" 10	1,269,450
" 18	1,185,020	" 17	1,298,285
" 25	1,186,522	" 24	1,343,738
June 1	1,247,306	" 31	1,354,302
" 8	1,291,191	Sept. 7	1,345,455
" 15	1,280,370	" 14	1,327,637
" 22	1,299,667	" 21	1,316,958
" 29	1,304,243	" 28	1,336,155
July 6	1,300,350	Oct. 5	1,297,628
" 13	1,248,466	" 12	1,258,825
" 20	1,221,912	" 19	1,238,158
" 27	1,197,631	" 26	1,232,396
		Nov. 2	1,207,612

COMMITTEE ON EFFECT OF NATIONAL INSURANCE AND PENSIONS ON OVERSEA SETTLEMENT.

THE Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs has appointed an inter-departmental Committee to consider how far the existing provision for Old Age Pensions and for National Health and Unemployment Insurance tends to discourage migration from this country with a view to settlement in the Empire overseas, and how far any such tendency will be accentuated by the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, and in what manner any adverse effect resulting from such legislation can best be counteracted.

The members of the Committee are:—Sir Donald Maclean (Chairman); Mr. C. W. G. Eady; Miss A. Franklin; Mr. Alfred Henry; Sir Walter L. Kinnear; Mr. T. C. Macnaghten; and Mr. A. C. C. Parkinson. The joint secretaries are Mr. W. Garnett (Oversea Settlement Department) and Mr. L. G. Starke (Government Actuary's Department).

CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN 1924.

The following particulars as to the operations of agricultural and fishery co-operative societies in 1924 and previous years have been prepared by the Registrar of Friendly Societies from the statutory Returns furnished annually to his Department under the Industrial and Provident Societies and Friendly Societies Acts. The particulars are exclusive of societies registered in Ireland.

The societies are dealt with in three main groups:—(1) *Requirement Societies*, whose principal function is to supply their members with seeds, manures, utensils or other requirements for the carrying on of agriculture, and in the case of fishing societies with fishing tackle, etc.; (2) *Produce Societies*, which are chiefly concerned with the marketing of members' produce; and (3) *Service Societies*, which supply members with some service connected with the industry of agriculture, e.g., threshing. Some societies deal both in requirements and in produce. Usually societies fall readily into one of the three groups, but in exceptional cases, where a society undertakes the sale of produce and the supply of requirements to an equal extent, the decision which places it in the one category or the other is necessarily somewhat arbitrary. The societies connected with fishing are at present so few in number, and their operations on so small a scale, that their transactions do not affect materially the total figures given, and they are not, therefore, dealt with separately in the Tables which follow.

I. REQUIREMENT SOCIETIES.

The following Table gives particulars of the operations of these societies in Great Britain for the years 1914-1924:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Member-ship.	Sales.*	Profit or Loss (-) on Year.	Wages.
1914	274	29,603	£ 1,816,155	£ 26,839	£ 33,839
1915	301	33,421	2,653,100	53,257	44,627
1916	329	38,253	3,616,197	71,148	55,051
1917	410	54,367	4,323,532	75,821	59,755
1918	506	77,189	4,596,226	52,512	78,927
1919	581	94,468	8,995,544	65,608	150,684
1920	703	117,040	13,351,169	102,412	329,620
1921	710	117,605	10,679,709	147,828	395,610
1922	636	113,823	8,813,355	7,519	377,074
1923	596	107,210	8,366,949	27,633	356,178
1924	554	98,605	8,853,674	59,439	340,355

It will be observed that an aggregate profit was returned in 1924 for the first time since 1919. This was due largely to the exclusion of particulars for the Agricultural Wholesale Society, Ltd., which had made losses of £156,000, £46,000, £23,000 and £41,000 in the four preceding years. (This Society is now being wound up, by Order of the Court made in July, 1924.) As many societies had already taken measures to meet losses on their investments in the Agricultural Wholesale Society, the results of the year's trading were actually even more favourable than the figures indicate.

Societies in this group are further sub-divided for the purpose of the Chief Registrar's Annual Report (Part 3, Industrial and Provident Societies) into (a) Farmers', (b) Allotment Workers', and (c) Fishermen's Trading Societies. The Farmers' Societies are the most numerous, and are responsible for the bulk of the business done, as will be seen from the following particulars for 1924:—

	Number of Societies.		Sales.	
	England & Wales.	Scotland.	England & Wales.	Scotland.
Farmers' Societies	202	136	£ 8,193,694	£ 388,709
Allotment Workers' Societies	168	...	168,807	...
Fishermen's Trading Societies ...	47	1	102,464	...

The 417 societies in England and Wales in 1924 had 2,245 employees, and share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £2,083,000. This capital represented about £24 per member; the 137 societies in Scotland had 147 employees, and capital amounting to £60,000, or about £5 per member.

II. PRODUCE SOCIETIES.

The following Table gives particulars of the operations of these societies in Great Britain, for the years 1914 to 1924:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Member-ship.	Sales.†	Profit or Loss (-) on Year.	Wages.
1914	129	10,401	£ 935,552	£ 16,890	£ 37,482
1915	140	11,943	1,186,001	25,987	36,941
1916	159	13,701	1,641,359	21,517	43,998
1917	228	25,384	2,917,867	56,646	71,305
1918	289	40,697	4,552,383	66,819	107,677
1919	315	45,779	7,157,444	47,220	185,632
1920	302	44,201	7,920,488	116,420	261,561
1921	263	40,309	5,952,385	6,396	247,446
1922	248	38,395	4,199,533	11,812	200,941
1923	230	38,060	3,343,536	2,694	156,919
1924	238	34,888	3,673,516	6,017	167,125

* See reference on page 382 as to sales of produce included here.
† See reference on page 382 as to sales of requirements included here.

In 1924 this group comprised 98 dairy societies, 66 egg and poultry societies, 12 fruit and market garden produce societies, 47 farmers' and growers' societies and 15 miscellaneous societies.

The 149 societies in England and Wales in 1924 had 1,018 employees, and share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £802,000, equivalent to about £26 per member; the 89 societies in Scotland had 317 employees, and capital amounting to £298,000 or nearly £66 per member. This high figure for Scotland was mainly due to several large dairy farmers' associations.

The sales of various kinds of produce for the years 1923 and 1924 are shown in the following Table:—

Description of Produce.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	1923.	1924.	1923.	1924.
	£	£	£	£
Milk and Dairy ...	1,309,473	1,282,339	767,622	783,138
Eggs and Poultry ...	295,563	308,746	56,076	65,721
Live Stock ...	14,466	23,911	31,346	43,070
Fruit and Market Garden ...	88,599	98,809	57	52
Sundry* ...	536,777	825,371	3,498	9,847

In addition to their sales of produce these societies in 1924 supplied their members with requirements to the amount of £155,707 in England and Wales, and £76,805 in Scotland. The sales of the requirement societies (group I), on the other hand included produce of the following descriptions and values:—

Description of Produce.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	1923.	1924.	1923.	1924.
	£	£	£	£
Milk and Dairy ...	236,756	172,682	...	...
Eggs and Poultry ...	53,972	77,082	4,158	2,329
Live Stock ...	415,552	471,250	97	50
Fruit and Market Garden ...	66,877	127,271	630	...
Sundry* ...	121,800	98,319	...	...

In addition to the societies classified as "agricultural," 196 industrial societies had farming and dairying departments. In 1924 they employed 2,880 persons in these departments, to whom £290,000 was paid in wages; and the value of productions in these departments amounted to £1,592,000. Societies in England and Wales were responsible for about 61 per cent. of these productions.

III. SERVICE SOCIETIES.

This group includes not only the service societies, such as threshing, etc., registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, but also small holdings and allotments societies and credit societies, and in addition certain societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act, viz., cattle insurance societies, agricultural credit societies, and societies for the promotion of horticulture and agriculture. Small holdings and allotments societies are responsible for the bulk of the figures tabulated (see subsequent Special Table).

The following Table gives particulars of these societies in Great Britain for the years 1914-1924:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Membership.	Profit or Loss (-) on Year.†	Wages.‡
			£	£
1914	346	29,954	4,294	5,991
1915	353	31,604	4,051	7,991
1916	353	33,901	5,736	8,399
1917	432	54,680	13,742	10,554
1918	596	99,215	16,712	16,576
1919	750	123,307	26,019	24,982
1920	937	153,046	9,872	30,964
1921	976	168,525	(-) 3,042	34,768
1922	981	176,911	10,135	34,003
1923	974	178,036	9,438	34,307
1924	949	177,112	6,587	35,029

Societies in England and Wales in 1924 had share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £403,000, equivalent to about £2 6s. per member. This low figure is due to the small holdings and allotment societies, whose capital per member is proportionately very small. The societies in Scotland had capital amounting to £83,000, or £27 per member.

Credit Societies were comparatively few in number, and their business was on a small scale. Eight societies were registered during 1924 for the purpose of receiving advances under the Agricultural Credits Act, which came into operation during 1923.

* The sundry produce represented mainly dead meat in respect of Societies undertaking slaughtering.

† Exclusive of wages in respect of Small Holdings and Allotments Societies, Credit Societies, and Societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act, for which particulars are not available.

‡ Exclusive of profit or loss on year for Cattle Insurance Societies and Societies formed for the promotion of horticulture and agriculture registered under the Friendly Societies Act, for which particulars are not available.

Small Holdings and Allotments Societies.—Additional particulars of small holdings and allotments societies included in this group are given in the following Table:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Acreage of Land let as—		Rent payable by—		Value of Land and Buildings owned by Societies.
		Small Holdings.	Allotments.	Societies.	Tenants.	
				£	£	£
1914	180	12,597	1,651	26,074	30,156	34,025
1915	178	13,029	1,682	28,633	33,304	34,774
1916	181	13,129	1,780	29,989	34,910	34,299
1917	254	13,161	2,778	31,784	38,989	39,337
1918	406	13,514	4,510	39,108	50,246	51,449
1919	591	13,576	5,916	45,174	57,202	67,125
1920	724	15,723	8,063	59,321	74,579	137,160
1921	763	17,473	9,712	76,201	96,949	187,240
1922	774	17,635	10,013	80,292	104,062	178,524
1923	771	17,336	10,572	77,813	104,369	161,162
1924	734	16,876	10,303	75,732	99,283	144,742

In 1924 these societies had 152,498 members, of whom 97,950, or about 64 per cent., were tenants. The operations for the year resulted in a surplus of £9,000 on the small holdings and allotments and trading departments, as against a surplus of £8,511 for the preceding year.

GENERAL.

The following Table shows the sales in 1924 for all Requirement and Produce Societies (including the industrial societies above mentioned):—

	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Great Britain.
	£	£	£
Agricultural Requirements ...	7,674,068	463,135	8,137,203
Agricultural Produce:—			
Milk and Dairy ...	1,660,701	1,162,571	2,823,272
Eggs and Poultry ...	385,828	68,050	453,878
Live Stock ...	495,161	43,120	538,281
Fruit and Market Garden ...	226,080	52	226,132
Sundry (including Farm Produce of Industrial Societies) ...	1,685,143	255,462	1,940,605
Total Sales ...	12,126,981	1,992,390	14,119,371

The total sales for 1924 represented an increase on the value for 1923 of £885,000, or nearly 6 per cent. in requirements and 18 per cent. in produce.

In the aggregate, requirements, produce and service societies in 1924 made a profit of £60,000, compared with a loss of nearly £21,000 for the preceding year. In England and Wales societies converted a loss of £35,000 for 1923 into a profit of £32,000 for 1924. This was due partly to the better results obtained in some of the farmers' societies in the requirements group, and partly to the omission of the Agricultural Wholesale Society, Ltd., referred to above. Heavy losses, however, were again sustained by some of the societies in the produce group, including some of the more recently formed co-operative bacon factories. In the Scottish societies, the aggregate profit earned in 1924 amounted to £28,000, double the figure for 1923. This increase was very largely attributable to Sheep Stock Credit societies (of which nine more were registered during 1924) in the produce group.

PROFIT SHARING, ETC.

The returns furnished show that of the 554 requirement societies in 1924, 37, employing 216 persons and paying £25,138 in wages, allotted bonuses to their employees amounting to £1,250, or 1s. in the £ on wages. Of the 238 produce societies, 17, employing 189 persons and paying £23,908 in wages, allotted bonuses amounting to £840, or 9d. in the £ on wages. Of the service societies, 5, paying £8,128 in wages, allotted bonuses to their employees amounting to £176, or 5d. in the £ on wages. Of the 196 departments of industrial societies, 12, employing 114 persons and paying wages in these departments amounting to £13,296, allotted bonuses of £189, or 3d. in the £ on wages.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY: ENGLAND AND WALES.

The President of the Board of Education and the Minister of Labour have appointed a Committee "to enquire into and advise upon the public system of education in England and Wales in relation to the requirements of trade and industry, with particular reference to the adequacy of the arrangements for enabling young persons to enter into and retain suitable employment."

The Committee consists of Mr. Douglas O. Malcolm (Chairman); Miss Violet Markham, C.H.; and Messrs. Max Bonn, C.B.E., W. B. Kenrick, Arthur Shaw, Christopher H. Turnor, and D. Milne Watson; with Mr. H. B. Wallis, Board of Education, and Mr. W. H. Lowe Watson, D.S.O., D.C.M., Ministry of Labour, as Joint Secretaries.

All communications should be addressed to the Joint Secretaries at the Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

DIRECTORY OF EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS, TRADE UNIONS, JOINT ORGANISATIONS, Etc., 1925.

A NEW edition of the Directory of Employers' Association, Trade Unions, Joint Organisations, etc., corrected up to September, 1925, has been compiled by the Ministry of Labour, and is now on sale.

This Directory contains particulars of approximately 2,400 Employers' Associations dealing with labour matters, 1,250 Trade Unions and Federations, 500 Trades Councils, and 400 Joint Standing Conciliation and Arbitration Boards, with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of their secretaries. The Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Conciliation and Arbitration Boards are classified and arranged in industrial groupings; and the Directory accordingly provides, in a convenient form, information as to the organisations concerned with particular industries or groups of industries.

Particulars are also given of the Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees set up in many industries to carry into effect the proposals of the Whitley Report, of the Trade Boards established under the Trade Boards Acts, and of the Agricultural Wages Board and Committees appointed under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act.

This Directory, which is the only comprehensive work of its kind, should be of special value to secretaries of Employers' Associations and of Trade Unions, to employers, and to all others who are concerned with questions of organisation among employers and workpeople.

Copies may be purchased (price 3s. net) from H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches (see the front page of the cover of this GAZETTE), or ordered through any bookseller.

JOINT INQUIRY INTO FOREIGN COMPETITION AND CONDITIONS IN SHIPBUILDING.

INTERIM REPORT.

In March of this year it was announced that a British shipowning firm had placed an order in Germany for five large motor ships, at a price much lower than the lowest tender from any British shipbuilding firm. Thereupon the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation invited the shipyard trade unions to a joint conference, to discuss the situation created by foreign competition and other cognate matters affecting the shipbuilding industry.

At the joint conference, which was held on the 27th March, the President of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation reviewed the situation, and suggested a joint investigation into the circumstances and present position of the industry, with reference to costs arising outside of the shipyards themselves, as well as costs arising within the shipyards. It was proposed, on behalf of the employers, that a joint committee should be set up to investigate conditions prejudicially bearing on the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industry, and to consider procedure and machinery for avoiding disputes and an index whereby future fluctuations of wages might be regulated with knowledge on both sides and in accordance with the ability of the industry to pay.

A number of questions were asked by the trade union representatives, and it was made clear that it was the employers' desire to have a free and full exchange of views, with a view to arriving at definite conclusions as to the best means which could be taken to re-establish the industry and enable it to retain its pre-eminent position in world shipbuilding. The trade union representatives referred the proposal to their executive committees; and at a meeting of the executives on the 24th April it was agreed to take part in the suggested joint inquiry into the position of the industry. In regard to the suggestion that the joint committee should also consider the question of procedure and machinery for avoiding disputes, and an index whereby future fluctuations of wages might be regulated, the executives decided to take no action in the meantime. A joint committee of inquiry was accordingly set up, and at the first meeting of this committee, held on 1st May, it was agreed that the first questions to be considered should be: (a) the hours, wages, and conditions prevailing on the Continent, as compared with Great Britain; (b) comparison of British and foreign prices in the contract, referred to above, which was placed in Germany by a British shipowning firm.

The Committee have recently issued an Interim Report* dealing with these questions, and have also decided to proceed with the second stage of the inquiry, dealing with costs outside the control of the industry. The following is a summary of the agreed conclusions reached in regard to the first section of the inquiry:—

Hours.—The Committee agree to direct the attention of the Minister of Labour to the fact that (a) in Germany, although nominally the hours of the regular working week are, under Government Order, 8 per day, in many cases, by agreement between employers and workers, the regular hours of work in shipyards are 54 per week, overtime rates being payable only for work done beyond those hours; (b) in Holland, although by statute the hours of the regular working week are 48, yet by licence of the Government Authority hours in shipyards have been increased to 54 per week; and (c) in France the hours of the regular working week are by law 48 "effective"

* Obtainable from the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation, 9, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, or from the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, 374, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

hours. The Committee state that they have no intention to increase the hours of work in British shipyards, but they agree to ask the Minister whether there are any steps he can take to further the observance of the shorter working week in the shipyards of other countries, making special reference to the importance of uniformity in interpretation and administration, and they express the view that "an international competitive race in hours of work would seriously jeopardise the general standard of working life."

The Committee also point out that it was an express provision of the Agreement of 19th November, 1918, under which the 47 hours' week was adopted in the shipbuilding industry, that all possible steps should be taken to ensure that, in the critical state through which the industry had to pass, the greatest possible output would be secured and maintained, and they re-affirm the principles set out in a memorandum of a Joint Conference [between the shipbuilding employers and the trade unions] of the 25th September, 1919, which contained, *inter alia*, an undertaking on the part of the trade unions "to recommend all their members to keep time as far as possible, and to remain at their work during the regular working hours right up to the time of stopping . . . and to be there prompt to begin again."

Wages.—An Appendix to the Report gives some comparisons of shipbuilding wages in this country and in Germany and Holland, in which the following figures are included:—

Country.	Time Rates of Wages of		
	Skilled Men.	Semi-Skilled Men.	Unskilled Men.
Germany (Hamburg):—			
Weekly (54 hours) ...	35s. 8d. to 37s. 10d.	32s. 11d. to 35s. 1d.	28s. 1d. to 30s. 3d.
Hourly ...	7·92d. to 8·4d.	7·32d. to 7·8d.	6·24d. to 6·72d.
Holland (Rotterdam):—			
Weekly ...	44s. 6d.	38s. 9d.	33s.
Britain (Tyne):—			
Weekly (47 hours) ...	55s. 6d.	41s. 6d.	38s. 6d.
Hourly ...	14·17d.	10·6d.	9·83d.

The Joint Committee state that they have no means of comparing the relative productivity per £1 of wages in this country and in Germany and Holland.

Overtime Rates.—The Report contains particulars of overtime rates in Germany and Holland, in which a settlement between the Hamburg Shipbuilding Employers and the German Trade Unions is quoted, providing that "overtime is to be regulated according to the needs of the management, and the pay suggested per hour for such work is to be . . . 20 per cent. above the ordinary rate in the case of the first two hours and . . . 40 per cent. in the case of all further hours." As regards Holland, the extra rates for overtime are shown as 15 per cent. for the first 2 hours, 25 per cent. after 2 hours to 10 p.m. and 50 per cent. from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Piecework Rates.—Statements are also included as to piecework rates in Germany and Holland. Payment by result is the general practice in both countries. In Germany the piece rates are so fixed as not in any circumstances to exceed 15 to 20 per cent. over the time rate; in Holland they are so fixed that average earnings are 20 per cent. over the time rate, with a usual range of from 10 to 30 per cent. over that rate.

Interchangeability and Demarcation.—Upon this question generally the Committee report that: "The introduction of sub-division of labour in British shipyards has no doubt gradually led to methods and practices which have prevented interchangeability, and we believe it is possible to secure greater elasticity and interchangeability without infringement of the broad principles of craftsmanship." With this in view the employers request immediate consideration of three proposals: (1) that in operations to commence and complete which two or more classes of workmen are under present conditions customary, there shall be freedom for one class of workman to complete the work when it is within their competence to do it; (2) that work which is not an essential and distinctive part of the work of any one class . . . may be performed by any one who is competent to do it; and (3) that where there is a definite shortage of any class of craftsmen, craftsmen of another class competent to do the work may be employed without prejudice to the work being regarded as an essential and distinctive part of the work of the first craft, and if the rates of the two classes are different, the higher rate will be paid. The classes of work for which interchangeability is asked are specified in an Appendix.

Payment by Results.—The Committee report that certain sections of the industry already work upon systems of payment by result, and they believe this has beneficial results in a quickened and less costly production. It is recognised that this question, in so far as its extension would affect the members of any other Unions, should be taken up between the unions concerned and the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation direct.

Facilities.—The Committee recognise that the use of labour-aiding machinery is to be encouraged, and that in the present state of trade and world competition it is the duty of all parties to secure for the industry as a whole all such savings in cost as can be obtained from the fullest use of machinery and of methods conducive to economic output.

In response to a request from the trade union representatives for information as to the financial position of the industry the Chairman of the Employers' Federation made a statement at a meeting of the Joint Committee on 29th July, from which the following passages are extracted:—

"On a test made in respect of contracts taken and completed by our members during the last three years, we find that the prices have been such that on the average the margin over labour and material has been so small as to cover only the increased local rates which firms have had to pay. There has been therefore on these contracts no margin at all for cost of administration, salaries and management, or directors' fees, or any of the upstanding charges which are a necessary part of the cost of every establishment; for example, depreciation of plant and machinery, and other capital upkeep . . . There has been on these contracts not a penny of remuneration for capital services. . . The industry is being carried on, and has been carried on for the last three years, at a very considerable loss. At the present moment there are only 28 per cent. of our berths occupied with work. . . The tonnage laid down during the last 2½ years is only half what it was in 2½ years prior to the war (2,376,000 tons against 4,757,000 tons). . . The tonnage laid down in this country is only 45 per cent. of the tonnage laid down in the world, which means that we are getting nothing like our pre-war share of such trade as is going. In addition, of course, we had pre-war a very much greater amount of naval work than we have to-day."

British and Foreign Prices.—A separate section of the Report deals with a comparison of the British and of the foreign prices in the contracts for the five motor ships which were the immediate occasion of the inquiry. Among other things, it was found that the lowest British tender allowed nothing for indirect charges (rates and taxes, management, administration, salaries, directors' fees, etc.), or for any return upon capital; also that, if the men employed on the hull of the ships (i.e., shipyard workers, not including engineering workers) had worked without remuneration, the British price would still have been higher than the German. In the opinion of the Committee, there was no substance in the contention (i) that the difference in price was due to any greater skill on the part of the German workmen or superiority in technical equipment, organising capacity, or in science of naval architecture; or in the contention (ii) that the difference was due to the German system of inter-association of firms controlling all the processes from the raw material to the finished article.

Foreign Competition Generally.—During the proceedings, the employers' representatives pointed out that the margin of difference between the British and the German prices in the case of these particular contracts was quite abnormal. In many contracts for new work, and in the majority of contracts for repair work (in which foreign competition was most keenly felt), the margin was not so great. In these cases, "by minor readjustment in handling and greater elasticity in the organisation of work, by interchangeability, and by the loyal and full observance of the conditions of the 47-hours' week, much of the new work and the greater portion of the ship-repairing work which at present goes to the Continent could be retained for the British workmen and the British shipbuilders."

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

KING'S NATIONAL ROLL.

The latest returns show that there are approximately 28,000 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-service men employed by these firms is approximately 365,000.

The Minister of Labour has announced that the Government propose to ask Parliament to pass a resolution on the analogy of the Fair Wages Resolution, laying down definitely the present practice that Government Contracts must, save in exceptional circumstances, be confined to firms on the King's Roll.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 27th October, 1925, the number of men in training was 3,522, and the number awaiting training, 490. Since 1st August, 1919, 95,067 men have terminated training.

COAL MINING INDUSTRY SUBVENTION.

The Mines Department announces that the following amounts have been paid in respect of the months of August and September, as a subvention to the coal mining industry, in accordance with the arrangements described on page 307 of the September issue of this GAZETTE:—

District.	Amount paid in respect of		Total.
	August.	September.	
Scotland	£ 300,812	£ 330,444	£ 631,256
Northumberland	115,494	121,588	237,082
Durham	277,006	301,563	578,569
South Wales and Monmouthshire	349,232	401,185	750,417
Eastern Division*	295,433	297,223	592,656
Lancs, North Staffs and Cheshire	180,340	201,087	381,427
North Wales	28,122	30,146	58,268
South Staffs and Salop	19,506	17,944	37,450
Cumberland	25,085	34,429	59,514
Bristol	1,893	1,864	3,757
Forest of Dean	11,454	11,285	22,739
Somerset	1,972	1,892	3,864
Kent	1,900	2,954	4,854
Total	1,608,249	1,753,604	3,361,853

* Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire.

COMPENSATION FOR INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS: INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE SURVEY.

The International Labour Office has recently published a Report* containing a comparative analysis of industrial accident compensation legislation in force at the end of 1924 in all countries except the United States and Mexico; it is intended to deal with these two countries in a special publication, at a later date. The Report contains an introduction outlining the historical development of the principles of industrial accident compensation, followed by a more detailed analysis of the laws in force in the various countries, compiled on the following plan: (1) persons and industries subject to laws; (2) risks covered; (3) various forms of compensation, including methods of computing basic wages and the amounts of compensation payable according to the degree of incapacity; (4) security of payment and systems of insurance (voluntary and compulsory); (5) the procedure for obtaining compensation and the settlement of disputes; (6) the position of foreign workers.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN NOVA SCOTIA: NEW ACT.†

As the outcome of the recent strike of coal miners an Act was passed on 7th May last, by the Legislature of the Province of Nova Scotia, making provision for the prevention and settlement of disputes in mining and public utility undertakings by the appointment, where necessary, of Boards of Conciliation and Investigation, and the creation of an Arbitration Commission. The Act may be cited as "The Industrial Peace Act, 1925."

The provisions of the new Act are primarily applicable to mining enterprises and undertakings covered by the Public Utilities Act employing more than ten workers; but the procedure laid down may in certain circumstances be extended to disputes arising in industries not directly subject to the provisions of the new Act.

Conciliation and Investigation Boards may be set up on the application of either of the parties to a dispute or at the request of the local authorities in the district in which the dispute has arisen, subject to the discretion of the Minister of Works and Mines, who is responsible for the administration of the Act. These Boards are to consist of three members appointed by the Minister, and to include one representative recommended by the employers and one by the workpeople who are parties to the dispute, and a Chairman agreed upon by the other two members. The function of these Boards is to endeavour to effect a settlement of a dispute by means of all necessary investigations and by adopting methods of conciliation. The Boards have power to summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses, and to require them to give evidence on oath, and to produce documents, books, etc., which the Boards consider necessary for the full investigation of the dispute. They are also empowered to enter any building, mine, factory, etc., connected with the dispute and inspect the work, interrogate workers, etc.

When an agreement is arrived at by these means a memorandum embodying the terms of settlement is to be signed by the parties, who may agree that it shall be declared binding in the same manner as an arbitration award (see below). Where it is not possible to bring about a settlement on these lines, a detailed report is to be submitted to the Minister, which shall include the Board's recommendation; a minority report may be submitted by any dissenting member. The report and recommendations of the Board are to be published immediately in the *Royal Gazette*, either verbatim or in a summary form as the Minister may decide. Strikes and lockouts prior to or during the submission of disputes to duly constituted Boards of Conciliation and Investigation are prohibited under monetary penalties; this prohibition does not apply to strikes and lockouts which may be declared subsequent to conciliation proceedings as described above, except where the parties have previously agreed to be bound by the recommendations of the Board. Employers and workers must give at least 30 days' notice of any intended change with respect to wages or hours.

The Act further provides for an Arbitration Commission to be set up, consisting of three members (including a Chairman, who must be a barrister of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia of 10 years' standing) appointed by the Governor-in-Council. If within a month after the filing of the recommendation of the Conciliation Board, the parties to the dispute do not agree in writing to be bound by the recommendations of the Board, either party, or the Governor-in-Council, may refer the dispute to this Commission. The Commission is invested with full investigatory powers; it may enforce the attendance of witnesses and require evidence to be given on oath. Awards made by the Commission are binding on all parties to a dispute. Strikes and lockouts while disputes are being dealt with by the Commission, as well as breaches of awards contrary to the provisions of the Act, are prohibited under monetary penalties.

The provisions of the new Act regarding the appointment of an Arbitration Commission are not to become operative until so ordered by proclamation of the Governor-in-Council.

* *Studies and Reports: Series M (Social Insurance) No. 2.* Geneva, 1925. Price 12s. 6d.
† Province of Nova Scotia. *An Act respecting the prevention of Strikes and Lockouts and to repeal Chapter 241, Revised Statutes, 1923, "The Conciliation Act," and Chapter 248, Revised Statutes, 1923, "The Miners' Arbitration Act."*

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 31st OCTOBER.*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	76%
Food only	72%

FOOD.

At 31st October the average level of retail prices of the principal articles of food showed practically no change as compared with the beginning of the month. There was a further seasonal advance of about ½d. each in the average price of eggs, while milk, butter, cheese and fish were also somewhat dearer than at 1st October. On the other hand, bread and flour showed a decline averaging about ½d. per 4 lbs. of bread and per 3½ lbs. of flour; sugar and potatoes and, to a lesser extent, bacon and some descriptions of meat were also cheaper. There was no appreciable change in the average prices of tea and margarine.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 72 per cent. at 31st October, as compared with about 72 per cent. at 1st October and 79 per cent. at the corresponding date in 1924.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles in July, 1914, and at 1st and 31st October, 1925:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated — to the nearest ½d.)		Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 31st Oct., 1925, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1925.	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1925.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs	0 10	1 6	1 5½	+0 7½
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 10	0 10	+0 3½
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+0 3½
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+0 1
Mutton, British—				
Legs	0 10½	1 8	1 7½	+0 9½
Breast	0 6	0 11½	0 11½	+0 4½
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	0 6½	1 0½	1 0½	+0 6
Breast	0 4	0 5½	0 5½	+0 1½
Bacon (streaky)†	0 11½	1 9	1 8½	+0 9½
Flour per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 6½	1 5	+0 6½
Bread per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9½	0 9½	+0 3½
Tea	1 6½	2 5	2 5	+0 10½
Sugar (granulated)	0 2	0 3½	0 3½	+0 1½
Milk per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+0 3½
Butter—				
Fresh	1 2½	2 2½	2 3	+1 0½
Salt	1 2½	2 1½	2 1½	+0 11½
Cheese†	0 8½	1 2½	1 3½	+0 6½
Margarine	0 7	0 8	0 8	+0 1
Eggs (fresh) each	0 1½	0 2½	0 3½	+0 2
Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 8	0 7½	+0 2½

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 31st October, 1925, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Oct., 1925.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	81	76	78	79
Thin Flank	50	60	50	50
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	47	44	46	47
Thin Flank	17	19	18	18
Mutton, British—				
Legs	89	90	89	92
Breast	76	68	72	74
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	91	80	86	86
Breast	37	34	36	36
Bacon (streaky)†	86	80	83	87
Fish	142	110	126	118
Flour	58	64	61	71
Bread	61	59	60	70
Tea	54	61	58	58
Sugar (granulated)	65	57	61	76
Milk	87	92	89	83
Butter—				
Fresh	83	88	86	82
Salt	81	81	81	80
Cheese†	75	75	75	69
Margarine	19	11	15	15
Eggs (fresh)	165	173	169	126
Potatoes	58	37	48	63
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase)	73	71	72	72

* As 1st November fell on Sunday, the statistics relate to 31st October, in accordance with the usual practice.
† If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.
‡ The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 31st October, 1925, was approximately 48 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

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 31st October the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged between 125 and 130 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the average prices of coal and gas at 31st October were about the same as at the beginning of the month and were nearly 90 and 55 per cent., respectively, higher than in July, 1914. The prices of lamp oil, candles and matches also showed no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 31st October as compared with July, 1914, was about 80 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 31st October is, approximately, 76 per cent.† over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 76 per cent. at 1st October and 80 per cent. at the corresponding date in 1924.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1925 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 figure for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1925.

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

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

Month (beginning of).	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
January	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80
February	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79
March	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79
April	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75
May	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73
June	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72
July	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73
August	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73
September	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74
October	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76
November	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76*
December	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	...

NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

* See note * in previous column.
† If allowance is made for the changes in taxation, since July, 1914, on the commodities included in these statistics the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT showed an improvement during October, the industries chiefly affected being coal mining, iron and steel manufacture, the tinplate trade, the cotton, wool, hemp, hosiery and carpet trades, and textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. It continued good, notwithstanding a slight seasonal decline, in the building and brick trades, and it was fairly good in the printing, furnishing, and silk trades, and with coachbuilders, millers and cooperers. In the coal and iron mining, iron and steel, shipbuilding, and marine engineering industries, however, it was still bad.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,892,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 26th October, 1925, was 11.4, as compared with 12.0 at 21st September, 1925, and with 11.0 at 27th October, 1924. For males alone, the percentage at 26th October was 12.7, as compared with 13.3 at 21st September; for females the figure at 26th October was 7.7, as compared with 8.5 at 21st September. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 11.3 at the end of October, as compared with 11.4 at the end of September, 1925, and with 8.7 at the end of October, 1924. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered* at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 26th October, 1925, was approximately 1,295,000, of whom 1,032,000 were men and 196,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th September, 1925, it was 1,401,000, of whom 1,106,000 were men and 221,000 were women; and at 27th October, 1924, it was 1,247,000, of whom men numbered 943,000 and women 235,000.

The following Table shows, month by month since October, 1924, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) registered as unemployed at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Date. (End of Month.)	Percentage Unemployed among			Numbers Registered at Exchanges.*
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
1924.				
October ...	8.7	11.8	8.9	1,247,000
November ...	8.6	11.7	8.8	1,233,000
December ...	9.2	11.6	8.9	1,319,000
1925.				
January ...	9.0	12.0	9.5	1,287,000
February ...	9.4	12.2	9.4	1,287,000
March ...	9.0	12.0	9.1	1,249,000
April ...	9.4	11.9	9.0	1,251,000
May ...	10.1	12.0	8.8	1,253,000
June ...	12.3	13.3	8.9	1,368,000
July ...	11.2	11.8	9.5	1,262,000
August ...	11.4	13.1	9.5	1,418,000
September ...	11.4	13.3	8.5	1,401,000
October ...	11.3	12.7	7.7	1,295,000

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at coal mines was still bad, but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 24th October, 1925, was 1,060,526, an increase of 0.4 per cent. as compared with 26th September, but a decrease of 7.5 per cent. as compared with October, 1924. In the fortnight ended 24th October, 1925, the average number of days worked per week was 4.88, as compared with 4.59 days in September, 1925, and with 5.13 days in October, 1924.

At iron mines employment was bad generally, and showed a slight decline except in the Cleveland district. At the mines covered by the returns received there were decreases of 5.7 per cent. in the numbers employed as compared with the previous month, and of 19.1 per cent. as compared with October, 1924. The average number of days worked per week by the mines that were working was 5.65 in October, 1925, as compared with 5.38 in September, 1925, and 5.54 in October, 1924. At shale mines employment continued fairly good on the whole. In limestone quarries employment was moderate in the Wearside district, fairly good in the Clitheroe district, and dull in the Buxton district. At slate quarries in North Wales employment was fairly good. At tin mines employment continued good, and at china clay quarries, fairly good.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig iron industry employment was still bad, but showed an

* It should be noted that some unemployed persons, e.g., some of those who have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who are not insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, do not register at the Employment Exchanges.

† The figures for insured workers relate to 22nd December.

improvement as compared with the previous month; of a total of 482 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of October was 136, as compared with 129 in September, 1925, and with 171 in October, 1924.

In the iron and steel trades employment showed an improvement, but was still bad. Employment in the tinplate and steel sheet trades continued fair. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of October, 1925, was 524, as compared with 523 at the end of September, and with 536 in October, 1924.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering trades continued bad on the whole, but showed a slight improvement except in the marine engineering section in which it continued very bad, with a further marked decline. The motor and cycle section remained fair, and though showing a slight decline in some districts, improved in the Midlands. Electrical engineering was fairly good; and the textile machinery section, although showing a further improvement, remained slack. At railway works employment continued moderate.

In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades, employment showed a further slight decline and was very bad. In the other metal trades it was slightly better than in the previous month or in October, 1924, but was still moderate on the whole. It was fairly good in the hollow-ware and stove and grate trades; fair in the brasswork, needle and fishing tackle, cutlery and file trades; moderate in the sheet-metal, farriery, metallic bedstead, nut and bolt, tube and wire trades; and bad in the jewellery and plated ware, copper, chain and anchor, and anvil and vice trades.

Textile Trades.—In the cotton trade, employment showed a further slight improvement. Mills spinning American cotton continued to curtail production to the extent of 8½ hours a week; but in most of the principal districts, there was a decline in the number unemployed and also in under-employment. In the wool textile industry, employment showed a further improvement and was moderate. In the hosiery trade, employment also showed a further improvement; in the silk trade it continued fairly good generally; in the lace trade it continued bad with much short time working and unemployment. Employment in the carpet trade showed a slight improvement, but was still moderate on the whole; in the jute trade and in the linen trade in Scotland, it continued slack; in the Irish linen trade it was bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades, employment continued slack generally, short time working being still fairly general, but in the bleaching and dyeing sections there was a slight improvement. With silk dyers at Macclesfield and Leek it was fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade was moderate to slack on the whole; in the dressmaking trade it continued fair generally; in the millinery trade there was a seasonal decline, and employment was slack in most districts; in the London blouse and light underclothing trade it also showed a decline, but was fair on the whole. In the corset trade a further improvement was reported in some districts and employment was generally fair; in the shirt and collar trade it was fair at most centres; in the felt hat trade it showed a slight decline, but was still fairly good on the whole. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued poor.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning and currying section remained slack, but a slight improvement was reported in several centres; in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it continued fair on the whole; but with saddlery and harness makers it was again bad on the whole.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades continued good in most districts with skilled operatives, other than painters, and moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers; there was a slight seasonal increase in the numbers unemployed; this increase being most marked in the painting and decorating section. In the brick trades employment continued good on the whole.

In the furnishing trades, and with coachbuilders, millers and cooperers, employment was fairly good. With brushmakers, packing case makers, and basket makers it continued slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing, and Bookbinding.—In the paper trade employment showed a slight improvement, and was generally fair; in the wrapping and hand-made sections, however, it was still slack. In the letterpress trade section and with lithographic printers employment continued fairly good; with electrotypers and stereotypers it continued good. In the bookbinding trade employment continued moderate on the whole, but some improvement was reported in London.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery trade employment showed a further slight improvement, but was still slack on the whole; in the sanitary ware, fireclay, and tile sections it was reported as good. In the glass trades it was fair, except in the glass bottle making section, where it was bad.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales some difficulty was experienced in the Eastern Counties in obtaining sufficient casual labour for root lifting, but elsewhere the supply of labour was sufficient for requirements. In the fishing industry employment continued fairly good on the whole; with fish curers it was fair.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers was still slack generally, but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. With seamen it continued slack on the whole.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 977,930 in branches covered by the returns received, reported 110,901 (or 11.3 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of October, 1925, compared with 11.4 per cent. at the end of September, 1925, and 8.7 per cent. at the end of October, 1924.

Trade.	Membership of Unions reporting at end of Oct., 1925.	Unemployed at end of October 1925.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining ...	144,358	36,847	25.5	- 1.5	+ 14.2
Engineering and Ship-building ...	344,318	52,767	15.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Miscellaneous Metal ...	48,628	2,942	6.1	...	- 0.5
Textiles:—					
Cotton ...	58,785	3,010†	5.1	- 0.1	- 1.1
Other ...	68,129	2,540	3.7	- 0.4	+ 1.3
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper ...	104,792	3,263	3.1	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Furnishing ...	28,097	1,067	3.8	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Woodworking ...	37,395	1,951	5.2	- 0.1	+ 0.7
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe ...	81,318	4,065	5.0	- 0.4	+ 1.2
Other Clothing ...	48,722	1,048	2.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.0
Leather ...	5,597	687	12.3	- 0.6	+ 5.3
Glass ...	1,185	13	1.1	- 0.4	- 2.2
Tobacco‡	6,606	721	10.9	- 0.3	+ 3.3
Total ...	977,930	110,901	11.3	- 0.1	+ 2.6

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

THE percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.4 per cent. (males 12.7 per cent., females 7.7 per cent.) at 26th October, 1925, as compared with 12.0 per cent. (males 13.3 per cent., females 8.5 per cent.) at 21st September, 1925, and 11.0 per cent. (males 11.8 per cent., females 8.9 per cent.) at 27th October, 1924. Tables showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 396 and 397.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in October, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 388 to 393.

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for October, 1925.	October, 1925.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining ...	1,060,526	4.88	4.88	+ 0.29	- 0.25
Iron ...	6,103	5.65	5.65	+ 0.27	+ 0.11
Shale ...	3,976	5.85	5.85	- 0.05	- 0.13
Pig Iron ...	—	Furnaces in Blast 136	Number. + 7	Number. - 35	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	—	Mills Working 524	+ 1	- 12	
Iron and Steel ...	70,693	Shifts Worked (one week) 374,416	Per cent. + 3.2	Per cent. - 4.6	

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
Textiles:—			£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cotton ...	83,974	+ 1.6	156,008	+ 3.7	+ 2.3	
Woolen ...	15,813	+ 0.4	32,721	+ 2.1	+ 5.3	
Worsted ...	29,749	+ 3.1	56,123	+ 4.5	+ 4.2	
Boot and Shoe ...	50,390	- 0.6	108,493	+ 1.1	- 5.4	
Pottery ...	12,741	- 0.2	24,385	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	
Brick ...	8,964	+ 1.4	23,224	- 0.9	+ 11.7	
Total ...	201,637	+ 1.1	400,960	+ 2.6	- 1.1	

* 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. Persons on strike or locked out are also excluded.
† In addition to those shown, who were 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.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

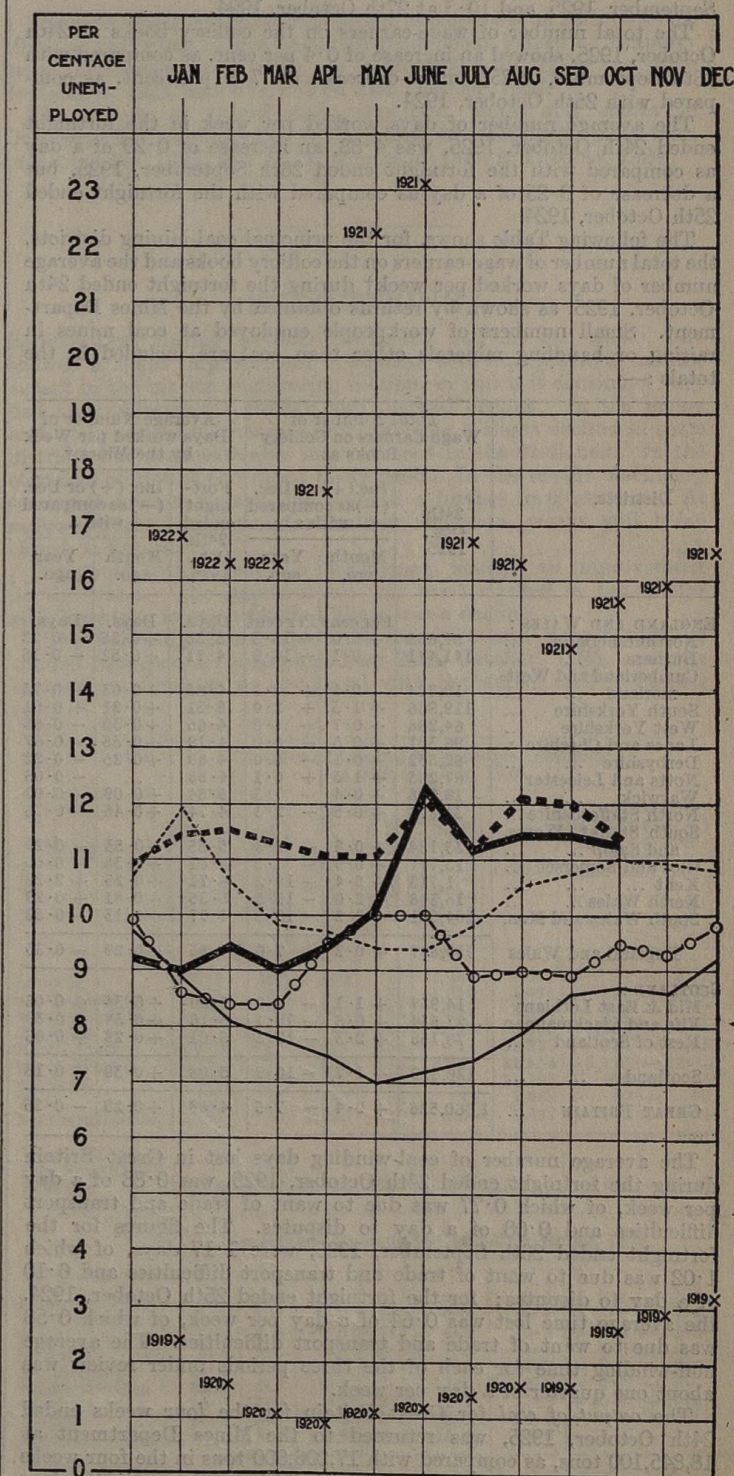
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:—

Thick Curve ————— = 1925.
Thin Curve ————— = 1924.
Chain Curve —○—○—○—○— = Mean of 1919-24.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1919-1924.

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

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1925.
Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1924.



NOTE.

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

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail, on pages 396 and 397.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during October, though still bad, showed an improvement as compared with the previous month; it was much worse than a year ago. Employment was reported to be good in Warwickshire and Mid and East Lothians. In Durham it was still affected by stoppages of work owing to disputes.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.9 at 26th October, 1925, as compared with 23.6* at 21st September, 1925, and 10.3 at 27th October, 1924.

The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 24th October, 1925, showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. as compared with 26th September, 1925, but a decrease of 7.5 per cent. as compared with 25th October, 1924.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 24th October, 1925, was 4.88, an increase of 0.29 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th September, 1925, but a decrease of 0.25 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th October, 1924.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week† during the fortnight ended 24th October, 1925, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals:—

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.†		
	24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Northumberland ...	51,655	+ 5.0	5.38	+ 0.25	+ 0.22
Durham ...	141,471	- 0.1	4.71	+ 0.52	- 0.15
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	10,784	- 0.1	4.65	+ 0.03	- 0.73
South Yorkshire ...	119,966	+ 1.3	5.31	+ 0.21	+ 0.01
West Yorkshire ...	64,268	+ 0.7	4.65	+ 0.30	- 0.65
Lancs and Cheshire ...	96,301	+ 0.5	4.19	+ 0.35	- 0.67
Derbyshire ...	62,532	- 0.1	4.89	+ 0.25	- 0.22
Notts and Leicester ...	67,253	+ 1.3	4.88	+ 0.06	- 0.06
Warwick ...	19,768	+ 0.4	5.54	+ 0.09	- 0.02
North Staffordshire ...	34,876	+ 0.5	4.74	+ 0.45	- 0.76
South Staffs, Wores. and Salop ...	35,184	+ 0.8	5.35	+ 0.53	- 0.29
Glos and Somerset ...	13,777	+ 0.9	4.51	+ 0.38	- 0.50
Kent ...	1,713	+ 5.4	4.71	+ 0.25	+ 2.22
North Wales ...	15,548	+ 2.0	5.35	+ 0.81	+ 0.29
South Wales and Mon. ...	204,801	- 2.2	4.77	+ 0.15	- 0.52
England and Wales	939,897	+ 0.2	4.85	+ 0.29	- 0.30
SCOTLAND:					
Mid & East Lothians ...	14,937	+ 1.1	5.30	+ 0.34	+ 0.06
Fife and Clackmannan ...	27,534	+ 0.6	5.16	+ 0.34	+ 0.39
Rest of Scotland ...	78,158	+ 2.3	5.01	+ 0.28	+ 0.06
Scotland ...	120,629	+ 1.7	5.08	+ 0.30	+ 0.13
GREAT BRITAIN ...	1,060,526	+ 0.4	4.88	+ 0.29	- 0.25

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 24th October, 1925, was 0.88 of a day per week, of which 0.77 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties and 0.08 of a day to disputes. The figures for the fortnight ended 26th September, 1925, were 1.17 days, of which 1.02 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties and 0.10 of a day to disputes; for the fortnight ended 25th October, 1924, the average time lost was 0.64 of a day per week, of which 0.58 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal for Great Britain for the four weeks ended 24th October, 1925, was returned to the Mines Department at 18,845,100 tons, as compared with 17,206,600 tons in the four weeks ended 26th September, 1925, and with 20,451,200 tons in the four weeks ended 25th October, 1924.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal-equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,222,255 tons in October, compared with 5,597,404 tons in September.

* Revised figure.

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

† Including Cannock Chase.

The percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in different areas are shown in the following Table:—

Area.	Percentage Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1925.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Northumberland ...	15.5	- 4.4	- 2.9
Durham ...	27.1	- 6.0	+ 11.6
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	27.8	- 14.7	+ 14.4
Yorkshire ...	6.1	- 5.7	+ 2.7
Lancs and Cheshire ...	24.4	- 9.9	+ 18.7
Derbyshire ...	6.1	- 7.5	+ 2.7
Notts and Leicester ...	9.3	- 2.8	+ 7.2
Warwick ...	2.1	- 1.3	+ 0.5
Staffs, Worcester and Salop ...	8.9	- 3.6	+ 4.2
Glos and Somerset ...	21.9	- 9.4	- 1.2
Kent ...	3.4	- 3.3	- 30.8
Wales and Monmouth ...	34.3	+ 3.7	+ 16.9
England and Wales ...	20.0	- 3.6	+ 9.4
SCOTLAND ...	19.3	- 4.3	+ 10.8
GREAT BRITAIN ...	19.9	- 3.7*	+ 9.6

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron Mining.

EMPLOYMENT was bad in all districts during October and showed a decline compared with the previous month, except in the Cleveland district, where a slight improvement was reported in the number of workpeople employed. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in iron-ore and ironstone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 26.7 at 26th October, 1925, as compared with 28.6* at 21st September, 1925, and 22.1 at 27th October, 1924.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.†		
	Fortnight ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland ...	2,455	+ 0.4	5.41	+ 0.26	+ 0.12
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,414	- 12.8	6.00	+ 0.39	+ 0.31
Other Districts ...	1,234	- 1.8	5.47	+ 0.14	- 0.12
ALL DISTRICTS	6,103	- 5.7	5.65	+ 0.27	+ 0.11

Shale Mining.

At shale mines employment again showed a slight decline, but continued fairly good on the whole. At mines employing 3,976 workpeople during the fortnight ended 24th October, 1925, there was a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed as compared with the previous month, and of 3.8 per cent. as compared with October, 1924. The average number of days† worked per week by the mines was 5.85 in October, 1925, as compared with 5.90 in September, 1925, and 5.98 in October, 1924.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed an improvement as compared with September. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 21.4 at 26th October, 1925, as compared with 25.0* on 21st September, 1925, and with 17.3 on 27th October, 1924. According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, from 83 firms employing at the end of October 16,930 workpeople, an increase of 1.0 per cent. is shown compared with September, but a decrease of 18.9 per cent. compared with October, 1924.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of the month as shown by the returns collected by the Federation was 136, a net

* Revised figure.

† See note † in previous column.

increase of 7 compared with the number in blast at the end of September, but a decrease of 35 compared with October, 1924. The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast at the end of October, 1925, September, 1925, and October, 1924.

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Oct., on a	
		Oct. 1925.	Sept. 1925.	Oct. 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Durham and Cleveland	111	34	32	39	+ 2	- 5
Cumberland and West Lancs. ...	47	11	7	12	+ 4	- 1
Other parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ...	35	10	11	15	- 1	- 5
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	73	32	33	42	- 1	- 10
Lincolnshire ...	23	12	12	10	...	+ 2
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ...	60	11	11	11	...	...
South Wales ...	32	8	8	10	...	- 2
Total, England and Wales	381	118	114	139	+ 4	- 21
Scotland ...	101	18	15	32	+ 3	- 14
Total ...	482	136	129	171	+ 7	- 35

The production of pig iron in October amounted to 473,700 tons, as compared with 448,700 tons in September, and 586,400 tons in October, 1924.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad during October, but there was an improvement on the whole as compared with the previous month. Short time was again reported to have been worked in many districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 24.3 on 26th October, 1925, as compared with 26.6* on 21st September, 1925, and 23.5 on 27th October, 1924.

According to returns received from firms employing 70,693 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 24th October, 1925 (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 3.2 per cent., as compared with September, but showed a decrease of 4.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.3 in October, 1925, as compared with 5.2 in September, 1925, and 5.4 in October, 1924.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.†			
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	8,214	+ 6.8	46,208	+ 5.8	- 3.5	
Puddling Forges ...	3,982	+ 14.7	12,736	+ 18.4	- 19.1	
Rolling Mills ...	26,222	+ 1.2	123,784	+ 2.9	- 3.6	
Forging and Pressing ...	2,586	+ 3.5	15,612	+ 0.5	+ 4.1	
Founding ...	8,039	+ 1.2	45,738	+ 3.0	+ 0.8	
Other Departments ...	6,949	+ 0.9	38,066	+ 1.7	- 8.6	
Mechanics, Labourers ...	15,201	+ 0.3	86,272	+ 1.5	- 3.6	
TOTAL ...	70,693	+ 2.2	374,416	+ 3.2	- 4.6	
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	14,326	- 2.8	80,782	- 0.3	+ 0.8	
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	18,343	+ 0.2	95,506	+ 0.6	- 3.1	
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	1,870	- 1.2	9,910	- 2.0	- 0.4	
Cumberland, Lancs and Cheshire ...	7,291	+ 14.6	36,568	+ 15.7	+ 7.2	
Staffordshire ...	6,377	+ 17.3	33,058	+ 13.7	- 13.5	
Other Midland Counties	4,022	+ 2.3	21,299	+ 1.3	- 1.6	
Wales and Monmouth ...	8,405	+ 5.7	46,814	+ 7.1	- 0.0	
Total, England and Wales ...	60,634	+ 3.4	323,937	+ 4.0	- 1.7	
Scotland ...	10,059	- 4.6	50,479	- 1.8	- 19.9	
TOTAL ...	70,693	+ 2.2	374,416	+ 3.2	- 4.6	

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 647,100 tons in October, 1925, as compared with 640,100 tons in September, 1925, and 678,500 tons in October, 1924.

* Revised figure.

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

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued fair, and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month; it was not so good as a year ago. At the end of the month 524 tinplate and steel sheet mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, compared with 523 in the previous month and with 536 a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of October, 1925, at the works covered by the returns received, as compared with September, 1925, and with October, 1924:—

Works.	Number of Works Open		Number of Mills in Operation	
	At end of Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	At end of Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
Tinplate ...	71	+ 1	401	+ 3
Steel Sheet ...	13.	...	123	- 2
TOTAL ...	84	+ 1	524	+ 1

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed on 26th October, 1925, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.9, as compared with 12.8* on 21st September, 1925, and with 6.2 on 27th October, 1924.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in October, 1925, amounted to 122,339 tons, or 29,892 tons more than in September, 1925, and 21,529 tons more than in October, 1924.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued bad on the whole, but showed a slight improvement compared with the previous month, except in the marine engineering section, in which it continued very bad and underwent a further and marked decline. In the motor and cycle section it remained fair, showing a slight decline in some districts but a considerable improvement in the Midlands. In the electrical section it continued fairly good. In the textile machinery section it remained slack, but showed a further improvement. At railway works employment remained moderate, works still being closed on Saturdays.

Compared with a year ago employment showed an improvement on the whole. The improvement was most marked in Lancashire and Cheshire; in some districts there was a decline.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 26th October, 1925, and the increase or decrease as compared with September and with a year ago:—

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th October, 1925.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month ago.	Year ago.
South-Eastern ...	2,111	180	136	30	1,019	3,476	+ 129	- 1,781
South-Western ...	1,868	58	488	51	975	3,440	+ 178	- 273
Midlands ...	7,835	1,323	47	665	7,122	16,992	- 1,355	+ 7,448
North-Eastern ...	21,235	653	9,422	883	711	32,912	+ 416	+ 4,063
North-Western ...	17,910	1,271	238	133	2,281	21,833	- 1,773	- 12,936
Wales ...	15,369	369	3,905	928	820	21,391	+ 594	+ 158
Northern Ireland ...	1,180	33	41	51	183	1,488	+ 50	+ 401
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	2,095	33	1,335	10	224	3,697	+ 193	+ 444

Percentages Unemployed at 26th October, 1925.

Divisions.	Sept. 1925.		Oct. 1925.		Oct. 1924.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
London ...	6.8	3.5	15.4	3.1	6.3	- 0.1
South-Eastern ...	5.0	2.0	3.9	5.9	4.2	+ 0.2
South-Western ...	5.2	2.0	7.6	7.4	4.8	+ 0.3
Midlands ...	8.3	5.5	3.0	10.5	7.8	- 0.6
North-Eastern ...	16.8	8.4	39.5	12.7	6.5	+ 0.3
North-Western ...	12.8	6.5	19.3	5.9	11.7	- 0.9
Scotland ...	18.0					

In Lancashire and Cheshire employment was slack, but continued to improve, especially in textile engineering centres. At railway works it remained moderate, some short time being worked. The printing machinery, biscuit machinery and other miscellaneous branches were still fairly well employed.

In the Birmingham and Wolverhampton district employment was moderate on the whole, and good at Coventry. There was a marked improvement in the motor and cycle section; in the electrical section employment continued fairly good; in the heavy engineering section it remained depressed, little improvement being shown. At Nottingham employment was good in the motor and cycle section and bad in the lace and hosiery machinery sections. At Derby it was fairly good on the whole; at motor works it was good, but railway works were still not working on Saturdays. At Leicester employment remained fair.

In London, and in the Eastern and Southern Counties, employment continued fair generally. In the electrical section it was good, especially on wireless work, and showed a further slight improvement compared with the previous month. In South Wales employment continued bad, without improvement.

In Scotland employment was still bad generally. In the marine engineering section it was very bad, and showed a considerable decline compared with September.

At Belfast employment continued very bad.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad during October, and showed a further slight decline compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was a considerable decline on the North-East Coast and in Scotland; some of the smaller centres showed an improvement.

On the North-East Coast employment continued very bad, and showed a further decline compared with the previous month, more than half of the insured workpeople being recorded as unemployed. On the East Coast and the Thames employment declined, and was bad. On the South Coast it continued slack. At the Bristol Channel Ports and on the Mersey it continued bad.

In Scotland employment was very bad, and worse than during the previous month. In Northern Ireland it remained very bad.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 26th October, 1925, and the increase or decrease as compared with 21st September, and with a year ago:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1925.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Percentage Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1925.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with	
	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
London...	3,428	+ 806	- 452	27.6	+ 6.5	+ 0.5		
South-Eastern...	673	+ 105	- 385	6.8	+ 1.1	- 4.3		
South-Western...	3,951	+ 250	- 610	15.7	- 1.0	- 0.5		
Midlands...	66	+ 5	- 48	23.6	+ 1.8	+ 1.2		
North-Eastern...	34,346	+ 858	+ 7,175	51.3	+ 1.3	+ 12.6		
North-Western...	10,912	+ 420	- 1,293	33.3	- 1.3	- 2.6		
Scotland...	25,111	+ 1,994	+ 7,645	38.8	+ 3.0	+ 12.2		
Wales...	4,542	+ 123	- 501	41.7	+ 1.2	- 3.0		
Northern Ireland...	6,400	- 165	- 2,190	34.4	- 0.9	- 5.6		
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	89,429	+ 3,056	+ 9,341	37.0	+ 1.3*	+ 5.6		

COTTON TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight improvement in all departments in October. The reduced working hours, i.e., 39½ per week, continued in operation in the American spinning section; but in most of the principal districts there was a decline in the numbers unemployed and also in under-employment. A shortage of weavers was again reported from some districts; and there was also some demand for ring spinners.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.0 on the 26th October, as compared with 10.0* on the 21st September, 1925, and with 11.6 on the 27th October, 1924.

In the Oldham, Ashton, Stalybridge and Stockport districts employment with spinners was reported as bad, but somewhat better than a month earlier. In the weaving section in the Oldham district there was also an improvement, especially with velvet weavers. At Bolton employment with spinners showed an improvement; there was also a slight improvement with weavers and winders. At Leigh employment in the spinning department was good. At Bury short time continued; but there was a slight improvement in this district and in the Rochdale district.

* Revised figure.

In the principal weaving districts a decline in some places was counterbalanced by an improvement in others, the net movement being a slight improvement. At Burnley employment remained slack; a large number of looms were stopped, and many operatives were only partially employed. There was a decline at Padiham. At Blackburn there was a decided improvement, though there was still much unemployment and under-employment, some workers having only two looms running. At Accrington no weavers were registered as unemployed, and no mills were closed down, at the end of October; many firms had orders which were expected to provide full-time employment for several months to come. At Great Harwood a considerable improvement was reported; but at Nelson there was a decline both in the coloured and in the grey sections, and at several large firms the weavers were running three looms instead of the usual four. At Colne employment was slightly better. At Preston and Chorley the improvement reported last month was maintained; weavers engaged on light, fancy goods were fairly well employed. At Darwen there was an improvement; the weaving section, which had been very depressed, showed a recovery, and only one mill was still closed down at the end of October. In Yorkshire a large number of operatives were still only working three or four days a week, but an improvement was reported in many districts (particularly at Halifax), following upon an improvement in several districts in September.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	11,480	+ 1.0	- 0.2	19,633	+ 3.0	+ 4.3
Spinning ...	20,933	+ 2.3	- 1.9	36,843	+ 4.9	- 0.4
Weaving ...	36,128	+ 1.6	+ 1.4	65,154	+ 3.5	+ 2.6
Other ...	8,228	+ 0.6	+ 1.9	20,179	+ 1.6	+ 6.3
Not Specified ...	7,205	+ 2.1	- 2.2	14,199	+ 5.3	- 0.4
TOTAL ...	83,974	+ 1.6	+ 0.1	156,008	+ 3.7	+ 2.3
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	4,358	+ 7.2	- 4.5	7,699	+ 16.0	- 0.8
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	8,198	- 0.5	+ 14.7	14,635	+ 1.3	+ 22.7
Oldham ...	8,891	- 1.6	- 5.1	17,413	- 0.4	+ 7.1
Bolton and Leigh ...	14,137	+ 1.0	- 1.1	24,981	+ 1.1	- 1.9
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	8,140	- 1.2	+ 1.3	14,216	+ 1.0	+ 7.3
Manchester ...	4,844	+ 2.8	+ 8.4	8,367	+ 0.2	+ 8.1
Preston and Chorley ...	4,526	+ 5.2	- 2.6	7,921	+ 5.2	- 3.6
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	9,837	+ 6.3	- 2.8	19,553	+ 13.7	- 3.3
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	11,253	+ 0.7	- 1.0	24,676	+ 1.7	+ 1.7
Other Lancashire Towns ...	3,225	+ 7.5	+ 4.5	5,308	+ 9.1	- 1.2
Yorkshire Towns ...	4,140	- 1.3	- 1.7	7,443	+ 4.0	- 3.1
Other Districts ...	2,425	- 0.5	- 7.5	3,796	+ 0.6	- 14.2
TOTAL ...	83,974	+ 1.6	+ 0.1	156,008	+ 3.7	+ 2.3

Returns from firms employing 78,811 workpeople showed that about 17 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time to the extent of about 10½ hours on the average, in the week ended 24th October.

The following Table shows the numbers of men and women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 5th October, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 87 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the cotton trade were registered:—

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 5th October, 1925.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 7th September, 1925.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Card and Blowing Room ...	886	4,921	5,807	- 439	- 3,403	- 3,842
Spinning ...	5,471	4,943	10,414	- 3,577	- 1,933	- 5,510
Beaming, Winding and Weaving ...	1,501	8,074	9,575	- 346	- 3,762	- 4,108
Other Processes ...	2,683	7,144	9,827	+ 452	+ 589	+ 1,041
Total ...	11,288	25,444	36,732	- 3,868	- 8,747	- 12,615

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 178,051,800 lbs. in October, 1925, compared with 68,220,900 lbs. in September, 1925, and with 183,687,400 lbs. in October, 1924.

The exports of cotton yarn were 17,855,100 lbs. in October, 1925, compared with 13,923,400 lbs. in September, 1925, and with 13,454,100 lbs. in October, 1924.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 366,606,600 square yards, as compared with 359,810,400 square yards in the previous month and with 364,293,900 square yards in October, 1924.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during October was reported as moderate, and there was again an improvement as compared with the previous month. It was still worse than a year ago, however, in all the principal districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.8 on 26th October, 1925, as compared with 13.2* on 21st September, 1925, and 8.0 on 27th October, 1924.

In wool-sorting, employment, though still not good, showed a tendency to improve throughout the month. With woolcombers employment was again bad and much short time was worked, but towards the end of the month several firms were reported to have gone on full time.

With worsted spinners employment varied in different establishments; a number of firms in order to adjust the balance of their plants received permits from the Industrial Council to work overtime in one or more sections, while others still worked only three or four days per week. Least improvement was reported with spinners of the finest quality yarns.

In worsted manufacturing, employment was still bad in the fine cloth trade of Huddersfield, Halifax, Leeds and Keighley, but rather better with coating manufacturers in Bradford. In the Bradford dress goods trade employment also showed an improvement. With woollen manufacturers generally, employment was reported to be fair, and considerably better than during the previous two months. With blanket manufacturers, and with flannel manufacturers in the Rochdale and Saddleworth districts, employment was described as fair, with an improvement on the previous month. With weavers at Stroud employment was stated to be very quiet, but at Trowbridge it was fair. In Mid-Wales the improvement at Newtown and Llanidloes continued, but the woollen industry generally was still in an unsatisfactory state. In Scotland employment in the Border district showed an improvement on the whole.

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 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting ...	350	+ 3.6	- 10.5	802	+ 7.9	- 13.9
Spinning ...	3,721	+ 1.4	- 6.9	7,465	+ 1.1	- 9.3
Weaving ...	6,222	+ 1.0	- 3.5	11,774	+ 2.9	- 5.2
Other Departments ...	4,776	- 0.9	- 3.2	10,910	+ 2.3	- 2.6
Not Specified ...	750	...	+ 1.5	1,770	+ 5.2	- 0.1
TOTAL ...	15,819	+ 0.4	- 4.3	32,721	+ 2.1	- 5.3
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
DISTRICTS.						
Huddersfield District ...	1,847	+ 1.7	- 3.4	4,373	+ 2.7	- 7.2
Leeds District ...	1,493	+ 0.7	- 4.5	3,523	+ 4.6	- 9.1
Dewsbury and Batley District ...	1,216	+ 0.8	- 7.7	2,399	+ 2.7	- 17.4
Other Parts of West Riding ...	1,953	- 0.1	- 1.3	4,546	+ 0.6	- 1.9
Total, West Riding ...	6,509	+ 0.8	- 3.9	14,841	+ 2.5	- 8.0
Scotland ...	4,489	+ 2.2	- 4.3	8,851	+ 4.3	- 3.9
Other Districts ...	4,821	+ 0.3	- 4.7	9,029	- 0.7	- 2.1
TOTAL ...	15,819	+ 0.4	- 4.3	32,721	+ 2.1	- 5.3

WORSTED INDUSTRY.

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	3,794	+ 3.1	- 13.5	9,026	+ 2.9	- 17.1
Spinning ...	15,560	+ 3.8	- 1.7	24,208	+ 5.2	- 2.7
Weaving ...	5,496	+ 1.8	- 2.0	11,668	+ 4.6	+ 0.7
Other Departments ...	3,270	+ 2.8	- 1.9	8,204	+ 4.6	- 0.2
Not specified ...	1,629	+ 1.1	- 10.1	3,023	+ 3.2	+ 0.6
TOTAL ...	29,749	+ 3.1	- 4.0	56,129	+ 4.5	- 4.2

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bradford District ...	14,805	+ 3.6	- 3.5	29,229	+ 3.8	- 4.1
Keighley District ...	4,865	+ 0.2	- 7.6	8,575	+ 0.5	- 11.9
Halifax District ...	2,530	+ 3.6	- 4.6	4,594	+ 6.8	- 2.5
Huddersfield District ...	2,541	+ 3.4	- 2.7	4,922	+ 8.9	+ 1.2
Other Parts of West Riding ...	3,038	+ 5.4	- 1.2	5,467	+ 6.5	- 1.2
Total West Riding ...	27,879	+ 3.1	- 4.0	52,787	+ 4.3	- 4.6
Other Districts ...	1,870	+ 2.3	- 3.2	3,342	+ 8.4	+ 2.7
TOTAL ...	29,749	+ 3.1	- 4.0	56,129	+ 4.5	- 4.2

Returns from firms in the woollen section, employing 15,268 workpeople, showed that 33 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in the week ended 24th October, to the extent on the average of about 9 hours. In the worsted section returns from firms employing 29,172 workpeople showed that in the same week about 24 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of about 9 hours on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges

* Revised figure.
† Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages in some districts.

at 5th October, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 71 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the woollen and worsted industries were registered:—

Departments.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 5th October, 1925.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 7th September, 1925.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool Sorting ...	763	16	779	- 24	- 5	- 29
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	833	330	1,163	- 62	- 89	- 151
Wool Combing ...	1,079	719	1,798	+ 136	+ 42	+ 178
Wool Carding ...	1,037	146	1,183	- 32	- 86	- 118
Woolen Spinning ...	448	153	601	- 131	- 92	- 223
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	594	2,039	2,633	- 101	- 732	- 833
Wool Winding and Warming ...	178	130	308	+ 39	...	+ 39
Worsted Winding and Warming ...	68	604	672	+ 11	- 202	- 191
Woolen Weaving ...	278	1,813	2,091	- 148	- 675	- 823
Worsted Weaving ...	123	1,764	1,887	- 75	- 1,443	- 1,519
Other Processes ...	1,471	239	1,710	- 252	- 140	- 392
TOTAL ...	6,872	7,943	14,815	- 640	- 3,422	- 4,062

The imports of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 31,815,800 lbs., while re-exports amounted to 35,394,200 lbs. in October, 1925, compared with 28,653,400 lbs. and 18,328,400 lbs., respectively, in September, 1925, and with 32,219,000 lbs. and 32,421,700 lbs. in October, 1924.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,786,500 lbs., compared with 3,225,100 lbs. in September, 1925, and with 4,856,700 lbs. in October, 1924.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 12,421,100 square yards, compared with 12,896,000 square yards in September, 1925, and 15,348,300 square yards in October, 1924.

The exports of blankets were 79,988 pairs, 86,562 and 225,737 pairs in October, 1925, September, 1925, and October, 1924.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT, on the whole, continued poor during October, and in most districts short time was still largely worked. There was some improvement, on the whole, as compared with the previous month, but employment was slightly worse than in the corresponding month of last year.

At Leeds employment was generally poor, particularly in the heavy footwear section. At Stafford employment remained very slack. In the Norwich district it declined somewhat, and was only moderate on the whole; most firms were working irregular short time, or suspending some of their workpeople for indefinite periods. At Bristol and Kingswood also employment declined, and was generally poor, and worse, on the whole, than a year ago; some of the large firms, however, were fairly well employed. At Street it was bad, but slightly better than in September. In the Rossendale Valley employment was fair, and a little better than in the previous month.

At Scottish centres, taken as a whole, employment showed signs of improvement. At Edinburgh, Kilmarnock and Ayr employment improved and was fairly good; at Maybole it remained fair; at Glasgow it was still quiet, but showed a slight improvement.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 5th October, 1925, in the principal centres, at which approximately 80 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the boot and shoe industry were registered:—

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 5th October, 1925.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 7th September, 1925.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:						
Preparing Department	209	33	242	+ 2	- 11	- 9
Rough Stuff Department	567	35	600	- 53	+ 9	- 44
Cleaving Department	1,362	158	1,520	- 344	+ 135	- 209
Closing Department	29	1,785	1,814	+ 1	- 404	- 403
Making Department	3,195	124	3,319	- 300	+ 30	- 270
Finishing Department	1,895	651	2,546	- 258	- 164	- 422
Slipper Making	557	156	713	+ 4	- 36	- 32
Clog Making	33	8	41	- 3	+ 6	+ 3
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work.	583	2	585	- 40	...	- 40
Total	8,430	2,950	11,380	- 991	- 435	- 1,426

The exports of boots and shoes in October, 1925, amounted to 125,904 dozen pairs, or 3,836 dozen pairs more than in September, 1925, but 6,340 dozen pairs less than in October, 1924.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

In the paper trade employment was generally fair, and rather better on the whole than at the end of September or a year ago; it was still slack, however, in the wrapping and hand-made sections.

In the letterpress printing trade employment was again fairly good on the whole, and showed little change as compared with September. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good; in London and at Glasgow it was reported as very good.

Employment with lithographic printers continued fairly good. With lithographic artists it remained fair in London and slack at Manchester.

In the bookbinding trade employment continued moderate on the whole, although some improvement was reported in London.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 4.2 at 26th October, as compared with 4.2* at 21st September, and 5.1 at 27th October, 1924. In the paper and paper-board industry, the percentage was 5.9 at 26th October, compared with 6.7* at 21st September and 7.8 at 27th October, 1924. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery trades, the percentage was 4.7 at 26th October, compared with 5.3* at 21st September and 6.4 at October, 1924.

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade Unions:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of October, 1925.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Oct., 1925.	Sept., 1925.	Oct., 1924.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	35,071	2.8	2.4	2.8	+ 0.4	...
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	13,544	3.2	3.0	3.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	8,282	3.8	2.4	2.5	+ 1.4	+ 1.3
Scotland	6,129	2.9	2.4	3.3	+ 0.5	- 0.4
Other Districts	6,679	3.1	2.5	3.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.1
Total	69,705	3.0	2.5	2.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
Lithographic Printing	10,321	2.9	2.6	2.9	+ 0.3	...
Bookbinding	15,820	2.9	3.0	2.9	- 0.1	...

* The figure for September has been revised.

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued good in most districts with skilled operatives, other than painters, and moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers. There was a slight seasonal increase in the numbers unemployed, as compared with the previous month; which was common to all districts and occupations (except plumbers); the increase was most marked in the painting and decorating section.

As regards individual occupations, employment was still very good generally with bricklayers and plasterers and good, at most centres, with masons and with carpenters and joiners; a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives continued in many districts, the demand being chiefly for bricklayers and plasterers. Employment was fairly good with slaters and tilers; it improved slightly with plumbers and was very fair. The seasonal decline with painters continued and employment was generally slack or moderate; it remained moderate, on the whole, with builders' labourers, although reported as good in several districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and approximate percentages* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 26th October, 1925, and the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with September, 1925, and October, 1924:—

Occupations.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1925.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 26th Oct., 1925.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with	
				A Month ago.	A Year* ago.
Carpenters	114,330	3,065	2.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
Bricklayers	65,120	1,038	1.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Masons	23,840	800	3.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.9
Slaters	5,310	202	3.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Plasterers	17,880	203	1.1	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Painters	108,590	18,583	17.1	+ 5.0	+ 0.5
Plumbers	28,610	1,604	5.6	- 0.5	+ 0.9
Labourers to above	229,210	26,061	11.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.3
All other occupations	161,530	21,453	13.3	+ 0.6	- 11.8
Total	754,120	73,009	9.7	+ 1.2†	- 0.6
DIVISIONS.					
London	157,290	18,224	11.6	+ 2.4	- 1.8
South-Eastern	115,280	6,024	5.2	+ 0.8	- 2.1
South-Western	92,610	6,526	7.0	+ 0.7	- 0.9
Midlands	84,350	6,411	7.6	+ 0.1	- 1.8
North-Eastern	96,650	10,488	10.9	+ 0.9	+ 1.7
North-Western	97,120	10,611	10.9	+ 0.8	- 0.4
Scotland	69,440	7,719	11.1	+ 1.8	+ 1.5
Wales	26,900	3,389	12.6	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
Northern Ireland	13,480	3,617	26.8	+ 1.8	+ 2.4
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	754,120	73,009	9.7	+ 1.2†	- 0.6

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 142 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,022,000, show that in October, 1925, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £5,725,900, as compared with £6,104,000, in September, 1925, and £4,566,100 in October, 1924. Of the total for October, 1925, dwelling-houses accounted for £4,059,400; factories and workshops for £421,200; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £215,900; and other buildings and additions and alterations to existing buildings for £1,029,400.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued good on the whole. Short-time working due to bad weather was reported from some districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th October, 1925, was 7.4, as compared with 6.5† at 21st September, 1925, and with 7.8 at 27th October, 1924.

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 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.†
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	1,936	+ 5.8	+ 9.0	4,867	+ 4.4
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	5,209	+ 0.5	+ 11.5	13,507	- 2.5
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,625	- 0.8	+ 5.3	4,344	- 1.5
Scotland	194	+ 0.5	- 1.5	506	- 0.8
TOTAL	8,964	+ 1.4	+ 9.5	23,224	- 0.9

* From July, 1923, to September, 1925, the only available occupational figures for the numbers insured were derived from estimates framed in 1922, but except in the case of carpenters and plumbers among skilled operatives, the present ratios in the main differ only slightly from those used in the past two years.

† The figures for September have been revised.

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

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further slight improvement but was still slack on the whole. In the sanitary ware, fireclay and tile sections, it was good.

Employment at Derby and Worcester was reported as good; in the stoneware section in Scotland it was moderate.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.9 at 26th October, 1925, as compared with 15.5* at 21st September, 1925, and 10.9 at 27th October, 1924.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 24th Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture	1,477	- 0.5	2,689	- 2.7	- 7.8
Earthenware Manufacture	9,386	- 0.2	18,000	+ 0.8	+ 0.0
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,878	- 0.3	3,696	+ 2.0	+ 4.6
TOTAL	12,741	- 0.2	24,385	+ 0.6	- 0.2
DISTRICTS.					
North Staffordshire	9,952	+ 0.9	17,823	+ 1.5	+ 0.6
Other Districts	2,789	- 3.9	6,562	- 1.9	- 2.5
TOTAL	12,741	- 0.2	24,385	+ 0.6	- 0.2

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 12,558 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 3,338, or 27 per cent., were working on an average about 10 hours less than full time in the week ended 24th October, 1925.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during October was still slack, although it was somewhat better generally than in September.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service, 30.0 per cent. were unemployed at 26th October, 1925, as compared with 30.7* per cent. at 21st September, 1925, and with 25.9 per cent. at 27th October, 1924.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily numbers of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for 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—					
3rd Oct., 1925	5,633	2,177	7,810	7,909	15,719
10th "	5,340	2,367	7,707	8,066	15,773
17th "	4,809	1,341	6,150	8,154	14,304
24th "	5,049	2,446	7,495	8,322	15,817
31st "	4,786	1,770	6,556	8,057	14,613
Average for 5 weeks ended 31st Oct., 1925	5,123	2,020	7,143	8,102	15,245
Average for Sept., 1925	5,034	2,019	7,053	7,466	14,519
Average for Oct., 1924	5,526	2,025	7,551	8,086	15,637

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in October was 1,103, as compared with 1,163 in the previous month, and with 913 in October, 1924.

East Coast.—Employment continued slack with coal-trimmers and teamers on the North-East Coast. With other classes of workers on the Tyne it was bad on export work but fair on imports. At Middlesbrough employment was fairly good. At Hartlepool there was increased unemployment due to a reduction in timber imports. Employment showed a slight improvement at Hull and Goole. At most of the East Anglian ports it was good or fair, and generally better than in September.

Liverpool.—Employment at Liverpool was fair, and better than in September. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing-houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 26th October, was 16,749, compared with 15,665 in the four weeks ended 28th September, and with 15,529 in the four weeks ended 27th October, 1924. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing-houses was £48,724 in the four weeks ended 26th October, compared with £43,629 in the four weeks ended 28th September and with £46,510 in the four weeks ended 27th October, 1924.

* Revised figure.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—At Manchester employment was more plentiful than in September. At the South Wales ports and at Bristol it remained slack, and the improvement reported at Avonmouth in August and September was not maintained. At Southampton, Plymouth and other South-Western ports it was slack, and worse than in the previous month.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow employment continued moderate. At Dundee it was slack at first but improved later and was good during the last week. At Grangemouth it was good and better than in September. An improvement was also reported from Aberdeen. It continued good at Leith and Greenock, and moderate at Belfast.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during October remained slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 26th October was 20.5, compared with 18.5* at 21st September, and 20.3 at 27th October, 1924. The partial strike of seamen at certain ports, which commenced in August, ended in the early part of the month.

The demand for men on the Thames was fairly brisk until the middle of October, when a decline occurred. On the Tyne it was moderate to fair on the whole. The demand on the Wear improved considerably, but declined in the last week of the month, when it was described as quiet. It was generally quiet on the Tees, and it was poor at Hull, but showed a slight improvement in the second half of the month. It was quiet to moderate at Southampton and at Bristol. The demand at Avonmouth was generally fair; at Newport it was poor in the first half of October but improved subsequently, being reported to be active at the close of the month. It continued fair at Cardiff until the middle of the month, and was quieter afterwards. At Swansea it was very fair to good. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand was moderate to very fair, but showed a falling off towards the end of the month. It was fair on the whole at Manchester. On the Clyde the demand fluctuated, being described as poor at the end of the month. It was quiet on the whole at Leith, and fluctuated at Belfast, being better than in the previous month.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen† shipped in			
	Oct., 1925.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Ten months ended Oct., 1925.
ENGLAND & WALES:				
Liverpool	12,383	- 3,040	- 430	126,536
Manchester	960	- 34	- 146	8,567
London	8,598	- 386	- 826	80,918
Southampton	10,784	- 1,353	- 543	99,298
Tyne Ports	2,395	+ 7	- 558	20,608
Sunderland	502	+ 232	+ 147	3,072
Middlesbrough	360	- 88	- 23	3,877
Hull	1,137	- 367	- 943	14,577
Grimsby	3	+ 2	+ 1	98
Bristol	1,183	+ 140	+ 255	10,991
Newport, Mon.	776	+ 262	+ 277	7,877
Cardiff	2,293	- 167	- 279	24,458
Swansea	1,119	+ 564	+ 429	7,024
SCOTLAND:				
Leith	414	- 15	+ 50	3,661
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	292	- 36	- 52	3,483
Glasgow	3,832	+ 452	- 538	31,579
NORTHERN IRELAND:				
Belfast	253	+ 27	+ 49	1,833
TOTAL for above Ports	47,284	- 3,800	- 3,130	448,457

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

NUMBER OF CLAIMS TO BENEFIT.

DURING the four weeks ended 26th October, 1925, 789,944 fresh claims were added to the register, while 893,951 claims were removed from the register. At 26th October the number of claims current was 1,162,160, as compared with 1,266,167 at 28th September.

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted for decision to the Local Employment Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople. The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of

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

these Committees in Great Britain during the period 25th August to 12th October, 1925:—

Applications considered by Committees during period ...	479,125
Applications admitted by Committees during period:—	
(a) For 12 weeks ...	108,410
(b) For less than 12 weeks...	270,809

Applications definitely recommended for disallowance:—

General Conditions.	
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	5,926
Insurable employment not likely to be available ...	3,283
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during preceding two years ...	28,594
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not willing to accept suitable employment ...	17,445
Special Conditions.	
Single persons residing with relatives ...	18,089
Married women who could look for support from their husbands ...	6,688
Married men who could look for support from their wives ...	372
Working short time but earning sufficient for maintenance ...	5,854
Aliens ...	123
Total definitely recommended for disallowance ...	86,374

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

During the five weeks ended 31st October, 1925, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund were approximately as shown in the following Table; figures for the four weeks ended 26th September, 1925, and for the five weeks ended 1st November, 1924, are also given for purposes of comparison:—

	Five weeks ended 31st Oct., 1925.	Four weeks ended 26th Sept., 1925.	Five weeks ended 1st Nov., 1924.
Contributions (Receipts):—			
By Employers ...	1,870,000	1,410,000	1,810,000
Employed Persons ...	1,680,000	1,260,000	1,630,000
Service Departments (Admiralty, War Office, Air Ministry) ...	20,000	20,000	40,000
Exchequer ...	1,250,000	960,000	1,230,000
Total ...	4,820,000	3,650,000	4,710,000
Payments:—			
Benefit ...	4,290,000	3,590,000	4,470,000
Other payments* ...	490,000	410,000	450,000
Total ...	4,780,000	4,000,000	4,920,000
Treasury Advances outstanding at end of period ...	7,875,000	7,935,000	5,060,000

MINISTRY OF LABOUR
EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.†

THE number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 26th October, 1925, was 1,294,603. Of this number, 1,031,602 were men, 37,940 boys, 195,707 women, and 29,354 girls. Compared with 28th September, there was a decrease of 106,404, which was distributed as follows: men, 74,305; women, 25,272; juveniles, 6,827.

During the four weeks ended 26th October, the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 99,175, of which 54,346 were for men, 25,544 for women, and 19,285 for juveniles.

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†	Number of Workpeople Registered as Unemployed.
	During Week.	Outstanding at end of Week.		
28th September, 1925 ...	27,817	21,397	24,119	1,401,007
5th October, 1925 ...	29,849	21,331	25,218	1,361,147
12th " " ...	29,613	21,319	25,547	1,321,351
19th " " ...	28,587	21,351	24,563	1,300,362
26th " " ...	27,709	20,958	23,847	1,294,603
Total (4 weeks) ...	115,758	...	99,175	...

* Includes refunds at age 60 and compensation for the abolition thereof, cost of administration, etc.

† The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and refer to all workpeople on the Registers of Exchanges, including persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, although employed on a basis of systematic short time, were not actually at work on the date in question. For Great Britain alone, the corresponding figures, as published in the Press, show that on 26th October, 1925, the numbers on the registers were 995,000 men, 172,400 women, and 65,000 juveniles.

‡ "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees or placing the same men on relief works in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 5th October, 1925, the average number of such placings was 4,468 per week, and those of casual workers, such as dock labourers and coal porters, 750 per week.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 26th October, 1925. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange area:—

Area.	Number of Persons on the registers on 26th October, 1925.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 28th Sept., 1925.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division ...	106,562	20,539	7,172	134,273	+ 3,349
South-Eastern Division ...	30,032	6,974	3,566	40,562	+ 1,201
Brighton ...	2,028	515	282	2,825	+ 521
Chatham ...	1,385	269	540	2,194	- 74
Ipswich ...	1,255	190	61	1,506	- 5
Norwich ...	2,576	553	121	3,250	- 288
Rest of South-Eastern ...	22,778	5,447	2,562	30,787	+ 1,047
South-Western Division ...	51,762	9,178	4,350	65,290	+ 2,739
Bristol ...	10,646	2,126	712	13,484	+ 622
Plymouth ...	4,227	646	560	5,433	+ 124
Portsmouth ...	4,883	623	394	5,900	+ 201
Reading ...	1,115	92	148	1,355	+ 44
Southampton ...	6,070	403	513	6,986	+ 1,030
Swindon ...	348	94	114	556	+ 62
Rest of South-Western ...	24,473	5,194	1,909	31,576	+ 656
Midlands Division ...	100,286	30,188	4,766	135,240	- 21,930
Birmingham ...	17,699	6,354	385	24,438	- 2,101
Coventry ...	1,603	373	42	2,018	- 589
Cradley Heath ...	3,271	403	72	3,746	- 274
Duddeston ...	1,025	383	191	1,599	- 4
Leicester ...	3,583	1,793	29	5,405	- 1,691
Northampton ...	1,366	843	105	2,314	- 320
Nottingham ...	7,536	1,944	433	9,913	- 1,788
Smethwick ...	2,175	822	44	3,041	- 322
Stoke-on-Trent ...	8,910	4,461	512	13,883	- 4,163
Walsall ...	3,498	817	191	4,506	- 653
West Bromwich ...	2,389	372	87	2,848	- 257
Wolverhampton ...	3,760	669	140	4,569	- 202
Rest of Midlands ...	43,471	10,954	2,535	56,960	- 9,566
North-Eastern Division ...	246,754	29,497	15,124	291,285	- 25,698
Barnsley ...	1,858	292	110	2,260	+ 84
Bradford ...	7,117	3,188	261	11,166	- 1,964
Darlington ...	2,360	220	141	2,721	+ 5
Dewsbury ...	1,273	615	76	1,964	- 141
Doncaster ...	534	195	278	1,007	- 37
Gateshead ...	10,256	796	908	11,960	+ 13
Grimsby ...	1,682	182	384	2,248	+ 379
Halifax ...	2,056	487	52	2,595	- 782
Hartlepool ...	7,595	209	401	8,205	+ 725
Huddersfield ...	3,036	1,560	167	4,763	- 817
Hull ...	8,943	625	957	10,525	- 129
Leeds ...	12,286	5,310	349	17,945	- 1,989
Lincoln ...	1,810	262	129	2,201	- 501
Middlesbrough ...	10,482	521	510	11,513	+ 52
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	14,128	1,492	737	16,357	+ 475
Rotherham ...	2,175	172	209	2,556	- 1,735
Sheffield ...	20,362	2,202	916	23,480	- 2,496
South Shields ...	7,465	511	595	8,571	+ 176
Stockton-on-Tees ...	7,341	198	333	7,872	- 260
Sunderland ...	18,021	675	856	19,552	- 473
Sunderland ...	1,347	243	44	1,634	- 118
York ...	104,027	9,452	6,711	120,190	- 15,540
North-Western Division ...	173,680	43,838	12,908	230,426	- 34,818
Accrington ...	961	309	56	1,326	- 1,265
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	1,927	846	60	2,833	- 751
Barrow ...	4,397	332	173	4,902	- 938
Birkenhead ...	4,520	343	286	5,149	- 283
Blackburn ...	2,894	1,657	194	4,745	- 999
Blackpool ...	1,445	403	179	2,455	+ 960
Bolton ...	4,420	1,619	381	6,420	- 1,491
Burnley ...	1,729	1,306	141	3,176	- 509
Bury ...	922	534	29	1,485	- 324
Chorley ...	2,110	351	106	2,567	- 654
Liverpool ...	44,941	5,775	4,566	55,282	- 1,189
Manchester ...	20,109	6,492	852	27,453	- 2,096
Nelson ...	727	149	8	884	- 19
Oldham ...	3,990	1,661	152	5,803	- 2,031
Preston ...	2,326	776	171	3,273	- 1,082
Rochdale ...	2,092	509	41	2,642	- 570
St. Helens ...	4,171	271	414	4,856	- 2,838
Salford ...	8,353	2,703	701	11,757	- 2,476
Stockport ...	2,676	1,391	142	4,209	- 218
Warrington ...	2,181	319	—	2,500	- 308
Wigan ...	8,266	2,546	695	11,507	- 1,313
Rest of North-Western ...	48,523	13,120	3,561	65,204	- 14,424
Scotland Division ...	154,231	28,865	10,057	193,153	- 6,723
Aberdeen ...	4,964	1,062	237	6,263	+ 202
Clydebank ...	2,999	205	238	3,442	+ 416
Dunfermline ...	5,827	2,490	237	8,554	- 448
Edinburgh ...	10,466	2,145	869	13,480	- 101
Glasgow ...	58,209	11,607	3,894	73,710	+ 1,512
Greenock ...	6,779	623	308	7,710	- 132
Motherwell ...	4,058	303	98	4,459	+ 700
Paisley ...	4,570	1,024	293	5,887	+ 161
Rest of Scotland ...	56,359	9,406	3,883	69,648	- 9,033
Wales Division ...	131,739	3,398	7,030	142,167	- 21,879
Cardiff ...	7,908	700	594	9,202	+ 678
Llanelli ...	2,032	121	77	2,230	+ 613
Newport ...	3,247	208	273	3,728	- 304
Swansea ...	5,074	327	446	5,847	- 90
Rest of Wales ...	113,478	2,042	5,640	121,160	- 22,776
Northern Ireland ...	36,566	23,320	2,321	62,207	- 2,645
Belfast ...	24,400	15,049	1,436	40,885	- 622
Londonderry ...	2,327	1,173	156	3,656	+ 40
Lurgan ...	967	850	80	1,897	- 517
Lisburn ...	595	461	60	1,116	- 105
Newry ...	798	310	14	1,122	+ 3
Rest of Northern Ireland ...	7,479	5,477	575	13,531	- 1,444
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1,031,602	195,707	67,294	1,294,603	- 106,404

REVISED PERCENTAGES OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED, JULY TO SEPTEMBER, 1925.

The Table on pages 396 and 397 gives, industry by industry, the estimated numbers of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts at the beginning of July, 1925. As explained in an article on page 380, it is impossible to compute the annual estimate until about the end of October, and consequently the percentages of insured workers recorded as unemployed at the end of July, August and September, as given in the issues of this GAZETTE for the past three months, were calculated on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1924. The increase during 1924-25, in the numbers insured, was about 2 per cent. of the July, 1924, figures and consequently the percentages unemployed for the three months in question have been slightly overstated.

The following Table gives the corrected total percentages for each insured industrial group in Great Britain, and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, respectively, and a Table on page 381 shows the effect on the percentages for all insured workers, as published in previous issues of this GAZETTE, of distributing the increase in the total number insured, over the 12 months from July, 1924, to June, 1925.

INDUSTRY.	TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED.						INDUSTRY.	TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED.						
	GREAT BRITAIN.			GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.				GREAT BRITAIN.			GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.			
	27th July, 1925.	24th Aug., 1925.	21st Sept., 1925.	27th July, 1925.	24th Aug., 1925.	21st Sept., 1925.		27th July, 1925.	24th Aug., 1925.	21st Sept., 1925.	27th July, 1925.	24th Aug., 1925.	21st Sept., 1925.	
Fishing ...	11.0	10.7	11.3	11.0	10.7	11.3	Textile Trades—cont.							
Mining:—							Carpet Manufacture ...	11.1	13.8	13.5	11.2	13.9	13.5	
Coal Mining ...	14.9	22.6	23.6	14.9	22.6	23.6	Other Textile Industries ...	11.1	11.5	9.9	11.6	11.7	10.7	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining ...	29.3	34.6	28.4	29.3	34.8	28.6	Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ...	13.7	15.3	15.1	14.3	15.6	15.3	
Quarrying ...	15.2	11.9	11.9	15.2	11.9	11.9	Leather and Leather Goods:—							
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	5.8	6.2	6.3	5.8	6.2	6.6	Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	12.5	13.3	12.0	12.5	13.3	12.0	
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	2.7	4.2	1.4	2.7	4.2	1.4	Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ...	10.5	10.0	8.9	10.6	10.1	9.0	
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	6.1	6.9	6.9	6.3	7.1	7.2	Clothing Trades:—							

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 26th October, 1925, and the increase or decrease at that date in the percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

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

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

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

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those

persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons giving in the following Table and the figure given on page 394 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

The term "unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily mean that the person is definitely without a job. Persons who on 26th October, 1925, were not at work because they were suspended, "stood off," "furloughed," or on short time, and whose unemployment books were lodged at Exchanges, are counted in the statistics as "unemployed."

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated to have been approximately 11,892,000 at July, 1925.

This number includes approximately 126,000 persons insured under the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance industries, approved under Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

A brief outline of the method by which the estimate has been computed appears on page 380, while a Table showing the revised total percentages unemployed at the end of July, August and September, calculated on the new base figure, is given on page 395.

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1925. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 26TH OCTOBER, 1925. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH OCTOBER, 1925.			(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.) INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			Great Britain only. (Total.)	21ST SEPT., 1925.*	27TH OCT., 1924.	22ND OCT., 1923.
							Males.	Females.	Total.				
Fishing	25,710	880	26,590	2,442	34	2,476	9.5	3.9	9.3	9.3	- 2.0	- 1.3	- 1.9
Mining —													
Coal Mining	1,231,900	8,550	1,240,450	245,232	1,735	246,967	19.9	20.3	19.9	19.9	- 3.7	+ 9.6	+ 17.4
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	16,150	40	16,190	4,319	4	4,323	26.7	10.0	26.7	26.3	- 1.9	+ 4.6	+ 3.9
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	5,350	40	5,390	583	19	602	10.9	...	10.8	10.8	- 1.1	- 6.3	- 8.1
Stone Quarrying and Mining	38,650	280	38,930	2,833	...	2,852	7.3	6.8	7.3	6.9	+ 0.7	+ 2.1	+ 1.0
Slate Quarrying and Mining	10,730	10	10,740	219	...	219	2.0	...	2.0	2.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.8	+ 0.3
Other Mining and Quarrying	19,330	1,580	20,910	1,300	93	1,393	6.7	5.9	6.7	6.4	- 0.5	+ 0.3	...
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	14,220	180	14,400	495	19	514	3.5	10.6	3.6	3.5	+ 0.3	- 0.8	- 3.0
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products —													
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,600	120	11,720	1,982	34	2,016	17.1	28.3	17.2	17.2	+ 0.4	+ 4.4	+ 10.8
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	12,810	910	13,720	2,025	67	2,092	15.8	7.4	15.2	15.3	- 0.4	- 3.3	- 1.5
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	17,570	780	18,350	616	28	644	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.4	- 1.0	- 4.3	- 4.5
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	70,710	7,800	78,510	4,914	887	5,801	6.9	11.4	7.4	7.2	+ 0.9	- 0.4	- 1.0
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	34,320	39,050	73,370	4,315	5,880	10,195	12.6	15.1	13.9	13.9	- 1.6	+ 3.0	+ 2.8
Glass Trades —													
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	20,880	5,300	26,180	2,395	324	2,719	11.5	6.1	10.4	10.4	- 0.5	- 3.3	- 2.2
Glass Bottle Making	16,700	2,320	19,020	4,455	333	4,788	26.7	14.4	25.2	25.1	+ 1.4	- 0.1	+ 3.7
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc.													
Chemicals Manufacture	75,320	21,580	96,900	8,528	1,009	9,537	11.3	4.7	9.8	9.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.8	- 1.6
Explosives Manufacture	13,020	5,500	18,520	930	487	1,417	7.1	8.9	7.7	7.6	- 0.4	- 1.1	- 5.1
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	12,900	3,810	16,710	668	167	835	5.2	4.4	5.0	5.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	58,940	21,590	80,530	4,273	1,104	5,377	7.2	5.1	6.7	6.6	- 0.1	- 0.7	- 1.7
Metal Manufacture —													
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	25,500	280	25,780	4,492	23	5,515	21.5	8.2	21.4	21.4	- 3.6	+ 4.1	+ 5.9
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	195,110	5,020	200,130	48,258	329	48,587	24.7	6.6	24.3	24.3	- 2.3	+ 0.8	+ 1.6
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	38,680	3,530	42,210	4,440	264	4,704	11.5	7.5	11.1	11.2	- 0.1	- 0.9	- 5.3
Manufacture of Tin Plates	23,850	4,320	28,170	2,240	272	2,512	9.4	6.3	8.9	8.9	- 3.9	+ 2.7	+ 5.2
Iron and Steel Tube Making	26,340	1,550	27,890	4,788	138	4,926	18.2	8.9	17.7	17.6	+ 0.6	+ 1.7	- 0.3
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	20,640	4,260	24,900	3,171	387	3,558	15.4	9.1	14.3	14.3	- 1.0	+ 1.0	+ 3.8
Engineering, etc. —													
Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	583,590	43,690	627,280	73,514	2,062	75,576	12.6	4.7	12.0	11.9	- 0.4	- 3.3	- 8.5
Electrical Engineering	61,320	15,400	76,720	4,257	673	4,930	4.4	5.5	5.5	+ 0.2	...	...	- 1.1
Marine Engineering, etc.	60,670	1,050	61,720	15,631	81	15,712	25.8	7.7	25.5	25.7	+ 2.4	+ 8.0	- 0.6
Constructional Engineering	25,110	1,020	26,130	2,777	51	2,828	11.1	5.0	10.8	10.8	- 0.6	- 2.4	- 0.1
Construction and Repair of Vehicles —													
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	193,300	21,540	214,840	14,283	1,141	15,424	7.4	5.3	7.2	7.1	- 0.4	- 2.4	- 5.2
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	21,700	2,930	24,630	2,668	189	2,857	12.3	6.5	11.6	11.3	+ 0.8	- 0.9	- 3.2
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	54,810	1,440	56,250	4,194	30	4,224	7.7	2.1	7.5	7.5	+ 0.6	- 1.0	+ 2.8

* The percentages for 21st September have been revised since their publication in the October issue of this GAZETTE, on the basis of the new estimates of the numbers of insured workers—see pages 380 and 395.

NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY 1925. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 26TH OCTOBER, 1925. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 26TH OCTOBER, 1925.			(GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.) INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.			Great Britain only. (Total.)	21ST SEPT., 1925.†	27TH OCT., 1924.	22ND OCT., 1923.
							Males.	Females.	Total.				
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	238,360	3,340	241,700	89,212	217	89,429	37.4	6.5	37.0	37.2	+ 1.3	+ 5.6	- 5.6
Metal Trades —													
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	77,590	7,970	85,560	8,320	555	8,875	10.7	7.0	10.4	10.2	- 0.4	- 2.7	- 7.2
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	11,670	990	12,660	746	27	773	6.4	2.7	6.1	6.0	- 0.5	- 1.3	- 7.5
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	50,940	30,410	81,350	3,138	1,345	4,483	6.2	4.4	5.5	5.5	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 3.9
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	24,380	9,460	33,840	3,607	735	4,342	14.8	7.8	12.8	12.8	+ 0.7	- 0.1	- 3.9
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	15,130	11,920	27,050	1,877	1,088	2,965	12.4	9.1	11.0	11.0	- 2.1	- 5.5	- 5.2
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	18,680	11,690	30,370	1,941	1,128	3,069	10.4	9.6	10.1	10.1	- 1.5	- 6.9	- 10.1
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	7,080	520	7,600	356	12	368	5.0	2.3	4.8	4.7	+ 0.1	- 1.5	- 2.1
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	25,680	19,530	45,210	2,415	1,196	3,611	9.4	6.1	8.0	8.0	- 1.9	- 2.7	- 3.4
Other Metal Industries	114,800	66,020	180,820	10,780	5,875	16,655	9.4	8.9	9.2	9.2	- 0.7	- 2.8	- 2.4
Textile Trades —													
Cotton	208,770	367,950	576,720	13,997	26,216	40,213	6.7	7.1	7.0	7.0	- 3.0	- 4.6	- 10.8
Woolen and Worsted	107,340	150,360	257,700	13,067	14,758	27,825	12.2	9.8	10.8	10.7	- 2.4	- 2.8	- 0.2
Silk	18,470	28,420	46,890	904	2,406	3,310	4.9	8.5	7.1	7.1	- 0.1	- 1.7	- 1.9
Linon	27,110	59,510	86,620	7,949	19,945	27,894	29.3	33.5	32.2	15.4	+ 1.1	+ 21.1	+ 12.6
Jute	13,750	28,430	42,180	1,942	3,357	5,299	14.1	11.8	12.6	12.6	- 0.7	+ 1.9	+ 1.8
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	7,370	13,450	20,820	855	2,261	3,116	11.6	16.8	15.0	11.3	- 3.5	- 2.4	+ 1.0
Hosiery	22,200	75,500	97,700	1,182	5,376	6,558	5.3	7.1	6.7	6.6	- 2.5	- 0.8	- 3.1
Lace	7,980	11,480	19,460	2,108	1,785	3,893	26.4	15.5	20.0	20.0	- 1.1	+ 0.6	- 1.9
Carpet Manufacture	10,790	15,460	26,250	832	1,503	2,335	7.7	9.7	8.9	8.9	- 4.6	+ 0.5	+ 4.4
Other Textile Industries	13,970	31,280	45,250	1,185	3,199	4,384	8.5	10.2	9.7	9.2	- 1.0	- 2.3	- 5.1
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	85,120	34,070	119,190	10,332	3,993	14,325	12.1	11.7	12.0	11.8	- 3.3	- 1.0	- 3.5
Leather and Leather Goods —													
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	34,060	8,650	42,710	3,646	717	4,363	10.7	8.3	10.2	10.2	- 1.8	+ 1.8	- 1.0
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	13,830	12,750	26,580	1,383	722	2,105	10.0	5.7	7.9	7.8	- 1.1	- 1.9	- 2.0
Clothing Trades —													
Tailoring	67,800	128,140	195,940	7,643	15,568	23,211	11.3	12.1	11.8	11.4	- 1.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	11,820	93,640	105,460	774	5,606	6,380	6.5	6.0	6.0	5.8	- 0.8	- 1.7	- 1.7
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	13,340	20,860											

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 49, as compared with 36 in the previous month and 37 in October, 1924. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 23,000. In addition, about 20,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 31 disputes which began before October and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 80, involving about 43,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during October of about 440,000 working days.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries and indicates the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress:—

Groups of Industries.	Number of Disputes in progress in October.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in October.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in October.
	Started before 1st Oct.	Started in Oct.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying...	11	15	26	21,000	293,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding.	3	10	13	7,000	37,000
Clothing...	2	3	5	2,000	13,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco	1	4	5	1,000	26,000
Woodworking and Furnishing.	4	3	7	1,000	31,000
Other ...	10	14	24	11,000	40,000
Total, Oct., 1925 ...	31	49	80	43,000	440,000
Total, Sept., 1925 ...	33	36	69	44,000	413,900
Total, Oct., 1924 ...	37	37	74	36,000	377,000

Causes.—Of the 49 disputes beginning in October, 7, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 13, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 17, directly involving 8,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 7,

directly involving 8,000 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; and 5, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 31 new disputes, directly involving 5,000 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, directly involving 8,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 12, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 16, directly involving 6,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 17, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 4 disputes, directly involving 500 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1924 AND 1925.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first ten months of 1925, as compared with the corresponding period of 1924:—

Groups of Industries.	January to Oct., 1924.			January to Oct., 1925.		
	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.
Mining and Quarrying...	165	123,000	1,382,000	151	119,000	2,671,000
Engineering ...	23	10,000	90,000	18	6,000	37,000
Shipbuilding ...	32	34,000	593,000	20	5,000	31,000
Other Metal ...	55	24,000	676,000	41	11,000	92,000
Textile ...	38	9,000	165,000	51	171,000	3,168,000
Clothing ...	27	3,000	32,000	25	5,000	35,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	16	9,000	47,000	21	4,000	41,000
Woodworking and Furnishing.	24	3,000	90,000	25	4,000	84,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	9	3,000	17,000	12	18,000	71,000
Building, Decorating, etc.	44	112,000	3,122,000	45	5,000	74,000
Transport ...	68	243,000	1,533,000	39	22,000	46,000
Public Administration Services.	21	4,000	104,000	21	2,000	14,000
Other ...	59	10,000	194,000	41	33,000	155,000
Total ...	581	587,000	8,045,000	510	405,000	6,519,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING OCTOBER, 1925.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
MINING AND QUARRYING:—			1925.	1925.		
Coal hewers, day-wagemen and surface workers—Wrexham (near).	874	1,377	15 June	29 Oct.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Modified alterations in price list agreed upon.
Coal miners, etc.—Durham (near).	7,000		22 June–6 July.	...	Against proposed increase in working hours, revision of piece-work rates, etc.	No settlement reported.
	2,577	252	5 Aug.	...	Against proposed reduction in piece-work rates and increase in working hours of certain workpeople, and against concessions as to payment of minimum wage.	No settlement reported.
Coal miners, mechanics, enginemen, etc.—South Shields (near).	2,258	156	14 Aug.	...	Dispute respecting terms of employment and respecting the wages of certain sets of machine coal-getters.	No settlement reported.
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRIES:—						
Railway carriage and wagon builders—Wolverton.	5,000	...	26 Oct.	2 Nov.	Against promotion of a certain foreman.	Work resumed pending enquiry.
OTHER INDUSTRIES:—						
Boot and shoe operatives (closing and other departments)—Northampton.	200	700	15 Oct.	29 Oct.	Objection to a certain under-forewoman.	Under-forewoman to be removed at the end of a month.
Flour and provender mill workers, etc.—Cardiff and Barry.	1,000	...	24 Sept.‡	||	Against dismissal of certain workers.	||
Organ builders—London and other centres.	800	...	28 Aug.¶	...	Strike in London for advance in wages, reduction in working hours and other concessions, followed by lock-out at other centres.	No settlement reported.
Seamen—Various ports in Great Britain.**	5,000††	...	12 Aug.	12 Oct.	Against reduction in wages	Trade Union concerned decided to terminate the strike.
Rubber workers—Birmingham (near).	6,810	...	27 Oct.	4 Nov.	Dispute arising from the speeding-up of certain machines.	Increased speed of machines to be maintained, but assistance allowed to workpeople.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except where the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.
 † In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information.
 ‡ 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.
 § Most of the workpeople involved ceased work on 1st October.
 ¶ It was reported in the press on 16th November that a settlement had been reached.
 ** The lock-out took effect on 10th September and subsequent dates.
 †† The particulars given for this dispute relate to the strike at British ports. In addition, seamen at South African, Australian and New Zealand ports were involved in the strike.
 ‡‡ Estimated number.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £5,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 110,000 workpeople and in a reduction of about £2,700 in the weekly wages of 63,000 workpeople.

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

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	5,500	5,700	£ 1,150	£ 220
Metal ...	14,500	57,000	1,450	2,450
Textile ...	83,000	...	2,150	...
Other ...	7,000	300	650	30
Total ...	110,000	63,000	5,400	2,700

In the mining group there were two changes in the wages of over 3,000 iron-ore miners in Cumberland during October, reductions of from 1d. to 2d. per shift under a selling price sliding scale being followed by special advances varying in amount up to 1s. 6d. per shift. In the Radstock district about 5,000 coal miners sustained a reduction equivalent to nearly 2 per cent. on their current rates.

In the metal trades there was a reduction under sliding scale of about 1½ per cent. on the current rates of about 35,000 iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, and the bonuses paid to about 8,000 workpeople whose wages are not regulated by the sliding scale were reduced by 6d. a shift in the case of adults, and by smaller amounts in the case of youths and boys. Over 10,000 blastfurnace and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire also sustained a small reduction in wages (under 1 per cent.). About 11,000 steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in various districts received an increase of about 3½ per cent. on current rates. Other changes in this group affected blastfurnace workers in Cumberland, whose wages were increased by over 2½ per cent., and similar classes in Staffordshire, in whose case wages were reduced by 4½ or 5 per cent. on current rates. The wages of shuttlemakers were slightly reduced in Lancashire, and increased in Yorkshire.

In the textile group the principal changes affected about 75,000 workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, printing, etc., trades, whose wages were increased under cost-of-living sliding scales by about 1½ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire and by 9d. or 10d. per week in the case of men and 5d. per week in the case of women in Lancashire and Scotland. Workpeople employed in the woollen

and worsted industry at Leicester received an increase in their bonus of ¼d. on each shilling earned. There were also increases in the bonuses paid to engravers in calico print, etc., works.

Of the total net increase of £5,400 per week in October, nearly £2,500 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; £1,600 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople; nearly £1,100 was the result of arbitration or mediation; and nearly the whole of the remainder took effect under arrangements made by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople. Increases preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work amounted to about £1,100.

Of the decreases, totalling £2,700 per week, nearly the whole took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices or the proceeds of the industry.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY–OCTOBER, 1925.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the ten completed months of 1925, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	8,000	396,000	£ 1,400	£ 67,100
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	29,000	1,200	4,600	200
Iron and Steel ...	8,000	182,000	750	27,500
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	6,500	600	1,000	50
Other Metal ...	31,000	50,000	4,500	6,900
Textile ...	60,000	63,000	4,200	4,700
Clothing ...	218,000	6,300	21,300	700
Food, Drink and Tobacco	21,500	10,000	1,400	950
Woodworking, etc. ...	3,500	7,500	350	700
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	10,000	...	1,400	...
Building and Allied Trades ...	43,500	...	5,100	...
Transport ...	211,000	151,000	13,100	40,400
Public Utility Services ...	157,000	13,500	15,000	1,400
Other ...	36,000	9,000	2,600	900
Total ...	843,000	890,100	77,300	151,500

In the corresponding ten months of 1924 there were net increases of nearly £540,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 2,700,000 workpeople, and net reductions of over £67,000 in those of 575,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported during October.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1925.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Agriculture	Sussex ...	26 Oct.	Male workers 21 years and over other than those employed wholly or mainly as horsemen, cowmen, stockmen or shepherds.	Increase of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change for a week of 52 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, 31s.‡
	Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire.	1 Oct.	Male workers ...	Increase of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change, for a week of 50 hours in winter and 54 hours in summer, vary from 17s. at 14 and under 15 to 25s. at 18 and under 19, and to 31s. at 21 years and over.‡
Coal Mining	Radstock ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines.	MINING AND QUARRYING. Decrease of 2-32 per cent. on standard base rates of 1918, leaving wages 42-11 per cent. above the standard of 1918. Decreases of 2d. per shift in the bargain price (8s. 4d. to 8s. 2d.), of 1½d. per shift for winding enginemen (7s. 5½d. to 7s. 4½d.), of 1d. per shift for other underground and surface workers, and of ½d. per shift for boys under 16 years.
Iron Mining	Cumberland ...	12 Oct.	Workpeople employed at iron-ore mines.	Temporary increase of 1s. 6d. per shift in the minimum wage for miners, and a temporary increase of 1s. 6d. per shift for winding enginemen and for all other workers 18 years of age and over who were previously in receipt of a cost-of-living bonus, which is to be discontinued; also a temporary increase of 2d. per shift for boys under 18 years and 3d. per shift for all other workers (mainly craftsmen) not in receipt of the cost-of-living bonus. Rate after change: Winding enginemen, 7s. 4½d.; underground 1st class or leading labourers, 5s. 5½d. per shift; plus temporary increase of 1s. 6d. per shift in each case.‡
Lead Mining	Wearhead and Alledale.	28 Sept.	Underground and surface workers	Bonus increased from 8s. to 8s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for surface labourers (including bonus), 7s. 7d. per shift.

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.
 † In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of about 275,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.
 ‡ The minimum rates of wages referred to took effect under Orders of the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.
 § The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.
 ¶ The increase took effect under Arbitration Awards dated 5th and 23rd October, 1925, respectively, and cancelled the existing cost-of-living bonus of 5d. per shift paid to the following classes:—underground shiftmen, underground day wage labourers over 18 years of age, and surface workers over 18 years of age with a shift rate of less than 6s.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
MINING AND QUARRYING (continued).				
Quarrying	West Cumberland ...	12 Oct.	Limestone quarryworkers ...	Decrease* of 1d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 1½d. per shift for other men, and of ½d. per shift for boys under 16 years; and special increases† granted of 1s. 3d. per day to ruddmen, and 1s. per day to other men, in lieu of the bonus of 7½d. per day previously paid and now withdrawn. Rates after change: knobblers, 8s. 3d. per shift; haulage enginemen, 7s. 11d.; day borers, 1st class, 7s. 9d.; day labourers, 1st class, 7s. 1d.; ruddmen, 6s. 10d.
	Aberdeen and Kinnaird ...	First pay after 19 Oct.	Settmakers employed at granite quarries.	Increase‡ of 4d. per ton.
BRICK, POTTERY, GLASS, CHEMICAL, ETC., TRADES.				
Brickmaking	Nottingham...	1st full pay week after 7 Oct.	Brickmakers (adult male workers)	Increase of 2s. per week or ½d. per hour. Rates after change: daymen and wheelers, 1s. 2½d. per hour; drawers, 1s. 3d. per hour; setters, and clay getters, 1s. 3½d. per hour; burners, 6s. per week.
IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE.				
Pig Iron Manufacture	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Oct. 18 Oct.	Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work) employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase‡ in bonuses of amounts varying, according to base rates, from 1. 3d. to 3. 5d. per week, making total amount of bonuses from 2s. 8. 9d. to 6s. 11. 5d. per week. Percentage payable on base rates increased from 13 to 16, and minimum rate for an adult worker increased to 41s. per week of 47 hours or 6 shifts, making 41s. the recognised minimum rate for labourers.§
	North Staffordshire	1st making-up day in Oct. 1st full pay after 19 Oct. 1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease* of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 54½ per cent. above the standard. Rate after change for yard labourers, 5s. 8d. per shift, plus 54½ per cent.
	South Staffordshire	1st full pay after 19 Oct. 1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease* of 6 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 10 per cent. above the standard. Rate after change for labourers, 5s. 6d. per shift, plus 10 per cent.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 52 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 52 per cent.
	Certain districts in England and Wales, Midlands and parts of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	5 Oct.	Steel sheet millmen...	Increase of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 52½ per cent. above the standard of 1891.¶
	South Wales and Monmouthshire	5 Oct.	Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen. Non-scale workers employed in iron and steel works. Men employed in steel melting shops and in iron and steel rolling mills.	Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 60 per cent. above the standard. War bonus reduced by 6d. per week for men, 3d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and 1½d. per week for boys under 18 years. Decrease* of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 52 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 52 per cent.
OTHER METAL TRADES.				
Galvanizing	England and Wales**	5 Oct.	Workpeople employed in galvanizing departments (excluding process of annealing).	Increase of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 52½ per cent. above the standard.¶
Shuttle Manufacture	Lancashire††	1st pay day in Oct.	Shuttlemakers ...	Addition to basis rate of 55 per cent. previously paid, reduced‡ to 54 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change: 1s. per hour, plus 54 per cent. (or 1s. 6. 48d.).
	Yorkshire ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Shuttlemakers ...	Addition to basis rate of 55 per cent. previously paid, increased (under a revised sliding scale)‡ to 57 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change: 10½d. per hour, plus 57 per cent. (or 1s. 4. 48d.).
TEXTILE TRADES.				
Woolen and Worsted	Leicester ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn-spinning industry (excluding workpeople such as engineers, etc., belonging to unions other than the Workers' Union).	Bonus increased‡ from 3½d. to 3¼d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers, men, 42s. 6d.; women, 25s. 6d.; plus, in each case, 3¼d. in the shilling; pieceworkers, 25 per cent. above time rates.
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.††	1st pay day in Nov.‡‡	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 77½ per cent. to 79½ per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 61½ per cent. to 63½ per cent. for piece-workers (except pressers), and from 46½ per cent. to 47½ per cent. for pressers.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire|||; also Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.‡‡	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engineers and mechanics, etc., in certain districts employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	MALES: Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 23s. 4d. to 24s. 1d. per week in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and from 23s. 4d. to 24s. 2d. per week in Scotland for workers 21 years and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. FEMALEs: Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 13s. 11d. to 14s. 4d. for workers 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire and for workers 21 years and over in Scotland, and by smaller amounts for workers under these age limits in the respective districts.
	Middleton ...	1st pay day in Nov.‡‡	Workpeople employed in the textile dyeing, bleaching, etc., trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 23s. 6d. to 24s. 3d. per week for male workers 21 years and over and from 14s. 6d. to 14s. 11d. for female workers 18 years and over, with corresponding increases for junior workers.
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Derby and Hinckley.	Pay day in week ending 17 Oct. 1st pay day in Nov.‡‡	Juvenile male workers employed in the hosiery bleaching, dyeing and scouring trades.	Scale of weekly rates adopted starting at 14s. at 14 years, and increasing to 34s. at 18 years, and to 48s. at 20 years.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Nov.‡‡	Mechanics employed in dyeworks...	Increase‡ of 9d. per week. Rates after change: Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, 66s. 4d.; other towns, 65s. 4d.

* This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.
 † These increases took effect under an Agreement made between the West Cumberland Limestone Quarry Owners' Association and the North Western Counties Quarrymen's Association. In cases where the previous rate and the above increase amounted to less than 7s. per day, the increase was fixed at 1s. 3d. per day. The rates after change are to be regarded as minimum rates until March, 1926, but are subject to increases if the price of pig iron rises above 78s. per ton.
 ‡ This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number.
 § This increase resulted from an agreement between the West Coast Ironmasters' Association and the trade union which fixed the above minimum rate for an adult worker and provided that the percentage payable on base rates or tonnage earnings should not fall below 16 per cent. The sliding-scale percentage on bonus earnings paid to keepers, slagers, fillers, enginemen, etc., remains at 50 in the Workington Area and 45 in the Furness Area.
 ¶ This change took effect under an agreement made by the Sheet Trade Committee of the Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board, and applied principally in Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire.
 ** The increase was agreed to by the employers as an *ex gratia* payment, and is not due to the operation of the sliding scale under which wages are normally regulated. It was further agreed that the sliding scale percentage payable on base rates is not to fall below 50 per cent. for a period of six months.
 †† Certain firms—members of the Galvanizing Conciliation Board.
 ††† Excluding certain workpeople employed at Blackburn and Garston.
 ††† The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet, and Colour Dyers, Ltd., the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd., the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation, the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association, the Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford district the change did not affect operatives employed in the home dyeing and finishing departments of woolen and worsted manufacturers.
 ††† In respect of the preceding pay period.
 ††† The change applied to workpeople employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above). For pieceworkers the cost-of-living wages were increased from 66 per cent. to 68 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 60 per cent. to 62 per cent. for hand cutters, from 50 per cent. to 52 per cent. for menders, and from 57 per cent. to 59 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1925 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
TEXTILE TRADES (continued).				
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. (cont.)	Bolton and Bury Districts.	1st pay day in Nov.*	Mechanics employed in the textile dyeing, bleaching, etc., industry.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 23s. 4d. to 24s. 1d. per week. Total rate after change, 64s. 1d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.*	Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 31s. 11d. to 32s. 10d. per week for engravers and from 23s. 4d. to 24s. 1d. for turners, polishers and varnishers.
	Various towns in Lancashire.†	1st pay day in Nov.*	Mechanics employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 23s. 4d. to 24s. 1d. per week. Total rate after change, 64s. 1d.
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. (cont.)	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in Nov.*	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased‡ from 28s. 11d. to 29s. 10d. per week for men, from 17s. to 17s. 6d. per week for women, and by smaller amounts for youths under 21.
	FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES.			
Baking	Various towns in Yorkshire.§	Pay day in week ending 31 Oct. 3 Oct.	Adult male workers employed in the baking and confectionery trades by private traders.	Increase‡ of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 70s.; doughmakers and ovenmen, 65s.; tablehands, 60s.
	Bristol ...	3 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Increase‡ of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 62s. 3d.
	Bath ...	3 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Increase‡ of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 61s. 6d.
Baking	Pontypridd and Rhondda Valley.	31 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Increase‡ of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers, and of proportionate amounts for improvers and female workers. Rates after change for daywork—adult male workers: foremen, 73s.; first and single hands, 71s.; second hands and dough-makers, 66s. and 68s.; tablehands, 65s.; nightwork, 5s. per week more in each case.
	WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE TRADES.			
Vehicle Building	Norwich ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the vehicle building and wheelwright trades.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: skilled men, 1s. 6d., coachfitters, 1s. 5d.
Building	Buxton ...	1 Sept.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers.	Increase of ½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d.), and ¼d. per hour for labourers (1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2½d.).
	Rugby ...	2 Oct.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Increase of 1d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.), and ¼d. per hour for labourers (1s. 2½d. to 1s. 3½d.).
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.				
Tramways Undertakings	Liverpool ...	4 Aug.	Drivers, conductors and shed attendants.	Decrease‡ of 1s. per week. Rates after change: motormen, 63s. 5d. to 65s. 9d. per week; conductors, 58s. 8d. to 63s. 5d.
	Leeds ...	15 Oct.	Street sweepers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (9½d. to 10½d.).
	Sheffield ...	23 June¶	Corporation engineering trades employees, including electrical wiremen, employed in non-trading, waterworks and tramways departments.	Increase of 2d. per hour on previous rate of 1s. 3d.¶
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities	Certain authorities in East Midlands.	14 Oct.	Certain classes of men employed in non-trading departments in Grades B and C areas.	Rates of wages fixed as follows: gardeners and gardeners' labourers, Grade C, 10½d. per hour; labourers (sewer construction and maintenance), Grade B, 1s. 3½d.; Grade C, 1s. 1½d.; stokers (baths and sanatoria), Grade B, 11½d.; Grade C, 10½d.; stokers (destructors and sewage disposal works), Grade C, 1s. 0½d. **
	Norwich ...	1st pay day after 1 Sept. 1 Oct.	Men employed laying drains of an average depth of 6 feet or over from house to sewer.	Rates fixed at 1d. per hour above the labourer's rate, making the rates to be paid: Grade A areas, 1s. 2½d.; Grade B, 1s. 0½d.; Grade C, 11½d.; Grade D, 11½d. (industrial); 10½d. (agricultural). **
	Edinburgh ...	1 Oct.	Manual workers in non-trading and water departments.	Decrease‡ of 1s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for labourers, scavengers, refuse collectors and waterworks labourers, 52s. 6d. per week.
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities	Fife-shire, Dunfermline District.	19 Oct.	Unskilled and semi-skilled workers in non-trading and water departments, also paviors and set-beaters.	Increase‡ of 1s. per week. Rates after change: road labourers, scavengers and waterworks labourers, 54s.; pipe jointers, 57s. 3d. to 61s. 3d.; paviors, 72s.; setbeaters, 58s. 6d.
	Tractor and roller drivers, roadmen, scavengers, carters, refuse collectors, etc., employed by County Council.	19 Oct.	Tractor and roller drivers, roadmen, scavengers, carters, refuse collectors, etc., employed by County Council.	Increase‡ of 2s. per week. Rates after change: scavengers, 53s. per week; roadmen, 58s.; carters and refuse collectors, 60s. 6d.; brushers, fillers and spreaders, 62s.; tractor and roller drivers, 68s.
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.				
Newspaper Distribution	Glasgow ...	Week ending 3 or 8 Oct.	Workpeople employed in newspaper, etc., distribution.	Men engaged on night shifts to receive a rate of 4s. per week in excess of that paid to men on day shifts, in lieu of both classes receiving a uniform rate as previously. Minimum rate after change for night shift workers, 70s.
Warehousing, etc.	Leicester ...	1 July	Clerks and warehousemen, 25 years and over, employed by wholesale boot and shoe distributors.	Increase of 4s. per week in the minimum rate (55s. 6d. to 59s. 6d.).

CHANGE IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1925.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.
Brick, etc., Making.	England and Wales†† (certain works).	††	Kiln burners and boilermen ...	Adoption of a system of 8-hour shifts.††

* In respect of the preceding pay period.
 † The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour cost-of-living index number.
 ‡ Viz., Tottington, Whitefield, Radcliffe, Walmersley, Entwistle, Ramsbottom, Accrington, and Westhoughton.
 § Barnsley, Bradford, Bridlington, Doncaster, Halifax, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield, and York.
 ¶ The increase is subject to ratification by the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry.
 ** The increase was arranged in October, to take effect from the date shown.
 †† These rates were fixed under an agreement of the East Midlands Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services.
 ††† The system was recommended by the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee for the Clay Industries, and employers were requested to bring the system in, where necessary, not later than 1 August, 1925, basing the rates and conditions of working for 8-hour shifts on conditions prevailing for similar shifts in the same district. Information is not available to indicate to what extent the Committee's recommendation has been adopted.

MEMBERSHIP OF TRADE UNIONS.

[NOTE.—The figures given for 1924 are provisional and subject to slight revision when certain information, at present outstanding, has been received. Some Unions are unable to state exactly the number of males and females, respectively, comprised within their total membership, and in these cases estimates have been furnished. The totals shown for males and for females, therefore, are only approximate. For the purpose of the analysis by groups of Unions, the total membership of each Union has been included in the group with which the majority of the members are believed to be connected, a separate group being made for Unions of general workers. A review of the figures appears on page 378.]

I.—NUMBER OF UNIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AT THE END OF 1924, WITH MEMBERSHIP (MALE, FEMALE, AND TOTAL) AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE OR DECREASE IN MEMBERSHIP COMPARED WITH 1923.

Group of Unions.	No. of Trade Unions at end of 1924.	Membership at end of						Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Membership at end of 1924 compared with end of 1923.		
		1924.			1923.					
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Agriculture, Horticulture, etc.*	3	60,413	1,045	61,458	78,447	1,337	79,784	- 23.0	- 21.8	- 23.0
Mining and Quarrying...	113	962,374	3,657	966,031	917,744	3,702	921,446	+ 4.9	- 1.2	+ 4.8
Pottery and Glass	17	17,809	12,720	30,529	19,466	13,772	33,238	- 8.5	- 7.6	- 8.2
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding†	6	91,466	1,053	92,519	98,811	1,309	100,120	- 7.4	- 19.6	- 7.6
Iron, Steel, Tinplate, etc., Manufacture	109	579,883	6,572	586,455	604,593	6,753	611,346	- 4.1	- 2.7	- 4.1
Engineering, Ironfoundry, Shipbuilding and other Metal Working†	168	140,962	225,959	366,921	140,725	226,075	366,800	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.0
Cotton	28	48,602	30,811	79,413	48,292	32,451	80,743	+ 0.6	- 5.1	- 1.6
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	23	10,178	23,732	33,910	9,431	23,961	33,392	+ 7.9	- 1.0	+ 1.6
Flax and Jute	10	7,183	20,851	28,034	6,922	21,933	28,855	+ 3.8	- 4.9	- 2.8
Hosiery	28	56,692	16,773	73,465	53,317	15,416	68,733	+ 6.3	+ 8.8	+ 6.9
Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	24	11,488	16,737	28,225	10,799	16,436	27,235	+ 6.4	+ 1.8	+ 3.6
Other Textile	20	9,332	1,265	10,597	9,122	1,364	10,486	+ 2.3	- 7.3	+ 1.1
Leather (other than Boot and Shoe)...	9	60,998	27,195	88,193	60,700	24,130	84,830	+ 0.5	+ 12.7	+ 4.0
Boot and Shoe	21	31,785	45,133	76,918	31,939	44,550	76,489	- 0.5	+ 1.3	+ 0.6
Tailoring and Other Clothing	9	23,538	4,113	27,651	24,278	4,103	28,381	- 3.0	+ 0.2	- 2.6
Food, Drink and Tobacco	8	28,368	3,600	31,968	26,923	3,325	30,248	+ 5.4	+ 8.3	+ 5.7
Woodworking and Furnishing:	3	31,929	3,600	35,529	30,153	3,325	33,478	+ 5.9	...	+ 5.9
Furnishing	21	30,014	469	30,483	28,622	376	28,998	+ 4.9	+ 24.7	+ 5.1
Couch Building	24	136,554	50,533	187,087	131,087	48,802	179,889	+ 4.2	+ 3.5	+ 4.0
Other	4	65,071	...	65,071	65,247	...	65,247	- 0.3	...	- 0.3
Paper, Printing, etc.	1	112,050	...	112,050	140,967	...	140,967	- 20.5	...	- 20.5
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.:	7	53,746	...	53,746	56,747	...	56,747	- 5.3	...	- 5.3
Bricklayers and Masons	6	57,530	...	57,530	46,910	...	46,910	+ 22.6	...	+ 22.6
Carpenters and Joiners†	30	46,937	9	46,946	46,281	9	46,290	+ 1.4	...	+ 1.4
Painters and Decorators	9	501,986	4,868	506,854	474,011	4,481	478,492	+ 5.9	+ 8.6	+ 5.9
Builders' Labourers*	12	91,594	266	91,860	91,667	170	91,837	- 0.1	+ 56.5	+ 0.0
Other	23	413,332	12,302	425,634	349,189	11,715	360,904	+ 18.4	+ 5.0	+ 17.9
Commerce, Distribution and Finance†:	19	114,604	42,128	156,732	106,550	40,585	147,135	+ 7.6	+ 3.8	+ 6.5
Shop Assistants, Clerks, Warehouse Workers, etc.	19	72,724	5,373	78,097	73,533	5,871	79,404	- 1.1	8.5	- 1.6
Banking and Insurance	272	260,067	58,698	318,765	292,671	66,290	358,961	- 11.1	- 11.5	- 11.2
National and Local Government‡	17	62,122	132,824	194,946	61,570	135,521	197,091	+ 0.9	- 2.0	- 1.1
Teaching†	64	27,008	6,960	33,968	26,634	7,599	34,233	+ 1.4	- 8.4	- 0.8
Entertainments and Sport	6	6,677	45,952	52,629	47,458	8,275	55,733	+ 0.2	- 19.3	- 3.2
Miscellaneous	20	462,209	48,997	511,206	394,530	42,802	437,332	+ 17.2	+ 14.5	+ 16.9
General Labour‡	1,155	4,719,823	811,320	5,531,143	4,597,061	813,113	5,410,174	+ 2.7	- 0.2	+ 2.2

II.—MEMBERSHIP (MALE, FEMALE, AND TOTAL) AT THE END OF EACH OF THE YEARS 1913, 1920, 1922, 1923 AND 1924.

Group of Unions.	Males.					Females.					Total.				
	1913.	1920.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1913.	1920.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1913.	1920.	1922.	1923.	1924.
	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.	Thous. sands.
Agriculture, Horticulture, etc.*	20	207	91	79	60	1	3	2	1	1	21	210	93	80	61
Mining and Quarrying	921	1,150	843	918	962	...	7	5	3	4	921	1,157	848	921	966
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding*†	545	1,125	836	703	671	1	18	8	8	8	546	1,143	844	711	679
Textile:	158	164	143	141	141	214	293	254	226	226	372	457	397	367	367
Cotton	56	84	54	54	57	9	29	16	15	16	65	113	70	69	73
Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	49	80	80	75	78	36	172	103	95	92	85	252	183	170	170
Other Textile	82	109	95	92	93	25	127	70	69	72	107	236	165	161	165
Clothing	60	115	87	85	90	1	6	4	4	4	61	121	91	89	94
Woodworking and Furnishing	78	148	131	131	137	7	72	49	49	50	85	220	180	180	187
Paper, Printing, etc.	236	557	387	356	335	...	...	...	...	...	236	557	387	356	335
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.*†	327	606	438	474	502	...	12	5	5	5	327	618	443	479	507
Railways	367	631	442	441	505	1	12	4	12	13	368	643	446	453	518
Other	111	311	187	180	188	21	131	50	47	47	132	442	237	227	235
Commerce, Distribution and Finance†	212	365	298	293	260	23	95	69	66	59	235	460	367	359	319
National and Local Government‡	49	63	63	62	62	44	135	144	135	133	113	198	207	197	195
Teaching†	96	184	129	119	117	7	62	39	35	32	103	246	168	154	149
Miscellaneous	335	1,095	440	394	462	23	166	48	43	42	358	1,261	488	437	511
General Labour‡	3,702	6,994	4,744	4,597	4,720	433	1,340	870	813	811	4,135	8,334	5,614	5,410	5,531

* The figures are exclusive of the membership of General Labour Unions, for which see "General Labour." See also note in italics at head of page 378.
 † The total membership shown for all Trade Unions includes members in the Irish Free State and other overseas branches numbering approximately 61,000 in 1924, of whom 27,000 were engineers, and 6,000 were carpenters and joiners, compared with 94,000 in 1923, of whom 31,000 were engineers and 37,000 were carpenters and joiners. In compiling the figures for teachers, while certain associations, the majority of whose members are also members of the National Union of Teachers, have been omitted, others, which have also some members in this Union, have been included, but the extent of this duplication is not ascertainable precisely. When allowance is made for all these factors, the net number of Trade Union members in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated to have been 5,450,000 at the end of 1924, compared with about 5,300,000 at the end of 1923.
 ‡ The figures are exclusive of the membership of Unions confined to Government, law, railway or shipping clerks, which are included under other groups.
 § The figures exclude Teachers', Tramway Workers', and General Labour Unions, for which see "Teaching," "Transport" and "General Labour." See also Note II.
 ¶ Including General Enginem. The increased membership in 1924 of the General Labour group was largely, and the decreased membership of the National and Local Government group, wholly, accounted for by an amalgamation of a Union previously included in the latter group with one in the former group.
 ¶ Comprising the Pottery and Glass, Leather, Food, Entertainments and Miscellaneous groups shown in Table I.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in October, 1925, in the thirty-one selected areas named below, was 778,792, or 4.5 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 14.0 per cent. more than in October, 1924. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 436, 417 and 384 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in October, 1925.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a		
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
	ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Metropolis	8,868	8,021	16,889	203	+ 11	+ 21	
West District	10,548	19,561	30,109	294	+ 19	+ 22	
North District	2,335	3,363	5,698	425	+ 31	+ 67	
Central District	10,301	60,114	70,415	1,088	+ 85	+ 209	
East District	19,384	78,600	97,984	503	+ 38	+ 80	
South District	51,436	169,659	221,095	482	+ 35	+ 74	
TOTAL, Metropolis	4,439	68,965	73,404	958	+ 112	+ 18	
West Ham	2,611	31,911	34,522	685	+ 59	+ 175	
Other Districts.	Newcastle District	1,195	14,973	16,168	584	+ 69	+ 114
Stockton and Tees District	4,104	8,006	12,110	152	+ 2	+ 13	
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	1,809	11,064	12,873	283	- 6	+ 39	
Wigan District	8,807	28,774	37,581	359	+ 6	+ 55	
Manchester District	9,726	52,073	61,799	495	- 18	+ 69	
Liverpool District	1,784	4,945	6,729	181	- 2	+ 44	
Bradford District	1,351	3,119	4,470	118	...	+ 13	
Halifax and Huddersfield	2,537	10,603	13,140	276	+ 14	+ 28	
Leeds	894	9,037	9,931	302	+ 5	+ 66	
Barnsley District	2,526	24,819	27,345	530	+ 6	- 1	
Sheffield	1,750	12,102	13,852	432	+ 5	+ 80	
Hull District	2,250	6,304	8,554	204	+ 4	+ 33	
North Staffordshire	2,171	11,278	13,449	285	+ 1	+ 51	
Nottingham District	1,172	2,900	4,072	168	- 1	+ 8	
Leicester	3,292	16,701	19,993	268	+ 5	+ 16	
Wolverhampton District	7,201	18,348	25,549	269	...	- 21	
Birmingham	2,391	12,998	15,389	371	+ 17	+ 56	
Bristol District	2,526	16,716	19,242	402	+ 16	+ 92	
Cardiff and Swansea	60,097	296,671	356,768	341	+ 6	+ 42	
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	115,972	535,295	651,267	412	+ 19	+ 50	
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales	5,236	77,643	82,879	850	+ 23	+ 85	
SCOTLAND	Paisley and Greenock District	849	12,886	13,735	709	- 36	+ 120
Edinburgh	1,471	14,754	16,225	380	+ 14	+ 4	
Dundee and Dunfermline	733	3,774	4,507	203	- 2	+ 46	
Aberdeen	530	2,772	3,302	207	+ 2	+ 6	
Coatbridge and Airdrie	456	6,421	6,877	673	+ 13	+ 109	
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	9,275	118,250	127,525	613	+ 10	+ 62	
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Oct., 1925	125,247	653,545	778,792	436	+ 19	+ 52	

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during October, 1925, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted.
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RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1925.
UNITED KINGDOM ...	80	62	62	67	72	31 Oct.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czechoslovakia ...	...	...	...	794	784	Sept.
Denmark ...	84	52	100	110	110	July
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	72	52	48	58	61	Aug.
Finland ...	1,005	868	915	1,007	1,049	Sept.
France (Paris)‡ ...	197	221	260	321	333	Oct.
France (other towns)‡ ...	212½	249½	300½	351½	351	Aug.
Holland (The Hague) ...	...	...	67	76	72	Sept.
Amsterdam ...	40	36	38	48	51	Aug.
Italy (Milan) ...	392	396	408	502	543	Sept.
Norway ...	133	118	148	160	128	Oct.
Spain (Madrid) ...	79	72	82	90	90	Sept.
Barcelona ...	73	65	72	82	75	Sept.
Sweden† ...	79	60	59	69	66	Oct.
Switzerland ...	57	64	68	67	65	Sept.
United States ...	39	44	40	59	56	Sept.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.						
Australia ...	48	64	49†	56	56	Aug.
Canada ...	38	37	34	41	47	Oct.
India (Bombay) ...	60	48	51	52	48	Oct.
Irish Free State ...	85†	85	88	88	88	July
New Zealand ...	44	42	48	51	55	Oct.
South Africa ...	16	16	17	20	18	Sept.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.‡	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	1925.
UNITED KINGDOM A,B,C,D,E		84	69	70	73	76	31 Oct.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Austria (Vienna) A,D		266	329	393	...	34††	Apr.
Belgium A,C,D,E		266	...	...	...	425	Sept.
Chile A,C,D,E		90	...	111	Aug.
Denmark A,B,C,D,E		99	104	114	119	119	July
Finland A,B,C,D,E		1,018	990	1,032	1,094	1,119	Sept.
France (Paris) A,B,C,D,E		189**	231**	267**	...	301	3rd Qr.
Germany A,B,C,D,E		43	45	Sept.
Greece (Athens) A,B,C,D,E		516	933	1,225	1,372	1,403	Sept.
Hungary A,B,C,D,E		1900600	1900600	July
Italy (Milan) A,B,C,D,E		388	387	412	498	524	Sept.
Luxemburg A,C,D		259	340	381	415	419	Aug.
Norway A,B,C,D,E		155†	139†	151†	161†	148	Sept.
Poland (Warsaw) A,B,C,D,E		27	52	Sept.
Sweden A,B,C,D,E		90	74	71	76	76	July
Switzerland A,C,D		63	67	70	69	67	Sept.
United States A,B,C,D,E		67†	70†	69†	74†	74	June
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia A,B		43**	56**	48**	...	53	2nd Qr.
Canada A,B,D		46	46	44	46	49	Oct.
India (Bombay) A,B,C,D		65	53	57	57	53	Oct.
Irish Free State A,B,C,D,E		85**	80	83	88	88	July
South Africa A,B,D,E		35	30	32	33	32	Sept.

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Amsterdam, Spain, South Africa, average 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. || A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exceptions to this are: France, Australia and South Africa, average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, April, 1914; Hungary, average, 1913-1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States and Chile, 1913; Poland, January, 1914. ** Figure for 3rd Quarter. †† Figures based on schilling prices.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 386-387 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series N. (Statistics) No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in October.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 31st October was 11,099 (7,070 men and 4,029 women). At the end of September the corresponding total was 10,076 and in October, 1924, 10,483. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 8,974 (5,129 for men and 3,845 for women), as compared with 11,509 at the end of September and 8,599 in October, 1924. During the last week of October the Exchanges succeeded in placing 27,434 persons in situations, including 8,740 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 1,430 foreign immigrants.

GERMANY.†

Employment in September.—For some months past the labour market and the coefficient of employment have, on the whole, been slightly but unmistakably on the down grade, although the movement has not been completely uniform in either the industries or the areas affected. This decline, which sets in each year with the approach of the colder weather, has this year begun somewhat earlier than usual.

Applications for employment during September at employment exchanges making returns numbered 1,193,000, as compared with 1,113,078 in August. The total number of vacancies reported by employers was 577,956, as compared with 570,572 in August. On the whole for every 100 situations offered there was an average of 206 applications, as against 195 in August.

Returns relating to unemployment were received from 40 trade unions with an aggregate membership of 3,707,424. Of these, 168,657, or 4.5 per cent. of the total, were out of work on 26th September, as compared with 4.3 per cent. at the end of August and 10.5 per cent. at the end of September, 1924.

The following Table gives the percentages for the principal unions included in these totals:—

UNIONS.	Member-ship at end of month.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.		
		Sept., 1925.	Aug., 1925.	Sept., 1924.
		S.D. = Social-Democratic. H.D. = Hirsch - Duncker (neutral). C. = Christian.		
All Unions making Returns ...	3,707,424	4.5	4.3	10.5
Porcelain (S.D.) ...	51,257	3.9	3.3	10.3
Glass (S.D.) ...	50,467	2.1	1.8	...
Metal (S.D.) ...	788,110	5.1	4.5	18.2
(H.D.) ...	80,142	5.6	5.4	9.0
Textile (S.D.) ...	321,466	2.8	3.0	6.8
(C.) ...	83,966	1.3	0.9	3.7
Clothing (S.D.) ...	86,047	5.4	6.7	7.1
Boot and shoe (S.D.) ...	88,935	4.5	5.0	9.0
Food, tobacco, etc. (S.D.) ...	54,531	6.8	7.4	8.4
Food and drink (S.D.) ...	68,055	2.6	2.4	3.6
Tobacco (S.D.) ...	61,651	7.5	7.6	12.9
Woodworking (S.D.) ...	309,438	4.2	4.2	11.9
Printing (S.D.) ...	78,000	1.7	1.4	2.9
Bookbinding (S.D.) ...	55,960	3.8	3.0	11.9
Building (S.D.) ...	368,241	4.6	4.8	8.4
Carpenters (S.D.) ...	87,500	5.2	5.2	...
Transport (S.D.) ...	292,367	4.8	4.3	8.3
Factory workers (trades not distinguished) (S.D.) ...	354,449	5.6	4.8	12.0
Engine drivers and firemen (S.D.) ...	51,173	6.4	5.2	13.7
Factory and transport (C.) ...	63,497	5.8	5.6	12.4
Municipal and State workers (S.D.) ...	200,818	0.8	0.7	1.6

The foregoing figures relate to persons entirely without work. Statistics are also available concerning the prevalence of short time among organised workers. Returns made by 35 trade unions with an aggregate membership of 3,150,000 show that 8.5 per cent. of these were working reduced time at the end of September, as compared with 6.9 per cent. of those reported upon at the end of August and 17.5 per cent. at the end of September, 1924.

Returns from 5,976 statutory health insurance societies show a slight increase during the month under review in the number of persons under obligation to insure (and therefore assumed to be in work). On 1st September these societies had an aggregate of 14,301,182 members, a total which on 1st October had risen to 14,334,507, giving an increase of 0.2 per cent., whereas between 1st August and 1st September there had been a decrease of 0.3 per cent.

* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 6th November, 1925. Paris.
† Reichsarbeitsblatt, 2nd November, 1925. Berlin.

The number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit from public funds was 297,628 on 15th October, as compared with 251,530 on 15th September. These figures (it is stated) are not to be taken as representing the total number of unemployed throughout Germany, since a claim to such benefit is dependent upon compliance with certain statutory requirements.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in September.—According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th October, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in Austria was 119,006 at the end of September, as compared with 116,365 at the end of the preceding month and 77,550 at the end of September, 1924. In Vienna alone there were 69,979 persons in receipt of benefit at the middle of October and 69,191 at the end of September. These figures do not include persons in receipt of "extraordinary" relief.

SWITZERLAND.*

Employment in September.—On 30th September the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 10,356 (of whom 2,895 were in the textile trades), as compared with 9,895 at the end of August and 8,718 at the end of September, 1924. Offers of situations on these dates numbered 2,468, 2,498 and 3,262 respectively.

ITALY.†

Unemployment in August.—According to a report issued by the Italian Unemployment Insurance Department, 72,211 workpeople were totally unemployed on 31st August as compared with 79,526 at the end of July and 118,955 at the end of August, 1924. In addition, 5,763 were partially unemployed at the latest date, 4,191 on 31st July and 21,410 on 31st August, 1924. On 31st August last the number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of benefit, under the statutory unemployment insurance scheme, was 15,657, as compared with 17,653 on 31st July and 20,597 on 31st August, 1924.

SWEDEN.‡

Unemployment in September.—The percentage of unemployed members of Trade Unions making returns was 8.5 on 30th September, as compared with 7.6 on 31st August and 7.0 on 30th September, 1924.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in September.—According to information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics the percentage of members of certain trade unions making returns who were unemployed at the end of September was 12.8, out of a total membership of 15,544. The corresponding percentage for the end of August was 10.1 and for the end of September, 1924, 4.8.

DENMARK.§

Unemployment in September.—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 267,566 workpeople, 9.9 per cent. were unemployed on 25th September as against 9.2 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 5.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1924.

CANADA.

Employment in October.—For 1st October, 1925, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,923 firms, with an aggregate of 809,072 upon their pay rolls. On 1st September the same firms reported 795,757 employed and the total for October thus shows an increase of 13,315 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st October is 98.3, as compared with 96.6 at the beginning of the preceding month and 93.9 on 1st October, 1924.

Trade Union Unemployment in September.—On 30th September, 1925, 5.7 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 4.4 at the end of August and 5.9 per cent. in September, 1924.

UNITED STATES.**

Employment in September.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in September, based on returns from 9,219 establishments in 52 industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 2,809,258 persons employed in September, as against 2,758,614 in August, or an increase of 1.5 per cent. Owing (it is stated) to the general observance of Labour Day, the aggregate wages paid for September show a decrease of 0.6 per cent. as compared with August, and the average weekly earnings a decrease of 2.1 per cent. Thirty-eight industries showed increases in the number of workpeople employed in September, the greatest gains being in the fertilizer (29 per cent.), piano (21.6 per cent.), and confectionery (13.7 per cent.) industries:

* Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen, October, 1925. Bern.
† La Disoccupazione in Italia, 31st August, 1925. Rome.
‡ Information supplied by the Swedish Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm.
§ Statistiske Efterretninger, 24th October, 1925. Copenhagen.
¶ The October Employment Situation, 1925. Ottawa.
** Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.
*** Employment in Selected Industries, September, 1925. Washington.

the increases in fertilisers and confectionery were mainly due to seasonal causes. Other marked increases in employment were shown in the machine tool, carriage, rubber boot and shoe, stove, paper box, automobile, and flour industries. One-half of the 14 industries in which employment decreased in September were those in which the "season" was over. All decreases in employment were comparatively small.

As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1924, returns from 8,156 identical establishments in the two periods show a net increase of 7.7 per cent. in the number of persons employed, and an increase of 8.3 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid. Forty industries show increases in the number of persons employed, the greatest being in the rubber boot and shoe (48 per cent.), agricultural implement (40 per cent.), and automobile (34 per cent.) industries. Other large increases in employment are recorded in the carriage, stamped ware, machine tool, fertiliser, hosiery, and silk goods industries.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CITIES ABROAD.

The series of computations of comparative "real wages" in London and certain other cities abroad, compiled by the International Labour Office from returns supplied by official statistical departments in the various cities, is carried down to 1st July last in the October issue of the *International Labour Review*, published by the Office in question. Corresponding index numbers for 1st April, 1925, were reproduced in the issue of this GAZETTE for September (p. 332). For particulars of the origin, method of compilation, significance and limitations of these index numbers reference should be made to the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1924. It may, however, be stated that these figures have for their object a comparison of working-class real wages, so far as these can be gauged by the purchasing power (in terms of food) of the wage paid for an hour's work at the normal time-rate (i.e., apart from extra payment for overtime) in certain typical occupations for male adult workers which are common to large cities. In the index numbers shown in the following Table, which is taken from the *International Labour Review*, an attempt has been made to measure the purchasing power of wages in each city, not only by the working-class standard of food consumption of the country in which the city is situated, but also by corresponding standards appropriate to the various groups of countries, and, finally (Columns 7 and 8), by an international standard of working-class food consumption.

The following Table gives the index numbers computed from wage rates and retail food prices current on or about 1st July, 1925.

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Money-Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad at 1st July, 1925.

City.	Average for all Occupations covered by the Inquiry. (London = 100.)*							
	Index Numbers based on Quantities of each Kind of Food Consumed in Working-class Households in						General Average Index Nos. (based on food only).	General Average Index Nos. (with allowance for rent).
	Belgium and France.	Central European Countries.	Great Britain.	Southern European Countries.	Scandinavian Countries.	Oversea Countries (Canada and U.S.A.).		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London ...	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Amsterdam ...	84	86	78	83	88	84	84	84
Berlin ...	58	74	58	59	69	63	64	63
Brussels ...	56	56	53	53	58	54	55	59
Copenhagen ...	84	105	87	87	108	94	94	97
Lisbon† ...	34	34	31	32	26	33	32	...
Lodz ...	52	59	48	54	61	58	55	61
Madrid ...	56	59	47	53	54	52	54	...
Milan† ...	45	49	43	47	49	46	47	50
Oslo ...	75	82	75	77	91	80	80	82
Ottawa ...	157	167	162	154	173	174	165	148
Philadelphia ...	177	172	182	178	195	192	183	183
Prague ...	47	51	46	47	51	48	48	52
Rome† ...	45	46	43	47	46	46	46	49
Stockholm ...	69	74	72	71	88	79	76	74
Sydney ...	138	135	146	142	130	146	140	140
Tallin (Reval) ...	33	41	34	34	40	38	37	38
Vienna ...	37	48	40	39	48	44	43	47
Warsaw ...	46	55	41	47	55	51	49	51

If comparisons are made between these figures and corresponding index numbers for earlier dates previously published, it should be noted that the differences between the index numbers for any city at different dates may indicate a change in the levels of real wages either in that city or in London, or in both cities, i.e., the difference in the figures compared may be due to changes in money wages and food prices in either or both cities, and not necessarily to changes in one of

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS; CONCILIATION AND
ARBITRATION CASES; TRADE BOARDS ACTS, Etc.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS
1920-25.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 1664/25. Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act and 4 (1) of the U.I. No. 2 Act, 1924.—Trade Dispute—Grade or Class.

Miners' Strike—Applicants Alleged not participating in or interested in Dispute—Were employed on Light Work on Account of Partial Incapacity due to Previous Injuries—Contention that they did not belong to any recognised Grade or Class of Workers not upheld.

The applicants, who had been employed at a colliery in Wales, lost their employment on the 23rd June, 1925, when a strike of workers in the Anthracite Coalfields took place, and their claims for unemployment benefit were disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1).

They stated that they were not involved in the general strike of miners and had not given notice to terminate their contracts. They were formerly hewers by occupation, but, owing to injuries received, were in receipt of compensation for partial incapacity under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and had been employed on such light work as they were capable of doing. At the hearing of the case before the Court of Referees, it was stated by the applicants' Association that the applicants were not involved in the dispute either individually or collectively. They were normally underground workmen, but had sustained injury and were taken back by the employers to do such work as was suitable for them. At the time of the strike, they had been engaged on light work at the surface. They were regarded by both employers and Association as being in a class apart from the other workmen, and were not to be regarded as involved in any dispute which might arise. The Association had advised them not to tender notices in common with the other miners, and they had offered their services to do any work on the surface. It was contended that the applicants were not participating in or directly interested in the dispute.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims for benefit should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicants, being members of the Miners' Federation, must be held to have been financing and directly interested in the dispute. They must belong to either the underground or surface grade of workmen, and as these two grades were directly involved the Court were of the opinion that the applicants had lost their employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute. The insured contributors' representative dissented on the ground that the question in respect of men in receipt of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act should be submitted to the Umpire for decision.

The applicants' Association appealed to the Umpire, and an oral hearing took place before the Deputy Umpire, who gave the following decision.

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

"There is no doubt that applicants lost their employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute on 23rd June, and that all workers at the colliery, except safety men, were participating in the dispute.

"I am satisfied from evidence given at the hearing before me that the Federation, to which applicants belonged, were not supporting or financing the dispute in any way, so that applicants cannot be held to have financed it by reason of their membership.

"I am prepared to assume, without deciding the point, that applicants were not participating in or directly interested in the dispute, and the question, therefore, is whether they belonged, at the time of the stoppage, to a grade or class of workers members of which were so participating or interested.

"All the applicants were hewers by occupation, but at the time of the stoppage they were working in some other capacity through inability to work as colliers owing to injuries they had sustained. In ordinary circumstances, the fact that they were working for a time in some other capacity would not remove them from the grade of hewers (Decision 8823 (1920)), but I am not prepared to apply this decision to the present applicants in the absence of evidence that their inability to perform the work of hewers was only temporary.

"The contention raised before me is, I believe, a novel one, namely that, owing to the special conditions of their services,

* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office.

Decisions given after March, 1922, are not published in volume form, but summaries of the cases are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All applications should be made to His Majesty's Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

applicants could not at the time of the stoppage of work be regarded as belonging to any recognised grade or class of workers. The special conditions were that they had previously been injured and were in receipt of compensation for partial incapacity under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and had been taken back into employment to do such work as they were capable of doing.

"I have given this contention careful consideration, and my opinion is that, in the absence of evidence that the applicants were taken back by their employers either to do no work at all or to do work having no connection with the colliery, I must assume that they were employed on work usually performed in connection with the colliery and similar in character, though not necessarily equal in degree, to that done by normal workers. That being so, the applicants have failed to show that they did not belong to a grade or class of workers members of which were participating in the dispute."

Case No. 1882/25. Section 7 (1) (ii) of the Principal Act.—Not Unemployed.

Boilermaker Engaged as Salmon Fisher on Share System—Alleged Unemployed on Days when He did not Fish or Caught Nothing—Applicant held to Have Continuously Followed Occupation during Fishing Season.

The applicant, a boilermaker, was engaged in salmon fishing during the summer fishing season, and his claim for payment from his Association in lieu of benefit was disallowed as from the 14th May, 1925, under the provisions of Section 7 (1) (ii) and (iii).

It appeared that he had taken up salmon fishing on a share system whereby he and his companions received equal shares of the proceeds from sales of their catch to the principal fishmongers in the district. The applicant stated that for some weeks at a time he was unable to go fishing as the tides were unsuitable. On these occasions he sought employment at the docks in his usual occupation of boilermaker. He had only signed the register on days when he was unable to obtain such employment, and had not gone salmon fishing.

On the other hand, it was held that as he had to work with the tides he would not normally be available for work, and it would not be possible for him to guarantee to be at any of the dry docks at "call times" to know whether his services would be required. The places at which calls for dock workers were made were about 2 to 4 miles from the fishing grounds.

The representative of the applicant's Association attended the hearing of the case before the Court of Referees. It was stated that the applicant, who was a member of a squad, worked at the docks, on an average, two days per week and on other days he went out fishing. When fishing he was generally out for 5 or 8 hours according to the tides. All vacancies were notified to the Association representative who had never found any difficulty in finding the applicant and arranging for him to start work.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant was available for work as a boilermaker, and could be called upon should a suitable job be notified. They accepted the applicant's statement that he had not signed the unemployed register on days when he had been fishing.

Information in connection with seasonal salmon fishing in the district was subsequently obtained. It was ascertained that men engaged in the occupation usually followed it up daily with the tides, unless prevented by bad weather, or a temporary loss of, or damage to nets and gear. The complete outfit of boats and nets, which were mostly hired, were valued at about £40. The men worked in couples on a share basis of three shares to a boat, i.e., a share each to the two men operating the boat, and a share to the man who was the owner of the boat and gear. When an owner went out in a boat he took two shares, one as owner, and one as part operator, on the basis of two men to a boat. A share was the one third part of the price realised for the sale of a catch of salmon. The majority of men engaged in salmon fishing did not generally endeavour to find work at the docks, as during the season the catches were very lucrative, and the men were more profitably employed at fishing than working at the docks.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that if the above-named employed person had made a claim for unemployment benefit the claim would have been disallowed.

"The applicant appears to have taken up salmon fishing, working with other men on the customary share system, and must, I think, at any rate during the fishing season, be regarded as following that occupation continuously, although there may be days when for some reason or other he does not fish, or catches nothing."

Case No. 1953/25. Section 7 (1) (iv) (as amended) and 8 (1) of the Principal Act.—Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment—Trade Dispute.

Dock Workers Refused to Unload Ship—Were Required to Commence at Mid-day but Men Alleged Discharge should have Commenced in the Morning—Claim Disallowed for 2 Days in Respect of all Applicants Who Would, or Might Have Been Engaged had no Dispute Existed—Question of Suitable Employment not therefore Material.

The applicant was one of a number of casual dock workers usually employed at the Bristol docks. On the 18th August a vessel containing a cargo of fruit arrived at about 10 a.m., but as a result

of a dispute as to the time at which unloading operations should commence, the dock workers concerned refused to unload the ship, on that, or the following day. The applicant's claim for benefit taken as a test case, was disallowed for six weeks as from the 18th August, under the provisions of Section 7 (1) (iv) (as amended).

It appeared that as the ship had arrived at 10 a.m. the agents and stevedores of the vessel decided to postpone the call for dockers until 12 noon. Had the call been made at 10 a.m. this would have involved payment to the dockers from 8 a.m., and as the discharge would not have commenced until 10.15 a.m. the cost would have been increased by 10½d. per ton. An Agreement dated 5th November, 1923, governing the starting times at which vessels were discharged, had been made between the Employer's Labour Association of the Port of Bristol, and the applicant's Association. It provided that:—

"If the vessel is not in berth ready to commence work at 8 a.m. a start need not be made until 12 noon, except in special cases where the employer may, if he so wishes, commence work at any time, during the first half day period."

No response was made to the call at the ship's side at 12 noon as the men considered that the postponement of unloading operations was unfair. The order was then notified to the Surplus Labour Stand, but practically the whole of the casual dock workers refrained from attending in the afternoon to have their cards stamped. Next morning the work was offered to those who attended but was refused. It was reported that the men were prepared to work provided that those who refrained from attending on the afternoon of the previous day were guaranteed Unemployment Benefit for that day, or, alternatively, that the employers granted a day's pay. Failing to be satisfied in either of these requests they did not work. A meeting of the employers and the workers' representatives was held later in the day, and it was agreed that the work of unloading should commence the following morning.

The applicant stated that he had known that employment on the vessel was available, but he declined to work on the ship on account of the dispute.

It was contended by the applicant's Association that only 80 out of 400 or more men could have been employed. The cargo of fruit was to have been sold on the 20th August, and the extra 1½ hours work possible between 10.15 a.m. and mid-day on the 18th August was immaterial.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court held that the men's action was unjustified. There was no urgency for the discharge of the boat. The fruit was to have been sold on the 20th August, and it was natural that the employers should endeavour to save the extra £14 involved in putting the men on before noon. The work was available at noon, and the applicant had known that it was available, but he declined to apply for it on the ground that there was a "dispute" in question. In the opinion of the Court no trade dispute within the meaning of the Statute had existed. The applicant had failed to satisfy the statutory conditions, under the provisions of Section 7 (1) (iv) (as amended).

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire against the Court's disallowance of the claim. It was stated on appeal that the vessel was one of several which had arrived in port about the same time. Although the other vessels had commenced to discharge in the early morning the ship in question was delayed, and the men were so incensed at the delay which was put into operation by the employers in order to save a few pounds, that they refused to work on the vessel, thereby initiating a trade dispute. The actual number of men required on the vessel was 84 whereas 845 had been disallowed benefit for having failed to accept the offer of work. Alternatively, it was urged that if no trade dispute had existed, the disqualification of 845 men for not accepting work which was available for 84 men only, should not hold good.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed in respect of 18th and 19th August.

"In my opinion the cause of the applicant's loss of employment was a partial stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at the Bristol docks.

"On 18th and 19th August a dispute arose between a firm of stevedores and certain dock labourers with regard to the hour at which unloading a certain vessel should begin. This was a dispute with regard to a condition of their employment. The dock labourers may have had very little foundation for the claim they put forward, and it seems that they were not backed by their Association, nevertheless, in my opinion, there was a real dispute which resulted in a large body of men refusing to unload the vessel in question.

"There was no general stoppage of work at the docks. The stoppage only affected the unloading of the one vessel concerned, but as regards that vessel, and the parts of the quay and warehouse in which the work of unloading would have taken place, there was a complete stoppage of work for two days, and all labourers who lost employment by reason thereof are disqualified for benefit as long as the stoppage continued.

"Further, I think that the dockers who lost employment by reason of this trade dispute are all those who would, or might, have been engaged in the unloading on either of the days in the ordinary course of their employment as general dock labourers in the port of Bristol, and who ordinarily came to the Employment Exchange which dealt with dock labourers for this area. They are disqualified for the two days in question: but this does not apply to dock labourers who would ordinarily be employed elsewhere, or on special work, such as that of coal, or corn porters.

"The Court of Referees dealt with the case upon the footing of a refusal of suitable employment. That question does not arise if, as I hold, the stoppage of work was due to a trade dispute; and it

would not be proper for me to express an opinion as to the suitability of the employment. But, assuming that that were the proper ground for disallowance in this case I should only disallow benefit for a short time, having regard to the extremely casual nature of the applicant's employment. It cannot be assumed that he would have had more than a short spell of employment if he had accepted the work on the 18th, and to impose a disallowance of six weeks would, I think, in effect, be to penalise the applicant."

Case No. 1969/25. Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act and 4 (1) (No. 2 Act, 1924).—Trade Dispute—Contravention of National Agreement.

Colliery Owners gave Miners 14 Days' Notice to Terminate Contracts—National Settlement between the Prime Minister and the Mining Association subsequently provided for a Resumption of Work on Withdrawal of Notice, but Owners Desired to Resume on Day-to-Day Contracts only—Not a Resumption of Work in Accordance with Agreement—Employers Refusal to Withdraw Notices Held to be a Contravention of a National Agreement.

The applicant was one of a number of miners who lost their employment on the 1st August, 1925, owing to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises where they were employed, and his claim for benefit was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1).

In accordance with the notice given on the 30th June, 1925, by the Mining Association of Great Britain to the Miners' Federation of Great Britain terminating on the 31st July, the National Wages Agreement of the 18th June, 1924, the applicant's employers on the 17th July issued individual notices to their workmen terminating contracts on the 31st July. Included in the notice was a statement to the effect that the owners were desirous of entering without delay into negotiations with representatives of the workmen for the making of a new arrangement which would enable work to be continued without interruption. On the 23rd July a further notice was handed to each workman intimating the amended conditions as to wages, hours, etc., upon which work could be continued after the 31st July, and stating that the new arrangement proposed would not affect the existing right of the owners to make at individual collieries alterations in piece work rates, or arrangements with respect to hours worked within the limits fixed by law.

On the 31st July an Agreement was made between the Premier on behalf of H.M. Government, and the Mining Association of Great Britain, whereby a national stoppage of work in the coal mines was averted. On that date the owners with a view to the further discussion of the proposals put forward, and the avoidance of a cessation of work, offered the men work on day-to-day contracts; but the men refused, and the individual notices already issued took effect.

The applicant's appeal against the disqualification imposed by the Insurance Officer on his claim was based on the ground that the owners had refused to allow him to continue work under the terms of the National Coal Settlement made on the 31st July. He submitted that under the terms of that Settlement work should have continued under the same conditions as had existed prior to the Settlement, and that employment on a day-to-day contract was not in accordance with the terms of his employment prior to 31st July.

At the hearing of the case before the Court of Referees, it was stated by representatives of the applicant's Association that the men were willing to accept work under the conditions of the National Coal Settlement. The employers' suggestion for work on day-to-day contracts was contrary to an established custom of 14-day contracts, and was moreover a breach of an old County Agreement. It was contended that under the terms of the National Coal Settlement the miners should have continued work on the old terms as if the old Agreement had still existed. A representative of the employers, on the other hand, contended that there was nothing in the 1924 Agreement which stated that men should work on a 14-day contract. They were, however, quite willing to enter into a contract of that nature but, before doing so, they wished to arrange and put in order certain terms, but the men were not willing to meet the owners. If a new 14-day contract had been entered into after the 31st July, matters would have drifted on as they had done in July, and the owners would have been compelled to give another 14 days notice to the men. All this time the Colliery would have been working at a loss. If the men had accepted a day to day contract, they would have worked under the same conditions as they had done in July until the matters relating to the new conditions had been settled.

Recommended by a majority of the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant had lost his employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute. They were satisfied that the employers had not contravened the terms or provisions of any Agreement existing between a group of employers where the stoppage had taken place, or of a National Agreement, to either of which the employers, or employees were contracting parties. The insured contributors' representative dissented on the ground that the employers failure to allow the men to resume work on a 14-days contract had contravened the terms of both a National and Local Agreement. In his opinion the applicant was entitled to benefit under the provisions of Section 4 (1) No. 2 Act, 1924.

As a result of representations subsequently made by the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, a further hearing of the case took place before a Court of Referees on the 30th September. A representative of the applicant's Association contended that the owners should have suspended their notices for a fortnight in accordance with a request made by the Prime Minister on the 31st July.

The Colliery at which the applicant had been employed, was, he stated, the only colliery in the district which had failed to carry out that request. The employers had asked the men to return to work on day-to-day contracts instead of a 14-day contract, and this was a violation of a County Agreement relating to the Coal Industry in the district. The representative of the Colliery Owners contended that the request of the Prime Minister that colliery owners should suspend their notices for a fortnight had only applied to the notices which terminated the National Agreement. In his opinion it did not mean that every colliery owner would continue to work at the same base rates and conditions which had applied in July. He contended that under the 1924 Agreement, which was still in operation, the owners were entitled to have the working conditions which had been put to the men on the 28th July settled, and the only way to do that, without inflicting loss upon the owners, was to invite the men to work on day-to-day contracts until the new conditions had been agreed to.

The Court after a careful review of the case upheld their previous recommendation to disallow benefit. They were of the opinion that the request of the Prime Minister was not a term of the Agreement, and there was no obligation for mine owners to continue working their collieries. It was left for each colliery to make its own arrangements. The insured contributor's representative dissented on the ground that the Prime Minister's request to colliery owners to withdraw their notices made it incumbent upon all owners to continue work at their collieries under the same conditions as had prevailed when the notices were issued. The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire, and an oral hearing of the case took place on the 16th October.

On behalf of the Miners' Federation it was submitted that there were, in July, proposals of all kinds for alterations of wages and working conditions being put forward at mines all over the country, and a national stoppage seemed likely to occur. It was to obviate this that discussions took place with the Prime Minister, the upshot of which was an agreement to withdraw the notices which had been given by the employers, and the well understood intention was that work was to be carried on under the ordinary conditions prevailing before the employers' Association had given notice to terminate the agreement of 1924. There was no guarantee, of course, that every mine would be opened, but if a mine did go on working, it was to be on the old terms. The owners of this mine should not have taken advantage of the notices given nationally to try and effect a settlement of their particular grievances. There were points in dispute at almost every mine, and if all the mine owners had acted as had the owners in this case, the settlement would have been quite ineffective.

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

"On the 30th of June the Mining Association of Great Britain gave to the Miners' Federation of Great Britain one month's notice to terminate on the 31st of July the National Wages Agreement of the 18th June, 1924, and in order to bring existing contracts of service to an end at the same date, the applicant's late employers (in common with other employers who were members of the Mining Association) on the 17th of July gave to their employees individually notices terminating their contracts on 31st of July.

"With a view to preventing a national stoppage of work, the Premier negotiated with representatives of the Mining Association and of the Miners' Federation, and on the 31st of July an arrangement was arrived at by which an immediate stoppage of work was averted. The exact terms of this arrangement are not before me. It was not in fact reduced to writing. But from a parliamentary paper, supplemented by oral evidence given before me, I am satisfied that in substance the Mining Association agreed to suspend the operation of the notice given on the 30th of June, and agreed that work should be resumed on August 1st on the same general conditions as prevailed up to July 31st (that is to say, that the wages agreement of 1924 would continue in force for that fortnight) as if the notice of June 30th had not been given, or had been given so as to take effect a fortnight later.

"It seems to me that it follows inevitably (if it was not expressly agreed) that the employers who were members of the Association undertook (through their Association) to withdraw the notices terminating individual contracts given by them to their employees on 17th July. Unless this were done it would have been quite impossible for work to be resumed on 1st August on the same conditions as before, and the agreement to suspend the notice of 30th June would have been inoperative.

"The undertaking of the Mining Association that the notices should be withdrawn, or suspended, was no doubt primarily a term of the settlement made between the Premier on behalf of H.M. Government and the Mining Association, but the Miners' Federation must have also agreed to it. A notice terminating the National Wages Agreement given by one party to the agreement could not be withdrawn, nor could its operation be suspended, without the consent of the other party, and though that consent may not have been given in words, it is clear that it was in fact, given. There was therefore, in fact, an agreement between the Mining Association and the Miners' Federation for the suspension of the notice given on 30th June and between these Associations (on behalf of their constituent members) for the withdrawal of the notices given on 17th July, and for the continuance of work after 31st July, as if such notices had not been given. This agreement was a National Agreement, and this is the agreement which the applicant's late employers are said to have contravened.

"The applicant's late employers were members of the Mining Association, and as such were contracting parties to the agreement of 31st July, and yet they did not withdraw the notices they had given to their employees on the 17th of July. There were certain

outstanding differences between them and their employees, some of which were of long standing. These differences had no connection with the National Wages Agreement, but the applicant's late employers were in July insisting on these differences being settled before work was resumed. On 31st July they agreed to the resumption of work on day-to-day contracts (pending the settlement of these differences) but that would not have been a resumption of work in accordance with the National Agreement. They could only have insisted on day-to-day contracts if the notices of 17th July remained operative, and in effect they refused to withdraw those notices, and thereby acted in such a manner as to contravene the terms and provisions of the National Agreement of 31st July.

"It is clear that the stoppage of work on 1st August was due to this refusal to withdraw the notices given on 17th July and accordingly the applicant is entitled to benefit by virtue of Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1924."

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

WARRINGTON CORPORATION.—The United Road Transport Workers' Association of England v. The Corporation of Warrington. *Difference.*—(1) Payment for holidays and (2) claim for wages advance for Electrical Vehicle Drivers. *Decision.*—(1) The Court adjudged that the granting to the men concerned of the holiday conditions and extra pay for working on Christmas Day and Good Friday determined through the Joint Industrial Council, meets the position fairly. (2) The Court held that a case has not been made out for any advance on the existing rate of the men concerned. Issued 1st October 1925. (1125.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—COIL WINDERS, LONDON.—The Electrical Trades Union v. The London Midland and Scottish Railway. *Difference.*—Determination of rates of pay. *Decision.*—The rate for Coil Winders, Field Coil, in the London district shall be a range rate of 43s. to 46s. per week. In the case of any of the men concerned who, being armature winders not fully skilled, are engaged on coil winding, they shall be paid the base rate applicable to Electricians, Grade II (London). In addition the men concerned are entitled to be paid the current cost-of-living bonus. Operative as from 1st August, 1925. Issued 5th October, 1925. (1128.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—AIR DRILLING MACHINISTS—NORTH ROAD, DARLINGTON.—The National Union of Railwaymen v. The London and North Eastern Railway. *Difference.*—Grading. *Decision.*—The Court decided not to disturb the present grading of the men concerned, but suggested to the Company that they should consider giving each of the men concerned a remuneration intermediate between the scheduled or minimum rates for Grade III and Grade II Machinists, having regard to the special skill of the men and the nature of the work upon which each of the men is engaged. Issued 15th October, 1925. (1129.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—HORSE COLLAR MAKERS.—The Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. The Railway Companies. *Difference.*—Rate of pay. *Decision.*—The Court decided that leather workers whilst engaged on horse collar making shall be paid one penny per hour above the saddler's rate. Issued 15th October, 1925. (1130.)

SCALE-PAYMENT SUB-POSTMASTERS AND SUB-POSTMISTRESSES.—The National Federation of Sub-Postmasters v. H.M. Postmaster-General. *Difference.*—Application for revision of basis of remuneration and working conditions. *Decision.*—Various items of the claim were determined by the Court while others were referred back to the parties for reconsideration with a view to an agreed re-adjustment of the unit scale and allowances. To become effective on 1st December, 1925. Issued 16th October, 1925. (1131.)

PRISON CLERKS, SCOTLAND.—The Civil Service Clerical Association v. The Prison Commission for Scotland. *Difference.*—Assimilation into Clerical Class—Initial Salaries—Claim for increase. *Decision.*—The Court adjudged that the men concerned should, subject to a stated proviso, receive an advance of £20 on basic salaries. Operative as on and from 1st October, 1925. Issued 30th October, 1925. (1134.)

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

IRON MINING: CUMBERLAND.—The Board of Conciliation for the Cumberland Iron Ore Trade, consisting of representatives of the Cumberland members of the West Coast Hematite Iron Ore Producers' Association and the Cumberland Iron Ore Miners' and Kindred Trades' Association, having been unable to reach agreement on a wages question, and having also been unable to agree on a Neutral Chairman, application was made under the provisions of Rule 6 of the Board, for the Minister of Labour to appoint a Neutral Chairman to preside over the meeting at which the issue should

be decided. Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., appointed under Section 2 (1) (b) of the Conciliation Act, 1896. *Award.*—Temporary advance of 1s. 6d. per shift, as from the first full pay following the 8th October, 1925, on the minimum wage of miners; temporary advance of 1s. 6d. per shift to all workers to whom present special bonus applies, in lieu of such bonus. Cases of other workers, including boys, referred back for further consideration. Issued 5th October, 1925.

The parties were unable to agree on the question of "other workers" and a further sitting of the Board under the Chairmanship of Mr. Stoker was therefore arranged. Mr. Stoker decided as follows:—temporary advance, to date as above, of 1s. 6d. per shift on the wages of winding enginemen, and temporary advance of 2d. per shift to boys under 18 years of age. Issued 23rd October, 1925.

PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES: MANCHESTER.—Corporation of Manchester v. National Federation of Building Trade Operatives (Manchester Branch), Workers' Union, National Amalgamated Operative Street Masons', Paviers' and Roadmakers' Society, National Union of General and Municipal Workers, Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers, and "Altogether" Builders', Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society. *Difference.*—As to the datum line from which variations in wages on the cost-of-living sliding scale shall be calculated. Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., appointed *Single Arbitrator* under Section 2 (2) (b) of the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. *Award.*—It was decided that the 70 points above pre-war rate of wages referred to in an Agreement between the parties dated the 4th March, 1925, is the datum line referred to. Issued 22nd October, 1925.

DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE: SCOTLAND.—National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers v. Scottish Co-Operative Wholesale Society, Limited. *Difference.*—Claim by the Union on behalf of its members employed by the Society in various factories in Shieldhall, Glasgow, and Leith, for increased wages, a shorter working week and 12 days annual holiday with pay. Mr. James Macdonald, K.C., appointed *Single Arbitrator* under Section 2 (2) (b) of the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. *Award.*—Claims not established. Issued 21st October, 1925.

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

ROAD TRANSPORT: LONDON.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. Greenham and Company, Transport Contractors and Builders' Merchants, Isleworth. *Difference.*—Unofficial strike owing to discharge of two drivers. *Settlement.*—Resumption of work secured on 19th October, 1925.

BOOKBINDING: LONDON.—National Union of Printing, Book-binding, Machine Ruling and Paper Workers v. Messrs. A. F. Walker and Company. *Difference.*—Dismissal of shop steward. *Settlement.*—Workman reinstated. Settled 28th October, 1925.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

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

Higher wage rates have become operative as from 1st November, 1925, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates of wages now applicable are those appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 76, and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below, which may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d.

Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making Trade Board (G.B.)

- (1) Male Workers in Coffin Furniture Section of the trade V (13), col. 3.
- (2) Female Workers in the Cerement Making Section of the trade V (16), col. 1.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (G.B.). M (39), (40) and (41), col. 9.

PAPER BOX TRADE.—REPORT OF INQUIRY.

Proposed Variation of the Description of the Paper Box Trade as contained in the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act, 1909.

A Report* has been made by Mr. C. E. Dyer, K.C., on the public inquiry which he held on the 20th July and the 24th September 1925 with regard to a proposed variation of the description of the paper box trade for the purposes of the Trade Boards Acts.

The inquiry was held on the direction of the Minister of Labour as a result of objections received by him to his Notice of Intention of the 18th December, 1924,† to make a Special Order amending the description of the trade as contained in the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act, 1909. The main purpose of the proposed amendment is to give effect to the agreement arrived at with all the interests concerned that the making of match boxes in match factories should be excluded from the jurisdiction of the Board. The opportunity afforded to alter the definition of the scope of the Board has also been taken to clear up various other points on which the definition has proved unsatisfactory.

The report deals with the objections to the issue of the special amending Order which were before the Commissioner as follows:—

An objection was lodged by the National Leather Goods and Saddlery Manufacturers' Association who did not, however, support their view by attendance at the inquiry. The grounds of their objection were that the following work should not come within the

* Obtainable direct from H.M. Stationery Office, or through any bookseller price 9d.

† See the January, 1925 issue of this GAZETTE, page 31.

scope of the Paper Box Trade Board:—The making of articles from materials other than those of paper, chip, cardboard or other similar box boards; the making of suit, attaché and similar cases from other materials than those specified above; the making of cases from hard fibre boards.

The Commissioner found that the objection of the Association had already been substantially met by the Special Order, and that no amendment appeared to be necessary with regard to the points raised by the Association.

The two sides of the Soap and Candle Trades Joint Industrial Council were represented at the inquiry as joint objectors to the Order so far as it applied to the making of paper boxes by soap and candle manufacturers. They applied for the exclusion of the making of paper boxes in their trade on the following grounds:—That the Council already constituted adequate machinery for the effective regulation of wages throughout the trade and the wages and conditions of service in the soap and candle trades compared favourably with those under the Paper Box Trade Board. The application of the Order to their paper box makers would lead to difficulties in the administration of the factories. The proposed extension of the scope of the Board to warehousemen and packers would affect their general warehousing and packing staff. They based their case on the analogy of the match manufacturing industry. The Paper Box Trade Board, in opposing the exclusion of the work, urged that there were in existence non-federated firms whose paper box workers would be left without adequate protection if they were removed from the scope of the Board, that the making of paper boxes by any of the federated firms, though ancillary to the main business, in reality amounted to the carrying on of the trade of box making, and that, as the majority of paper boxes were made by firms manufacturing other goods, the principle of exclusion of the work in such circumstances would have very far-reaching effects.

The Commissioner observed at the outset that the paper box workers in question were covered by the existing regulations and that their position was, with minor exceptions, unaltered by the Special Order. He drew the following conclusions. Adequate machinery exists in the Joint Industrial Council for the effective regulation of the wages of the employees, including any paper box makers of the firms federated to the Soap and Candle Trades Employers' Federation. The practical difficulties of applying the Trade Board Orders anticipated by both sides of the Joint Industrial Council could probably be surmounted by the firms in question. There are, however, a number of firms outside the Federation in regard to which there was no evidence to shew that any such machinery existed.

In all the circumstances, if the policy were that exclusion was not to be granted where the applicants cannot speak for the whole of the trade and where the success of the application would almost inevitably encourage similar applications from other trades and so lead to the weakening of the Trade Board, the present claim might be held to fail. The Commissioner suggested, however, that it was desirable to make the position of warehousemen and packers clearer either by a verbal amendment of the Order or by an addition to the proposed accompanying memorandum outlining the Minister's interpretation of the Order.

Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, Ltd., objected to the Order on the ground that it would include the workers employed by them in making paper boxes as containers for their metal screws. Their claim for exclusion was based on the contention that they were not part of the paper box trade in that they did not manufacture boxes for sale or for exchange, and that the making of the boxes was incidental—and that only in a very minor degree—to their main occupation of screw manufacturers. They referred to the provision under the Stamped or Pressed Metal-Wares Trade Board's Order for the exclusion of the manufacturer of a composite article who makes stampings or pressings as a small proportion of, and incorporates them in, the finished product which he manufactures and sells. Their general machinery for the regulation of wages and working conditions was determined by the methods of negotiation in the engineering industry, and this machinery should be regarded as effective machinery under the Trade Boards Acts. The Commissioner found that the analogy which the Company sought to draw from the Stamped or Pressed Metal-Wares trade was not complete in that in the present case there was no question of embodying the paper boxes in, or fitting them to, some composite article. The machinery for the regulation of the wages of the Company's employees did not appear to have operated so satisfactorily as that in the Match Making or Soap and Candle industries. The wages were substantially less and the application for exclusion was not, as in the case of the two last-mentioned industries, supported by the employees. In the circumstances the Company's claim for exclusion did not appear to be as well founded as those of the Match Making and Soap and Candle Industries.

PAPER BOX TRADE.—SPECIAL ORDER.

The Trade Boards (Paper Box) Order, 1925. Special Order dated 9th November, 1925, made in pursuance of Sections 1 and 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918 (8 & 9 Geo. 5, c. 32), altering the description of the Paper Box Trade contained in Paragraph 2 of the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act, 1909.

Whereas it is provided by Subsection 4 of Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, that, if the Minister of Labour is of the opinion that it is desirable to alter or amend the description of any of the trades specified in the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act, 1909, he may make a Special Order altering or amending the said Schedule accordingly;

And whereas the Minister is of opinion that it is desirable to alter the description of the trade specified in paragraph 2 of the said Schedule, that is to say:—

The making of boxes or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper, cardboard, chip or similar material;

Now, therefore, the Minister of Labour, in pursuance of the powers in him vested as before cited, does hereby make a Special Order that from and after the 14th day of December, 1925, the following provisions shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article I.—The description of the trade specified in the said paragraph 2 of the said Schedule as set out above shall be altered by the substitution thereof of the description set out in the Appendix to this Order.

Article II.—This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Paper Box) Order, 1925.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this 9th day of November, 1925.

T. W. PHILLIPS,
Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour.

APPENDIX TO ABOVE ORDER.

1. Subject to the provisions of this Schedule, the making by any method of all types of plain and fancy boxes or containers from paper, chip, cardboard, pulp board, or other similar box-boards shall constitute the Paper Box Trade, and all operations of making such articles or parts thereof from such materials shall, wherever carried on, be deemed to be operations of the Paper Box Trade.

2. Where the main business carried on in an establishment, branch or department, is any of the work specified in paragraph 1 above, the making of any article made wholly or partially from the materials referred to in paragraph 1, and the making of part of any such article, in the course of any business of such establishment, branch or department by workers who are interchangeably engaged upon such making and any of the work specified in paragraph 1 above, shall be deemed to be operations of the Paper Box Trade.

3. For the purpose of this Schedule, the making of jewel, manicure, cutlery, plate or similar cases and box files, shall be deemed to be operations of the Paper Box Trade when these articles are made:—

(a) wholly or mainly of the materials specified in paragraph 1, and

(b) in an establishment or branch in which the main business is the making of them from the specified materials or in which they are made from these materials in association with any of the operations specified in paragraph 1 above.

4. All operations ancillary to the making hereinbefore mentioned (including the making of adhesive material and such operations as warehousing, packing and despatching), and the making or preparation of raw material when such operations are done or such raw material is made or prepared in an establishment, branch or department in which the main business is the making hereinbefore mentioned shall be deemed to be operations of the Paper Box Trade.

5. For the purposes of this Schedule, the making of the articles specified in paragraph 1 above from the materials therein specified shall be deemed to include the making of such articles when made mainly of such materials.

6. Notwithstanding anything in this Schedule, the following operations shall not be operations of the Paper Box Trade as herein defined:—

(a) Printing and gold-blocking, clerical work, canvassing, running outside errands, cleaning of premises, transporting by vans, carts and lorries, tending and overhauling of machinery and stoking.

(b) The making of match-boxes or of parts thereof on the premises of an establishment in which the main business carried on is the making of matches.

(c) The making of suit, attaché, and similar cases, to which the material covering the case has been affixed before the bending into shape takes place.

(d) Operations included in the Trade Boards (Paper Bag) Order, 1919, or the Trade Boards (Toy) Order, 1920, or any amendment or variation thereof.

(e) The making of metal parts of boxes when performed in an establishment mainly engaged in work included in the Trade Boards (Hollow-ware) Order, 1913, or the Trade Boards (Stamped or Pressed Metal-ware) Order, 1924, or any amendments or variations thereof.

INSTRUCTIONAL CIRCULAR TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ORDER.

1. It has been represented to the Minister of Labour that it might prove of assistance to employers and workers and others concerned in the application of the Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918, if, in suitable cases, when he makes an Order applying the Acts to a trade for the first time or when he makes an Order varying the existing description of a trade contained in an Order made under the said Acts, some information were given by a departmental Instructional Circular as to his understanding of the scope of the Order.

2. An authoritative interpretation of the Trade Boards Acts and/or Orders made thereunder can be given only by the Courts of Law and with this in mind and on the understanding that any views which he may express provisionally as to the inclusion within,

or exclusion from the scope of the Acts and/or Orders made thereunder of any trade, process, operation, article, or of any class of worker are given on the information at the time in his possession and are subject to revision in the light of further information, the Minister makes the observations which follow in paragraph 3 below for the guidance of all concerned in the application of the Trade Boards (Paper Box) Order 1925.

3. The Order of 1925 amplifies the description of the Paper Box trade contained in the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act 1909* and the following explanation (which must not be taken as exhaustive) is given of the terms employed in the new definition.

A. Paragraph (1): (a) Articles.—The first paragraph of the Definition is framed in the most general terms so far as the articles envisaged are concerned, namely, "All types of plain and fancy boxes or containers." It has been found impracticable to enumerate the many types of boxes or containers which are regarded as falling within the scope of the Board. Folding boxes or cartons, conical or cylindrical containers, pressed or moulded boxes, certain kinds of suit and attaché cases and jewel cases, if constructed wholly or mainly of the prescribed materials are, for example, all within the general classification adopted in the definition. As now framed, paragraph (1) has the effect not only of comprising such articles as those mentioned, but also permits of the inclusion of articles of any design which, with the development of the Paper Box trade, should properly be included within the scope of the Board.

(b) **Materials.**—With a view to removing doubts it has been thought desirable to enlarge the previous description of the materials referred to in the old definition. The words now used seek to cover the broad classification of the types of materials which ordinarily are or may be in use in the Paper Box Trade. On the other hand, such types of board as are ordinarily not worked by the machinery found in paper box establishments are not meant to be included in the enumeration of the prescribed materials.

B. Paragraph (2).—Paragraph 2 of the definition is intended to deal with the case of an establishment, branch or department mainly engaged in the making of any of the articles specified in Paragraph 1 of the definition, in which other articles (or parts) are also made of the scheduled materials by workers who are interchangeably engaged in the making of both kinds of articles.

C. Paragraph (3).—Under the old Definition of the Paper Box trade, some difficulty has arisen in determining the position of jewel, manicure, cutlery, plate or similar cases and box files, these being articles which are made both in the Paper Box and in other trades. If such articles are made wholly or mainly of the materials specified in paragraph (1) of the Definition either in an establishment specialising in their production or in an establishment which is mainly engaged in the production of plain or fancy boxes or containers of the kind described in paragraph (1), the manufacture of these jewel cases, etc., is brought under the Paper Box Board.

D. Paragraph (4).—Paragraph 4 relates to ancillary operations of paper box making. Subject always to the specific exclusion of the definition, operations ancillary to the work specified in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, are within the scope of the present Order. Under paragraph 4 of the definition would be included such operations as (a) the making or preparation by the box maker of the raw materials used by him in the course of his business; (b) the storing or warehousing of the materials used for manufacture and of articles manufactured; and (c) the packing and despatching of these articles. Examples (b) and (c) of ancillary work have not hitherto been regarded as within the scope of the Board.

It is not intended, however, that Paragraph (4) should bring within the scope of the Order (a) filling ("packing") of boxes with any commodity other than boxes; (b) warehousing operations performed upon boxes after they have been so filled, or upon the commodities used in filling the boxes.

E. Paragraph (5).—Paragraph 5 refers to boxes and containers made partly of materials not specified in the definition. Its effect is to bring under the Board such articles when mainly made of the materials specified in Paragraph 1 of the definition, e.g., paper boxes covered with printed fabrics.

F. Paragraph (6).—Paragraph 6.—Certain exclusions of processes and articles are enumerated in this paragraph. It will be noted that the exclusion of the making of match boxes or of parts thereof (clause (b)) is subject to two conditions: (i) that the making takes place in an establishment in which the main business carried on is the making of matches, and (ii) that the boxes or parts thereof are made on the premises of such establishments.

Paragraph (d) contains an exclusion in favour of the making of suit, attaché, and similar cases by methods which so far as concerns the manufacture of these articles are understood to pertain to the leather goods trade rather than to paper box manufacture.

Paragraphs (d) and (e) are exclusions for the purposes of avoiding overlaps in operations of manufacture covered by other Trade Boards.

* The description of the trade contained in the Schedule to the Trade Boards Act, 1909, is as follows: "The making of boxes or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper, cardboard, chip or similar material."

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

ALIENS.—*Aliens Order, 1920. A return of alien passengers, excluding transmigrants, landed, embarked, and refused leave to land, in the United Kingdom during the three months ending September 30th, 1925.* (Cmd. 2410-II; price 1d.)

EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS, TRADE UNIONS, etc.—*Directory of employers' associations, trade unions, joint organisations, etc., 1925. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 3s.)* (See page 383.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—(a) *Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1925. Part A.—Appendix (A) Statistical and other information relating principally to friendly societies, orders and branches, workmen's compensation schemes, loan societies, and railway savings banks.* (S.O. publication; price 4s.) (b) *Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1924. Part 2. Appendix. List of societies registered at 31st December, 1924, together with latest particulars as to members, funds, and valuation. Sections 1, 6, 7 and 8.* (S.O. publications; price 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s. 6d., 1s. 3d., respectively.)

HOUSING.—*Fourth interim report of Committee on New Methods of House Construction.* (S.O. publication; price 1d.)

MINING.—(a) *Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Mines for the year 1924. 2. Northern Division. 7. Swansea Division.* (S.O. publications;

price 1s. each); (b) *Statistical tables relating to the production, consumption, and imports and exports of coal in the British Empire and the principal foreign countries, together with statements showing the production of lignite and petroleum in the principal producing countries.* (H.C. 168; price 1s.) (See page 379.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*Return showing the number of persons in receipt of Poor Law Relief in England and Wales on the night of the 1st January, 1925.* Ministry of Health. (H.C. 164; price 1s. 3d.)

SOCIAL INSURANCE.—*General problems of social insurance.* Studies and Reports, Series M. (Social Insurance) No. 1. International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1925; price 2s. 6d.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—*Seventieth Annual Report of the Registrar-General for Scotland, 1924.* (S.O. publication; price 10s. 6d.)

WIDOWS', ORPHANS', AND OLD AGE PENSIONS.—*Speech of the Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P., Minister of Health, 22nd September, 1925.* (S.O. publication; price 3d.)

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.—(a) *Compensation for industrial accidents. Comparative analysis of national laws.* Studies and Reports, Series M. (Social Insurance) No. 2 (see page 384); (b) *Compensation for occupational diseases. Comparative analysis of national legislations.* Studies and Reports, Series M. (Social Insurance) No. 3. International Labour Office. (Geneva; price 12s. 6d. and 1s. respectively.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, OCTOBER, 1925.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Greenwich: R. N. College Recreation Ground, Supplying and Erecting Oak Fencing: H. J. Ford, London, N.W.—**Peterhead:** Portland Cement: Casebourne & Co., Ltd., Haverton Hill, near Middlesbrough.—**Portsmouth:** Forming Football Ground: J. G. Bryson, Portsmouth.—**Glazed Bricks:** Scourse & Kingston, Ltd., Bedminster, Bristol.—**H. M. Naval Establishments Abroad:** Portland Cement: T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Galvanized Corrugated Sheets:** J. Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Battery Spares: Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Blocks, Malleable Cast Iron:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Grantham.—**Boats (motor) 50 ft.-60 ft.—**J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Bolts and Nuts, Steel:** C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. C. Prestwich, Ltd., Atherton.—**Bolts, Holding Down:** C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Boxes, Ammunition:** Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Boxes, Condenser:** Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Boxes, Junction:** Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boxes, Section, Junction and Distribution:** Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Britannia Metal, etc., Articles:** Cooper Bros. & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; James Dixon & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; T. Wilkinson & Sons, Birmingham.—**Brooms and Brushes:** Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos; J. Root & Sons, Muswell Hill, N.; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Brushes, Painters':** R. A. Rooney & Sons, London, E.; Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham, Bucks; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; F. Brockley & Son, Epsom; H. W. Underwood, London, N.; S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd., London, E.; E. A. & W. Gramslade, Ltd., Bristol; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall.—**Brushes, Rammer and Sponge:** Chadwick & Shapcott, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Brushes, Steel Wire:** J. & R. Whyte, Glasgow; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; W. Riddell, Coulsland & Co., Glasgow; Thornton Williams & Co., London S.E.; Mechanical Appliances Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cabinet Work:** C. Gibbons, High Wycombe; Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Broadwood & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; O. C. Hawkes, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Elliott & Sons, High Wycombe.—**Canvas Sailcloth:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Francis Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—**Carpets, Rugs and Mats:** Carpet Trades, Ltd., Kidderminster; Tomkinson & Adam, Kidderminster; Brintons, Ltd., Kidderminster.—**Cases, Charger:** Johns, Son & Watts, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cells:** London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Chain, Rigging and Pitched:** The Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill; H. Reece, Cradley; J. G. Walker & Son, Ltd., Old Hill; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath; Edge & Sons, Ltd., Shifnal.—**Crane, Electric Travelling:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Cutlery, Electro-Plated, metal handled:** Walker & Hall, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Cutlery, Ordinary:** A. Boswell, Son & Naylor, Ltd., Sheffield; H. G. Long & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Maleham & Yeomans, Ltd., Sheffield; Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Cylinders, Oxygen:** The Chesterfield Tube Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Damask Table Linen:** M'Crum, Watson & Mercer, Ltd., Belfast; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; York St. Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Enamelware:** Anglo-Enamelware, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Bilston, Staffs; Welsh Tinsplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly.—**Firehearth Gear:** Carron Co., Falkirk; Darwin, Yeardley & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Flour:** W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Wingent & Kimmins, Ltd., Chatham;

Buchanan's Flour Mills, Ltd., Liverpool; Grace Bros., Bristol; J. Wilson & Co., Ltd., Leith.—**Furnaces:** T. Piggott & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Gauges for pressing Cordite:** F. W. Potter & Co., London, E.C.—**Glass Bowls and Globes:** New English Glass Manufacturers, Ltd., Dudley Port, Tipton.—**Glass, Table:** Edinburgh & Leith Flint Glass Works, Edinburgh; Joseph Fleming & Co., Stourbridge; Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Brierley Hill; Stuart & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Gloves, Leather, Various:** E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton; Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade, Wilts; North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Gunmetal Articles, Misc.:** Carron Co., Falkirk; Dennystown Brass Works, Ltd., Dumbarton; Gabriel & Co., Birmingham; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; T. Pemberton & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; E. Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Stroud Metal Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Helmets, Sun:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Helmets, Ltd., St. Albans; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Heterodyne Units (W/T):** H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hides and Leather Goods:** G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. & F. J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Colyton, Devon; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; J. Lee & Sons (Hipperholme), Ltd., Hipperholme, nr. Halifax; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Hides, Buffalo and Morocco Skins, etc.:** J. T. Hart & Sons, Ltd., London, N.; R. Hickman, London, E.C.; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Hollow Ware:** T. & C. Clark & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Jackets and Trousers, Lasting Cloth:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Lamp Fittings:** Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Fairless Engineering Supplies Co., Ltd., Stockton.—**Leather Belting:** Harbord & Poole, Ltd., London, S.E.; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Linen Goods:** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; Wm. Ewart & Son, Ltd., Belfast; John Gunning & Son, Ltd., Belfast; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Machine, Mixing:** H. Pooley & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Machine, Cordite:** Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Machine, Radial Drilling:** W. Asquith, Ltd., Halifax.—**Nails, Copper:** Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; Harrison & Cook, Birmingham; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Nails, Iron and Steel:** D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath; D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; T. Bradley, Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Harrison & Cook, Birmingham; Hall & Rice, West Bromwich; Kynoch, Ltd., Birmingham; S. Lewis & Co., Ltd., Dudley.—**Motor Generators:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Motors and Control Gear:** F. & A. Parkinson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Oakum, Black:** Westhorns, Ltd., London, E.—**Oil, Compound:** Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.; W. B. Dick & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Oil, Heavy Filtered, Mineral:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Oil, Special Mineral Lubricating:** Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.; Ragsone & Co., London, E.; Oil Services, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Petroleum Jelly:** Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.—**Pickles:** C. & E. Morton, Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester; E. Lazenby & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Propellers:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pumps, Submersible:** J. S. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes, I. of W.—**Putty:** N. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Colgate & Gray, Newhaven; John Hare & Co., Bristol.—**Rivets:** Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Scuttles, Side:** J. Roby, Ltd., Liverpool; Carron Co., Falkirk; J. & J. Woods, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Sectional Material, D. and D.1. qualities:** Pease & Partners, Ltd., Saltburn-by-Sea; Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe.—**Sectional material, Mild Steel:** Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe.—**Shalloon:** C. B. Brook & Co.,

Ltd., Bradford.—**Shoes, Gymnasium**: North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Steel Plates, D. and D.I. qualities**: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Cardiff; Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Suits, Bluet Combination**: Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth.—**Terminal Panels**: Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Timber, English**: Bartlett, Bayliss & Co., Ltd., Bideford; R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; B. G. Elliott, London, E.; H. Longley & Sons, East Grinstead; R. Mulford, Ltd., Hook, Hants; G. Randle & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Tin and Japanned Wares**: Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham; H. Brown & Ship Supplies, Ltd., London, E.; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Farmer & Chapman, Ltd., Bilston; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; Orme Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Welsh Tinplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly.—**Tinfoil Discs**: Cheswright & Nicholls, Ltd., London, E.—**Tools, Engineers' and Shipbuilders'**: F. J. Brindley & Sons, Sheffield; Hope Works Co., Dudley; W. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; C. Whitehouse & Sons, Ltd., Cannock; Whitehouse Bros., Ltd., Cannock; J. Beardshaw & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; F. G. Pearson & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; H. Williams & Son, London, E.—**Trailers, 5-ton Tipping**: Eagle Engineering Co., Ltd., Warwick.—**Trucks, "Morris" 1-ton**: Stewart & Ardern, Ltd., London, W.—**Twines**: Wm. Gale & Sons, Bridport; John Holmes & Son, East Ardsley; Pymore Mill Co., Ltd., Bridport; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Rendall & Coombs, Bridport.—**Valves, Kingston**: MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Valves, Vent**: MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Vehicles, 30-cwt. W. D. Subsidy type**: Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Vices**: Easterbrook Alford & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Webbing, silk**: Dalton Barton & Co., Ltd., Coventry; Faire Bros. & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Weights, Test, Cast Iron**: Lilleshall Co., Ltd., Salop.—**Wood Goods, manufactured**: Kendal Handle Co., Ltd., Kendal; J. H. Ellis & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes, Wilts; Bamber & Calder, Burscough Junction; Sundt, Sundt & Co., London, S.E.; W. Rogers & Sons, Watford; R. Charnley & Sons, Ulverston; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; J. Brown & Sons (Thatcham), Ltd., Thatcham; C. W. Clinch & Sons, Newbury; J. Nicholls & Sons, Wolverhampton; G. Wingrove & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; R. Groom, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Salop; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Burley & Sons, Ltd., Bootle, Liverpool; Staveley Wood Turning Co., Staveley.

WAR OFFICE.

Air Coolers: Caird & Rayner, London, E.—**Barrels, Chemical**: Dumbars, Coopers, Ltd., London, E.—**Batteries, Secondary**: Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex.—**Bedford Cord**: Glendinning Bros., Ltd., Huddersfield; John Pille & Sons, Bradford; Whiteley & Green, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Bedsteads, Barrack**: Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs; J. Williams & Co., Stourbridge; Thos. Adshad & Sons, Ltd., Dudley.—**Blinds, Window**: Maple & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Cable, Electric**: Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.—**Cardboard Cases**: H. Stevenson & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cases, Mattresses, Married and Single Soldiers'**: T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cells, Electric**: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Cells, Secondary, Station**: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester.—**Cloth, Blue Grey Melton, Waterproofed**: J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley; W. Lupton & Co., Leeds; Smith & Calverley, Ltd., Lindley; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Cloth, D.M. Waterproofed**: Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley; J. Harper & Sons, Calverley; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley; J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot; J. Watkinson, Ltd., Holmfirth.—**Cloth, Lasting, Undyed**: Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot, Yorks.—**Cloth, Oxford**: J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley.—**Cloth, Scarlet No. 3 and 4**: J. Harper & Sons, Calverley; T. & H. Harper, Applesley Bridge.—**Clothing, Various**: J. Hammond & Co., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Conduits and Conduit Fittings**: Barton & Sons, Ltd., Walsall.—**Copper Sheet**: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancs; H. H. Vivian & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cylinders**: J. & R. Oldfield, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Dowels, Tan**: D. & R. Duke, Brechin.—**Drawers, Chests of, Painted**: South & Co., London, E.C.—**Drill, Brown**: Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough; J. Livesey, Ltd., Blackburn; Hugh Spencer & Co., Manchester; Union Mill Co., Manchester.—**Drill, Drab**: Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester; E. Spenner & Co., Preston.—**Drums, Oil**: P. D. Mitchell, Ltd., Dundee.—**Duck, Cotton**: Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Ebonite**: Hightensite & Ebonite Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Fittings, Electric Light (Exterior)**: Cable Accessories Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Flannel**: J. Bradbury & Co., Oldham; Kelsall & Kemp, Rochdale; D. & H. Mallalieu, Ltd., Oldham.—**Generators**: The Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham, Kent.—**Ice Tank**: P. Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Lathes**: Dean, Smith & Grace, Ltd., Keighley.—**Linen, Brown and Black**: Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Linseed Oil, Raw and Boiled**: Young, husband, Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—**Magnesium Powder**: Magnesium Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Manhole Covers**: Forth & Clyde & Sunnyside Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Mattresses, M.S.**: Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Mattresses, Single Soldiers'**: Bede Furnishing Co., Ltd.; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Motors**: Rees Roturbo Mfg. Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Motor Chassis**: Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton; J. I. Thornycroft &

Co., Ltd., Basingstoke; Vauxhall Motors, Ltd., Luton.—**Nickel**: Mond Nickel Co., Ltd., Clydach, nr. Swansea.—**Paint, Prepared for Use**: Alexander Ferguson & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; N. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Foster, Mason & Harvey, Ltd., London, S.E.; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Naylor Bros. (London), Ltd., Slough.—**Piping, Cast-iron, and Fittings**: Clay Cross Co., Ltd., Chesterfield, Derbyshire.—**Piping, Spun Iron**: Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham.—**Power Units**: Douglas Motors, Ltd., Bristol.—**Pumps**: British Electric Plant Co., Ltd., Alloa.—**Repairs to Vessel**: Glengall Ironworks, Ltd., Millwall, E.—**Rope, Tarred, for Grummets**: Frost Bros., Ltd., London, E.—**Sashes, Silk and Worsted**: Dalton, Barton & Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Serge, Blue**: Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; Greengates Worsted Co., Apperley Bridge; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley.—**Serge, Service Dress**: Fox Bros., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; J. Crowther, Ltd., Milnsbridge; R. Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Farsley, Yorks; J. Harper & Sons, Calverley; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Serge, White**: J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., Ashburton.—**Soda, crystals, caustic and Ash**: Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., London, E., and/or Winnington.—**Steel Bars (Medium Tensile)**: The Park Gate Iron Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—**Steel, Mild Plates**: South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Steel, Sheets**: South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Steam Roller and Scarifier**: Wallis & Stevens, Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Stoves, Oil, Rippingilles**: Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sulfarsenal**: Wilcox, Jozean & Co., London.—**Switchboards**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton, Birmingham.—**Tartan, Highland**: Henry Ballantyne & Sons, Ltd., Walkerburn; D. Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles; Sir Charles Sykes & Son, Ltd., Galashiels.—**Tents, Store**: C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tin, Ingot**: Capper Pass & Son, Ltd., Bristol.—**Transporter**: Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., Renfrew.—**Tweed, Blue, No. 2**: Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; J. Harper & Sons, Calverley; W. & T. Huggan, Bramley; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley.—**Twill, Grey**: Eccles Spinning & Mfg. Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Tyres, Solid**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Valves, W.T.**: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Wagon Covers**: J. H. Peck & Co., Ltd., Wigan.—**Works Services: Maintenance Works**: Preston; Clegg Bros., Ltd., Burnley. London District: Geo. Greenwood & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Blackdown & Deepcut: C. Morgan & Son, Ash Vale. N. Aldershot: C. Morgan & Son, Ash Vale. **Building Works and Services**: Okehampton—Drying Room and Troop Stables: W. J. Avery, Okehampton. Okehampton—Cable Trenches: Blatchford, Ash & Co., Okehampton. Longmoor Camp—Addition to Loco. Shed: F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. Tidworth—Married Officers' Quarters and Married Quarters, Type "B": W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes, Wilts. Berwick-on-Tweed—Rampart Married Soldiers' Quarters—Construction of Sanitary Annexes: M. Gray & Sons, Berwick-on-Tweed. Norwich—Vehicle Sheds: H. C. Greengrass, Norwich. Maryhill Barracks—Construction of Football and Hockey Pitch: M. M. Hart, Glasgow. Woolwich—Royal Herbert Hospital—Additions: F. R. Hipperson, Trowse, Norwich. Sandhurst—Construction of New Reservoir and Filter Beds, R.M. College: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham. Brighton—Preston Barracks—Conversion of Cookhouse into Bath House: Propkiss & Son, Brighton. Weedon—Officers' Quarters: W. W. Webster, Guilsborough, Northants. **Painting**: Newcastle-on-Tyne—Fenham Barracks: W. T. Pickering, Stockton-on-Tees.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft, Ailerons for**: Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Hull for**: Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton.—**Aircraft, Rectification of**: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Undercarriage for**: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Airscrews and Cases**: Aircrow Co., Croydon.—**Airscrews, Metal**: Metal Propellers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Ammeters, Thermo**: E. Turner, High Wycombe.—**Aviation Spirit**: Shell-Mex, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Bearings, Ball and Roller**: Skefko Ball Bearing Co., Ltd., Luton; Hoffmann Mfg. Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Bearings, Ball, Repair of**: Hoffmann Mfg. Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Boxes, Exploder & Detonator**: D. M. Davies, Slough.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Aeroplane Weighing Machine (Martlesham Heath): Denison & Son, Leeds. Airship Shed (Karachi): Armstrong Construction Co., London, S.W. Artificers' Work (Flower Down and Worthy Down): H. G. Ross, Netley Abbey. Barrack Blocks, etc. (Martlesham): Cubitt & Gotts, Ipswich. Cables, Underground (Wittering): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Cement, Portland (Middle East): Tunnel Portland Cement Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Composition Sheets (Iraq): Thames Board Mills, Ltd., Purfleet. Fans (Middle East): Veritys, Ltd., London, W.C.; Metro-Vick Supplies, Ltd., London, S.W. Glass (Duxford): Pilkington Bros., London, E.C. Guard House (Lee-on-Solent): John Hunt, Ltd., Gosport. Heating & Hot Water Supply (North Weald): Heywood & Bryett, London, S.E. Heating & Hot Water Supply (Worthy Down): Brightside Foundry Co., Birmingham. Heating, etc. (Oxford & Cambridge): Brightside Foundry & Eng. Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Married Officers' Quarters (Hawkinge):

J. G. Parsons & Son, Folkestone. Painting, etc. (Henlow): Holdsworth, Ltd., Shipley. Regimental Accommodation (Bicester): Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co., London, W.C. Regimental Buildings (Suttons Farm): McAlpine & Sons, London, S.W. Regimental Buildings (Tangmere): F. D. Huntingdon, Ltd., London, W. Re-conditioning Buildings (Waddington): W. Laughton, Bedford. Re-roofing Store Sheds (Ickenham): J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Switchboards (Altrincham): Erskine Heap & Co., London, W.C. Travelling Gantry & Runway (Farnborough): J. Smith (Keighley), Ltd., Keighley.—**Butyl Alcohol**: Synthetic Products Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Butyl Alcohol, Conversion to Methyl Ethyl Ketone**: Synthetic Products Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cameras and Spares**: Taylor, Taylor & Hobson, Ltd., Leicester.—**Canvas, Packing Hessian**: Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee.—**Canvas, Waggon Hood**: John Bright & Bros., Ltd., Rochdale.—**Cartridges, Signal**: Nobel Industries, Ltd., Roslin.—**Cases, Transit**: D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Cloths, Table, Damask**: McCrum, Watson & Mercer, Ltd., Belfast.—**Crankcase, Repair of**: T. Try & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Curtains, Mosquito**: Thos. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Engines, Aircraft**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Ricardo & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Rectification of**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of**: Gillett, Stephens & Co., Ltd., Bookham.—**Engines, Aircraft, Running of**: Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Engine, Aircraft, Spares**: Peter Hooker, Ltd., London, E.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Felt, Grey**: Carpet Trades, Ltd., Kidderminster.—**Film, Camera**: Wellington & Ward, Ltd., Elstree.—**Fluid, Disinfectant**: Jeyes Sanitary Compounds, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Gear, Anti-stall**: British Instrument Co., Ltd., Hendon.—**Generating Sets**: Mark Webber, Ltd., Guildford.—**Generators, Motor**: W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Hangar, Spares**: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Leather, Chamois**: J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**Linen, Old Rags**: A. Jacob & Co., London, S.E.—**Magnetos, Repair of**: North & Son, Ltd., Watford.—**Oil, Castor**: Hull Oil Mfg. Co., Ltd., Hull; Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Ltd., Hull.—**Oilstones**: T. Hazeon & Co., London, E.C.—**Parachutes, Irving, Spares**: Irving Air Chute Co., Buffalo, New York.—**Petrol Pumps and Spares**: Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Plywood**: Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., London, E.—**Radiators**: John Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Timber**: Howard Bros., London, E.—**Tubes, Launching, Bomb**: Vickers, Ltd., Dartford.—**Valves**: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Wheels and Tyres, Aircraft**: Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, E.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Mail Bag (Rope and Twine): J. T. Davis, Ltd., London, E.—**Apparatus, Telephonic**: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L. M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Peel-Conner Telephone Works (General Electric Co., Ltd.), Coventry; Radio, Phonopore & Electricals, Ltd., Southall; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Apparatus, Testing and Protective**: Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Baskets, Trolley**: W. H. Sharp & Sons, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Battery Stores**: Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants.—**Beeswax**: Chas. Ferris, London, E.C.—**Cabinets, Telephone**: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Various**: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Enfield Cable Co., Ltd., Brimsdown; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex; Western Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Clocks**: Stockall, Marples & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cloth, Various**: W. Baines' Sons, Ltd., Morley, Leeds; Henry Booth & Sons, Gildersome, Leeds; James Casson, Ltd., Elland, Yorks; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; John Halliday & Co., Ltd., Pudsey, Leeds; James Harper & Sons, Calverley, Leeds; W. & T. Huggan, Bramley, Leeds; Strachan & Co., Ltd., Stroud, Glos; Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot, Yorks; P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Coils, Loading**: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Coils, Loading, to encase**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Combinations, Motor-cycle**: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Redditch and Birmingham.—**Cords for Telephones**: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Ducts**: Doulton & Co., Ltd., Dudley.—**Lorries**: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil, Cylinder**: Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet or Manchester.—**Paper, Printing**: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable and Watford.—**Rags, White**: Fisher & Mantell, London, S.E.—**Ratchets and Tongs**: Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Rectifiers, Tungar**: British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Saddles, Bicycle**: Gough & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Leatheries, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sleeves, Lead**: T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sleeves, Paper**: Samuel O'Neill & Sons, Ltd., Castleton; Swales, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Stayblocks, Plain**: William Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E., and Grangemouth.—**Tape, Linen**: Bole Hall Mill Co., Tamworth.—**Vans, Delivery**: W. J. Brown, Ltd., London, N.W.; W. H. Perry, London, N.—**Wire, Bronze**: T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Beswick; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Trench; Frederick Smith & Co., Manchester.—**Wire, Copper**:

T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Beswick; Nevill, Druce & Co., Ltd., Llanelly; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Trench; F. Smith & Co., Manchester; John Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Switchboard**: General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.

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