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

EMPLOYMENT.

FOLLOWING the sharp decline which occurred immediately after Christmas, employment showed a steady improvement, on the whole, throughout January. At the end of the month, however, employment in most industries remained worse than in the third week of December. There was a further seasonal decline in the building trade, in public works contracting, and in their ancillary industries of brick, tile and cement manu-facture. In a number of other industries, including most of the textile and clothing trades, food, drink and tobacco manufacture, the saw-milling, furniture, and other woodworking trades, and the miscellaneous metal industries, employment at the end of January was also below the level recorded immediately before Christmas. In coal-mining there was an increase in the numbers of workpeople temporarily stopped from the service of their employers. On the other hand, there was a slight improvement in employment in the cotton textile industry, in the pottery trade, in hat and cap manufacture, and in ship-repairing.

Among the workpeople (aged 16 to 64 inclusive and numbering approximately 11,800,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), in all industries taken together, was 10.7 at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 9.8 at 19th December, 1927, and 12.0at 24th January, 1927.

The percentage wholly unemployed was $8 \cdot 3$ at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 7 \cdot 7 at 19th December, 1927; while the percentage temporarily stopped was $2 \cdot 4$, as compared with $2 \cdot 1$. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 30th January, 1928, was approximately 1,199,000,* of whom 949,000 were men and 171,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 19th December, 1927, it was 1,127,000, of whom 925,000 were men and 151,000 were women; and at 31st January, 1927, it was 1,375,000, of whom 1,083,000 were men and 213,000 were women.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in wages reported to have come into operation during January resulted in a net reduction of £16,350 in the weekly full-time wages of about 245,000 workpeople, and in an increase of nearly £9,000 in those of nearly 150,000 workpeople.

The largest group of workpeople affected by reductions were coal miners in Yorkshire, in whose case the percentage addition to basis rates was reduced by an amount equivalent to about 3 per cent. on current

* See footnote * on page 63.

wages. There were also reductions in the wages of iron miners and blastfurnace workers in Cleveland and Cumberland, shale miners and shale-oil workers in Scotland, iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England and West of Scotland, and textile bleachers, dyers, etc., in Scotland. Lower rates of pay were introduced for new entrants in the case of certain classes of railway traffic workers in Northern Ireland.

Textile bleachers, dyers, etc., in Yorkshire and Lancashire received small increases under cost-of-living sliding scales (less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on current wages in Yorkshire, and 3d. and 2d. per week for men and women respectively in Lancashire), and men employed by electricity supply undertakings received an increase of 1d. per hour in most districts in Great Britain outside the North-East Coast and East Midlands areas of England. Increases also occurred under cost-of-living sliding scales in the wages of bobbin and shuttle makers in England and Wales, waterworks employees in various districts in England, felt hat makers, seed crushers and oil millers, and men employed by public works contractors in London.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st February 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 and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 66 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 68 per cent. a month ago, and 72 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 1st February was 59, as compared with 62 per cent. a month ago and 64 per cent. a year ago.

The fall in these percentages as compared with a month ago was mainly due to decreases in the average prices of eggs and of butter.

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, and 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 January was 31. In addition, 10 disputes which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in January (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 10,000; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during January was about 50,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 7,600 workpeople involved and 38,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 15,300 workpeople involved and 130,000 days lost in January, 1927.

APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING INOUIRY.

Two more volumes* in the series of seven Reports, embodying the results of the inquiry made by the Ministry of Labour in 1925 and 1926 into apprenticeship and training for the skilled occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, have recently been issued. They deal respectively (i) with the building, woodworking, and ellied industries and (ii) with the building, woodworking, metal allied industries, and (ii) with the mining and quarrying, metal extraction, and chemical, glass, pottery, and allied industries. The Reports describe the general conditions of apprenticeship and learnership in the industries concerned, and include summaries of the provisions contained in collective agreements and trade union rules affecting apprentices and learners.

I.—BUILDING, WOODWORKING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.†

(i) Building, including Public Works Construction.

(1) Building, initiality I alite in othe constants. The section of the Report dealing with the building industry contains an analysis, with statistical tables, of the information given in returns from nearly 7,500 employers, of whom, however, three-fifths were employing neither apprentices nor improvers. Of the male workpeople employed by the firms who had apprentices or improvers these latter formed 13.5 per cent. of the total. Of the comparative or improvers 28.9 per cent were apprentices these apprentices or improvers 28.9 per cent. were apprentices under indentures or other written agreements; 53.0 per cent. were apprentices under verbal agreements; and 18.1 per cent. were improvers, of whom about one-fourth were time-expired apprentices. Wide local and occupational variations, however, are apprentices. losed.

disclosed. "Improvers" are of two types, referred to in the Report as "ex-apprentice improvers" and as "learner-improvers," respec-tively. "Ex-apprentice improvers" are youths who, at the con-clusion of the term of apprenticeship, are required to serve a further period as improvers or young journeymen, before receiving the full journeymen's rates of wages. "Learner-improvers" are principally drawn from the ranks of boy labourers; though not apprenticed they are provided with facilities for learning the trade, and there is no definite agreement as to period of learning or as to wages, both being dependent upon progress and ability. On the basis of the returns received, it is estimated that of the 107,000 male workers in the industry under 21 years of age about

61 per cent. are apprentices (21 per cent. being indentured), 15 per cent. are improvers, and 24 per cent. are young labourers. There is, moreover, one apprentice to $4 \cdot 4$ journeymen, and one trainee (*i.e.*, apprentice or improver) to $3 \cdot 6$ journeymen. These propor-(i.e., apprentice or improver) to 5.6 journeyment. These propor-tions vary as between the occupations and the areas. Thus, the proportions range from one apprentice to 2.2 journeymen plumbers to one apprentice to 5.7 journeymen masons; and from one apprentice to 2.7 journeymen in Scotland and the Northern Counties of England, to one apprentice to 15.2journeymen in London journeymen in London.

Journeymen in London. London, indeed, affords several other striking contrasts with other districts; thus, in London only 15.7 per cent. of the employers making returns had any boys in training, either as apprentices or as improvers, as against 63.5 per cent. in Scotland and nearly 60 per cent. in the Northern Counties of England. Again, in London 53.0 per cent of the trainees were improvers as against 60 per cent. in the Northern Counties of England. Again, in London 53.0 per cent. of the trainees were improvers, as against 3.9 per cent. in Scotland and the Northern Counties, 3.4 per cent. in Northern Ireland, and an average of 18.1 per cent. for all districts. London has only one apprentice to every 15 journeymen, and only one trainee to every 7 journeymen; as compared with 1 to 2.7and 1 to 2.4 respectively, in the Northern Counties. London, in fact, tends to recruit her building trades from among improvers and young journeymen trained in the provinces of to employ and young journeymen trained in the provinces, or to employ only fully skilled craftsmen.

Among firms taking apprentices it is the smaller firms which, in proportion to their size, do most in the way of training boys for the skilled occupations.

Boys begin their apprenticeship in almost equal proportions at 14, 15 or 16 years of age, though again there are considerable local and occupational variations from the general rule.

and occupational variations from the general rule. The most usual period of apprenticeship for these industries is five years. The period in the case of most apprentices (58 per cent.) terminates at 21 and under 22 years of age, but about 35 per cent. of apprentices complete their term at ages under, and 7 per cent. at ages over, 21 years. Seven years is the period most frequently served by cabinetmakers, woodcutting machinists, and heating and domestic engineers; six years by plumbers and painters; and five years by carpenters, slaters and tilers, bricklayers, masons, plasterers, and electricians. Periods of seven years predominate plasterers, and electricians. Periods of seven years predominate in Lancashire and Yorkshire, and periods of six years in London. Scotland periods of six years are almost as frequent as those of five years.

of five years. Wages in the first year of apprenticeship show considerable variation by occupation, district, and age of commencement. The usual range[‡] is from 8s. to 15s. per week, and the wage most com-monly paid is 10s. per week. In the last year of apprenticeship the usual range is from 20s. to 47s. 8d. per week. Generally speaking, there is a higher level of remuneration in London, the Midlands, and Scotland than elsewhere; the standard appears to be lowest in the rural districts of the Southern Counties lowest in the rural districts of the Southern Counties.

* The first volume relating to the Printing and Allied Industries, was reviewed in the November, 1927, is ue of this GAZETTE. † H.M. Stationery Office : price 6s. net. ‡ For the purposes of this Report the usual range covers about 75 per cent. of the apprentices, leaving out, in approximately equal numbers, those whose wages appear at the two extremes of the scale.

Approximately one-third of the apprentices are required to serve a period of improvership, usually of 12 months, on the completion of apprenticeship before receiving the full journeymen's rates. The and the South of England than in northern districts.

The Report furnishes ample evidence of the steps taken by employers individually and collectively to ensure that apprentices receive adequate practical and technical instruction in their trades. receive adequate practical and technical instruction in their trades. The majority of employers actively encourage their apprentices to attend technical classes, though some 12 per cent. of employers report that local facilities do not exist. Many firms allow necessary time off for this purpose with pay, and also pay class fees and/or fares. There are part-time classes in several large towns, but at present most of the classes for building-trade craftsmen are held in

present most of the classes for building-trade craftsment are need in the evening. As regards collective arrangements for technical instruction the Report refers in some detail to the apprenticeship provisions contained in the Government Housing Scheme,* which is specifically directed to augmenting the supply of skilled labour for housing purposes; to the work of local apprenticeship committees in a number of towns; and to the elaborate and considered schemes of apprenticeship training which are being developed in the various crafts of the industry.

(ii) Saw Milling, Machine Joinery, and Wooden Box and Packing-Case Manufacture.

Returns were received from 531 firms engaged in this group of industries, of whom only 91 firms had any apprentices or learners.⁺ Particulars were given of 638 boys (9.2 per cent. of the male employees) in training by these firms, of whom 55 per cent. were carpenters or joiners and about 30 per cent. sawyers or woodcutting machinists; of these boys about 30 per cent. were apprentices under indentures or other written agreements, 51 per cent. were apprentices under verbal agreements, and 19 per cent. were learners. In London, the Midlands and the Southern Counties all or nearly all the apprentices are indentured: but in Scotland and the Northern Counties apprenticeship by verbal agreement is the rule.

The majority of the apprentices and learners are recruited from the elementary schools at the age of 14 or 15 years, but large numbers are also drawn from the ranks of young labourers at the age of 16 years. The period of apprenticeship is five, six or seven years, according as the age of commencement is 16, 15 or 14 years Learners generally commence at 16 years and serve for five years.

Apprentices' wages are on the whole from one to two shillings per week higher in this industry than in building; this tendency being especially marked in the Northern Counties. In the first year the especially marked in the Northern Counters. In the last year form usual range is from 10s. to 16s. per week, and in the last year from 24s. 6d. to 47s. 9d. per week. Two-thirds of the boys receive at the conclusion of training the full standard rate. In other cases a period of about a year's improvership is required at wages varying from 50s. to 70s. per week.

The boys are usually trained in the workshop under the supervision of journeymen; some firms also encourage attendance at evening classes, and a few make such attendance compulsory, but there are indications that in the industry as a whole employers consider workshop training all that is necessary.

(iii) Furniture and Allied Industries.

Returns were received from 360 firms, of whom 196 firms employed apprentices or learners. Particulars were given of 1,781 boy (13.5 appendices of learners. Fattlemars were given of 1, 101 by (10^{-5}) per cent. of the male employees) and 180 girl apprentices and learners employed by these firms. Of the boys in training, $21 \cdot 7$ per cent. were apprentices under indenture or other written agreement, $45 \cdot 2$ per cent. were apprentices under verbal agreement, $33 \cdot 1$ per cent. were learners. The girls were nearly all apprentices under verbal agreement or learners. Apprenticeship in Scotland and the Northern Counties is nearly

always by verbal agreement, but elsewhere there are twice as many written as verbal agreements. The higher the degree of skill required the greater the tendency to use indentures, wood carving and cabinet

the greater the tendency to use indentures, wood carving and cabinet making apprentices being more frequently bound than painting, woodcutting machining and upholstery apprentices. About half the boys commence training at 14 years, and a quarter of them at 15 years; the usual period of training is five years, half the boys serving for that time and a quarter for seven years. Nearly all the longer periods occur in the Northern Counties and the Midlands; in the former, periods of seven years, and in the latter, periods of seven years of the apprentices. periods of six years predominate. Forty per cent. of the apprentices and learners are expected to serve at the conclusion of training a

and rearners are expected to serve at the conclusion of training a period of improvership, usually of one year. The wages most commonly paid to boy apprentices in the various occupations and localities are set out in the Report. Detailed information is given in regard to the occupations to which girls are

information is given in regard to the occupations to which gives are trained and the wages they receive. Technical education is regarded as of importance in most occupations, and the majority of employers insist on their cabinet making and wood carving apprentices attending technical classes, where facilities are available; a number pay fees and offer prizes for good work. It is the general opinion of employers in the industry that the present methods of recruiting and training apprentices are especially in view of the fact that the demand for skilled workers is likely to decline, owing to the simplification of design, the increase in machine work, and other causes.

* See the February, 1925, issue of this GAZETTE, page 40. † For the purposes of this inquiry, *learner* is to be understood as meaning a young worker who, not being an apprentice, is specifically engaged by the employer for a recognised period of training in the capacity of *learner*, and is provided by the employer with instruction or with definite facilities for learning a branch or process of the industry.

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(iv) Electrical Contracting.

Returns were received from 514 firms, of whom 396 firms had some Acturns were received from 314 firms, of whom 396 firms had some apprentices and/or learners. Nearly half the firms without appren-tices or learners were in London. Particulars were given of 1,998 male apprentices and learners ($29 \cdot 2$ per cent. of the male employees) employed by these 396 firms. Of these, $26 \cdot 9$ per cent. were appren-tices under indentures or other written agreements; 59.7 per cent. were apprentices under verbal agreements; and $13 \cdot 4$ per cent. mers.

Boys generally commence training between the ages of 14 and years, for a period of seven to five years, so that the training riod terminates at or about the 21st birthday. The usual ranges wages are from 6s. to 11s. 9d. per week in the first year and from s. to 31s. 3d. per week in the last year. Eighty per cent. of the prentices and learners at the end of their training serve a further riod of improvership usually of one war.

Apprenticeship or learnership is not found in the productive od of improvership, usually of one year. processes of manufacture, but only in the maintenance occupations and in the foundries. A large number of maintenance workers are employed as bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, boilermakers fechnical classes are held in the majority of towns, and employers herally encourage apprentices to attend these classes. Attendance technical schools is frequently a condition of apprenticeship, and and platers, fitters and erectors, electricians, blacksmiths, turners is a common practice for employers to allow time off for attendance and roll turners; or as moulders, coremakers, dressers and fettlers, and patternmakers in the foundry. The work of apprentice craftsmen in this industry does not differ greatly from that in like dav classes The employers' associations regard the maintenance of the crafts in other industry does not differ greatly from that in fike crafts in other industries; the work of roll turners is, however, peculiar to the rolling mill. Apprenticeship under verbal agreement is the usual mode of training for all these occupations. The productive processes in iron and steel manufacture do not

pprenticeship system as essential to the continued success of the ndustry, and consider that the present methods of recruitment nd training are satisfactory, and sufficient to ensure an adequate upply of skilled workers in the future.

lend themselves to a system of apprenticeship. In pig-iron manufacture (blast furnaces) about 12.5 per cent. of the total number of (v) Vehicle Building (Carriages, Wagons-other than Railway Wagons-Carts, etc.). male workers are below adult age. Boys under 18 years of age are rarely of sufficiently strong physique to be employed upon the heavy work at the furnace, but they may enter the furnace section as sweepers, as carriers of samples to the laboratory or as labourers. Returns were received from 115 firms, of whom 78 had no apprens. As regards firms with apprentices the inquiry showed great majority of apprentices serve under verbal agreements d enter upon their apprentices in at 14 or 15 years of age. The gth of apprenticeship varies according to age at entry, being They usually enter the works as assistants to the engine men, or at the hoists. If assigned permanently at a later stage to furnace being adjusted so that the apprenticeship terminates at the age work, they become loaders and handymen at the furnaces, rising by several stages to be furnace keepers, as vacancies occur amongst 20 or 21 years. by several stages to be furnace keepers, as vacancies occur amongst the skilled and semi-skilled workers, and according to their individual physique and seniority. Those who do not find places at the furnaces may become engine drivers, hoistmen or gantry men employed in the transport of materials in the works, or they may transfer to the maintenance staff. There is no systematic course of training, and progress depends on the speed at which they "pick up" the various jobs of the department to which they (i) Mining and Quarrying. Coal Mining .- Apprentices or learners in this industry are either ticled pupils to mining engineers, or boys in training for main-mance occupations (principally fitters, smiths, carpenters and biners, and electricians). About 75 per cent. of the maintenance rainees were apprentices (nearly all on verbal agreements) and have been assigned. In the puddling, steel smelting and iron and steel rolling and forging sections of the industry the number of workers under 21 years of age is about 17 per cent. of the male workers employed. Some of the work is heavy, and such boys as per cent. learners.† The methods of training for mining occupations proper vary in the different districts. In South Wales, for example, it is usual or boys who are to become hewers to be put to work at the coal acce as soon as they enter the mines. They are placed as helpers to sperienced hewers, and continue as such until, at about the age 21 years, they are sufficiently skilled to obtain a "working-place" or themselves. In the North and Midlands they commence and are employed commence work generally in the mill or forge depart-ments as errand boys, scrap boys, fagotters, markers or labourers.

II.—MINING AND QUARRYING; METAL EXTRACTION; CHEMICAL, GLASS, POTTERY AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.*

ments as errand boys, scrap boys, fagotters, markers or labourers. In the rolling mills they may assist the men employed on the hot saw, hook billets across the rollers, remove superfluous metal, or work levers. On attaining adult age, and provided they are capable of working in the melting shops, they begin as labourers or wheelers of metal or ashes, and gradually learn to assist at a furnace, with the possibility of becoming first hand melters. Promotion to the skilled positions is not reserved for promising juniors but is also given to capable adults of any age or occupation. themselves. In the North and Midlands they commence work the age of 14 or 15 years on the surface at the picking belts and thes, or underground as door boys or incline boys, and later are ven more responsible work, such as braking or controlling self-acting clines, attending engine landings or shaft sidings, driving pit onies. At about 17 to 19 years they become drawers or putters, inging loaded tubs from the coal face to the nearest flat or siding (iii) Manufacture of Other Metals. This section deals with the manufacture of copper, brass, zinc, f the mechanical haulage system and supplying the hewer or loader with empty tubs. Working thus constantly in and about the coal tin, aluminium, etc. There is no apprenticeship or learnership in this group of industries except among maintenance workers or chemists. The Report details the conditions of recruitment and service of youths and sometimes may be permitted to hew as a part of their duties while assisting the hewers in various phases of coal face work. About the age of 21 years putters are set to hew permanently if they have been working at least two years at the face. In accordance with Section 73 of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, no person is allowed to work as a coal or incortance with matching and the section for the face. in training for the productive processes. (iv) Chemical Manufacture and Allied Trades. This section deals with the following branches of manufacture, This section deals with the following branches of manufacture, in addition to the manufacture of chemicals as ordinarily under-stood:—salt, tar and wood derivatives, dyes, fertilisers, disinfectants, explosives, white lead, paints, varnishes, non-mineral oils, greases, glues, soaps, candles, blues, polishes, gums, ink and matches. The bulk of the workpeople are process workers and chemical labourers; the maintenance workers number less than 10 per cent. and the chemists and laboratory assistants less than 5 per cent. work as a coal or ironstone getter except under supervision of a skilled workman until he has had two years' experience of such work under such supervision; and no skilled workman may have more than one inexperienced worker under his supervision at the same me. Instead of hewing, some lads remain on haulage work and nay become rolleywaymen or engine plane men, who are responsible conveying the coal to the shaft, for laying and repairing the ley-way, socketing and splicing ropes, etc., and some continue putters or fillers. Others may be transferred to stone work ler the direction of a skilled stone-man, driving roads, timbering, of the whole. of the whole. Less than a quarter of the employers who sent in returns had any boy apprentices or learners; no girl apprentices or learners were employed. Of the boys in training, 72.5 per cent. were apprentices and the rest learners. They were all engaged on maintenance or similar work, with the exception of 18 per cent., putters or fillers. ogging and walling, and shotfiring. who were being trained as chemists.

Stone Quarrying.—Apprenticeship or learnership is exceptional in this industry so far as actual quarrying operations are concerned. Boys start, at about the age of 14, on light labouring jobs. They are instructed in the use of pneumatic drills and are put to drilling holes in rocks or large stones which have already been taken out of the rock-face. During this time they are becoming accustomed to the use of the various quarrying tools, and are next engaged as helpers to the rockgetters, until they are proficient enough to become quarrymen themselves. On process work there is no system of apprenticeship. Boys and girls are employed direct from the elementary schools, and along with adult chemical labourers assist the process workers in various ways, gradually gaining experience by working in proximity to the plant. Failing promotion to vacancies among process workers at or about the age of 21 years, they remain as labourers. uarrymen themselves.

Boys in training for posts as assistant chemists are usually recruited from the secondary schools at the ages of 16 or 17 years; in most cases they must have matriculated or passed the school leaving examination. The length of apprenticeship or learnership is normally five years, but may depend upon success at the qualifying Apprenticeship is more common in stone dressing, granite sett and kerb making; although the usual practice is for boys to go as helpers to skilled men, and for the total earnings (generally at piecework rates) to be shared on a mutually agreed basis between examinations.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. 6d. net. † By *learner* is meant, for the purpose of this Report, a boy or girl who t being an apprentice, is specifically engaged by the employer for a recognised clod of training in the capacity of a *learner*, and is provided by the employer th instruction or with definite facilities for learning a branch or process of a inductive economic The industry absorbs a large number of apprentices in maintenance occupations, whose conditions of employment (other than wages) generally follow those normal to the particular occupation in the building and engineering industries.

the man and the boy. Where this practice operates the employers pay a small subsidy to the man during the first six months or so. Apprenticeship and learnership are also found in the maintenance occupations.

Other Industries .- In slate quarrying, apprenticeship, always by verbal agreement, is found in only a few quarries. With few exceptions the apprentices are the sons or relatives of quarrymen. In mineral oil refining, in cement, artificial stone, and patent fuel manufacture, and at coke ovens and by-product plant, apprenticeship and learnership are found only in the maintenance occupations; except that a few firms in the coke oven and by-product industry employ laboratory or chemists' assistants as apprentices or learners

(ii) Iron and Steel Manufacture.

(v) Glass Manufacture.

Apprenticeship is a common method of training among boys; the basis of the returns it is estimated that of the boys aged 16 to 20 years inclusive about 23 per cent. are working as apprentices. In glass bottle manufacture and in decorative glass work apprentice. ship is usually by verbal agreement; in the manufacture of sheet and plate glass and of glass ware, and on maintenance work, the majority apprentices are bound under indenture or written agreement, but there is little or no premium apprenticeship.

The employment of boys under 16 years of age on night work has been illegal since 1st July, 1922. As glass furnaces are kept burning night and day, and the work is, as a rule, continuous, this prohibition restricts the employment of boys under 16 on skilled cupations.

The Census statistics show that fully half the boys who enter the industry at 14, 15 or 16 years of age have left the industry before they attain their majority. This is partly due to the exacting nature of the work and partly to the fact that in some branches of the industry, *e.g.*, bottle making, more boys are employed by some firms than can be absorbed as adults. Particulars are given in the Report as to length of apprenticeship, age of commencement, and wages paid in the various localities and occupations.

The trade unions exercise a close supervision over the number of apprentices employed, and the working conditions during apprentice-ship, such as limits of age and period of apprenticeship; in several instances wage scales for apprentices are prescribed. Several firms refer to the difficulty in getting the right kind of

boys for the industry, partly owing to the statutory restriction on the employment of boys under 16, already mentioned. The increasing use of machinery, especially in glass bottle manufacture, is held by some employers to obviate the need for apprenticeship.

(vi) Pottery Manufacture.

According to the returns received, nearly all the firms in North Staffordshire (the "Potteries" district) employed apprentices and/or learners; but little more than half the firms in the other districts, taken together, did so. About one in ten of the male workpeople in the firms employing apprentices and learners was trainee (apprentice or learner).

Apprenticeship under verbal agreement is the usual method of entering the skilled occupations of the industry in the Potteries district; and learnership in the other districts. Indentures or other written agreements are on the whole exceptional.

Apprenticeship is found in many occupations, but particularly among mould makers, casters, hollow-ware and flat-ware pressers, polishers, biscuit and glost placers, dippers, and packers (boys); and among decorators, gilders, transferers, and painters and enamellers (girls). Learners are principally found among pressmen, in which occupation they greatly outnumber the apprentices; they are numerous, though not predominant, among boy sagger makers and packers, and among girl casters and handlers and warehouse

Most of the boy apprentices and learners begin at 14, 15 or 16 years of age; in most occupations 14 is the usual age. Nearly all the girl apprentices begin at 14 years. In some occupations, however, 15, 16, and even 18 years are usual, *e.g.*, casters and biscuit placers

(mostly 16), glost placers (mostly 18), among males, and handlers and tile pressers (mostly 16) among girls. The length of apprenticeship is generally five or seven years for boys, 43 per cent. of the boys serving for five years, and 32 per cent. for seven years; 77 per cent. of the girls serve for seven years. The periods of learnership are similar.

The training of apprentices is given either by a journeyman or journeywoman, or by a foreman or forewoman. Technical classes are provided at Stoke-on-Trent; but such classes are not available in most of the other districts.

The wage agreements for apprentices provide, in many cases, for an initial period of payment at a fixed time rate, followed by a period of payment at so much of the full journeyman's or journeywoman's rate. This is particularly the case with girl apprentices, of whom two-fifths are piece workers in the first year, as compared with four-fifths in the last year of apprenticeship. The wages paid to boys and to girls in the various localities and occupations are detailed in the Report.

(vii) Manufacture of Bricks, Tiles, Sanitary Ware, and Fireclay Goods.

This section deals with the manufacture of building and engineering bricks, roofing and flooring tiles, sanitary pipes and gulleys, sanitary fireclay goods, chimney pots, terra cotta, glazed bricks, firebricks and refractory goods of all descriptions.

In all branches apprenticeship is practically non-existent, except among boys on the maintenance staff or in certain specialised occupations in some of the larger firms. The general practice is to engage boys aged 14, 15 or 16 years and employ them about the works on simple labouring and transport work, and later as temperers. Working in association with the more experienced men, they graduof grinding machines and moulding presses, in glaze dipping, hand moulding, and the control of drying ovens and burning kins. In some brickworks, where the skilled workers contract for the work done in making and burning, the work is performed in gangs, and one or more boys are employed and paid by the head of each gang, such boys as show aptitude for the work being gradually advanced in status within the gang as they acquire experience.

WASHINGTON HOURS CONVENTION: PROPOSALS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

A MEETING of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation was held at Geneva on 2nd February, at which the principal subject discussed was the Washington Eight Hours Convention. The British Government was represented by Mr. H. B. Betterton, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Labour, assisted by various officers of the Ministry. In reply to a question from Mr. E. L. Poulton, the delegate representing the British workers, Mr. Betterton explained the reasons

why Great Britain had not ratified the Washington Convention. It was a matter of general knowledge, Mr. Betterton said, that the Washington Convention, voted almost unanimously in 1919, had since failed to find anything like a substantial measure of acceptance from the members of the International Labour Organisation. The responsibility for this failure had frequently been laid upon the chief industrial Powers of Europe, all of whom had been told that the smaller Powers were willing and anxious to ratify, if only their competitors would give a lead. But it would have been almost a miracle if the discussions at Washington, hampered by lack of time and by the short post-war experience of reduced working hours, had resulted in an instrument adapted to the complicated conditions of varied; and, though they were by no means inconsistent with the maintenance of the great principles in question, the Convention had failed to foresee them or to take them into account. Repeated attempts had been made to arrive at a general ratification by study and interpretation of the Convention. These attempts had been such lengths that it might be doubted whether interpretation had not already encroached on the domain of revision. Moreover, the Convention was bound in any case to be reviewed before long by the Governing Body. In these circumstances would not the sensible course be to look for a solution in the framing of a new text, rather than in further attempts to settle this vital question on the basis of an old text overladen with a mass of clau interpretations? The British Government's intention, Mr. Betterton said, was to work towards a Convention which, while adhering to the principles of the Washington Draft Convention, would be free from the difficulties encountered in that Draft, and they would be prepared if such a satisfactory Convention were obtained, to stand in line with other industrial states by ratifying it and putting it into operation. They, therefore, hoped that the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation would decide there and then to place the question of the revision of the Washington Convention on the agenda of the 1929 Labour Conference, and, secondly, that the International Labour Office would forthwith prepare a draft on the working of the Convention to be submitted to the next session of the

Governing Body in April. In the course of the discussion, M. Picquenard, the French Government representative, proposed a resolution, which was accepted by Mr. Betterton and supported by the representatives of several other Governments, and carried, to the effect that the placing of the revision of the Washington Convention on the agenda of the 1929 Conference should not be decided at once, but that it should be put on the agenda of the April meeting of the Governing Body.

The workers' representatives on the Governing Body expressed themselves emphatically against any revision of the Convention, and voted against the resolution. The representatives of the employers supported the British Government's proposal.

DEATHS OF SEAMEN IN 1926.

ACCORDING to a Return* which has recently been issued by the According to a return which has recently been issued by the Board of Trade, the number of deaths, during 1926, among the crews of *sailing vessels* (other than fishing vessels) registered under Part I of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, was 22. The number of deaths among the crews of *steam and motor vessels* (other than fishing vessels) in 1926 was 1,332, as follows :---

Cause.	Deaths at Sea.	Deaths in River or Harbour.	Total.
Casualty to Vessel Other accidents—On Board Ashore Disease Homicide and Suicide	187 98 	17 133 98 498 15	204 231 98 740 59
Total (including Lascars)	571	761	1,332
Lascars	125	182	307

The numbers of persons forming the first crews of vessels actual employed during the year was 1,850 in sailing vessels, and 233,100 employed during the year was 1,000 in saming vessels, and 250,100 in steam or motor vessels. Of those employed in steam or motor vessels, 158,100 were British subjects, 18,500 were foreigners, and 56,500 were lascars (British subjects and foreigners). The principal causes of death by disease were pneumonia, tuber-culosis (especially among lascars), and heart disease; these three diseases accounted for nearly 40 per cent. of the total number of

deaths by disease

The number of deaths among the crews of fishing vessels, registered under Part IV of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in 1926 was 95, of which 39 were due to casualties to the vessels, 46 to other accidents, and 10 to disease.

* Return of Shipping Casualties to and Deaths on Vessels Registered in the United Kingdom, H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE BETWEEN CERTAIN EMPLOYERS AND THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS GENERAL COUNCIL.

A NUMBER of leading employers, headed by Sir Alfred Mond, Bart., M.P., addressed an invitation in the following terms to the General Council of the Trades Union Congress on 23rd November, 1927 :---

"As there appears to us, after investigation, to be no single existing organisation of employers which can take the initiative in inviting discussions to cover the entire field of industrial reorganisation and industrial relations, we desire, as a repre-sentative group of employers, to extend to the General Council of the Trades Union Congress an invitation to meet us to consider questions relating to these matters. "The movement towards industrial co-operation has recently

received a great accession of strength, and there seems to be general agreement that a useful purpose would be served by a consideration of certain fundamental factors in industrial reorganisation and industrial relations with the view to the formulation of definite and concrete proposals applicable to, and to be determined in detail by, the various industries concerned.

to be determined in detail by, the various industries concerned. "We realise that industrial reconstruction can be undertaken only in conjunction with, and with the co-operation of, those entitled and empowered to speak for organised labour. The necessity of every action being taken to achieve the fullest and speediest measures of industrial reconstruction, therefore, improbe us to each the immediate co-operation of those who impels us to seek the immediate co-operation of those who are as vitally interested in the subject as ourselves. We believe that the common interests which bind us are more powerful than the apparently divergent interests which seem to separate.

"The prosperity of industry can in our view be fully attained only by full and frank recognition of facts as they exist and an equally full and frank determination to increase the coman equally full and many determination to increase the com-petitive power of British industries in the world's markets, coupled with free discussion of the essentials upon which that can be based. That can be achieved most usefully by direct negotiation, with the twin objects of the restoration of industrial

THE sixth (interim) Report* of the Unemployment Grants (Viscount St. Davids) Committee, which covers the period from 25th June, 1926, to 30th June, 1927, shows a very marked falling off in the volume of work as compared with the previous twelve months, which themselves showed a substantial diminution as compared with which themselves showed a substantial diminution as compared with earlier periods. This was partly owing to the causes mentioned in last year's Report[†], and partly owing to the fact that applications for assistance in respect of road schemes were, at the beginning of the period under review, transferred to the Ministry of Transport. Hence the number of applications in respect of new schemes received during the year 1926-7 was only 166, of the value of £1,822,409 ; and the number of schemes approved for grant only 63, of a value of £701 770 "That this General Council of the Trades Union Congress, £791,772.

prosperity and the corresponding improvement in the standard of living of the population. "If this is agreed, we would proceed to enumerate the topics which might serve as a basis for our discussions. We hope that you will agree that a useful purpose could be served by representatives of your Council entering into discussion with this object in view." The General Council of the Trades Union Congress met on 20th December, and passed the following resolution accepting the invitation :--

"That this General Council of the Trades Union Congress, having considered the invitation from a group of employers to a joint meeting with a view to discussing, without prejudice, the industrial problems facing this country, agrees to accept such invitation, and appoint a sub-committee to consider the most suitable subjects for discussion and to make the necessary arrangements for a full meeting of this General Council with those sending the invitation."

The first meeting of the General Council with the employers who had sent the invitation took place on 12th January. At this of employers had issued the invitation, as none of the existing bodies were able to take the initiative. They were there, he said, neither as representatives of associations nor as representatives of their respective businesses, but in their individual capacity. It was not the purpose of the meeting to go into the more detailed problems of the various industries, which must be dealt with by the industries themselves; but to consider general lines of policy which they could recommend, the particular application of which must be determined by the various industries in the way most suitable to each.

He went on to suggest that this involved problems of the following character :-

The better organisation of existing industries by means of amalgamation; rationalisation; introduction of new processes and of new methods, both technical and administrative. This would involve the consideration of means of dealing with workers eliminated by improved methods, e.g., by methods of transfer-ence or by encouraging mobility of labour, and by a system

of compensation and pension. The improvement of the security and status of the worker. Social problems, such as questions of housing, health and unemployment insurance, and educational methods.

- The effect of national taxation and of rates upon industry.
- Causes of industrial disputes, and means of avoiding them.
- Causes of industrial disputes, and means of avoiding them. Participation in the proceeds of industry, on the basis of the worker being not merely entitled to a fixed percentage or wage, but interested in the general prosperity of his industry. The creation of a permanent standing committee, to meet for consultation from time to time on topics affecting industry.

Mr. Ben Turner, chairman of the Trades Union Congress, replied on behalf of the General Council. He thanked the employers for their invitation, noted the reasons given for the inability of any single organisation of employers to enter into discussions on the entire range of questions they had met to discuss, and expressed

the hope that the employers there present might be able to indicate the hope that the employers there present might be able to indicate what steps they proposed to secure the greatest possible amount of support for and the widest possible adoption of the agreed principles. Each side entered into the conversations without prejudice, and without surrendering principles which they held to be fundamental. In their discussions and decisions they should not in any way trespass upon the sphere and functions of the existing organisations of employers and trade unions.

A general discussion followed, in which nine trade union leaders and three employers spoke; and various questions as to the scope and procedure of the proposed conversations were considered.

Sir Alfred Mond replied on the discussion, and announced that the employers had appointed a sub-committee to carry on the discussions, consisting of himself (as chairman), Lord Londonderry, Sir David Milne-Watson, Sir Hugo Hirst, Lord Ashfield, Lord Weir, the Hon. Vernon Willey, with Mr. J. Conway Davies as secretary.

Mr. Ben Turner stated that the General Council had not yet decided on the appointment of a committee, but that the matter would be considered at a special meeting of the General Council.

The General Council met on 24th January, and decided to continue discussions with the representative group of employers. The Council authorised the committee, which was appointed in the first place to make arrangements for the conference with the employers, to go into the questions for discussion and to meet the employers, to go into the questions for discussion and to meet the committee already appointed by the employers. The committee so appointed by the General Council consists of Mr. Ben Turner, Mr. W. Thorne, M.P., Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., Mr. A. Pugh, Mr. E. Bevin, Mr. T. Richards, and Mr. W. M. Citrine, with Mr. W. Milne Bailey as secretary.

The Council also authorised the committee to draft an interim report for submission to the executives of the affiliated unions, and reports will be prepared for circulation to the unions from time to time during the period of the discussions.

UNEMPLOYMENT GRANTS COMMITTEE.

The following Table shows the classes of work undertaken by Local Authorities and approved for grant by the Committee from the beginning of their operations up to and including 30th June, 1927. It should be explained that "loan schemes" are those in 1927. It should be explained that "Ioan schemes" are those in which the grants consist of a percentage of the interest, or of the interest and sinking fund charges, on loans raised by Local Authorities for approved works; while "schemes on a wages basis" are those in which grants take the form of a percentage of the wages paid to unemployed men taken on for the work.

Class of Work.					Loan Schemes.	Schemes on a Wages Basis.
administed from the	100 01	a but	lout :	riber	on high und	£
Roads and footpaths				1 1190	21,516,668	1,510,578
Sewers and sewage dis	leen	575 6.00	risely	edit	16,263,296	894,300t
Docks, harbours, quay			marile		10,025,426	297,200
Water	s	S. Contraction		1. 1. 1. 1	8,186,129	8
The shall all as	511 9.8	Dillin 1	0517 30	12,5100	6,988,697	72,016
Parks and recreation	aroun	de ton	nie co	mete	0,000,001	12,010
bowling greens, cem			ins co		4,517,306	1,357,561
	eterres,	000.		and the second	3,846,218	411,100
Tramways	Tel Gestine	14 19984	1.307-4231	122 24	2,138,128	411,100
Gas	•••		•••		1,260,177	197,949
Public institutions				•••	858,226	151,545
Sea defence		nation			539,952	159,370
Land development and	i reclai	nation	10000		344,730	159,510
Sanitation			•••		No. of the second se	300,661
Painting		1 D.			174 740	500,001
Conveniences		1-0-23-510	535 L	1	174,340	CT 040
Miscellaneous					982,614	67,040
Total	B	ani II.	e	A	77,641,907	5,267,775

In addition, conditional approval had been given, or commitments entered into, in respect of further sums amounting to £81,419.

The total amount granted to *public utility companies* carrying on works of public utility (not included above) up to 30th June, 1927, was £3,224,122; of which £1,606,592 was for gas undertakings, £1,218,549 for docks, £174,455 for water undertakings, £36,926 for tramways and light railways, and £187,600 for electricity undertakings.

On 30th June, 1927, the Committee had 15 schemes still under consideration, of a value of £244,193. Applications were still being received in small numbers, and were being entertained where the unemployment was exceptional.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price ls. net. + H.M. Stationery Office; price ls. net. A review of this Report appeared n the September, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 321. ‡ Includes gas and water schemes. § Included with sewers and sewage disposal schemes.

DIAGRAMS ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS.

A SPECIAL Supplement, which is included with the present issue of this GAZETTE, contains a selection of diagrams, etc., illustrating some of the principal official statistics relating to labour conditions. Explanatory notes with regard to each of these diagrams are given

Wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The first diagram shows the average movement of weekly rates of wages in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the past eight years, the average level of rates of wages at the end of each quarter in the years 1920–1927 being expressed as a percentage of the average level at the end of July, 1914 (taken as 100).

A detailed account of the nature of the information used in arriving at the figures on which the diagram is based was given in an article on the relative level of rates of wages immediately before the war and at September, 1927, which appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1927. It was pointed out in that article that it is for October, 1927. not possible to calculate exactly the average percentage increase in rates of wages generally since 1914, and the position of the curve should be regarded as furnishing only an approximate indication of this percentage increase at any one date, so far as suggested by the incomplete information in the possession of the Department. The curve is believed, however, to represent with a close approach to accuracy the average changes in weekly wage rates which took place in the period from the beginning of 1920 to the end of 1927.

It should be noted (a) that as the weekly working hours have been reduced since 1914 in nearly all industries, the percentage increases reduced since 1914 in hearly an industries, the percentage indecases in *hourly* rates of wages would be greater than the increases indicated by the diagram, which deals with *weekly* rates of wages; and (b) that the diagram relates to rates of wages for a full ordinary week, and not to actual earnings (inclusive of the effect of short-time, overtime, variations in the amount of work done by pieceworkers, etc.), as to which statistics are not available.

Comparative Levels of Real Wages at 1st October, 1927 : International Comparison.

This graph is constructed from the figures in column 7 of the Table in the article relating to "Comparative Real Wages in London and Certain Cities Abroad," which appears on page 72 of the present issue of this GAZETTE. For further information on this subject, and for particulars as to the sources of information and methods employed in computing the figures referred to, reference should be made to the International Labour Review (published by the International Labour Office, Geneva), and particularly to the issues for January, 1927, and October, 1924. Points to be observed in comparing the levels indicated by the

diagram are :---

(1) The "wage" measured is the average of the hourly rates wages in a number of typical urban male occupations in the cities represented :

(2) The measure used to calculate the purchasing power of this average "wage" may be assumed to be the cost in each capital city of a basket of foodstuffs in which the quantity of each article is as nearly as possible an average of the quantities of that article in the working-class household budgets taken by the International Labour Office as typical of the countries represented.

Food Prices and Cost of Living.

The curves in this diagram relating to the changes in retail food prices and in working-class cost of living generally since July, 1914, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, are constructed from the statistics compiled by the Department, and published regularly in this GAZETTE, relating to the changes in the cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (see page 50 of the present issue—particularly the Table at the foot of the second column of that page. A detailed explanation of the methods by which these statistics are compiled was given in the February, 1921, issue of the GAZETTE, and a summarised account in the July, 1923, issue.

The curve relating to retail food prices in 1913 and January to July, 1914, is based on index numbers which were regularly compiled, for many years before the war, by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, representing the average percentage changes in the retail prices, in London, of 23 of the principal articles of food consumed by working-class families. These figures are published in the "Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Visual 07404 1000 Kingdom " (Cmd. 2740, 1926).

The curve relating to wholesale food prices is constructed from the index numbers regularly computed by the "Statist," relating to the changes in the prices of 19 articles of food. The original index numbers, which are computed monthly on the basis of the average prices of the 11 years 1867-77 (taken as 100), have been converted, for the purpose of the diagram, into percentages of the figures for 1913 (taken as 100) and averaged for quarterly periods.

In any comparison of the curves for wholesale and for retail food prices it should be noted that the articles included in the "Statist index number are not identical with those in the Ministry of Labour index number, and that there are other important differences in the construction, and, consequently, in the significance, of the two sets of figures. For these reasons caution is necessary in drawing inferences from relatively small divergences in the courses of the respective curves.

Number of Persons on the Registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain

The figures on which this diagram is based relate to the total number of persons (whether insured against unemployment or not, and including short-time workers and others temporarily stopped from the service of their employers, not actually employed on the dates to which the returns relate), registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month in the period The figures are communicated regularly to the Pres 1921-7. published monthly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, page 63 of this issue).

Unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

A diagram is given showing the fluctuations in the percentages unemployed (a) in the period 1912-1927 among workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts,

against unemployment under the onemployment instant unless, and (b) in the period 1900–1926 among certain trade unions. As regards insured workpeople, statistics showing the percentages unemployed are published regularly in this GAZETTE (see, for example, pages 52, 62 and 63 of the present issue), and figures for the earlier years covered by the diagram will be found in the "Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics." It should be noted, in connection with these figures, that under the original National Insurance Act, which came into operation in 1912, unemployment insurance applied only to certain industries, and to about 24 million workpeople. In July, 1916, the scope of unemployment insurance was extended to include workpeople employed on munitions work and in certain other industries, and this extension brought the total number other industries, and this extension brought the total number insured up to about $3\frac{3}{4}$ millions at the end of 1916. In 1920, unemployment insurance was extended, by a new Act, to substan-tially all industries, except private domestic service and agriculture, and the number of workpeople covered in 1927 was over 12 millions. As regards unemployment among members of trade unions, the records of which provide the only statistical basis available for tracing the fluctuations in unemployment prior to the intro-duction of National Lagurance regularly collected

duction of National Insurance, returns were regularly collected by the Department from certain unions (mainly of skilled workers) which paid out-of-work benefit to their members, and the per-centages unemployed as shown by these returns were published monthly in this GAZETTE until the end of 1926, when the series was discontinued. The monthly percentages for 1926, and mean annual percentages for earlier years, were given in the January, 1927, issue of the GAZETTE (page 2), and more detailed figures will be found in the "Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics."

Trend of Unemployment in Various Countries.

This diagram is intended to show for a number of overseas countries, as well as for this country, the extent to which unemploy-ment has increased or declined from month to month during the period commencing 1st January, 1920, and ending 31st December,

For each country the extent of the rise or fall between any two months is measured by the change in the percentage of members of Trade Unions or other similar workers' organisations returned as Trade Unions of other similar workers organisations returned as being totally unemployed in that country at a given date in the respective months. For countries oversea, these percentages have been published regularly in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE throughout the period covered by the diagram (see, for example, page 71 of this issue).

It may help to prevent an erroneous interpretation of this diagram It may help to prevent an erroneous interpretation of this diagram if attention is drawn to the cautionary note by which these per-centages are preceded in each issue of the GAZETTE. The point there emphasised is that the percentages of unemployment reported for two or more countries at a given date do not constitute an accurate measure of the relative levels of unemployment prevailing in those countries at that date. One of the chief reasons for this is that in no two countries are the workpeople who are organised in trade unions equally representative of the general body of industrial wage earners. Other reasons, together with a detailed description of the differences in the bases of the official statistics of description of the differences in the bases of the official statistics of unemployment amongst trade unionists, published in various countries, will be found in the publications dealing with methods of compiling statistics of unemployment, forming No. 7 of Series "C" and No. 7 of Series "N" of the "Studies and Reports" issued by the International Labour Office in Geneva.

As regards Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the curve for 1927 is based on the percentages of insured workpeople unemployed, the statistics of unemployment among members of trade unions having been discontinued at the end of 1926 (see above).

Unemployment Insurance Benefit.

These two diagrams show (a) the insured population, as a whole, in Great Britain at April, 1926, classified according to the number of days' benefit drawn in the 2½ years 17th October, 1923, to 12th April, 1926; and (b) the claimants to benefit in Great Britain at 4th April, 1927, classified according to the number of days' benefit drawn in the 31 years 17th October, 1923, to 4th April, 1927.

The first of these two diagrams is based on information obtained The first of these two diagrams is based on information obtained in April, 1926, by means of an inquiry, on a sample basis, into the employment and insurance history of the general body of persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain. The Report of this inquiry was published in January, 1927 (see page 12 of the issue of this GAZETTE for that month), and a Table giving the figures used in preparing the diagram will be found on page 46 of the Banart Report.

The second diagram is based on similar information obtained in respect of a sample representing one per cent. of benefit claimants registered at Employment Exchanges at 4th April, 1927. The Report of this investigation will be published shortly

February, 1928.

Industrial Disputes.

Statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, based on returns obtained from the employers, or their associations, and from the trade unions concerned, as to the numbers of workpeople involved

the trade unions concerned, as to the numbers of workpeople involved in industrial disputes causing stoppages of work, and as to the numbers of working days lost owing to disputes, at establishments where the disputes occur. Statistics for January, 1928, will be found on page 69 of this issue of the GAZETTE. The diagram contained in the Supplement, showing the aggregate duration, in working days, of the disputes reported in the years 1900–1927, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, is based on the statistics so compiled. The actual figures for these years (up to 1926) were published, together with other statistics on this subject, in the May, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE; and preliminary figures for the year 1927 were given on page 5 of the issue for January, 1928. for the year 1927 were given on page 5 of the issue for January, 1928. The figures are exclusive of disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, The lightes are exclusive of disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, or lasting less than one day, except when the aggregate duration (*i.e.*, number of workpeople involved multiplied by the number of working days) exceeds 100 days. The inclusion of such small disputes, however, would not materially affect the figures relating to aggregate Juration.

Trade Unions.

The diagram illustrating the changes in the membership of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is based on the statistics given in an article in the November, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE (page 406). The figures relate to the total membership of l employees' societies—including those of salaried and professional rorkers, as well as those of manual wage-earners—known to include mong their functions that of negotiating with employers with the bject of regulating conditions of employment. All such societies ith headquarters in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, whether egistered under the Trade Union Acts or not, are included.

Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership.

This diagram is based on the statistics contained in the annual This diagram is based on the statistics contained in the annual article on Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership which appeared in the June, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE (page 208). It shows the number of employees participating (or entitled to participate) in schemes of profit-sharing or of labour co-partnership reported to the Department as in operation in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the years 1910 to 1926. The figures illustrated are exclusive of profit-sharing and co-partnership schemes in co-operative societies, as to which statistics are not available for the whole period covered. overed.

CALLING-ON PLACES FOR DOCK LABOURERS.

THE Dock Transport Workers (Registration and Guaranteed Week) Committee, of which the Rt. Hon. Sir Donald Maclean, K.B.E., LL.D., is Chairman, at a recent meeting had under consideration, mongst other matters, the methods of engaging dock labour at ne ports. They have now issued, to the Local Joint Committees the larger ports, a memorandum stating that in the course of eir study of casual labour problems, the Committee have had heir attention drawn to the question whether the number of calling-on "places at some of the ports is not unnecessarily large, nd inviting Local Joint Committees to consider the matter.

The Committee point out that the bearing of this question upon a main problem with which the Committee is concerned is obvious. Each "calling-on" place tends to become a more or less self-contained "pool," and to have its own margin or fringe of surplus casual labour. This makes it difficult for the men to know the right place to be in at any given time, and may even prevent the filling of gangs and the manning of ships; whilst by causing the men to lose time in walking unnecessary distances to their places of work it reduces the value of their services. Moreover, it tends prevent the register from being reduced to the extent necessary or accomplishing the objects of the Committee.

With these considerations in mind the Committee, whilst they o not intend to make any proposals for a definite system of calling on " places, appeal to the Local Joint Committees to eview the present system and number of "calling on" places, n order to see in what manner and to what extent these places an be reduced. As conditions differ from port to port the questions at issue can be most effectively examined by those on the spot.

It may be that a review of existing practice at the ports may suggest It may be that a review of existing practice at the ports may suggest other measures as an alternative, or in addition, to the reduction in the number of "calling-on" places; for example, the linking up by telephone of such separate "calling-on" places as are necessary, so that shortages reported by one may be filled by the transfer of surplus labour from another. The Committee, however, desire at this stage to leave the matter at large. They confine themselves merely to the suggestion that each Local Joint Committee should consider sympathetically whether reduction in the number of "calling-on" places is feasible and desirable; and they leave it to the Committees to carry their inquiry further if they find it profitable so to do. ofitable so to do.

The Committee, in conclusion, ask for information as to the number and distribution of "calling-on" places at each port, and request that they may be kept informed of what is being done in the direction indicated in the memorandum.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF POOR-LAW RELIEF: JUNE, 1927.

THE Ministry of Health have issued a Return,* based on figures furnished by Boards of Guardians, showing the number of unemployed persons in receipt of out-door relief in England and Wales during the week ended Saturday, 18th June, 1927. Persons relieved on account of sickness were excluded from the figures. From 206 poor-law unions a *nil* return was made, and in a

further 185 unions less than ten persons were included in each return; 96,004 persons (or 82 per cent. of the total) were accounted for by the 50 unions which returned 500 or more persons. These unions contain 35 per cent. of the population of England and Wales.

The following Table summarises the principal results of the investigation :

	Classes of Persons.					
apport the con tract of their new machinery and admitter beotection of every bird.	Men having no Wife or Child dependent.	Men having Wife or Child dependent.	Women.	Total.		
Number of persons in each class who had been in receipt of poor-law relief in the same union continuously† for—	Alighten Alighten Laisten	aras and ara	allera h trouion protint	entendet. Entendetende Dir Transi		
Less than one year One year, but less than	12,069	43,051	1,962	57,082		
three years	9,900	27,356	1,712	38,968		
four years Four years or more	1,934 1,963	6,795 8,528	536 536	9,265 11,027		
Total number of persons in each class included in the returns	25,866	85,730	4,746	116,342		

It will be seen that the total number of unemployed persons in receipt of out-door relief in England and Wales during the week ended 18th June, 1927, was 116,342, or 30 per 10,000 of the estimated population. More than one-half of the total of 116,342 had been continuously in receipt of relief for one year or more; 20,292, or nearly one-fifth of the total, had been continuously in receipt of relief for three years or more; and 11,027 had been continuously in receipt of relief for four years or more.

District.‡	Number of persons included in the poor-law returns.	Ratio per 10,000 of estimated population.	Number of insured persons unemployed per 10,000 of estimated population.
London : West District North District Central District East District South District	469 2,021 222 10,524 9,564	$ \begin{array}{c} 6 \\ 20 \\ 17 \\ 161 \\ 49 \end{array} $	147 264 156
Total, London	22,800	49	168
West Ham	4,854	64	226
Other Districts : Newcastle District Stockton and Tees District Bolton, Oldham, etc. Wigan District Manchester District Iverpool District Bradford District Halifax and Hudders- field Barnsley District Sheffield North Staffordshire North Staffordshire North Staffordshire Wolverhampton Dis- trict	5,485 3,230 483 1,101 5,731 13,233 916 151 1,162 184 5,759 1,353 571 1,191 321 1,807	108 117 6 24 55 104 25 4 24 5 112 42 14 25 13 01	516 443 405 438 316 419 317 326 269 205 467 350 467 350 489 274 166
Birmingham Bristol District Cardiff and Swansea	2,427 2,523 2,224	24 26 61 46	367 294 287 315
Total, "Other Dis- tricts"	49,852	48	359
Total of all the above Districts	77,506	49	297

* Cmd. 3006. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net. † "Continuous" relief means relief the continuity of which has not been broken by more than ten weeks in all in any one year. No account is taken of relief which may have been received in a union other than that making e return. ‡ These "districts" in most cases comprise two or more whole poor-law

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS: RECENT PROCEEDINGS.

PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL.

AT a meeting held on 11th January, 1928, the Council adopted a Report by its Betterment Committee which suggested the following as the objectives likely to improve the status of the industry :---

(a) To improve the earning capacity of the industry, and so maintain or improve the position of both employers and

employees. To increase employment and avoid periods of slackness.

(b) To increase employment and avoid periods of stackness.
(c) To reduce the cost of printing and/or improve the quality so as to create greater demand.

The Report went on to recommend that there should be mutual agreement and hearty co-operation in trying to carry out any suggestions bearing on the foregoing problems, and submitted the following proposals :-

1. Employers should be urged to improve the efficiency of their works, by scrapping old and installing new machinery and adopting improved methods of organisation and production of every kind.

2. Modern time-saving machinery, the costing system, paper standardisation, and other methods of simplification reduce the cost of production, are beneficial to all concerned, and should be generally adopted. Employees should co-operate with the employers in the use of these methods.

3. In view of the temporary loss of employment which in some instances has been known to follow the introduction of time-saving machines, employers are recommended, when machinery of a new type is introduced, to endeavour to retain all their employees by transfer to other duties. This suggestion is not intended to interfere with any of the recognised lines of demarcation.

4. A Works Advisory Committee should be formed in all offices where the number of the employees makes the formation of such a committee practicable.

5. Employees should be encouraged to make suggestions for improving the methods of working and the amenities of the factory. The Works Advisory Committee should be the natural and proper channel through which suggestions by workers should be made Employees making suggestions which are adopted by the employers should be suitably rewarded.

6. When possible, additional day labour, double shifts or night shifts, should be engaged instead of working avoidable persistent overtime.

7. Work in the printing trade is largely seasonal, and large consumers, all public authorities, and the Stationery Office should be pursuaded to place their orders earlier and, as far as practicable, in slack seasons.

8. Wherever possible, the Education Authorities, the employers and the trade unions should jointly arrange classes for unemployed workers, so that they may improve their efficiency, and be instructed in the latest developments in their trade.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE POTTERY INDUSTRY.

The Council held its forty-fourth meeting at Stoke-on-Trent or Wednesday, 11th January, 1928. This date was the anniversary of the first meeting, which was held on 11th January, 1918: the Council has thus entered upon the eleventh year of its existence. In the course of the meeting, the Chairman gave a brief review of the work accomplished on the Council during the previous year, and of matters still under consideration. He indicated in particular that, through the efforts of the Research Committee, sound progress that, through the efforts of the Research Committee, sound progress is being made towards the improvement of working and health conditions, such, for instance, as the prevention and removal of dust, also by the introduction of oil firing and the use of electricity in kiln firing, which has resulted in a great advance towards the elimination of smoke in the industry. He expressed the opinion that, while the Council had not accomplished all that it had in view, especially in connection with the apprenticeship scheme, much had been done, and there was plenty of scope for the future. At the conclusion of the business of the meeting, which included the election of officers and the consideration of reports from the the election of officers and the consideration of reports from the Research and Statistics Committees, an address was given by Mr. J. Taylor Peddie, President of the British Industrial Economic Foundation, on the subject of "The Flaw in the Economic System.

NATIONAL JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL FOR THE FLOUR MILLING INDUSTRY.

At a meeting held on Friday, 27th January, the Council had under consideration Reports presented by two Committees, one of which had been appointed to investigate the alleged prevalence of dermatitis among flour mill operatives, and the other to study questions concerning safety in flour mills. The Dermatitis Committee made extensive inquiries as to the

prevalence of the disease among workpeople employed in the industry, and after a comparison with the best available information as to similar disease among the general population, came to the conclusion that the workers in flour mills were affected to a less extent with skin trouble than the average population. This favourable result is attributed partly to the fact that the process of flour manufacture is automatic, and partly also to the fact that four mills are generally free from dust and dirt. The Report of the Committee, who were assisted by a representative of the Home Office, was adopted by the Council, who decided that the Committee should continue to exist, should watch the effect of the recommenda-

tions of the Report, and should investigate new cases of skin trouble arising from time to time. The Factories Committee, which reported on questions of safety

in flour mills, was the outcome of representations made to the Home Office by the Flour Milling Employers' Federation in respect of certain decisions of the Court of Appeal, which affected most materially the duties and liabilities of the responsible owners or tenants of machinery in factories. The Chief Inspector of Factories suggested the setting up of a Joint Committee of employers and of workmen with an actual and intimate experience of the working of flour mill machinery to study questions concerning safety appliance in flour mills. Following this suggestion, inquiries into the matter were taken over by a Joint Committee appointed by the National Industrial Council, meetings of the Committee appointed by a representative of the Home Office. The Report of the Committee included a number of important recommendations tending to raise the present standard and greatly to reduce the risk of injury in flour mills. A valuable aspect of the Committee's work is that flour mills. A valuable aspect of the Committee's work is that its agreed recommendations will go far to secure uniformity of administration with regard to safety requirements in flour mills. The Report of the Factories Committee was also adopted by the Council, and it was further decided that a standing Factories Committee be elected annually to study questions concerning safety and welfare in flour mills, and to be a permanent advisory and consultative Committee to consider points arising out of the Factory Acts and their administration. The Council appointed the members of the Factories Committee to be members of the permanent Committee, and expressed the hope that the Home Office would again appoint a representative.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUPERANNUATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

THE Departmental Committee appointed in July, 1925, "to inquire and report whether any amendments are required in the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922, and in particular (a) whether it is desirable that the scheme of super-annuation established by that Act should now be made obligatory on all local authorities; and (b) whether that scheme should, with or without modification in respect of particular classes of officers, be made applicable to all persons in the employment of those local authorities, other than school teachers and police," have presented their Report.*

The Act of 1922 empowered, without requiring, local authorities to adopt a scheme of superannuation for such of their permanent employees as they chose to bring within the scheme. Up to and including 1st November, 1927, only 177 authorities in England and Wales and in Scotland had directly adopted the Act; while 125 had joined grouping schemes, and 225 had been admitted to the schemes of other authorities, under the Act. The aggregate number of employees included in schemes set up under the Act of 1922 was, on the 1st November, 1927, about 102,000, of whom some 35,000 are estimated to be officers and 67,000 servants. In addition there are probably about 23,500 officers and 53,000 servants. The Act of 1922 empowered, without requiring, local authorities to addition there are probably about 23,500 officers and 53,000 servants of some 40 authorities who have pension schemes in operation under local Acts, including the London and Middlesex County Councils, the County Borough Councils of Cardiff, Liverpool, Manchester, etc., the Corporations of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and most of the Metropolitan Borough Councils. Several authorities have initiated schemes which do not provide for the inclusion of any servants. but no authority's scheme provide for the industrial of any servants but no authority's scheme provides solely for the superannuation of servants to the exclusion of officers. Of the total number of 67,000 servants, no less than 35,000 are accounted for by the schemes of only eight County Borough Councils. It is probable that from 15,000 to 20,000 officers and possibly some 300,000 servants are permanently employed to-day in local government service who are not members of superannuation schemes either under public general Acts or local Acts.

A majority of the Committee recommend that it should be made obligatory on all local authorities, separately or in combination (a) to establish schemes of superannuation under the Act of 1922, with certain modifications, for their officers or non-manual employees, who should be under a corresponding obligation to enter the scheme and (b) to offer their servants or manual employees the choice entering or not entering schemes, the question of entering or not entering to be decided by a ballot of the established servants of each authority. One member of the Committee, however, dissents from both (a) and (b), and five members dissent from (b) of this recommendation (and from those other recommendations which presuppose its acceptance), considering that an obligation to admit their servants to superannuation schemes should not be imposed on local authorities.

The Committee also recommend that servants should pay contributions at a lower rate than their officer-colleagues, that county schemes should provide for small authorities unable them selves to initiate separate schemes, that provision should be made to guard against duplicate pensions under the Act of 1922 and the Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, and that nurses should be allowed to retire at an earlier age than 65. The relation of the proposed new scheme to local Acts and to the Acts governing the superannuation of poor-law officers and asylums officers is also fully dealt with, as well as many other matters of detail.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

OCCUPATIONAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE Registrar-General for England and Wales has issued a Report* on occupational mortality, fertility, and infant mortality, based on the results of the Census of 1921, taken in connection with the birth nd mortality statistics for 1921-23. The figures are for male cupations only; thus, the fertility and infant mortality rates are brought into relation with the occupations of the *fathers* of the hildren. The only exception is in the case of illegitimate births and the mortality of illegitimate infants), which are related to the

and the mortainty of inlegitimate infants), which are related to the occupations of the mothers. It is stated in the introduction that the present Report differs from its predecessors (dating back to the 1851 Census) mainly because for the first time it distinguishes occupations on purely occupational, and not, as formerly, on largely industrial, lines. STATISTICS FOR 1926. THE Federal Ministry of Labour recently issued a Report* on the activities of the German conciliation authorities in 1926. By the Order of 13th October, 1923 (which came into force on For example, cutlery grinders, who are subject to special silica risk, were formerly grouped with all other workers concerned in the manufacture of cutlery, many of whom are subject to no special risk. The mortality for this composite group in 1910-12 exceeded the average by 63 per cent.; but the mortality for actual grinders of cutlery, taken alone, was found to exceed the average in 1921-23 1st January, 1924), the existing conciliation machinery was replaced by conciliation boards (*Schlichtungsausschüsse*) to be set up throughout Germany, consisting of equal numbers of employers' and workers out Germany, consisting of equal numbers of employers and workers representatives with an impartial chairman appointed by the State. The jurisdictional areas of these boards are determined by industrial considerations rather than by the geographical boundaries of the various States. The Order further provides for the appointment of permanent conciliation officers (*Schlichter*) for industrial districts of wide extent, to deal with disputes of particular importance for the economic life of the country, while *ad hoc* conciliators may be appointed for special cases. In certain circumstances, the awards of boards and of accellation officers may be declared generally y no less than 230 per cent. Again, in the old classification all ottery workers were in a single group, with a mortality 51 per cent. bove the average. Now they can be distinguished as potters, nillworkers, and slip makers, with an excess mortality of 64 per nt.; dippers and glazers (41 per cent.); and oven men and plac It is stated in the Report that the effect of occupation upon male iortality is probably on the whole more indirect than direct; that to say, that mortality is influenced more by the general conditions f life implied by various occupations than by the direct occupational of boards and of conciliation officers may be declared generally binding on all parties, either by the conciliation officers or by the Federal Minister of Labour, who is responsible for the general administration of the Order.

During 1926, 113 boards and 19 branch boards were called upon The number of males aged 20-65 in England and Wales at the burning 1926, 113 boards and 19 branch boards were called upon to deal with 4,653 labour disputes of various kinds. The number of cases submitted by employers was 804; by workers, 3,666; and by the parties jointly, 109. In the remaining 74 cases, proceedings were initiated by the competent public authority. In 380 cases, a settlement was effected before the commencement of conciliation Census of 1921 was 10,082,062, of whom 9.704,860 were occupied ind retired males (civilians only). These 9,704,860 occupied or retired males are grouped in this Report in five classes, as follows :— Class I, numbering 225,618, comprises directors and secretaries f companies, stockbrokers, heads of departments in banks and neurance companies, clergymen and ministers of religion, professional men, authors, editors, and journalists, etc., etc.; proceedings, while 705 cases were disposed of as a result of preliminary negotiations (*Vorverfahren*), which must be resorted to previous to formal conciliation proceedings. Of the remaining cases, 3,378 were dealt with in the normal manner, and 190 cases were disposed of Class II, numbering 1,974,884, comprises farmers, employers and dealt with in the normal manner, and 150 cases were disposed of otherwise. Of the 3,378 cases which actually came before concilia-tion boards, 488 were amicably settled, and awards were made in 2,544 cases. Of these awards, 1,430 were rejected either by the em-ployers, by the workers or by both parties, 257 of the rejected awards being subsequently declared binding, while in the remaining cases either an amicable settlement was effected at this stage of the lanagers in most businesses, railway officials, officers in the hereantile marine, buyers and commercial travellers, and most brokers and agents, civil service and local authority officials and lerks, commercial and other clerks, teachers, artists, etc., etc.; Class III, numbering 4,218,715, comprises foremen, and the more proceedings, or the competent authority declined to pronounce the ward binding.

killed grades of manual workers generally, together with shop assistants, roundsmen and van salesmen, postmen and post office orters, telegraph and telephone operators, actors, musicians, and stage hands, domestic servants, gamekeepers, waiters, motor car, motor omnibus, and motor lorry drivers, tram drivers, etc., etc.;

The permanent conciliation officers intervened in 322 disputes while 68 further cases were referred to *ad hoc* conciliators. Of these 390 cases, 83 were submitted by the employers, 219 by the workers, 45 cases by both parties jointly, while action was initiated by the authorities in the remaining 43. Sixty-seven disputes were adjusted prior to or during the preliminary stages of conciliation proceedings, 317 cases formed the subject of the normal procedure, and 6 were otherwise disposed of. Of the 317 cases in which the normal proceedings are received to 49 resulted in an emicable permanent conciliation officers intervened in 322 disputes Class IV, numbering 1,984,906, comprises agricultural labourers and fishermen, most mine and quarry workers other than coal hewers, machine tool workers, engineers' and foundry labourers, drivers of horse-drawn vehicles, omnibus and tramway conductors, backers, railway porters, platelayers, gas stokers, boiler firemen and and 6 were otherwise disposed of. Of the 317 cases in which the normal procedure was resorted to, 49 resulted in an amicable settlement, an award was issued in 263 cases, and the remaining 5 were settled by other means. Of the awards issued, 150 were rejected either by the employers, by the workers, or by both parties, 60 of them being eventually declared binding either by the competent conciliation official or by the Federal Minister of Labour. The number of awards referred to official conciliators or to the Federal Minister of Labour to be declared binding was 1138 in 1926 okers, firemen and trimmers in mercantile marine, etc., etc.; Class V, numbering 1,300,737, comprises unskilled workers. One Table in the Report shows that, if the mortality for all Federal Minister of Labour to be declared binding was 1,138 in 1926. An amicable settlement was effected in 480 cases, 315 awards were declared binding, and the desired declaration was withheld in 343 cases. In 296 of the 343 cases, the result was that collective

occupied and retired males, at ages 20-65 years, be expressed as 1,000, the corresponding mortality in the five social classes, as above defined, is as follows: Class I, 812; Class II, 942; Class III, 951; Class IV, 1,007; Class V, 1,258. For some individual diseases the Class 1V, 1,007; Class V, 1,236. For some individual diseases the contrasts are even more striking. Thus, if the mortality for all occupied and retired males, aged 20-65, be expressed as 1,000, that for respiratory tuberculosis alone is $163 \cdot 5$; and the rates for the same disease for the above five classes are 80.0, $138 \cdot 0$, $159 \cdot 8$, $164 \cdot 2$, and $229 \cdot 0$, respectively; showing a mortality rate in Class V nearly three times as high as in Class I. For bronchitis, the rate for agreements ceased to be operative between the parties concerned. As will appear from the following Table, the various conciliation authorities were called upon to deal with a much smaller number of disputes in 1926 than in the two preceding years. all occupied and retired males, aged 20–65, is 49.6; while for the five social classes it is 12.7, 27.2, 46.5, 59.4, and 87.4, respectively, showing a rate in Class V nearly seven times as high as in Class I.

The following Table shows a few individual occupations with exceptionally high or exceptionally low mortality. The standard, as before, is all occupied and retired males, aged 20-65 (civilians only), whose average mortality rate is expressed as 1,000 :--

Occupations with	Mortality	Occupations with	Mortality
Low Mortality.	Rate.	High Mortality.	Rate.
	674	Potters, etc	1,642
	526	China, etc., kiln and o	ven
Agricultural labourers, et	tc. 688	men	1,830
Cement workers, lin	ae	File cutters	1,851
burners, etc	717	Cutlery grinders	3,295
Carpenters	843	Cellarmen	1,510
Platelayers	920	Brushmakers	1,320
Railway signalmen	622	Barristers	1,171
Clergymen (Anglica	an	Barmen	1,955
Church)	561		
(lowerl)	667		
	Jack in Ja	1 - 11 - 141 41	Martin Black

Owing to the incompleteness of the returns made by certain Conciliation Boards, the Federal Ministry of Labour was unable to publish reliable statistics in regard to the numbers of employers and workers concerned in the various types of conciliation pro-ceedings. The considerable decrease in the number of cases dealt with in 1926, as compared with 1925, is no doubt largely due to the smaller number of labour disputes which occurred in 1926. In 1925, according to the Annual Report† of the Federal Ministry of Labour, 758,071 workers were affected by strikes and lockouts, the number of working days lost totalling 16,855,856. In 1926, the respective figures were 91,205 and 1,353,780. Owing to the incompleteness of the returns made by certain A section of the Report deals in detail with the mortality experience of the occupied and retired male population, arranged in 178 occu-

* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 1st January, 1928. Berlin. † See summary of 1925-6 statistics on page 373 of this GAZETTE for October, 1927. * The Registrar-General's Decennial Supplement: England and Wales, 1921; Part II. Occupational Mortality, Fertility, and Infant Mortality. H.M. Stationery Office; price 7s. 6d. net.

pational groups. Another section, dealing with infant mortality, shows how greatly the mortality of infants under one year of age is influenced by the social condition of the fathers. Thus in Class I of the five social classes described above, 61 per cent, of the infant mortality occurs in the first four weeks, in which, of course, the mortality occurs in the first four weeks, in which, of course, the deaths of infants are the least preventable, and only 39 per cent. in the whole of the remaining 48 weeks of the first year; while in Class V the proportions are exactly reversed, 39 per cent. of the deaths of infants occurring in the first four weeks, and 61 per cent. in the remainder of the first year.

CONCILIATION IN GERMANY:

the introduction of the real bonn has n	1924.	1925.	1926.
Number of cases dealt with by— Conciliation Boards	16,480	12,360	4,653
Conciliation Officers (including Federal Minister of Labour)	2,095	1,058	390
binding dealt with by— Conciliation Officers Federal Minister of Labour	3,193 366	2,965	1,022

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN GERMANY.

ACCORDING to a Report* published by the Federal Ministry of Labour, 7,533 collective agreements were in force on 1st January, 1926, covering 788,755 undertakings and 11,140,521 workers. While both the number of agreements concluded and the number of undertakings show an increase as compared with those for the previous year (the figures for which were given on page 249 of this GAZETTE for July, 1926) there was a decrease of about 760,000 in the number of workers covered. The decrease is attributed to the unfavourable economic conditions prevailing towards the end of 1925: this appears to be confirmed by the fact that while the number of persons appears to be confirmed by the fact that while the full beroins receiving unemployment relief on 1st January, 1925, was about 536,000, it had increased to nearly 1,500,000 by 1st January, 1926. On the basis of the total number of persons compulsorily insured against sickness at the beginning of 1926 (18.3 millions), the conditions of employment of 60.7 per cent. of the working population of compare was excellented by collecting agreements at the dot

conditions of employment of 60-7 per cent. of the working population of Germany were regulated by collective agreements at the date of the Report, as against 66-1 per cent. in the previous year. The following Table shows the scope of the agreements in force at the beginning of 1923 (the peak year in the development of collective bargaining in Germany), 1925 and 1926. No figures are available for 1924 available for 1924.

	31st December, 1922.			nuary, 25.	lst January, 1926.	
Scope of Agreement.	Per- centage of Agree- ments.	Per- centage of Workers.	Per- centage of Agree- ments.	Per- centage of Workers	Per- centage of Agree- ments.	Per- centage of Workers
One firm One locality One district Whole of Germany	41.6 26.9 30.7 0.8	$5 \cdot 9 \\ 7 \cdot 8 \\ 71 \cdot 9 \\ 14 \cdot 4$	$31 \cdot 1$ $31 \cdot 6$ $36 \cdot 2$ $1 \cdot 1$	$3 \cdot 5 \\ 6 \cdot 9 \\ 77 \cdot 0 \\ 12 \cdot 6$	32.7 30.5 35.8 1.0	$3 \cdot 5 \\ 6 \cdot 9 \\ 77 \cdot 0 \\ 12 \cdot 6$
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of the total number of agreements in force on 1st January, 1926, 53.8 per cent., covering 75.6 per cent. of the workers whose conditions were regulated by collective agreements, were concluded for a definite period, in the majority of cases between six months and one year. The majority of the agreements (92.9 per cent. of the total number) contained clauses defining the daily or weekly hours normally to be worked. In the case of 83.9 per cent. of these agreements, covering 78.7 per cent. of the workers concerned, a 48-hour week was prescribed as the general rule. Most of the agreements also contained clauses providing for paid holidays to be granted; according to the Report, collective agreements which do not make provision for holidays are at the present time exceptional in Germany. In the majority (51.1 per cent.) of the agreements containing leave clauses, the minimum period prescribed did not exceed three days, while a further 40.8 per cent. provided for periods ranging from three to six days, the maximum periods pro-vided for generally ranging from six to twelve days. The number of days' leave granted to non-manual workers was, in most cases, fixed on a more liberal scale.

The official conciliation machinery continues to play an important part in the conclusion of, and adherence to, collective agreements in Germany. Of those in force on 1st January, 1926, 11.9 per cent, (covering 27.2 per cent. of the total number of undertakings and 37.3 per cent. of the workers) were recorded to have been concluded as the result of arbitration awards. Comparatively few (4.1 per cent.) agreements were stated to have been arrived at in co of strikes or lock-outs. In 5.476 agreements, covering 711.117 undertakings and 10,126,322 workers, clauses were inserted pro-viding for disputes to be referred to some form of conciliation authority.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS IN GERMANY.

IN CERMIANT. Iron and Steel Industry.—Following upon the general settlement arrived at in regard to the introduction of the eight-hour day in the Ruhr iron and steel industry (see page 11 of the January issue of this GAZETTE), negotiations have been in progress, under the auspices of the Federal Ministry of Labour, regarding the detailed application of the Order. The Minister of Labour has granted a postponement in eighteen cases. The postponement has been conceded mainly to open hearth (Martin) furnaces, and only in seven cases were applications from rolling mills favourably con-sidered. The postponement granted varies from one to nine months (*i.e.*, until 30th September), depending on the progress made with the reorganisation necessitated by the Order of 16th July, 1927. The average period amounts to 5½ months. Negotia-tions are still in progress regarding the revision of piecework rates.

tions are still in progress regarding the revision of piecework rates A strike broke out in the Saxon steel industry early in January. as the result of the rejection by the workers of an award issued at the end of December, containing provisions largely similar to those prescribed in the Ruhr award. This award, which was subsequently declared binding by the Federal Ministry of Labour, was rejected by the workers on the grounds that the clause providing for Sunday shifts was contrary to the Hours Order, and the strike is still in progress.

* Die Tarifverträge im Deutschen Reiche am 1. Januar 1926: 40th Special applement, Reichsarbeitsblatt: Berlin, 1927.

Metal Trades.—Reference was made in the last issue of this GAZETTE to the notice given by the German Metal Workers' Union to terminate the collective agreement for the metal industry in the Halle, Magdeburg and Anhalt districts of Central Germany. Conciliation proceedings which were subsequently initiated resulted in the issue of an award granting an increase of 3 pfennige an hour in the issue of an award granting an increase of 5 plenning an hour instead of the 15 pfenning demanded by the Union. A partial strike which began on 16th January rapidly extended to the majority of the Central German metal undertakings, and the employers decided to close down the whole of their works on 24th January. The number of workers thus locked out (including those who were already on strike) is variously estimated at between 34,000 and 50,000. The Federal Ministry of Labour has declined to accede to the request of the employers that the award should be declared binding. According to recent statements in the German press, the National

Association of German Metal Manufacturers has decided to grant financial assistance to the employers who have closed down their innancial assistance to the employers who have closed down their works in consequence of this dispute. It is further stated that, should a settlement not result from the negotiations now in progress, the National Association will recommend its members to close down all the metal working undertakings throughout the country, which would involve the lock-out of a large number of workers, estimated at 800.000 estimated at 800.000.

A dispute has also arisen in the Berlin tool-making industry in connection with a claim recently formulated by the workers that minimum hourly wage rates should be substituted for the piece-rate system now in force. As the employers declined to make any concession in this respect, the German Metal Workers' Union subsequently applied for an adjustment of piece-work rates sufficient to increase the average earnings of skilled tool-makers from 1.26 marks to 1.50 marks an hour. In consequence of the employers' refusal to agree to the desired adjustments, a mass meeting of the workers concerned authorised the union to declare a strike in the event of failure to arrive at an amicable settlement. Official conciliation proceedings were to be initiated during the second week in February.

Coal Mining .- The miners' unions in the Ruhr have decided

Coal Mining.—The miners' unions in the Ruhr have decided to terminate, on 30th April next, the present district agreements regarding wages and overtime. About 400,000 miners are said to be affected by the decision. An award providing for the continuation until 31st October next of the present hours of underground workers in the Aix-la-Chapelle district has been rejected by the miners' representatives, but has since been declared binding.

Woodworking.—The Woodworkers' Union has given notice to terminate, on 15th February, the national agreement for the wood-working industry, and is negotiating for a 15 per cent. increase in wages.

Printing.-A similar decision in regard to the agreement for the printing trade, which is terminable on 31st March, has been arrived at by the Printers' Union, with a view to securing wage adjustments.

As 72 collective agreements, covering 2,300,000 workers, are terminable on 31st March, and a further 43, covering 800,000 workers, at the end of April, it would seem probable that similar movements may shortly develop in some other industries.

APPOINTMENT OF A COAL **COMMISSION IN BELGIUM.***

In view of the urgency of the crisis in the Belgian coal-mining In view of the urgency of the crisis in the Beigian coal-mining industry, a commission was appointed by a Royal Decree, dated 10th December, 1927, to investigate the coal problem in its entirety. The terms of reference of the Commission are as follows: to establish the causes of the coal crisis with particular reference to Belgium; to investigate the question of remedial measures of every

kind, sepecially measures suitable for immediate application; and to advise on any question submitted to it by the Government.

The Commission is authorised to take all measures necessary for the accomplishment of its task, and, in particular, to summon

The Commission is composed of seven representatives each of employers and workers, three members of Parliament (including two ex-Ministers), an official of the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare, with M. Theunis, Minister of State, as presiden the director of the Mines Department as vice-president, and the chief engineer of the Mines Department as secretary.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUNGARIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY.†

FROM 1921 to 1926, the textile industry in Hungary developed considerably. The number of factories for all branches of the industry increased from 114 in 1921 to 223 in 1926, and the number of workers from 13,300 in 1921 to 33,269 in 1926. The number of workers in the textile industry represented 8.5 per cent. of the total number of workers in 1921 and 16.0 per cent. in 1926. The average annual wage in 1926 was 914 gold crowns, as compared with 865 gold crowns in 1925, a percentage increase of 5.7. Real wages, however, increased by 18.3 per cent., owing to the decrease in the cost of living.

Revue du Travail, 31st December, 1927. Brussels. Revue Hongroise de Statistique, September, 1927. Budapest.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT FOR WOMEN IN NEW YORK.*

UNDER an Act passed by the New York State Legislature in February, 1927, which came into operation on 1st January, 1928, women may not be employed in factories and mercantile establishments for more than 8 hours a day unless a weekly half holiday is granted, when than 8 hours a day unless a weekly half holiday is granted, when 9 hours may be worked for five days a week, and not more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours on the remaining day, the maximum weekly hours thus permissible amounting to $49\frac{1}{2}$. Overtime not exceeding 78 hours per annum may be sanctioned, provided that the hours worked do not exceed 10 a day and 54 a week. Women may not be employed in factories between the hours of 10 p.m. (9 p.m. in the case of those under the age of 21) and 6 a.m., or in mercantile establishments between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

EARNINGS AND HOURS IN THE UNITED STATES.

(1) THE POTTERY INDUSTRY, 1925.

THE United States Bureau of Labour Statistics have published the THE United States Bureau of Labour Statistics have published the results[†] of an inquiry made in the summer and early autumn of 1925 into earnings and hours of labour in potteries. The inquiry was limited to potteries which were engaged in the production of semi-vitreous or vitreous general ware, which means table ware almost entirely. Potteries which produced fancy chinaware were not included. It is estimated that the 13,007 wage-earners included in the survey represented from 85 to 90 per cent. of the total number of ware earmed in the mean factor of earlier and the survey represented from 85 to 90 per cent. of wage-earners employed in the manufacture of general ware in the United States.

the United States. A large proportion of the wage-earners in the pottery industry are pieceworkers, the hours worked by whom are not usually recorded by the employers. A special time record was accordingly kept over two weeks for each worker for whom the employer had no ord of days and hours worked; these figures were then related

record of days and hours worked; these figures were then related to the worker's actual earnings in the same period. The following Table shows for some of the principal occupations and for all workpeople covered by the inquiry (including those not separately specified) the average hours worked per day in the two-weeks period and the average earnings in two weeks and per hour :---

	Semi-v	itreous w	vare.	Vitr	eous wai	е.
Occupation and Sex.	Average hours worked		erage	Average		erage
	per day in 2 weeks.	in 2 weeks.	per hour.	worked per day in 2 weeks.	in 2 weeks.	per hour
Males :	halfe tingte	Dollars.	Dollars.	Completion of	Dollars.	Dollar
Mould makers	8.2	91.28	1.064	8.0	82.39	1.014
Casters	9.0	72.29	•903	8.9	72.94	· 81
Jigger men	8.1	62.54	·902	8.3	73.70	.898
Kiln placers, bisque	6.6	62.82	1.052	6.6	63.07	1.002
Dippers	6.6	75.02	1.233	7.5	72.97	.91
Kiln placers, glost	6.8	64.85	1.042	7.0	68.73	.964
Kiln drawers, bisque		Alter water		Printer Statements	West & Maries	
and glost	6.0	33.89	·718	6.9	49.26	.678
Labourers, sagger		M. DOSD'S				
	8.7	44.56	·548	8.6	43.34	• 48
Warehousemen	8.8	52.11	• 585	8.7	50.30	• 53
All occupations‡	8.1	52.44	•705	8.2	53.25	· 638
Females :		New Services	125 200		1	
Finishers	7.4	31.19	· 524	7.9	30.49	• 39!
Brushers	7.7	21.21	• 320	7.8	22.70	·28
Dressers	7.8	23.67	• 348	7.6	18.66	•263
Transferrers	8.2	28.63	· 375	7.8	25.77	.332
Gilders and liners	7.5	37.56	· 528	7.6	45-28	•634
All occupations:	7.8	26.54	• 385	7.7	25.47	• 329
All occupations: : both sexes	8.0	43.27	· 596	8.0	42.23	• 52]

It is stated that comparison with the results of an inquiry into earnings carried out in 1912–13 shows that hourly earnings in the pottery industry have, as a whole, more than doubled in the 12-year interval.

(2) THE HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR INDUSTRIES, 1926.§

A recent Report published by the same Bureau gives the results of a survey of the wages and hours of labour of workpeople in the hosiery and underwear industries in the United States in September— December, 1926. The information was collected from 105 hosiery mills, employing 10,250 males and 20,296 females, and 85 underwear mills, employing 2,860 males and 12,188 females; the survey thus covered 32 per cent. in the hosiery industry and 31 per cent. in the underwear industry of the total number of workers in these industries in 1923.

The following Table shows, for some of the principal occupations in the two industries investigated, the average full-time weekly hours of labour, the average hourly earnings, and the average full-time weekly earnings in the autumn of 1926. The wage data are

- Industrial Bulletin, December, 1927. Albany, New York State.
 Bulletin of the U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics, No. 412. Wages, Hours and Productivity in the Pottery Industry, 1925. Washington, July, 1926.
 Including occupations not separately specified in this Table.
 Bulletin of the U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics, No. 452. Wages and Hours of Labour in the Heisery and Underwear Industries, 1907 to 1926.
 Washington, October, 1927.

for both time and piece workers; in the hosiery mills, 95 per cent., and in the underwear mills, 88 per cent. of the workers were pieceworkers.

	The second second	and the second		
Occupation.	Sex.	Average full-time hours per per week.	Average earnings per hour.	Average full-time earnings per week
Harlow -	Contraction of the		Dollars.	Dollars.
Hosiery : Boarders	Male	53.4	·481	25.69
Folders	Female	52.2	.343	17.90
Knitters, full fashioned,	and the second second		Dia dia dia	
footers Knitters, full fashioned.	Male	51.0	1.511	77.06
leggers	Male	51.1	1.286	65.71
Knitters, lady hose or		Constant of the	the second month	The section is
string work	Male	54.4	•448	24.37
Knitters, transfer	{ Male	54.1	·336 ·298	18.18
T	Temale	52·5 52·4	• 298	15.65 19.44
Underwear:	remaie	54.4	.311	19.44
Cutters, power	Male	50.8	· 550	27.94
Finishers	Female	50.3	· 358	18.01
Seamers	Female	50.2	· 374	18.77
All occupations* :				
in occupations .	(Male	52.6	·675	35.51
Hosiery	Female	51.5	• 358	18.44
Hostery	1			
	L Total	51.9	•472	24.50
	C Mala	51.0	• 477	04 77
	Male Female	51.0	•477	24·33 17·64
Underwear	3 remaie			11.04
	Total	50.3	· 378	19.01

Index numbers compiled from the data collected for 1926, and previous years, for the hosiery and underwear industries combined, show that the average full-time hours of labour were less in 1926 than in 1913 by 8 per cent., and that the average hourly earnings had increased by 167 per cent., and the average full-time earnings per week by 146 per cent., during the same period.

WORKING HOURS IN POLISH IRON AND STEEL AND LEAD FOUNDRIES.

In the summer of 1924, the Polish Government, owing to the critical In the summer of 1924, the Polish Government, owing to the critical position of the metal, mining and engineering industries in Polish Upper Silesia, authorised as a temporary measure the introduction of a working day of 10 hours for persons employed in iron and steel and lead foundries. The trade unions agreed to this measure only on the condition that the question should be submitted for revision immediately after an improvement in the industry had taken place.

As the improvement which became noticeable at the beginning of 1927 has been maintained, certain modifications which are intended the improvement which became noticeable at the beginning to lead up to the general reduction of the 10-hour working day have been introduced, by agreement between the employers and workers with the approval of the Government, and embodied in a decree. As from 1st January, 1928, the working time of certain workers in iron, steel and lead foundries exposed to excessive heat, dust or poisonous fumes, may not exceed 8 hours a shift. The question of introducing the 8-hour day on Saturdays for certain categories which remain temporarily on the 10-hour basis, was to be considered before 15th February, 1928, by a special commission. All the works were requested to submit to the Labour Commissioner, by 1st February, 1928, plans for bringing the remaining categories of workers exposed to excessive heat, dust and poisonous gasses, within the scope of the 8-hour day by 1st August, or in exceptional cases, by 1st November, 1928, at latest. to lead up to the general reduction of the 10-hour working day

LABOUR DISPUTES IN SWEDEN.

THE failure of attempts to reach a settlement regarding the terms of new collective agreements has resulted in a lock-out in the wood-pulp and iron-ore mining industries, which began on 2nd January Last, affecting about 17,000 men in the wood-pulp industry and 4,000 in the Central Swedish iron ore mines. Wages are the 4,000 in the Central Śwedish iron ore mines. Wages are the principal question in dispute. The employers during the negotiations demanded reductions, while the workers demanded increases. During conciliation proceedings prior to the lock-outs, the employers modified their claims and offered to continue to pay the old rates. The Swedish Employers' Association announced that, unless a settlement was reached in the dispute in the wood-pulp industry, a lock-out would be declared in the sawmilling industry. No settlement was reached, and the lock-out, affecting a further 17,000 workers, began on 30th January. The mining dispute was extended on 23rd January by a strike of about 4,000 miners employed at the Grängesberg mines, due to the announcement of a reduction of 10 per cent. in wages to take effect

announcement of a reduction of 10 per cent. in wages to take effect from 23rd January.

The Government appointed Conciliation Commissions to endeavour to obtain a settlement of the various disputes. On 12th January, a conciliation proposal was put forward by the Commission set up to deal with the wood-pulp dispute, which was accepted by the employers, but rejected by the workers. The total number of persons involved in the various disputes is more than 40,000, and it is expected that the conflict will spread to other industries. Up to 2nd February, all attempts at conciliation had been unsuccessful.

* Including occupations not separately specified in this Table.

D

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

Summary: Average Increa	ses si	nce Ju	ly, 1914.
All Items included	••••		66%
Food only		•••	59%

FOOD.

At 1st February the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food showed a decline as compared with 31st December. This was mainly due to a seasonal reduction of about $\frac{1}{2}d$. each in the average price of eggs. Butter was also cheaper, on the average, to the extent of about $\frac{3}{4}d$. per lb.

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 59 per cent. at 1st February, as compared with 62 per cent. a month ago, and 64 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 31st December, 1927, and 1st February, 1928 :---

Article.	Average Price of otherwise in to the near	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Feb., 1928, as compared with		
	July, 31s 1914. Dec 192	c., Feb.,	July, 1914.	31st Dec., 1927.
Beef, British— Ribs Thin Flank Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	0 10 1	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{s. d.} \\ + & 0 & 6\frac{1}{4} \\ + & 0 & 2\frac{1}{4} \end{array}$	s. d.
Ribs Thin Flank Mutton, British—		$\begin{array}{c ccc} 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 5 \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 5 \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + \ 0 & 2\frac{3}{4} \\ + \ 0 & 0\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	
Legs Breast Mutton, Frozen—	$\begin{array}{c cccc} 0 & 10\frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 6\frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c} + 0 & 7 \\ + 0 & 3 \end{array} $	
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)*	0 4 0	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c} + 0 & 4\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ + 0 & 3\frac{3}{4} \end{array} $	 - 0 ^{°°} 0‡
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart Butter—	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c} + 0 & 6\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 3\frac{3}{2} \\ + 0 & 10\frac{3}{2} \\ + 0 & 1\frac{1}{2} \\ + 0 & 3 \end{array} $	- 0 0 1
Fresh Salt Cheese† Margarine Eggs (fresh) each Potatoes per 7 lb.		$\begin{array}{c ccccc} 0 & 1 & 11\frac{1}{4} \\ 0\frac{1}{24} & 1 & 9\frac{1}{24} \\ 2\frac{1}{4} & 1 & 2\frac{1}{4} \\ 7\frac{1}{4} & 0 & 7\frac{1}{24} \\ 7\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 7\frac{1}{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} + 0 & 8\frac{3}{4}\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 7\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{4} \\ + 0 & 1\frac{1}{4}\frac{3}{4} \\ + 0 & 2\frac{3}{4} \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} - & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ - & 0 & 0\frac{3}{4} \\ & \cdots \\ - & 0 & 0\frac{1}{2} \\ & \cdots & \end{array} $

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

aniselm incodicio principalizzazione e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e			Average 1 1st Feb w	Corre- sponding		
Article.		Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average	General Average for 31st Dec., 1927.	
Beef, British—	51	Via	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs			65	62	63	63
Thin Flank			31	36	34	34
Beef, Chilled or Fro	zen—		70	75		70
Ribs			39	35	37	36
Thin Flank			4	12	8	9
Mutton, British-			68	70	c0	00
Legs				47	69	68
Breast			47	47	47	46
Mutton, Frozen-			CE	10	67	07
Legs			65	61 22	63	63
Breast			17		20	20
Bacon (streaky)*	•••		34	36	35	37
Fish		•••	137	111	124	122
Flour			57	62	60	61
Derest	•••	•••	63	61	62	62
Tea		•••	55	62	58	58
Sugar (granulated)	••••		79	71	75	75
Milk		•••	84	90	87	87
Butter—		••••	CT THE REAL	1	and the second	0.
The state of the second second			54	65	59	65
C-14	•••	••••	50	52	51	57
Classes	•••	•••	64	62	63	64
Managering			10	5	7	8
There (County)			116	98	107	144
Eggs (iresn)			69	43	56	54
100000000				10		54
All above articles (Weighted P Increase)	of Forents		60	58	59	62

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price 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.
 The reduction in average price, as compared with a month earlier, was very small, but sufficient to lower the average, as expressed to the nearest farthing.

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 (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st February, 1928, was approximately 51 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 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 protects underlathing and heatery totalise materials and both overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st February, 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 approximately 115 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group, the prices of coal and gas at 1st February were about the same as a month earlier and averaged 75 and 50 per cent. respectively above the level of July, 1914. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st February, as compared with July, 1914, was about 70 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 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 1st February is, approximately, 66 per cent.* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 68 per cent. at 31st December, 1927, and 72 per cent. at 1st February, 1927.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1928 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 readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much 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 those families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1918 TO 1928.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1918 to 1928:---

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

		2 . Calle and Card	1200-008	Contraction of the	and the second s		120 4 22				
Month.	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Jan Feb Mar April May June	85-90 90 90-95 95-100 100	120 120 115 110 105 105	125 130 130 132 141 150	165 151 141 133 128 119	92 88 86 82 81 80	78 77 76 74 70 69	77 79 78 73 71 69	80 79 79 75 75 73 72	75 73 72 68 67 68	75 72 71 65 64 63	68 66
July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec	$100-105 \\ 110 \\ 110 \\ 115-120 \\ 120-125 \\ 120$	$105-110 \\ 115 \\ 115 \\ 120 \\ 125 \\ $	152 155 161 164 176 169	119 122 120 110 103 99	84 81 79 78 80 80	69 71 73 75 75 77	70 71 72 76 80 81	73 73 74 76 76 76 77	70 70 72 74 79 79	66 64 65 67 69 69	···· ··· ···

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.

* 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.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

February, 1928.

FOLLOWING the sharp decline which occurred immediately after FolLowING the sharp decline which occurred immediately after Christmas, employment showed a steady improvement on the whole throughout January. At the end of the month, however, employment in most industries remained worse than in the third week of December. There was a further seasonal decline in the building trade, in public works contracting, and in their ancillary industries of brick, tile and cement manufacture. In a number of other industries, including most of the textile and clothing trades, food, drink and tobacco manufacture the compiling formit grate, and chain and anchor trades. Textile Trades.—The cotton industry, though showing a slight improvement, was still very depressed. In the American spinning section short time was again largely worked, production being curtailed to the extent of about 25 per cent., on the average, in those mills that remained open; in addition a number of mills were totally stopped owing to bad trade. In the section spinning Egyptian cotton the operatives continued to be almost fully employed. In the weaving section employment was slightly better than during the previous month, but was still bad on the whole. In the wool textile industry there was a further decline in employment. The decline was more marked in the woollen than in the worsted section; in the carpet section employment continued good and was slightly better than in December. In the hosiery trade employment continued good generally; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it also remained fairly good; in the lace trade it continued slack; in the linen trade it showed a decline and was moderate; in the jute trade a slight improvement was reported, and employment was good. In the other industries, including most of the textile and clothing trades, lood, drink and tobacco manufacture, the sawmilling, furniture, and other woodworking trades, and the miscellaneous metal industries, employment at the end of January was also below the level recorded mmediately before Christmas. In coal-mining there was an acrease in the numbers temporarily stopped from the service of heir employers. On the other hand there was an improvement nemployment in the action taxilic industry in the noticer, trade employment in the cotton textile industry, in the pottery trade, hat and cap manufacture, and in ship-repairing.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts (aged 16 to 64 inclusive and numbering approximately 11,800,000), and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 23rd January, 1928 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 10.7, as compared with 9.8 at 19th December, 1927, and 12.0 at 24th January, 1927. For males alone the percentage at 23rd January, 1928, was 12.2, as compared with 11.3 at 19th December, 1927; for females the corresponding figures were 6.8 and 5.9. The percentage wholly unemployed rose from 7.7 at 19th December, 1927, to 8.3 at 23rd January, 1928. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 30th January, 1928, was approximately 1,199,000,* of who m 949,000 were men and 171,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 19th December, 1927, it was 1,127,000, of whom 925,000 were men and 151,000 were women; and at 31st January, 1927, it was 1,375,000, of whom 1,083,000 were men and 213,000 were women. slack generally. slack generally. Clothing Trades.—Employment in the retail bespoke branch of the tailoring trade continued slack, on the whole; while in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branch it was moderate, and showed an improvement in several districts. In the dressmaking and millinery trades employment continued slack in most districts, but it was reported as fairly good in the wholesale branches in some centres; in the London blouse and light underclothing trade it was reported as moderate. Employment in the shirt and collar trade improved, and was reported as good in several districts; in the corset trade it was fairly good, on the whole, although it was reported as quiet, with short-time working, at a few centres. In the felt hat trade employment showed an improvement on the whole, and was fairly good. whole, and was fairly good. In the boot and shoe trade employment continued fairly good. Short time continued to be worked to a considerable extent in some districts, but in others it was appreciably reduced; and a fair amount of overtime was worked in some centres.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.-In the coal-mining industry employment Mining and Quarrying. In the coal-mining industry employment ontinued slack. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery pocks at 28th January, 1928, was 971,485, a decrease of 0.4 per ent. as compared with December; the average number of days orked per week in the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928, was 95 as compared with 4.93 in December.

In the iron-mining industry, there was a decrease both in the in the non-infinite industry, there was a decrease both in the imbers of workpeople employed and in the average number of typs worked per week by the mines included in the returns received. In the shale mines in West Lothian, there was an increase of 9.4 per masons there was some improvement, but employment was still slack in many centres; with plasterers it was generally poor; with slaters it declined again, and was quiet, on the whole. Employment with painters also declined, and was bad in many districts; with plumbers it continued generally fair; with tradesmen's labourers it was slack. In the brick trade employment was adversely affected by had weather and choirs expressed with the statement of int. in the number of workpeople employed at the mines from hich returns were received, compared with December, 1927, but which returns were received, compared with December, 1927, but a decrease of 7.5 per cent. compared with January, 1927. At limestone quarries in the Clitheroe district, employment was moderate; in the Weardale district, it was fair; in the Buxton area, it continued steady. At slate quarries in North Wales, employment was reported to be fairly good, on the whole; at whin-stone quarries in the East of Scotland, it was very slack; at chalk quarries, it continued slack. At china clay quarries, employment continued fair: at tin mines it was fairly good by bad weather, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month Employment in the furnishing trades was fairly good; with millsawyers it showed a decline. tinued fair; at tin mines, it was fairly good.

Manufacture of Pig-iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.-In the

Manufacture of Pig-iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the big-iron industry, employment continued bad. Out of 437 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of January, 1928, was 148, as compared with 149 in December, 1927, and with 152 in January, 1927. In the iron and steel trades, employment continued slack; short-ime working was reported in many districts. In the tinplate and teel sheet trades employment was fair generally. At the end of January, 525 mills were reported to be in operation at works or which information is available, as compared with 507 at 24th December, 1927, and with 541 at the end of January, 1927. Some of the tinplate mills were closed during the week ended 28th January, 1928, under the arrangement whereby each works is to stop for 1928, under the arrangement whereby each works is to stop for three weeks out of each thirteen.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.-In the engineering Agriculture and Fishing .- In agriculture in England and Wales rades employment remained slack, on the whole, showing little general change as compared with the previous month. There was the supply of labour was sufficient for requirements, and little unemployment was reported. In the fishing industry employment ome improvement in marine engineering, textile engineering, and he motor vehicle section, and a slight decline in other sections. showed little change as compared with the previous month. the motor vehicle section, and a slight decline in other sections. Employment continued fairly good in electrical engineering, fair in the railway engineering and motor vehicle sections, and bad in textile and marine engineering. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment remained very bad, on the whole, showing little change in shipbuilding, but a further improvement in ship-repairing as compared with the previous month. In the other metal trades employment continued moderate to fair, on the whole. It was fairly good in the nut and bolt, and hollow-ware trades; fair in the brasswork, cutlery, sheet metal, tube, file, needle and fishing Dock Labour and Seamen.—With dock labourers employment remained generally slack; with seamen it was quiet to moderate, on the whole. SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS. In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE, detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during January are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of those statistics are briefly * See footnote * on page 63.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY.

tackle, and lock and latch trades; slack in the jewellery and plated ware, wire, and metallic bedstead trades; and bad in the stove and grate, and chain and anchor trades.

improvement was reported, and employment was good. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment was still

Leather Trades.-In the leather trades employment showed a decline; in the tanning and currying section it was still good, on the whole; with saddlery and harness makers it continued fair; in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it was slack.

Building, Woodworking, etc. Trades.—Employment in the building trades, taken as a whole, was slack; bad weather caused an appreciable amount of short-time working during the month. As regards individual occupations, employment showed a further decline with carpenters, and was slack in most districts; with bricklayers and masons there was some improvement but employment in

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In the paper trade employment continued fair. With letterpress printers it continued moderate; with electrotypers and stereotypers it con-tinued fairly good, some improvement being reported at Manchester, while there was a decline in London and at Bristol; in the lithographic printing trade it remained quiet generally, though reported to be fair at Birmingham and Nottingham, and bad at Manchester and Livernool. In the bookbinding trade employment continued and Liverpool. In the bookbinding trade employment continued fair, on the whole

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire, after a slow recovery from the seasonal depression following the completion of Christmas orders, showed a slight improvement, but there was still much short-time working. In the glass trades employment was slack, especially in the bottlemaking section.

PER

summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries and (b) for various other industries :---

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Line had well and	Workpeople included		Inc. $(+)$ or Dec. $(-)$ as compared with a		
Industry.	in the Returns for January, 1928.	January, 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	
Coal Mining Iron " Shale "	971,485 5,621 2,558	Days Worked per week by Mines. 4.95 5.43 5.95	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Days.} \\ + \ 0.02 \\ - \ 0.17 \\ - \ 0.05 \end{array}$	Days. - 0.07 + 0.11 + 0.18	
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet Iron and Steel	 67,804	Furnaces in Rlast. 148 Mills working. 525 Shifts Worked (one week). 366,515	Number. -1 +18 Per cent. -0.3	Number. - 4 - 16 Per cent. - 6·1	

		er of Work Employed		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Industry.	Week ended 28th Jan.,Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on aMonth 1928,Year before.before.before.			Week ended	Inc. $(+)$ or Dec. $(-)$ on a		
				28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	
Textiles ! Cotton Woollen Carpet Boot and Shoe Pottery Brick	79,072 63,621 91,595 8,180 51,879 10,541 8,153	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 0.3 \\ - 1.6 \\ - 0.7 \\ + 0.4 \\ + 1.2 \\ + 0.7 \\ - 3.1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ -1 \cdot 8 \\ -0 \cdot 4 \\ +2 \cdot 1 \\ +5 \cdot 2 \\ +3 \cdot 7 \\ -1 \cdot 5 \\ -10 \cdot 7 \end{array}$	£ 144,675 130,277 181,780 15,266 119,824 18,825 19,979	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 2 \cdot 1 \\ - 2 \cdot 3 \\ - 0 \cdot 8 \\ + 0 \cdot 5 \\ + 2 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 2 \\ - 7 \cdot 3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - & 0.5 \\ + & 0.1 \\ + & 6.7 \\ + & 14.5 \\ + & 6.4 \\ - & 8.3 \\ - & 14.6 \end{array}$	

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

^F The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 23rd January among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts :--

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured, aged 16-64 inclusive, at July,		tage Unem at January,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a		
unit find outs a	1927, (Totals.)	Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern South-Western South-Western Southern Ireland Special Schemes	$\begin{array}{c} 2,091,260\\ 849,410\\ 807,100\\ 1,733,280\\ 1,961,560\\ 2,090,390\\ 1,268,170\\ 607,580\\ 249,000\\ 126,250\end{array}$	7.77.910.49.315.512.512.826.316.91.8	$ \begin{array}{r} 4 \cdot 0 \\ 4 \cdot 8 \\ 5 \cdot 5 \\ 7 \cdot 7 \\ 7 \cdot 7 \\ 9 \cdot 0 \\ 7 \cdot 3 \\ 8 \cdot 9 \\ 7 \cdot 9 \\ 0 \cdot 4 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 6.5 \\ 7.2 \\ 9.3 \\ 8.8 \\ 13.8 \\ 11.3 \\ 11.3 \\ 24.6 \\ 13.3 \\ 1.4 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} +0.9\\ +1.0\\ +0.9\\ +0.8\\ +1.0\\ +0.3\\ +1.1\\ +1.3\\ +1.7\\ +0.1\end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 9 \\ + & 0 \cdot 3 \\ - & 3 \cdot 0 \\ - & 3 \cdot 0 \\ - & 1 \cdot 5 \\ - & 3 \cdot 5 \\ - & 3 \cdot 5 \\ + & 2 \cdot 9 \\ - & 5 \cdot 9 \\ - & 0 \cdot 4 \end{array} $
TOTAL	11,784,000	12.2	6.8	10.7	+0.9	- 1.3

The rates of unemployment in the northern divisions and in Wales remain greater than in the rest of the country. The decrease on a year ago in the percentages for Scotland is due largely to the improvement in the shipbuilding industry on the Clyde.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month since January, 1927, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople and the approximate number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

Per	centages	Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at						
1012-011-0 (E) - 702		1.200	Male	s and Fer	Employment Exchanges, etc.			
Date.	Males. Fe-males	Fe- males.	Wholly Unem- ployed and Casuals.	Tempo- rarily Stopped	Total.	Date.	Numbers.	
1927. 14 Jan 1 Feb 1 Mar 25 Apr 25 July 25 July 25 July 26 Sept. 40 Oct 19 Dec 1928. 33 Jan	$13 \cdot 3 \\ 12 \cdot 1 \\ 11 \cdot 2 \\ 10 \cdot 7 \\ 10 \cdot 0 \\ 10 \cdot 1 \\ 10 \cdot 4 \\ 10 \cdot 4 \\ 10 \cdot 4 \\ 10 \cdot 5 \\ 10 \cdot 8 \\ 11 \cdot 3 \\ 11 \cdot 3 \\ 11 \cdot 3 \\ 12 \cdot 2$	8.45 6.73 5.53 5.58 5.90 6.49 6.8	9.4 8.7 7.8 7.1 6.5 6.6 6.8 9 7.6 7.7 7.7 8.3	2.6 2.2 2.0 2.3 2.1 3 2.6 2.5 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.4	12.0 10.9 9.8 9.4 8.7 8.8 9.2 9.3 9.5 10.0 9.8 10.7	1927. 31 Jan 28 Feb 25 Apr 25 Apr 25 July 27 June 25 July 26 Sept. 31 Oct 19 Dec 19 Data Jan	1,375,000 1,208,000 1,115,000 1,015,000 1,015,000 1,055,000 1,075,000 1,075,000 1,132,000 1,172,000 1,127,000 1,199,000	

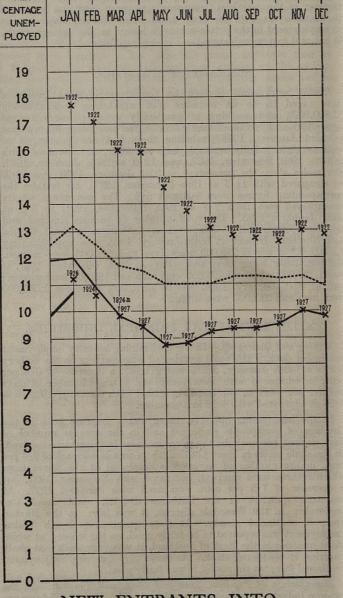
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND :--

Thick Curve	•				1923. Maria of 1020.05	
Dotted Curve	•			{ =	Mean of 1922-25 and 1927.	
Thin Curve		ALC: THE	ATRON STORES	=	1927.	

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unem-ployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-5 and 1927.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING JANUARY, 1928.

STATE TO ANT		NAR DE	10.11-25	AND AND AND	Total.		
Area.	Men.	Boys.	ys. Women. Gin	Girls.	Num- ber.	Per- centages of Numbers Insured at July, 1927.	
South-Eastern : (a) London	1,999	5,820	2,783	5,418	16,020	0.77	
(b) Rest of South- Eastern	1,287	2,816	874	1,843	6,820	0.80	
South-Western	1,028	2,320	699	1,572	5,619	0.70	
Midlands	1,162	4,509	1,098	3,946	10,715	0.62	
North-Eastern	1,197	5,432	1,192	3.265	11,086	0.57	
North-Western	1,218	4,869	1,201	4,180	11,468	0.55	
Scotland	779	2,946	636	2,563	6,924	0.55	
Wales	498	1,778	315	582	3,173	0.52	
GREAT BRITAIN	9,168	30,490	8,798	23,369	71,825	10.63	

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of ystematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered. * Aged 16-64 inclusive.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. 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 January continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18·1 at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 17·3 at 19th December 1927, and 16·3* at 24th January, 1927.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 28th January, 1928, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. as compared with 17th December, 1927, and of 2.5 per cent. as compared with 29th anuary, 1927.

January, 1927. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnigh ended 28th January, 1928, was 4.95, an increase of 0.02 of a day a compared with the fortnight ended 17th December, 1927, but decrease of 0.07 of a day as compared with the fortnight ende

included in the totals :---

and Amplitude And the second	Wage Ea	l Number rners on Books at		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.†			
Districts.	28th Jan.,	(-) as c	or Dec. ompared th a	Fort- night ended	Inc. (+) or I (-) as compa with a		
	1928.	Month before.	Year before.	28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	
ENGLAND AND WALES:			Percent	Days.	Days.	Days.	
Northumberland	45,927	-0.3	-13.9	5.34	+0.04	-0.07	
Durham	124,878	+0.8	- 2.6	5.35	+0.02	+0.31	
Cumberland and West-		Con Arts	100		0.00		
morland	12,417	+1.6	+12.1	4.86	-0.06	-0.11	
South Yorkshire	123,928	+0.6	+ 5.0	5.02	+0.06	+0.65	
West Yorkshire	61,767	-0.4	- 3.7	4.42	10.74	-0.62	
Lancs and Cheshire	84,304	-1.8	- 6.5	4.47	+0.34 -0.27	-0.09	
Derbyshire	58,413	+0.2	- 2.5			-0.38	
Notts and Leicester	65,879	-1.9	- 2.5	4.21	-0.12 - 0.31	-0.42 -0.57	
Warwick	18,671	+0.6	+ 1.1	5·23 4·87	+0.31	-0.31	
North Staffordshire	32,962	-0.4	+ 1.1	4.01	+0.71	-0.31	
South Staffs;, Worcs	77 470	-0.7	- 3.0	4.91	-0.13	-1.02	
and Salop	33,430 11,697	-0.5	+ 1.9	4.54	+0.01	-0.02	
Glos. and Somerset	3,203	+4.7	+45.1	5.20	-0.46	+1.12	
Kent	14,788	-1.0	- 3.9	5.53	-0.02	+0.31	
North Wales	176,580	-0.9	- 1.9	5.04	+0.02	-0.20	
South Wales and Mon.	110,000	-0.5	- 1.3	5-04	+0.00	-0.20	
England and Wales	868,844	-0.4	- 2.2	4.87	+0.03	-0.10	
SCOTLAND :		11-1-1-1-1	A CONTRACTOR OF		C. F. S. S.	and the second	
Mid & East Lothians	12,758	+0.2	- 4.6	5.48	+0.02	-0.09	
Fife and Clackmannan	22,990	-0.5	+ 5.9	5.40	-0.15	+0.14	
Rest of Scotland	66,893	-1.5	- 8.2	5.68	+0.02	+0.23	
1000 01 2000000000000000000000000000000							
Scotland	102,641	-1.1	- 4.9	5.59	-0.02	+0.16	
		2000					
GREAT BRITAIN	971,485	-0.4	- 2.5	4.95	+0.02	-0.07	
	1 (S. 2)	No. Carton	The second second		No. of the second	1 Carlos and and	

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928, was 0.85 of a day per week, of which 0.81 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 17th December, dimedities. The figures for the fortnight ended 17th December, 1927, were 0.88 of a day per week, of which 0.85 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties; for the fortnight ended 29th January, 1927, the average time lost was 0.78 of a day per week, of which 0.75 was due to transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one-fifth of a day per week

time for each of the three periods under review was about one-fifth of a day per week. The *output* of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 28th January, 1928, was reported to the Mines Department as 20,045,200 tons, as compared with 20,617,500 tons in the four weeks ended 24th December, 1927, and with 20,692,900 tons in the four weeks ended 29th January, 1927. The *exports* of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manu-factured fuel, amounted to 5,742,700 tons in January, as compared with 5,726,000 tons in December, 1927, and with 5,557,800 tons in January. 1927.

January, 1927.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured work-people in the respective areas at 23rd January, 1928, and the increases or decreases in the percentages, as compared with 19th December, 1927, are shown in the following Table :--

* The figures for January, 1927, were exclusive of those persons who mained disqualified for benefit under the trade dispute provisions of the

Temained disqualified for benefit under the trade dispute provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts. 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.

	In Unem	sured Pe	ersons Re at 23rd J	corded anuary,	ng 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total percentages		
	Numbers.		Pe	ercentage	as compared with a			
Ares;	Wholly Unem- ployed (includ- ing Casuals).	Tem- porary stop- pages.	Wholly Unem- ployed.	Tem- porary stop- pages.	Total.	Month before.	Year before	
Great Britain England and	138,538	72,645	11.9	6.2	18.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.8	
Wales Scotland Principal Districts in England and Wales :	120,423 18,115	71,228 1,417	11:7 13·2	7.0 1.0	18·7 14·2	+ 0.9 + 0.7	+ 2.4 - 2.5	
Northumber- land Durham Cumberland	10,819 33,475	207 3,277	18·5 20·8	0·3 2·0	18·8 22·8	+8	$+ \frac{4.5}{-2.6}$	
and Westmor- land Yorkshire	464 7,815	1 626 6,942	3·7 4·1	$13.0 \\ 3.7$	16·7 7·8	- 0.7 + 1.0	+ 7.8 - 2.8	
Lancs and Cheshire Derbyshire	8,532 2,526	8,760 8,289	8·4 3·8	8.5 12.6	16·9 16·4	+ 0.7 + 1.3	+ 5.6 + 12.2	
Notts and Leicester Warwickshire Staffs, Wor-	1,765 555	2,473 34	2·5 4·2	3·4 0·2	5·9 4·4	+ 0.8 - 0.8	$\begin{array}{c} + 1 \cdot 9 \\ + 0 \cdot 8 \end{array}$	
cester and Salop Glos. and	4,008	2,591	5.0	3•3	8.3	- 0.1	+ 2.2	
Somerset Kent Wales and	1,056 115	1,350 	7.6 4.2	9•7 	17·3 4·2	$\begin{vmatrix} - & 1 \cdot 4 \\ - & 0 \cdot 2 \end{vmatrix}$	+ 4.6 + 0.2	
Monmouth	48,919	35,678	19· 1	14.0	33.1	+ 1.7	+ 5.6	

IRON AND SHALE MINING. IRON MINING.

IRON MINING. EMPLOYMENT during January was slack on the whole, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16·1 at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 14·1 at 19th December, 1927, and 20·8 at 24th January, 1927. The following Table summarizes the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :—

review :-

And a second sec	peop Min	mber of Wo ole employed les include he Returns	ed at d in	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.†			
Districts.	Fort- night Dec. (-) ended pared) as com-	Fort- night ended 28th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as com- pared with a		
	28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	
Cleveland Cumberland and Lancashire Other Districts	2,137 2,127 1,357	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ - 1 \cdot 4 \\ - 3 \cdot 6 \\ + 1 \cdot 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \operatorname{Per} \\ \operatorname{cent.} \\ - & 19 \cdot 2 \\ + & 3 \cdot 4 \\ + & 47 \cdot 5 \end{array}$	Days. 5.02 5.96 5.26	Days. - 0.21 + 0.02 - 0.39	Days. - 0.09 + 0.21 + 0.29	
ALL DISTRICTS	5,621	- 1.7	- 0.0	5.43	- 0.17	+ 0.11	

SHALE MINING.

The number of persons employed in the Wave Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928, by firms making returns was 2,558, showing an increase of 9.4 per cent. compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 7.5 per cent. compared with January, 1927. The average number of days[†] worked per week by the mines was 5.95, compared with 6.00 in December, 1927, and 5.77 in January, 1927. 5.77 in January, 1927.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued bad. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.2 at 23rd January, 1928, compared with 14.1 at 19th December, 1927, and with 20.3 at 24th January, 1927.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 148 furnaces were in operation at

* See footnote * in previous column. † See footnote † in previous column.

the end of January, compared with 149 at the end of December, 1927, and 152 at the end of January, 1927. Returns received from 79 firms, employing 18,119 workpeople

at the end of January, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with December.

▶ The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of January, 1928, December, 1927, and January, 1927:—

District.	Total Number	Numb	er of Fu in Blast		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
DASTING.	of Furnaces.	Jan., 1928.	Dec., 1927.	Jan., 1927.	Month before.	Year before	
ENGLAND AND WALES.	at the state	torne ⁵ 3 d	Trainer				
Durham and Cleveland	99	40	39	43	+ 1	- 3	
Oumberland and W. Lancs Parts of Lancs and	44	11	11	15		- 4	
Yorks (including Sheffield)	33	10	9	13	+ 1	- 3	
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants Lincolnshire Staffs, Shropshire,	64 24	31 13	32 13	25 14	- 1 	+ 6 - 1	
Worcester and War- wick South Wales	55 28	10 8	10 4	15 7	+ 4	-5+1	
Total, England and Wales	347	123	118	132	+ 5	- 9	
SCOTLAND	90	25	31	20	- 6	+ 5	
Total	437	148	149	152	- 1	- 4	

The production of pig iron in January amounted to 560,500 tons s compared with 559,100 tons in December, 1927, and 434,600 tons in January, 1927.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in January continued slack; short time working was

EMPLOYMENT IN January continued stack; short time working was reported in many districts. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20.4 on 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 22.7 on 19th December, 1927, and 20.4 on 24th January, 1927. According to returns received from firms employing 67,804

According to returns received from firms employing 0.304 workpeople in the week ended 28th January, 1928, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 0.3 per cent. as compared with December and by 6·1 per cent. as compared with January, 1927. The average number of shifts* during which the works were open was $5\cdot4$ in January, 1928, as compared with $5\cdot3$ in

December, 1927, and 5.4 in January, 1927. The following Table summarises the information from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods :---

telas berte a c	emp	of Workp bloyed by aking retu	firms	Aggre	Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
and the state	Week ended 28th	Dec. com	(+) or (-) as pared th a	Week ended 28th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (- as compared with a			
ti ser mass at tabatti sta	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.		
DEPARTMENTS.	Manager J.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Allahor Allahor Daageer	Per cent.	Per cent.		
OpenHearth Melt- ing Furnaces Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging & Pressing Founding OtherDepartments Mechanics.	6,960 1,924 25,979 3,191 7,820 8,152	$ \begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	$ \begin{array}{r} - 11 \cdot 9 \\ - 44 \cdot 5 \\ - 4 \cdot 4 \\ + 1 \cdot 0 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ + 9 \cdot 2 \\ \end{array} $	39,107 8,313 132,448 16,731 44,844 45,934	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 2 \cdot 2 \\ + & 7 \cdot 0 \\ + & 2 \cdot 1 \\ - & 6 \cdot 3 \\ - & 5 \cdot 1 \\ - & 2 \cdot 0 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 14 \cdot 8 \\ - & 48 \cdot 4 \\ - & 5 \cdot 4 \\ - & 1 \cdot 1 \\ - & 1 \cdot 1 \\ + & 8 \cdot 3 \end{array} $		
Labourers TOTAL	13,778	$\frac{-0.4}{-1.4}$	$\frac{-5\cdot 8}{-5\cdot 4}$	79,138	$\frac{+1\cdot 3}{-0\cdot 3}$	$\frac{-5\cdot 3}{-6\cdot 1}$		
DISTRICTS.				•				
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland Sheffield & Rother-	14,646	+ 1.7	- 6.6	83,102	+ 1.2	- 6.8		
ham Leeds, Bradford,	18,213	- 3.5	- 5.2	95,435	- 3.8	- 7.7		
etc Cumberland, Lancs.	1,748	- 13.1	- 2.2	9,229	- 14.2	- 6.4		
and Cheshire Staffordshire	7,156 4,844	- 0.3 - 6.1	- 0.5 - 14.0	37,197 26,254	$\begin{array}{c c} - & 2 \cdot 0 \\ - & 0 \cdot 9 \end{array}$	- 0.3 - 11.1		
Other Midland Counties	3,132	- 2.7	- 14.7	17,328	- 3.6	- 13.9		
Wales and Mon- mouth	6,086	+ 2.6	+ 2.6	33,043	+ 2.4	+ 2.7		
Total, England and Wales Scotland	55,825 11,979	- 1.7 - 0.2	- 5·5 - 4·6	301,588 64,927	$\begin{array}{c} - & 1 \cdot 7 \\ + & 6 \cdot 7 \end{array}$	- 6.2 - 5.4		
TOTAL	67,804	- 1.4	- 5.4	366,515	- 0.3	- 6.1		

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken 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. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 626,200 tons in January, 1928, as compared with 604,900 tons in December, 1927, when production was curtailed by the Christmas holidays, and 730,700 tons in January, 1927.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during January was fair generally. At the end of January 525 mills were reported to be in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 507* at 24th December, 1927, and with 541 at the end of January, 1927. Some of the tinplate mills were closed during the week ended 28th January under the arrangement whereby each works is to stop for three weeks out of every thirteen. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed at 23rd January, 1928, as indicated by the unemploy-ment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 26.2, as com-pared with 13.1 at 19th December, 1927, and 8.7 at 24th January,

1927. The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at works covered by the returns received :---

	Number	r of Works	o Open		ber of Mills Operation	s in
Works.	At end	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	At end of	Inc. (- Dec. (-	+) or -) on a
	of January, 1928. Month before.	Year before.	January, 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	
Tinplate Steel Sheet	75 12	+ 3	$^{+1}_{-1}$	405 120	$^{+13*}_{+5}$	- 8 - 8
TOTAL	87	+ 3		525	+ 18*	- 16

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in January, 1928, amounted to 81,618 tons, or 2,483 tons less than in December, 1927, and 10,450 tons less than in January, 1927.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during January remained slack, on the whole, showing little general change as compared with the previous month. There was some improvement in marine engineering, textile engineering, and the motor vehicle section, and a slight decline in other sections. Employment continued fairly good in electrical engineering, fair in the railway engineering and motor vehicle sections, and bad in textile and marine engineering. Conditions generally were much better than in the corresponding period of last year, when employment was adversely affected by shortage of materials following the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

industry

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 23rd January, 1928, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before :---

		Tramp	at	23rd	l Workp January	, 1928.	100	e saulte
Divisions.	Engineering, ngineers' Iron and Steel Founding. Electrical Engineering.		Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	or Dec	ase (+) rease (- mpared th a
	Engineers' Engineers' and Ste Foundin	Engi	Engine	Consta Engi	Constructic Repair of J Vehicles, C and Airei	A	Month† before.	Year† before.
London South-Eastern Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	4,401 2,241 1,986 5,703 15,500 16,727 8,198 1,050 837	352 294 143 1,123 593 950 170 30 21	63 261 601 2,682 88 1,388 29 1,158	707 132 772	1,201 6,651 1,059 2,288 733	6,974 4,102 3,996 14,078 20,541 20,185 11,261 1,479 2,179	$\begin{array}{r} + & 790 \\ + & 542 \\ - & 47 \\ - & 613 \\ - & 832 \\ -1,319 \\ + 1,204 \\ + & 46 \\ + & 60 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 2,23 \\ - & 20 \\ - & 56 \\ - & 6,76 \\ - & 15,71 \\ - & 7,55 \\ - & 10,69 \\ - & 1,87 \end{array}$
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	56,643	3,676	-	The trees	15,633	84,795	COLOR DOL	- 46,11
1991 1980 11 889		Percent	age UI	nemple	oyed at 2	3rd Jan	uary, 193	28.
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	5.6 5.4 5.8 6.4 13.5 12.8 10.8 16.9 12.3	2.9 3.4 4.5 4.7 7.4 5.1 6.5 9.1 8.4	8.2 8.4 9.5 2.6 13.0 9.2 7.9 15.3 23.9	$ \begin{array}{r} 3 \cdot 8 \\ 9 \cdot 2 \\ 10 \cdot 2 \\ 8 \cdot 4 \\ 10 \cdot 1 \\ 4 \cdot 8 \\ 14 \cdot 3 \\ 16 \cdot 4 \\ 23 \cdot 3 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 4 \cdot 9 \\ 4 \cdot 8 \\ 6 \cdot 9 \\ 8 \cdot 5 \\ 12 \cdot 1 \\ 7 \cdot 2 \\ 12 \cdot 3 \end{array} $	$5 \cdot 3$ $5 \cdot 1$ $5 \cdot 7$ $6 \cdot 5$ $12 \cdot 6$ $11 \cdot 7$ $10 \cdot 1$ $15 \cdot 5$ $15 \cdot 8$	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 0.7 \\ + & 0.8 \\ - & 0.1 \\ - & 0.1 \\ - & 0.4 \\ + & 1.4 \\ + & 0.9 \\ + & 0.8 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	9.8	4.7	11.3	9.5	6.8	8.8	+ 0.3	- 4.
Ditto, Dec., 1927 Ditto, Jan., 1927	$9.4 \\ 14.2$	4.2 6.8	11.7 24.8	8.6		8.5 13.1		

* The figure for December, 1927, has been revised. † See special note on page 60 as to the comparability of statistics of umbers unemployed in January, 1928, with those of previous months.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

On the North-East Coast employment remained bad, especially in the Newcastle district, but showed an improvement in marine engineering. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire it continued slack, especially in the textile machinery section, and showed little change, looms instead of four, or suffered from other forms of under-employment. At Bury there was a marked increase in temporary stoppages during the month; at Heywood there was much short time. At Bolton employment was fair with card-room workers and good with on the whole. In Lancashire and Cheshire conditions were still bad in the textile machinery section, but an improvement was shown in that section, less short time being reported; while on electrical and railway work employment remained fairly good. spinners; with weavers and winders there was a decline, considerable numbers being unemployed at the end of January; employment was reported as good both in the spinning and in the weaving departments at Leigh.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employ-ment was still moderate, on the whole; it showed a further improvement on motor and cycle work, but a slight decline in electrical engineering. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment continued fair. In London and the South Eastern Counties some decline was shown, but employment was fair, on the whole, and good on electrical work. In the South-Western Counties employment remained fair.

In Scotland employment was slack, and showed a decline. In Wales and Northern Ireland conditions were bad, and rather worse than in the previous month.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad on the whole during January; it showed little change in shipbuilding but a further improvement in ship-repairing compared with the previous month. In Wales there was a decided improvement, the percentage of insured work-people unemployed falling to $26 \cdot 9$ at 23rd January, in comparison with $36 \cdot 9$ at 19th December.

Compared with a year ago, when employment was affected by scarcity of material following the dispute in the coal-mining industry, there was a substantial improvement, especially in the principal shipbuilding districts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 23rd January, 1928, and the increase or decrease as compared with 19th December, 1927, and with a year before :--

Divisions,	Number of Workpeople aployed at Jan., 1928.	Decreas Numbers	e (+) or se (-) in Unemployed red with a	Percentage Unemployed at 23rd Jan., 1928.	Unempl	e (-) : ntage oyed a pared
120 1000	Total Ni Insured W Unempl 23rd Ja	Month* before.	Yea1* before.	Den Unen 23rd	Month before.	Yea
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	2,318 970 2,314 38 14,460 5,981 9,485 2,751 4,649	$\begin{array}{r} - & 193 \\ - & 30 \\ - & 193 \\ + & 12 \\ - & 2,415 \\ - & 466 \\ + & 556 \\ - & 1,181 \\ + & 475 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} - & 689 \\ + & 144 \\ - & 471 \\ - & 7 \\ - & 16,446 \\ - & 3,061 \\ - & 16,992 \\ - & 881 \\ - & 1,388 \end{array}$	$21 \cdot 8 \\ 12 \cdot 1 \\ 10 \cdot 6 \\ 8 \cdot 4 \\ 24 \cdot 7 \\ 20 \cdot 7 \\ 16 \cdot 5 \\ 26 \cdot 9 \\ 37 \cdot 2$	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.0 \\ -0.5 \\ +2.7 \\ -3.2 \\ -0.8 \\ +1.5 \\ -10.0 \\ +4.7 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 4 \\ + 2 \\ - 1 \\ - 6 \\ - 24 \\ - 7 \\ - 28 \\ - 7 \\ - 4 \\ \end{array} $
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	42,966	- 3,435	- 39,791	20.6	- 0.9	-16

COTTON INDUSTRY.

THERE was some improvement in this industry during January, but employment was still depressed. In the American spinning section short time was again largely worked, production being curtailed to the extent of about 25 per cent., on the average, in those mills that remained open; in addition, a number of mills in this section were totally stopped owing to bad trade. In the section spinning Egyptian cotton the operatives continued to be almost fully employed. In the weaving section employment was slightly better than a month earlier, but was still bad, except with firms manufacturing fine and fancy cloths, some of whom reported firms manufacturing fine and fancy cloths, some of whom reported a shortage of skilled operatives. A large number of looms were reported to be stopped in East Lancashire.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9.7 at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 10.0 at 19th December, 1927, and with 11.3 at 24th January, 1927.

11.5 at 24th January, 1927. In the Ashton district employment in the American spinning section was bad; some mills were closed, and others working inter-mittently. In the mills spinning Egyptian cotton employment was normal. At Stockport there was little change, and short time working continued; at Stalybridge and Hyde employment with spinners was still depressed. At Oldham employment with spinners continued bad, but was slightly better than in the previous month; much short time was worked, representing approximately the com-plete stoppage of about one quarter of the workpeople employed. At Chadderton and Middleton (in the Oldham district) there was also some improvement. Spinners engaged on Egyptian cotton at some improvement. Spinners engaged on Egyptian cotton at Shaw were well employed. With weavers in the Oldham district employment continued very slack; many weavers worked two

At Preston weavers engaged on fine and fancy goods, and on goods At Preston weavers engaged on fine and fancy goods, and on goods containing artificial silk, were fully employed; but there was considerable under-employment among operatives producing ordinary plain goods and printing cloths. At Chorley a slight improvement was reported in the weaving department. There was also an improvement at Blackburn, marked by a reduction in temporary stoppages; and at Great Harwood and Rishton there was a con-siderable improvement. A number of mills in the Rossendale Valley were closed down for a week at a time, and there was much under employment. At Accimitant under-employment. At Accrington there was a demand for addi-tional weavers by firms manufacturing voiles and coloured goods; fewer weavers by infinit inalitacturing voltes and coloured goods; fewer weavers were on the unemployment register than there had been for three months; winders were also more fully employed. At Burnley a large number of looms which had been stopped for a long period were still idle, but there was on the whole some improvement, although employment was still bad. Under employment was still reported at Darwen and at Nelson; but there was a steady improvement in these districts. Several mills at Darwen have been re-opened.

In Yorkshire employment was reported as very bad in the American spinning section, and much short time was worked at Todmorden and at Sowerby Bridge; at Hebden Bridge there was a slight decline, but most of the firms were on full time.

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

		umber o orkpeopl		Total	Wages p Workpeo	ald to ple.
ricence and and a second se	Week ended 28th		+) or -) on a	Week ended 28th	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a
and the second	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	10,396	+ 1.6	- 5.0	17,238	+ 0.2	- 8.0
Spinning	20,695	+ 0.5	- 1.5	35,918	- 0.0	- 3.5
Weaving	32,844 7,281	+ 0.0 + 0.8	-1.7 -2.3	58,023 17,758	+ 4.4 + 1.8	$+ 4 \cdot 1$ - 1 \cdot 1
Not Specified	7.856	- 1.4	+ 2.4	15,738	+ 1.0	- 0.3
TOTAL	79,072	+ 0.3	- 1.8	144,675	+ 2.1	- 0.5
DISTRICTS.	and age	P. apad	346	al the second	14230	(Stance)
Ashton	3,673	+ 1.2	+ 5.8	6,510	+ 2.6	+ 3.4
Stockport, Glossop and	STRUCK.	the second	PERIOR.	least state	Par anto	Telg and
Hyde	8,206	- 0.6	- 5.7	14,266	- 3.3	- 7.3
Oldham	8,844	+ 6.5	- 1.4	16,316	+ 7.0	- 9.0
Bolton and Leigh Bury, Rochdale, Hey-	14,157	+ 3.6	+ 5.3	25,531	+ 4.3	+ 6.5
wood, Walsden and	- Ande				and the second	
Todmorden	6,003	- 5.1	- 8.2	10,265	+ 2.2	- 9.1
Manchester	4,930	+ 0.3	- 7.9	8.166	+ 0.7	- 6.5
Preston and Chorley	5,709	+ 0.4	- 0.0	10,180	+ 4.1	+ 6.1
Blackburn, Accrington	TIPLE B	111. 31		122 19.29	BERSON R	CORDER.
and Darwen	8,739	+ 10.7	- 5.9	17,103	+ 7.1	- 1.4
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	10 770	- 2.5	- 0.5	07 400	1	- ital
Other Lancashire Towns	10,336	- 3.1	-14.4	21,466 3,341	$-\frac{1 \cdot 1}{+ 3 \cdot 7}$	+ 8.9
Yorkshire Towns	4,086	- 3.9	+ 3.0	7,299	+ 3.7	+ 0.2
Other Districts	2,583	- 2.8	+ 1.7	4,232	4.5	+ 1.6
TOTAL	79.072	+ 0.3	- 1.8	144,675		

Returns from firms employing about 76,700 workpeople in the week ended 28th January showed that about 11 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of 16 hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 23rd January, 1928 :--

Department.	Who	lly Unemp	oloyed.	Temp	o nesses rolene		
entimied fain.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Total
Card and Blow- ing Room	612	1,782	2,394	936	4 504	6d 64	
Spinning Beaming, Wind- ing and Warp-	3,040	1,630	4,670	4,682	4,504 4,157	5,440 8,839	7,834 13,509
ing Weaving Other Processes	369 1,050 361	1,109 2,299 79	1,478 3,349 440	904 1,609 322	5,793 5,947 215	6,697 7,556 537	8,175 10,905 977
'Total	5,432	6,899	12,331	8,453	20,616	29,069	41,400

The following Table* shows the increases and decreases as com-pared with 19th December, 1927 :---

* See footnote on page 63.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. February, 1928.

	Who	ly Unemj	oloyed.	Temp	orarily Sto	opped.	Total.	
Department.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.		
Card and Blowing Room Spinning Beaming, Winding	+ 120 + 376	+ 219 + 155	+ 339 + 531	- 58 - 489	- 317 - 544	- 375 - 1,033	- 36 - 502	
and Warp- ing Weaving Other Pro- cesses	- 84 - 257 + 31	+ 160 - 347 + 13	+ 76 - 604 + 44	- 881	- 690	⊢ 149 − 1,571 − 11	+ 225 - 2,175 + 33	
Total	+186	+ 200	+ 386	- 1,653	- 1,188	- 2,841	- 2,455	

The *imports* (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 85,231,700 lbs. in January, 1928, compared with 113,199,000 lbs. in December, 1927, and with 227,320,400 lbs. in

January, 1927. The exports of cotton yarn were 14,894,200 lbs. in January, 1928, compared with 14,542,700 lbs. in December, 1927, and with

Compared with 14,542,700 los. In December, 1527, and with 15,906,100 lbs. in January, 1927. The *exports* of cotton piece goods were 337,406,100 square yards, as compared with 290,620,800 square yards in the previous month, and with 322,344,800 square yards in January, 1927.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THERE was a further decline in employment during January. The decline was more marked in the woollen than in the worsted section; in the carpet section employment continued good and was slightly better than in December.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was $8 \cdot 8$ on 23rd January, 1928, as compared with $6 \cdot 9$ on 19th December, 1927, and with $12 \cdot 3$ on 24th January, 1927.

Worsted Section.-In this section employment showed a slight decline on the whole, the decline being chiefly in the spinning department:

department: In the week ended 28th January the returns received from employers showed that 17 per cent. of the operatives in the worsted section, taken as a whole, worked short time,* losing nearly 11 hours each on an average; on the other hand, 10 per cent. worked overtime to the average extent of about 6 hours each.

Employment was generally poor in the sorting, preparing and combing departments, but there was an improvement in the merino section; about 24 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns lost an average of about 12 hours each in short time working during the week ended 28th January; and nearly 10 per cent. worked about $7\frac{3}{4}$ hours each in overtime. With worsted spinners there was a decline, especially in the Keighley district; employers' returns for the week ended 28th January indicated that employers' returns for the week ended 28th January indicated that 19 per cent. of the operatives were working short time to the average extent of about 11 hours each, while about 9 per cent. were working about 5 hours each in overtime. With worsted weavers there was little change in the Bradford, Leeds and Silsden areas, but a slight decline in the fine cloth trade of Huddersfield. About 10½ per cent. of the worsted weavers were losing about 9 hours each in short time* working during the week ended 28th January, while about 11 per cent. merked ebout 6 hours each in overtime cent. worked about 6 hours each in overtime

Woollen Section .- In the woollen section employment continued slack and there was a further decline in many districts. Employers' returns for the week ended 28th January showed that about 32 per returns for the week ended 28th January showed that about 32 per cent. of the operatives in the spinning departments worked short time, losing, on an average, about 10 hours each, while about 29 per cent. of the weavers similarly lost over 10 hours each;* on the other hand, 11 per cent. of the spinners worked an average of nearly 8 hours each in overtime, and 4 per cent. of the weavers worked overtime to the extent of about $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours each. Taking the woollen section as a whole, about 27 per cent. of the operatives were losing an average of nearly 11 hours each in short time working,* while 7 per cent. were working overtime to the extent of nearly 7 hours

Employment declined in the Dewsbury district, and in somewhat lesser degree in the Yeadon and Guiseley and Huddersfield districts. Employment in the rag and shoddy trade continued very slack. At Stockport employment with woollen workers continued fair. No definite improvement was shown in the flannel manufacturing districts of Rochdale and Saddleworth, where employment con-tinued to be moderately good. Blanket manufacturers reported employment as fairly good on the whole, but short time was reported with firms engaged in the manufacture of rugs, carriage cloths, etc. In Scotland there was a slight falling off in the tweed industry, but employment on the whole continued good. Employment declined in the Dewsbury district, and in somewhat

Carpet Section.—Employment in this section continued good. The employers' returns for the week ended 28th January showed that about 8 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, to the extent of about 7 hours each on the average; while about 5 per cent. worked 7 hours each in overtime.

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

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers as to the number of operatives employed and the wages

		Number of Vorkpeople		Total all	Wages pa Workpeop	id to de.
Intelly mod. Intelly mod. If children and your and aligned on the chest aligned on the chest by a first statistics on	Weel: ended 28th Jan., 1928.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 28th Jan., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index flgure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
Departments : Worsted Section :	andi un andi un	Per Cent.	an start	£	Per Cent.	
Wool Sorting and Combing Spinning Weaving Other Depts Not specified	11,227 45,422 21,053 11,916 1,977	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 6 \\ - 0 \cdot 4 \\ - 0 \cdot 6 \\ - 1 \cdot 6 \end{array} $	97.3101.4101.9100.7105.9	30,037 72,844 44,818 29,572 4,509	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 6 \cdot 1 \\ - & 3 \cdot 1 \\ - & 0 \cdot 1 \\ - & 2 \cdot 8 \\ + & 2 \cdot 8 \end{array} $	99.3 103.0 105.8 99.1 118.9
Total—Worsted	91,595	- 0.7	100.9	181,780	- 0.8	102.7
WoolLEN SECTION: Wool Sorting Spinning Weaving Other Depts Not specified	1,058 14,293 27,267 18,765 2,238	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 3 \cdot 4 \\ - & 1 \cdot 5 \\ - & 1 \cdot 8 \\ - & 1 \cdot 6 \\ - & 0 \cdot 8 \\ \end{array} $	96.8 95.3 103.7 97.3 95.4	2,519 30,513 49,527 42,644 5,074	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 2 \cdot 0 \\ - & 1 \cdot 7 \\ - & 3 \cdot 1 \\ - & 2 \cdot 0 \\ - & 1 \cdot 6 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 102 \cdot 9 \\ 102 \cdot 2 \\ 106 \cdot 9 \\ 100 \cdot 5 \\ 105 \cdot 0 \end{array} $
Total—Woollen	63,621	- 1.6	99.4	130,277	- 2.3	103.4
CARPET SECTION	8,180	+ 0.4	105.0	15,266	+ 0.5	104.8
Total—Wool Textile Industry	163,396	- 1.0	100.3	327,323	- 1.3	103 • 2
Districts*: WORSTED SECTION: Bradford Huddersfield Halifax Leeds Keighley Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Bat- ley, etc.)	41,826 10,481 10,434 9,060 9,319 3,511	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 6 \\ - & 1 \cdot 6 \\ - & 0 \cdot 1 \\ + & 1 \cdot 1 \\ - & 1 \cdot 4 \\ - & 2 \cdot 0 \end{array} $	99.0 107.7 98.2 100.7 104.4 100.8	87,983 23,471 18,263 17,214 17,448 5,666	$ \begin{array}{r} + 2 \cdot 6 \\ - 4 \cdot 8 \\ - 4 \cdot 5 \\ + 0 \cdot 7 \\ - 3 \cdot 5 \\ - 6 \cdot 0 \\ \end{array} $	98.6 113.2 97.9 104.7 116.2 106.3
Total, West Riding	84,631	- 0.6	100.8	170,045	- 0.4	102.9
West of England and Midlands Lancs Scotland	4,522 359 2,083	-1.6 + 0.6 - 0.9	$101 \cdot 2$ $124 \cdot 9$ $104 \cdot 7$	8,151 683 2,901	$ \begin{array}{r} - 5.4 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 6.2 \end{array} $	95.5 119.3 120.0
Total—Worsted	91,595	- 0.7	100.9	181,780	- 0.8	102.7
Woollen Section: Huddersfield Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Bat-	12,985	- 2.8	93-4	30,286	- 1.0	94•6
(Dewsbury, Bat- ley, etc.) Leeds HalifaxandCalder	11,486 9,448	- 0.6 - 1.3	98·3 102·1	23,015 19,736	$- \frac{1 \cdot 8}{- 2 \cdot 7}$	104·3 109·7
Vale Bradford	2,646 1,423	- 1.7 - 0.6	92·2 109·8	5,434 3,273	$\begin{array}{c} - 1 \cdot 8 \\ + 0 \cdot 3 \end{array}$	88·6 110·1
Total, West Riding Lancs	37,988 5,802	-1.6 -1.9	97·2 101·0	81,744 12,189	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.7\\ -3.2 \end{array} $	100·6 110·7
West of England and Midlands Scotland Wales	4,358 15,014 459	-2.2 -1.4 -4.6	$ \begin{array}{r} 103 \cdot 3 \\ 103 \cdot 0 \\ 169 \cdot 2 \end{array} $	7,839 27,908 597	$ \begin{array}{r} -2 \cdot 8 \\ -3 \cdot 5 \\ -10 \cdot 5 \end{array} $	112.6 107.2 168.4
Total—Woollen	63,621	- 1.6	99.4	130,277	- 2.3	103.4
CARPET SECTION	8,180	+ 0.4	105.0	15,266	+ 0.5	104.8
Total—Wool Textile Industry	163,396	- 1.0	100.3	327,323	- 1.3	103.2

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed in the week ended 28th January, 1928, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the numbers employed by the same firms in the week ended 17th December, 1927 :--

	employe	d as compa ifies " no ci	+) or Dec. ared with the hange"; -	ne previou	s month. a figure,
uning and the second se	Wool Sorting and Comb- ing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (includ- ing not speci- fied).
ORSTED SECTION : Bradford Huddersfield Halifax Leeds Keighley Heavy Woollen (Dews- bury, Batley, etc.) Total, West Riding West of England and Midlands	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.8 \\ +0.3 \\ +2.2 \\ -1.4 \\ -1.9 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + & 0 \cdot 1 \\ - & 3 \cdot 2 \\ - & 0 \cdot 2 \\ + & 1 \cdot 4 \\ - & 2 \cdot 4 \\ - & 2 \cdot 0 \\ - & 0 \cdot 5 \\ - & 2 \cdot 6 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.5 \\ - & 1.4 \\ + & 2.5 \\ + & 0.5 \\ - & 0.9 \\ - & 0.5 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 2 \cdot 0 \\ - 0 \cdot 6 \\ - 0 \cdot 3 \\ + 2 \cdot 0 \\ + 1 \cdot 1 \\ - 2 \cdot 1 \\ - 0 \cdot 7 \\ - 1 \cdot 2 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 0.6 \\ - 1.6 \\ - 0.1 \\ + 1.1 \\ - 1.4 \\ - 2.0 \\ - 0.6 \\ - 1.6 \end{array} $
Lancashire Scotland	- 3.4	$- 0.9 \\ - 1.1$	<u> </u>	+ 0.8	+ 0.6 - 0.9
TOTAL	- 1.4	- 0.6	- 0.4	- 0.6	- 0.7

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

					ers	ge Ind employ the pre	yed a	s con	ipare		
Derrinde. Hages pald in Wrathanies	anor Est		Spinn	ing.	We	aving.		ther pts.		Dencl	All pts. uding ecified)
Woollen Section Huddersfield Heavy Wooller	dian.	 wsbury		ŀ ∙0		2.6	-	2.2	d di C	-	2.8
Batley, etc.) Leeds Halifax and Ca Bradford <i>Total</i> , W Lancashire	 Ider V	 Jale	+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	L·1 L·7 J·6 L·6 L·9	1111	$2 \cdot 1$ $1 \cdot 8$ $2 \cdot 0$ $1 \cdot 0$ $2 \cdot 2$ $0 \cdot 9$	11111	0.0 0.1 3.9 0.2 1.0 3.3		-	$ \begin{array}{c} 0.6 \\ 1.3 \\ 1.7 \\ 0.6 \\ 1.6 \\ 1.9 \end{array} $
West of Engla lands Scotland Wales	nd an 	id Mid		L·4)·7	111	0·9 1·4 3·5	111	4·1 1·3 6·3			2·2 1·4 4·6
TOTAL			1	l · 5	-	1.8	-	1.6	100	-	1.6
The following (other than cas the principal w	suals)	on the extile t	trade ce umbers (e	ers ntre	of as at	Empl t 23rd	Jan Jan	ent l uary n the	Exch , 19	an 28	iges i :
Department.	11	Wholl	y Unemp	loye	d.	Temp	orari	ly Ste	oppe	d.	1999 1995 1993 - 1995
		Men.	Women.	To	tal.	Men.	Wo	men.	Tot	tal.	Total.
Wool Sorting Wool Washing	and	114		1	14	131	12. 1	2	13	33	247
Preparing Wool Combing Wool Carding Woollen Spinning		268 145 374 281	104 75 51 64	24	72 20 25 45	392 332 489 351	2	26 99 18 34	61 63 60 58	51	990 851 1,032 930
	and	215 45	466 15	1000	81	194	1,3	12-1-1	1,51		2,196
Warping Worsted Winding Warping Woollen Weaving Worsted Weaving Other Processes		37 86 56 465	79 141 31 35	12	16 27 87 00	107 89 133 30 670	4 2,0 3	92 66 42 99 85	19 55 2,17 42 85	559	259 671 2,402 516
Total		2,086	1,061	3,1		2,918	5,3		8,30	_	1,355
The following pared with 19th	Tab Dece	le* she	ows the	inc	reas	ses ai	nd de	ecrea	ses	as	com-
article and and a	1111	C. Consta	mployed	12	Ten	nporar	ily St	oppe	đ.		
Department.	Men	Wom	en. Tota	- L.	Men	. Wo	men.	Tot	al.	J	Cotal.
Wool Sorting Wool Washing	-12	-	1 - 13	5 +		1 +	1	+	2	-	11
and Preparing Wool Combing Wool Carding Woollen Spinning Worsted Drawing	+9 -11 -7	-	$ \begin{array}{c c} 6 \\ - \\ 2 \\ - \\ 17 \\ + \\ 10 \end{array} $	5 +	158 34 82	5 + + +	57 90 25 82	+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	48 65 59 164	+-++	48 62 46 174
and Spinning Wool Winding and Warping	- 7	3.591	1 - 6 8 + 1		91 33		771 17	++	868 50	++	862 51
worsted Winding and Warping Woollen Weaving Worsted Weaving	++++	+ :	$\begin{array}{c c} 12 + 15 \\ 6 + 3 \\ 19 - 16 \end{array}$	+++	58 32	8 + 2 + 5 +	237 328 178	+++	295 360 184	++++	310 363 168
Other Processes Total	-62		$\frac{6}{2} - \frac{68}{84}$	_	97 276	-	53 844	+ + 2,	155 120	+ +	2,036
The imports were 69,715,700 in December, 19 The exports of compared with 3,356,500 lbs, in The exports of	lbs. i 27, a of wo 4,4 Janu wool	n Janu nd 80 oollen 55,100 ary, 1 len an	ports) c lary, 19 ,064,000 and wo lbs. 927.	of r. 28, 0 in orste in	aw com Jan ed y Dec	wool npareo nuary, yarns cembe	(she l wit 192 were r, 1	ep's h 42 7. e 4,0 927, 6.919	or ,932)20,4 an	1a ,20	mbs') 00 lbs. 0 lbs., with

lare 927.

yards, compared with 15,041,200 square yards in December, 1927, and 15,906,600 square yards in January, 1927. The *exports* of blankets were 116,932 pairs, 82,807 pairs and 91,009 pairs in January, 1928, December, 1927 and January, 1927, respectively.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during January continued fairly good. Short time continued to be worked to a considerable extent in a few districts, but in others it was appreciably reduced; and a fair amount of overtime was worked in some centres.

overtime was worked in some centres. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 6.9 on 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 6.6 on 19th December, 1927, and with 9.8 on 24th January, 1927. Employment in the London district again showed an improve-ment, and was good or fairly good with most firms, although it was reported as slack at a few establishments. At Leicester, also, there was a further improvement, especially with women workers, and employment was fair on the whole; short-time working, although still considerable, was reduced : about 34 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns for the week ended 28th January lost about $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours each on the average. Employment at Hinckley

* See footnote on page 63.

February, 1928.

LABOUR GAZETTE.57remained good on the whole. At Northampton it continued fair,
and showed a slight improvement; short-time working affected
one-sixth of the operatives covered by the employers' returns, with
an average loss of nearly 9 hours each.Employment continued good at Higham and Rushden, and
showed a further slight improvement, with most firms working full
time, and some overtime. At Wellingborough employment con-
tinued good at most factories, overtime being worked in some cases;
there was very little short-time working, and a demand for
experienced women workers, particularly machinists, was reported.
At Kettering employment continued good, most of the larger
factories being on full time, and, in some cases, on overtime; with
women workers it was reported as good, a shortage of experienced
hands in the closing department being reported. Both at Kettering
and at Wellingborough, however, there was a surplus of male labour
in the lasting and finishing departments; many of these men are
unaccustomed to modern machinery. Employment continued good
at Irthlingborough, Raunds, and Earls Barton.There was a further improvement at Stafford, and employment
was fairly good, although short time was still being worked to a
oonsiderable extent. At Norwich, also, a further steady improve-
ment was reported, but short time was still general. In the
Kingswood district there was a further decline, and short time was
largely worked; employment, however, continued fairly good in
the heavy nailed section, especially with the larger firms. At
Stingswood district there was a further decline, but employment was still fair.
There was a further decline, but employment was still fair.
There was a further decline, but employment was still fair.
There was a further decline, but employment was still fair.
There was a further decline, but employment w

Street there was a slight decline, but employment was still fair. There was a further decline also at Leeds, and employment in the heavy boot section was bad. In the slipper trade employment continued fairly good at Bacup, Bury, and Preston, but remained depressed at Rawtenstall, partly owing to seasonal slackness. In Scotland employment continued moderately good, on the whole; it was reported as very quiet at Edinburgh, fairly good at Glasgow and at Kilmarnock, and fair at Maybole. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns :--

		Number		Total all	Wages p Workpeo	aid to ple.		
and when with a family stars	Week ended 28th		(+) or -) on a	Week ended 28th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.*		
England and Wales : London Leicester Leicester Country Dis- trict Northampton Northampton Country	1.873 8,146 1,792 6,604	$ \begin{array}{r} Per \\ cent. \\ + 8.6 \\ + 1.8 \\ + 0.1 \\ + 0.8 \\ \hline \end{array} $	Per cent. + 3.5 + 1.2 + 9.7 + 5.0	£ 4,244 21,716 4,198 15,993	$ \begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 10 \cdot 9 \\ + 5 \cdot 6 \\ + 0 \cdot 6 \\ + 1 \cdot 9 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{r} \text{Per} \\ \text{cent.} \\ + 5 \cdot 2 \\ + 4 \cdot 5 \\ + 18 \cdot 7 \\ + 6 \cdot 7 \end{array}$		
District Kettering Stafford and District Norwich and District Bristol, Kingswood and	8,041 3,754 2,659 4,397	+ 0.3 + 0.1 + 1.9 + 6.0	+ 5.0 + 5.8 - 2.7 - 1.3	18,795 9,482 5,431 9,277	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 1 \\ + & 2 \cdot 9 \\ + & 3 \cdot 3 \\ + & 6 \cdot 5 \end{array} $	+ 7.9 + 5.6 + 1.2 - 5.1		
District Leeds and District Lancashire (mainly	1.759 1,920	-2.4 -2.5	+ 3.3 - 0.5	3,134 4,121	$\begin{array}{r} - & 3 \cdot 7 \\ - & 4 \cdot 5 \end{array}$	+ 9.3 - 3.3		
Rossendale Valley) Birmingham and Dis- trict	5,467 988	- 0.3 - 0.2	+15.6 -4.8	11,845 2,021	$+ 1 \cdot 6$ $+ 2 \cdot 2$	+ 23.8 + 1.9		
Other parts of England and Wales	2,029	+ 1.0	+ 3.2	4,182	+ 1.1	+ 8.8		
England and Wales	49,429	+ 1.2	+ 3.9	114,439	+ 2.6	+ 6.5		
Scotland Great Britain	2,450 51,879	$\frac{+1\cdot 2}{+1\cdot 2}$	$\frac{-0.6}{+3.7}$	5,385 119,824	$\frac{-0\cdot 2}{+2\cdot 4}$	$\frac{+2\cdot7}{+6\cdot4}$		

Returns from firms employing nearly 47,500 operatives in the week ended 28th January showed that about 20 per cent. of these operatives were working short time in that week, losing, on an average, about 8³/₄ hours each; and about 3 per cent. were on over-time, to the extent of 4 hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 23rd January, 1928 :---

	Nu	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 23rd January, 1928.									
Department.	Whol	ly Unemp	oloyed.	Temp							
and have been been	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Total				
Boot and Shoe Manu-	(1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.	122 E 22 2000 - E 2	1 and and and				No. Contraction				
facture :		and the second	in mile								
Preparing Depart-	00		107			CASES!					
Rough Stuff De-	90	13	103	24	10	34	137				
Rough Stuff De- partment	211	3	214	64	7	07	0.01				
Clicking Department	411	5	416	180	3	67 181	281 597				
Closing Department	22	355	377	6	294	300	677				
Making Department		7	1,208	485	9	494	1,702				
Finishing Depart-	-	A DESCRIPTION	No and the se			737	1,104				
ment	894	181	1,075 363	260	83	343	1,418				
Slipper Making	337	26		341	271	612	975				
Clog Making	14		14				14				
Repairing and Hand-	740		7.40		and the second	12 C					
sewn Work	348	1	349	29	•••	29	378				
TOTAL	3,528	591	4,119	1,389	671	2,060	6,179				

Comparison of enrnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

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The following Table* shows the increases and decreases as

	Whol	ly Unemp	loyed.	Temp	orarily Sto	opped.	Total.
Department.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture t Preparing Depart- ment Rough Stuff De- partment Clicking Department Closing Department Making Department Finishing Depart- ment Slipper Making	+ 10	+ 4 + 1 + 125 - 6 - 71 + 15 	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 6 \\ - & 57 \\ - & 115 \\ - & 126 \\ - & 233 \\ + & 44 \\ + & 8 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 1 \\ - 7 \\ - 30 \\ + 3 \\ + 13 \\ + 36 \\ - 69 \\ \dots \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 2 \\ + & 2 \\ - & 3 \\ - & 13 \\ + & 3 \\ + & 14 \\ + & 148 \\ \dots \end{array} $	- 3 - 5 - 33 - 10 + 16 + 50 + 79 	-9 -5 -90 -125 -110 -183 +123 +8
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work	- 12	+ 1	- 11	+ 10		+ 10	- 1
TOTAL	- 316	- 180	-496	- 45	+ 149	+104	- 392

The exports of boots and shoes in January, 1928, amounted to 99,608, or 3,923 dozen pairs less than in December, 1927, but 16,964 dozen pairs more than in January, 1927.

BUILDING TRADE.

THERE was a further seasonal increase in the numbers unemployed during January, chiefly attributable to increasing slackness in the painting and decorating section and among carpenters; employment taken as a whole was generally slack, although it was reported as fairly good in several districts. Bad weather conditions hampered as fairly good in several districts.

outside work and caused an appreciable amount of lost time. As legards individual occupations, employment showed a further decline with carpenters and was slack in most districts; with bricklayers, and, to a lesser extent with masons, there was an improvement, but employment was still slack at many centres; it was again worse with plasterers and was generally poor; it con-tinued to decline with slaters and was quiet, on the whole. Employment showed a further decline with painters and was bad in the majority of districts; it remained generally fair with plumbers and slack with tradesmen's labourers.

and slack with tradesmen's labourers. The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of work-people insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 23rd January, 1928, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with January, 1927 :--

	†Esti- mated Number of Insured	ployed	Number included in previous Column	Per- centage Unem-	Decreas percen	e(+) or be(-) in tage as ed with a
	Work- people at July, 1927.	at 23rd Jan., 1928.	who were Temporarily Stopped.	ployed.	Month before.	Year before.
Occupations. Carpenters Bricklayers Masons Slaters Plasterers Painters Plumbers Abourers to above All other occu- pations Total	128,090 72,170 23,390 5,850 21,080 109,080 32,600 252,230 162,720 807,210	17,313 9,083 3,210 625 4,055 33,421 2,567 42,321 27,947 140,542	687 391 307 44 171 1,126 88 1,343 987 5,144	13.5 12.6 13.7 10.7 19.2 30.6 7.9 16.8 17.2 17.4	$ \begin{array}{c} + & 3 \cdot 3 \\ - & 2 \cdot 1 \\ - & 0 \cdot 8 \\ + & 1 \cdot 6 \\ + & 1 \cdot 3 \\ + & 4 \cdot 6 \\ + & 0 \cdot 5 \\ + & 0 \cdot 4 \\ + & 1 \cdot 4 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 4 \cdot 9 \\ + 5 \cdot 4 \\ + 2 \cdot 7 \\ + 0 \cdot 1 \\ + 14 \cdot 2 \\ + 1 \cdot 3 \\ - 1 \cdot 7 \\ + 0 \cdot 9 \\ + 0 \cdot 9 \\ + 2 \cdot 2 \end{array} $
DIVISIONS. London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	163,620 127,050 100,310 91,380 103,420 106,900 72,650 28,280 13,600	23,561 15,140 14,969 14,157 27,290 20,988 12,012 9,284 3,141	172761771,1071,6399226263755	$ \begin{array}{c} 14 \cdot 4 \\ 11 \cdot 9 \\ 14 \cdot 9 \\ 15 \cdot 5 \\ 26 \cdot 4 \\ 19 \cdot 6 \\ 16 \cdot 5 \\ 32 \cdot 8 \\ 23 \cdot 1 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} + 1 \cdot 4 \\ + 0 \cdot 7 \\ + 1 \cdot 9 \\ + 1 \cdot 3 \\ + 1 \cdot 8 \\ + 2 \cdot 0 \\ + 2 \cdot 8 \\ + 2 \cdot 6 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} - 0.5 \\ + 3.6 \\ + 3.7 \\ + 1.3 \\ + 6.7 \\ + 1.8 \\ - 0.8 \\ + 10.6 \\ - 12.0 \end{array} $
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	807,210	140,542	5,144	17.4	+ 1.4	+ 2.2

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 140 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,090,000, show that in January, 1928, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £3,770,200, as compared with £5,087,300 in December, 1927, and £4,785,500 in January 1927. Of the total for January 1928, doubling between in January, 1927. Of the total for January, 1928, dwelling-houses accounted for $\pm 2,053,800$; factories and workshops for $\pm 305,000$ shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £305,000; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,025,300.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during January was adversely affected by bad weather, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books

* See footnote on p. 63. † Aged 16-64 inclusive. See special note on p. 60

lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.5 at 23rd January, 1928 as compared with 11.7 at 19th December, 1927, and 8.8 at 24th January, 1927.

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

tantindezda data data		umber o orkpeopl			Wages I Workpeo				
Districts.	Week ended		+) or -) on a	Week ended	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a				
	28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.*	Year before.*			
Northern Counties, York-		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.			
shire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,848	- 0.9	- 8.8	4,192	- 8.4	- 15.6			
Midlands and Eastern Counties	4,645	- 3.7	-12.8	11,949	- 7.9	- 15.4			
South and South-West Counties and Wales Scotland	1,482 178	$- 4 \cdot 3$ - 0 \cdot 6	$\begin{array}{r} - & 7 \cdot 8 \\ + & 6 \cdot 0 \end{array}$	3,351 487	$ \begin{array}{r} - 5 \cdot 2 \\ + 2 \cdot 3 \end{array} $	$-\frac{12\cdot7}{+3\cdot2}$			
TOTAL	8,153	- 3.1	-10.7	19,979	- 7.3	- 14.6			

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 8,106 work-people employed by firms furnishing information, about 13.8 per cent. were working on an average 12 hours less than full time in the week ended 28th January, 1928.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire, after a slow recovery from the seasonal depression following the completion of Christmas orders, showed a slight improvement, but there was still much short-time working. At Worcester employment declined, but at

short-time working. At Worcester employment declined, but at Derby it was again reported to be good. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.5 at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 21.0 at 19th December, 1927, and with 16.5 at 24th January, 1927. The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods :--

and in the state of the		Number Vorkpeor		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.							
and all mean -shedran i	Week ended		+) or -) on a	Week							
	28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.	28th Jan., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.					
BRANCHES.	.mat	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.					
China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture	1,215 7,517	+ 0.2 + 1.5	- 1.7 - 1.5	2,298 13,246	+ 1.8 + 1.0	- 4.9 - 9.3					
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,809	-2.2	- 1.4	3,281	- 6.1	- 6.5					
TOTAL	10,541	+ 0.7	- 1.5	18,825	- 0.2	- 8.3					
DISTRICTS. North Staffordshire Other Districts	7,976 2,565	$+ \frac{1 \cdot 7}{- 2 \cdot 2}$	+ 0.4 - 6.9	12,840 5,985	+ 0.7 - 2.1	-11.0 -1.9					
TOTAL	10,541	+ 0.7	- 1.5	18,825	- 0.2	- 8.3					

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 9,872 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 4,303 or 43.6 per cent., were working on an average about $14\frac{1}{2}$ hours less than full time in the week ended 28th January, 1928.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade during January was again fair on

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade during January was again fair on the whole. In the letterpress printing trade employment remained moderate. Some improvement was reported in London towards the end of the month, and employment also improved slightly at Leeds and Nottingham. It was, however, slack at Manchester and Birming-ham, and was generally worse than in December in Scotland. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment generally continued fairly good. Some improvement on the previous month was reported at Manchester, but in London and at Bristol there was a decline. Employment in the lithographic printing trade remained quiet

Employment in the lithographic printing trade remained quiet generally, though reported as fair at Birmingham and Nottingham; it remained bad at Manchester and Liverpool. With lithographic artists employment was moderate in London, it was generally fair

artists employment was moderate in London, it was generally fair elsewhere, except at Manchester, where it was bad. Employment in the bookbinding trade continued fair. The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 5·1 at 23rd January, compared with 3·9 at 19th December, 1927, and 6·0 at 24th January, 1927. In the paper and paper board industry the percentage was 5·6 at 23rd January, compared with 4·4 at 19th December, 1927, and 5·2 at 24th January, 1927. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery trades the percentage was 4·7 at 23rd January, compared with 3·2 at 19th December, 1927, and 6·3 at 24th January, 1927.

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

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade Unions :

					No. W. M. LOW.	
i manada augenteri	No. of Members of Unions		Percentag		Increase Decrea	
the totopage is the total ounder The fullements too	at end of January, 1928.	Jan., 1928.	Dec., 1927.	Jan., 1927.	Month before.	Yobef
etterpress Printing : London Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lanca-	40,701	5.7	5.2 -	7.2	+ 0.5	
shire and Cheshire Midlands and Eastern	17,243	4.2	4.1	5.7	+ 0.1	-
Counties Scotland Other Districts	10,993 7,167 10,959	2·5 6·7 3·3	2·4 4·9 3·5	$2 \cdot 9 \\ 6 \cdot 0 \\ 3 \cdot 1$	+ 0.1 + 1.8 - 0.2	+++
Total	87,063	4.8	4.4	5.6	+ 0.4	-
ithographic Printing ookbinding	10,842 20,306	3·7 2·8	3.6 3.0	5·2 4·0	$+ 0.1 \\ - 0.2$	11

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT still remained generally slack during January. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 25.8 per cent. were unemployed at 23rd January, 1928, as compared with 24.4 per cent. at 19th December, 1927, and with 26.9 per cent. at 24th January, 1927.

London.—Employment declined, and was generally slack. The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for each week of the month :-

	Average Da Docks an	ily Numb id at Prin	er of La cipal Wh	bourers emp arves in Lo	ployed in ondon.
	In	Docks.	the family and	encering b	oneni la
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
Week ended 7th January, 1928 14th "," ", 21st "," ", 28th "," ",	4,839 5,088 5,166 5,210	1,733 2,088 2,016 2,025	6,572 7,176 7,182 7,235	8,234 8,648 8,348 8,479	14,806 15,824 15,530 15,714
Average for 4 weeks ended 28th January 1928	} 5,075	1,966	7,041	8,427	15,468
Average for December, 1927	4,953	2,253	7,206	8,352	15,558
Average for January, 1927	4,763	2,239	7,002	7,720	14,722

Tilbury .-- The average daily number of dock labourers employed during January was 1,022, compared with 1,172 in December and with 1,109 in January, 1927.

East Coast.—Employment with coal trimmers and teemers on the Tyne and Wear was slack. With quayside labourers on the Tyne it declined, but with most other dock workers on the Tyne and at Blyth employment remained moderate or fair, and better than in the previous month. At Middlesbrough work was plentiful, and employment better than for some time past; but at Hull and Grimsby it was only moderate, and at Hartlepool slack. Employment was fair at Yarmouth and slack at Ipswich.

Liverpool.—Employment was moderate, on the whole. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 27th January was 15,407, compared with 15,099 in December, 1927, and with 15,635 in January, 1927. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £41,924 in the four weeks ended 27th January, compared with £41,148 in December, 1927, and with £43,232 in January, 1927.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment continued generally moderate at the South Wales ports; slackness in the timber trade was to some extent balanced by activity in fruit imports and in iron ore cargoes. Slack conditions prevailed at Gloucester, Avon-mouth and Bristol. Employment declined at Southampton, and was slack. It was also slack at Plymouth and most of the other South Western ports.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Jute imports provided full employment for dock workers at Dundee. At Leith employment continued to show an improvement, and was described as good. At Glasgow it was fair, and at Grangemouth moderate. At Belfast it was fair.

SEAMEN.

DURING January employment with seamen was quiet to moderate on the whole.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the per-centage unemployed at 23rd January, 1928, was 16.6, compared with 17.3 at 19th December, 1927, and 20.3 at 24th January, centage 1927

The demand for men on the Thames was mainly fair until the closing stages of January, when a decline occurred. It was rather slack on the Tyne, but improved towards the end of the month. On the Wear the demand was good in the first half of the month, and

-) or

1.5 1.5

0.8 $1.5 \\ 1.2$ quiet subsequently; it was generally moderate on the Tees, but a shortage of able seamen was reported at the Hartlepools at the end of January. The demand at Hull was good, on the whole; it fluctuated at Southampton, but was generally quiet. At Bristol the demand was fairly brisk, but there was a falling off late in the month; it was fair to good at Avonmouth, fair at Newport, and fairly good at Cardiff. At Swansea the demand improved from fair to good in the course of the month, a temporary shortage of able seamen being again reported. It continued moderate on the Mersey until the end of the month, when a decline set in. The demand was, on the whole, moderate to fair at Manchester and on the Clyde. It was generally quiet at Leith, and slack at Belfast. 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 January :--

service finds to way of models	Number	r of Seamen* s	hipped in
Principal Ports.	Jan.,	Inc. (Dec. (+) or -) on a
ant paranta milia régula antine tal paranta wilia régula antine maya in antina paranta	1928.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES: Liverpool† Manchester London Southampton Tyne Ports Sunderland Hull Bristol‡ Newport, Mon. Swanese	9,940 751 9,468 8,521 2,137 376 545 1,639 1,172 769 3,026 635	$\begin{array}{r} - & 750 \\ - & 38 \\ + & 397 \\ + & 1,372 \\ - & 209 \\ + & 64 \\ + & 169 \\ + & 66 \\ + & 270 \\ + & 270 \\ + & 212 \\ + & 712 \\ - & 316 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
SUBLISEE SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grange- mouth Glasgow NORTHERN IRELAND :	351 459 2,906	+ 7 + 147 + 646	-32 + 240 + 72
NORTHERN IRELAND: Belfast TOTAL for above Ports	218 42,913	-260 + 2,470	- 41

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS DURING JANUARY IN NUMBERS OF UNEMPLOYED.

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployee at 23rd Jan., 1928, as compared with 19th Dec., 1927.
The second and the rest of	Males. Females. Total.
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Cotton Pottery, Earthenware, etc Shipping Service	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
National Government Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp	$\frac{1}{10}$ + 928 + 89 + 1,017
Manufacture Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	+ 629 + 404 + 1077
Manufacture Manufacture Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. Railway Service Ruilway Service Public Works Contracting, etc.	$egin{array}{rcrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and Genera	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Iron Founding	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Coal Mining Building Distributive Trades	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Net Variation for above industries Total Net Variation for all Insured Industries	d

It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate ngagements, and not of separate individuals.
† Including Birkenhead and Garston.
‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
§ Including Barry and Penarth.
|| See special note on page 60.

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 23rd January, 1928, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed com-pared 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, and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public autho-rities, 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.

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 when-ever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed. The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone

persons who are known to be working in an uninsuled rade, of the 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 given in the following Table and the figure given on page 63 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 pers

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

The statistics of unemployment in insured industries are presented in two separate Tables, one showing the numbers recorded as unemployed, and the other showing the estimated numbers insured and the percentages unemployed.

Special Note. Persons aged 65 and over.

Special Note. Persons aged 65 and over. Under the provisions of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, all persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts as from 2nd January, 1928. The estimates of the numbers of insured persons in each industry prepared on the basis of the information obtained from the exchange of unemployment books in July, 1927, have therefore been revised to exclude persons aged 65 and over who, it is computed, numbered approximately 323,000 men and 24,000 women. Such persons no longer appear in the statistics showing the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, and the figures for dates subsequent to 2nd January, 1928, are therefore not comparable with those for earlier dates. The number of insured persons aged 65 and over whose books were lodged at the beginning of January did not exceed 30,000, and a proportion of these continued to register as uninsured persons. For all practical purposes, however, the *percentages* unemployed can be regarded as comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 23rd JANUARY, 1928.

			GREAT	BRITAIN	AND NORT	HERN IR	ELAND.			GREAT	BRITAIN	ONLY.
INDUSTRY.	WHOL (incl	LY UNEMPI uding Casus	LOYED als).	Темро	RARY STO	PPAGES.	1.000	TOTAL.		TEMPO:	LY UNEMPL RARY STOP ND CASUAL	PAGES,
Land an Install and Merica	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	3,351	167	3,518	59	178	237	3,410	345	3,755	3,390	343	3,733
Mining :	138,087	502	138,589	72,384	261	72,645	210,471	763	211,234	210,420	763	211,183
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	1,609 732	1 3	1,610 735	691 22	drine e	691 22	2,300 754	1 3	2,301 757	2,266 754	1	2,267 757
Stone Quarrying and Mining	4,226 265	10	4,236 266	1,165 153	2	1,167 153	5,391 418	12 1	5,403 419	5,074 417	12 1	5,086 418
Slate Quarrying and Mining Other Mining and Quarrying	1,556	62	1,618	362	22	384	1,918	84	2,002	1,809	84	1,893
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	938	4	942	64	7	71	1,002	11	1,013	971	11	982
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :	1,149	7	1,156	234		234	1,383	7	1,390	1,380	7	1,387
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu-	2,114	60	2,174	426	12	438	2,540	72	2,612	2,531	- 71	2,602
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	1,454	37	1,491	644	12	656 3,114	2,098 10,822	49 1,171	2,147 11,993	2,033 10,672	49 1,171	2,082 11,843
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	8,146 2,040	733 1,721	8,879 3,761	2,676 4,350	438 5,540	9,890	6,390	7,261	13,651	6,383	7,261	13,644
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien-		100	1.055	307	33	340	1,982	213	2,195	1,977	212	2,189 3,011
tific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making	1,675 2,147	180 185	1,855 2,332	661	21	682	2,808	206	3,014	2,806	205	3,011
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. :	A 750	652	5,008	602	144	746	4,958	796	5.754	4,921	796	5,717
Chemicals Manufacture	4,356 645	291	936	110	44	154	755	335	1,090	753	335	1,088
Paint, Varnish Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	694	140	834	51	9	60	745	149	894	744	149	893
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	3,385	734	4,119	747	128	875	4,132	862	4,994	4,107	838	4,945
Metal Manufacture : Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur-	2,788	19	2,807	983	4	987	3,771	23	3,794	3,770	23	3,793
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	17,172	135	17,307	21,055	49	21,104	38,227	184	38,411	38,218	184	38,402
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc,	2,880	161	3,041	587	21	608	3,467 7,316 3,446	182 749	3,649 8,065	3,416 7,315	180 749	3,596 8,064
Manufacture of Tin Plates	989 1,851	99 73	1,088 1,924	6,327 1,595	650 10	6,977 1,605	3,446	83	3,529	3,443	83	3,526
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture	1,609	187	1,796	1,420	54	1,474	3,029	241	3,270	3,024	239	3,263
Engineering, etc. :	and the second	a management				-	1.00	A MELLAN	82.8	and the second	-	
Engineering, etc. : General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	39,930 2,510	1,156	41,086 2,963	15,112		15,557 713	55,042 3,040	636	56,643_ 3,676	54,208 3,019	636	55,806 3,655
Marine Engineering, etc.	6,045 2,120	22	6,067 2,149	243 381		243 384	6,288 2,501	22	3,676 6,310 2,533	5,132 2,494	20	5,152 2,526
Constructional Engineering	2,120	25	2,145	001	and the second	-				and a second	Carlando -	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :	12,618	937	13,555	1,925	153	2,078	14,543	1,090	15,633	14,389	1,088	15,477
Construction and Repair of Carriages,	1,623	1 14 1505 AND	1,752	256	and the second	278	1,879	151	2,030	1,827	151	1,978
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building	2,731	TENCER IN T	2,752	1,891	22	1,913	4,622	43	4,665	4,611	43	4,654

INDUSTRY.		LY UNEMPI		Contraction of the second
at tempter (+) to one	Males.	Females.	Total.	100000000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Metal Trades :	41,145	103	41,248	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding Electrical Wiring and Contracting Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric	6,418 801	383 29	6,801 830	
Lamp Manufacture Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	3,062 2,371	1,312 789	4,374 3,160	1
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-	926	725	1,651	
facture Heating and Ventilating Apparatus Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery,	1,526 338	738 12	2,264 350	
etc., Manufacture Other Metal Industries	1,399 7,688	1,004 3,868	2,403 11,556	
Textile Trades : Cotton Woollen and Worsted	8,440 4,483	11,025 3,008	19,465 7,491	
Silk	679 1,995	740 2,717	1,419 4,712	
Jute Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	916 458	1,264 628	2,180 1,086	
Lace	474 373	1,497 243	1,971 616	in the second
Carpet Manufacture	265 719	283 1,311	548 2,030	
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing etc	3,283	1,018	4,301	1
Leather and Leather Goods :	1,776	• 483	2,259	
Goods Manufacture Clothing Trades :	927	677	1,604	
Tailoring Dress and Mantle Making and	6,813	5,669	12,482	
Millinery Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)	719	4,582	5,301	
Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-	565	560	1,125	
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth- ing, etc., Making	353 538 5,247	2,154 383 1,331	2,507 921 6,578	
Food, Drink and Tobacco : Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making	7,082	2,564	9,646	
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Grain Milling Coccoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con- fectionery	1,408 1,733	119 2,533	1,527	Contraction of the local division of the loc
fectionery Other Food Industries Drink Industries	4,604 4,792	6,600 1,587	4,266 11,204 6,379	
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture	495	1,233	1,728	1
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork:	5,100	84	5,184	
Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. Other Woodworking	1,014 4,986 1,342	115 742 275	1,129 5,728 1,617	
Printing and Paper Trades :— Paper and Paper Board Making	1,491	561	2,052	
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	826	1,156	1,982	
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining Stationery and Typewriting Requisites	123	63	186	
(not paper) Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	130 8,002	95 3,603	225 11,605	
Building and Construction of Works :	135,221	177	135,398	
Public Works Contracting, etc Other Manufacturing Industries :	34,904	24	34,928	
Rubber Manufacture Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture Brush and Broom Making	2,481 472 502	1,343 148 189	3,824 620 691	
Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture Musical Instrument Making	470 1,070	212 179	682	
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites Manufacture	397	312	1,249 709	
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	9,124	130	9,254	101000000000000000000000000000000000000
Transport and Communication :	8,310	205	9 515	
Railway Service Tramway and Omnibus Service Other Road Transport	4,426 20,241	191 200	8,515 4,617 20,441	
Shipping Service Canal, River, Dock and Harbour	22,748	430	20,441 23,178	
Service Other Transport and Communication	43,032	94	43,126	
and Storage Distributive Trades	2,232 58,955	85 25,952	2,317 84,907	
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and				
Finance Miscellaneous Trades and Services :	4,462	843	5,305	
National Government Local Government	7,566 22,348	722 517	8,288 22,865	
Professional Services Entertainments and Sports	2,419 4,778	825 1,552	3,244 6,330	
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning Other Industries and Services	4,778 11,541 1,300 23,209	16,145 3,071 1,387	27,686 4,371 24,596	
TOTAL	843,468	133,710	977,178	-
The second s		A DECK THE TOP OF	a contraction of the	1

February, 1928.

GREAT BRITA

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

AIN AI	ND NORTH	HERN IRE	LAND.			GREAT	BRITAIN	ONLY.
Cempoi	RARY STO	PPAGES.		TOTAL.	T	TEMPO	LY UNEMP RARY STOP ND CASUAT	PAGES,
lales.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1,695	23	1,718	42,840	126	42,966	38,199	118	38,317
3,131 70	159 1	3,290 71	9,549 871	542 30	10,091 901	9,422 823	542 30	9,964 853
402 1,125	182 361	584 1,486	3,464 3,496	1,494 1,150	4,958 4,646	3,458 3,490	1,492 1,150	4,950 4,640
523	200	723	1,449	925	2,374	1,449	925	2,374
323 80	182 	505 80	1,849 418	920 12	2,769 430	1,846 416	920 12	2,766 428
649 2,683	592 1,578	1,241 4,261	2,048 10,371	1,596 5,446	3,644 15,817	2,029 10,277	1,595 5,440	3,624 15,717
10,724 5,141 641 596 98	24,583 8,398 2,000 1,519 80	35,307 13,539 2,641 2,115 178	19,164 9,624 1,320 2,591 1,014	35,608 11,406 2,74) 4,236 1,344	54,772 21,030 4,060 6,827 2,358	19,156 9,582 1,319 449 1,013	35,586 11,395 2,739 1,026 1,344	54,742 20,977 4,058 1,475 2,357
73 387	349 2,468	422 2,855	531 861	977 3,965	1,508 4,826	452 852	834 3,939	1,286 4,791
453 242 198	359 328 797	812 570 995	826 507 917	602 611 2,108	1,428 1,118 3,025	825 507 810	601 611 1,820	1,426 1,118 2,630
7,670	2,834	10,504	10,953	3,852	14,805	10,612	3,268	13,880
283	135	418	2,059	618	2,677	2,058	618	2,676
185	344	529	1,112	1,021	2,133	1,091	1,020	2,111
1,815 29	7,373 2,594	9,188 2,623	8,628 748	13,042 7,176	21,670 7,924	8,066 734	12,770	20,836 7,755
161	323	484	726	883	1,609	722	882	1,604
26 99 1,925	1,683 281 1,056	1,709 380 2,981	379 637 7,172	3,837 664 2,387	4,216 1,301 9,559	309 631 7,049	2,085 664 2,380	2,394 1,295 9,429
312 422	261 42	573 464	7,394 1,830	2,825 161	10,219 1,991	6,951 1,751	2,779 153	9,730 1,904
455 180 219	3,874 707 305	4,329 887 524	2,188 4,784 5,011	6,407 7,307 1,892	8,595 12,091 6,903	2,182 4,693 4,664	6,399 7,276 1,875	8,581 11,969 6,539
14	307	321	509	1,540	2,049	454	1,481	1,935
485 257 466 309	41 67 253 89	526 324 719 398	5,585 1,271 5,452 1,651	125 182 995 364	5,710 1,453 6,447 2,015	5,450 1,240 5,297 1,571	124 182 984 352	5,574 1,422 6,281 1,923
543	337	880	2,034	898	2,932	2,022	. 897	2,919
97	546	643	923	1,702	2,625	901	1,633	2,534
12 8	13 12	25 20	135 138	76 107	211 245	135 137	76 107	211 244
302	770	1,072	8,304	4,373	12,677	8,149	4,205	12,354
5,119 1,609	25 1	5,144 1,610	140,340 36,513	202 25	140,542 36,538	137,200 35,253	201 25	137,401 35,278
1,562 50 187	1,143 8 114	2,705 58 301	4,043 522 689	2,486 156 303	6,529 678 992	4,038 522 677	2,485 156 303	6,523 678 980
14 106	36 6	50 112	484 1,176	248 185	732 1,361	482 1,173	246 185	728 1,358
56	107	163	453	419	872	453	419	872
297	8	305	9,421	138	9,559	9,155	138	9,293
676 136 756 134	6 9 4 17	682 145 760 151	8,986 4,562 20,997 22,882	211 200 204 447	9,197 4,762 21,201 23,329	8,794 4,501 20,396 22,450	210 198 200 444	9,004 4,699 20,596 22,894
807	7	814	43,839	101	43,940	43,313	101	43,414
55 2,254	5 3,656	60 5,910	2,287 61,209	90 29,608	2,377 90,817	2,270 58,930	90 29,064	2,360 87,994
67	18	85	4,529	861	5,390	4,445	852	5,297
246	49	295	7,812	771	8,583	100000 Data 10000 - 0000	730	8,030
692 54 116 124 43 646	34 20 69 354 635 794	726 74 185 478 678 1,440	23,040 2,473 4,894 11,665 1,343 23,855	551 845 1,621 16,499 3,706 2,181	23,591 3,318 6,515 28,164 5,049 26,036	7,300 21,959 2,424 4,761 11,386 1,314 22,984	546 826 1,611 16,314 3,544 2,162	22,505 3,250 6,372 27,700 4,858 25,146
99,327	83,998	283,325	1,042,795	217,708	1,260,503*	1,017,697	209,738	1,227,435

* Including 64,665 Casuals (Males 63,473, Females 1,192).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

TEADNET TEACHER	TY AND	T .		G	REAT	BRITAI	N AND	NORTH	iern I	RELAND					Newt	Gazta
tent estentil shift, in		TED NUM D PERSON				GE UI	EMPLO	YED AT	23RD	JANUA	RY, 19	28.	DECH	EASE (- EASE (AL PER	-) IN	GREAT BRITAL ONLY. TOTAL PER-
INDUSTRY.	16-64	16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT U		WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED TEMPORARY (including STOPPAGES. Casuals).						TOTAL.			TAGES AS COMPARED WITH			CENTAG AT 23RD JAN.,
the second second second	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	19TH DEC., 1927.	24TH JAN., 1927.		1928.
Fishing	26,600	950	27,550	12.6	17.6	12.8	0.2	18.7	0·8 6·2	12·8 18·2	36·3 11·2	13·6 18·1	Contraction of the	- 4.9 + 1.8	-1.1 + 8.0	13·6 18·1
Coal Mining Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	1,157,580 14,220	30	1,164,380 14,250	11·9 11·3	7·4 3·3	11·9 11·3	6·3 4·9	3·8	4·8 0·4	16.2	3·3 5·0	16.1	+ 2.0		- 6.6	16·0 13·8
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining Stone Quarrying and Mining Slate Quarrying and Mining	5,420 40,900 10,690	60 330 10	5,480 41,230 10,700	$ \begin{array}{r} 13 \cdot 5 \\ 10 \cdot 3 \\ 2 \cdot 5 \end{array} $	$5 \cdot 0$ $3 \cdot 0$ $10 \cdot 0$	$ \begin{array}{r} 13 \cdot 4 \\ 10 \cdot 3 \\ 2 \cdot 5 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 \cdot 4 \\ 2 \cdot 9 \\ 1 \cdot 4 \end{array} $	0.6 1.4	2·8 1·4	13·9 13·2 3·9	3·6 10·0	13·8 13·1 3·9	+ 0.2 + 0.3	+ 2.2 + 1.8	+ 1.9 + 0.9	12·7 3·9
Other Mining and Quarrying Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	16,130 14,570	1,590	17,720 14,730	9·6 6·4	3·9 2·5	9·1 6·4	2·3	1·4 4·4	2·2 0·5	11·9 6·9	5·3 6·9	11·3 6·9	-0.6 + 1.1		-4.6 + 1.8	$\frac{11\cdot 0}{6\cdot 7}$
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :	11,180	120	11,300	10.3	5.8	10.2	2.1		2.1	12.4	5.8	12.3	- 0.5	- 9.2	- 1.9	12.3
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	15,040	1,350	16,390	14.1	4.4	13.3	2.8	0.9	2.6	16.9	5.3	15·9	- 0.4	- 0.5	- 5.6	16.0
Works Brick, Tile, etc., Making	17,930 75,010	880 7,570	18,810 82,580	8·1 10·9	4·2 9·7	7·9 10·8	3.6 3.5	1·4 5·8	3·5 3·7	11·7 14·4	5·6 15·5	11·4 14·5	+ 3.6 + 2.8	+ 5.8 + 5.7	+ 4.4 + 6.2	$11 \cdot 3$ $14 \cdot 5$
Pottery, Earthenware, etc Glass Trades :—	32,110	37,790	69,900	6.4	4.6	5.4	13.5	14.6	14.1	19.9	19-2	19.5	- 1.5	+ 3.0	+ 0.3	19.6
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making	19,650 15,510	5,300 2,170	24,950 17,680	8·5 13·8	3·4 8·5	7·4 13·2	1.6 4.3	0.6 1.0	1·4 3·8	10·1 18·1	4·0 9·5	8·8 17·0	+ 0.1 + 1.6	-2.2 -3.5		8·8 17·0
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. : Chemicals Manufacture	70,040	22,560	92,600	6.2	2.9	5.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	7.1	3.5	6.2	+ 0.4	- 1.9	- 2.7	6·2 5·9
Explosives Manufacture Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	12,360 13,790	5,990 4,300	18,350 18,090	5·2 5·0	4·9 3·3	5·1 4·6	0·9 0·4	0·7 0·2	0·8 0·3	6·1 5·4	5·6 3·5	5·9 4·9	+ 0.5 + 0.4	-2.6 -1.2	-1.9 $+0.1$	4.9
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	55,700	20,920	76,620	6.1	3.5	5.4	1.3	0.6	1.1	7.4	4.1	6·5	+ 0.8	- 1.5	- 0.4	6.2
Metal Manufacture : Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur-	23,090	270	23,360	12.1	7 .0	12.0	4.2	1.5	4.2	16.3	8.5	16 ·2	+ 2.1	- 4.1	- 3.6	16.2
naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	183,790	4,200	187,990	9.3	3.2	9.2	11.5	1.2	11.2	20.8	4.4	20.4	- 2.3		- 1.6	20.4
Tin, Lead, etc Manufacture of Tin Plates Iron and Steel Tube Making	35,910 26,820 26,110	3,030 3,950 1,340	38,940 30,770 27,450	8·0 3·7 7·1	5·3 2·5 5·4	7.8 3.5 7.0	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \cdot 7 \\ 23 \cdot 6 \\ 6 \cdot 1 \end{array} $	0·7 16·5 0·8	$ \begin{array}{c c} 1 \cdot 6 \\ 22 \cdot 7 \\ 5 \cdot 9 \end{array} $	9·7 27·3 13·2	6·0 19·0 6·2	9·4 26·2 12·9		-3.5 +17.5 -0.2	+14.9	9·3 26·2 12·8
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture	17,820		21,770	9.0	4.7	8.2	8.0	1.4	6.8	17.0	6.1	15.0		- 0.4	hebit b	15.0
Engineering, etc. : General Engineering : Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	535,820	42,100	577,920	7.5	2.7	7.1	2.8	1.1	2.7	10.3	3.8	• 9·8	+ 0.4	- 4.4	- 2.7	9.8
and Steel Founding Electrical Engineering Marine Engineering, etc. Constructional Engineering	61,130 54,840 25,740	16,670 1,130	77,800 55,970 26,790	4·1 11·0 8·2	2.7 1.9 2.8	3.8 10.8 8.0	0·9 0·5 1·5	1·1 0·2	0.9 0.5 1.5	5·0 11·5 9·7	3·8 1·9 3·0	4.7 11.3 9.5	+ 0.5 - 0.4	-2.1 -13.5 -8.5	-1.8 -12.8	4.7 10.1 9.4
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :	25,140	1,050	20,190		2.0	0.0	15									
Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Construction and Repair of Carriages,	207,310	A Contraction	230,130	6.1	4.1	5.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	7·0 10·4	4.8	6·8	a contern	-1.5 -2.3	+ 0.1 - 1.0	6·8 9·9
Carts, etc Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	18,020 52,830	1,320	20,270 54,150	9·0 5·2	5·7 1·6	8·6 5·1	1·4 3·5	1·0 1·7	1·4 3·5	8.7	6·7	8.6	+ 2.7	- 3.6	+ 0.9	8.6
Metal Trades :	205,140	3,340	208,480	20.1	3.1	19.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	20.9	3.8	20.6	- 0.9	- 16.3	-16.5	19.6
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	77,010		84,840 14,310		4.9	8·0 5·8	4·1 0·5	2·0 0·1		12·4 6·6	6·9 2·6	11·9 6·3	+ 2.5 + 0.9	$+ 1.1 \\ - 1.7$	$+ \frac{1 \cdot 2}{- 3 \cdot 2}$	11·8 6·1
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	53,170 23,660	30,560	83,730 34,220	5.8	4.3	5·2 9·2	0·7 4·8	0·6 3·4		6·5 14·8	4·9 10·9	5·9 13·6				5·9 13·6
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-	14,230	A PRATE A	25,340	a states	6.5	6.5	3.7	1.8	2.9	10.2	8.3	9.4		1.1000		9.4
facture	18,020 6,860		28,760 7,350		6·9 2·4		1.8 1.2	1.7	1.7 1.1	10·3 6·1	8·6 2·4	9·6 5·9				9·6 5·8
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture Other Metal Industries	23,220 115,810		43,820 182,890		4·9 5·8		2·8 2·4	2·8 2·3		8·8 9·0	7·7 8·1	8·3 8·6		- 3.4 - 1.8		8·3 8·6
Textile Trades : Cotton			562,130		3.1		5.3	6.8		9.5	9.9	9.7	- 0.3	- 1.6		9·7 8·8
Woollen and Worsted Silk Linen	96,430 21,920 25,490	31,660	239,800 53,580 82,860	3·1 7·8	2·1 2·3 4·7	2·6 5·7	2.4	5·9 6·4 2·7	5·0 2·5	10.2	8·0 8·7 7·4	8.8 7.6 8.2	+ 1.6 + 1.3	- 2.9	- 4.6 - 18.8	7·6 9·9
Jute Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	12,230	26,170	38,400	1000	4·8	- State	0.8	0.3	1000	8·3 7·5	5·1 8·2	6·1 7·9	- 0.3	- 3.9		
Hosiery Lace Carpet Manufacture	21,410	78,100 10,320	99,510 17,310 24,380	2·2 5·3	1·9 2·4 1·9	2·0 3·6	1·8 6·5	3.2	2·8 4·6	4·0 11·8	5·1 5·8 4·1	4.8	+ 0.9 - 0.4 + 1.0	- 4.0	$\frac{0}{5} + \frac{0.1}{-10.2}$	4·8 8·2
Other Textile Industries Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing,	9,540 13,080	30,210	43,290	5.5	4·3 3·1	4.7	9.3	2.7	2.3	7.0	7·0	7.0		- 4.2	2 - 3.5	6.7
Leather and Leather Goods :	82,250		115,330			1.000						202	5 + 1.0		en lana pa	and an
Tanning, Currying and Dressing Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	31,980 12,920		41,360	a states	5·1 5·1		a brailing	1.5			6·6 7·8	Cart Co		and the second	$\begin{array}{c c} - 4 \cdot 7 \\ - 2 \cdot 1 \end{array}$	A DECEMBER OF
Clothing Trades :	67,030	130,950	197,980	10.2	4.3	6.3	2.7	5.7	4.6	12.9	10.0	10.9) + 2·1	- 2.	5 - 2.6	10.8
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)	10,250		104,960	1 2 6 1	4.8	5.1	0.3	2.8	2.4	7.3	7.6	7.8	5 + 1.7	- 0.9		a the bridge of
Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth- ing, etc., Making		in the second second	32,940	The man is an	2·8	I BEER		1.6	and the second	A marine	4·4 5·7	4.9	-1.8	- 1.	3 - 1.6	and the second
Other Dress Industries	7,250 9,500 85,540	17,490	74,500 26,990 138,010	5.7	2.2	3.4	1.0	1.6	1.4	6.7	3.8	4.8	B + 0.7	- 2.	2 - 4.7	4.8

			Concernance of the second	~					GAZ					and the second		1
T INSURANCE	17 M	101	tener h	, G	REAT I	BRITAIN	AND	NORTH	ERN II	RELANI	·••	1970 (A. 1970 (A. 1970 (A.			REAL OF	GREAT
REAT BRITAIN		TED NUM		PE	RCENTA	GE UN	EMPLO	YED AT	23RD	JANUA	RY, 19	28.		EASE (BRITAL ONLY. TOTAL
INDUSTRY.	16-64	D PERSON INCLUSIV ULY, 192	E, AT	UN (WHOLL EMPLOY includin Casuals	YED .		MPORAR OPPAGE:			TOTAL	• • • • •	Г	AL PER AGES A PARED	S	PER- CENTAG AT 23RD JAN.,
rational is to be the interest. And the South Street detroited for interesting a souther Street Street	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	19тн DEC., 1927.	24TH JAN., 1927.	25TH JAN., 1926.	1928.
Food, Drink and Tobacco: Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Grain Milling Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con-	91,550 26,010	53,200 3,350	144,750 29,360	7·7 5·4	4·8 3·6	6·7 5·2	0·4 1·6	0·5 1·2	0·4 1·6	8·1 7·0	5·3 4·8	7·1 6·8		- 2.2	-2.3 + 1.6	7·0 6·7
other Food Industries	25,960 53,240 85,050	51,510 55,320 24,050	77,470 108,560 109,100	6·7 8·6 5·6	4·9 11·9 6·6	5·5 10·3 5·8	$ \begin{array}{c} 1.7 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.3 \end{array} $	$7.5 \\ 1.3 \\ 1.3 \\ 1.3$	5.6 0.8 0.5	8·4 9·0 5·9	$12 \cdot 4 \\ 13 \cdot 2 \\ 7 \cdot 9$	11·1 11·1 6·3	$+ 4 \cdot 4$ + 0 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot 0	-3.3 -0.2 -0.9	$+ 1.9 \\ - 0.3 \\ - 0.3$	$ \begin{array}{c} 11 \cdot 1 \\ 11 \cdot 1 \\ $
Manufacture	13,960	28,830	42,790	3.5	4.3	4.0	0.1	1.0	0.8	3.6	5.3	4.8	+ 1.3	+ 0.4	- 0.2	4.8
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork:— Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. Other Woodworking	53,440 10,740 89,490 18,130	2,890 2,010 20 530 6,390	56,330 12,750 110,020 23,520	9·5 9·4 5·6 7·4	2·9 5·7 3·6 5·1	9·2 8·9 5·2 6·9	1.0 2.4 0.5 1.7	1·4 3·4 1·2 1·7	$0.9 \\ 2.5 \\ 0.7 \\ 1.7$	$10.5 \\ 11.8 \\ 6.1 \\ 9.1$	4·3 9·1 4·8 6·8	11.4	$+ 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 1$	- 1.9	- 1.6	10·0 11·3 5·8 8·3
Printing and Paper Trades:— Paper and Paper Board Making Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and	38,730	14,080	52,810	3.8	4.0	3.9	1.5	2.4	1.7	5.3	6.4	1. Calif	+ 1.2			5.6
Stationery Wall Paper Making and Paper	19,630	36,350	55,980	4.2	3.2	3.5	0.5	1.5	1.2	4.7	4.7	1232.8	+ 1.5	4.44		4·6 4·1
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites	3,670	1,510	5,180	3.4	4.2	3.6	0·3	0.8	0·5 0·3	3·7 5·7	5.0	100000	+ 1.7	11-112-00	1999	4.3
(not paper) Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	2,440 160,700	3,200 89,680	5,640 250,380	5·3 5·0	3.0 4.0	4·0 4·6	0.4	0.3	0.3	5.2	3·3 4·9	5.1	+ 1.6 + 1.2	- 0.9	+ 0.2	5.0
Building and Construction of Works:	799,150 161,490	8,060 920	807,210 162,410	16·9 21·6	2·2 2·6	16·8 21·5	0·7 1·0	0·3 0·1	0.6 1.0	17·6 22·6	2·5 2·7	17·4 22·5	+ 1.4 + 1.7	$+ 2.2 \\ - 0.6$	+ 2.5 + 0.9	17·3 22·4
Other Manufacturing Industries:	33,960 11,550 5,810	24,470 2,200 4,500	58,430 13,750 10,310	7·3 4·1 8·6	5·5 6·7 4·2	6·5 4·5 6·7	4·6 0·4 3·3	4·7 0·4 2·5	4·7 0·4 2·9	11·9 4·5 11·9	10·2 7·1 6·7	11·2 4·9 9·6	+ 0.7 + 0.8 + 1.5	- 0.2 - 1.4 - 2.0	+ 2.9 $- 5.0$	11·2 4·9 9·6
Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture Musical Instrument Making	14 980 18,940	8,570 4,980	23,550 23,920	3·1 5·6	2·5 3·6	2·9 5·2	0.1	0·4 0·1	0·2. 0·5	3·2 6·2	2·9 3·7	3.1 5.7	+ 0.7 + 3.0		-0.8 -0.4	3·1 5·7
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites Manufacture	5,910	5,550	11,460	6.7	5.6	6.2	1.0	1.9	1.4	7.7	7.5		all a lot of	(These and the	- 2.2	7.6
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	157,310	5,860	163,170	5.8	2.2	5.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	6.0	2.4	5.9	+ 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1	5.8
Transport and Communication:	136,390	7,890 5,500 5,740 5,970	144,280 130 960 168,080 140,190	$6 \cdot 1$ $3 \cdot 5$ $12 \cdot 5$ $16 \cdot 9$	2.6 3.5 3.5 7.2	$5 \cdot 9$ $3 \cdot 5$ $12 \cdot 2$ $16 \cdot 5$	$0.5 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.1$	$0.1 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.3$	0·5 0·1 0·4 0·1	6.6 3.6 12.9 17.0	2·7 3·6 3·6 7·5	6·4 3·6 12·6 16·6	+ 1.1 + 0.4 + 1.4 - 0.7	-1.3 -1.1 -1.7 -3.7	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0.7 \\ - & 0.8 \\ - & 1.2 \\ - & 4.1 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 6.3 \\ 3.6 \\ 12.5 \\ 16.7 \end{array} $
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour	168,510	2,060	170,570	25.5	4.6	25.3	0.5	0.3	0.5	26.0	4.9	1 - C	+ 1.4	10 Determines		25.9
Other Transport and Communication and Storage	16,360	1,840	18,200	13.6	4.6	12.7	0.4	0.3	0.4	14.0	4.9	13.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.8	- 0.6	13.1
Distributive Trades	938,770	613,960	1,552,730	6.3	4.2	5.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	6.2	4.8	5.8	+ 1.0	- 0.8	- 0.9	5.8
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance	149,520	72,030	221,550	3.0	1.2	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	1.2	2.4	+ 0.1	- 0.5	- 1.0	2.4
Miscellaneous Trades and Services:	105,930	24,940	130,870	7.1	2.9	6.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	7.4	3.1	6.6	÷ 1·1	- 0.5	- 1.1	6.3
Local Government Professional Services Entertainments and Sports Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	226,680 65,850 42,450 108,120 24,940 88,790	18,170 48,710 24,110 198,470 99,310 33,330	244,850 114,560 66,560 306 590 124,250 122,120	9.9 3.7 11.3 10.7 5.2	2.8 1.7 6.4 8.1 3.1 4.2	9·3 2·8 9·5 9·0 3·5	$ \begin{array}{c} 0.3 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.8 \\ 0.8 \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{c} 0.2 \\ 0.0 \\ 0.3 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.6 \\ 2.3 \end{array} $	0·3 0·1 0·3 0·2 0·6 1·2	$ \begin{array}{r} 10 \cdot 2 \\ 3 \cdot 8 \\ 11 \cdot 5 \\ 10 \cdot 8 \\ 5 \cdot 4 \\ 26 \cdot 9 \end{array} $	3.0 1.7 6.7 8.3 3.7 6.5	2·9 9·8 9·2 4·1	+ 0.4 + 0.5 + 0.3 + 0.3	- 0.4 - 1.1 - 1.4 - 0.8	$ \begin{array}{r} - & 0 \cdot 1 \\ - & 0 \cdot 4 \\ - & 2 \cdot 3 \\ - & 1 \cdot 9 \\ - & 0 \cdot 7 \\ - & 3 \cdot 6 \end{array} $	9.4 2.9 9.7 9.1 4.0 21.0
8.37. 1.573.1 1.573. 1.575. S.			11,784,000		4.2	8.3	2.4	2.6	2.4	12.2	6.8	-			- 0.3	

AT 30th January, 1928, the number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,168,941; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,199,036. Statistics for men, boys, women and girls, are given below :---

	Confider Stores of	30th Januar	y, 1928.	
Fire reals	Persons i in regular el	Persons normally	The second	
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary Stoppages.	in casual employ- ment.	
and the second	2 400,000	Gre	at Britain.	
den	680,427	181,388	64,282	1
Boys	34,367	5,816	82	in a
Women	90,378	72,623 5,317	1,099 32	130
	33,130	5,517		
Total	* 838,302	265,144	65,495	1,
12.10 Shite	G	reat Britain	and North	ern
len	700,628	182,244	65,866	1
Boys .	34,989	5,830	82	Energ
Women	94,909	74,500	1,099	Re
tirls	33,478	5,429	32	34
Total	864,004	268,003	67,079	1,

WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

2nd Jan., 1928. Total. Total. 926,097 1,077,320 40,265 164,100 38,479 38,183 189,058 31,742 ,168,941 1,336,303 Ireland.
 948,738
 1,100,519

 40,901
 38,744

 170,508
 196,722

 38,939
 32,236
 ,199,086 1,368,221 The following Table gives particulars relating to certain branches of the work of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the four weeks ended 30th January, 1928.* Of the 136,093 vacancies filled, 80,739 were for men, 30,874 for women, and 24,480 for juveniles :--

		ions from oyers.	Vacancies	Number of Work-	
Week ended	During Week.	At end of Week.	Filled. †	people on Registers.*‡	
2nd January, 1928	47,274	20,786	43,682	1,368,221	
9th January, 1928 16th " " 23rd " " 30th " "	36,411 43,114	22,835 20,050 16,989 17,466	33,804 35,383 42,339 24,567	$\begin{array}{r} 1,262,946\\ 1,223,577\\ 1,209,243\\ 1,199,086 \end{array}$	
Average (4 weeks)	36,589	·	34,023	1,223,713	

Average (4 weeks) ... 55,589 t ... 54,023 1,225,113 * It is estimated that, owing to the operation of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, about 25,000 persons aged 65 and over have ceased to register at the Employment Exchanges since 2nd January, 1928. Of this total, it may be assumed that a certain number have retired from work, but statistics as to this number are not available. † "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtain-ing for an employer former employees, or placing the same men on relief works in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 19th December, 1927, the average number of such placings was 6,934 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers was 300 per week. The figures include, in addition to those wholly unemployed, 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.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 30th January, 1928. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) as compared				
Alta.	Men.	Women.	Juven- iles.	Total.	with 2nd Jan., 1928.
London Division	96,777	19,946	9,859	126,582	- 5,707
South-Eastern Division Brighton Chatham Ipswich Norwich Rest of South-Eastern	44,947 1,918 2,471 1,712 3,083 35,763	6,347 558 242 253 448 4,846	5,269 517 709 204 115 3,724	56,563 2,993 3,422 2,169 3,646 44,333	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 9,200 \\ - & 159 \\ - & 467 \\ - & 68 \\ - & 1,006 \\ - & 7,500 \end{array}$
South-Western Division Bristol Plymouth Portsmouth Beading Southampton Swindon Rest of South-Western	59,309 11,412 4,556 4,639 1,387 4,060 1,101 32,154	7,491 1,877 607 547 137 402 137 3,784	5,790 1,383 459 610 283 713 158 2,184	72,590 14,672 5,622 5,796 1,807 5,175 1,396 38,122	$\begin{array}{r} -11,170\\ -2,161\\ +379\\ -227\\ -85\\ -214\\ +16\\ -8,878\end{array}$
Midlands Division Birmingham Coventry Cradley Heath Derby Leicester Northampton Nottingham Smethwick Walsall West Bromwich Wolverhampton Rest of Midlands	101,430 17,385 2,433 2,559 1,468 2,515 1,504	29,315 7,714 420 522 401 1,307 246 1,382 5,165 897 389 5,866 9,497	8,604 1,508 32 128 197 93 501 162 1,139 577 147 292 3,781	139,349 26,607 2,885 3,209 2,066 3,869 1,843 7,192 2,921 15,818 5,198 2,711 4,311 60,719	$\begin{array}{r} -38,922\\ -6,369\\ -2,015\\ -1,184\\ -356\\ -1,060\\ -295\\ -2,039\\ -350\\ -7,488\\ -765\\ -826\\ -1,756\\ -14,419\end{array}$
North-Eastern Division Barnsley Bradford Darlington Dewsbury Doncaster Gateshead Gateshead Gateshead Halifax Halifax Hartlepools Huddersfield Hull Leeds Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyne Newcastle-on-Tyne Newcastle-on-Tyne Sheffield South Shields Stockton-on-Tees Sunderland Wakefield York Rest of North-Eastern	$\begin{array}{c} 220,950\\ 2,385\\ 6,947\\ 1,888\\ 1,495\\ 3,195\\ 7,330\\ 3,696\\ 2,297\\ 2,122\\ 11,061\\ 12,331\\ 1,946\\ 6,666\\ 14,727\\ 4,294\\ 19,859\\ 7,227\\ 4,314\\ 8,190\\ 1,828\\ 2,117\\ 89,941 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 25,575\\ 371\\ 1,998\\ 181\\ 608\\ 217\\ 665\\ 229\\ 929\\ 929\\ 181\\ 1,241\\ 766\\ 2,373\\ 207\\ 310\\ 1,142\\ 221\\ 2,464\\ 340\\ 178\\ 639\\ 345\\ 532\\ 9,438\\ \end{array}$	15,292 133 426 242 286 272 751 277 95 548 187 973 452 158 426 1,200 294 1,744 441 482 689 357 291 4,568	261,817 2,889 9,371 2,381 2,389 3,684 8,746 4,202 3,321 5,823 3,550 12,800 15,156 2,311 7,402 17,069 24,067 8,008 4,809 24,067 8,008 4,974 9,518 2,530 2,940 103,947	$\begin{array}{r} -31,955\\ -1,632\\ -446\\ -278\\ +661\\ -1,693\\ +232\\ -1,257\\ -333\\ -268\\ -378\\ -378\\ -2,480\\ -2,480\\ -44\\ -777\\ -518\\ -675\\ -2,683\\ -350\\ -431\\ -111\\ +25\\ +555\\ -18,919\end{array}$
North-Western Division Accrington Ashton-under-Lyne Barrow Birkenhead Blackburn Bolton Bourley Chorley Liverpool Manchester Nelson Nelson Rochdale St. Helens Stockport Wigan Rest of North-Western	$\begin{array}{c} 164,040 \\ 164,040 \\ 16861 \\ 2,753 \\ 1,765 \\ 4,111 \\ 2,929 \\ 1,766 \\ 4,325 \\ 2,169 \\ 1,367 \\ 1,822 \\ 36,462 \\ 17,124 \\ 705 \\ 10,773 \\ 3,170 \\ 3,170 \\ 3,171 \\ 3,643 \\ 2,528 \\ 2,368 \\ 5,661 \\ 46,834 \end{array}$	51,703 555 1,494 191 406 2,063 1,653 1,885 1,119 5,527 5,333 1,885 1,119 5,527 5,333 8,821 1,889 777 218 2,818 1,428 1,428 1,428 1,428 1,227 1,997 15,791	16,559 124 236 330 404 317 258 210 139 44 4,958 1,877 299 616 219 71 197 978 1659 2855 4,401	232,302 2,540 4,483 2,286 4,921 5,309 2,749 6,210 4,264 2,625 2,625 2,626 2,266 2,266 2,266 46,947 24,334 1,120 5,278 3,019 4,058 11,529 4,058 11,529 4,064 7,943 67,026	$\begin{array}{c} -50,192\\ -1,329\\ -580\\ -33\\ -604\\ -2,563\\ -139\\ -1,400\\ -1,538\\ -880\\ -1,183\\ +1,161\\ -2,311\\ -2,311\\ -3,174\\ -3,174\\ -1,009\\ -1,827\\ +388\\ -1,099\\ -1,067\\ +490\\ -3,935\\ -26,826\end{array}$
Scotland Division Aberdeen Clydebank Dundee Edinburgh Glasgow Greenock Motherwell Paisley Rest of Scotland Wales Division	105,461 3,958 689 3,210 9,049 36,367 3,952 2,658 2,118 43,460 133,183 8,349	19,336 898 210 1,220 1,854 6,607 412 177 262 7,696 4,387 844	10,066 257 122 302 776 4,132 326 242 149 3,760 7,305 941	134,863 5,113 1,021 4,732 11,679 47,106 4,690 3,077 2,529 54,916 144,875 10,134	$\begin{array}{rrrr} - & 1,456 \\ - & 38 \\ + & 75 \\ - & 358 \\ - & 131 \\ + & 2,853 \\ + & 232 \\ - & 38 \\ + & 131 \\ - & 4,182 \\ - & 18,760 \\ - & 428 \end{array}$
Llanelly Newport Swansea Rest of Wales Northern Ireland Belfast Londonderry Lurgan Lisburn Newry	6,012 6,622 6,341 105,859 22,641 15,768 1,061 262 459 427	6,408 3,766 3,77 3,766 3,77 5,87 5,87 5,87 5,87 5,87 5,87 5,87 5	281 435 685 4,963 1,096 847 31 33 26 3	6,473 7,370 7,584 113,314 30,145 20,381 1,395 940 673 486	$\begin{array}{rrrr} & - & 2,080 \\ + & 15 \\ + & 1,000 \\ - & 17,267 \\ \hline & - & 1,773 \\ - & 1,373 \\ - & 217 \\ + & 7 \\ - & 352 \\ - & 73 \end{array}$
Rest of Northern Ire- land	4,664	1,450	156	6,270	+ 235
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	948,738	170,508	79,840	1,199,086	- 169,135

[Percentage rates of unemployment, for each of 653 towns in Great Britain, are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index"—see Advertisement pages of this GAZETTE.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

ON page 60 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives figures relating to the 23rd January, 1928, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 5 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 5) and including lines 1 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained :--

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1 Trampland Special		1		1 - 104-1	(State
1. Unemployed — Special Schemes	1,582	12	162	2	1,758
2. Claims admitted or under consideration	824,286	16,821	145,667	10,053	996,827
3. Claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration	75,852	770	6,853	354	83,829
4. Insured non-claimants on					29,195
main file 5. Uninsured persons on	22,866	2,044	2,284	2,001	308 6
Register	9,627	21,443 4,432	12,378 38,068	25,451 4,294	68,899 115,826
5. Two months' file Persons on Register (lines	69,032	4,434	30,000	4,234	110,020
2-5)	932,631	41,078	167,182	37,859	1,178,750
Books Lodged (lines 1-4 and 6)	993,618	24.079	193,034	16,704	1,227,435

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 to Local Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople.

The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of these Committees in Great Britain during the period 13th December, 1927 to 16th January, 1928 :---

56

336

069 961 390

10

540 153

the second second second	Males.	Females.	Tota
Applications considered by Committees during period Applications admitted by Committees during	287,383	34,142	321,5
period :	32,316 223,623	2,740 21,753	35,0 245,3
General Conditions: Not normally insurable and not seek- ing to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment	2,139	697	2,8
Insurable employment not likely to be available Not a reasonable period of insurable	822	232	1,0
employment during the preceding two years	12,163	1,753	13,9
willing to accept suitable employ- ment Special Conditions :	8,371	2,575	10,9
Single persons residing with relatives Married women who could look for support from their husbands Married men who could look for	5,267	1,802 1,961	7,0 1,9
Support from their wives Working short time but earning sufficient for maintenance	390 1,173	 285	3 1,4
Aliens Total definitely recommended for disallow-	30,332	9,308	39,6
Ance Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time	1,112	341	1,4
		1	St. AF ST.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

During the four weeks ended 28th January, 1928, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund were approximately as shown in the following Table :---

Jater Land Vilamine Jater States	Four weeks ended 28th Jan., 1928.	Five weeks ended 31st Dec., 1927.	Five weeks ended 29th Jan., 1927.
tributions (Reccipts) :	£ 1,300,000 1,135,000	£ 1,490,000 1,305,000	£ 1,510,000 1,330,000
, War Office and Air Ministry) , Exchequer	40,000 950,000	50,000 1,120,000	30,000 1,150,000
Total	3,425,000	3,965,000	4,020,000
ments : Benefit	3,370,000 385,000	3,790,000 1,040,000	4,890,000 900,000
Total	3,755,000	4,830,000	5,790,000
asury Advances Outstanding	23,530,000	23,180,000	23,710,000

* Includes refunds at age 60 and compensation for the abolition thereof. cost of administration, interest on Treasury advances (paid 30th June and 31st December), etc.

February, 1928.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages. The principal changes in the textile group affected workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland. In all these districts there were small In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in a increases in the cost-of-living wage, amounting to under $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. net reduction of £16,350 in the weekly full-time wages of about on current rates in Yorkshire and to 3d. and 2d. per week in the 245,000 workpeople, and in an increase of nearly £9,000 in those of nearly 150,000 workpeople. case of men and women respectively in the other districts. In Scotland, under a separate arrangement (which operated in England in November, 1927) special increases of 2s. and 1s. 3d. per week previously granted to men and women respectively were withdrawn, thus making a net reduction in wages for the month. The bonus paid to workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted spinning

Group of Industries.	Number of	ximate Workpeople ited by	Net Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.		
lass out & subtract distance as	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
Mining and Quarrying Metal Textile Water and Electricity Supply Other	100 6,500 77,000 32,200 33,200	220,000 19,000 5,000 	£ 50 350 750 5,700 2,100	£ 14,600 1,170 370 210	
Total	149,000	245,500	8,950	16,350	

The principal reduction in the mining group affected coal miners in Yorkshire, in whose case, owing to the adoption of a new minimum, the percentage payable on basis rates was reduced from 36 to 32, equivalent to a reduction of about 3 per cent. on current wages. There was also a reduction of about 1½ per cent. on the current wages of iron miners in Cleveland, and of 1d. per shift in those of iron miners in Cumberland, while shale miners and shale oil workers in Scotland had their wages reduced by 5 per cent, on the rates current in October 1927 men employed in the non-trading services of certain local authorities in Kent, Surrey and Sussex were also reduced. The aggregate amount of the reductions was £16,450 per week.† Of this amount £12,900 took effect under arrangements made by conciliation boards or other joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople, including £100 under cost-of-living sliding scales arranged by such bodies; £1,250 took effect under sliding scales cent. on the rates current in October, 1927. based on selling prices; £1,000 took effect as the result of arbitration; In the metal industries blastfurnace workers in Cleveland and the remaining sum was the result of direct negotiation between

sustained a reduction of nearly 21 per cent. on current wages, and those in the West of Scotland, except the lower-paid men, The aggregate amount of the aggregate amount of the second The aggregate amount of the increases was £9,000 per week.† a reduction of nearly $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. on current wages. There were also reductions in the case of certain classes of blastfurnace workers Of this amount nearly £7,000 took effect under arrangements made by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople, including in Cumberland and North Staffordshire. Iron puddlers and millmen £4,350 under cost-of-living sliding scales arranged by such bodies; £1,950 took effect under other cost-of-living sliding scales; and the had their current wages reduced by nearly 4 per cent. in the North of England and by over $3\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. in the West of Scotland. Bobbin and shuttle makers in England and Wales received increases, remainder followed direct negotiations between the parties. Hours of Labour. No important changes were reported in January.

under cost-of-living sliding scales.

Industry.	Locality.	Locality. Date from which Change took effect. Classes of Workpeople.		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)			
Agriculture	Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire.	l Jan.	Male agricultural labourers	Rates previously in operation extended up to 30th September, 1928, but for a week of 52 hours in winter and 54 hours in summer (in lieu of 50 hours in winter and 54 hours in summer			
a in the second	West Yorkshire	1 Jan. }	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by	as previously arranged). [‡] Decreases of 4 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages at the minimum of 32 per cent. above basis rates for underground workers, and 30.33 per cent. for surface workers in the Eastern sub-division and 27 per cent. for surface workers in the Western			
Coal Mining	South Yorkshire	1 Jan.	movements in other industries.	sub-division. Decrease§ of 4 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages and			
The mendane na	Cannock Chase	1 Jan.	Engine-winders	the minimum of 32 per cent. above basis rates.			
The second is and	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	l Jan.	Youths between the ages of 16 and 21 years, other than those who are the sole support of a family.	Flat-rate subsistence allowance of 6d. per shift previously paid reduced to 4d. per shift.			
Coke, etc. Manufacture.	South Yorkshire	l Jan.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Decreases of 4 per cent. on standard basis rates, leaving wage			
ibard Bradie	Cleveland	23 Jan,	Ironstone miners	32 per cent. above basis rates.!! Decrease of 2 [±] / ₂ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 55 [±] / ₂ pe cent. above the standard. Rates after change for labourers underground, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift; surface, 3s. 4d. tr 3s. 6d. per shift, plus 55 [±] / ₂ per cent., plus amounts yarning			
Iron Mining {	Cumberland	lst bargain day after 6 Jan.	Workpeople employed at iron ore mines.	according to base rates, from 5d. to Id. per shift. Decrease¶ of 1d. per shift in the bargain price (8s. 6d. to 8s. 5d.) of 1d. per shift for other underground and surface workers and of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per shift for youths under 18 years of age. Rate after change: shiftmen and winding enginemen, 8s. 5d. pe shift; pumping enginemen, loco. and crane drivers, 7s. 11d.			
L'anna an L	Furness and District	9 Jan.	Surfacemen (except blacksmiths and fitters) and boys.	leading labourers, 7s. 3d.** Decrease¶ of 1d. per shift for surfacemen and of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per shift for boys.			
Shale Mining	Scotland	18 Jan.	Workpeople employed in and about shale mines and oil works (except	Decrease of 5 per cent. on rates ruling at 18th October, 1927, making a total reduction of 10 per cent. on the rates ruling at 18th October.			
ſ	South and West	23 Jan.	apprentices). Limestone quarrymen	1927. Decrease of 21 per cent, on standard rates leaving wages 551 mg			
Quarrying {	Macclesfield and Dis- trict.	23 Jan.	Quarrymen, dressers, machine men and sawyers employed at stone quarries.	cent. above the standard. †† Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change : quarrymen, dressers and machine men, 1s. 5d. per hour; sawyers, 1s. 4d. per hour.			
Brick Manufacture.	Nottingham	lst full pay in Jan.	Brickmakers (adult male workers)	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: daymen and wheelers, 1s. 14d. per hour; drawers, 1s. 2d.; setters and clay-getters, 1s. 24d.; burners, 59s. per week.			

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rate of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.
† The aggregate amounts of the reductions and increases are larger than the net amounts shown in the Table, owing to the fact that during the month textile bleachers, dyers, etc., in Scotland had their wages reduced by direct negotiation, and increased under cost-of-living sliding scales.
‡ The minimum rates referred to took effect under an Order of the Agricultural Wages Board, under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.
§ This reduction took effect under a provision contained in the District Agreement of 29th November, 1926, whereby the minimum percentage (to which wages were reduced on 1st June, 1927) was to be reduced from 36 per cent. to 32, as from 1st January, 1928.
In the case of adult day-wage workmen whose gross wages are less than 8s. 9d. per shift, a subsistence allowance is granted sufficient to bring wages
* The minimum wage remained unchanged at 7s, per shift.
* The minimum wage remained unchanged at 7s, per shift.
* A flat rate increase of 5d. to 1d. per shift, varying according to base rates, is paid in addition to the percentage quoted.

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THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

industry at Leicester was increased by $\frac{1}{4}d$. on each shilling earned. Workpeople employed by electricity supply undertakings received an increase of 1d. per hour in most districts in Great Britain outside the North-East Coast and East Midlands areas of England. Waterworks employees received an increase of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour in London and various districts in the North Eastern and Yorkshire areas.

In the other industrial groups workpeople whose wages were increased during January included those employed in the seed crushing and oil milling industry, felt hat makers in Lancashire and Cheshire, furniture trade operatives on the North-East Coast, men employed by public works contractors in London, and those employed in the non-trading services of various local authorities in the South Midlands, and Cornwall, Devonshire and Dorset. There was a reduction in the rates for new entrants in the case of certain classes of railway traffic workers in Northern Ireland, and the wages of

RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1928.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. February, 1928.

dustry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)	Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Working	these and that another set	9 Jan. 2nd full pay in Jan.	TER I MARLER MINI . Children 1871	Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: putty glaziers 1s. 6d.; lead glaziers, 1s. 8d. Decrease* of 14 per cent. on output bonus earnings, leaving the percentage payable 424 in the Workington Area and 374 in the Furness Area. [†]	Textile Bleaching,	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and	lst pay day in Jan.	works.	Special advance of 2s. per week, granted in January 192 drawn.
Iron acture.	Cleveland and Durham.	1 Jan. {	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease* of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers, 6s. per shift, plus $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	Dyeing, Printing, etc. (cont.).	Scotland.	lst pay day in Feb.*	Engravers, turners, polishers, and varnishers, employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased ⁺ from 30s. 1d. to 30s. 5d. p for engravers, and from 21s. 10d. to 22s. 1d. per w turners, polishers, and varnishers.
braba braba	North Staffordshire West of Scotland	1st making- up day in Jan. 29 Jan.‡	Tonnagemen employed at blast- furnaces. Workpeople (excluding certain	Decrease* of 21 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 431 per cent. above the standard. Decrease* of 3 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 8 per cent.		Yorkshire	16 Jan.	Male workers	Differential piece rates based on Parts I and II of the Time Log of 1923 fixed under the Trade Boards A journeymen tailors performing certain classes of work page 34 of January GAZETTE.)
	North of England	30 Jan. {	lower-paid day-wage men) em- ployed at blastfurnaces. Iron puddlers Iron millmen	above the standard.§ Decrease* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 27 per cent. above the standard. Decrease* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 24½ per cent. above the standard.		Anglesey, Carnarvon- shire, Denbigh- shire, Flintshire, Merionethshire, and Montgomeryshire.	16 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the retail bespoke tailoring trade.	Differential minimum time and piecework basis time rat under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople in variou and differential piece rates based on Parts I and II London Time Log of 1923 fixed for journeymen tail- forming certain classes of work. The minimum hour
ture.	Barrow-in-Furness West of Scotland	30 Jan. (30 Jan. {	Merchant millmen Iron puddlers and millmen Iron and steel sheet millmen	Decrease* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 27½ per cent. above the standard. Decrease* of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 42½ per cent. above the standard. Decrease * of 5 per cent, on standard rates, leaving wages 50 per	Retail Bespoke Tailoring.				Differential minimum time and piecework basis time raturder the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople in various and differential piece rates based on Parts I and II London Time Log of 1923 fixed for journeymen tail forming certain classes of work. The minimum hour rates for Grade III male workers and for the lowestrate male workers (formerly 1s. 3d. and 1s. respectively) the two classes of adult female workers (formerly 97\frac{1}{2}d.) are as follows:MenGrade III, 1s. 1d. to lowest rated, 9\frac{1}{2}d. to 1s.; womenGrade I, 9d. cothers, 7d. or 7\frac{1}{2}d. (See page 34 of January GAZETTE).
Cable J	Greater London Area.		Jointers and jointers' mates em- ployed in the electrical cable- making industry.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	and the second	Brecknockshire, Car- diganshire, Car- marthenshire, Gla- morganshire, Mon- mouthshire, Pem-	16 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the retail bespoke tailoring trade.	Differential minimum time and piecework basis tin fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople in areas and differential piece rates based on Parts I as the London Time Log of 1923 fixed for journeyment
ture.	Other Districts in Great Britain (ex- cept North East Coast Area). England and Wales	1 Jan. {	Plumber-jointers, jointers and joint- ers' mates employed in the elec- trical cable-making industry. Workpeople employed in the bobbin-	in those of iton miners in Cumberland, whole shale a		mouthshire, Pem- brokeshire, and Radnorshire.			Differential minimum time and piecework basis tim fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople in areas and differential piece rates based on Parts I as the London Time Log of 1923 fixed for journeymen performing certain classes of work. The minimum time rates for Grade III male workers and for the rated adult male workers (formerly 1s. 3d. and 1s. resp and for the two classes of adult female workers (9½d. and 7½d.) are as follows :MenGrade III, 1s. to lowest-rated, 9d. to 1s.; womenGrade I, 8d. to 9½d. 6½d. to 7½d. (See page 34 of January GAZETTE.)
	Lancashire (exclud-	COOLLETTED Is assue Inter Aberenette	making industry; also shuttle- makers employed by certain firms at Garston and Blackburn.	 Increase¶ of 1s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for women 18 years and over. Rates after change : men—higher skilled, 62s. 6d.; lesser skilled, 53s. labourers, 43s.; women, 25s. Addition to base rate increased¶ from 45 to 49 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change : 1s. per hour, plus 49 per cent. (la 5 8 8d per hour) 	Felt Hat Making	g Denton, Stockport,	lst pay	Timeworkers	Bonus increased† from 45 to 50 per cent. Minimum r
nd ire.	Blackburn). Lancashire	lst pay- day in Jan.	Apprentices to shuttlemakers	Addition to base rate increased from 75 to 45 per cont. Infine cent. (ls. 5.88d. per hour). Addition to base rate increased from 27½ to 31½ per cent. Rates after change: 9s. per week at 14 years, increasing yearly to 17s. at 18, and 21s. at 20, plus, in each case, 31½ per	Hat Cap and	Hyde, Bury, Fails- worth and Romiley Districts. England and Wales	day in Jan. 23 Jan.	Pieceworkers	change, 10 ⁴ d., plus 50 per cent. [‡] Bonus increased [†] from 50 per cent. to 55 per cent.
al mart	Yorkshire	de parvile dider othe linest bog	Journeymen shuttlemakers	cent. Addition to base rate increased¶ from 48 to 52 per cent. Mini- mum daywork rate after change : 11d. per hour, plus 52 per cent. (1s. 4, 72d. per hour).	Hat, Cap and Millinery.	England and wates	25 9811.	Certain classes of workpeople em- ployed in the hat, cap, and millinery trade.	Minimum timework and plecework basis time rates of 1s 1s. 6 ¹ / ₂ d. per hour respectively fixed under the Trad Acts extended to cover certain additional occupati qualifying period for such rates reduced from 5 3 years in the case of certain occupations to which were previously applicable. (See page 34 of January C
and ed.	Leicester Great Britain	lst pay day in Jan. 21 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.). Female homeworkers	Bonus increased¶ from 3d. to 3¼d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers : men, 42s. 6d.; women, 25s. 6d.; plus, in each case, 3¼d. in the shilling. General minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts	Seed Crushing and Oil Milling.	Great Britain§	lst full pay week in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the seed- crushing and oil-milling industry (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in the	Increase [†] of 1s. per week for men 21 years and over 6d. per week for youths and women. Minimum ra change for labourers: Liverpool, 48s. 6d.; Hull and 48s.
ig.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and cer- tain firms in Lanca-	lst pay day in Feb.††	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	at 2s. 3d. and 3s. 6d. per net for English and Scottish style mackerel nets respectively. (See page 74.) Cost-of-living wage increased¶ from 72½ per cent. to 73 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 57½ per cent. to 58½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers) and from 43½ per cent. to 43½ per cent. for hand pressers. Minimum rates after	Flour Milling	South Wales	5 Jan.	engineering and other industries). Road transport workers employed in the flour-milling industry.	Decreases of 5s. per week for mechanical drivers and log of 3s. per week for horse drivers. Rates after change : m drivers, 68s.; loaders, 58s.; horse drivers, 60s.
小田町	shire.** Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms)	lst pay day in Feb.††	Workpeople employed in the bleach- ing, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste	change for timeworkers: The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.—men 21 and over, 28s., plus 8 per cent., plus 73 per cent. on total; other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d., plus 73 per cent.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 73 per cent. Cost-of-living wage increased¶ from 21s. 10d. to 22s. 1d. per week for men 21 years and over, and from 13s. to 13s. 2d. for women 18 years and over, and by smaller amounts for those under	Fishery Coopering.	Aberdeen, Berwick, Buckie, Fraser- burgh, Lerwick, Peterhead, Storno- way, Wick, Yar- mouth, and Lowestoft.	13 Dec., 1927,	Fishery coopers (barrel-making)	Decrease of ¹ / ₄ d. per barrel for dressing staves, the rates occupations remaining unchanged. Rates after chang barrels, 3d.; half barrels, 2 ¹ / ₂ d.
20 20 20 20 20 21 0/20	(majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire. ^{‡‡}	a to and a second a s	bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and mainte- nance of plant).	over, 28s., plus 22s. ld.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 13s. 2d.	Furniture Manufacture.	North-East Coast	lst full pay week in Jan.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, french polishers and upholsterers.	Increase [†] of ¹ / ₂ d. per hour. Rates after change : french and upholsterers, 1s. 7d.; cabinet makers, car machinists, 1s. 7d., plus ¹ / ₂ d. per hour "tool" money.
	Middleton	lst pay day in Feb.†† lst pay	bleaching etc trades	men 21 and over, from 13s. 6d. to 13s. 8d. for women 18 and over, and by proportionate amounts for juveniles. Special advances of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, and 1s. 3d. per week for women 18 and over, granted in January, 1925, withdrawn.	Building Public Works	Birmingham¶ London (Metropoli-	6 Jan. 1 Jan.	Plasterers	Increase of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$.)¶ Increase† of $\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour. Rates after change :
g, } etc.	Scotland	after 1 Jan. 1st pay day in Feb.††	ing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, and me- chanics, etc., employed in repair	Cost-of-living wage increased¶ from 21s. 10d. to 22s. 1d. for men 21 and over, and from 13s. to 13s. 2d. for women 21 and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. Minimum time rates after change : men 21 and over, 25s. plus 22s. 1d. :	Contracting.	tan Police Area).**		contractors.	County of London, Croydon, East Ham, West Ham, Town, Dagenham, Edmonton, Ilford, Leyton, Mitc Tottenham — granite masons, 1s. 9d.; blacksmith granite sett dressers, kerbfixers, paviors, street max flag dressers, 1s. 8d.; steam roller drivers, 1s. 74d.; so 1s. 64d.; platelayers and pipe jointers, 1s. 74d. to petrol locomotive, roller and air-compressor plant
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	lst pay day in Feb.††	and maintenance of plant). Mechanics employed in dyeworks	women 21 and over, 15s., plus 13s. 2d. Increase¶ of 3d. per week. Total rate after change : Bradford, Leeds, and Shipley, 62s. 4d., other towns, 61s. 4d.					is 54d • duct or earthenware drainlavers, jointers, D
	Bolton and Bury Dis- tricts.	Pay week preceding 16 Dec.	Mechanics employed in the textile dyeing, bleaching, etc. industry.	Basis rate of 58s. adopted for a week of 47 hours.§§		Contain Tradatalia	1-4 6-11	Adult male	pick operators, rammermen, screeders, tarpot men, ti and wood block layers, ls. 4 ¹ / ₂ d.; concrete leve labourers, ls. 3 ¹ / ₂ d. : rest of district—not more than than the above rates.
And	annes cont echicang van arrennon, tech, cont orne	1927.	Engravers employed in engraving works : Men 21 and over	Cost-of-living wage increased¶ from 27s. 1d. to 27s. 5d., and special advance of 2s. per week, granted in February, 1925,	A STATE OF THE STA	Certain Undertakings in the North-East and Yorkshire Areas. ^{††}	Jan.	Adult male manual workers	Increaset of 1d. per hour. Rates after change for la North-East Area, majority rate 1s. 11d. per hour; Area, 1s. 01d. to 1s. 3d.
in training	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scot- land, and Belfast.	lst pay day in Feb.††	Women 18 and over Youths	special advance of 28. per week, granted in February, 1925, withdrawn. Cost-of-living wage increased¶ from 16s. 2d. to 16s. 4d., and special advance of 1s. 3d. per week, granted in February, 1925, withdrawn. Cost-of-living wage increased¶ from 17s. 4d. to 17s. 6d. per week at 18 to 21, from 12s. 3d. to 12s. 5d. at 16 to 18 and from 9s. 5d. to 9s. 6d. at under 16.	Waterworks Undertakings.	London	7 Jan.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed by the Metropolitan Water Board.	Increase [†] of 1s. 11 ¹ / ₂ d. per week, making the bonus 23s week for men over 21 years of age, 17s. 6d. for you 21 years of age doing full men's work, and 11s. 9d. fu 18 to 21 years of age not doing full men's work. Also of 1s. per week for youths 17 to 18 years, making t 9s. per week, and of 6d. per week for youths 16 to making the bonus 7s. 6d. per week. Rates after
and a start	g-price sliding-scale arra	ade sing the second	and the second many bits when the second	to 35. ou. at much 10.	- ingering	Certain Undertakings	lst full	Adult male manual workers	mechanics, 48s. 6d.; stokers, 38s.; trenchmen, 34s.; 36s. to 40s.; labourers, 33s.; plus in each case above. Increase† of 9d. per week for Grade D Areas, of

February, 1928.

§ In the case of lower-paid men who were not affected, wages remained at 21 per cent. above the standard.
I) One-half of this increase was granted under a cost-of-living sliding scale, and the other half under an arrangement whereby the wages of these workpeople follow fluctuations in the wages of workpeople employed in the Electricity Supply Industry.
I) Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
** 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 of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford area, the change did not apply in the home dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers.
** The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the change did not apply in the home dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers.
** The change applied to workers 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 62 per cent. to 63 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.
** The cost-of-living sliding-scale agreement previously in operation (which was terminated in December) a total rate of 59s. 10d. was payable for a week of 48 hours. Under the new arrangement 48 hour

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In respect of the preceding pay period.
^{*} Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
^{*} This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc., whose wages are governed by Orders under the Trade Boards Acts.
^{*} S The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Industry.
^{*} Including Newcastle, Pelaw, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Stockton, West Hartlepool, and Darlington.
^{*} The change took effect under an agreement made in May, 1927, between the Birmingham branches of the National Association of Master Plasterers and the National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers, whereby the rate was increased by 10. per hour in July 1927, and by a further an in January 1928. The National Joint Council-for the Building Industry was not a party to this arrangement.
^{**} The change took effect under an award of the Public Works Conciliation Board.
^{**} The change took effect are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council.
^{**} The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council.
^{**} The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council.
^{**} The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council.
^{**} The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry, and include: Grade D, Southampton (town area); Grade C, Reading (pays higher rates); Grade A, Southampton (country area).

February, 1928.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1928 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
New CORE COMPANY	Various Districts in Great Britain.*	1 Jan.	Adult male workers (except electri- cal wiremen and fitters in certain districts.)†	Increase of 1d. per hour.
Electricity Supply	Certain Undertakings in the West Mid-	l Jan.	Youths under 21 years of age	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week for those 16 and 17 years of age and of 2s. 8d, for those 18 to 20 years.
Undertakings.	lands. Belfast	1 Jan.	Adult male workers (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades).	Increase§ of ¹ / ₄ d. per hour. Rates after change for labourers indoor, ls. ld. per hour; outdoor, ls. l ¹ / ₄ d.
Rallway Service	Northern Ireland	1 Jan.	Traffic and goods porters, plate- layers, signal and telegraph la- bourers, locomotive shed staff (in- cluding labourers, ash fillers, lamp trimmers, etc.) stationary engine- men and pumpers, carriage and wagon department staff (including lampmen, cleaners, oilers and greasers, etc.) and juniors under 20 years of age.	Decrease in wages for new entrants of 10 per cent. for Group I Companies, and of 5 per cent. for Group III Companies. Rates after change for new entrants in Group I Companies: Belfast- traffic porters, 38s. 6d.; goods porters, 43s. 8d.; platelayers. 41s. 5d. Class b stations—traffic porters, 37s. 8d. or 36s. 9d.; goods porters, 42s. 9d. or, 40s. 6d.; platelayers, 40s. 6d. or 40s. 1d. Class c stations.—traffic porters, 34s. or 36s.; goods porters, 35s. 10d.; platelayers, 35s. 10d. to 37s. 10d.
Road Transport	Bristol	21 Jan.	Youths under 21 years of age	New schedule of rates adopted as follows: trace boys, 22s. per week; other youths: 14 to 16 years, 22s.; 16 to 18 years, 27s. 6d.; 18 to 19 years, 36s.; 19 to 20 years, 44s.; 20 to 21 years, 50s.¶
arra L and Li arra L and Li arrange construction	Cumberland	l Jan.	Manual workers (excluding trades- men) employed by County Council.	Increase§ of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 45s. per week.
ertrot assisted by Byrthogyny, al bit gutros, station	West Hartlepool	1 Jan.	Manual workers	Increases of ±d. per hour. Rates after change: street sweepers, 11±d., general labourers, 1s. 2d., roadmen and carters, 1s. 3d.
tadino in an in a sub tadino in the sector (2005) Dia of an an analitada data	Certain Authorities in the South Mid- lands Area.**	lst pay day in Jan.	Manual workers	Increases of $\frac{1}{126}$ th of the minimum basis rates recommended by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council in November, 1921, making the reduction now applicable to such rates $\frac{3}{126}$ ths with an addition of 2s, per week. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A1 Areas, 47s. 9d.; Grade A2, 46s. 2d.; Grade B1, 44s. 7d.; Grade B2, 40. 9d.; Grade C1, 39s. 2d.; Grade C2, 37s. 8d.**
Local Government Services (Non-Trading).	Certain Authorities in Kent, Surrey and Sussex. ^{††}	lst pay after 1 Jan.	Unskilled and semi-skilled men Skilled men	Decreases of 2s. per week in Grades IV and III Areas. Minimum rates after change: Grade IV, 50s. 6d.: Grade III, 44s. 8d. ⁺⁺ Decreases of 2s. 6d. per week in Grades IV and III Areas. Mini- mum rates after change: Grade IV, 61s. 6d.; Grade III, 56s. 2d.
nan arts rates of	Hastings	Week ending 3 Jan.	Manual workers employed in non- trading and water departments.	Increase§ of 2s. per week. Rates after change: road labourers and sweepers, 48s. 7d.; refuse collectors, 50s. 7d.; general yard and waterworks labourers, 49s. 6d.; pipelayers, 53s. 5d.
STON LONG BILL -	Certain Authorities in Cornwall, Devon and Dorset. ^{‡‡}	lst full pay week in Jan.	Manual workets	Increase§ of 1s. per week. Scheduled minimum rates after change: Grade A Authorities, 51s.; Grade B, 44s.; Grade C, 40s.; Grade D, 38s.; Grade E, 36s.; Grade F, 34s.‡‡
CLERON LAURA	Glamorganshire	28 Dec., 1927.	Manual workers employed by County Council.	Increase of 3s. per week. Rate after change for fillers, sweepers and roadmen, 54s. 10d.
the roles in all	Ayrshire (Northern District).	2 Jan.	Labourers employed by County Council.	Increase§ of 1s. per week (51s. to 52s.).

* The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry in the following areas: London, Yorkshire Area, North Western Area, West Midlands, East Coast, Home Counties, South Coast, West of England, South Wales and Monmouthshire and Scotland. The change also applied in Devon and Cornwall, but it did not affect the North East Coast Area and the East Midlands. The scheduled minimum rates of wages of indoor and outdoor labourers in the various Areas are as follows (including those in which no change took place in February):-London: indoor is 4.25d, outdoor, ls. 5.03d; North East Coast: indoor, Zone A, ls. 1.67d, Zone B, ls. 0.98d, Zone C, ls. 0.7d, outdoor, Zone A, ls. 21d, Zone B, ls. 1.41d, Zone C is. 0.1.17d, Cone C is. 0.1.2, North Western Area: indoor, Zone A, ls. 1.67d, Zone B, ls. 1.41d, Zone C, ls. 0.41d, outdoor, Zone A, ls. 2.16d, Zone B, ls. 1.45d, Zone C, ls. 0.41d, outdoor, Zone A, ls. 2.16d, Zone B, ls. 1.45d, Zone C, ls. 0.1.31d, is West Midlands: Zone A, ls. 1.78d, None B, ls. 1.22dd, Zone C, ls. 0.73d, outdoor, Zone A, ls. 2.16d, Zone B, ls. 2.1.58d, Zone C, ls. 0.25d, to ls. 1.44d, Zone B, lt. 1.20d, Zone C, ls. 0.73d, outdoor, Zone A, ls. 2.16d, Zone B, ls. 2.2, South Coast: Zone A, ls. 0.24d, Low B, lt. 4.25d, Zone C, ls. 0.73d, outdoor, Sone A, ls. 2.16d, Zone C, ls. 0.73d, is 0.25d, to ls. 1.44d, Zone C, ls. 1.40d, Zone C, ls. 0.73d, is 0.73d, is 0.73d, is 0.25d, is 0.25d, to ls. 1.44d, Zone C, ls. 1.40d, Zone C, ls. 0.73d, is 0.73d, is 0.25d, is 0.25d,

† The change did not generally apply to electrical fitters and wiremen in the London, West of England and East Coast Areas.

[‡] Of this increase [†]d. per hour took effect under the cost-of-living sliding scale of the National Joint Industrial Council and [‡]d. per hour as the result of a special agreement by the National Joint Industrial Council.

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

Solution to solve the formation of the second secon

¶ It was provided that no present employee should suffer a reduction in wages, but that the new scale should apply to fresh employees and to present employees as they attain the various ages set out in the scale.

** The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include:— Grade A1: Bournemouth, Oxford (made increase of yroths). Grade B1: Basingstoke, Farnborough. Grade C1: Hampshire County Council. Grade C2: Windsor R.D.C. The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the rates quoted above. †† The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include:— frade IV: Bromley, Beckenham, Carshalton, Epson, Mitcham, Northfleet, Sideup, Bromley R.D.C. (partly). Grade III: Ashford, Bexhill, Deal, Maidstone (made change from 1st February). The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the rates quoted above, The rates for Grades V, IIIa, II and I remain at 55s., 48s. 7d., 42s. 9d., and 38s. 11d. respectively for unskilled men and at 66s., 60s. 1d., 54s. 9d., and 51s. 11d. respectively for skilled

 \ddagger The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include :— Grade B: Bideford, Ilfracombe, Newton Abbott, Poole, Weymouth. Grade C: Exmouth. Grade D: Seaton. The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the rates quoted above.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY, 1928.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in rates of wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in February .—*Increases.*—Steel smelters and millmen in various districts in England and Scotland; men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales; waterworks employees in Lancashire and Cheshire. *Decreases.*—Building trade operatives in most districts in Great Britain; iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands; tinplate makers in South Wales and Monmouthshire; Siemens steel makers in South West Wales; blastfurnace workers in Cumberland; ironstone miners and blastfurnace workers in Lincolnshire; millsawyers and woodcutting machinists at Manchester; furniture trade operatives at Edinburgh and Leicester. Particulars of these and of other changes will be published in the March issue of the GAZETTE.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.-The number of trade disputes Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 31, as compared with 12 in the previous month and 28 in January, 1927. 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 7,200. In addition, about 2,800 work-people were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 10 disputes which began before January and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 41, involving about 10,000 workpeople and resulting in a loss during January of about 50,000 working days.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved at the establish-ments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress :-

		er of Disp ress in Mo	Number of Work-	Aggregate	
Groups of Industries.	Started before begin- ning of Month.	before Started begin- in Total ning of Month.		people in- volved in all Dis- putes in progress in Month.	in Workin Days of all Dis- putes in progress in Month.
Mining and Quarrying Metal, Engineering and	6	14	20	8,400	40,000
Shipbuilding		4	4	500	1,000
Contracting, etc Other Industries	22	3 10	5 12	300 800	3,000 6,000
Total, Jan., 1928	10	31	41	10,000	50,000
Total, Dec., 1927	15	12	27	7,600	38,000
Total, Jan., 1927	8	28	36	15,300	130,000

Causes.—Of the 31 disputes beginning in January, 5, directly involving 800 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 5, directly involving 700 workpeople, out of proposed reductions in wages; 10, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 3, directly involving 500 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons: and 8 directly involving 200 more provided and the second ons; and 8, directly involving 200 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 18 new disputes, lirectly involving 2,400 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, directly nvolving 200 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 6, lirectly involving 500 workpeople, were settled in favour of the

workpeople;	10, direct	tly involvin	g 1.300 W	vorkpeople	, in favour	and a set of the set o	and with 59 in January, 1927.
of the employe	ers; and	7, directly	involving	800 work	people, were	BAILWAY SERVICE. Brakesmen and Goods	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued).
compromised. 900 workpeople	In the	case of 4 of	ther disput	tes, direct.	ly involving	Guards	1 Other Metal Trades 1
soo workpeople	e: work w	as resumed	pending ne	egotiations	5.		2 Shipbuilding 14
[The usual	tabular s	statement of	principal	disputes	in progress	Firemen	1 Wood 4
during the mor	nth is or	nitted, as t	here were	no disput	es involving		Gas 2
large numbers o	of workpeo	ple in Janua	ary.]		ALL AND DO THE	Portora	3 Electric Generating Stations 2
						Shuntora	4 Clay, Stone, Glass, etc 6 2 Chemicals, etc 7
	and the second second			· ·			Daman Ditting
							5 Tanning, Currying, etc 6
ACT ACTES						Contractors' Servants	2 Rubber Trades
ASSIST	ED P	ASSAG	ES UN	NDER	THE	I service and the second	- Other Non-Textile Indus-
						TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 2	8 tries 3
EMPIRI	E SE	I I LEN	IENT	ACT,	1922.		- Constant and the state where we shall a state of
-						MINES. Underground 8	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106,
THE number of	f assisted	passages fr	om Great	Britain an	d Northern	Surface 1	ACTORI ACI, 1901.
Ireland granted	d during	January, 1	928, in con	nnection	with agreed		Docks, wharves, etc 8
schemes under such passages g	the Empi	re Settleme	nt Act, and	d the tota.	l number of	TOTAL, MINES 9	Buildings 14
with the number	er of den	artures duri	prion of the	ese șchem	es, together	ater 2. 6 to manippe bu	Warehouses and Railway Sidings
in the following	Table :-	-	ng the san	re perious	, ale shown	QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	5 Sidings
120-	2.8.8					TACTORING AND WORKSTON	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS 122
THE REAL PORT	188 20	Angiato	1 Passages	15 4 4 4	Xinwashing	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	A Station sectors to assessing
	101 111	Gra	anted.	Dep	artures.	The second s	Construction or Repair of
Assisted Passag	e Schemes.	1 1 38	CTEL B.G	15 1	Contrast R		Waterworks 1
		January, 1928.	1922 to 1927.	January,	1922 to	Textile Bleaching and	CONTRACTOR STATE OF THE STATE OF THE STATE
		1920.	1927.	1928.	1927.	Dyeing 2	Total (excluding Sea-
To Australia	present a			TRANS- STORES	BRITISKI	Metal Extracting and Re-	men) 250
" New Zealand			140,992† 40,808†	2,312 238	137,503† 38,855†		SEAMEN.
" Canada		1,487	66,769†	210	67,620†	Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube	The second se
,, South Africa Minor Schemes			763 8,142†	6 47	433† 7,383†	Making 10	Trading Vessels, Sailing 11 ,, ,, Steam 37
	1	28		12 2 2 200	Contraction of a Start	Metal Founding 1	Fishing Wassel G 'l'
Total		. 3,663	257,474†	2,813	251,794†	Engineering and Machine	"," Steam 7
and the second second	See Stan	and the second s				Making 7	
The figures g	given inc	lude both	applicants	and dep	endants of	Boiler Making and Con-	TOTAL, SEAMEN 59
applicants to wh	hom assis	ted passages	have been	granted.	01	structional Engineering 3	
	2. Sulsa Conserver	19341 Gerro	ASSTRACT	and the	Nontralia - Charles	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages,	Total (including Sea-
• Disputes invo	lving less	than 10 work	neonle and	those whiel	h lastad loss	Motors, Aircraft 6	men) 309
than one day, have aggregate duration							
"ssiegate duration	n (i.e., ni	imper of wor	kneonle mu	Itiplied by	number of	* Cases include all attacks reporte	

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working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded days. Revise figures.

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DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epithelio-matous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland matous and chrome interation in Great Dirian and Northern Freiand reported during January, 1928, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, was 46. Three *deaths** were reported during the month, two due to epitheliomatous ulceration and one due to lead poisoning. In addition, five cases of lead poisoning among house plumbers (including one death) came to the knowledge of the Home Office during January, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. (a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING. | (b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF

ong Operatives engaged in	1	POISONING.	
Smelting of Metals		Aniline Poisoning	3
Plumbing and Soldering		The monthly and an and an approximate	-
A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	3	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.	
	3	Handling of Horsehair	1
Printing		Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins	1
linning of Metals	••••	indes and Skins	-
Other Contact with Molten Lead	1	TOTAL, ANTHRAX	2
White and Red Lead Works	1	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMAT	ous
ottery		ULCERATION.	4
itreous Enamelling	1	Pitch Tar	42
lectric Accumulator	S. S. S.	Paraffin	
Works	4	Oil	10
aint and Colour Works	2	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS	-
ndiarubber Works		ULCERATION	16
oach and Car Painting		(e) CASES OF CHROME	aro.r
hipbuilding	1	ULCERATION.	
aint used in Other		Manufacture of Bichro-	
Industries		mates	
ther Industries	1	Dyeing and Finishing Chrome Tanning	
ainting of Buildings	6	Other Industries	3
44.238 628 - 8 -	-	Lafer State Intraction	-
AL OF ABOVE	20	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION	5
	- 1		-

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during January, 1928, as killed in the course of their employment, was 250, as compared with 206 in the previous month and with 208 in January, 1927. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in January numbered 59, as compared with 56 in the previous month and with 59 in January, 1927.

• Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

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 January, 1928, in the poor-law areas in the thirty-one selected urban areas named below was 777,796, or 1.4 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 9.6 per cent. less than in January, 1927. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 435, 442 and 481 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Avroants	Numb of Poor	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in January, 1928.				Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10 000 of			
elected Urban Areas.‡	Indoor.	Out-	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti-	Population as compared with a				
S OF LASS	n eneut	(1)		mated Popu- lation.	Month ago.	Year ago.			
ENGLAND AND	der doo	A	- +++ -		2	Potto			
WALES.	1	E T				MATEN A			
Metropolis. West District	9,498	7,317	16,815	202	+ 1	- 14			
North District	10,873	7,317 18,580	29,453 4,977	286	+ 14	- 46			
Central District	2,399	2,578	4,977	371	+ 6	- 37			
East District	10,097	59,834	69,931	1,072	-34 -19	-179 - 66			
South District	19,647	71,936	91,583	466	- 19	- 00			
COTAL Metropolis	52,514	160,245	212,759	461	- 10	- 67			
West Ham	4,603	27,559	32,162	425	- 27	- 214			
Other Districts. Newcastle District	2,898	27,415	30,313	597	+ 29	- 101			
Stockton and Tees District	1 432	14,656	16,088	. 583	- 26	- 111			
Bolton Oldham, etc.	1,432 4,319	8.207	12.526	160	- 10	- 15			
Bolton, Oldham, etc. Wigan District	1,883	14,850	16.733	368	- 6	+ 38			
Manchester District	9,892	34,336	44,228	422	- 8	- 65			
Liverpool District Bradford District	10,159	65,088	75,247	593	$- 23 \\ - 8$	$ + 23 \\ - 17$			
Bradford District	1,826	6,913	8,739	237	- 0	- 17			
Halifax and Hudders		7 740	4 011	131	+ 4	+ 2			
field	1,562	3,349	4,911 13,795	289	-15	- 11			
Leeds	2,907	10,888	11,516	343	+ 3	- 43			
Barnsley District Sheffield	2,655	23,694	26,349	512	+ 24	- 106			
Hull District	1 876	16 061	17,937	560	- 22	+ 33			
North Staffordshire	2,524 2,315 1,208	8,951 12,669 4,147	11.475	276	- 15	+ 38 + 11			
Nottingham District	2,315	12,669	14,984	319	- 44	+ 11			
Leicester	1,208	4,147	5,355	222	+ 2	+ 1			
Wolverhampton	1 88 2003	1、1993年代1月1日日日	10 501	000	- 4	- 8			
District	3,642 7,676	15,939	19,581	260 281	- 14	- 41			
Birmingham	1,076	10,504	26,260 17,360	420	+ 5	- 34			
Bristol District Cardiff and Swansea	2,628 2,645	18,584 14,732 20,039	22,684	469	- 11	- 22			
	There is a first of	331,027	396,081	379	- 9	- 22			
TOTAL, "OtherDistricts'	(tem in the second			-	-	-			
TOTAL, Districts in Eng land and Wales	122,171	518,831	641,002	405	- 10	- 45			
SCOTLAND.		10.11	05 001	0.05	1 10	- 93			
Glasgow District	6,121	78,963	85,084	885	+ 18	- 93			
Paisley and Green-	903	17 376	14,239	737	+ 51	- 90			
ock District	1,794	13,336 18,742	20,536	484	+ 34	- 11			
Edinburgh Dundee and Dun-	1,194	10,172	1 20,000		1	Jen osers			
fermline	877	4,802	5,679	263		- 11			
Aberdeen	538	4,809	5,347	339	+ 9	- 5			
Coatbridge & Airdrie	380	5,529	5,909	581	+ 3	- 24			
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	10,613	126,181	136,794	666	+ 21	- 57			
TOTAL for above 31 Dis tricts in Jan., 1928	132,784	645,012	777,796	435	- 7	- 46			

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in January, 1928, was 641,002, a decrease of 2.3 per cent. as compared with December, 1927, and a decrease of 10.0 per cent. as compared with a year ago. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 136,794, an increase of 3.3 per cent. as compared with December, 1927, but a decrease of 7.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one areas in January Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one areas in balliary numbered 132,784, or $1 \cdot 1$ per cent. more than in the previous month, but 0.9 per cent. less than in January, 1927. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 645,012, or $1 \cdot 9$ per cent. less than in the previous month, and $11 \cdot 2$ per cent. less than a year ago.

Of the thirty-one areas, sixteen showed decreases in the number Of the thirty-one areas, sixteen showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in January as compared with the previous month, the most noteworthy being Nottingham (44 per 10,000); while fourteen areas showed increases, the chief being Paisley and Greenock (51 per 10,000). Compared with January, 1927, twenty-four areas showed decreases, including West Ham (214 per 10,000), East London (179 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (111 per 10,000), Sheffield (106 per 10,000), and Newcastle (101 per 10,000); while seven areas showed small increases showed small increases.

* The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in asylums, registered hospitals and licensed houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only. † The figures for England and Wales relate to 28th January, and those for Scotland to 15th January. ‡ These urban areas include more than one poor-law union in the case of England and Wales, except in the Leeds, Leicester, Birmingham, Sheffield and West Ham districts ; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statis-tical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the period 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.*

coppe of industries.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*							
Country.	July,	July, 1925.	July,	July,	Latest figures available.			
	1924.		1926.	1927.	Rise.	Date.		
of Work- Townton-	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per			
server at bevieve	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.	1928. 1 Feb.		
UNITED KINGDOM	62	67	61	59	59	I Feb.		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.		diadi	10 20			1927.		
Czechoslovakia	137	816	776	862	813	Dec.		
Denmark	100	110	59	53	52	Jan. '28 Nov.		
Egypt (Cairo)‡	48	58	58	47 965	48 1,040	Dec.		
Finland	916	1,007	967 474	457	430	Jan. '28		
France (Paris)	260 300§	3518	5108	4538	426	Nov.		
, (other towns)‡ Germany	3008	54	45	57	52	Jan. '28		
Germany	67	76	68	72	65	Nov.		
Italy (Milan)	408	502	554	424	413	Dec.		
(Rome)	369	427	498	425	402	Dec.		
Norway	148	160	98	75	71	Dec.		
Spain (Madrid):	82	90	86	89 64	125 69	Nov.		
" (Barcelona)‡	72	82	63 56	51	54	Dec.		
Swedent	59 70	69 69	59	57	60	Dec.		
Switzerland United States	40	56	54	50	53	Dec.		
United States	40					- Second		
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.	nout.	aller aller	chores .	Lan and	000	Tam		
Australia	49†	56	59	52 49	57 52	Nov. Dec.		
Canada	34†	42†	51†	49	54	Dec.		
India (Bombay):	51	52	55	. 54	49	Dec.		
Native families	85	88	14	66	72	Oct.		
Irish Free State New Zealand	48	51	49	44	46	Dec.		
New Zealand	17	20	16	19	19	Dec.		

II.-ALL ITEMS.

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

the of property	Items on	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*							
Country.	which Computa- tion is	July,	July.	July,	July,	Latest figures available.			
	based.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	Rise.	Date.		
United Kingdom	A,B,C,D,E	Per cent. 70	Per cent. 73	Per cent. 70	Per cent. 66	Per cent. 66	1928. 1 Feb.		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES. Belgium	A,O,D,E	393	409	537	690	712	1927. Dec.		
Czechoslovakia (Prague) Denmark	A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	589 114	641 119 1,094	618 84 1,018	647 76 1,081	634 76 1,125	Dec. Jan.'28 Dec.		
Finland France (Paris) Germany Greece (Athens)	A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	1,032 267¶ 1,225	301¶ 43 1,372	439¶ 42 1,708	407¶ 50	398 51 1,864	4th gr Jan.'2 Nov.		
Holland (Am- sterdam) Italy (Milan) ,, (Rome)	A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,C,D	¥3† 412 349 381	79† 498 395 415	¥1† 549 462 509	67† 448 406 681	67 431 389 704	Sept. Dec. Dec. Dec.		
Luxemburg Norway Poland(W'rsaw) Sweden	A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	151+	161† 	121†	103 15 69	95 21 72	Dec. Dec. Oct.		
Switzerland United States	Á,B,Ć,Ď A,B,O,D,E	69†	68 14 †	62 1 5†	60 73†	62 73	Dec. June		
BRITISH DOMINIONS,&O. Australia Canada	A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	42¶ 53†	44¶ 55†	47¶ 57†		45 57	2nd qu Dec.		
India(Bombay): Native families Irish Free State New Zealand South Africa	A,B,C,D A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E A,B,C,D,E	60§	57 88 63§ 33	57 82 61 30	56 71 61 32	51 75 62 32	Dec. Oct. Dec. Dec.		

* Exceptions to this are : France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzer-land and Luxemburg, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Australia (Food), Greece, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; United States (all items), Canada, 1913, Australia (all items), November, 1914; Poland, January, 1914. (*Note*: Polish index numbers have been re-calculated on the basis of the new parity of the zloty). † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and light are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. || A = Food; B = House-Rent; O = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

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. 51–52 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, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7).]

FRANCE.*

FRANCE.* The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 28th January, 1928, was 32,849 (24,392 men and 8,457 women). At the end of December, 1927, the corresponding total was 26,292. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 5,802 (2,735 for men and 3,067 for women), as compared with 3,301 at the end of December. During the last week of January the Exchanges succeeded in placing 20,803 persons in situations, including 7,458 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 184 foreign immigrants.

GERMANY.†

Reichsarbeitsblatt states that an unexpectedly heavy increase in Reichsarbeitsblatt states that an unexpectedly heavy increase in the number of unemployed applicants at employment exchanges in December came almost entirely from the building, quarrying, stone, brick and tile, etc., industries, agriculture, the clothing industry and general unskilled labour. About 540,000 persons, or 82 per cent., of the total increase in numbers unemployed, were engaged in seasonal occupations. The remaining 18 per cent. are accounted for chiefly by discharges of unskilled workers owing to depression in key industries. The small increase in the number of short-time workers during the month under review is taken as an indication that the situation in manufacturing, etc., industries was still satisfactory. Further, the number of vacant situations as an indication that the situation in manufacturing, etc., industries was still satisfactory. Further, the number of vacant situations in December was still relatively high, and was nearly twice the total for the end of December, 1926. The unusually large addition of skilled building operatives (317,000 in number) and agricultural workers to the applicants at employment exchanges is attributed orincipally to the severe cold weather, which set in suddenly at

principally to the severe cold weather, which set in suddenly at the beginning of the month under review. On 31st December, 1927, the Employment Exchanges making returns reported 1,910,544 persons on the "live register," as against 1,255,149 on 30th November, and 2,390,029 on 31st December, 1926. The number of vacant situations registered at the Exchanges on 31st December was 38,615, as compared with 39,306 on 30th November, and 21,380 on 31st December, 1926. The number of persons in receipt of benefit in report of tetral

The number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment on 31st December, 1927, was 1,399,746 (including 211,472 entitled to emergency unemployment benefit). On 15th December the corresponding total was 1,002,243, and on 30th November 751,760.

November 751,760. Returns relating to 4,039,037 organised workers were received from 39 national trade unions. Of these 519,573, or 12.9 per cent., were totally unemployed on 31st December, 1927, as compared with 7.4 per cent. on 26th November, and 16.7 per cent. at the end of December, 1926. In addition 123,207, or 3.1 per cent., were working short time, as against 2.2 per cent. on 26th November, and 7.3 per cent. at the end of December, 1926.

Groups of Trades.	Membership reported on at	Percentage unemployed at end of month.			
Gibups of Trades.	end of December, 1927.	December, 1927.	November, 1927.		
All Unions making Returns	4,039,037	12.9	7.4		
Mining Quarrying, stone, brick, pot-	166,500	2.3	1.6		
tery, etc	212,200	17.6	8.8		
Chemical	877,600 230,600	5.1	4·0 5·8		
Textile	380,000	2.7	2.3		
Paper	53,900	5.3	3.7		
Leather	145,000	10.1	7.5		
Wood	294,900	10.4	6.9		
Food, tobacco, etc	223,700	8.1	6.6		
Clothing	88,100	18.3	13.1		
Building	582,200	49.0	22.4		
Printing	140,700	3.5	3.1		
Transport	318,100	5.5	4.6		

Statistical returns were received in December from 3,814 estab-lishments in various industries. On the 15th of the month 34 per instituents in various industries. On the 15th of the month 34 per cent. of the aggregate workpeople covered by the returns were employed in establishments reporting good employment (as com-pared with 34 per cent. also on 15th November and 22 per cent. in December, 1926) and 16 per cent. in those reporting bad employ-ment (as against 15 per cent. on 15th November and 41 per cent. in December, 1926) in December, 1926).

BELGIUM.[‡]

Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 145 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 608,570, show that 22,367 (3.7 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of December, 1927. In

Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 3rd February, 1928. Paris.
 † Reichsarbeitsblatt, 20th January, 1928. Berlin.
 ‡ Revue du Travail, 31st January, 1928. Brussels.

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the preceding month, the corresponding percentage was 1.4 and in December, 1926, 2.6. In addition 34,104 members were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment in December by the members of these societies numbered 586,650, or 4.02 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 2.0, and in December, 1926, 2.72.

ITALY.*

According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 414,283 persons were unemployed on 31st December, 1927, as compared with 375,734 on 30th November, and 181,493 at the as compared with 375,734 on 30th November, and 181,493 at the end of December, 1926. The total for December 31st includes 130,842 engaged in agriculture and fishing and 125,167 in the building, road construction, etc. industries. In addition 140,121 persons were partially unemployed on that date, as compared with 133,420 at the end of the preceding month, and 10,216 at the end of December, 1926. These totals must be regarded as approximate only. In December, 99,985 insured workers received benefit in respect of a total of 2,015,579 days of unemployment.

SWITZERLAND +

SWITZERLAND.[†] On 31st December, 13,701 applications for employment (13.6 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at employment exchanges, as compared with 12,079 at the end of the preceding month and 17,900 on 31st December, 1926. The increase in the month under review was due almost entirely to seasonal causes, and was principally confined to the building trades. There were increases also in watch and clock-making and the textile industry, but decreases were reported in the hotel industry, commercial employment and domestic service. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 1,824, 1,893 and 1,303 respectively. 1,824, 1,893 and 1,303 respectively.

NORWAY.

According to information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, out of 16,105 members of trade unions making returns $24 \cdot 5$ per cent. were unemployed on the last day of December, 1927. The corresponding figure for the end of November was $21 \cdot 6$ per cent., and that for December, 1926, $28 \cdot 5$ per cent.

SWEDEN.‡

The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st December, 1927, was 18.6, as compared with 12.5 on 30th November, and 19.1 on 31st December, 1926.

UNITED STATES.§

UNITED STATES! The set of the volume of employment in December, and a point of the object of the ob

AUSTRALIA

The proportion of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed in the third quarter of 1927 amounted to 6.7 per cent., as compared with 6.4 per cent. in the preceding quarter, and 7.6 per cent. in the third quarter of 1926. (These figures relate to persons out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter.)

CANADA.

On 1st January, 1928, according to the Report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the employment situation was better than on the corresponding date in any year since 1920. For 1st January, 1928, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,177 firms, with an aggregate of 826,736 upon their pay-rolls. On 1st December, 1927, the same firms reported 886,836 employed, and the total for 1st January thus shows a decrease of 60,100 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, he more and the total for 1st January thus shows a decrease of 60,100 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be repre-sented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st January, 1928, i $:99 \cdot 5$, as compared with $106 \cdot 8$ at the beginning of the pre-ceding month, and $94 \cdot 8$ on 1st January, $1927\P$. On 30th November, 1927, $5 \cdot 2$ per cent. of the aggregate member-ship of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with $3 \cdot 9$ per cent. at the end of October and $4 \cdot 7$ per cent. at the end of November, 1926.**

- * Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, January, 1928. Rome.
 † Rapports économiques et Statistique sociale, January, 1928. Berne.
 ‡ Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.
 § Employment in Selected Manufacturing Industries, December, 1927.
 Tashington.
 ¶ Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics, September 1927. Melbourne.
 ¶ The January Employment Situation, 1928. Ottawa.
 ** Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

NEW ZEALAND.*

Retw ZEALAND.⁴⁷ Returns relating to unemployment in the week ending 19th Nov-ember, 1927, were furnished to the Census and Statistics Office by trade unions having an aggregate membership of 56,795. Of these, 5,531, or 9.7 per cent., were out of work for more than three days during the week, as compared with 11.6 per cent. in the corresponding week of August, 1927, and 6.7 per cent. in that of November, 1926. (These returns are published at quarterly intervals.) Unemploy-ment was relatively most serious in shipping (28.5 per cent.) and sawmilling, wood manufacture, etc. (20.2 per cent.).

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CITIES ABROAD.

THE series of index numbers of comparative "real wages" in London and in certain cities abroad, compiled by the International Labour Office from returns supplied (as a general rule) by official statistical departments in the various cities, is carried down to 1st October, 1927, in the January, 1928, issue of the "International Labour Review" published by that Office. The computations have for their object a comparison of working-class real wages, so far as these can be gauged by the quantity of food which can be purchased in each city by the wage paid for 48 hours' work at the normal time rate (i.e., apart from extra payment for overtime) to typical categories of adult male workers in certain industries (building, engineering, furniture-making, printing and bookbinding) common to large cities.

The following Table gives the latest figures computed—(a) on The following Table gives the latest figures computed—(a) of the basis of the varying standards of working-class consumption of food appropriate to different countries, or groups of countries— see columns 1 to 6; (b) on the basis of a composite standard of food consumption representing a general average for all the countries concerned—see column 7; and (c) on the basis of this composite food standard with a modification to allow for the varying proportions of rent represented in the working-class budgets of expenditure in the different countries-see column 8. The average level of real wages in the selected occupations in each city is expressed as a percentage of the average level in the same group of occupations in London. Corresponding figures for 1st July, 1927, were reproduced in the issue of this GAZETTE for December last.

Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Real Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad at 1st October, 1927 (London = 100.)

A LI TRO LINE	of e	ex Nun each Ki Workin	Food	srage Index Allowance Sent.				
City.	Great Britain.	Belgium and France.	Central European Countries.	Southern European Countries.	Scandinavian Countries.	Countries (Can- ada, U.S.A., etc.)	General Average Nos. based on j only.	General Average Index Nos. with Allowance for Rent.
Law crads and	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London Amsterdam Berissels Copenhagen† Dublin Lisbon Lodz Madrid Philadelphia Prague Riga Rome Stockholm‡ Vienna Warsaw§	100 77 62 96 103 27 37 52 163 187 46 56 44 83 41 35	100 83 59 48 89 96 29 37 52 150 174 47 45 47 6 366 36	$100\\81\\70\\46\\109\\29\\46\\55\\162\\179\\49\\55\\51\\76\\45\\44$	100 82 55 46 97 98 29 40 56 154 190 50 48 53 83 83 40 39	$100\\88\\76\\52\\119\\105\\28\\49\\54\\191\\215\\51\\56\\49\\95\\52\\47$	$100 \\ 82 \\ 68 \\ 47 \\ 105 \\ 100 \\ 30 \\ 43 \\ 54 \\ 152 \\ 194 \\ 52 \\ 54 \\ 49 \\ 89 \\ 45 \\ 41 \\ 100 $	100 83 65 48 103 101 29 42 54 162 189 49 52 49 52 49 52 49 84 43 40	$ \begin{array}{c} 100\\ 83\\ 61\\ 52\\ 103\\ 110\\ \cdots\\ 44\\ \cdots\\ 160\\ 189\\ 52\\ 55\\ 51\\ 82\\ 48\\ 41\\ \end{array} $

It is explained in the "International Labour Review" that the figures are subject to important reservations. In particular, the wage and price data for the different cities used as basis for the comparisons are not strictly comparable. Also in the case of certain cities in Southern European countries, the relatively low index numbers of real wages may be accounted for in part by differences numbers of real wages may be accounted for in part by differences in the items of food consumption in such countries as compared with those ordinarily consumed in most of the other countries included in the Table. The budgets used in the comparisons do not make adequate allowance for the vegetable consumption in Southern European countries. Further, the index numbers do not show differences in the general level of real wages, even in the cities included, being based on the wages of a few categories of workers in four industries only and on the prices of a limited number of articles of food. In the second series of general averages given in the last column of the Table, although an allowance is made for rent, no account is taken of expenditure on furniture, clothing and other items of ordinary consumption. The figures, therefore, should not be regarded as affording more than a rough indication of the relative levels of real wages in the occupations and cities selected for comparison.

* Monthly Abstract of Statistics, December, 1927. Wellington. † The wages figures used for Copenhagen represent earnings (not rates.

of wages) [‡] The figures are based on wages in the building, furniture-making, and printing industries only. For other cities the metal industry is also included. [§] Based on a weighted average wage. For other cities an unweighted average has been used.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

CHOICE OF A UNION-RIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL SELECTION-POWER OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OVER MEMBERS OF AFFILIATED BODIES CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY.

THOMAS CONNELL, motorman, and two others were the plaintiffs in an action against the National Union of Distributive Workers, Glasgow, for declarator that they were members of the Union, and

Glasgow, for declarator that they were members of the Onton, and that the defendant Union were bound to accept payment of all subscriptions payable by the plaintiffs as members. The plaintiffs had formerly been members of the Scottish Horse and Motormen's Association, but they had ceased to be members of that body and, after application, had been accepted by the defendant Union as members thereof Union as members thereof.

In granting declarator that the plaintiffs were members of the Union and entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership, Lord Monorieff said that the Association seemed to have considered that it had had reason for complaint because the plaintiffs had transferred their membership to the Union; accordingly, the Association had referred the whole question to the General Council of the Scottish Trade Union Congress, to which both the Union and the Association were affiliated. The General Council conand the Association were affiliated. The General Council con-sidered the matter, and gave a decision that those members of the Union who had formerly been members of the Association should be transferred back to the latter. In consequence of this decision the Union took steps to enable them to put an end to the plaintiffs' membership; with this object in view they had refused to accept further contributions from the plaintiffs, in order that they might accumulate against them sufficient arrears to render them liable to be struck off the books of the Union. The defordent Union had mede it quite clear that they had not

The defendant Union had made it quite clear that they had not acted on their own initiative, but that they were bound to accept the decision of the General Council of the Scottish Trade Union Congress to which they were affiliated. The consequences of giving legal sanction to such a claim as this might be very serious, for its effect would be to authorise the Congress to overrule a contract which the plaintiffs had made, although the latter had made no contract with the former and had no knowledge of the former's right to intervene.

It was obvious that such a power, if given, might be open to grave abuse. There would apparently be nothing to prevent the General Council from ordering members of the Union to be expelled without any provision being made for their reception in another association. To a great extent the livelihood of members of unions affiliated to the Congress would be subject to the discretion of the

Leave to appeal was granted.—Court of Session, Edinburgh. 26th January, 1928.

WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE-RIGHT OF DISMISSAL-QUESTION OF UNREASONABLE CONDUCT.

The plaintiffs, four workmen, brought an action against The Reliable Boot Company, Limited, Stanwick, claiming two weeks' wages in lieu of notice.

It appeared from the evidence that during a spell of very cold weather an engine broke down at the factory, and when the plaintiffs arrived there in the morning they were told that they could not "clock in," but must wait until the engine had been repaired. The plaintiffs made enquiry as to when the engine was likely to start, and were informed that it had already been made to run for a few minutes. After they had waited a little time longer they went away, and about ten minutes after they had gone the engine was successfully started. On the following day the defendant Company dismissed the plaintiffs, on the ground that their conduct in absenting themselves had been unreasonable.

For the plaintiffs it was submitted that they had not acted argued that the plaintiffs ought properly to have waited, since the breakdown was only a temporary one.

The Bench found in favour of the plaintiffs, with costs .- Wellingporough Petty Sessions. 27th January, 1928.

CONTRACT OF SERVICE-BREACH-UNREASONABLE

ABSENCE FROM WORK.

The plaintiffs, the owners of Boldon Colliery, Durham, sued a number of putters, who were employed at the colliery, for damages for breach of contract, in that on three separate days they had

failed to descend the pit. Evidence was given that there had been an agreed cut in wages, but that after this there was a considerable fall in output, which the owners alleged was due to restrictions on the part of the men. consequence the owners declined to pay the minimum rate, and the Umpire subsequently held that they were justified in their action. As a result of the men's absence the Company had lost over $\pounds700$. For the defendants it was submitted that, as the minimum rate

had been refused, they were entitled to cease work. The Judge found in favour of the plaintiff Company.—South Shields County Court. 8th February, 1928.

DOMESTIC SERVICE-DISMISSAL-WAGES IN LIEU OF

NOTICE-QUESTION OF SERVANT'S RIGHT TO BOARD.

The plaintiff, a domestic servant, sued the defendant, her

employer, for a week's wages, 12s. 6d., in lieu of notice and one guinea in respect of board. The amount of 12s. 6d. had been paid into Court and the question at issue was as to the plaintiff's right to a payment in respect of

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

On behalf of the defendant the case of Gordon v. Potter, decided in 1859, was cited, in which it was held that a domestic servant on ends of wood, and was prosecuted and fined 10s. He made a claim for unemployment benefit on 12th December, but the claim was disallowed for six weeks from 9th December on the ground that he had lost employment through misconduct. sal was not entitled to board wages in addition to wages in en of notice.

Judge found in favour of the defendant with costs .-Nottingham County Court. 20th January, 1928.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-26.

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 Unemploy-ment 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. 83/28. (18/1/28.) Section 7 (1) (ii) of Principal Act-Not employed.

BOLLER ATTENDED WORKS VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT REMUNERA-TION ON SATURDAY TO PREPARE FOR STARTING ON FOLLOWING MONDAY-EXPECTED TO BE EMPLOYED ON MONDAY-DID NOT, IN FACT, RESUME WORK UNTIL SOME DAYS LATER-DID NOT BENEFIT BY HIS WORK OF PREPARATION-HELD NOT EMPLOYED

ON SATURDAY. The applicant, a roller employed by an iron and steel company, tended the works on Saturday, 5th November, 1927, and did rtain work in preparation for starting on the following Monday,

which day he expected to be employed. He did not, however, some work until Wednesday, 9th November, and he claimed temployment benefit for 5th to 8th November. The claim was sallowed in respect of 5th November on the ground that he was unemployed on that day.

The evidence before the Court indicated that the applicant ended voluntarily on Saturday, and received no remuneration for work he did. It was part of the work which had to be done at ne time, and he was expecting to benefit when work commenced Monday. As he was not present on Monday some one else fited by his work of preparation.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommenda-The Hadrance Oncer did not agree with the court's recommenda-on. He took the view that since, according to the applicant, e work he did was part of his contract, the relationship of employer id employed existed to some degree as between the iron and steel mpany and the applicant. He referred the case to the Umpire, id the Deputy Umpire gave the following decision :—

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

When the applicant went to the premises on the Saturday he had not been engaged to resume work on that or any other day, and the job he did was not performed in pursuance of any duty arising from any existing relationship of employer and employee. This distinguishes the case from such Decisions as 265/20,† 7979/20,‡ 25.§ and 1155/25.

is true that the applicant was following an occupation on the arday, and one from which he would have derived indirect uneration or profit, if he had been taken back to work on the aday. But he was not called in to work until the following dnesday, and in the meantime some one else had reaped the efit of the work he had done. The applicant proves that he derived no benefit at all from the

work, and therefore he can claim to have been unemployed on the Saturday. (See Decisions 1772/20,¶ 4226/20,** and 169/27).††"

Case No. 98/28. (21/1/28.) Section 8 (2) of Principal Act-Misconduct.

JOINER DISMISSED FOR WRONGFULLY TAKING AWAY SHORT ENDS OF WOOD-NOT FIRST OFFENCE-PROSECUTED AND FINED 10s.-FULL DISQUALIFICATION-PUNISHMENT INFLICTED IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING PERIOD OF DISQUALIFICATION UNDER UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The applicant, a joiner, was summarily dismissed from his employ-ent on 9th December, 1927, for wrongfully taking away short

Several years previously the applicant had taken some waste material without permission, and as an outcome of the incident had given an undertaking not to repeat the offence. The applicant appealed to the Court of Referees, who upheld the disallowance; but, in view of the fact that he had already been punished by criminal conviction and dimissed from his employment.

punished by criminal conviction and dismissal from his employment, they recommended that the period of disallowance should be limited to two weeks. The Insurance Officer, however, did not agree that the circumstances justified a reduction in the period of disallowance, and referred the case to the Umpire.

The Deputy Umpire gave the following decision :---

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

' Previous decisions have not always given sufficient consideration to the fact that the disqualifying provisions of Section 8 (2) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, are not meant to be punitive but are designed to protect the Unemployment Insurance Fund against claims by those who have brought about their unemployment through their own wrongful or unreasonable action.

"On further consideration I am of the opinion that, whilst a conviction is proof of the commission of the act complained of (Decision 4569/26),* the fact that criminal proceedings have been or could be taken in respect of it has no material bearing on the question whether the act amounts to misconduct within the meaning of the statute, nor should the punishment inflicted in any criminal pro-ceedings be taken into account in determining the period of disqualification under the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

'In the present case the applicant was summarily dismissed for taking away short ends of wood without the consent of his employers. He had previously taken scrap metal, and in consequence had given an undertaking not to dispose of any waste material in future. In these circumstances, I see no reason for reducing the period of disqualification."

Case No. 169/28. (2/2/28.) * Section 7 (1) (iv) of Principal Act (as Amended)—Not Unable to obtain Suitable Employment.

UNEMPLOYED MINERS, LIVING IN RENT-FREE COLLIERY HOUSES, REFUSED EMPLOYMENT AT COLLIERY 100 MILES DISTANT-HAD BEEN UNEMPLOYED NINE MONTHS-ALLEGED THERE WERE REASONABLE PROSPECTS OF RE-STARTING WORK IN FORMER EMPLOYMENT.

On 1st September, 1927, a number of unemployed coal getters in the Durham coalfield were offered employment at a Yorkshire colliery, 100 miles distant, at the local standard rate of wages. Some of the men refused the offer on the advice of their trade union, and their claims for unemployment benefit were disallowed on the ground that they were not unable to obtain suitable employment. There was adequate house and lodging accommodation in the district where the employment was offered, and, subject to a satisfactory trial period of one month, the employment would have been permanent. The men had been unemployed since January, 1927, when the colliery was closed owing to trade depression; they had remained in their colliery houses free of rent. In July the local branch of their union agreed to a reduction of piece rates, and to engagement on day-to-day contracts, with the object of assisting the colliery management to secure orders. No success resulted from the arrangement, however, and the employers could give no indication of the probable date when the colliery would re-open.

Indication of the probable date when the colliery would re-open. The applicants appealed to the Court of Referees. They main-tained that there were reasonable prospects of their colliery re-starting work, and stated that the pit had been kept in working order and was ready to open when trade revived. If they had accepted the offer they would have been deprived of their houses, and would have had little prospect of returning to their former employment if they had wished to do so at a later date. A representative of the men's union who was present at the

employment if they had wished to do so at a later date. A representative of the men's union, who was present at the hearing before the Court of Referees, said that he did not dispute that the conditions of the work or wages offered were suitable; but he alleged that there were unemployed miners in the Yorkshire area who were available for the work, and maintained that in these circumstances it was unreasonable to expect recruitment from other counties.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the employment was suitable.

for benefit should be disallowed.

"In the month of September, 1927, the applicants were offered employment in the South Yorkshire coalfield. They appear to have refused the offer on the advice of the local officials of their Association. I am not concerned with the reasons for that advice, except in so far as they are relevant to the requirements of the Unemployment Insurance Acts when judging whether the applicants complied with the conditions upon which alone they were entitled to unemployment benefit.

I agree with the Court of Referees that, in so far as the actual work which was offered is concerned, it was suitable. Indeed, this was not contested before the Court of Referees.

"The only other attempts, relevant to this appeal, to justify the refusal of the employment offered were that the applicants had

* See Vol. V, Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 281 (Pamphlet No. 12/1926).

and that it was unreasonable to expect them to leave rent-free houses and to travel to a distant employment. "In many cases there is a natural disinclination on the part of applicants to move from one district to another, and whether or not they are justified in refusing permanent employment elsewhere depends upon the circumstances of each case. "As a rule, an applicant is justified in refusing an offer of employment, whether at home or at a distance, if he can show that he has reasonable grounds for expecting to return to his former employment at an early date; but if an applicant 'cannot be said to have had an immediate prospect of returning to his former employers and would have had regular work in the employment offered, he cannot claim support from the Unemployment Fund when suitable permanent employment was available for him." (Decision 2258/25, not circulated.) In the present cases there may have been hopes, but there were no reasonable prospects, of the (Decision 2258/25, not circulated.) In the present cases there may have been hopes, but there were no reasonable prospects, of the applicants returning at an early date to the colliery where they had formerly worked. Even the arrangements made in the previous July to facilitate a resumption of work there had failed. The applicants have not even the satisfaction of being able to say that the colliery resumed work during the remainder of the year.

the colliery resumed work during the remainder of the year. "The fact that the accepting of the offer of work at a distance would have compelled the applicants to relinquish their rent-free houses is a consideration to be taken into account when considering the suitability of the employment offered. All the circumstances must be regarded. The applicants had been out of work for nine months, with no reasonable prospects, at the end of that time, of the re-opening of the pits. The industry in the area was in a very the re-opening of the pits. The industry in the area was in a voly bad way, and it is said that there were 2,000 hewers registered as unemployed. In these circumstances it seems reasonable, judged from the standpoint of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, that the applicants should have been ready to accept, and should have

the applicants should have been ready to accept, and should have expected to accept, even at the sacrifice of personal convenience, permanent employment elsewhere which would yield them satis-factory wages, and such as would counterbalance the loss of privileges they might have to forego. "After careful consideration of all the facts and circumstances, so far as they are relevant to the application of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, I agree with the Court of Referees that the applicants were not justified in refusing the employment offered, and that, therefore, they fail to show that they were unable to obtain suitable employment." employment.

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)-INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

SECOND AND THIRD GRADE CLERKS, ADMIRALTY DEPARTMENTAL CLERICAL CLASS.—Admiralty Administrative Whitley Council, Staff Side v. Official Side. Difference.—Allowances in Overseeing Offices Decision.—From 1st April, 1928, Second and Third Grade Clerks employed in the offices of the Warship Production Superintendents or as clerks to Hull Overseers shall receive, in addition to the ordinary emoluments of their grade, an allowance of £75 per annum, plus Civil Service bonus. Award issued 17th January, 1928. (1355.)

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

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE: NORTHAMPTON.—The two sides of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot Manufac-turing Industry of Northampton were unable to agree on two matters relating to the prices to be paid for operations on certain machines used by a particular firm. Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E., was appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1826, to act as Arbitrator. The award, which determined the prices to be paid for the operations in question, was issued on 2nd February, 1928.

(C.)-OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

[There were no cases under this heading during January.]

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued. I.-CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Drift Nets Mending Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order E (6), dated 21st January, 1928, confirming the variation of certain minimum rates of wages for female home-workers, and specifying the 30th January, 1928, as the date from which such minimum rates should become operative. The Order E (6) contains all the rates at present effective in the

trade (including the rates mentioned above)

II.-NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal J (44), dated 1st February, 1928, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers and to fix general minimum piece rates for certain classes of female workers. Objection period expires 31st March, 1928.

III.—REGULATIONS.

Waste Materials Reclamation Trade.

Regulations,* dated 23rd January, 1928, have been issued by the Minister of Labour under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, amending the Amendment Regulations dated 27th December, 1927, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Cotton Waste Reclamation and the General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Boards, respectively.

TRADE BOARDS INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT (GREAT BRITAIN).

For the purpose of the inspection of firms engaged in industries covered by Trade Boards, and the enforcement of Trade Board Orders in Great Britain, the country is divided into eight divisions, in each of which there is a divisional office in charge of a senior officer; and all Trade Boards inspection is now undertaken locally from the appropriate divisional office.

The addresses and telephone numbers of the divisional offices, and the areas they respectively cover, are given below. Communi-cations should be addressed to "The Senior Officer, Ministry of Labour, Trade Boards Division," at the addresses shown :—

- South-Eastern Division (I) (comprising London north of the Thames and Middlesex):---Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.I. (*Tel. No.*: Victoria 9200.)
- South-Eastern Division (II) (comprising London south of the Thames, and Essex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire,
- Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. (*Tel. No.* : Victoria 9200.)
- South-Western Division (comprising Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall) :---Grove House, 34, Tyndall's Park Road, Bristol. (*Tel. No.*: Bristol 7801.)
- Midland Division (comprising Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Rutland, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Stafford-shire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, and Shropshire) :--
 - 205, Corporation Street, Birmingham. (*Tel. No.* : Birmingham, Central 2511.)
- North-Eastern Division (comprising Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Durham and Northumberland) :--
- Quebec Chambers, Quebec Street, Leeds. (*Tel. No.*: Leeds, Central 20801.)
- North-Western Division (comprising Lancashire, Cheshire, West-
- (Tel. No. : Rusholme 1868.)
- Scottish Division (comprising the whole of Scotland) :-44, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh. (Tel. No. : Edinburgh 21061.)
- Welsh Division (comprising the whole of Wales and Monmouthshire) :---
- Principality Buildings, Queen Street, Cardiff. (Tel. No. : Cardiff 5253.)

WEST MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY DISTRICT ORDER, 1925. JOINT **AUTHORITY: REPRESENTATIVES** OF WORKERS IN THE INDUSTRY.

In accordance with Section 2 (9) of Part I of the First Annex to the Schedule to the West Midlands Electricity District Order, 1925, the Minister of Labour has designated to the Clerk to the West Midlands Joint Electricity Authority the following employees organisations having members in the employment of authorise Undertakers in the district :-- Amalgamated Engineering Union Electrical Power Engineers' Association; Electrical Trades Union National Association of Local Government Officers; Nationa Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics and Electrical Workers (Power Workers' Group of the Transport and General Workers' Union); National Union of General and Municipal Workers; Workers' Union

* Statutory Rules and Orders, Nos. 29 and 30 of 1928.

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR TRANSMISSION MACHINERY IN FACTORIES: BELT MOUNTING.

THE Home Office have issued a pamphlet* dealing with various methods of *belt mounting*. The general subject of fencing and other safety precautions for transmission machinery has already been dealt with in another pamphlet.[†] It is stated that the heavy toll of accidents due to transmission machinery is largely produced by the common practice of mounting belts at ordinary speeds by direct handling at the driving pulley. Such accidents will be eliminated only by avoiding approach to the shaft while it is in motion; and the object of the pamphlet is to set out information collected both in this country and abroad as to the methods which have been adopted to overcome the danger. The namphlet is freely illustrated: and it is stated that some of the pamphlet is freely illustrated; and it is stated that some of the devices illustrated can be seen in actual operation at the Home Office Industrial Museum, described on pages 8–9 of the January issue of

rice 6d. each.)

price 3d.)

Aluminium Ware : Bowen & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; F. Braby this GAZETTE. Audminum ware : Bowen & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Birstol; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Hague & McKenzie, Ltd., Birmingham; London Aluminium Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Angles and Zeds, Steel : Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.— Battery Components : Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., Dukinfeld.— Betting, Leather : The Bell Rock Belting Co., Ltd., Manchester; Card Clothing & Belting, Ltd., Halifax; Lewis & Tylor, 'Ltd., Cardiff; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Spartan Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Blades, Cutter : Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—Blankets : John Berry & Sons, Ltd., Ashburton.—Boards, Regulating : Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—Boilers, Electric : Benham & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—Boxes, Ditty : D. M. Daviess (Holloway), Ltd., Slough.—Brass Fittings : J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Evered & Co., Ltd., Smethwick; T. Pem-berton & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; Player & Mitchell, Bir-mingham; W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; W. Rowley, Ltd., Birmingham; E. Showell & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Worcester Brass Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Brooms and Brushes : Briton Brush Co., Ltd., Wymondham, Norfolk; W. T. Clark & Co., Rimingham; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; John Palmer, Ltd., Portsmouth; Rigby, Battcock, Ltd., London, E.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; I. S. Varian & Co., Dublin; W. H, Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.—Brushes, Carbon : Morgan Crucible Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Brushes, Painters : F. Brockley & Son., Epsom; Hamilton & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.W.; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; I. S. Varian & Co., Dublin.—Brushes, Steel Wire : N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Mechanical Appliance Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; N. Riddell Cousland & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; W. Turner, Boxmoor; J. & R. Whyte, Glasgow.—Brushes, Tooth : G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Bunting : C. B. Broo & Co., Ltd., Bristol; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Hague & McKenzie, Ltd., Birmingham; London Aluminium Co., Ltd., In a concluding paragraph the importance is emphasised of warning the workers of the danger of mounting belts by hand, and the necessity of enforcing the strict observance of safety rules. OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED. DISABLING DISEASES.—Disabling diseases, being illustrations from the work of the District Medical Officers under the National Health Insurance Act. Scottish Board of Health. (S.O. publication; EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY.—Circular to Local Education Authorities No. 1395, dated 23rd January, 1928. Board of Education. S.O. publication; price 2d.) Contains the President's statement in reply to a resolution dvocating the raising of the age of compulsory school attendance o 15 in 1933, and the Report of the Government Actuary on the atture numbers of children in public elementary schools. J. Clough & Son, Shipley; Wm. Bancroft & Sons of Halifax, Ltd., Halifax.—Cables, Electric : Anchor Cable Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Edison Swan Cables, Ltd., Lydbrook, Glos; Henley's Telegraph Works, Ltd., London, S.E.; Hooper's Telegraph & I.R. Works, Ltd., London, E.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Carpenters' and Joiners' Work : Brown & Backhouse, Liverpool; Lawson & Co., Glasgow; Mansfield Box Co., Mansfield.—Cells : Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath; London Battery & Cable Co., Ltd., London, E.; D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire.—Cells, Dry : General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Cloth, American : The Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.—Clothing, Oilskin : E. Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Cloths, Cotton Cleaning : Chas. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool.—Cloths, Sponge : C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—Clutches, Star : Soott's Shipbuilding & Engi-neering Co., Ltd., Greenock.—Condenser Doors and Water Boxes : Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield.—Crane, Floating : Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—Crane, Floating, Dismantling and Re-erecting : Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—Crane, Petrol Electric : Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich.—Cranes, Overhead Travelling : Marshall, Fleming & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—Duck, Cotton : Industrial Fatigue Research Board. Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich.—Cranes, Overhead Travelling : Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich.—Cranes, Overhead Travelling : Marshall, Fleming & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—Duck, Cotton : Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Summerseat.—Fire Appliances : Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Whites Injectors, Ltd., Man-chester.—Firebricks : J. Dougall & Sons, Ltd., Bonnybridge; H. Foster & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Glenboig Union Fireclay Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Flour : Spillers & Bakers, Cardiff; W. Vernon & Sons, London, E.C.—Generating Sets, Oil-driven : English Electric Co., Ltd., Rugby.—Generator, Motor : Crompton, Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford.—Gloves, Anti-Flash : Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade.—Headers, Boiler : Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., Renfrew.—Heating Elements, Electric : Credenda Conduits Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Heating Equipment, Steam : C. P. Kinnell & Co., Ltd., London, S.E., Hides, Leather and Leather Goods : Geo. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Barrowfield Leather Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Card Clothing & Belting, Ltd., Halifax; J. Conyers & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—Hoses, Leather Suction and Delivery : S. E. Norris fertility, and infant mortality. (S.O. publication; price 7s. 6d. (See page 47.) Leeds; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—Hoses, Leather Suction and Delivery : S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Installation, E. L. : G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C.—Ironmongery : B. C. Barton & Sons, Birmingham; Fellows Bros., Ltd., Cradley Heath; S. J. & E. Fellows, Ltd., Wolverhampton; J. Golcher, Ltd., Wednesbury; R. Green, Ltd., Cradley Heath; J. Hill & Sons, Stourbridge; N. Hingley & Sons, Safety Pamphlet No. 12. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net. Fencing and other Safety Precautions for Transmission Machinery in tories. Part I. General. (Out of print: new edition in preparation.)

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED. APPRENTICESHIP.—Report of an enquiry into apprenticeship and training for the skilled occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1925–1926. II. Building, woodworking and allied industries. III. Mining and quarrying; metal extraction; chemical, glass, pottery and allied industries. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 6s. and 3s. 6d. respectively.) (See pages 40–42.) BLIND WORKERS.—Technical education of blind persons. Joint memorandum issued by the Scottish Education Department and the Scottish Board of Health. (S.O. publication; price 2d.) CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—Third Census of Production (1924). Preliminary Reports, Northern Ireland. No. 1. Linen; bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades; general totals for all textiles; clothing and millinery trades; laundry, cleaning and dyeing trades; general totals for all apparel. No. 2. Grain milling trade; bread, biscuit and sugar confectionery trades; creameries and the bacon curing, preserved foods, and ice trades; brewing, spirit distilling, wholesale bottling, aerated waters and tobacco trades; general totals for food, drink and tobacco trades. Board of Trade. (S.O. publications; price 6d. each.) Inture numbers of children in public elementary schools.
HEALTH INSURANCE.—Compulsory sickness insurance. Comparative, analysis of national laws and statistics. Studies and Reports Series M. (Social Insurance) No. 6. International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1927; London, P. S. King & Son, Ltd., price 12s.)
INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.—(a) Report of the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for the year 1926-7. (Cmd. 3002; price 3s.) (b) Report of the Medical Research Council for the year 1926-7. (Cmd. 3013; price 3s.)
Contains a section on industrial diseases and on the work of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board. INDUSTRIAL FALIQUE RESEARCH BOARD. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.—Bibliography of the International Labour Organisation, 1919–1926. International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1927; price 2s.) LIGHTING.—The effect of different systems of lighting on output and accuracy in fine work (type setting by hand). Industrial Fatigue Research Board and Illumination Research Committee. (S.O. Research Board and Illumination Research Committee. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) MINING.—Miners' Welfare Fund. Board of Trade, Mines Depart-ment. (S.O. publication; price 3d.) OCCUPATIONAL MORTALITY.—The Registrar General's decennial supplement, England & Wales, 1921. Part II. Occupational mortality, (See page 47.)
 PENSIONS.—Report of the Departmental Committee on the super-annuation of local government employees. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 2s.) (See page 46.)
 SHIPPING CASUALTIES.—Shipping casualties to and deaths on vessels registered in the United Kingdom. Return for the year ending 31st December, 1926, with comparative figures for earlier periods. Board of Trade.. (S.O. publication; price 2s.) (See page 42.)
 UNEMPLOYMENT.—Unemployment Grants Committee. Sixth Interim Report of proceedings from 25th June, 1926, to 30th June, 1927.
 Treasury. (S.O. publication; price 1s.) (See page 43.)
 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(a) Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1926. Decisions given by the Umpire on claims to benefit during the month of December, 1927: U.I. 440. Pamphlet No. 12/1927.
 (S.O. publication; price 6d.) (b) Unemployment Fund Account, 1926, showing the receipts and payments during the period 5 July, 1926, to 31 March, 1927, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. (H.C. 5; price 2d.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JANUARY, 1928.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Pembroke: Cast-Iron Pipes and Specials; Pipework in Pump House: The Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield. Ports-mouth: Rigging House and Semaphore Tower: Playfair & Toole, Ltd., Southampton.—Timber: Bailey & Whites, Ltd., Portsmouth. H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Steel Tanks: Clayton, Son & Co. Ltd. Humbler Loads Tumbles Chester for Durdrey. E. Alle Co., Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds.-Tumbler Shaft for Dredger : E. Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Ltd., Dudley; A. E. Jenks & Cattell, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Leedham & Heaton, Ltd., Leeds; S. Lewis & Co., Ltd., Dudley; Leys Malleable Castings Co., Ltd., Derby; Old Hill Co., Old Hill, Staffs; E. Orton (Willenhall), Ltd., Willenhall; E. Par-Hill, Statis; E. Orton (Willenhall), Ltd., Willenhall; E. Par-tridge & Co., Old Hill; J. R. Reedman & Co., London, E.; H. J. & E. Shorthouse, Birmingham; E. Smith, Ltd., Wednesbury; Swindell & Co., Ltd., Netherton; W. H. Tildesley, Ltd., Willenhall; J. Wellings, Lye; T. B. Wellings & Co., Ltd., Old Hill.—Jute Goods: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Jute Industries, Ltd., Lochee-by-Dundee.—Kites: W. Brooke & Co., London, W.—Lamp Fittings, Under Hills E. Lichting Engineered (J. Ltd. & Alle Rainsford & Lynes, Birmingham; McGeoch & Co., Ltd., St. Albans ham; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Gabriel & Co. Birmingham.—Lampholders : General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham Birmingham.—Lampholders: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham and Wembley; McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Rainsford & Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; J. H. Tucker & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lamps, Electric: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—Lard: C. & T. Harris (Calne), Ltd., Calne.—Leggings, Web: Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—Marmalade: A. Cairns & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Lipton, Ltd., London, E.C.—Meggers, Bridge: Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—Milk, Unsweetened, Condensed: Wilts United Dairies, Ltd., Trowbridge.—Mopheads and Caulkers: T. M. Clewes & Son, Cradley, Staffs.—Nails, Copper: T. Bradley, Birmingham; Harrison & Cook, Birmingham; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham: J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.: Tower Mfg. Birmingham; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Tower Mfg Co., Ltd., Worcester — Pendants: Brown, Lennox & Co., Ltd. Pontypridd.—Pickles: J. Stephens, Son & Co., Ltd., Gloucester; Purnell & Panter, Ltd., Bristol.—Plant, H.P. Air Compressing: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—Plates, Glass, for Indi-cators: S. & C. Bishop & Co., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—Plates, Steel Ship : Appleby Iron Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Cardiff; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Plywood : Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.; Tucker Armoured Plywood Co., Ltd., Crayford, Kent.—Pumps, Electricallydriven : Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath.—Pumps, Electrically-driven, Salt Water : Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Reels, Non-purchase Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham Dock.—Ropes, Steel Wire: Binks Bros., Ltd., London E.; Hood Haggie & Son, Newcastle; British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham Dock.—Ribbons, Hat: W. H. Grant & Co., Coventry; G. Kenning & Son, Coventry; T. Stevens (Coventry), Ltd., Coventry.-Soap Hard: C. Thomas & Bros., Ltd., Bristol.—Spirit, Methylated, Diluted: Jones & Co. (Methylators), Ltd., London, E.—Switches, Rotary: Tok Switches, Ltd., London, S.E.—Timber, English: R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater, Somerset; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; J. S. Elliott & Son, Cranleigh; R. Mulford, Ltd., Hook, Hants; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater, Somerset; W. J. Taylor & Sons, Ltd., Midsomer Norton, Bath; A. Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lewes; E. C. White & Son, I.td., Basingstoke.—Towels : Isherwood Bros. of Radcliffe, Itd., Radcliffe; W. T. Taylor & Co., Itd., Horwich.— Tuners, W/T: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E. — Winch, Petrol-driven: Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath. — Wire, Copper: Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., Nottingham; Kent Bros. Electrical Wire Co., London, W.; E. H. Phillips, Ltd., Kew; Ward & Goldstone, Manchester; Scott Insulated Wire Co., Ltd., London, N.; Connollys (Blackley), Blackley.—Wire Work: Aston Chain & Hook Co., Ltd.,
Birmingham; Bedford, Steer End & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.;
J. Dickson, London, W.C.; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd.,
London, S.E.; Heaton & Dugard, Ltd., Birmingham; R. Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Manchester; J. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Procter Bros. (Wireworks), Ltd., Leeds; S. Ramsey & Co., London, E.C.

WAR OFFICE.

Acid, Sulphuric : Spencer, Chapman & Messel, Ltd., London, E.-Barrows, Wheel : J. Edwards & Sons, Ltd., Inkpen.-Bearings : Rudge Whitworth, Ltd., Birmingham.-Bedsteads, Camp : "X" Chairs Patents Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.-Belts, Waist, Buff : R. & J. Pullman, Ltd., Godalming.—Boxes, Ammunition: H. E. Ambrose, Cambridge.—Brushes, Blacking: Jas. Root & Son, London, N., and Bletchley.—Brushes, Clothes and Polishing: Vale & Bradnack, Walsall.—Cap Comforters: A. Yates & Co., Leicester.— Cardigan Waistcoats: J. Skelton & Son, Ltd., Norwich; Bent & Watson, Ltd., Leicester; F. & E. Tarratt, Leicester.—Cases. Watson, Ltd., Leicester; F. & E. Tarratt, Leicester.—Cases. Mattress, S.S.: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—Cast Ironwork (Miscellaneous): East Dereham Foundry, Ltd., East Dereham.—Cells, Inert: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.— Chassis, Six-wheeled: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham; Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—Copper Ingot: British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.; British American Metals Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; The Anglo Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C.— Discs, Eyepiece (Splinterless Glass): Triplex Safety Glass Co., Ltd., London, W.—Drawers, Cotton: Nottingham Mfg. Co., Ltd., Lough-borough.—Drill, Khaki: Cottrill & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Drills, Electric: Vidal Engineering Co., Croydon.—Fans, Electric: Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—Glass. Window: Pilkington Electric : Vidai Engineering Co., Croydon.—Fans, Electric : Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—Glass, Window : Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—Hopper Feeds : Kynoch, Ltd., Birmingham. —Iron, Pig : Barrow Hæmatite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness. —Knives, Table : F. Reynolds, Ltd., Sheffield.—Lathes : Denham's -Knives, Table : F. Reynolds, Ltd., Sheffield.-Latnes : Denham's Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax; Graham & Normanton, Halifax; Colchester Lathe Co., Colchester.-Leather : Randall Bros. (War-rington), Ltd., Warrington.-Logs, Iroko : Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.-Machines, Gun-Boring : Hulse & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. Buckton & Co., Ltd., Leeds.-Methylated Spirit : Jones & Co. (Methylators), Ltd., London, E.-Milling Machines :

J. Parkinson & Son, Shipley.—Motor Cycles and Combinations: Triumph Cycle Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Oil, Lubricating, Mineral: Frank How & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Poles, Ridge: Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Pontoon Equipment: S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Ltd., Glasgow.—Pontoon Equipment: S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes.—Press and Tools: Taylor & Challen, Ltd., Birmingham.— Reconditioning of Cloth, etc.: Marsden Bros., Leeds; J. Watkin-son & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; W. & A. Boyd, Holbeck; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield.—Repairs to W.D. Vessel: Amos & Smith, Ltd., Hull.—Roofing Composition: Industrial Engineering Co., London, N.W.—Rope, Tarred: Frost Bros., London, E.C.—Shirts Angola, Drab: Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.; McIntyre, Hogg, Marsh & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Socks, Worsted: Hall & Son, Stoke Golding; A. Kemp, Ltd., Leicester.—Spoons: T. Wilkinson & Sons, Birmingham.—Steel: Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Stampings: J. Garrington, Darlaston.—Stockinette: J. B. Lewis & Co., Ltd., Ilkeston; I. & R. Morley, Heanor; J. H. Lowe & Co., Ltd., Congleton.—Timber, English: R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; G. Randle & Sons, Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; G. Randle & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; J. Stenning & Son, Ltd., East Grinstead; E. C. Ltd., Bridgwater; J. Stenning & Son, Ltd., East Grinstead; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—Towels, Hand, Turkish: Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton.—Vehicles, Half-tracked, Crossley-Kegresse: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—Vehicles, Six-wheeled: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—Water Softening Mixture: Sofnol, Ltd., London, S.E.—Zinc: British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Works Services: Building Works and Services: Woolwich, Royal Arsenal, Glazing Roof Lights: H. Hope & Sons, Ltd., Smethwick. North London, Artificers' Works: J. B. Edwards Ltd., Smethwick. North London, Artificers' Works : J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Dover, Citadel Barracks, Dining Room, etc. : F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. Warley, Internal Painting : Schofield, Son & Crees, Wivenhoe. Colchester, Goojerat Barracks, Vehicle Shed : A. E. Flory & Co., Colchester, Goojerat Barracks, Vehicle Shed : A. E. Flory & Co., Colchester. Feltham, R.A.S.C. M.T. Depot, Coal Yard and Wood Store : Roads & Public Works, Ltd., London, S.W. Hilsea, "C" type Married Soldier's Quarter and R.E. Office : Cortis & Hankins, Drayton, Hants. Aldershot, Wellington Lines Coverly Barracks Alteration to Stable and Wellington Lines, Cavalry Barracks, Alteration to Stable and Vehicle Sheds: T. H. Jones, Farnborough. Aldershot (South), Waterloo Barracks, Married Soldiers' Quarters, Sanitary Annexes: Tribe & Robinson, Ltd., Guildford.

AIR MINISTRY.

Airc MillyISTRY. Aircraft: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—Aircraft, Installation of Engines in: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—Aircraft, Spares : Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—Beacon Tower: T. B. Lawrence, Ltd., London, W.C.—Bombs: Vickers Armstrong, Ltd., Elswick, Newcastle.— W.C.—Bombs: Vickers Armstrong, Ltd., Elswick, Newcastle.— Buildings and Works Services: Accommodation (Kidbrooke, S.E.): J. B. Edwards & Co., Whyteleaf. Alterations and Additions to Buildings (Bircham Newton): Fisher & Sons, Fakenham. Arti-ficers' Works (Bicester): B. Jackson, Bicester. Artificers' Works (Upper Heyford): A. L. Simpson, Lower Heyford, Oxon. Doors, Folding (Palestine): Rippers, Ltd., Castle Headingham, Essex. Doors, Renewal of (Croydon): Nissens Buildings, Ltd., Rye House, Hoddesdon. External Services (Sealand): T. G. Huxley & Co., Chester. Heating Buildings (Hucknall): Brightside Foundry Engineering Co., Birmingham. Heating Buildings (Kenley): Jas. Combe & Son, Ltd., Glasgow. Petrol Pumps (Middle East, Malta, and Singapore): Zwicky, Ltd., Slough. Stove-Enamelling Plant (Milton): F. J. Ballard & Co., Tividale, Tipton.—**Cylinders, H.P.**: (Milton): F. J. Ballard & Co., Tividale, Tipton.—Cylinders, H.P.: Vickers Armstrong, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Engines, Aircraft: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Engines, Aircraft: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Engines, Aircraft, Carburettors for: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Cylinder Blocks for: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Design of: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Engines, Aircraft, Development Work on: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Engines, Aircraft, Flight and Workshop Tools for: D. Napier & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Jigs and Tools for: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul of: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol: Blocks for: W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Engines, Aircraft, Jigs and Tools for: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul of: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of: Aircraft, Overhaul of : Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of : D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Recondition-ing of, and Test : Ricardo & Co. Engineers (1927), Ltd., Shoreham. —Ergines, Aircraft, Rectification of : Gillett Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham.—Engines, Aircraft, Repair of : Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Engines, Aircraft, Repair of : D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Repair of Spares for : D. Napier & Son Ltd. London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Repair of Spares for : D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Poppet Valve (Research) : Ricardo & Co., Engineers (1927), Ltd., London, S.W.— (Research): Ricardo & Co., Engineers (1927), Ltd., London, S.W.-Engines, Aircraft, Spares: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Gillett Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.-Engines, Aircraft, Spares (Modification of): Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.-Engines, Aircraft, Test on: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Ricardo & Co., Engineers (1927), Ltd., London, S.W.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.-Fabric, Linen, Solid, Aero.: William Ewart & Sons, Ltd., Belfast; Woods, Sons & Co., London, E.C.-Generators, Motor: W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.-Magneto Snares: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.-Master Spares : British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry .- Mastel

February, 1928. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

Calibrators for Air Speed Indicators: R. W. Munro, Ltd., London, N.-Motor Alternator Set: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolver-hampton.-P. & M. Motorcycle Spares: Phelon & Moore, Ltd., Cleckheaton.—Parachutes: Irving Air Chute of Great Britain, Ltd., Letchworth.—Radiators, Aircraft, and Cases: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Re-action Apparatus, "Reid" Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Re-action Apparatus, "Reid" Type: Reid Manufacturing & Construction Co., London, N.W.— Suspended Air Logs: Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Anniesland, Glasgow.— Target, Bombing: John Deheer, Ltd., Hull.—White Metal: J. H. ards & Co., Saltley, Birmingham.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE. Cloth, Tracing: Cousins & Co., Manchester; B. J. Hall & Co., Ltd., Cheadle, Staffs; Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Ltd., Man-chester.—Cord: Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast; Wrights Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—Paper of various descriptions: J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal, Westmorland; Guard Bridge Paper Mill, Ltd., Guard Bridge, Fifeshire; Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford, Kent; Olives Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury, Lancs.; A. M. Peebles & Son (1927), Ltd., London, E.C.—Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.: Group 206 (1928)—Indexing Reports of Parliamentary Debates: M. Petheridge, London, S.W.; Group 301 (1928)—Bookwork Printing: Wm. Clowes & Sons, Ltd., Beccles, Suffolk; Printing, etc., P.O. Guide for Glasgow: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.— Tape: J. North Hardy & Son, Ltd., Manchester.—Wire-Stapling Machines: J. & C. Bell, Ltd., London, N.

POST OFFICE.

Cable-Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing : Rodney-Beckenham Junction; Mechanical Tandem-Kingston Junction : Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Maidenhead-Henley : Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. G.P.O. (South)-Streatham-Mitcham Lane Junction : Callender's Cable & Con-struction Co., Ltd., London, E.C.-Conduits-Laying : Walthamstow Chingford : Bourgement (Witter) : H Collinguing Lander Smiths, Ltd., London, E.—**Creosoting**: William Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cycles, Motor**: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Redditch and Birmingham.—Dynamotor: B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Redditch and Birmingham.—Dynamotors: Walter Jones & Co., London, S.E.; M. W. Woods, Colchester.—Ebonite, to recoat with: India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Burton-on-Trent.— Gas, Carbonic Acid: John Bennet Lawes & Co., Ltd., London, E.; -Chingford; Bournemouth (Winton): H. Collingridge, London, W.C. Leith; Birmingham Area; Mechanical Tandem-Kingston Junction; Pill-Portishead (Somerset); Woolston (Southampton); Taunton; Dudley (Gornal Wood) and Codsall: Hodge Bros. (Con-Gas, carbonic Acto : John Bennet Lawes & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Washington Chemical Co., Ltd., Bootle, Liverpool.—Handcarts : Bradford Patent Truck and Trolley Co., Bradford; E. K. Stokell, Leeds.—Hydrometers, and Floats for : W. A. E. Busby, London, E.C.; F. C. R. Holland & Co., London, E.C.—Ironwork, Telegraphic : ractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Kingston-on-Thames Schemes 2 and 3); New Cross-Brockley, S.E. (Scheme II); Cowley ractors). (Schemes 2 and 3); New Cross-Brockley, S.E. (Scheme II); Cowley (Oxon.) and Fairford (Glos.): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. Liverpool North (Great Homer Street) and Gateacre; Leeds (Stanningley and Arthington): J. W. Thornley & Sons, Farnworth, near Bolton, Birmingham Northern Relief Exchange-Central Junction, etc.: E. E. Jeavons & Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs. Crewe-Nantwich Junction: Wyatt Bros., Whitchurch, Salop. Clissold Exchange (Hackney Downs and Dalston Lane) E.; Kingston-on-Thames-Emberbrook Junction: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Westminster and Chelsea: Kongington Boddington E.C.; F. C. R. Holland & Co., London, E.C.—Ironwork, Telegraphic : Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs; John Hill & Sons, Stourbridge.—Jars, stoneware : J. Bourne & Son, Ltd., Denby, Derbyshire.—Kiosks, concrete : Croft Granite Brick & Concrete Co., Ltd., Croft, Leicestershire; Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Litherland, Liverpool; D. G. Somerville & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Knives, Pocket : J. Allen & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—Lamps, Electric : Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—Lamps, Electric, Hand : Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tividale, Tipton, Staffs.—Lamps, Oil : H. Miller & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Powell and Hanmer, Ltd., Birmingham.—Rods, Sweeps' : M. Jacobs Young & Co., Ltd., Lon-don, S.E.—Screws for Wood : Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Solder S.W. Westminster and Chelsea; Kensington, Paddington and St. Marylebone; Paddington-Marylebone Road : Westminster Road onstruction & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Nottingham-rkwright; Birmingham (Aston Road and Newtown Row): Moore don, S.E.—Screws for Wood : Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham. Sleeves, Jointing : Dugard Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—Solder : Du Bois Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Tyne Solder Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Stayblocks : Gabriel Wade and English Ltd., Staddlethorpe and Ellesmere Port.—Straps : Barrow Hepburn & Gale Ltd., London, S.E.—Tape, Insulating : W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—Tents, Jointers', Repair of : J. Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.—Tools, Instrument : G. Plumpton & Co., Warrington; W. Wilkinson & Sons, Penketh, Warrington.— Vehicle, Motor : Shelvoke & Drury, Ltd., Letchworth.—Wallboards : Venesta, Ltd., London, E.—Wire : Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington. —Wire, Cadmium Copper : Thos. Bolton & Son. Ltd., Oakamoor: & Rowley, Northfield, Birmingham. Newick and Hassocks (Sussex); Staplecross (Sussex); Locks Heath, Bassett and West End (Hants): W. H. Brown (Leatherhead), Ltd., Dorking. Fulham (Walham Green): T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Bedford; Seaton Green): T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Bedford; Seaton (Devon); Preston (Kent); Hythe; Aberlour-Dufftown-Rothes: W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Llanfairfechan: S. F. Hopley, Prestatyn, N. Wales. Boston Spa and Wetherby (Yorks): W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Warrington. Tetbury, Brimscombe and Stroud (Glos); Birmingham (Erdington, N.W.); Bath: J. F. Hodge, Rednal, near Birmingham. Cricklewood Automatic Exchange Area (Schemes I and II); Wimbledon (Worple Road); M.T.-Beckenham Junction and Ravensbourne-Beckenham; Kensington Automatic Exchange Area: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Fortwilliam (Belfast): Harding & Harding Belfast Middlesbrouch -Wire, Cadmium Copper: Thos. Bolton & Son., Ltd., Oakamoor; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; Frederick Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. and Smiths, Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—Wire, Copper, Annealed : John Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—Building Alterations to the Witney Post Office : Bartlett Bros., Witney, Oxon. ortwilliam (Belfast): Harding & Harding, Belfast. Middlesbrough ection 2): Fordyce Bros., Middlesbrough. Limpley Stoke (Wilts) (Section 2): Fordyce Bros., Middlesbrough. Limpley Stoke (Wilts): S. Ambrose, Ltd., Bath. Bude (Cornwall): H. Smith, Newport, Mon. Dumfries: P. Drummond & Son, Dumfries. Brighton, Hove and Preston; Lymington (Hants): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Middlesbrough (Section I): Goodhall Bros., Middlesbrough. Willesden, etc.; O. C. Summers, London, N. G.P.O. (South)-Cottage Grove (Section I): W. & C. French, Buckhurst Hill, Essex. G.P.O. (South)-Cottage Grove (Section II): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Seven Kings, Romford Road (Goodmayes to Romford Boundary): G. J. Anderson, London, E. Wick; G. Duncan & Co., Inverness.-Motor Converter: Mount Pleasant Sub-Station: English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.-Telephone Exchange Equipment: Colchester: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES. Asbestos Cement Sheets : Bell's Poilite & Everite Co., London, S.E.; Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., London, E.C.—Bolts and Nuts : T. W. Lench, Ltd., Birmingham.—Boring plant : R. Richards & Co., London, S.E.—Cables : The British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.; Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; The General Electric Co., London, W.C.; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—Calico : A. Stockwell & Co., Manchester.—Car: The Austin Motor Car Co., Birmingham.—Carriage and Wagon Spares : The Leeds Forge Co., Leeds.—"Celotex ": Celotex Co. of Great Britain, London, W.C.—Cement : T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Ship Canal Exchange Equipment: Colchester: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derby-shire, for Batteries. Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd. (Coventry and Whitley): General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractor: W. Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Machines. Speedwell; Willesden; Byfleet (Surrey); Canford Cliffs (Poole): General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. New Cross, S.E.; Ealing; Wallasey; Port Talbot (Glam.): Standard Telephone & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. National: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkin-E.C.; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Ship Canal Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ellesmere Port, Chester.—Chassis : Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ellesmere Port, Chester.—Chassis: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., London, S.W.—Chemicals: Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, Essex.—Clothing: T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.; D. Gurteen & Sons, Ltd., Haverhill; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Vero & Everitt, Ltd., Atherstone, Warwickshire.—Coal Tar: J. Greenshields & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Colas: Asphalt Cold Mix, Ltd., London, S.W.—Conversion of Wood-working Machines: T. Robinson & Son, Rochdale.—Copper rods: The Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Covers and Tubes: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Cranes: Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow: Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, N.B.: Ransomes & Banjer Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. National: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkin-Alig. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Charging Machines; Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby, for Ringing Machines; Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants, for Batteries. Tandem; Torquay; Cheltenham; Paisley; Paignton; Prospect; Worthing: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Mitcham: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machines Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Granes: Sir W.M. Arrol & Co., Ltd.,
 Glasgow; Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, N.B.; Ransomes & Rapier,
 Ipswich.—Disinfector: Manlove, Alliott & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.
 —Distribution Materials: W. T. Henley's Tele. Co., London, E.C.
 —Drill: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Manchester.—Drugs: Stafford
 Allen & Sons, London, E.C.—Electrical Fans: Crompton Parkinson,
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METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Badges and Plates, 1928: J. Bruton & Sons, London, N.-Wilmington Square (Erection of New Married Quarters): T. H. Adamson & Sons, London, S.W.

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