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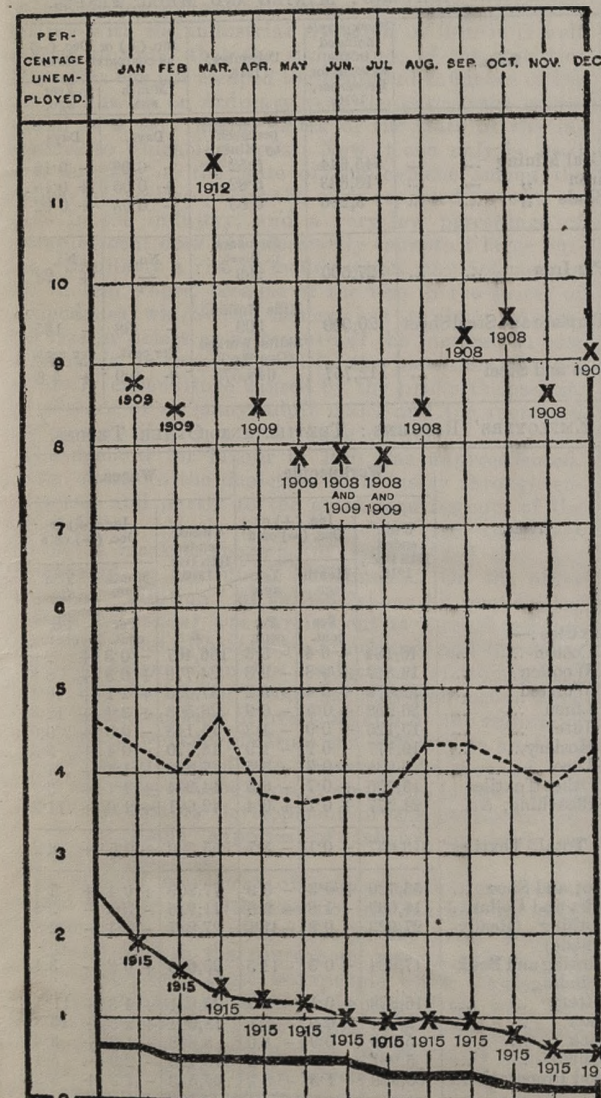
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1916. — Thin Curve = 1915.
..... Dotted Curve = Mean of 1906-15.

x The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1906-15.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

THE LABOUR MARKET.

In December there was, on the whole, no falling off from the high level of employment which has been maintained for many months in most of the principal trades, and especially in those supplying the requirements of the Forces.

Employment at coal mines was good, but showed a slight decline, as is usual in December. It was also good at shale, tin and lead mines, and very good at iron mines. At quarries employment was fairly good on the whole, but was affected by inclement weather.

In the pig-iron industry employment was good. At iron and steel works it was very good, and showed a further improvement. The engineering and ship-building trades continued to work at high pressure, with much overtime. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade there was a further decline in the number of mills at work, but in most of the other metal trades employment was very good.

There was little change in the cotton trade, and employment was good in the spinning department, and fair in the weaving section. In the woollen and worsted trades employment was very brisk, largely owing to Government contracts. There was an improvement in the linen trade, but short time continued to be worked in Ireland. Employment was good in the jute, hosiery, bleaching, calico printing and dyeing trades, and fairly good in the silk and carpet trades. In the lace trade it continued good in the plain net and fair in the curtain branches; on fancy laces employment was still slack.

The boot and shoe trade was fully employed, and much overtime was reported. Employment in the saddle and harness trade continued quiet, but was good in other branches of the leather industry.

Employment in the ready-made tailoring trade, shirt and collar trade and wholesale mantle, costume, &c., trades continued fair. It was good in the corset trade and with felt hat makers; in the silk hat trade it was bad.

There was a seasonal decline in the building trades, but in the brickmaking industry employment continued fairly good. It was also fairly good with mill-sawyers; with coachbuilders, coopers and brushmakers it remained good. In the furnishing trades there was a slight improvement, and at most centres the work-people were well employed.

In the printing trades employment continued good, and much overtime was worked, especially in London. Employment was good with bookbinders, and fairly good in the paper trades.

Employment in the glass trades was good. The china branch of the pottery trades was busy, but employment was quiet in the tile and sanitary branches. In the food preparation trades it was good.

In agriculture work was greatly affected by bad weather, but progress continued to be made in autumn cultivation. Employment was good with fishermen, but quiet with fish curers. With dock labourers employment was fair on the whole. The supply of seamen and firemen for mercantile ships was not quite equal to the demand.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED" TRADES.

(1) Workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

Trade.	Number insured, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces*	Unemployed at end of December, 1916.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed on a	
		Number.	Percentage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	483,652	5,927	1.23	+ 0.31	- 1.57
Construction of Works	107,079	363	0.34	+ 0.02	- 0.13
Shipbuilding	238,540	772	0.32	...	- 0.25
Engineering and Iron-founding	1,045,982	4,672	0.45	- 0.03	+ 0.07
Construction of Vehicles	160,991	649	0.40	...	- 0.19
Sawmilling	8,546	38	0.44	+ 0.12	- 0.24
Other Insured Workpeople	38,028	54	0.14	+ 0.02	- 0.15
All Insured Workpeople	2,082,818	12,475	0.60	+ 0.06	- 0.54

(2) Workpeople insured under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916.

Trade.	Numbers Insured exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of December, 1916.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed on a month ago.
		Number	Percentage	
Ammunition and Explosives	221,000	1,377	0.62	- 0.01
Chemicals	88,000	258	0.29	- 0.04
Metal Trades :-				
Iron and Steel Manufacture (Blast Furnaces, Puddling Furnaces, Rolling Mills, Steel Manufacture, Wrought Iron and Steel Tubes, Galvanised Sheets)	136,000	126	0.09	...
Tinplate Manufacture ...	14,000	7	0.05	+ 0.05
Wire Manufacture	21,000	32	0.15	- 0.10
Anchors, Chains, Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Rivets, Screws	22,000	58	0.26	+ 0.02
Brass (Smelting and Rolling, Founding and Finished Brass Goods)	21,000	41	0.20	- 0.04
Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc and other Metals (manufacture and finished goods)	30,000	78	0.26	+ 0.07
Hardware and Hollow-ware Stoves, Grates, Bedsteads, Locks, Keys, Safes, Lamps, Gas Fittings, Springs, Tinplate and Sheet Metal Goods, Textile Machinery Accessories, Saddlers' Hardware	82,000	290	0.35	...
Tools (excluding Machine Tools), Files, Saws, Implements, Cutlery	21,000	25	0.12	- 0.02
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery	12,000	10	0.08	- 0.02
Needles, Pins, Typefoundry, Dies, &c.	8,000	6	0.08	- 0.12
Electrical, Scientific, Mathematical, Optical, Surgical Instruments, Appliances and Apparatus (including Electric Cables and Electric Lamps)	47,000	149	0.32	+ 0.02
Miscellaneous Metal (including Musical Instruments, Toys, Fishing Tackle, Buttons, &c.)	7,000	14	0.20	- 0.37
Total—Metals	421,000	836	0.20	...
Leather and Leather Goods ...	86,000	263	0.31	+ 0.03
Brick, Tile, and Artificial Building Materials	26,000	53	0.20	+ 0.02
Sawmilling, Machined Woodwork and Wooden Cases†	66,000	684	1.04	+ 0.12
Rubber and Manufactures thereof	40,000	202	0.51	+ 0.08
Other Insured Workpeople ...	141,000	1,464	1.04	+ 0.05
All Insured Workpeople ...	1,089,000	5,137	0.47	+ 0.02

* Subject to revision.

† Excluding those insured under the National Insurance Act.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade.	Membership at end of Dec., 1916, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.	Unemployed at end of Dec., 1916.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Number.	Percentage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building*	72,584	273	0.4	- 0.1	- 1.2
Coal Mining	116,947	22	0.0	...	...
Iron and Steel	38,275	216	0.6	...	- 0.2
Engineering	269,742	445	0.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Shipbuilding	73,248	201	0.3	...	- 0.1
Miscellaneous Metal	40,413	38	0.1	...	- 0.1
Textiles :-					
Cotton	79,955	987	1.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Woolen & Worsted	7,680	3	0.0	...	- 1.1
Other	54,921	108	0.2	...	- 0.2
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	49,423	266	0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Furnishing	14,276	153	1.1	- 0.1	- 1.5
Woodworking	27,366	140	0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Clothing	73,873	67	0.1	...	...
Leather	3,749	87	2.3	- 1.2	- 2.4
Glass	648	2	0.3	+ 0.3	- 0.7
Pottery	10,150	3	0.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Tobacco	2,263	15	0.7	- 0.1	- 0.6
Total ...	935,513	3,026	0.3	...	- 0.3

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for December, 1916.	December, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining	545,644	5.52	- 0.06	- 0.16
Iron "	13,633	5.82	+ 0.05	+ 0.18
Shale "	3,230	6.03	- 0.03	+ 0.02
Pig Iron	27,500	Furnaces in Blast. 289	No.	No. + 28
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	20,000	Mills Working. 309	- 38	- 165
Iron and Steel ...	112,757	Shifts Worked (One Week). 648,578	+ 0.9	+ 5.6

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople.				Wages.			
	Week ended 10th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 10th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		
Textiles :-								
Cotton	146,184	- 0.4	- 5.3	166,467	- 0.3	+ 2.0		
Woolen	19,849	+ 0.8	- 2.3	24,779	+ 0.8	+ 8.9		
Worsted	32,679	+ 0.4	- 3.2	37,055	+ 2.1	+ 16.4		
Linen	36,208	+ 0.5	- 0.9	28,548	+ 3.4	+ 12.3		
Jute	13,126	+ 0.0	- 1.3	15,148	- 0.0	+ 9.6		
Hosiery	19,177	- 0.7	- 1.9	18,770	- 0.4	+ 3.3		
Lace	6,901	- 0.7	- 5.5	7,828	- 1.4	+ 4.5		
Other Textiles	15,256	+ 0.7	- 6.5	14,934	+ 1.1	+ 3.9		
Bleaching, &c.	24,277	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	42,061	+ 1.0	+ 11.9		
Total, Textiles	313,657	- 0.1	- 3.7	355,590	+ 0.5	+ 6.2		
Boot and Shoe ...	56,726	+ 0.3	- 0.9	77,209	+ 0.4	+ 7.4		
Shirt and Collar...	15,067	- 1.8	- 9.8	11,936	- 3.5	- 3.4		
Clothing (Ready-made)	27,923	- 0.9	- 12.9	27,287	- 1.4	- 2.8		
Printing and Bookbinding	17,934	- 0.3	- 11.5	25,640	+ 0.8	- 3.1		
Pottery	16,829	+ 0.1	- 5.0	20,831	+ 4.3	+ 11.5		
Glass	9,721	- 0.0	- 0.7	18,001	+ 2.8	+ 13.8		
Brick	5,539	- 0.9	- 8.0	8,868	+ 1.0	+ 8.3		
Cement	5,981	- 2.3	- 10.2	10,723	- 2.9	- 5.4		
Food Preparation	55,959	- 1.3	- 8.3	67,533	- 1.3	+ 3.3		
Grand Total ...	525,336	- 0.3	- 5.0	623,618	+ 0.3	+ 5.2		

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported as taking effect in December, 1916, affected about 362,000 workpeople, and resulted in an

* This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.

increase of about £55,400 per week. No decreases in wages were reported. The principal changes affected coal miners in South Wales and colliery surface workers in Scotland; pottery and tile workers in Staffordshire; boot and shoe operatives at Leicester; and iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands.

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in December was 14, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 36,627, as compared with 38,647 in the previous month and 8,817 in December, 1915. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 157,300, as compared with 155,000 in November, 1916, and 74,800 in December, 1915.

Employment Exchanges.—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Employment Exchanges for the four weeks ended 8th December was 39,762, as compared with 41,113 in the previous four weeks and with 36,820 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915. The average weekly number of vacancies filled for the same periods was 30,405, 31,778 and 24,829 respectively.

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, PRICES AND DISPUTES IN 1916.

In the following annual review of certain statistics dealing with the industrial situation in 1916 it is well to bear in mind that the significance of the statistics themselves has not escaped the profound influence of the war. Thus, in an ordinary year the percentage unemployed is a very useful index of the state of the industries to which it relates. Now it can only be used as a measure of the state of employment among the number of workpeople of the class reported on who remain in the industry, and a very low percentage of unemployment does not necessarily connote a large output. Similarly a rise in money wages may not mean a rise in real wages, because of the rise in the prices of commodities which the money has to buy. Again, this rise in prices as a measure of the increase in cost of living is, in turn, affected by the inevitable changes in family expenditure caused by the prices themselves, the absence of so many adult males and the increased employment of women and young persons.

The demand for labour in 1916 was unprecedented, partly owing to the depletion of industry through enlistments, and partly to the great requirements of the Allied forces. At the beginning of the year there was already a marked shortage of labour, and this was accentuated by continuous enlistments. On the other hand, the "dilution" of skilled labour by semi-skilled or unskilled labour was carried out to a much greater degree than had hitherto been attempted, and there was a notable extension in the employment of women and girls. The shortage of labour has also been met to some extent by the working of overtime and by the voluntary movement of workpeople from one industry to another. In spite of all expedients, however, the demand for labour far exceeded the supply, and there is now urgent need for a further development of the concentration of the available supplies of labour on work of national importance.

The upward movement of wages which was such a notable feature of 1915 was no less marked in 1916. The movement was attributable to the great demand for labour and to the continuous rise in prices, and embraced not only those workpeople whose wages had not been advanced since the beginning of the war, but included most of the great bodies of organised labour who had previously benefited by the increases granted in 1915. The industries in which the largest number of workpeople obtained increases were coal mining, textile and metal trades. Substantial advances in wages were obtained in the transport trades, and there was a stronger upward movement than in the previous year in the building trades. No complete account can be given of all the changes in rates of wages which have been made since the beginning of the war, as among unorganised workpeople many changes escape attention, but so far as reported it appears that up to the end of December, 1916, nearly six million

workpeople had received some advance. The amount varied, but, on average, the weekly increase to these workpeople was about 6s. per head, and in some of the industries directly concerned with the supply of war requirements ranged from 10s. to 12s. per week. In this connection it should be noted that these figures relate to increases in rates of wages, and they take no account of increased earnings due to more regular employment and overtime.

On the other hand, there has been a considerable increase in prices. Retail prices of food at the beginning of 1916 were about 45 per cent. above those of July, 1914. On 1st January, 1917, the corresponding increase was 87 per cent., the advance during 1916 amounting to 42 per cent. on pre-war prices. Of this 42 per cent., only 15 per cent. accrued up to 1st August, and the greatest increase in any one month was in October, viz. 10 per cent., in which month there were increases of 5 to 10 per cent. in the prices of flour, bread, milk, butter and cheese, and larger increases with fish, eggs and potatoes.

The average increase since July, 1914, in the cost of all the items ordinarily entering into working-class family expenditure was estimated at about 60 per cent. at 1st January, 1917, as compared with 30 per cent. a year earlier, eliminating the effect of increased duties, and taking the same quantities and descriptions of the various items at each date. These figures indicate the relative levels of prices at the respective dates, but take no account of alterations in dietary which have in many cases been effected since the beginning of the war.

The statistics of wholesale prices show that there was a marked rise in 1916, and the general percentage index number is now considerably above the high level of the early 'seventies, immediately after the Franco-Prussian war.

There was a further falling off in the number of labour disputes, in the number of workpeople involved therein, and in their aggregate duration in working days. At the end of the year 1916 only 10 small disputes, affecting in all 739 workpeople, were in progress.

EMPLOYMENT.

Employment in all the principal industries, especially those connected with war requirements, continued at a very high level in 1916. In a few minor trades there was some slackness, but in no case was there any appreciable unemployment. The percentage of unemployed Trade Unionists declined still further, and at the end of 1916 was only half that recorded for December, 1915.

The following Table shows the mean annual percentages of unemployment among Trade Unionists reporting to the Department in each of the years 1900-1916, and the percentages for each month since the beginning of the war :

Mean of the 12 monthly percentages.		Mean of the 12 monthly percentages.		Mean of the 12 monthly percentages.	
1902	4.0	1907	3.7	1912	2.4*
1903	4.7	1908	7.8	1913	2.1
1904	6.0	1909	7.7	1914	3.3
1905	5.0	1910	4.7	1915	1.1
1906	3.6	1911	3.0	1916	0.4

Monthly percentage.		Monthly percentage.		Monthly percentage.	
July, 1914	2.8	May, 1915	1.2	Mar., 1916	0.5
Aug. "	7.1	June "	1.0	April "	0.5
Sept. "	5.9	July "	0.9	May "	0.5
Oct. "	4.4	Aug. "	1.0	June "	0.5
Nov. "	2.9	Sept. "	0.9	July "	0.4
Dec. "	2.5	Oct. "	0.8	Aug. "	0.4
Jan., 1915	1.9	Nov. "	0.6	Sept. "	0.4
Feb. "	1.6	Dec. "	0.6	Oct. "	0.3
Mar. "	1.3	Jan., 1916	0.6	Nov. "	0.3
April "	1.2	Feb. "	0.5	Dec. "	0.3

These figures are confirmed by the statistics of unemployment obtained in connection with National Unemployment Insurance in certain trades, according to which the mean monthly percentage unemployed

* Average for ten months, omitting the two months affected by the general coal strike.

in 1916 was 0.6, compared with 1.2 in 1915, 4.2 in 1914, and 3.6 in 1913.

Coal Mining.—The coal mining industry was exceptionally busy throughout the whole of 1916. In the previous year there had been a serious decline in production largely owing to the heavy enlistments among miners. Enlistments continued into 1916, and it was estimated that by the end of September 287,000, or more than 25 per cent. of the labour employed at the collieries at the outbreak of the war, had joined the colours. After the passing of the Military Service Act it became necessary not only to restrict recruiting among miners, but to return men from the Forces, and by these methods, and also by the inflow of labour from other industries, a considerable proportion of the shortage was made good. The average number of days per week on which the pits worked was the highest recorded in the statistics of the Department, and production was also assisted by the voluntary curtailment of holidays by the miners, the abandonment of stop days, and more regular attendance, with the result that an increase was secured, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Output of Coal in the United Kingdom.

Year.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.	Total for Year.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1913	145,561,000	141,851,000	287,412,000
1914	139,994,000	125,649,000	265,643,000
1915	127,620,000	125,559,000	253,179,000
1916	128,135,000	128,000,000*	256,135,000*

Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—The pig iron industry was well employed, and there was a steady increase in the number of furnaces in blast. Iron and steel works were very busy, and the aggregate number of shifts worked was well above the level of 1915. The engineering and shipbuilding trades worked at high pressure all the year, with night shifts and much overtime. Most of the other metal trades were also very active, especially brass and sheet metal workers. The tinsplate trade, however, which had been hampered in the early part of the year by the difficulty of obtaining raw materials, was seriously affected in August and the succeeding months by the commandeering by the Government of the supply of pig iron, and the consequent reduction in the quantity of steel available for manufacture into tinsplate bars. This resulted in an immediate decline in the number of mills working, which continued up to the end of the year. A number of the workpeople affected, however, found employment in steel works.

Textile and Clothing Trades.—The woollen, worsted and hosiery trades were very active, largely owing to Government contracts, and more labour could have been employed if available. Employment in the weaving branch of the cotton trade was not so good as in the spinning department, and the trade generally was adversely affected by the shortage of labour. The linen trade was quiet during the early part of the year, but improved in later months; in Ireland much short time was reported. The jute, bleaching, calico printing and dyeing trades, and the plain net and curtain branches of the lace trade were well employed, but the fancy branch of the lace trade declined and was slack. Employment in the silk and carpet trades was fairly good. The boot trade continued exceptionally busy throughout the year owing to large contracts for the British and Allied Governments. In the wholesale clothing trades much overtime was worked, but the pressure was not so great as in the previous year. In the other clothing trades employment was fairly good on the whole.

Building, Woodworking, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.—The number of men remaining in the building and brickmaking trades was greatly reduced owing to migration to other trades and enlistments. Private building was restricted, but there was much activity on Government work, so that those still in

the trades were well employed. With mill sawyers, and in the furnishing trades employment was fairly good. Coachbuilders, coopers, brushmakers, pottery and glass workers were all very busy, with much overtime.

Other Trades.—In the leather trades employment was good, except with saddle and harness makers, who experienced considerable slackness. Employment in the paper and printing trades was fairly good, while in the bookbinding trade it was good. The food preparation trades, though hampered in some branches by the restricted supply of sugar, were very busy, and much overtime was worked. There was a shortage of labour in agriculture, but the gathering in of the harvests was not seriously hindered, as help from soldiers and women was generally available. Fishing operations were greatly restricted on account of the war. The supply of seamen and firemen for mercantile vessels fluctuated, but was, on the whole, about equal to the demand. With dock and wharf labourers employment was fair.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.*

The number of workpeople who were reported to the Department as having received war bonuses or increased wages in 1916, in the industries for which statistics are available,† was 3,400,000, and the total amount of increase in the wages of these workpeople was about £595,000 per week, an average of about 3s. 6d. per week.

Trades in which the Numbers affected are known.

The following Table compares the figures for 1915 and 1916 respectively†:

Groups of Trades.	Number of workpeople whose rates of wages were reported as changed in		Net amount of Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in the weekly wages of those affected, as compared with the preceding year.†	
	1915.	1916.	1915.	1916.
Building Trades	115,500	208,000	£ 16,200	£ 33,700
Coal Mining	886,500	860,000	277,800	225,500
Iron and other Mining	25,000	22,000	8,900	8,100
Quarrying	12,000	14,000	1,400	2,500
Pig Iron Manufacture	26,000	33,500	7,900	19,000
Iron and Steel Manufacture	100,500	97,500	28,700	32,600
Engineering and Shipbuilding	715,000	560,000	129,600	86,200
Other Metal Trades	167,500	125,000	28,600	23,000
Textile Trades	621,000	840,000	54,600	75,500
Clothing Trades	103,500	115,000	14,700	15,400
Transport Trades	178,000	180,000	41,300	32,500
Paper, Printing, &c. Trades	55,000	75,000	5,700	10,000
Chemical, Glass, Brick & Pottery Trades	119,000	94,000	14,400	11,800
Miscellaneous Trades†	213,500	96,000	31,000	15,600
Local Authority Services	132,000	100,000	16,900	12,500
TOTAL	3,470,000	3,400,000	677,700	595,000

In considering the figures in the above Table, it is important to remember that they include increases granted not only to men but to boys and women and girls. The amount of the advances granted to men has usually been greater than that given to females and boys, and accordingly, if the average increase per head in the various trades be calculated, it will be affected by the proportion of male and female labour employed, and the average increase for men alone would be greater. This would especially be the case in trades in which large numbers of females are employed, as, for example, the textile industry, and it should be borne in mind when comparisons of the figures relating to different trades are made.

The groups of industries in which the largest numbers obtained increases in 1916 were coal mining and the textile and engineering and shipbuilding trades, which together account for about two-thirds of the total number of workpeople included in the Table.

Advances in wages were obtained in all the principal coalfields. In Northumberland three advances were given to hewers, amounting in the aggregate to an increase of 53 per cent. upon the standard of 1879; one decrease of 5 per cent. took place early in the year, thus making the net increase for 1916 48 per cent.; in Durham there were four increases amounting

* The figures given throughout are preliminary and subject to revision.
† These statistics are exclusive of changes affecting seamen, railway servants, agricultural labourers, police, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants, and clerks.

* Including provisional figures for December.

to 32½ per cent. upon the 1879 standard. In Yorkshire, Lancashire and the Midlands an advance of 5 per cent. upon the standard of 1911 was made in March, and this was followed by a further advance of 3½ per cent. in June. In Scotland three advances totalling 31½ per cent. on the standard of 1888 were given, and in South Wales two advances of 15 per cent. each were made. Iron miners in Cleveland and Cumberland and shale miners in Scotland also received advances.

In pig iron manufacture, and in the iron and steel industry, in each of which wages are mainly regulated by sliding scales based upon the selling prices, the high prices of the manufactured product gave very substantial increases on standard rates of wages. The upward movement continued in the engineering, boiler-making and shipbuilding trades, especially in the latter half of the year. The increases, as a rule, were confined to time rates only, and usually amounted to 3s. per week. In the tinsplate trade of South Wales an advance of 12½ per cent. was granted in July. The brass, chain, hollow-ware, tube, lock and latch trades in the Midlands received considerable increases, and many workers in other metal trades also had their wages advanced.

In the cotton trade a war bonus of 5 per cent. was granted to the weaving branch in January, and an increase of 5 per cent. to the spinning branch in June. A further advance of 5 per cent. in the weaving branch took place early in January, 1917. In the woollen and worsted industry substantial increases, usually in the form of increased war bonuses, were granted in all the principal centres in Yorkshire. War bonuses or increases in wages were also given to workpeople in the linen, jute, silk, lace, bleaching and dyeing industries.

In other industries increases or war bonuses were obtained at most of the principal centres by workpeople in the printing, furnishing, glass and pottery trades, and by dock labourers, carters and bakers. The upward movement in wages among employees of Local Authorities also continued, and there was a considerable increase over the previous year in the number of workpeople in the building trades who obtained advances in rates of wages.

Trades in which Numbers Affected are Not Known Precisely.

As regards employments in which particulars of the amounts of the increases or bonuses, but not of the number of workpeople affected, are known to the Department, there were also marked increases during 1916, and it is estimated that a total of about 1,500,000 of these employees received advances of about £250,000 per week. The wages of agricultural labourers showed further increases in 1916; further increases were made in the bonuses of seamen; the war bonuses of 5s. per week to adults, and of 2s. 6d. to boys, granted to railway servants in 1915 were increased to 10s. and 5s. per week respectively in September, 1916; workpeople employed by the Admiralty and employees in certain War Department establishments had increases, usually of 3s. per week; and the war bonuses of postal servants given in the previous year were increased to bring them into line with the war bonuses to Civil Servants granted in 1916.

Comparison for Twenty-one Years.

In the previous twenty years there were three periods of rising wages (1896-1900, 1906-7, and 1910-15), and two of falling wages (1901-5 and 1908-9). The total amount of increase or decrease in weekly rates recorded during each of these periods and in 1916 is shown in the following Table:—

Period.	Number of Years included.	Net Increase or Decrease in Weekly Rates.	
		Increase in periods of Rising Wages.	Decrease in periods of Falling Wages.
		£	£
1896-1900	5	437,641	...
1901-1905	5	...	228,909
1906-1907	2	258,809	...
1908-1909	2	...	128,093
1910-1915	6	1,058,000	...
	1	595,900	...

The net effect of all the changes in wages recorded during the twenty-one years under review is an increase of nearly £2,000,000 on the weekly wages of the workpeople in the occupations dealt with. The greatest increases in any single year were £677,700 in 1915 and £595,000 in 1916. Previous to the war the greatest increases were £208,588 in 1900 and £200,912 in 1907.

In the foregoing figures changes affecting police and Government employees are excluded from the statistics of 1915-16, but are included in those of previous years. It should also be noted that the figures relate to changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses), and take no account of increases in wages due to overtime, greater regularity of employment, or the transfer from lower to higher paid employments, all of which have been noticeable features in the years 1915-16.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

The average percentage increase in retail prices of food at the beginning of each month of 1916, as compared with prices in July, 1914, is shown in the following Table:—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
January	45	July	61
February	47	August	60
March	48	September	65
April	49	October	65
May	55	November	70
June	59	December	82

At 1st January, 1917, the average increase over July, 1914, was 87 per cent., so that the total increase during 1916 was about 42 per cent. on the prices of July, 1914, or 29 per cent. on those of January, 1916. Of this total increase of 87 per cent., 6 per cent. is due to additional taxation on tea and sugar imposed at the beginning of the war, but only 1 per cent. due to such additional taxation in 1916.

These figures are based upon upwards of 500,000 turns of predominant prices, relating to the principal articles of food in a number of shops in every town in the Kingdom with over 50,000 inhabitants, in about 200 towns with populations from 10,000 to 50,000, and in about 250 representative smaller places. The articles included are beef and mutton (British and imported), bacon, fish, flour, bread, tea, sugar, milk, butter, cheese, margarine, eggs and potatoes. An outline of the course of prices of each of these articles is given in the following paragraphs:—

The year 1916 opened with butchers' meat averaging retail about 3d. per lb. above the level of prices in July, 1914, and during the first three months of the year there was a steady upward movement in prices. During April and May this gradual movement was succeeded by a very marked general rise, the average increase in price during the two months 1st April to 1st June being about 15 per cent., varying from 1¼d. per lb. for the cheapest cuts of imported meat to nearly 2d. per lb. for ribs of British beef. From 1st June to 1st December there was very little movement in the retail prices of meat, the prices on the latter date being almost identical with those on 1st June, and averaging about 5½d. per lb. above those of July, 1914. During December there were further advances of 2 to 3 per cent.

Bacon rose in price by little more than 5 per cent.—less than 1d. per lb.—during the first seven months of the year. In August, however, there was a 5 per cent. increase in price, and since then the advance has continued, so that prices are now between 50 and 60 per cent. above those prevailing immediately before the war.

In July, 1916, fish averaged about 80 per cent. above the level of two years earlier, this being the lowest point reached during the year and representing a drop from 105 per cent. at the beginning of February. At the end of 1916 the price of fish was about one-third less than a year earlier.

The price of ... of 1 ... con

increases brought the average price to 9½d. at 1st November, and 10d. at 1st December. Expressed in percentage form the price of bread, which at 1st January, 1916, was 42 per cent. above the normal level of July, 1914, at the end of 1916 was 73 per cent. above the normal level. The retail prices of flour advanced proportionately more than those of bread during the year, viz. from 49 per cent. to 88 per cent. above the prices prevailing immediately before the war.

Movements in the retail price of tea during 1916 have been negligible. The price of granulated sugar rose from 4d. to 4½d. per lb. in the first three months of the year. In April there was an increase of ½d. per lb., arising from increased duty, and since that time there has been a succession of small upward movements in prices, which, insignificant in themselves, have in the aggregate raised the average price to 5½d. per lb. Of this price 1½d. is attributable to duty.

The average retail price of milk was about 4½d. per quart from 1st January to 1st April, 1916, and 4½d. from 1st May to August. In September an upward trend of prices set in, which continued to the end of the year, the increase from 1st September to 1st January, 1917, being ½d. per quart, bringing the price to nearly 5d. per quart, on the average, the percentage increase in 1916, 1914 prices being 57 per cent., or twice as much as a year earlier.

The retail prices of butter remained fairly steady at about 30 to 35 per cent. above the prices of July, 1914, from January until August. During the latter month there was an advance of 10 per cent., and in each of the remaining months of the year a substantial increase was recorded, so that at the end of the year butter was 30 per cent. dearer than at the beginning of the year, and 70 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914.

The total increase in the retail price of cheese during the year was very similar to that in butter. With the exception, however, the increase was the result of a steady upward movement of 3 or 4 per cent. in each month (except in November, when it was 7 per cent.), which persisted in ten months of the year. The two months in which there was a decline in price were June and July, the fall in these two months amounting to 7 per cent. At the end of 1916 the price of cheese was about 75 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

The prices of margarine at the beginning of 1916 were only about 7 per cent. above those prevailing immediately before the war. This amount of increase was exceeded by 1st March, and from that date to 1st November margarine ranged from 15 to 20 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914. Increases in prices in the last two months of the year brought the figure to 25 per cent. above the pre-war level.

Prices of eggs in July, 1916, were about 50 per cent. above those of two years earlier. On 1st January, 1917, they were about one-third higher than on 1st January, 1916.

Potatoes remained comparatively normal in price, at about 4½d. per 7 lb. until April, 1916. In that month there was a rise of over 40 per cent. in the average price of old potatoes, and there were further advances of 8 per cent. in May and 31 per cent. in June. On 1st July the average price of old potatoes was 10d. per 7 lb. Prices of new potatoes on 1st August were 1d. per 7 lb. lower than those of old potatoes on 1st July, and there was a further fall to 7½d. per 7 lb. at the beginning of September. Prices remained fairly stationary at this high level for some weeks, and then a remarkable advance set in, the rise recorded for October being 34 per cent., and for each of the following two months 4 per cent., with the result that prices at the end of the year averaged 10½d. per 7 lb., or about 130 per cent. higher than twelve months earlier.

The average percentage by which the prices of each article at the beginning of 1916 and 1917 were above the normal prices of July, 1914, is shown in the following Table. The large percentage increase shown in 1916 are preliminary and subject to correction.

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914.

Article.	Large Towns (populations over 50,000).		Small Towns and Villages.		United Kingdom.	
	1st Jan., 1916.	1st Jan., 1917.	1st Jan., 1916.	1st Jan., 1917.	1st Jan., 1916.	1st Jan., 1917.
Beef, British:—						
Ribs	37	66	34	62	35	64
Thin Flank	51	93	39	74	45	84
Beef, Chilled or Frozen:—						
Ribs	51	90	43	81	47	85
Thin Flank	70	107	57	96	63	101
Mutton, British:—						
Legs	27	61	28	57	28	59
Breast	48	96	34	73	41	84
Mutton, Frozen:—						
Legs	45	90	38	83	42	86
Breast	70	127	56	117	63	122
Bacon (streaky)	34	60	28	53	31	56
Fish	119	155	75	108	97	131
Flour	46	84	52	93	49	88
Bread	45	79	39	68	42	73
Tea	49	51	48	50	48	51
Sugar (granulated)	97	173	89	167	93	170
Milk	30	59	28	54	29	57
Butter:—						
Fresh	32	72	36	74	34	73
Salt	30	70	33	71	32	71
Cheese	32	74	32	75	32	75
Margarine	8	25	6	25	7	25
Eggs	108	179	102	171	105	175
Potatoes	nil	138	-10	105	-5	122
(dec.)			(dec.)		(dec.)	
GENERAL PERCENTAGE INCREASE	48	91	42	83	45	87

In arriving at the general percentage increase in the above Table the several articles are weighted in accordance with the proportionate expenditure on them in pre-war family budgets, no allowance being made for the considerable economies which result from changes in dietary which have been widely effected since the beginning of the war, especially in those families in which the total income has not been increased by advances in rates of wages, greater regularity of employment, increased output or the working of overtime. As an illustration of the possible extent of economies in this direction, it may be stated that if, for example, eggs were eliminated from the dietary, margarine substituted for butter, and the consumption of sugar and fish reduced to one-half that prevailing before the war, the general percentage increase since July, 1914, instead of being 87 would be 45.

With reference to other items of expenditure, there have been substantial increases, except with regard to rents, but the average advance has not been so great as with food. The increase since July, 1914, in the cost of all the items ordinarily entering into working-class family expenditure, including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c., was estimated at about 60 per cent. at the beginning of 1917, as compared with 30 per cent. a year earlier, taking the same quantities and descriptions of the various items at each date and eliminating advances arising from increased duties.

WHOLESALE PRICES.*

The general level of wholesale prices continued to rise throughout 1916, and the index number for the year (186.5), based upon the index numbers of forty-seven separate articles weighted in accordance with their estimated consumption, was the highest recorded in the statistics of the Department.

The following Table gives the index numbers indicating the changes in wholesale prices in the period 1871-1916:—

1900 = 100.					
Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.	Year.	Index No.
1871	135.6	1887	98.8	1903	96.9
1872	145.2	1888	101.8	1904	98.2
1873	151.9	1889	103.4	1905	97.6
1874	146.9	1890	103.3	1906	100.8
1875	140.4	1891	106.9	1907	106.0
1876	137.1	1892	101.1	1908	103.0
1877	140.4	1893	99.4	1909	104.1
1878	131.1	1894	93.5	1910	108.8
1879	125.0	1895	90.7	1911	109.4
1880	129.0	1896	88.2	1912	114.9
1881	126.6	1897	90.1	1913	116.5
1882	127.7	1898	93.9	1914	119.6
1883	125.9	1899	92.2	Jan.-July.	119.6
1884	114.1	1900	100.0	Aug.-Dec.	122.6
1885	107.0	1901	96.7	Year 1914	117.2
1886	101.0	1902	96.4	1915	143.9
				1916	186.5

case of painters and plasterers; with plumbers and labourers there was a slight decrease.

The next Table shows in detail the percentage unemployed in the above occupations in each geographical division. Except in London (where the percentage for all occupations taken together was 1.9), and in Ireland (where it was 5.8), the percentage unemployed was, in most cases, not above 0.4 for carpenters, bricklayers, plumbers, navvies and labourers, and 1.2 for masons and plasterers. For painters, however, the percentage was over 2.0 in most districts, rising to 22.6 per cent. in Ireland.

Districts.	Number Insured.	Per-cent. Un-emp-ly'd.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Number Insured.	Per-cent. Un-emp-ly'd.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
			M'nth ago.	Year ago.			M'nth ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters.								
London	17,507	0.8	...	-1.2	7,578	2.5	-0.2	-3.0
Northern Counties	4,893	...	...	-0.5	2,146	0.1	...	-0.1
North-Western	10,891	0.2	...	-1.3	5,101	0.5	+0.2	0.3
Yorkshire	7,349	0.2	+0.1	-0.7	3,656	0.4	+0.2	-0.1
East Midlands	4,550	0.3	+0.2	-0.6	3,081	0.6	+0.2	...
West Midlands	6,452	0.1	-0.1	-0.8	5,071	0.2	...	-0.2
Eastern & S.E. Counties	13,298	0.2	...	-1.0	8,246	1.2	+0.5	-1.3
South-Western	12,478	0.3	+0.1	-0.8	3,632	0.4	-0.1	-1.8
Wales	4,573	0.2	-0.4	-1.0	1,304	0.3	+0.1	0.5
Scotland	3,951	0.2	...	-0.4	1,502	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Ireland	5,244	5.5	...	-2.1	1,315	5.5	-0.3	-1.5
Bricklayers.								
London	1,606	3.3	+0.1	-1.9	2,482	5.5	+1.1	-4.3
Northern Counties	1,726	0.1	...	-0.5	524	1.1	0.3	-0.5
North-Western	2,301	1.3	+0.8	-3.5	1,324	2.1	+0.6	-1.4
Yorkshire	2,926	0.6	+0.4	-0.3	1,266	0.4	0.1	-1.5
East Midlands	598	0.7	-0.5	-1.8	297	3.7	+1.3	-0.1
West Midlands	500	1.0	+0.4	-0.1	583	1.2	+0.5	-1.6
Eastern & S.E. Counties	689	2.5	-0.2	-2.4	962	1.6	0.2	-5.0
South-Western	4,400	1.3	+0.2	-1.3	1,392	2.2	...	-1.7
Wales	3,335	2.2	-0.1	-0.3	3,938	0.9	+0.3	-1.2
Scotland	4,537	1.1	+0.5	-1.4	1,294	0.9	+0.2	-1.1
Ireland	1,723	9.1	+1.3	-5.4	1,085	10.3	+5.4	-3.4
Masons.								
London	2,164	0.3	+0.1	-1.9	1,348	...	...	-0.1
Northern Counties	1,726	0.1	...	-0.5	524	1.1	0.3	-0.5
North-Western	2,301	1.3	+0.8	-3.5	1,324	2.1	+0.6	-1.4
Yorkshire	2,926	0.6	+0.4	-0.3	1,266	0.4	0.1	-1.5
East Midlands	598	0.7	-0.5	-1.8	297	3.7	+1.3	-0.1
West Midlands	500	1.0	+0.4	-0.1	583	1.2	+0.5	-1.6
Eastern & S.E. Counties	689	2.5	-0.2	-2.4	962	1.6	0.2	-5.0
South-Western	4,400	1.3	+0.2	-1.3	1,392	2.2	...	-1.7
Wales	3,335	2.2	-0.1	-0.3	3,938	0.9	+0.3	-1.2
Scotland	4,537	1.1	+0.5	-1.4	1,294	0.9	+0.2	-1.1
Ireland	1,723	9.1	+1.3	-5.4	1,085	10.3	+5.4	-3.4
Plasterers.								
London	2,164	0.2	+0.1	-1.9	1,348	...	...	-0.1
Northern Counties	1,726	0.1	...	-0.5	524	1.1	0.3	-0.5
North-Western	2,301	1.3	+0.8	-3.5	1,324	2.1	+0.6	-1.4
Yorkshire	2,926	0.6	+0.4	-0.3	1,266	0.4	0.1	-1.5
East Midlands	598	0.7	-0.5	-1.8	297	3.7	+1.3	-0.1
West Midlands	500	1.0	+0.4	-0.1	583	1.2	+0.5	-1.6
Eastern & S.E. Counties	689	2.5	-0.2	-2.4	962	1.6	0.2	-5.0
South-Western	4,400	1.3	+0.2	-1.3	1,392	2.2	...	-1.7
Wales	3,335	2.2	-0.1	-0.3	3,938	0.9	+0.3	-1.2
Scotland	4,537	1.1	+0.5	-1.4	1,294	0.9	+0.2	-1.1
Ireland	1,723	9.1	+1.3	-5.4	1,085	10.3	+5.4	-3.4
Painters.								
London	21,604	4.2	+0.5	-2.7	5,453	0.8	+0.1	-0.7
Northern Counties	2,612	0.3	+0.1	-4.8	1,348	...	...	-0.1
North-Western	9,352	4.4	+3.5	-13.3	3,678	0.2	...	0.4
Yorkshire	4,998	2.9	+2.1	-6.3	2,287	...	-0.1	-0.4
East Midlands	2,886	2.1	+1.4	-5.7	1,017	0.3	+0.1	0.1
West Midlands	5,088	1.5	+0.9	-1.5	1,574	2.1	...	...
Eastern & S.E. Counties	11,935	2.2	-1.0	-0.3	2,375	0.5	...	-0.5
South-Western	7,620	2.2	+1.1	-2.7	2,115	0.3	+0.1	-0.1
Wales	2,320	1.2	+0.4	-2.7	757	...	-0.1	-0.5
Scotland	5,853	1.0	+0.6	-3.5	3,886	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Ireland	3,107	22.6	+10.0	-5.1	1,077	2.4	-0.4	-1.6
Plumbers.								
London	6,480	0.9	...	-1.2	8,945	0.8	...	-0.6
Northern Counties	1,914	0.1	...	-0.1	5,129	0.1	+0.1	-0.1
North-Western	3,896	0.4	+0.1	-0.4	11,804	0.2	...	-0.1
Yorkshire	2,197	0.2	...	-1.0	10,992	0.1	...	-0.1
East Midlands	1,441	0.4	+0.1	-0.3	4,756	0.5	...	...
West Midlands	2,186	0.3	+0.1	-0.1	6,915	0.3	...	+0.1
Eastern & S.E. Counties	2,170	0.3	+0.1	-0.4	8,536	0.3	...	-0.2
South-Western	1,894	0.4	-0.1	-0.3	6,706	0.4	-0.1	-0.5
Wales	1,087	0.2	+0.1	-0.3	10,131	0.2	+0.1	...
Scotland	4,897	0.1	...	-0.3	15,089	0.0	...	-0.2
Ireland	1,369	2.5	+0.7	-0.7	5,407	1.9	+0.5	-2.1
Other Skilled Workers.								
London	6,480	0.9	...	-1.2	8,945	0.8	...	-0.6
Northern Counties	1,914	0.1	...	-0.1	5,129	0.1	+0.1	-0.1
North-Western	3,896	0.4	+0.1	-0.4	11,804	0		

Employment continued good in the Northern Counties and in Yorkshire, where the manufacture of firebrick is an important branch of the trade. In the Tees and Hartlepoons and Nottingham districts it was moderate. At Peterborough employment was good. It was very good at Stourbridge; good and better than a month ago with caustic tile makers at Tamworth, and fairly good in the Shropshire glazed brick trade. Brick makers were slack generally in the Eastern Counties and in the Plymouth and Bridgwater districts, a number of yards remaining closed. Employment was very quiet in North Wales.

CEMENT TRADE.

The cement trade on the Thames and Medway continued busy, with much overtime. There was an acute shortage of male labour of all classes, but women are being employed in increasing numbers.

In the Tees and Hartlepoons district employment continued fair.

Returns from firms employing 5,981 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 3 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with December, 1915, there was a decrease of 10.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 5.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

PRINTING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, partly owing to seasonal work, such as the issue of special Christmas and New Year numbers of periodicals; the supply of labour (especially of machine minders) remained inadequate in many cases, more men having been called up for service with the Forces, and a considerable amount of machinery was idle in some centres. Much overtime was worked, especially in London, where hardly any of the Trade Union members were out of employment.

Returns from Trade Unions in all districts with a membership of 41,131 show that the percentage unemployed at the end of December was 0.6, compared with 0.5 a month ago, and 1.3 a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec., 1916.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Dec., 1916.	Nov., 1916.	Dec., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	18,590	0.1	0.0	1.0	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	4,105	0.5	0.2	1.1	+ 0.3	- 0.6
Lancashire and Cheshire	5,602	0.6	0.8	1.6	- 0.2	- 1.0
East Midland and Eastern Counties	1,816	0.4	0.2	1.1	+ 0.2	- 0.7
West Midlands	2,208	0.3	0.2	0.6	+ 0.1	- 0.3
S. and S.-W. Counties and Wales	2,893	0.4	0.4	0.9	...	- 0.5
Scotland	3,782	0.2	0.3	1.6	- 0.1	- 1.4
Ireland	2,105	6.8	5.8	5.5	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
UNITED KINGDOM ...	41,131	0.6	0.5	1.3	+ 0.1	- 0.7

According to returns received from firms employing 10,860 workpeople in the week ended 16th December the number of persons employed showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. compared with November and of 11.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. on November and a decrease of 3.2 per cent. on a year ago.

Districts.	Workpeople.		Wages.	
	Week ended 16th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 16th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.
London	3,074	+ 0.4 - 9.9	6,678	+ 1.3 - 1.2
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	927	- 1.1 - 17.8	1,333	+ 0.5 - 11.7
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,740	+ 0.8 - 9.1	2,727	+ 2.4 - 8.9
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,556	+ 0.2 - 9.5	2,227	+ 0.9 - 0.4
Scotland	1,528	- 0.5 - 11.0	2,252	- 1.2 + 3.3
Other Districts	2,035	- 1.6 - 12.8	2,766	- 2.2 - 4.4
UNITED KINGDOM ...	10,860	- 0.2 - 11.1	17,983	+ 0.5 - 3.2

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment continued good, with a shortage of men, and a considerable amount of overtime was worked.

Returns from firms employing 7,074 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number of persons employed compared with November and of 12.1 per cent. compared with December, 1915. The amount of wages paid showed an increase of 1.7 per cent. on November and a decrease of 3.0 per cent. on a year ago.

Districts.	Workpeople.		Wages.	
	Week ended 16th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 16th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.
London	1,963	- 1.7 - 8.0	2,798	+ 0.7 + 0.3
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	549	+ 1.5 - 20.1	560	+ 7.8 - 14.1
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,435	- 1.0 - 12.0	1,365	+ 4.6 - 5.9
Midland and Eastern Counties	725	- 1.6 - 7.4	639	- 4.6 - 2.9
Scotland	1,639	+ 0.4 - 18.1	1,631	+ 1.1 - 2.6
Other Districts	763	+ 1.9 - 6.2	674	+ 2.9 - 0.9
UNITED KINGDOM ...	7,074	- 0.4 - 12.1	7,657	+ 1.7 - 3.0

Trade Unions with a membership of 4,634 had 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, the same percentage as in November and October; for December, 1915, the corresponding percentage was 0.8.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Dec., 1916.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Dec., 1916.	Nov., 1916.	Dec., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	2,627	0.4	0.1	0.4	+ 0.3	...
Other Districts	2,007	0.2	0.5	1.2	- 0.3	- 1.0
UNITED KINGDOM ...	4,634	0.3	0.3	0.8	...	- 0.5

PAPER TRADES.

Employment continued fairly good on the whole, though short time was still worked in some cases owing to the scarcity of certain classes of men and to shortage of material and lack of orders.

Returns from firms employing 12,146 workpeople in the last week of December showed a decrease in the number employed of 0.7 per cent. compared with a month ago and of 3.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

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DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT in London continued fair; it was moderate at certain ports on the East Coast, and slack at Bristol and Glasgow. Elsewhere it was, on the whole, fairly good. There was a general decline on a year ago.

LONDON AND TILBURY.

London.—Employment continued fair, showing little change on the previous month and a considerable decline on a year ago. The supply of labour was again good.

The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the five weeks ended 30th December was 16,593, showing a decrease of 0.3 per cent. on a month ago and of 12.1 per cent. on a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Dec 2nd	6,834	3,002	9,836	7,455	17,291
" " 9th	6,513	2,793	9,306	7,535	16,841
" " 14th	6,872	2,872	9,744	7,499	17,243
" " 23rd	6,238	2,663	8,901	7,004	15,905
" " 30th	6,692	2,892	9,584	6,646	16,230
Average for 5 weeks ended 30th Dec., 1916	6,482	2,841	9,323	7,270	16,593
Average for Nov., 1916	6,515	2,943	9,458	7,187	16,645
" " Dec., 1915	7,881	2,908	10,789	8,089	18,878

The numbers employed at the docks and principal wharves on each day* in December, 1916, were as follows:—

Day of Month	Number employed.	Day of Month	Number employed.	Day of Month	Number employed.
1	17,772	11	16,526	20	16,942
2	17,215	12	17,544	21	16,179
3	17,188	13	17,534	22	15,065
4	17,434	14	17,405	23	12,546
5	17,288	15	17,612	24	13,902
6	17,115	16	16,839	25	15,154
7	16,943	17	17,267	26	16,214
8	15,088	18	17,432	27	16,254
9		19		28	
				29	
				30	

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during December was 1,963, compared with 2,228 in November and with 1,885 in December of last year.

OTHER ENGLISH PORTS.

East Coast.—Employment on the Tyne was fair generally; it was good on cargoes of ironstone. It was fair at Seaham Harbour, and slack at Blyth. Coal trimmers and teamers were fairly well employed on both the Tyne and Wear. Employment was moderate at Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton, Hull, Grimsby and Goole; slack at Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Harwich; and fair at King's Lynn and Ipswich.

Southern and Western Ports.—At Plymouth there was an improvement, dock labourers being well employed; employment continued good at Falmouth and fair at Dartmouth. It was bad, and worse than a month ago, at Bristol, and fair at Gloucester.

At Liverpool employment was good, and better than a month ago with dock labourers and moderate with coal trimmers.

SCOTTISH AND IRISH PORTS.

At Dundee employment was good, and better than a month ago. At Glasgow it was slack.

Employment was fair at Belfast and Limerick, and bad at Londonderry and Cork.

* Sundays and holidays are omitted.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change on the whole as compared with either the previous month or a year ago.

East Coast.—In the Hartlepool district employment was fair with fishermen. At Hull and Scarborough it was good; at Grimsby it was good with fishermen and with fish dock labourers, but bad with fish curers. At Lowestoft it was bad and worse than in the previous month. At Southwold and at Brightlingsea it was fair, and at the latter place showed an improvement on November.

South Coast.—Off the coasts of Devon and Cornwall employment was quiet, mainly owing to the inclement weather.

Scotland.—At Dundee it showed an improvement on a month ago; at Montrose and at Arbroath it was fair, but adversely affected by the weather. At Aberdeen it was good with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and fair with fish curers. At Peterhead it was fair with fishermen and fish curers; at Macduff it was fair with fishermen, but bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers.

FISH LANDED.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Dec., 1915.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
Fish (other than shell):				
England and Wales	258,235	- 60,855	505,760	- 41,833
Scotland	150,277	- 26,543	220,157	+ 37,697
Ireland	45,078	+ 8,438	40,139	+ 15,588
TOTAL	453,590	- 78,960	766,056	+ 11,402
Shell Fish			33,342	+ 2,401
TOTAL VALUE			799,398	+ 13,803

SEAMEN.

THE supply of seamen and firemen for mercantile ships during December was not quite equal to the demand. There was a shortage at Middlesbrough, London, Bristol, Cardiff, Belfast, and, towards the end of the month, at Glasgow, owing to the brisk demand for local crews for new vessels and for vessels which arrived with non-local crews. At South Shields, however, the supply of firemen was in excess of the demand. At most of the other ports included in the Table the supply and demand was about equal.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Year ended			
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1916.	
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
East Coast—						
Tyne Ports	1,622	+ 565	+ 125	20,161	18,901	- 1,260
Sunderland	120	- 126	+ 23	2,967	2,340	- 627
Middlesbrough	216	+ 23	+ 25	2,793	3,953	+ 1,160
Hull	784	- 217	- 198	14,154	12,246	- 1,858
Grimsby	5	- 25	- 13	562	432	- 130
Bristol Channel—						
Bristol	481	- 165	- 261	14,874	11,099	- 3,775
Newport, Mon.	880	- 260	+ 54	11,087	10,988	- 99
Cardiff	4,051	- 48	+ 628	52,070	50,974	- 1,106
Swansea	328	+ 178	+ 196	3,490	2,704	- 786
Other Ports—						
Liverpool	10,289	- 594	- 79	149,476	135,508	- 13,968
London	4,939	- 2,796	- 2,271	94,754	85,924	- 8,830
Southampton	1,046	+ 248	- 665	16,557	11,810	- 4,747
SCOTLAND:						
Leth	453	+ 209	+ 169	4,074	4,967	+ 893
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	93	+ 88	+ 32	725	45	- 300
Glasgow	2,984	+ 701	- 110	35,245	32,966	- 2,279
IRELAND:						
Dublin	46	- 8	+ 39	801	890	+ 89
Belfast	135	- 153	- 28	4,744	1,975	- 2,769
TOTAL	28,472	2,382	- 2,334	428,534	388,142	- 40,392

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

[Data supplied by the Government of Scotland and Ireland.]

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in December, 1916, in the thirty-five selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 150 per 10,000 of population, showing an increase of 1 per 10,000 on a month ago, but a decrease of 15 per 10,000 on a year ago. Compared with a month ago the total number of paupers relieved increased by 955 (or 0.3 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers increased by 1,186 (or 0.9 per cent.), while the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 231 (or 0.2 per cent.). The most marked change was an increase of 5 per 10,000 in the Central Metropolitan district. Three other districts showed increases of 4 per 10,000.

Compared with December, 1915, the total number of paupers decreased by 25,997 (or 8.6 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 8,038 (or 5.6 per cent.). The number of outdoor paupers decreased by 17,959 (or 11.3 per cent.). Every district showed a decrease, except Dublin where there was an increase of 5 per 10,000, the most marked decreases being in the Stockton and Tees district (36 per 10,000 of population), and Coatbridge and Airdrie district (34 per 10,000 of population). Four districts showed a decrease of 20 and under 30 per 10,000, and in twenty-eight others the decrease ranged from 2 to 19 per 10,000.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Paupers on one day in December, 1916.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
	ENGLAND & WALES,†					
Metropolis.						
West District	9,742	1,564	11,306	1	- 1	- 14
North District	12,164	5,179	17,343	172	- 1	- 17
Central District	3,626	1,214	4,840	340	+ 5	- 15
East District	11,308	4,137	15,445	232	...	- 14
South District	19,523	10,690	30,213	160	- 1	- 18
TOTAL, Metropolis	56,363	22,784	79,147	175	- 1	- 16
West Ham	4,046	9,271	13,317	175	- 1	- 19
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,045	3,322	5,367	110	- 1	- 18
Stockton & Tees District	1,069	2,432	3,501	141	...	- 36
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	3,744	2,344	6,088	81	...	- 11
Wigan District	1,755	4,354	6,109	139	+ 1	- 13
Manchester District	8,434	4,862	13,296	123	...	- 16
Liverpool District	9,458	9,806	19,264	169	+ 1	- 16
Bradford District	1,814	1,346	3,160	85	...	- 11
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,012	2,064	3,076	80	- 2	- 15
Leeds District	2,260	2,459	4,719	98	+ 1	- 16
Barnsley District	755	2,834	3,589	115	- 1	- 11
Sheffield District	2,615	2,631	5,246	107	+ 1	- 20
Hull District	1,725	4,848	6,573	208	+ 2	- 9
North Staffordshire	1,948	4,242	6,190	152	+ 4	- 14
Nottingham District	1,950	3,342	5,292	114	+ 2	- 10
Leicester District	1,358	2,205	3,563	123	+ 1	- 15
Wolverhampton District	3,298	5,230	8,528	111	+ 2	- 19
Birmingham District	6,408	3,415	9,823	149	+ 2	- 15
Bristol District	2,618	3,234	5,852	149	+ 2	- 15
Cardiff & Swansea	2,153	4,815	6,968	15	+ 2	- 20
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	56,419	70,394	126,813	1	+ 1	- 15
SCOTLAND,†						
Glasgow District	3,061	16,367	19,428	20	+ 1	- 15
Paisley & Greenock District	704	2,105	2,809	147	+ 1	- 25
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,250	4,624	5,874	14	+ 3	- 8
Dundee and Dunfermline	603	1,917	2,520	126	+ 2	- 7
Aberdeen	434	2,477	2,911	174	+ 2	- 14
Coatbridge and Airdrie	271	1,284	1,555	15	- 1	- 34
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	6,323	28,774	35,097	174	+ 2	- 15
IRELAND,‡						
Dublin District	5,596	5,074	10,670	259	+ 4	+ 5
Belfast District	2,584	821	3,405	80	+ 4	- 2
Cork, Waterford and Limerick District	3,131	3,742	6,873	277	+ 2	- 20
Galway District	287	152	439	128	+ 3	- 3
TOTAL for the above Irish Districts	11,598	9,789	21,387	191	+ 4	- 3
Total for above 35 Areas in Dec., 1916	134,749	141,012	275,761	150	+ 1	- 15

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

† Exclusive of Vagrants, of Patients in the Fever and Smallpox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards, and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

‡ Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS received by the Department from principal urban districts in the United Kingdom (exclusive of the County of London), giving the cost of the buildings for which plans were during the fourth quarter of 1916, show that a large decrease (£986,180, or 42.2 per cent.), pared with the corresponding period of 1915.

The population of the districts included Returns is over 12,000,000.

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Fourth Quarter of 1915.					
						£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,700,000)	102,270	66,413	6,650	12,800	38,088						
Northern Counties (725,000)	8,800	23,670	121,625	8,000	27,877						
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	71,155	172,057	20,552	29,210	61,199						
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	33,610	126,990	51,298	19,020	56,936						
Midlands (2,045,000)	82,525	451,011	42,258	32,450	98,025						
Other Districts in England (1,070,000)	42,235	19,260	22,750	1,000	19,676						
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	33,680	645	1,060	4,050	7,112						
Scotland (1,830,000)	2,310	70,088	39,695	107,390	74,954						
Ireland (825,000)	20,305	4,500	4,750	19,050	30,632						
TOTAL	446,950	934,634	310,538	232,970	414,99	2,3					

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Fourth Quarter of 1916.					
						£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,700,000)	11,555	54,200	9,225	4,625	37,088						
Northern Counties (725,000)	2,400	29,860	4,030	3,320	8,709						
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	12,250	254,866	74,797	3,800	54,600						
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	12,452	73,825	22,405	19,900	76,288						
Midlands (2,045,000)	27,545	136,469	11,325	1,950	132,093						

INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

I.—IMPORTS IN DECEMBER.

(Goods other than articles of food which, at the time of importation, are the property of H.M. Government or of the Governments of the Allies, are not included in the imports.)

(a) VALUES.

Total value of the net imports (i.e. imports less re-exports) in December, 1916, was £69,388,000, showing an increase of £6,763,000 (or 11 per cent.) over December, 1915, and £8,001,000 (or 13 per cent.) over December, 1913.

Groups.	Value of Imports (less re-exports) in Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in December, 1916, compared with		
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1914.	Dec., 1913.
Food, Drink and Tobacco	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
Raw Materials and Articles mainly manufactured wholly or mainly manufactured	33,413	+ 2,059	+ 1,197	+ 8,366
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	24,744	+ 7,395	+ 5,922	+ 2,192
Miscellaneous	10,963	- 2,795	+ 739	- 2,518
TOTAL	69,388	+ 6,763	+ 7,941	+ 8,001

(b) QUANTITIES.

Principal Articles.	Quantity imported (less re-exports) during Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in December, 1916, compared with			
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Dec., 1912.
Food, Drink and Tobacco	1,000's.	1,000's.	1,000's.	1,000's.	1,000's.
Wheat and Flour	12,089	- 7,103	- 4,682	- 4,193	- 4,193
Meat	1,773	+ 100	+ 245	+ 97	+ 24
Butter and Margarine	517	+ 4	+ 48	+ 21	+ 49
Wool	183	- 13	- 21	- 49	- 1,366
Other	727	- 168	- 901	- 1,366	- 37
Great Hundreds (120's)	100	+ 17	+ 76	+ 37	+ 37
Raw Cotton	1,746	- 332	- 3,607	- 2,619	- 9,071
Wool	28,445	- 674	- 39,889	- 9,071	- 14,195
Other	4,799	- 10,896	- 15,088	- 14,195	- 136
Manufactures of Metals	401	- 192	- 36	- 136	- 55
Iron and Steel	96	- 49	- 7	- 179	- 4
Other	42	- 47	- 14	- 4	- 3
Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc	36	+ 3	+ ...	+ ...	+ ...
Machinery	5	+ ...	+ ...	+ ...	+ ...
Raw Cotton	1,855	+ 391	- 593	- 1,277	- 3,743
Wool	26,891	+ 694	- 42,607	- 3,743	- 25
Woolen Tissues	34	- 15	- 9	- 2,008	- 873
Woolen Piece Goods	4,509	+ 612	+ 673	+ 2,008	+ 873
Woolen Piece Goods	1,011	- 1,334	- 1,229	- 873	- 873

Compared with December of last year, grain and flour (wheat, rice and peas) showed a heavy decrease, and though, during the four completed months of the cereal year (September to December) there was a slight increase in wheat, there was a considerable decline in barley, oats and maize. Butter, lard, and condensed milk showed a large decrease, but margarine a large increase.

There were decreases in the quantities imported of all metals (iron, zinc), and nearly all manufactures of metals. Raw cotton from the United States showed a large increase. There was a slight increase in the net imports of wool, though the quantities of woolen goods imported declined greatly.

II.—IMPORTS, JANUARY-DECEMBER, 1916.

During the year 1916 the total value of the imports (less re-exports) was £851,544,000, showing increases of £98,713,000 compared with 1915, £250,383,000 compared with 1914, and £2,384,000 compared with 1913. These increases are, however, mainly the result of higher prices, the quantities of the principal articles of import having decreased. Thus the gross imports of wool, hides, petroleum, wood pulp, machinery, oats, apples, bananas and nuts were lower in 1916 than in any of the three previous years, while in the case of butter, eggs, onions, potatoes, wood, paper, and iron and steel manufactures there has been a decrease each year since the war. On the other hand, the imports of bacon and margarine have increased each year.

Wheat showed an increase of 13 per cent. compared with 1915, and a decrease of 5 per cent. compared with 1913, and declined by about 30 per cent. on both 1915 and 1913, while barley showed a similar decrease on 1913, an increase of 30 per cent. on 1915. Frozen beef increased by one-eighth compared with 1915, but increased one-third on 1913; for preserved beef the imports in 1915 were more than twice those of 1913. Compared with 1913, there were percentage increases of 50 for bacon and 80 for margarine, while there were percentage decreases of 50 for eggs, 25 for onions, and 80 for potatoes.

Prices of iron ore were higher than in either of the two years, though lower than in 1913. Iron and steel manufactures declined by two-thirds on 1913, and raw cotton by the same amount in 1914 though 18 per cent. higher than in 1913.

Imports of wood (hewn, sawn or split) showed a decrease of nearly one-half compared with 1913. Petroleum fuel oil declined from 95 million gallons in 1913 and 213 million gallons in 1914 to 23 million gallons in 1916; other kinds of petroleum showed a small decrease on 1915 and a small increase on 1913. Hides and leather each declined by more than one-fifth compared with 1915. Paper decreased by 20 per cent. on 1915 and wood pulp by 30 per cent.

EXPORTS (BRITISH AND IRISH) IN DECEMBER.

(a) VALUES.

The value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during December, 1916, amounted to £39,928,000, showing an increase of £5,981,000 (or 18 per cent.) over December, 1915, and a reduction of £3,398,000 (or 8 per cent.) over December, 1913.

Groups.	Value of Exports in Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in December, 1916, compared with		
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1914.	Dec., 1913.
Food, Drink and Tobacco	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
Raw Materials and Articles mainly manufactured	1,942	+ 397	+ 49	- 1,167
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	4,631	+ 70	+ 1,313	- 1,489
Miscellaneous	31,530	+ 6,626	+ 11,210	+ 762
TOTAL	39,928	+ 5,981	+ 13,650	- 3,398

(b) QUANTITIES.

Principal Articles.	Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in December, 1916, compared with			
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1914.	Dec., 1913.	Dec., 1912.
Coal and Metals and Metal Manufactures	1,000's.	1,000's.	1,000's.	1,000's.	1,000's.
Coal—Steam	1,969	- 430	- 733	- 2,620	- 2,620
Other sorts	644	- 245	- 354	- 397	- 397
Total of Coal—tons	2,612	- 675	- 1,087	- 3,617	- 3,617
Iron and Steel and Manufactures thereof	49	- 26	+ 17	- 26	- 45
Pig Iron	4	- 12	- 20	- 45	- 45
Railroad Materials	19	- 12	+ 1	- 60	- 60
Plates and Sheets (except galvanised and tinned)	1	- 11	- 21	- 60	- 60
Galvanised Sheets and Tinned Plates	14	- 16	- 16	- 25	- 25
Tubes and Pipes and Fittings, wrought and cast	11	- 1	- 7	- 21	- 21
Steel Bars, Angles, Rods and Shapes or Sections	21	- 15	+ 1	+ 4	+ 4
Other Iron and Steel Manufactures	36	- 4	- 9	- 37	- 37
Total Iron and Steel and Manufactures thereof—tons	156	- 98	- 51	- 210	- 210
Copper and Manufactures thereof	1	- 1	- 1	- 3	- 3
Lead, Tin, Zinc and Manufactures thereof	38	+ 3	- 1	- 46	- 46
Machinery and Hardware	25	+ 2	- 1	- 32	- 32
Machinery	786	+ 3,253	+ 568	- 2,431	- 2,431
Wool, Sheep's or Lambs'	11,225	+ 3,610	+ 1,259	- 5,982	- 5,982
Cotton Yarn	499,361	+ 125,151	+ 223,345	- 31,332	- 31,332
Piece Goods	8,383	+ 169	+ 3,146	- 574	- 574
Woolen Tissues	3,733	- 553	- 413	- 2,647	- 2,647
Woolen Piece Goods	10,830	+ 3,986	+ 5,291	- 3,447	- 3,447
Jute Piece Goods	9,651	+ 463	+ 3,147	- 9,897	- 9,897
Linen Piece Goods					

The exports of cotton and jute piece goods showed a large increase. On the other hand, coal of all kinds, iron and steel and manufactures thereof, raw wool, and cotton yarn showed a reduction on the corresponding month of 1915.

EXPORTS (BRITISH AND IRISH) IN JANUARY-DECEMBER, 1916.

During the year 1916, the total value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom was £506,546,000, an increase of £121,678,000 (or 32 per cent.) compared with 1915, and of £75,825,000 (or 18 per cent.) compared with 1914, but a decrease of £18,699,000 (or 4 per cent.) compared with 1913. As in the case of imports, the increases are largely due to higher prices, the quantities exported being usually less than in 1914.

Compared with 1915 there was a decrease in the quantity exported of about 12 per cent. for coal, but increases of 10 per cent. for cotton piece goods, and 40 per cent. for woolen tissue. Compared with 1913 there were decreases of 50 per cent. for coal, 30 per cent. for iron and steel and manufactures thereof, 60 per cent. for machinery, 25 per cent. for cotton piece goods, and 80 per cent. for cured herrings.

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not been established, and also determining the rules when this fabric is used in different classes of machines.

FERRERS, & CO., LONDON.—Questions concerning (1) war prices for Government bedding work and stretchers, and prices for Government contract upholstery work, referred to Sir George Askwith by the Cabinet Trades Union and the Amalgamated Union of Upholsterers, were issued his award on 14th December, determining 10 per cent. be added to the present war bonus for December, and fixing prices to be paid for stretchers and upholstery. It was also determined that the parties endeavour to refer prices upon which they cannot agree.

POWER LOOM TUNERS, HUDDERSFIELD.—Following upon an award issued by Sir George Askwith dated 6th July, the Huddersfield and District Woollen Manufacturers' Association and the Fine Cloth Manufacturers' Association on the one hand, and the Huddersfield Power Loom Tuners on the other, referred the question of war grants to operation of power loom tuners to Sir George for decision. In his award dated 16th December, Sir George decided that (1) on or after 13th October all power loom tuners, apart from any grant which power loom tuners may have received, shall receive a war grant of 2s. per week; (2) after 15th December the war grants to be abolished, and the men to receive a grant of 7s. per week of 5½ hours.

MEAT SALEMEN, MANCHESTER.—Differences having arisen between the Manchester Wholesale Meat Salesmen's Association and the Meat Butchers' Federation in respect of an application for an advance of wages made on behalf of the journeymen butchers, a joint conference of the parties was held at Manchester, under the chairmanship of an officer of the Industrial Commissioners' Department, when an agreement was arrived at by which the men received certain advances, to be regarded as war bonuses. The men's representatives undertook not to ask for any further general advance during the war or six months afterwards, unless a substantial increase in the cost of living takes place.

ENGINEERS AND ENGINE DRIVERS, MANSFIELD CORPORATION.—Applications for advances of wages having been made by the above men employed in the electricity works of the Mansfield Corporation, Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 4th December, granting war wage advances of 2s. per week to the charge engineers and engine drivers respectively.

WORKERS OF TIGHE & CO., DUBLIN.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between the firm and their employees, members of the Irish Women Workers' Union, respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the latter. In his award, issued on the 5th of December, the arbitrator decided that the war bonuses of 2s. and 1s. per week should be doubled.

ENGINEERS, LONDONDERRY.—A difference having arisen between the North-West of Ireland Ironfounders' Association and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers respecting an application for a further advance of wages made by the latter on behalf of their members employed in the Londonderry district, Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on the 5th of December, deciding that the rate of wages be advanced 3s. per week, payable at the rate of 6d. per day on which the full normal hours are worked, the advance to be regarded as war wages, and also that the claim for an increase in piece prices has not been established.

WORKERS OF THE ALLIANCE AND DUBLIN CONSUMERS' GAS CO., LTD., DUBLIN.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages and alterations in working conditions made to the Company by the National Amalgamated Society of General Workers and the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. The former Union claimed flat rate advances of 6s. per week, and the latter an advance of 6s. per week. The arbitrator issued his award on the 5th of December, deciding that the firm for a flat rate advance has not been established and that a war wage advance of 2s. 6d. per week to men over the age of other than labourers and 2s. to labourers, and 1s. 6d. per week to women, shall be paid at time and a quarter, any rates now being paid to continue. No alteration is to be made in working hours.

IRON AND BACON CURERS, LONDONDERRY.—A difference having arisen between the National Amalgamated Union of Labour and the Londonderry Employers' Association relative to a claim for a Saturday half-holiday made by members of the Union, Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 6th of December, deciding that at the present time a Saturday half-holiday is not to be observed, but that a Monday half-holiday all the year round shall be observed. In the event of a subsequent grant of a half-holiday by any of the firms in the Association or part of the year, this award shall be deemed to be modified.

CRANE DRIVERS, HENRY STREET, LONDONDERRY.—An application for an advance of wages made by the Amalgamated Union of Crane Drivers and Electrical

Workers on the one hand, and their members on the other, locomotive drivers, shunters, steam crane drivers and crane followers, was referred to Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., as arbitrator. In his award, dated the 7th December, Mr. Mackenzie found that the claim of the Union had not been established, but decided that certain advances offered by the firm to the workmen concerned should be adopted. The arbitrator also fixed the rates for nightwork, overtime and Sundays.

NAVIES, MR. WHITTAKER ELLIS, DUDLEY PORT, TIPTON.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which arose between the firm and the navies in their employ respecting a question of wages during the winter months, and in his award, dated the 8th December, granted an additional war bonus of ¼d. per hour in settlement of the matter.

ENGINEMEN AND FIREMEN, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COLLIERIES.—A difference having arisen between the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Engine-men and Firemen's Union and the Nottinghamshire Miners' Association on the one hand and the Midland Counties Colliery Owners' Association on the other hand, in connection with the minimum rates of wages to be paid to engine-men and firemen employed in the Nottinghamshire Collieries, Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. In his award, dated the 9th December, the arbitrator fixed the basis rate of wages for the men concerned, deciding the conditions to be attached to such rates.

TANK CLEANERS AND SCALERS, MANCHESTER DRY DOCK CO., LTD.—Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator in respect of a difference which arose between the Manchester Dry Docks Co. and the tank cleaners and scalers in their employ in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the latter. In his award, issued 19th December, the arbitrator granted a war bonus of 4s. per week, or 8d. per day, to the men concerned.

TOOLMAKERS, & CO., JOSEPH LUCAS, LTD., BIRMINGHAM.—The Minister of Munitions, under Section 4 (2) of the Munitions of War Acts, having withheld his consent to a proposal to increase the present bonus by 10 per cent. to toolmakers, tool-setters, millwrights and skilled electricians in the firm's employment, Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed arbitrator in accordance with the provisions of the Acts, and issued his award on the 26th December, giving his consent to the proposed advance.

SAWYERS AND MACHINISTS, HARRISON, MCGREGOR & CO., LTD., LEIGH.—The Amalgamated Society of Wood-cutting Machinists, having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of the sawyers and machinists in the firm's employ, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., who issued his award on the 28th December, giving an advance of 1d. per hour on time rates and 10 per cent. on piece rates to the men concerned. The advances are to be regarded as war wages and to date from the first full pay following the 13th December.

SKILLED MEN AT ONE OF H.M. NATIONAL PROJECTILE FACTORIES.—A difference arose between the management and the skilled workmen employed in the factory in respect of an application made by the latter for a bonus on output, and the matter was reported to the Board of Trade, who appointed Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., to act as arbitrator. In his award, dated the 29th December, the arbitrator decided that a bonus should be paid to time-workers only and be dependent on good time-keeping.

EMPLOYEES OF ISIAH OLDBURY, WEDNESBURY.—Differences having arisen between the firm and the Workers' Union in connection with an application for an advance of wages, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator in the matter. Mr. Doughty met the parties on the 4th December, when an agreement was arrived at between them giving certain advances, and the arbitrator declared the agreement to be his award.

IRONFOUNDERS, JAMES MAUDE & CO., SANSON BROS., ANTONIO RICHARDSON AND SANDERSON & ROBINSON, MANSFIELD.—Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages made by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders on behalf of their members employed by the above firms. The arbitrator issued his award on 5th December, deciding that war wage advances of 4s. and 2s. a week shall be given to moulders and youths respectively.

EMPLOYEES OF CHARLES BURRELL & SONS, THETFORD.—Application for an advance of wages having been made to the firm by their employees, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award dated 5th December granted an advance of 4s. per week to engineers and painters, and of 3s. a week to carpenters, this advance to be calculated from 1st December, and in settlement of retrospective payment a sum of 16s. was to be paid to engineers and painters, and 12s. to carpenters. The arbitrator also concurred in the intention of the firm to apply the principle of the award to other grades of workmen not represented at the hearing.

EMPLOYEES OF SANSON BROS. & CO., MANSFIELD.—Mr Charles Doughty having been appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages made by the firm's employees issued his award on 5th December, giving war wage advances of 4s. per week to patternmakers, fitters, machinists and toolmakers, 3s. per week to fettling

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: NOTICE OF ACCIDENT: EXCUSE FOR NOT GIVING NOTICE: PREJUDICE IN DEFENCE: FINALITY OF JUDGE'S DECISION.

Proceedings for recovery of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, are not maintainable unless notice of the accident has been given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof and before the workman has voluntarily left the employment; but the want of, or any defect or inaccuracy in such notice is not to be a bar to the maintenance of such proceedings if it be found in the proceedings that the employer is not prejudiced in his defence by such want, defect or inaccuracy, or that the same was occasioned by mistake, absence from the United Kingdom, or other reasonable cause.

A miner in the employ of a colliery company on 18th April, 1916, received a blow on the fleshy part of his thigh by accident in the course of his usual work. On 29th May he went to see a doctor, who failed to diagnose the nature of his ailment. On that date notice of the accident was first given to the employers. On 10th June he was seen by a specialist, who diagnosed the disease as osteomyelitis, or inflammation of the marrow of the bone, an extremely obscure and rare disease. He was immediately sent to a hospital, and an operation was performed, under which he died. The dependants of the deceased claimed compensation under the Act.

At the hearing medical evidence was given on the one side that the disease and death could not have been caused by the blow in April; on the other side, that the blow did, in fact, cause the disease. The County Court Judge decided, on the evidence, that the deceased had met with an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, which was the cause of death. The question was then raised whether notice of the accident had been given "as soon as practicable after the happening thereof" as required by the Act. The judge found that notice ought to have been given earlier than 29th May, but the employers had not proved that they were in any way prejudiced in their defence by the want of such notice. He accordingly made an award of compensation. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. They held that in the first place there was evidence which justified the judge in finding that the deceased had met with an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, which caused his death. In the second place they held that as the accident appeared at first to be quite of a trivial nature and the deceased had continued to work for a considerable time until he became seriously ill, the want of earlier notice was not material, and further that there was evidence to justify the finding of the judge that the employers were not prejudiced in their defence, as nothing could have been done even if the specialist had been consulted earlier.—*Mills v. Dinnington Main Colliery Co., Ltd.*—Court of Appeal.—21st December, 1916.

DOES PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TERMINATE SERVICE?: PAYMENT OF WAGES TO WORKMEN WHO ENLIST.

On 4th September, 1914, a company gave notice to their workmen by circular that

"During the period of the war it has been decided to pay employees who have been called up or volunteered for service... full wages, less Government allowances and thrift fund contributions."

To make its meaning quite clear a further notice, printed in red, was pasted on it on 11th September, 1914, as follows:—

"Henceforward these conditions will apply only to those employees in the service of the Society prior to the declaration of war."

A workman who had been for some time in the employment of the company met with an accident in February, 1914, in respect of which he was entitled to compensation under the Act. His employers paid him half-wages accordingly. At the end of April he had partly recovered, and for a fortnight he attempted to do his usual work, being assisted, for a small payment, by some of the other men. Their Trade Union, however, disapproved of this procedure, and on 14th May he again left work. The employers then resumed the weekly payments, and continued them till March, 1915, when the man had completely recovered and returned to regular work. On 19th May, 1915, he enlisted.

Subsequently he asked his employers for payment in accordance with the terms of the circular; but they refused to comply with his request on the ground that he had not been in their service on 4th August, 1914, on the outbreak of war, and was therefore not entitled to take advantage of their offer.

The workman then brought an action in the County Court against the company, claiming the amount he was entitled to up to that time under the terms of the circular, and claiming to be one of those included in the offer. He recovered judgment for the sum of £35, and this judgment was affirmed by the High Court. The employers appealed. It was admitted that the circular notice of the employers constituted a binding

contract as between them and any workman who was in their offer and who accepted such offer by joining the Army. The employers contended, however, that a period prior to the declaration of war and for several months after, during which he was receiving compensation, the man was not in their service, and was therefore not entitled to compensation in their offer.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. They held that a contract of service is not terminated by temporary incapacity to work arising from illness or injury. A workman temporarily away from work owing to illness, if not dismissed, can on return to work recover wages for the period of his absence. The Act makes certain provision for part wages during incapacity from certain causes, but the general principle still applies, and his contract of service is not terminated by his incapacity. Nothing was said in this case amounting to a notice of dismissal by the employers; therefore the workman's contract of service was in force at the declaration of war and subsequently he was entitled to accept their offer by enlisting, as was done.—*Warburton v. Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.*—Court of Appeal.—15th December, 1916.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT AND THE MUNITIONS OF WAR ACTS, 1915 AND 1916.

CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT AND THE MUNITIONS OF WAR ACTS, 1915 AND 1916.

SURFACE WORKERS, COAL MINES, SCOTLAND.—A difference having arisen between the Scottish Coal Owners' Association and the National Union of Scottish Mine Workers relating to an application for an advance of wages made by the latter on behalf of the surface workers, Sir George Askwith referred the parties to meet him on 20th December, and after the case had been fully placed before him by each of the parties they agreed to leave the whole question for final decision. Sir George accordingly issued his award on 21st December, granting an increase of 8d. per shift to male workers earning over 3s. 6d. per shift and 10d. per shift to those earning 3s. 6d. and under irrespective of general increases or decreases of wages given to other workers, but previous district war bonuses are to be taken into account in the advance now awarded. The award is to be in force from the beginning of the colliery pay following the declaration of peace, unless the parties shall, prior to the end of such six months, have otherwise agreed.

CARTERS, LIVERPOOL.—A difference having arisen between the Liverpool Cartowners' Association, Liverpool Shipowners' Association, Liverpool Association of Coalowners, Merchants, and the Birkenhead Cartowners' Association on the one hand, and the Mersey Quay and Railway Cartowners' Union on the other hand, in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the Union, a conference was arranged and held on 7th December under the chairmanship of Sir George Askwith, when an agreement was reached between the parties giving various advances supplementary to those granted by a previous agreement of 24th March, 1915.

MOTORMEN, &c., POTTERIES ELECTRIC TRACTION CO., STOKE-ON-TRENT.—A difference having arisen between the Potteries Electric Traction Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent, and the Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers, in respect of a claim for 1½d. per hour in lieu of a war bonus made on behalf of the motormen, conductors, and bus drivers, the matter was referred to Sir George Askwith for decision. Sir George issued his award on 4th December, deciding that in lieu of the war bonus a war wage advance of 1½d. per hour shall be paid, probationers under six months' service to receive 1d. instead of 1¼d. per hour.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES, MAYBOLE.—A difference having arisen between the Maybole and District Shoe Manufacturers' Association and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives in respect of a claim made by the latter that Sir George Askwith's award made in August last at Glasgow should be applied to Maybole. Both parties agreed to refer the matter to Sir George, who decided in a further award on 8th December that Maybole is not governed by the Glasgow award, but that a further bonus of 2s. per week should be paid to all male operatives over 21 years of age and to all youths and females over 18 years of age. The payments are to be regarded as war wages and to continue during the war and for three months after the declaration of peace, subject to one month's notice by either side on the termination of the award.

LACE CURTAIN TRADE, NEWMILNS.—A difference having arisen between the Scottish Lace Manufacturers' Association, Newmilns and District Textile Workers' Union, and the Amalgamated Association of Textile Workers, in respect of a certain fabric now being made under Government licence, should be classed as *Swiss* work. The matter was referred to Sir George Askwith for decision. Sir George issued his award on 9th December, deciding that the fabric should be classed as *Swiss* work, and that the Rules agreed upon between the parties should be applied. He also awarded an advance of 10 per cent. on the rate of time and a quarter for day workers, and 15 per cent. on the rate of time and a quarter for the Northampton

General Workers acting on behalf of the labourers of the Corporation's Gas Works, Mr. W. H. Stoker, was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. The arbitrator issued his award on 18th December, deciding (1) that the claim has been sustained and (2) giving an advance of 8d. per shift of eight hours, and 8½d. per shift of twelve hours, these advances to be regarded as war wages.

EMPLOYEES OF WIGAN COAL AND IRON CO., LTD.—Differences having arisen between the National Union of General Workers and the Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., in connection with applications for advances of wages made on behalf of (1) the brakemen, (2) the labourers, (3) the saw sharpeners, wagon inspectors, plate-wagon and wagon repairers, and (5) that the ordinary workmen should be so fixed that the day's work should be done from 1 p.m. Saturday to 8 a.m. Monday, and (6) for an advance of wages of 1s. 1d. per shift made for these men. The arbitrator issued his award on 18th December, deciding (1) that the claim has been sustained and (2) giving an advance of 8d. per shift of eight hours, and 8½d. per shift of twelve hours, these advances to be regarded as war wages.

EMPLOYEES OF ROCHESTER, CHATHAM AND GILLINGHAM GAS CO.—An application was made by the Workers' Union on behalf of their members in the firm's employ for an increase of wages of 1d. per hour, and also for a revision of overtime rates. Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 22nd December, 1916, deciding (1) that as from the 1st January, 1917, a war wage advance of 4d. per hour should be paid to all classes of the company's employees, and also that overtime be paid at the rate of time and a half for the first two hours, and time and a half for each subsequent hour worked.

EMPLOYEES OF PARKSTONE JOINERY CO., DORSET.—His Honour Judge O'Connor, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference which arose between the Parkstone Joinery Co. and the workers in connection with an application for an advance of wages, issued his award on the 21st December, deciding that in lieu of the existing war bonus a bonus of 4s. per week should be paid to joiners, 5s. to carpenters and joiners, 6s. to painters, and 7s. to labourers. The arbitrator also fixed the sums to be paid in respect of the period from the 9th September last to the date of the award.

EMPLOYEES OF CHILWORTH GUNPOWDER CO.—Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference which had arisen between the Chilworth Gunpowder Co. and the workers' Union relative to the rate of wages and the hours of work of their members in the firm's employ. In his award on 4th December the arbitrator fixed the standard rate of wages at 7d., instead of the present rate of 6d., the war bonus to be 10 per cent. He also allowed a reasonable short interval for tea, and fixed the weekly hours of work at 53½ and the rates to be paid for overtime and holidays. He also decided that wages should be paid weekly instead of fortnightly.

COAL-HEWERS, PLENMELLER COLLIERIES, HALTWHISTLE.—A difference having arisen between the Plenmeller Collieries and the coal-hewers in their employ respecting a claim made by the Company to reduce the basis prices of coal to deal with the matter having failed to agree, Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., was appointed umpire, and in his award on 18th December, decided that the basis prices of coal should be reduced by 10 per cent., and made alterations in working conditions.

EMPLOYEES OF THE SOUTHBANK AND NORMANDY GAS LIGHT AND CO., LTD.—Mr. Ernest Page, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference between the Company and the National Union of General Workers in respect of an application for an advance of wages on behalf of the workers, issued his award on the 22nd December, granting a war wage advance of 5s. 6d. per week to each workman who has worked full shifts, and 5s. per week to those who are paid by the hour. The advances are to be regarded as war wages. The arbitrator also decided that overtime should be paid at the rate of time and a half after 12 noon on Saturday, but made alterations in the differential rates which affect labourers.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES, A. & W. FLATAU, LTD., LONDON.—Mr. T. Smith, J.P., was appointed to inquire and report on differences that had arisen between the firm and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives in connection with the wages and working conditions of the workpeople employed in the manufacture of army boots at the firm's works at Tottenham. An agreement was arrived at on the 30th November by which the firm agreed to pay to all day workers a war wage advance of 10 per cent. on the minimum rate set out in the Army Order dated 14th October, 1916, plus 17½ per cent. on the rate of time and a quarter for day workers, and 20 per cent. extra to piece-workers. The firm also agreed to pay to all day workers not less than the minimum rate of time and processes fixed for the Northampton

district, or in the absence of any such rate, not less than a full week's work than the total weekly wage, including the 17½ per cent. war bonus paid to a day worker employed in the same department on the same process.

LEATHER WORKERS, NORTHAMPTON.—A difference having arisen between Mr. J. Dicken, leather manufacturer, and the Amalgamated Society of Leather Workers respecting the payment of a war bonus to male day workers in the firm's employ, Mr. T. Smith, J.P., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. At the hearing on the 7th December an agreement was arrived at between the parties, giving an advance of 1s. per week to male day workers, to be paid from and including the week ending the 27th October.

BUILDING TRADES, LEICESTER.—Mr. T. Smith, J.P., was appointed arbitrator to determine a claim for an advance of wages as war bonus made to the Leicester and District Building Trades Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, the Operative Bricklayers' Society and the National Association of Builders' Labourers, and in his award, issued the 22nd of December, granted a war bonus of 1d. per hour to the men concerned.

ELECTRICIANS, ONE OF H.M. NATIONAL PROJECTILE FACTORIES.—A difference having arisen between the Electrical Trades Union and the management of a national projectile factory as to the wage rate per hour payable for night shift work, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. T. Smith, J.P., who issued his award on the 28th day of December, deciding that in paying time and a quarter for continuous night shift work, the management has complied with the duly authorised and officially recognised Trade Union rate of pay for continuous night shift work.

SLAG WHEELERS, NORTH-EASTERN STEEL CO., LTD., MIDDLESBROUGH.—Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference between the firm and certain outside workers in their basic cinder department relative to an application for an increase of wages and alterations in working conditions made by the men. At the hearing on the 28th November the claim for alteration in working conditions was withdrawn, and in his award, dated 12th December, the arbitrator granted a war wage advance of 1d. per ton to the men concerned.

STEELWORKERS, JOSEPH EVANS & SONS, LTD., SHEFFIELD.—An application for 15 per cent. advance of wages was made to the firm by the National Steel Workers' Association Engineering and Labour League on behalf of their members employed by the firm. No agreement being come to by the parties, the matter was referred to arbitration. Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 12th December, deciding that the time rates of wages of the men shall be advanced 3s. per week, and that 2½ per cent. be given to the men working on piece-work, the advance to be regarded as war wages and to take effect from 1st September.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. ACKRILL & CO., LTD., WEST BROMWICH.—The workers having made application to the firm for the payment of the district rate of wages and for a reduction of working hours, the matter was referred to Sir William Robinson for settlement. At the hearing it was agreed that the war bonus previously granted to the men should be regarded as war wages, and that an advance granted under a recent finding of the Committee on Production should be paid as from the date of the finding, and that the boys and youths were to be left to the voluntary consideration of the firm. In his award dated 12th December, the arbitrator confirmed the agreements arrived at and fixed the rate of wages of certain of the workers, and directed that no alteration be made in working hours.

LABOURERS AND SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS, A. V. ROE & CO., LTD., NEWTON HEATE.—The National Union of General Workers having made application for an advance of 3s. per week on behalf of the labourers and semi-skilled workers employed by the firm, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Sir William Robinson, who issued his award on 13th December, giving the men concerned a war wage advance of 1s. per week as from the beginning of the first full pay following 12th July.

WOODWORKERS AND COREMAKERS, ROCHDALE.—The Rochdale and District Woodworking Trades Standing Committee and the Amalgamated Society of Coremakers made applications for advances of wages on behalf of their members employed in the Rochdale district, and Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. In his award issued on 22nd December the arbitrator granted a war wage increase of 3s. per week on the time rates of wages of the men concerned from 8th November, excluding joiners or machinists who had been given the 3s. advance since August, 1916.

ROLL TURNERS, NORTH OF ENGLAND.—A difference having arisen between the North of England Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association and the British Roll Turners' Trade Society in respect of an application for an advance of wages of 2d. per hour made by the society on behalf of their members, Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 22nd December, giving a war wage advance of 1d. per week to the men concerned as from the 23rd day of July, 1916.

labourers, and fixing of overtime to all grades. The advances to take effect as from 24th November last.

SEMI-SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKERS, JOHN LYSAGHT, LTD.,—A difference having arisen between the firm and certain of their employees represented by the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union and the Workers' Union in connection with an application for an advance of wages, the case was referred to Mr. Charles Doughty for arbitration. Mr. Doughty issued his award on 5th December, granting an additional war bonus of 3s. per week to piece-workers and day workers, to date from the commencement of the first full pay week after the 3rd September, the increase to be taken into account in paying for overtime, except that in calculating the back pay overtime may be disregarded. The arbitrator also fixed the rates for overtime and a minimum wage for piece-workers working "odds."

GAS PRODUCER MEN, PARKGATE IRON AND STEEL CO., LTD., ROTHERHAM.—Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and the gas producer men in their employ respecting an application for a war bonus made by the National Union of General Workers on behalf of these men. At the hearing on 7th December the difference was settled by an agreement by which the men concerned received certain bonuses, and the arbitrator issued his award on 11th December confirming the terms of settlement.

RAILWAY VEHICLE BUILDERS, LANCASHIRE.—A difficulty having arisen between the Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders and certain wagon repairing firms in Lancashire in regard to a question of wages, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. Charles Doughty, who met the parties on 8th December, when an agreement was arrived at fixing the rates to be paid for certain work and regulating working conditions. The arbitrator issued his award on 11th December, declaring the agreement to be his award.

CLOTHIERS' OPERATIVES, HEBDEN BRIDGE AND DISTRICT.—A difference arose between the Hebden Bridge and District Wholesale Clothiers' Association and the United Garment Workers' Trade Union in respect of an application for an advance of wages made on behalf of the workpeople employed by members of the association. The workpeople went on strike to enforce their claims. Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed to preside at a conference of the parties with a view to settling the dispute. At the meeting it was agreed to leave the whole matter for him to settle as a single arbitrator. Mr. Doughty therefore issued his award on 12th December, giving a war bonus of 3d. per hour to women and 3d. per hour to girls under 18 years of age in addition to their piece-rate earnings on the rates in force on August 4th, 1914; to men 22 years of age and over 3d. per hour increase in rate; to those between the age of 18 and 22 a war bonus of 3d. per hour; under 18 a war bonus of 3d. per hour. It was also determined that all masters shall take back all old employees by the 14th December, by which date work must be resumed; increases to be paid from the date of resumption of work.

CARTERS, BRADFORD.—A difference having arisen between the United Carters and Motormen's Association on the one hand, and the Bradford and District Horse Owners' and Allied Trades Association and certain master carmen, carters, tradesmen and horse owners represented by the Bradford and District Chamber of Trade on the other hand, with reference to an application for an increased war bonus made by the union on behalf of their members in the Bradford district, Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 13th December, giving a war bonus increase of 3s. a week to all men of 21 years and over from the commencement of the first full pay week in December.

EMPLOYEES OF SANDERSON BROS. & NEWBOULD, LTD., SHEFFIELD.—The National Amalgamated Union of Labour and the National Steelworkers' Association Engineering and Labour League made application to the firm for an advance of wages on behalf of the workpeople employed in the firm's steel, bayonet, and machine knife departments. Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award, dated 18th December, granted an additional war bonus of 3s. a week to all workpeople in the steel department, payment to commence for the week ending the 9th September; 2s. per week to workpeople in the machine knife department, and 3s. per week to those in the bayonet department, payment in these cases to commence for the week ending the 4th November.

EMPLOYEES OF CAPE COPPER CO., LTD., BRITON FERRY.—A difference having arisen between the company and the Welsh Artizans United Association, in respect of certain claims made by the union on behalf of their members, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. Charles Doughty, who heard the parties on 20th December, when, after discussion, the matters under dispute were settled upon the following terms: An additional war bonus of 3s. per week shall be paid from the 2nd October to the men concerned; on and from December 25th the local trade union rate shall be paid to the fitters, moulders and smiths, together with a war wage of 4s. per week, and also a fixed sum in lieu of retrospective payment. Mr. Doughty issued his award on the same day, declaring the terms of settlement to be his award.

EMPLOYEES OF GUEST, KEEN & NETTLEFOLD, LTD.—Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed to determine the difference between the firm and the National General Workers respecting an application for an advance of wages made on behalf of workpeople at the Tydudd Works, issued his award on the 26th December, fixing a war bonus of 6d. per hour for setters additional to a minimum sum as an output bonus not less than 1d. for every hour worked, and giving 1d. per hour increase to women and girls, packers and loaders, weighers and labourers, and an advance of 3d. per hour to shakers, and increasing the bonus to the engine driver by 5 per cent. Boys working with machine setters shall be guaranteed, in addition to the day rate and war bonus, an output bonus of not less than 3d. for every hour worked. The arbitrator also granted certain sums to the workpeople in lieu of retrospective payment.

CHEMICAL FIRMS, PLYMOUTH.—A difference existed between Messrs. James Gibbs & Finch, Ltd., Messrs. Bernard & Co., Ltd., and Messrs. C. Norrington & Co., Ltd., on the one hand, and the National Union of General Workers on the other, in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the Union on behalf of their members in the employ of Mr. Charles Doughty was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 30th December, deciding in lieu of the existing bonuses day workers shall be paid 7d. an hour and a new war bonus of 9d. per day, dependent on good time-keeping, shift workers and piece workers shall be paid a similar war bonus of 9d. per day, boys 6d. per day, and also that overtime be paid after 53 hours have been worked, at the rate of time and a half to day workers, same rate to be paid on Bank Holidays if men are requested to work on such days.

EMPLOYEES OF THE CORPORATION OF WARRINGTON.—A difference having arisen between the corporation and their employees engaged in the collection of refuse in respect of an application made by the latter for an advance of wages of 10s. per week, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. At the hearing the men were represented by the United Carters and Motormen's Association. In his award, dated the 30th November, the arbitrator decided that as from the 1st November the men receiving a bonus of 5s. per week should have an additional bonus of 2s. per week, those in receipt of 4s. per week an additional bonus of 3s. per week, those receiving 1s. per week an additional bonus of 4s. per week. Single men are given such supplemental bonus as will place them on the same footing as regards total bonuses as married men.

EMPLOYEES OF MOWLEM & Co., LTD., HEREFORD.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, the Operative Bricklayers' Society and the United Building Trades in regard to a question of wages, overtime payments and general working conditions, Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and issued his award on 2nd December, fixing overtime rates, giving an advance of 3d. per hour, the employers to continue paying the conditional bonus of 3s. per week, granting an allowance for wet time, and deciding no alteration shall be made in the working hours and the claim for payment for travelling time is not sustained.

EMPLOYEES, WOODSIDE FERRIES SERVICE, BIRKENHEAD.—An application was made to the Corporation of Birkenhead on behalf of the National Sailors' and Firemen's Union for a further advance in wages for all grades of employees on the Woodside Ferry Service. The matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., who issued his award on the 13th December, giving further war wage advances to the men concerned.

BOILERMAKERS, RICHARDSON, WESTGARTH & Co., HARTLEPOOL, AND THE CENTRAL MARINE ENGINE WORKS, HARTLEPOOL.—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen in connection with an application made by the Boilermakers and Steel Shipbuilders to the above firms for extra pay to their members for Monday and Tuesday, August 1st, a Holiday week, and for overtime work at night. The award was issued on the 14th December, and payment of extra wages on account of August Bank Holiday and Tuesday was sanctioned. It was also determined that the rate of payment for overtime between 5 p.m. and 6 a.m. should be 1 1/2 times the rate of time and a quarter for the first two hours and of time and a half for the subsequent consecutive hours worked, but that the claim for payment for meal time was not established.

CARMEN, & C., PLYMOUTH AND DISTRICT HORSE OWNERS' GENERAL CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION.—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine differences between the above-named association and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union in respect of an application for an advance of wages and other matters affecting employment of the association. At the hearing on the 20th November a conditional agreement was arrived at, and the arbitrator issued his award on the 14th December, confirming the agreement which an additional war bonus of 4s. per week shall be paid to adult carmen and 2s. to younger men.

LABOURERS, CORPORATION OF BIRMINGHAM.—A difference having arisen between the Corporation and the National Union of General Workers respecting an application for an advance of wages made on behalf of workpeople at the Tydudd Works, issued his award on the 26th December, fixing a war bonus of 6d. per hour for setters additional to a minimum sum as an output bonus not less than 1d. for every hour worked, and giving 1d. per hour increase to women and girls, packers and loaders, weighers and labourers, and an advance of 3d. per hour to shakers, and increasing the bonus to the engine driver by 5 per cent. Boys working with machine setters shall be guaranteed, in addition to the day rate and war bonus, an output bonus of not less than 3d. for every hour worked. The arbitrator also granted certain sums to the workpeople in lieu of retrospective payment.

District.	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb.		
	1st January, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with	
		A month ago.	A year ago.
	d.	d.	d.
London and Eastern Counties	10 1/2	-	+1 1/2
London and Western Counties & Yorkshire	10 1/2	+ 3/4	+2 1/2
London and Cheshire	10	+ 1/2	+2
London and Lancashire	9 1/2	-	+1 1/2
London and Eastern Counties	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+2
London and Western Counties & Wales	10	+ 3/4	+2
Great Britain	10 1/4	+ 3/4	+2

The prices at which bread was sold in each of the above towns, the predominant price was as follows:

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lb. on 1st January, 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Amount per 4 lb.
London	10 & 10 1/2	d.	d.	Nov., '16	+ 1/2
Birmingham	10 1/2	+ 3/4	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 3/4
Manchester	10	+ 1/2	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
Sheffield	10	+ 1/2	+ 2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
Nottingham	10 1/2	+ 1	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
Leeds	10	+ 1/2	+ 2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
Cardiff	10	+ 1/2	+ 2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
Belfast	10 1/2 to 11	+ 1	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1
Bristol	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+ 2 1/2	Nov., '16	+ 1/2
Southampton	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+ 2 1/2	Nov., '16	+ 1/2
London-Trent	10	+ 3/4	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
London	10	+ 1/2	+ 2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
London	9 1/2 & 10	+ 1/2	+ 2	Nov., '16	+ 1
London	10	+ 3/4	+ 2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
London	10 1/2	+ 3/4	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
London	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2
London	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+ 2 1/2	Nov., '16	+ 1
London	10 1/2	+ 3/4	+ 2 1/2	Dec., '16	+ 1/2

The average movement in prices during December in twenty-four large towns included in the above table is an increase of 3d. per 4 lb., which is rather more than the average for all the towns from which returns are received. In all of the towns specified, except Cardiff, there has been an increase in price during the past two months.

(2) *Co-operative Societies.*
The following Table summarises the Returns received from 340 Co-operative Societies:—

District.	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb. on		
	1st January, 1917.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with	
		A month ago.	A year ago.
	d.	d.	d.
London and Wales	9 3/4 to 10 1/4	-	+2
London and Eastern Counties	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Western Counties & Yorkshire	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+2
London and Cheshire	10	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Lancashire	9 1/2	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Eastern Counties	9 1/2	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Western Counties & Wales	10	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
Great Britain	9 1/2	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Wales	9 1/2	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Eastern Counties	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+2
London and Western Counties & Yorkshire	10	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Cheshire	10	+ 1/2	+2
London and Lancashire	10 1/2	+ 1/2	+2
London and Eastern Counties	10	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
London and Western Counties & Wales	10	+ 1/2	+1 1/2
Great Britain	10	+ 1/2	+1 1/2

The average price charged by the Co-operative Societies on 1st January, 1917, was slightly less than 4 lb., as compared with nearly 9 3/4d. on 1st December 1916. The increase since a year ago is usually 1 1/2d. per 4 lb.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN DECEMBER. INSURANCE CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS.

The total number of claims to unemployment benefit made in the trades insured under the National Insurance (Unemployment) Act, 1911, at Employment Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during the five weeks ended 29th December, 1916, was 9,363, as compared with 8,108 during the four weeks ended 24th November, 1916, and with 27,765 during the five weeks ended 31st December, 1915. Of the total of 9,363 claims, 5,922 (or 63 per cent.) were claims for the direct payment of benefit, and 3,441 (or 37 per cent.) were claims for payment of benefit through associations of workpeople in the insured trades having arrangements with the Board of Trade under Section 105 of the National Insurance Act. The number of claims made during each of the five weeks was 1,884, 1,956, 1,854, 1,730 and 1,939, the average being 1,873, as compared with an average of 2,027 in the four preceding weeks and with 5,553 in December, 1915.

The total amount of unemployment benefit paid direct for the five weeks ended 29th December, 1916, was £1,718, and through associations during the five weeks ended 23rd December, 1916, £866.

Districts.	Average Weekly No. of Claims Made.			Average Weekly Amount of Benefit Paid.		
	Dec., 1916.	Nov., 1916.	Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Nov., 1916.	Dec., 1915.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
London	693	884	1,571	159	167	497
South-Eastern	130	115	532	42	29	224
South-Western	116	128	451	36	36	169
West Midlands	43	29	164	8	8	52
East Midlands	51	64	177	15	12	59
Yorkshire	137	98	429	22	29	112
North-Western	225	161	929	33	36	321
Northern	37	36	124	9	8	38
Scotland	64	49	326	15	14	108
Wales	16	15	112	6	7	37
Ireland	361	448	738	172	140	314
UNITED KINGDOM	1,873	2,027	5,553	517	486	1,922

The total number of claims made in the trades insured under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, during the five weeks ended 29th December, 1916, was 1,393, and the total amount of unemployment benefit paid was £150, as compared with 526 claims made and £2 unemployment benefit paid in the four weeks ended 24th November, 1916.

BOARD OF TRADE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES. FOUR WEEKS ENDED 8TH DECEMBER, 1916.

The total number of workpeople remaining on the Registers of the Board of Trade Employment Exchanges (378 in number) on 8th December was 101,206, as compared with 114,513 on the 10th November, 1916, and 109,433 on 10th December, 1915. These comprise workers in professional, commercial, and clerical, as well as in industrial occupations.

Excluding cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, there were on the Register at some time or other during the period 358,605 workpeople (men 105,938, women 206,002, boys 21,433, and girls 25,232), as compared with 386,831 in the previous four weeks, and 342,576 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915.

The number of vacancies filled was 121,621, a daily average of 5,067, as compared with 5,296 in the previous four weeks and with 4,138 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
On Register at beginning of period	27,968	72,910	5,538	8,097	114,513
Registrations during period	82,327	137,323	16,259	17,473	253,382
Individuals registered	77,974	133,100	15,951	17,151	244,176
Re-registrations	4,353	4,223	308	322	9,206
On Register at end of period	26,160	69,529	4,848	6,669	101,206
Vacancies notified during period	70,978	66,328	10,926	10,818	159,050
Vacancies filled during period	46,644	58,144	8,608	8,225	121,621
Applicants placed in other districts	11,042	14,580	4,455	1,316	31,393

* The percentages unemployed in the Insured Trades will be found on page 2.

† The figures for Association Payments relate to periods terminating one week earlier than the periods to which the Direct Payments relate.

‡ Excluding workmen in certain occupations of a more or less casual nature (i.e. dock labourers and cloth porters); these are dealt with in the last paragraph but one.

§ Of the women on the Register over 9 per cent. were known to be in employment, and a further 15 per cent. were reported never to have been in employment.

PRICES OF WHEAT, FLOUR AND BREAD.

I.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Supplies.

Imports in December, 1916.—The quantity of wheat and wheat meal and flour imported into the United Kingdom during December, 1916, together with the increase or decrease compared with December, 1915, 1914 and 1913, is shown in the following Table:—

	Quantity imported during December, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with		
		December, 1915.	December, 1914.	December, 1913.
WHEAT.				
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
From Russia	3,078,900	- 81,200	- 81,500	- 836,400
" United States	1,159,500	+ 1,157,200	- 62,400	+ 635,500
" British East Indies	271,000	+ 271,000	+ 250,600	- 83,609
" Australia	1,037,300	- 1,575,700	- 1,749,200	- 1,296,000
" Canada	506,100	+ 506,100	+ 506,000	+ 505,600
" Argentine Republic	32,600	+ 19,400	- 16,500	- 100,700
" Other Countries				
TOTAL	6,085,400	- 2,905,100	- 1,607,205	- 1,858,809
WHEAT MEAL AND FLOUR.				
From United States	307,785	- 90,415	- 430,793	- 294,289
" Canada	173,000	+ 81,500	+ 73,790	+ 194,310
" Other Countries	55,300	+ 42,100	+ 5,500	- 88,500
TOTAL	536,085	- 129,815	- 499,083	- 577,099

Imports in September-December, 1916.—The quantity of wheat and of wheat meal and flour imported into the United Kingdom during the first four months of the current cereal year, together with the increase or decrease compared with the corresponding period of the three preceding cereal years, is shown below:—

	Quantity imported during the four months ended Dec. 31st, 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with the four months ended December 31st		
		1915.	1914.	1913.
WHEAT.				
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
From Russia	16,143,200	- 511,200	- 349,727	- 2,680,600
" United States	5,288,400	+ 2,705,500	+ 617,000	+ 4,349,906
" British East Indies	1,176,800	+ 1,176,800	+ 64,100	- 2,122,358
" Australia	5,894,200	+ 4,253,800	+ 9,683,061	+ 3,207,500
" Canada	1,236,000	+ 1,210,400	+ 1,183,000	+ 705,000
" Argentine Republic	66,900	+ 53,400	+ 5,100	- 207,500
" Other Countries				
TOTAL	29,305,500	+ 164,000	- 7,512,430	- 3,284,352
WHEAT MEAL AND FLOUR.				
From United States	1,532,142	- 289,258	- 897,113	- 944,030
" Canada	1,084,086	+ 4,914	+ 272,258	+ 495,471
" Other Countries	308,805	+ 238,405	+ 167,005	- 234,270
TOTAL	2,925,033	- 55,767	- 457,850	- 1,673,771

Deliveries of British Wheat.—In the following Table the deliveries of wheat by farmers at the various markets of England and Wales from which returns are received by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are shown for the first four months of the current cereal year, together with the increase or decrease compared with the corresponding period of the three previous cereal years:—

Period in 1916.	Quantity delivered in given period of 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1916 compared with corresponding period in		
		1915.	1914.	1913.
Thirteen weeks ended 2nd December	1,019,554	- 31,173	- 76,522	+ 193,555
Four weeks ended 31st December	284,001	- 44,537	+ 31,069	+ 54,158
TOTAL—17 weeks ...	1,303,555	- 75,710	- 45,453	+ 247,713

Prices.

In the following Table particulars are given of average values and market prices of wheat meal and flour during December, 1916, together with the increase or decrease compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

	December, 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in	
		November, 1916.	Month ago.
WHEAT:—			
Imported: Average declared value per 480 lb.	74 6	+ 3 8	
Imported: Spot price at Liverpool per 480 lb.			
No. 1 Northern Manitoba: Average price	85 2	+ 5 6	+ 24
No. 2 Hard Winter (new): Average price	80 10	+ 4 9	
British: Gazette average price per 480 lb. (England & Wales)	73 5	+ 4 0	+ 1
English white wheat per 504 lb. (London)	79 9	+ 2 4	+ 21
WHEAT MEAL AND FLOUR:—			
Imported: Average declared value per cwt.	21 1	+ 1 9	+ 5
Flour: Government Regulation, Town-made, London (ex mill, less usual discount), average price per 280 lb.	58 6	- 3 ^o	+ 1

The spot price of No. 1 Northern Manitoba wheat at Liverpool increased from about 83s. per 480 lb. at the beginning of December to 87s. towards the end of the month. Similarly the price of No. 2 Hard Winter wheat rose from about 79s. 6d. per 480 lb. at the beginning of the month to 81s. 6d. on the 31st, after which date quotations are not available for this variety of wheat.

The *Gazette* price of British wheat continued to increase during December: for the week ending December 24 the average was 71s. 3d.; for the week ending 30th December it was 75s. 10d. per quarter. English white wheat at the London Corn Exchange was quoted at 76s. to 82s. per 504 lb. on 4th December, and higher at the end of the month.

The price in London of town-made straight-run flour milled in accordance with Government regulations remained unchanged throughout December, at 58s. "ex mill, less usual discount." This was the price which "Town Households No. 1" flour was selling at the time of its supersession by the straight-run flour.

II.—BREAD.

The following information with regard to the production of bread is derived from two main sources: (1) the Bakers' Associations, and (2) Co-operative Societies. Returns are also received from the local correspondents of the Department in industrial districts.

In preparing the statistics the predominant principle is that the prices at which the bulk of the bread is sold are utilised, but it will be understood that bread is also sold at both higher and lower prices. The prices quoted are per 4 lb., and in cases in which the weight of the loaf has been varied instead of the price being altered, the necessary allowance has been made. The quality of the bread sold on 1st January 1917 was the same as at earlier dates, except in places where the quality is being altered.

(1) Master Bakers' Associations, etc.

Returns received from over 100 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations and thirty returns received from other sources are summarised in the following Tables

There was some increase in the price of bread during December, except in the Eastern and Southern counties. Compared with a year ago the usual increase of 1st January, 1917, was from 11s. per 4 lb.

* The comparison is with "Town Households No. 1" flour.

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1917, on a	
		26th Jan., 1917.	29th Dec., 1916.	28th Jan., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London	132,537	1.14	0.99	0.92	+ 0.15	+ 0.22
Northern Counties	98,882	0.27	0.32	0.16	- 0.05	+ 0.11
North-Western	206,175	0.60	0.54	0.40	+ 0.06	+ 0.20
Yorkshire	141,457	0.34	0.29	0.22	+ 0.05	+ 0.12
East Midlands	74,079	0.38	0.43	0.25	- 0.05	+ 0.13
West Midlands	142,717	0.34	0.29	0.37	+ 0.05	- 0.03
Eastern and S.E. Counties	73,155	0.41	0.32	0.25	+ 0.09	+ 0.16
South-Western	41,722	0.36	0.32	0.26	+ 0.04	+ 0.10
Wales	21,985	0.55	0.27	0.13	+ 0.08	+ 0.22
Scotland	164,306	0.28	0.23	0.22	+ 0.05	+ 0.06
Ireland	21,530	1.30	1.55	1.49	- 0.25	- 0.19
UNITED KINGDOM	1,118,545	0.50	0.45	0.37	+ 0.05	+ 0.13

The general state of employment as described above applied, with few exceptions, to all districts and to all occupations. Certain branches of the textile engineering trade, however, remained slack, and some short time was worked in this trade.

The total value of the imports of machinery during January, 1917, was £717,600, an increase of £196,900 on a month ago, and of £17,000 on a year ago. The exports were valued at £1,988,000, compared with £1,655,000 in the previous month, and with £1,480,000 a year ago.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

Work continued at high pressure, with overtime in operation to a large extent. Trade Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and shipwrights with 71,665 members reported 0.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, compared with 0.3 per cent. in each of the two previous months and with 0.4 per cent. a year ago.

The number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in these trades who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 222,901, of whom 0.31 per cent. were reported as unemployed at the end of January, compared with 0.32 per cent. in December and 0.58 per cent. in January, 1916.

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1917, compared with a	
		26th Jan., 1917.	29th Dec., 1916.	28th Jan., 1916.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London	9,643	0.38	0.77	1.19	+ 0.11	- 0.31
Northern Counties	53,105	0.32	0.39	0.16	- 0.07	+ 0.16
North-Western	30,497	0.22	0.13	0.15	+ 0.09	+ 0.07
Yorkshire	5,952	0.20	0.30	0.29	- 0.10	- 0.09
East Midlands	1,914	1.10	1.45	1.19	- 0.35	- 0.09
West Midlands	610	0.49	0.45	...	+ 0.04	+ 0.49
Eastern and S.E. Counties	5,716	0.17	0.22	0.45	- 0.05	- 0.28
South-Western	18,818	0.22	0.22	0.91	...	- 0.69
Wales	11,037	0.26	0.29	0.26	- 0.03	...
Scotland	69,231	0.09	0.08	0.23	+ 0.01	- 0.14
Ireland	16,378	1.11	1.36	3.64	- 0.25	- 2.53
UNITED KINGDOM	222,901	0.31	0.32	0.58	- 0.01	- 0.27

The principal exceptions to the general state of employment as described above, or changes as compared with a month ago and a year ago, were as follows:—

On the Clyde it was reported that overtime was not so general as in the previous month; the usual annual holidays were observed from 1st to 4th January. With ship painters on the Mersey employment remained dull. At Southampton employment was not so good as a year ago, though a fair amount of overtime was worked in some departments. At Swansea a decline was reported compared with a year ago. At Dundee employment was better than a month ago and a year ago. At Belfast there was an improvement in some branches.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

The following Table shows the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of January, 1917, at the works covered by the returns:—

Works.	Number of Works open.		Number of Mills in operation	
	At end of Jan., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	At end of Jan., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Tinplate	72	+ 8	267	+ 13
Steel Sheet	12	+ 3	60	+ 5
TOTAL	84	+ 11	327	+ 18

TINPLATE.

The number of mills working at the end of January showed an increase of 13 compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 131 compared with January, 1916. The output of the mills was again affected by the restriction of the supplies of steel bars.

The exports of tinned plates and tinned sheets during January showed an increase of 2,267 tons compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 9,756 tons (over 37 per cent.) compared with a year ago. Compared with December, 1916, there was an increase of 2,201 tons to France and of 1,039 tons to Norway. Compared with a year ago there were large decreases to China and Japan, British East Indies and Australia, and a large increase to Italy.

	Jan., 1917.	Dec., 1916.	Jan., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Jan., 1917, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
To United States	4	14	26	- 10	- 22
" British East Indies	2,388	3,273	3,775	- 887	- 1,389
" France	3,830	1,619	3,329	+ 2,301	+ 491
" Netherlands	1,680	1,420	2,302	+ 260	- 622
" Russia	6	45	...	39	+ 6
" Norway	2,170	1,131	1,893	+ 1,039	+ 277
" Portugal	64	369	912	- 805	- 848
" Italy	1,517	765	500	+ 752	+ 1,017
" China and Japan	197	196	4,068	+ 1	- 3,871
" Australia	1,567	830	2,875	+ 737	- 1,308
" Canada	42	161	13	- 119	+ 29
" Argentina	894	671	403	+ 223	+ 491
" Other Countries	2,168	3,754	6,175	- 1,586	- 4,007
TOTAL	16,515	14,248	26,271	+ 2,267	- 9,756
Black Plates for Tinning.					
TOTAL	1,834	1,231	17,572	+ 603	- 15,738

STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEETS.

The number of mills working at the end of January showed an increase of 5 as compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 27 on a year ago. Owing to the shortage of steel bars the mills were only running about four days a week.

The imports of crude zinc during January, 1917, amounted to 6,958 tons, compared with 5,519 tons a month ago, and 2,852 tons a year ago.

The exports of galvanised sheets amounted to 3,501 tons, as compared with 1,455 tons in December, 1916, and 15,785 tons a year ago. In the case of Australia the decrease on a year ago was over 4,500 tons.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

In most of these trades employment was good. Much overtime was reported, especially with brass and sheet metal workers. Trade Unions with 40,874 members reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, 1917, the same percentage as in December and January, 1916.

Brasswork and Bedsteads.—Employment with brassworkers continued very good, with much overtime. With bedstead makers at Birmingham it was fair.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Nut and bolt makers were fully employed at Birmingham, Smethwick, and Darlaston and on the Tyne. With shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham, and with nut, bolt, rivet, and spike makers at Blackheath and Halesowen, employment was very good.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—The Sheffield cutlery and file trades continued busy, but a decline was reported with machine knife and saw grinders and

men and pocket blade forgers. With edge tool makers employment was fairly good at Birmingham and good and better than a month ago at Wednesbury. Hoe makers at Wednesbury were slack. At Walsall employment continued slack with bit and stirrup makers and fair with saddle and harness furniture makers. Needle and fish hook makers at Redditch continued very busy.

Tubes.—Employment with tube makers continued very good in the Midlands with a scarcity of labour.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, &c.—At Cradley employment with block chain makers continued good; with cable chain makers it was fair and not so good as a month ago. It was good with anchor smiths on the Tyne and at Cradley. At Walsall, case hame and cart gear makers were fairly well employed, and with motor chain makers employment was good and better than a month ago. With axle and spring makers at Wednesbury there was a further decline and employment was quiet. At West Bromwich and Redditch makers of springs and small steel parts were very busy. At Dudley anvil and vice makers were well employed and there was an improvement on the previous month.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers continued very good on the whole and much overtime was reported. At Warrington, Derby, and Grimsby it was only fair.

Wire.—Employment with wire workers continued good generally and a scarcity of labour and materials was experienced in some centres. At Glasgow it was fair.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—Employment in the Wolverhampton lock and latch trade was fair, but declining. There was also a decline in the Midland galvanised hollow-ware trade, some short time being caused by a shortage of materials. At Wolverhampton employment continued good in the cast-iron, tin, and enamelled hollow-ware trade and quiet in the builders' ironmongery trade.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment continued quiet generally, except on Government orders.

Jewellery, Plated Ware, &c.—There was a decline in London and some short time was reported. Employment continued good in Birmingham, with some overtime and a scarcity of labour.

Farriers.—Employment continued good at the principal centres.

COTTON TRADE.

In this trade employment continued good in the spinning and carding departments and fair in the weaving department. The shortage of labour was acutely felt in all branches; more than three-quarters of the firms making returns reported an insufficient number of workers.

In the Oldham district employment continued very good in the spinning and carding departments. The shortage of labour was acute; more men have been drawn from the spinning rooms for military purposes, but this has been partly counterbalanced by a further slight increase in the number of women and girls. About 15 per cent. of the spinning spindles in this district have been stopped throughout the month owing to the scarcity of workers. In the weaving department employment was good, but a number of looms were standing for want of labour.

In the Bolton district employment continued good with spinners and fair with weavers and card room workers. A considerable amount of spinning machinery is standing idle owing to enlistments, and this has caused much unemployment among the women in the card room who prepare the material for the spinners.

In the Preston, Blackburn, and Darwen districts a large number of looms were standing for want of labour, but employment with the weavers still at work continued fair and was slightly better than a month ago.

In the Burnley district also output was restricted by the inadequate supply of weavers, but employment continued good with those employed.

Returns from firms employing 149,067 workpeople in the week ended 27th January showed a decline of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 5.7 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the wages paid.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 27th Jan., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Jan., 1917.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	17,441	- 0.6	- 3.6	19,422	+ 0.6	+ 5.4
Spinning ...	32,338	- 0.3	- 1.6	38,716	+ 0.2	+ 8.1
Weaving ...	72,761	- 1.2	- 7.1	81,702	+ 2.9	+ 1.8
Other ...	12,921	- 2.1	- 7.3	18,594	+ 2.1	+ 1.1
Not specified ...	13,606	+ 0.0	- 8.2	16,696	- 0.1	- 1.1
TOTAL ...	149,067	- 0.9	- 5.7	175,130	+ 1.7	+ 0.2

The quantity of raw cotton imported during January, 1917, was 2,487,000 centials, as compared with 1,904,000 centials during December, 1916, and with 2,052,000 during January, 1916. As between January, 1916, and January, 1917, the value increased by £6,142,000.

The exports of cotton yarn during January, 1917, amounted to 13,774,000 lb., an increase of 2,548,500 lb. on a month ago, and of 139,000 lb. on a year ago. The exports of cotton piece goods during January, 1917, amounted to 499,484,000 yards, as compared with 499,360,500 yards during December, 1916, and with 425,103,500 yards during January, 1917.

COTTON FORWARDED FROM PORTS TO INLAND TOWNS.

Description of Cotton.	Jan., 1917.	Dec., 1916.	Jan., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American ...	221,201	180,802	230,626	+ 40,399	- 9,425
Brazilian ...	5,397	5,201	6,552	+ 196	- 1,155
East Indian ...	2,681	2,195	4,664	+ 486	- 1,983
Egyptian ...	33,936	22,253	27,238	+ 11,683	+ 6,698
Miscellaneous ...	10,980	10,906	13,519	+ 74	- 2,539
TOTAL ...	274,195	221,357	282,599	+ 52,838	- 8,404

PRICES OF COTTON AT LIVERPOOL.

The quotation for "middling American" cotton advanced from 10.77d. per lb. at the beginning of January to 11.46d. on the 10th. From this figure it receded to a minimum of 10.68d. on the 24th, the month closing with 11.02d. per lb. The price of "good fair Egyptian" cotton rose from 19.70d. per lb. on the 2nd and 3rd of January to 20.70d. on the 10th, and remained at this figure, except on one day, until the 26th. On the last three days of the month the quotation was 20.95d. per lb. Particulars of the prices in January, 1917, as compared with December, 1916, and January, 1916, are given in the following Table:—

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by war bonuses and increases in rates of wages.

The following Table are shown, for men and women, the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified, and of vacancies filled to registrations (including those on the Registers at the beginning of the period), in the principal groups of trades:—

Trades.	Proportion of Vacancies filled to Vacancies notified.		Proportion of Vacancies filled to Registrations.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Insured Trades—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Building, Construction of Works and Sawmilling	60.9	91.1	45.4	82.8
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Construction of Vehicles	70.8	98.8	59.4	102.0
Uninsured Trades—				
Textiles ...	54.7	80.4	47.9	43.1
Dress ...	34.6	83.3	19.1	21.4
Transport ...	59.5	86.9	32.9	25.9
Agriculture ...	31.0	84.1	24.3	41.3
Paper, Prints, &c. ...	28.4	76.9	38.6	40.5
Chemicals, Explosives, &c.	90.0	99.3	44.5	21.6
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	48.5	80.5	42.2	36.1
Commercial and Clerical	59.3	81.8	17.1	18.6
Domestic ...	45.2	70.6	26.9	28.8
General Labourers ...	87.3	—	30.2	—
TOTAL ...	65.7	87.7	42.3	27.7

The average daily number of registrations and vacancies filled for the periods stated are shown below:—

District or Department.	Insured Trades.			Uninsured Trades.		
	4 weeks ended 8 Dec., 1916.	4 weeks ended 10 Nov., 1916.	4 weeks ended 10 Dec., 1915.	4 weeks ended 8 Dec., 1916.	4 weeks ended 10 Nov., 1916.	4 weeks ended 10 Dec., 1915.
REGISTRATIONS.						
London ...	438	501	545	2,277	2,634	2,142
South-Eastern ...	154	194	224	663	721	590
South-Western ...	161	184	215	496	537	416
West Midlands ...	309	343	224	654	745	546
East Midlands ...	110	119	118	361	418	271
Yorkshire ...	200	211	198	661	755	605
North-Western ...	321	330	419	1,312	1,421	1,028
Northern ...	77	90	114	367	431	388
Scotland ...	211	221	222	889	924	786
Wales ...	176	187	158	293	331	230
Ireland ...	130	132	145	294	297	261
Men ...	1,803	1,985	2,381	1,627	1,701	1,465
Women ...	395	434	136	5,329	5,982	4,581
Boys ...	81	81	59	596	688	501
Girls ...	10	9	6	738	843	716
TOTAL ...	2,287	2,512	2,582	8,270	9,214	7,263
VACANCIES FILLED.						
London ...	262	331	241	1,007	1,047	859
South-Eastern ...	138	171	132	234	244	204
South-Western ...	124	109	137	170	170	171
West Midlands ...	307	338	169	299	309	223
East Midlands ...	121	125	82	121	126	97
Yorkshire ...	214	228	123	215	231	214
North-Western ...	288	280	186	475	438	358
Northern ...	57	61	111	89	85	102
Scotland ...	250	290	183	357	373	288
Wales ...	132	147	104	110	128	75
Ireland ...	22	21	22	45	44	57
Men ...	1,186	1,301	1,240	757	739	715
Women ...	687	706	189	1,786	1,794	1,304
Boys ...	69	75	53	289	317	270
Girls ...	23	19	8	320	315	339
TOTAL ...	1,915	2,101	1,490	3,152	3,195	2,648

INSURED TRADES.*

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 52,666 (men 41,342, women 9,157, boys 1,927, and girls 240). The total number of workpeople on the Register was 70,145 (men 52,589, women 14,794, boys 2,417, and girls 345). These figures exclude 2,221 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed during the period, and represent separate individuals.

Of the registrations among men, 49.3 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 40.5 per cent. in engineering, and 7.1 per cent. in shipbuilding.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register on 8th December was 15,945, as compared with 17,547 on 10th November, 1916, and 22,185 on 10th December, 1915.

* The figures for these trades relate to workpeople who are insured against employment under the provisions of Part II. of the National Insurance Act.

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 61,155, a daily average of 2,548, as compared with 2,496 in the previous four weeks and 2,496 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915. The number of vacancies filled was 45,962, a daily average of 1,915, as compared with 2,101 in the previous four weeks and 2,101 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915.

Building and construction of works accounted for 44.0 per cent. of the total vacancies notified for the period, and 44.0 per cent. of the total vacancies filled by the corresponding figures for engineering and shipbuilding being 43.3 and 7.0 per cent. of the vacancies notified, and 46.2 and 8.1 per cent. of the vacancies filled.

UNINSURED TRADES.

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 191,490 (men 36,632, women 154,858, boys 4,345, and girls 16,911). The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 288,460 (men 53,349, women 191,206, boys 4,345, and girls 24,887). These figures exclude cases in which persons were re-registered on again coming unemployed, and represent separate individuals.

Among men 22.9 per cent. of the total registrations were in the transport, &c., trades, and 28.7 per cent. of the women registered were in domestic offices or services and 35.0 per cent. in explosives, &c. Commercial and clerical occupations accounted for 8.5 per cent. of the registrations among men, and 6.9 per cent. among women.

The number of workpeople on the Register on 8th December was 85,261 (men 15,679, women 69,582, boys 4,345, and girls 6,577), as compared with 87,248 on 10th November, 1916, and 87,248 on 10th December, 1915.

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 97,895, a daily average of 4,079, as compared with 4,284 in the four weeks and 3,640 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915. The number of vacancies filled was 45,962, a daily average of 1,915, as compared with 2,101 in the four weeks preceding four weeks and 2,648 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915.

Of the vacancies notified for men, 24.9 per cent. were in the transport, &c., trades, and 18.4 per cent. of the women notified were in domestic offices or services, and 35.0 per cent. in explosives, &c. Commercial and clerical occupations accounted for 8.5 per cent. of the vacancies notified among men, and 6.9 per cent. among women. The corresponding figures for vacancies filled were 22.7 per cent. and 24.6 per cent. among men, and 31.5 per cent. and 30.7 per cent. among women in domestic offices or services, 5.3 per cent. in textile trades, and 30.7 per cent. in explosives, &c. The corresponding figures for vacancies filled were 26.3 per cent., 5.0 per cent., and 36.2 per cent. among men, women, and children respectively.

Of the vacancies filled, 5,398 (men 1,532, women 3,866, boys 97, and girls 117), were known to be for less than a week's employment, while of the 14,618 vacancies filled by boys and girls, 3,447 (boys 1,473, and girls 1,974), or 23.6 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The number of men who obtained casual employment through the Exchanges was 1,163, and the number of women 81 for cloth porters at Manchester. The daily average of 142, compared with 142 in the four weeks and 120 in the four weeks ended 10th December, 1915. During the period there were 2,589 cases in which men were given employment through the Clearing House system for dock labour at Liverpool.

UNSATISFIED DEMAND FOR LABOUR.

There was a continued shortage of colliers, painters, chemical workers, navvies and general labourers. The demand for skilled workers in engineering and shipbuilding trades remained unsatisfied.

Vacancies for women in the domestic service remained difficult to fill.

BOARD OF TRADE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES—FOUR WEEKS ENDED 8th DECEMBER, 1916.

Registrations and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended 8th December, 1916.

A.—INSURED TRADES.

Table with columns: OCCUPATION GROUPS, ADULTS (REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES), JUVENILES (REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES). Rows include various trades like Joiners, Decorators, etc.

* Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed. † Occupations are grouped according to the industry with which they are mainly connected.

B.—UNINSURED TRADES.

Table with columns: OCCUPATION GROUPS, ADULTS, JUVENILES. Rows include Quarrying, Metal Trades, Shoe Workers, etc.

Cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed.

ers employed and in the amount of earnings as compared with a year ago. At Hebden Bridge employment was affected in the earlier part of the month the dispute which began in November.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

There was a slight decline in this trade compared with a month ago, but employment generally was fair and better than a year ago. The supply of machinists and cutters was unequal to the demands of the trade.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

EMPLOYMENT with dressmakers in retail firms in London continued fair. Returns from firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,606 dressmakers in the week ended 16th December, showed a decrease of 4.5 per cent.

MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, ETC., TRADES.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and millinery trades firms in London employing 4,191 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 16th December showed an increase of 1.6 per cent.

CORSET TRADE.

Employment continued good at all the principal centres and showed little change compared with a year ago. Firms (mainly in England) employing 6,269 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

MEN remaining in the building trades were fairly well employed, partly owing to Government requirements, and in some cases a shortage of labour was reported, though private building work (except repairs) continued slack and showed a seasonal decline.

The general percentage of State-insured workpeople unemployed in all building occupations was 1.07, compared with 0.82 in November, and 2.42 a year ago.

Table with columns: District, Workpeople (Week ended 16th Dec., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 16th Dec., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include London, Manchester, etc.

In London employment on the whole continued fair. In Manchester there was a decline compared with a month ago, and a falling off of 16 per cent. in the number employed compared with a year ago.

In the south-western counties employment on the whole was not so good as a month ago; at Bideford employment at the collar and cuff factories was fairly good, while at Exeter employment was moderate.

Glasgow employment was reported as fair, and the average earnings were considerably above the level of a year ago.

In Ireland generally employment continued fair.

HAT TRADE.

Employment in this branch continued bad in London and the provinces, and was worse than a year ago; most of the operatives were on short time.

In this branch employment continued good at all the principal centres and was about the same as a year ago. At Denton employment was about the same as a month ago, but better than a year ago; any short time worked was caused by one branch waiting for another, due to the insufficient supply of labour.

Table with columns: Occupations, Number Insured at end of December, 1916, Percentage Unemployed at end of December, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a. Rows include Carpenters, Bricklayers, etc.

was good, with two to three hours' overtime per day in the hosiery section. At Dundee operatives were fairly well employed, but outside bleaching was interfered with by bad weather.

Printing.—Machine calico printers in England reported employment as fairly good, and as slightly better than a year ago. In Scotland employment continued good with machine printers and engravers.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in Yorkshire continued good, and largely on account of the shortage of labour overtime was worked by about 85 per cent. of the operatives. With cotton dyers in Yorkshire and Lancashire and with silk dyers in the Macclesfield district employment was also good. At Nottingham, Basford and Bulwell overtime was worked in the lace and hosiery sections.

Trimming, Finishing, &c.—At Leicester employment with hosiery trimmers, &c., continued good, and a shortage of labour was reported. At Hinckley employment was reported as fairly good; at Loughborough it continued regular for a reduced number of workpeople. At Basford there was some short time, due to shortage of labour on preparatory stages, but on the whole employment was brisk, and a considerable amount of overtime was worked. At Dundee overtime was worked by calender workers.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

WITH rare exceptions labour was fully employed and much overtime was reported throughout the trade during December; employment was quite as good as a year ago, when it was very brisk.

Returns from firms employing 56,726 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 7.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns for Workpeople and Earnings, broken down by District and Region (England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, United Kingdom).

The exports (British and Irish) of boots and shoes of leather during December, 1916, totalled 82,000 dozen pairs, compared with 120,000 dozen pairs a month ago and 79,000 dozen pairs a year ago.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, with a scarcity of men, and in certain districts overtime was worked. Employment was quiet, however, with short time in some branches of the saddle and harness trade in the small, Birmingham and London districts.

Trade Unions with 3,749 members reported 2 per cent. as unemployed at the end of December, compared with 3.5 per cent. a month ago and 4.7 per cent. a year ago. Those unemployed were chiefly saddle and harness makers.

The imports of hides (wet and dry) during December 1916, amounted to 94,000 cwts., compared with 160,000 cwts. a month ago and 55,000 cwts. a year ago.

The exports (British and Irish) of leather during December, 1916, amounted to 17,000 cwts., an increase of 3,000 cwts. on a month ago and of 3,000 cwts. on a year ago. The value of exports of leather manufactures (excluding boots and shoes) was £125,500 in December, 1916, compared with £150,000 a month ago and with £120,000 a year ago.

TAILORING TRADE. BESPOKE.

London.—During December employment, with few exceptions, was slack; it showed little change compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago. Returns from firms paying £8,224 in wages to the workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 16th December showed a decrease of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the four weeks ended 25th November, and an increase of 7.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—At Liverpool and Sheffield employment continued good. At Edinburgh a seasonal slackness was reported; at Belfast it continued quiet, and was about the same as a year ago; at Cork it was bad.

READY-MADE.

Employment on the whole continued fair. Compared with a year ago there was a considerable decline in the numbers employed, but an increase in average earnings.

The supply of cutters and machinists was insufficient. Returns from firms employing 27,923 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 12.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.8 per cent. in the amount of earnings. About 11 per cent. of the operatives were on short time during the month, and about 10 per cent. worked overtime.

Table for Tailoring Trade (Ready-made) showing Indoor Workpeople by District, including Number Employed and Earnings.

The total amount of wages paid to outworkers in the above firms showed a decrease of 1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 20 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Leeds employment was moderate, and showed little change compared with a month ago: the Jewish operatives reported a good deal of short time. At Manchester employment continued fair, and the figures showed a decline of about 11 per cent., both in the

* Excluding firms affected by the dispute at Hebden Bridge.

HOSIERY TRADE.

IN this trade employment continued good and showed on the whole little change compared with a year ago. The supply of labour was insufficient.

Returns from firms employing 19,177 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 3.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 6 per cent. of the operatives worked overtime during the month.

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment continued fairly good, and showed some improvement compared with a year ago. There was an insufficient supply of workpeople, both men and women.

Returns from firms employing 9,481 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 8.6 per cent. in the wages paid.

Table for Silk Trade showing Workpeople and Earnings by Branches and Districts.

At Macclesfield, Congleton and Leek employment continued good in all the principal departments, except with hand-loom weavers at Macclesfield, with whom it was only fair.

In the Eastern Counties employment showed little change compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago; it was reported as good at Norwich and Yarmouth and as fair at Halstead, Braintree and Sudbury. In the West Riding employment showed little change compared with a month ago, and the supply of labour in the weaving section was not equal to the demand. At Coventry employment with artificial silk workers continued fairly good, while with ribbon weavers it was fair.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago, but production was affected by the labour difficulty and restricted supplies of materials.

Returns from firms employing 5,775 workpeople in the week ended 16th December and paying £6,326 in wages showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ending 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 13.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Kidderminster employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. In the West Riding some overtime was reported and employment was good, and better than in December, 1915. Many looms were standing owing to the shortage of weavers. In Scotland there was a marked decline in numbers employed since a year ago, but those still in the trade were well employed.

* Comparison with a year ago is affected by advances in rates of wages.

Table for Hosiery Trade showing Workpeople and Earnings by District.

At Leicester employment continued good, especially on Government contracts; all classes of labour were in demand. At Hinckley and Loughborough employment was fairly good.

With power framework knitters in Nottingham employment continued good, and overtime was general on all Government contracts. In the surrounding districts of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire employment was fair in the power frame section with some short time, and fairly good in the hand frame section, which showed a decided improvement compared with a year ago.

In Scotland employment was good, and above the level of a year ago.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in these trades, and on the whole was better than a year ago. Skilled labour was in demand, especially in the dyeing and finishing departments.

Returns from firms employing 24,277 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 11.9 per cent. in the wages paid.

Table for Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing and Finishing showing Workpeople and Earnings by Trades and Districts.

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire continued fair. At Basford employment

* Comparison with a year ago is affected by war bonuses and increases in wages.

LINEN TRADE.

In Ireland employment was better than a month ago and a year ago, but there was still a considerable amount of short time in the Belfast district; in Scotland it continued good, and was about the same as in December, 1915. A shortage of labour was reported chiefly in Scotland and in Irish towns other than Belfast.

Returns from firms employing 36,208 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 3.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 12.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS, and UNITED KINGDOM, showing Workpeople and Earnings (Week ended 16th Dec., 1916, Month ago, Year ago, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, £, Per cent., Per cent.).

In the Belfast district employment was reported as better than a month ago, but there was still a considerable amount of short time; with roughers employment was good; with dressers and weavers and winders it was moderate. In other parts of Ireland there was some improvement as compared with a month ago.

At Dunfermline the factories were working full time; the home trade and trade with the United States and Canada was fairly good, while trade with neutral countries was good. At Brechin employment continued brisk and overtime was worked in the finishing department. In other parts of Scotland there was little change compared with a month ago. At Barnsley employment continued good.

The imports of flax (dressed and undressed) during December, 1916, amounted to 302 tons, compared with 293 tons a month ago and with 1,987 tons a year ago. There was a decrease of 2,253 tons from Russia compared with November, 1916.

The exports of linen yarn during December amounted to 740,900 lb., a decrease of 133,600 lb. on a month ago and an increase of 218,500 lb. on a year ago. The prices for linen piece goods were 9,650,700 yards in November, 1916, 9,525,400 yards in December, 1915, and 8,000 yards in December, 1915.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and was better on the whole than a year ago; extensive Government orders have been recently placed, which will absorb a large proportion of the producing power of the industry for some time. A shortage of labour, both of men and women, was reported, and some machinery was standing in consequence.

* Comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by advances in rates of interest and war bonuses.

Returns from firms employing 13,126 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed no change in the number employed or in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 9.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, showing Workpeople and Earnings (Week ended 16th Dec., 1916, Month ago, Year ago, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, £, Per cent., Per cent.).

In the Dundee district, in which 93 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were employed, employment continued good. At Forfar and Arbroath employment was also good, with occasional overtime; at Kirkealdy it was reported as fair.

The imports of jute during December, 1916, amounted to 34,529 tons, compared with 23,679 tons a month ago and with 50,352 tons a year ago.

The quantity of jute yarn exported during December, 1916, was 2,374,000 lb., a decrease of 89,000 lb. on a month ago and of 98,000 lb. on a year ago. The exports of jute piece goods amounted to 10,830,000 yards, a decrease of 1,695,000 yards on a month ago and an increase of 3,986,000 yards on a year ago.

LACE TRADE.

In this trade there was little change compared with either a month ago or a year ago. Employment was bad in the levers section, fair in the curtain section and good in the plain net branch. The supply of labour was not equal to the demand.

Returns from firms employing 6,901 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 5.5 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 4.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Table with columns for BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, and TOTAL, showing Workpeople and Earnings (Week ended 16th Dec., 1916, Month ago, Year ago, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, £, Per cent., Per cent.).

At Nottingham employment in the levers section was bad; the position, however, was somewhat relieved by the effect of enlistments and also by some transference to the plain net section. In the curtain branch employment continued fair, while in the plain net section the operatives were still very fully employed on Government orders for bobbin and mosquito nets.

At Long Eaton employment on the whole continued

* Comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by advances in rates of interest and war bonuses.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Changes in wages reported to the Department as affecting in December affected about 362,000 workpeople and resulted in a total increase of about £55,400. No decreases in wages were reported. Coal mining accounted for over half the total number of workpeople affected by the increases reported. Among other industries, those which accounted for the largest numbers were the pottery, brick and tile trades (20,000), iron and steel manufacture (nearly 25,000), and boot and shoe manufacture (nearly 25,000), and building trades (about 20,000). The only change

in hours of labour reported in December affected bakers at Barnstaple.

Changes in January-December, 1916.—The total number of workpeople whose rates of wages were reported to have been changed during 1916 was about 3,400,000 and the net effect of all the changes reported was an increase of £595,000 per week. An analysis of these changes, giving particulars of the increases reported during 1916 in each of the principal groups of trades together with corresponding figures for 1915, will be found in the special article on page 4.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN DECEMBER, 1916.

Table with columns for Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, and Particulars of Change. Lists changes for Yorkshire, Lancashire & Cheshire, Midland and Eastern Counties, South-Western Counties, and Scotland.

* Agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and government employees.

and "war increases" have been so described where possible, but the information available is not, in all cases, sufficient to distinguish between the two.

not thus limited.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

DISPUTES IN DECEMBER.*

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in December was 14, as compared with 21 in the previous month, and 17 in December, 1915. In these new disputes, 10,227 workpeople were directly, and 4,050 indirectly, involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before December, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 36,627 workpeople involved in trade disputes in December, 1916, as compared with 38,647 in November, 1916, and 38,817 in December, 1915.

Classification of New Disputes in December, 1916.

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	4	680	...	680
Coal Mining	1	5,000	...	5,000
Engineering	1	17	...	17
Shipbuilding	1	4,000	4,000	8,000
Clothing	2	90	50	140
Transport	1	55	...	55
Miscellaneous and Employees of Public Authorities	4	385	...	385
TOTAL, DECEMBER, 1916	14	10,227	4,050	14,277
TOTAL, NOVEMBER, 1916	21	31,985	1,316	33,331
TOTAL, DECEMBER, 1915	17	2,814	331	3,145

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN DECEMBER, 1916.

Occupations and Locality.†	Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object.†	Result.†
	Directly.	Indirectly.†				
MINING:— Miners, &c.—Rhondda	4,000	...	29th Nov.	5	Against prosecution of certain men for breach of contract in connection with a recent dispute	Work resumed.
Miners, &c.—Blaina, Mon.	5,000	...	7th Dec.	2	Dispute as to rate of pay of timbermen	Men's demands conceded.
TEXTILE:— Clothing makers, labourers, &c.—Liverpool and Birkenhead	4,000	4,000	11th Dec.	6	For advance in wages	Work resumed pending negotiations.
MINING:— Clothing operatives.—Hebden Bridge, Todmorden and district	2,700	...	28th Oct.	40	For war bonuses of 25 per cent. to piece-workers (females), 5s. per week to adult time workers and 2s. 6d. per week to juvenile time workers	War bonuses of 25 per cent. granted to women respectively, and advances in piece-work during the war under 22 years' war bonus of 25 per cent. per hour; men of 25 per cent. increase in rate of pay.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—14 disputes, involving about 850 workpeople, were in progress at the time of the issue of this Gazette.

Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except where the aggregate duration (i.e. number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, &c.) exceeded 100 days. The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved" (i.e. thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute was taking place, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons. * Estimated.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN DECEMBER.

The total number of Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, whose registers were open at the end of December, 1916, was 15, compared with 19 at the end of December, 1915, and with 57 at the end of December, 1913.

The total number of persons who received employment relief during December was 289, as compared with 341 a year ago, and with 3,112 in December, 1913. The aggregate duration of employment relief was 6,047 days in December, 1916, compared with 1,606 days in December, 1915, and with 29,197 in December, 1913; and the average duration for these employed was 23.7 days, compared with 21.7 days a year ago, and with 9.5 days in December, 1913. The total amount of wages paid in December, 1916, was £408, compared with £190 in December, 1915, and with £4,488 in December, 1913; and the average earnings were 28s. 3d., compared with 27s. 6d. a year ago, and 28s. 10d. in December, 1913. Persons not employed on piece work received an average of 2s. 4d. a day, compared with 2s. 4d. a year ago, and 2s. 4d. in December, 1913.

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.		Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.	
	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1915.
London: County	...	...	Days.	Days.
Outer	...	4	...	62
Total, London	...	4	...	62
Northern Counties	...	...	...	...
Lancs. and Cheshire	...	...	...	...
Yorkshire	...	...	...	...
Midlands	...	...	...	...
Eastern Counties	...	...	...	...
Southern Counties	...	15	...	256
Wales and Monmouth	...	...	...	...
ENGLAND AND WALES	...	19	...	...
Scotland	34	41	743	1,000
Ireland	255*	14	5,304	...
UNITED KINGDOM	289*	74	6,047	...

* Including 34 women employed on piece-work, to whom...

Causes.—Of the 14 new disputes, 11, directly involving 10,007 workpeople, arose on demands for advance wages; 2, directly involving 190 workpeople, concerned questions respecting the employment of particular persons, and one on a question of working conditions.

Results.—During the month settlements were reached in the case of 6 new disputes, directly involving 5,100 workpeople, and 5 old disputes directly involving 2,100 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes 2 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 3 in favour of employers, and 6 were compromised. In the case of other disputes, work was resumed pending negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in December by disputes which began or ended in that month amounted to 152,200. In addition, 5,100 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before December and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total aggregate duration in December of all disputes, new and old, was 157,300 days, as compared with 155,000 days in the previous month, and with 74,800 days in December, 1915.

COMPARISON OF 1915 AND 1916.

See Labour Disputes section of special article on p. 7.

...men, or 30.6 per cent. employed in July, 1914, have been employed in the various occupations included in the Table. Women employed in connection with the raising of soldiers and sailors are not included under this head there has been an increase since July, 1914, of some 34,000 women. Allowing for this and the displacement of women from domestic service to small workshops and workrooms in the dress-making trade, which are also excluded from the Table, it is estimated that the net increase since July, 1914, in the number of women regularly engaged in occupations outside their own homes is in round figures 150,000.

In the occupations enumerated in the Table there has been an increase since July, 1916, of nearly 100,000, which is roughly one-third of the corresponding increase between April and July. It appears therefore that the whole field of employment, though the number of women is still increasing rapidly, the rate of increase has slackened considerably compared with the preceding three months. As substitution is concerned, there has been a decrease since July, 1916, of 150,000 in the number of men directly replacing men, which is considerably more than half the corresponding figure for April, 1916. As in the case of the increased employment of women, there has therefore been a check to the rate of expansion, but this check is less marked in the case of women, as substitutes than for the total employment.

The number of women employed has increased since July, 1916, by 150,000, which is divided between the different classes of occupations. In industrial occupations there has been an increase of 32,000 between July, 1916, and April, 1916, the corresponding increase for the preceding three months being 83,000. In the chemical trades alone, there has been an increase of 10,000 women since July, 1916, so that in all other trades taken together there has been a decrease of 10,000. This is accounted for by a drop in the number of women employed in the textile, clothing and printing trades. In the clothing and printing trades the number of women employed has fallen since July, 1916, by 15,000, or 2.5 per cent. of the total number, exclusive of dressmakers in small shops; the tailoring trade accounts for 8,000 of this number. In the textile trades the number has fallen 1,000 since July, 1916, or 0.7 per cent. of the number employed before the war. This change in the clothing and textile trades is explained in part by the increased demand for women, due to changes in the nature of Government work and to the increasing demand of the general public, but this does not appear to be the sole explanation. The returns received from the textile firms show that this decrease in the number of women employed has been accompanied by an increase in the number of women employed in the clothing and printing trades. In July, 1916, 38 per cent. of the women employed in the clothing and printing trades reported that they were unable to obtain all the women they required. By October, 1916, the percentage had risen to 40 per cent. and 21 per cent. respectively. In the paper and printing trades the corresponding figures were 17 per cent. in July, 1916, and 19 per cent. in October, 1916. It is clear, therefore, that although the demand for women's labour has increased somewhat, the supply of women's labour has not to a greater extent, and that the process of substitution from these trades to munition work or other occupations still continues.

It is interesting to compare the reported shortage of women's labour in these trades with that which is reported in the other main industrial groups. The information is obtained from the answers made by employers on their Returns to the question whether they were able to obtain all the women they required. It may be noted, however, that employers frequently report a shortage in cases when untrained or inexperienced women are available; on the other hand, any women who do not reply are assumed to have experienced no shortage. The figures are given in the following Table.

Occupations.	Percentage of Firms reporting a shortage of Female Labour.		Increase (+) or Decrease (—) of the Number of Women Employed since July, 1914.
	July, 1916.	Oct., 1916.	
INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATIONS.			
Metal Trades	5	5	+ 227,000
Chemical Trades	2	3	+ 38,000
Textile Trades	38	40	+ 33,000
Clothing Trades	20	21	— 12,000
Food Trades	6	7	+ 42,000
Paper and Printing Trades	17	19	— 5,000
Wood Trades	4	8	+ 16,000
All Industrial Firms making returns, including some in occupations not specified above	9	10	+ 393,000

It should be explained that the total percentages shown are obtained without weighting from the actual returns. A larger proportion of returns have been received from firms in certain industries (notably the metal and chemical trades) than in others. If returns had been received from as large a proportion of firms in other industries, the percentages for all firms would probably be higher than the figures shown.

It appears from these figures that the shortage of women's labour is most general in the clothing and textile trades, which are typical women's industries.

In commercial occupations there has been an increase of 28,000 since July, 1916, in the numbers of women employed, against an increase of 32,000 between April and July. The decrease in the rate of expansion has therefore been less in commercial than in industrial occupations, and in none of the main commercial groups has there been a decrease in the numbers employed during the three months under consideration. At the same time, the percentage of firms reporting a shortage of female labour has fallen from 11 per cent. in July, 1916, to 9 per cent. in October. The position therefore appears to be somewhat more satisfactory than in industry. It is noteworthy that in commerce as in industry the shortage of women's labour appears to be most acute in the occupations in which women are employed in normal times; the two commercial groups which show the highest percentage of shortage being wholesale and retail drapers, haberdashers, &c., and retail boot and shoe shops.

Figures in connection with agricultural employment were shown in the article appearing in the December issue on the work of the Women's County Agricultural Committees, but some further comment may be made here. It will be noticed that there has been a decrease of 4,000 since July, 1916, in the number of women employed in agriculture in Great Britain, and that the numbers employed in October, 1916, were only 500 in excess of the number employed before the war. The number of persons, however, employed in agriculture varies with the seasons, and the particular operations which are carried out in the autumn, such as ploughing, require considerable physical strength and are less easily performed by women than the lighter summer operations. Taking, however, England alone (exclusive of Scotland and Wales) there has been an increase of 16.2 per cent. (viz. an increase of some 7,000 women) since July, 1914, which, allowing for the inevitable seasonal changes in the demand for agricultural labour, points to a considerable alteration in the farmers' attitude towards the employment of women.

If a comparison is made between October, 1916, and October, 1915, the figures take on a more favourable complexion. In Great Britain there has been an increase of 15.3 per cent. in the number of women employed between these two dates, and of 23.4 per cent. in England alone.

As far as the other occupations enumerated in the first Table are concerned, very little comment is necessary. Under each heading, with the exception of the Civil Service, the increase in the number of women employed was somewhat less in October, 1916, than in the preceding months. In the Civil Service the...

noted that, apart from the high prices caused by the present war, an upward movement in prices had been in progress continuously since 1908.

In the following Table the index numbers of the forty-seven articles are classified into four groups, and a comparison is made for each of these groups between the figures for 1916 and those for earlier years back to 1900, which has been adopted as the base year of the series:—

1900 = 100.

Year.	Coal and Metals.	Textiles (Raw Materials).	Food, Drink and Tobacco	Miscellaneous.*
1900	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1901	82.2	93.3	100.1	96.3
1902	76.1	92.3	101.4	92.5
1903	74.1	101.7	100.6	91.7
1904	70.9	112.9	101.2	83.5
1905	71.3	106.7	101.2	91.1
1906	78.3	121.1	101.0	95.6
1907	86.9	127.4	105.5	99.7
1908	78.5	109.8	107.0	94.3
1909	73.6	112.4	103.7	96.5
1910	76.6	136.2	109.2	104.3
1911	71.7	128.9	111.6	105.5
1912	81.9	119.6	119.9	110.1
1913	92.5	135.0	117.7	109.4
1914	89.2	135.1	114.8	106.2
1914 (Jan.-July)	89.2	135.1	114.8	106.2
1914 (Aug.-Dec.)	89.3	119.3	130.4	119.1
Year 1914	88.7	128.8	120.9	111.3
1915	116.7	119.8	151.1	143.8
1916	166.1	180.2	189.2	204.7

The index number for the coal and metals group showed in 1916 a rise of 42 per cent. over the figure for the previous year. The greatest increases were in the case of coal, pig iron, copper and lead.

In the textiles (raw materials) group there was a rise of 50 per cent. over the figures of 1915, which was largely accounted for by raw cotton and wool. The price of raw cotton showed great fluctuations, the lowest price for middling American being 7.57d. per lb. in April and the highest 12.59d. per lb. in November; the index number for the year showed an increase of 59 per cent. There was a great advance in the price of British wool, and the index number was 63 per cent. higher than in the previous year. Jute and silk also rose considerably, the index numbers showing an increase of 45 and 47 per cent. respectively.

The food, drink and tobacco group showed a rise of 23 per cent. Although this rise was less than in the two groups mentioned above, it should be remembered that the index number for this group had already reached a high level in 1915. Further, as the highest prices in 1916 did not generally occur until the latter part of that year, their full effect is not disclosed in the index number for the whole year. There was a decline of 3½ per cent. in the index number for imported oats and of 14 per cent. for coffee. All the other articles showed increases, the most noticeable being for potatoes, foreign spirits, rice, maize and British barley.

The greatest increases in the miscellaneous group occurred in the case of petroleum (94 per cent.), paraffin wax (64 per cent.), cotton seed (63 per cent.), and wood and timber (56 per cent.). Hides showed an increase of 17 per cent., while olive oil increased only 5 per cent.

LABOUR DISPUTES.†

There was a further decline in 1916 in labour disputes causing a stoppage of work, and the figures recorded were less than in any of the six previous years, whether as regards number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, or aggregate duration. The total number of disputes recorded was 525, involving 268,376 workpeople, directly and indirectly, at the establishments concerned. The aggregate duration of these disputes amounted to 2½ million working days, or less than a quarter of the average for the nine preceding years.

The following Table summarises by trades the figures for 1915 and 1916 respectively:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in Progress.	1915.		Number of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.
				Number of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.		
Building	66	15,935	135,204	77	8,071	61	57,018
Coal Mining	79	297,801	1,640,899	8	1,182	8	1,182
Other Mining and Quarrying	6	6	15,550	58	52,098	58	52,098
Engineering	97	24,468	227,768	46	6,889	49,741	20,987
Shipbuilding	46	6,889	49,741	48	15,403	88,199	20,365
Other Metal	48	15,403	88,199	20	3,654	58	57,577
Textile	69	33,107	373,451	36	13,667	36	13,667
Clothing	40	5,525	27,629	53	34,111	53	34,111
Transport	86	26,600	177,522	123	20,000	123	20,000
Other Trades and Employees of Public Authorities	169	26,556	302,171	123	20,000	123	20,000
Total	706	452,571	3,038,134	525	268,376	525	268,376

The textile industry was responsible for the number of workpeople involved and for the aggregate duration. This was largely due to the case of 30,000 jute workers at Dundee for an aggregate duration of 1,640,899 days, which lasted from 24th June, when work was resumed on old stoppages of work, and the number of workpeople involved and the aggregate duration were one-fifth of those recorded in 1915. The coal mining industry was particularly active in engineering and shipbuilding trades. The number of disputes in 1916 was more than in 1915, but involved more workpeople and had a rather larger aggregate duration. In the metal trades there was very little increase. There was a considerable increase in the aggregate duration of disputes in the clothing and transport trades.

THE EXTENSION OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

An article in the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR REPORT for October, 1916, summarised the position with regard to the extension of women's employment up to the end of the year. In the following article corresponding figures are given for October, 1916, and compared with the figures for the same month in 1915. The information is given for October, 1916, and compared with the figures for the same month in 1915. The information is given for October, 1916, and compared with the figures for the same month in 1915. The information is given for October, 1916, and compared with the figures for the same month in 1915.

	Estimated number of females employed in July, 1914.	Estimated increase in the number of females employed since July, 1914.		No. of females employed in October, 1916.
		July, 1916.*	Oct., 1916.	
Industrial occupations	2,133,000	361,000	393,000	2,537,000
Government establishments†	2,000	79,000	117,000	128,000
Commercial occupations	496,000	240,000	268,000	764,000
Professional occupations	67,500	14,000	15,000	81,500
Banking and Finance	9,500	32,000	37,000	46,500
Hotels, Public-houses, Cinemas, Theatres, &c.	176,000	20,000	16,000	192,000
Agriculture, permanent labour (Great Britain)	80,000	20,000	500	100,500
Transport (not municipal)	17,000	35,000	41,000	53,000
Civil Service	66,000	58,000	67,000	133,000
Local Government (including teachers and transport workers under municipal authorities)	184,000	30,000	34,000	214,000
Total	3,231,000	889,000	988,500	4,128,500

* The figures for July, 1916, differ slightly from those previously published in the Board of Trade Labour Report for July, 1916, in view of additional information received from the Home Office regarding the employment of women in national shell-filling factories, etc.

... Returns furnished to the Bureau of Labour Statistics by manufacturing establishments, (a) between October, 1916, and the corresponding month of 1915.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.†		
		Sept., 1916.	Oct., 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Sept., 1916.	Oct., 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
		Per cent.			Per cent.		
Building	93	153,067	152,810	- 0.2	1,243,574	1,289,809	+ 3.7
Coal Mining	35	57,339	57,966	+ 1.1	373,296	391,174	+ 4.8
Other Mining and Quarrying	50	50,726	50,714	-	102,995	98,763	- 4.1
Engineering	15	11,078	11,099	+ 0.2	27,305	27,706	+ 1.5
Shipbuilding	55	30,007	30,540	+ 1.8	60,419	62,505	+ 3.5
Other Metal	44	40,119	40,724	+ 1.5	100,350	97,508	- 2.8
Textile	34	20,234	20,305	+ 0.4	95,131	99,677	+ 4.8
Clothing	33	22,224	21,633	- 2.7	63,899	61,160	- 4.3
Transport	62	48,501	48,591	+ 0.2	129,503	129,843	+ 0.3
Other Trades and Employees of Public Authorities	51	16,272	16,635	+ 2.2	38,893	39,409	+ 1.3

The foregoing figures show that seven of the ten industries added to the number of workpeople on their part in 1916, the three exceptions being cotton manufacturing, men's ready-made clothing, and iron and steel. The reduction in the first and last of these was, however, slight. More money was paid to workpeople in 1916 than in September in all these industries except cotton manufacturing, woollen, and men's ready-made clothing; the reduction of 4.3 per cent. in the last-named trade was an expected seasonal decline. An increase of 4.8 per cent. was reported both for the silk and the car building and repairing industries.

Comparison of October, 1916, and October, 1915.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Earnings.†		
		Oct., 1915.	Oct., 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	Oct., 1915.	Oct., 1916.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
		Per cent.			Per cent.		
Iron and steel	92	130,071	154,418	+ 18.7	880,480	1,309,009	+ 48.7
Building and engineering	42	55,632	62,346	+ 12.1	343,496	416,645	+ 21.3
Manufacturing	53	52,406	51,286	- 2.1	87,006	101,369	+ 16.5
Finishing and under-	16	13,322	13,653	+ 2.5	30,062	35,853	+ 19.3
Other	60	30,711	32,608	+ 6.2	57,632	65,931	+ 14.4
... ..	44	39,557	40,683	+ 2.8	74,067	97,268	+ 31.3
... ..	46	18,283	19,439	+ 6.3	81,438	94,163	+ 15.6
Ready-made clothing and shoes manufac-	39	21,323	24,231	+ 13.6	55,724	67,758	+ 21.6
... ..	65	47,180	51,590	+ 9.3	122,045	135,178	+ 10.8
... ..	59	20,656	19,065	- 7.7	43,582	44,758	+ 2.7

New York State.‡

Employment in November.—“A new ‘high peak’ in manufacturing activity was attained in New York State in November, 1916. Eight of the industrial groups established new high records for wages, and nine of these likewise set new records for number of employees. The total number of workers employed and the total aggregate of wages paid were greater than in any other month in which these records have been kept, going back to June, 1914. From October to November the number of employees increased 2 per cent. and the aggregate of wages 4 per cent. Seven of the eleven industrial groups had more employees and paid out more wages than in October. In two groups only were there decreases in both employees and wages. The minimum decrease in any group, for either employees or wages, was 2 per cent. As compared with November, 1915, each group employed more workers and paid out more wages. The

† Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, December, 1916. ‡ These figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of iron and steel, car building and repairing and silk industries, and for one week in other cases. † Reduction of less than one-tenth of 1 per cent. ‡ The Bulletin, December, 1916. Issued by the New York State Industrial Commission. Albany, N.Y.

... compared with November, 1915, the increase in wages was 29 per cent. and in wages 58 per cent.

CANADA.*

Employment in November.—“Industrial conditions were active during November, and to some extent the labour shortage noted last month was lessened by the release of a number of men who had been engaged in threshing in the West and in municipal and other outside employments. These forces, however, were absorbed into the lumbering and mining industries, and the effect upon the general situation was comparatively slight. Activity in manufacturing was reflected in the large amount of overtime and in the number of extensions to plant reported. Railway transportation continued very active, but with inland navigation practically closed at the end of the month there was a falling off in water-borne traffic; activity was commencing, however, at Atlantic winter ports. Employment in metal and coal mining continued at a maximum, though outputs in the latter industry were adversely affected by the cessation for a few days of operations in the Crow's Nest Pass coal mines. Building and construction, owing to the favourable weather, were fairly well maintained in many parts of the country; public works and railway construction remained quiet. Employment in sawmills was diminishing, most of the large mills closing down for the winter, but operations in the woods were being carried on with as large working forces as the scarcity of labour would permit.”

COURSE OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

In the following paragraphs relating to the course of retail prices in this and other countries the latest available statistics are given in every case, but it will be observed that while the returns for this country relate to the beginning of January those for the other countries relate to various earlier dates. As prices in all countries are moving upwards, this difference of date is important, and should be borne in mind in making comparisons as between one country and another.

With regard to the figures for Berlin and Vienna, it must also be remembered that these no longer afford any index to the state of supplies and, being based on artificially fixed maximum prices, are not comparable with figures which are mainly based on the prices in a free market. For all the articles enumerated for Berlin, and for most of those for Vienna, consumption is strictly controlled by a system of rationing.

UNITED KINGDOM.

The general level of retail prices of food rose by about 2 per cent. between 1st December, 1916, and 1st January, 1917. Increases of about 2 to 4 per cent. are recorded in the prices of meat, fish, potatoes, milk, butter, cheese and margarine. The price of flour advanced about 2 per cent., and that of bread and bacon about 1 per cent. Tea and sugar showed very little movement in prices, and eggs were slightly cheaper at 1st January than a month earlier.

A special article on page 5 deals with the movement of retail prices of food during 1916.

BERLIN.

[See also introductory note above.]

The retail prices recorded in the *Statistische Korrespondenz* as those most commonly paid for various foods in Berlin showed no change between October and November in the case of thirteen out of the seventeen articles included in the following Table. Potatoes is shown to have increased in price by about 10 per cent. and wheat flour by 8 per cent., while for beef and pork the prices recorded are lower by 10 per cent.

* The Labour Gazette, December, 1916. Issued by the Canadian Department of Labour. Ottawa.

THE BOARD

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING DECEMBER.

COAL MINING.

Employment continued good during December, but there was a slight decline compared with a year ago. There was an increase of 2,632 (or 0.5 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed compared with the previous month, and of 28,185 (or 5.4 per cent.) compared with a year ago.

Of the 545,644 workpeople included in the returns for December, 1916, 235,922, or 43.2 per cent. of the total, were employed at pits working twelve days* during the fortnight to which the returns relate, while a further 2,814, or 31.7 per cent, were employed at pits working eleven, but less than twelve days.

The highest average number of days worked was in Northumberland (6.00 days), and the lowest average was in Northumberland (4.96 days).

Districts	No. of Workpeople employed in Dec., 1916, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1916, on a	
		Dec. 16th, 1916.	Nov. 25th, 1916.	Dec. 18th, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	44,685	4.96	5.05	5.37	- 0.09	- 0.41
Cumberland ...	85,764	5.28	5.35	5.56	- 0.07	- 0.28
Lancashire ...	7,330	5.89	5.73	5.87	+ 0.16	+ 0.02
Yorkshire ...	64,491	5.75	5.83	5.86	+ 0.08	- 0.11
Staffordshire ...	25,482	5.82	5.79	5.65	+ 0.03	+ 0.17
Derby and Cheshire ...	51,440	5.70	5.78	5.83	- 0.08	- 0.13
Leicestershire ...	33,375	5.71	5.81	5.82	- 0.10	- 0.13
Wales and Leicester ...	31,023	5.90	5.96	5.41	- 0.06	+ 0.19
Other districts ...	27,029	5.91	5.86	5.88	+ 0.05	+ 0.03
Worcester, and ...	8,338	5.80	5.86	5.84	+ 0.06	- 0.04
SCOTLAND AND SOMERSET.	4,998	5.88	5.87	5.90	+ 0.01	- 0.02
Northumberland ...	8,996	6.00	5.90	5.90	+ 0.10	+ 0.10
Other districts ...	103,509	5.98	5.98	5.84	- 0.20	- 0.46
WALES.	496,529	5.52	5.61	5.7	- 0.09	- 0.20
ENGLAND.	20,928	5.37	5.32	5.18	+ 0.05	+ 0.19
Northumberland ...	2,569	5.65	5.45	5.49	+ 0.20	+ 0.16
Other districts ...	25,171	5.55	5.25	5.44	+ 0.30	+ 0.11
SCOTLAND.	48,668	5.48	5.29	5.33	+ 0.19	+ 0.15
IRELAND.	447	5.92	5.71	5.92	+ 0.21	...
UNITED KINGDOM.	545,644	5.52	5.58	5.68	- 0.06	- 0.16

Compared with either a month ago or a year ago employment showed an improvement in Cumberland, Northumberland, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, North Wales and in Lancashire, but a decline in Northumberland, Durham, North Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire, Shropshire, Worcester and Shropshire, and in South Wales and Monmouth. In Leicestershire employment showed an increase in consequence of an improvement in the supply of railway wagons, and was better than a year ago. The other districts showed little change.

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in Dec., 1916, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1916, on a	
		Dec. 16th, 1916.	Nov. 25th, 1916.	Dec. 18th, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
White ...	4,950	4.67	4.89	5.53	- 0.22	- 0.86
Blue ...	25,818	5.69	5.75	5.79	- 0.06	- 0.10
Black ...	34,603	5.16	5.29	5.53	- 0.13	- 0.37
Other ...	49,960	5.67	5.61	5.98	+ 0.06	+ 0.01
Other ...	193,411	5.45	5.57	5.72	+ 0.12	+ 0.27
Other ...	236,902	5.60	5.62	5.68	- 0.02	- 0.08
ALL DESCRIPTIONS.	545,644	5.52	5.58	5.68	- 0.06	- 0.16

* Figures in this article and the following only show the number of days worked (being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron and steel was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day at the mines or works were open.

Compared with both a month ago and a year ago employment showed an improvement at pits producing house coal, but a decline at every other class of pit. The decline was most marked at anthracite, gas and steam coal pits.

The exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel during December, 1916, amounted to 2,782,000 tons, a decrease of 443,000 tons on a month ago and of 688,000 tons on a year ago. Of the total exports in December, 1916, 1,110,000 tons went to France, 274,000 tons to Italy, and 221,000 tons to Spain.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

At iron mines employment continued very good, and was better than both a month ago and a year ago. It was good at shale, tin and lead mines.

At quarries employment was again fairly good on the whole, except in Leicestershire, Cornwall and South Devon and Aberdeen district. It was affected to a considerable extent by the inclement weather. A shortage of labour was reported at a number of centres.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received for each of the three periods named below, relating to the same mines and open works in each case, show that 13,633 workpeople were employed in December, 1916, an increase of 21 (or 0.2 per cent.) compared with November, and of 469 (or 3.6 per cent.) compared with a year ago.

Districts.	Workpeople employed in Dec., 1916.	Average number of days worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1916, on a	
		16th Dec., 1916.	25th Nov., 1916.	18th Dec., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland ...	5,917	5.83	5.62	5.40	+ 0.21	+ 0.43
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,775	5.92	5.92	5.80	...	+ 0.12
Scotland ...	784	5.34	5.37	6.00	- 0.03	- 0.66
Other Districts ...	2,157	5.74	5.97	5.82	- 0.23	- 0.08
ALL DISTRICTS.	13,633	5.82	5.77	5.64	+ 0.05	+ 0.18

The weekly average number of days* worked by the mines and open works included in the returns was 5.82, compared with 5.77 a month ago and 5.64 a year ago. There was an improvement in the Cleveland district on both a month ago and a year ago, and a marked decline in Scotland compared with a year ago.

Shale.—The returns received show that 3,230 workpeople were employed in the fortnight ended 16th December, 1916, at mines which worked on the average 6.03 days per week, compared with 3,233 workpeople in November, 1916, at mines which worked 6.06 days, and with 3,093 workpeople in December, 1915, at mines which worked an average of 6.01 days per week.

Tin.—Employment continued good for the workpeople remaining in the industry, and a general shortage of labour continued to be experienced.

Lead.—In Flintshire lead miners were fully employed and more men could have been set to work if available. At Darley Dale (Matlock) employment was fair.

QUARRYING.

Slate.—Employment with slate quarrymen in Wales was fairly good on the whole, but was affected by frost. There was an improvement on a month ago and a year ago in the Festiniog district. It was dull at Delabole.

* See note * in previous column.

THE

the Leicestershire macadam quarries. Employment was fair. It was dull in both a month ago and a year ago in Cornwall and South Devon. A shortage of labour was reported in the Aberdeen district.

Limestone.—In Cleveland and South Durham limestone quarrymen were well employed, and there was an improvement on a month ago. Employment continued good in Weardale.

In the Buxton district it was hindered to some extent by the weather, but was good on the whole and better than a year ago. In the Plymouth district it was dull.

Other Stone.—Employment continued good at whinstone quarries in Upper Weardale. Chert quarrymen at Bakewell continued well employed. At Clee Hill employment in the road material (basalt) quarries was again good, but time was lost owing to bad weather; there was again a great shortage of labour. In the Rowsley district employment was good and better than a year ago in grindstone, and bad and worse than a month ago in building stone quarries; it was adversely affected by unfavourable weather. The depression in the Forfarshire sandstone quarries continued.

Sett-making.—Employment was very quiet at Clee Hill; fair in Leicestershire, and fairly good and better than a month ago at Bonawe.

China Clay.—Employment continued moderate in the St. Austell district and continued good at Shaugh and Lee Moor.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and was better than a year ago. Output was restricted at a considerable number of works by a shortage of iron ore, limestone and fuel, partly due to difficulties of transport. There was a continued scarcity of labour in many districts.

Returns received show that 289 furnaces were in blast at the end of both December and November, 1916, compared with 261 in December, 1915. During the month five furnaces were relit, two in Cleveland and one each in South Yorkshire, Lanarkshire and Ayrshire respectively. Five were damped down, one in Monmouthshire, and four (for cleaning and repairs) in Lanarkshire. No furnaces were blown out during the month.

The figures are summarised according to districts in the following Table:—

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Dec., 1916, on	
	Dec., 1916.	Nov., 1916.	Dec., 1915.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:					
Cleveland ...	76	74	67	+ 2	+ 9
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	33	33	27	...	+ 6
S. and S.W. Yorks... ..	12	11	11	+ 1	+ 1
Derby and Nottingham ...	27	27	27	...	...
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton ...	28	28	27	...	+ 1
Staffs and Worcester ...	30	30	29	...	+ 1
S. Wales and Monmouth... ..	12	13	10	- 1	+ 2
Other districts ...	5	5	5	...	...
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	223	221	203	+ 2	+ 20
SCOTLAND ...	66	68	58	- 2	+ 8
TOTAL ...	289	289	261	...	+ 28

The quantity of iron ore imported during December, 1916, was 401,000 tons, being 116,000 tons less than in the previous month and 192,000 tons less than in December, 1915.

The exports of pig iron totalled 49,000 tons during December, 1916, compared with 50,000 tons in the previous month and with 75,000 tons a year ago. In December, 1916, over 33,000 tons were sent to France.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good, and was better than a year ago. Complaints of shortage of labour were again general in all districts and in all departments.

provement in employment was fair. It was dull in both a month ago and a year ago in Cornwall and South Devon. A shortage of labour was reported in the Aberdeen district.

Compared with a year ago employment showed improvement in every district except in the Sheffield and Rotherham and Leeds and Bradford districts where there was some decline. The improvement most marked in the Cleveland, Cumberland, Lancashire and Wales and Monmouth districts, in Scotland. There was an improvement in all departments, except foundries, which showed a considerable decline.

According to returns relating to 112,757 workpeople the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended 16th December, 1916, was 648,578, an increase of 5,873 (or 0.9 per cent.) on the previous month and of 34,392 (or 5.6 per cent.) on a year ago.

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Aggregate number of Shifts worked.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with a
		Month ago.	Year ago.		
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	11,434	+ 3.1	+ 12.9	68,275	+ 2.1
Crucible Furnaces ...	638	...	+ 12.9	3,743	- 0.5
Bessemer Converters ...	1,772	+ 1.8	+ 18.6	9,812	+ 1.7
Puddling Forges ...	6,838	+ 0.8	+ 5.5	36,450	+ 2.2
Rolling Mills ...	31,111	- 1.1	+ 4.3	163,349	- 0.8
Forging and Pressing ...	5,227	+ 2.1	+ 9.9	30,061	+ 3.0
Founding ...	16,773	+ 0.4	- 2.2	100,131	+ 2.7
Other Departments...	14,959	+ 1.8	+ 8.1	87,254	+ 2.0
Mechanics, Labourers ...	24,005	+ 1.3	+ 16.7	143,513	+ 1.1
TOTAL ...	112,757	+ 0.7	+ 7.6	648,578	+ 0.8
DISTRICTS.					
Northumberland & Durham	12,456	- 3.6	+ 4.2	70,946	- 2.1
Cleveland ...	11,016	+ 6.5	+ 13.5	64,585	+ 1.7
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	29,574	+ 0.4	+ 4.9	174,479	+ 1.1
Leeds, Bradford, &c.	3,723	- 1.3	- 5.9	21,111	- 1.1
Cumberland, Lancashire & Cheshire	8,916	+ 1.4	+ 10.0	50,212	+ 1.1
Staffordshire...	8,715	+ 2.3	+ 3.6	48,707	+ 3.1
Other Midland Counties ...	5,116	+ 0.7	+ 6.1	29,272	+ 1.1
Wales and Monmouth ...	13,769	+ 0.8	+ 10.0	75,540	+ 1.1
TOTAL, England & Wales	93,315	+ 0.8	+ 6.4	534,852	+ 1.1
Scotland ...	19,442	+ 0.4	+ 13.6	113,726	+ 2.0
TOTAL ...	112,757	+ 0.7	+ 7.6	648,578	+ 0.8

The imports of iron and steel and many other articles thereof during December, 1916, amounted to 4,000 tons, a decrease of 13,000 tons as compared with the previous month and of 48,000 tons compared with December, 1915.

The exports (excluding pig iron, black plates and galvanised sheets) totalled 90,000 tons during December, 1916, compared with 150,500 tons in the previous month and with 128,000 tons in December, 1915.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

THESE trades continued to be extremely busy during December, and a large amount of overtime work was done.

Trade Unions with 269,742 members (skilled occupations) reported 0.2 per cent. increase in membership at the end of December, compared with the end of November; the percentage increase was 0.3.

The number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) insured under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911, at the end of December, compared with the end of November and 0.38 at the end of December, 1915.

Table showing employment statistics for various regions in 1916, including columns for Dec., Nov., and Dec. 1915, with monthly and yearly percentage changes.

The general state of employment as described above, with few exceptions, to all districts and to occupations. Certain branches of the textile...

The total value of the imports of machinery during the year, 1916, was £521,000, a decrease of £108,000 month ago and of £180,000 on a year ago.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

Shipbuilding continued at high pressure, with overtime in many instances to a large extent.

The Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and dockers with 73,248 members reported 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of December, compared with 0.3 per cent. at the end of November, and with 0.4 per cent. a year ago.

The number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in shipbuilding trades who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 1,030,277 at the end of December, the same percentage as at the end of November: the percentage at the end of December, 1915, was 0.57.

Table showing shipbuilding statistics including Number Insured, Percentage of Unemployment, and Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Dec., 1916, compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Principal exceptions to the general state of employment as described above, or changes as compared with a month ago, were as follows:—

Ship painters on the Mersey employment remained good. At Southampton employment was not so good a year ago, though a fair amount of overtime was worked in some departments.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

The following Table shows the number of tinplate and sheet mills in operation at the end of December, 1916, and the works covered by the returns:—

Table showing the number of works open for Tinplate and Steel Sheet at the end of Dec., 1916, and Dec., 1915, with monthly and yearly percentage changes.

TINPLATE.

The number of mills working at the end of December showed a decrease of 34 compared with the previous month and of 133 compared with December, 1915. For the first three weeks in December the number of mills in operation was about equal to the number at the end of November...

The exports of tinned plates and tinned sheets during December showed a decrease of 2,163 tons compared with a month ago and of 16,393 tons (over 50 per cent.) compared with a year ago.

Table showing tinplate and steel sheet statistics, including Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets, and Black Plates for Tinning, with columns for Tons and percentage changes.

STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEETS.

The number of mills working at the end of December was 4 less than at the end of November and 32 less than a year ago. Time was lost at the end of December on account of holidays.

The imports of crude zinc during December, 1916, amounted to 5,519 tons, compared with 5,573 tons a month ago and 3,375 tons a year ago.

The exports of galvanised sheets amounted to 1,455 tons, as compared with 2,048 tons in November, 1916, and 12,500 tons a year ago.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

In most of these trades employment continued very good, and much overtime was worked, especially by brass workers and sheet metal workers.

Brasswork and Bedsteads.—Employment continued very good, and much overtime was reported. It was fair with bedstead makers at Birmingham.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Nut and bolt makers continued well employed at Birmingham, Smethwick and Darlaston; there was a decline on the Tyne.

The corresponding figure was 15,76d. The selling American cotton was 3.54d. per lb. good fair Egyptian 10.68d. higher than these advances being equivalent to percentage increases of 47 and 112 respectively.

Table showing cotton prices for American and Egyptian cotton, including monthly and yearly percentage changes and prices per lb.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

Employment, mainly on Government contracts, continued very brisk and was above the level of a year ago. The supply of labour was unequal to the demand.

Table showing wool trade statistics, including Departmental and Districtal workpeople and earnings, with columns for week ended, month ago, and year ago.

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Brasswork and Bedsteads.—Employment continued very good, and much overtime was reported. It was fair with bedstead makers at Birmingham.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Nut and bolt makers continued well employed at Birmingham, Smethwick and Darlaston; there was a decline on the Tyne.

There was a great shortage of labour, and overtime was worked by spinners.

WORSTED TRADE.

Employment continued very brisk in this trade and was better than a year ago. Labour was in much demand; in addition to the general shortage of men, a considerable number of women weavers were wanted in the Bradford district.

Returns from firms employing 32,679 workpeople in the week ended 16th December showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 25th November.

Table showing worsted trade statistics, including Departmental and Districtal workpeople and earnings, with columns for week ended, month ago, and year ago.

In the Bradford district employment continued very good in every branch; the woolcombers reported some improvement on a year ago owing to the fact that women are now being employed on the night turn.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF WOOL.

The imports of wool (sheep's and lambs') amounted to 29,355,000 lb., an increase of 739,000 lb. on a month ago and a decrease of 9,035,000 lb. on a year ago.

The exports of tops and of woollen and worsted yarn during December, 1916, totalled 3,454,000 lb., a decrease of 988,000 lb. on a month ago and of 785,000 lb. on a year ago.

PRICES OF WOOL AT BRADFORD.

The average prices of Lincoln hoggs' wool, 40's crossbred tops and 60's super Botany tops, were higher in December than in November, the increase being especially marked with the last-named, which showed an advance of 6d. per lb. on the monthly average.

Table showing prices of wool at Bradford, including Average Prices and Course of Prices for Lincoln Hoggs, 40's Crossbred tops, and 60's Super Botany tops.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

heath and Halesowen employment with nut, bolt, rivet and spike makers was good, but not quite up to the level of a month ago. Shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham were very busy.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—The Sheffield cutlery and file trades continued busy. File makers at Wolverhampton and on the Wear were also well employed. At Birmingham employment continued fairly good with edge tool makers. At Wednesbury it was slack with hoe makers and fair with edge tool makers. At Walsall employment continued slack with bit and stirrup makers, but with saddle and harness furniture makers it was still fair. Needle and fish hook makers at Redditch were very busy.

Tubes.—Employment with tube workers continued very good throughout the Midlands, and a scarcity of skilled men was reported.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, &c.—At Cradley Heath employment was good with anchor and block chain makers, and fairly good with cable chain makers. It was good with anchor smiths on the Tyne and fair on the Wear. Motor chain and case hame and cart gear makers continued fairly well employed at Walsall. With makers of axles and springs at Wednesbury employment was fairly good, showing some decline on a month ago; at West Bromwich and Redditch makers of springs and small steel parts continued fully employed. At Dudley employment with anvil and vice makers declined, but was still fairly good.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Braziers and sheet metal workers continued fully employed, and a large amount of overtime was worked in some centres. At Warrington and Belfast employment was only fair.

Wire.—Employment generally was good and overtime was frequently reported. At Glasgow it continued fair.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—Employment in the Wolverhampton and Willenhall lock and latch trade was fair, but not so good as a month ago and a year ago. In the Midland galvanised hollow-ware trade employment was fairly good, but some short time was caused by difficulties in obtaining material. At Wolverhampton it was good with hollow-ware makers, and quiet in the builders' ironmongery trade.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment continued quiet generally, and on the whole more short time than overtime was worked. Stove and range makers at Falkirk were busy on Government orders.

Jewellery, Plated Ware, &c.—Employment was very good in London and much overtime was worked. It was good at Birmingham and Sheffield.

Farriers.—Employment continued good in the principal centres.

COTTON TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in the spinning department, and fair in the weaving department, and was better on the whole than a year ago. The shortage of labour was acute, and output in all departments was restricted in consequence.

Employment in the Oldham district continued very good in the spinning department, and was better than a year ago, but the shortage of labour was acute. About 14 per cent. of the spindles were stopped for want of labour during the month.

In the Bolton district employment was good with spinners, and fair with weavers and card room workers; nearly 16 per cent. of machinery was standing owing to the shortage of men. The number of men and juvenile workers in the spinning rooms was increased, but the number of men for mule spinning on the decrease owing to enlistments.

In the Preston, Blackburn and Darwen districts employment with weavers continued fair on the whole, many looms were idle, some for want of labour others for want of orders.

In the Burnley district there was also an insufficient supply of weavers, but employment was reported as good for those employed.

Returns from firms employing 146,184 workpeople for the week ended 16th December showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.3

per cent. in the amount of wages paid with the week ended 25th November. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 5.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 2.2 per cent. in wages paid.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.				£	Per cent.
	Week ended 16th Dec., 1916.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 16th Dec., 1916.		
		Month ago.	Year ago.			
Preparing	16,417	- 0.9	- 5.1	17,994	+ 1.0	
Spinning	30,884	- 0.2	- 3.1	36,321	+ 0.5	
Weaving	73,310	- 0.5	- 6.1	78,738	- 1.2	
Other	12,665	- 0.0	- 5.4	17,691	+ 0.5	
Not specified	12,908	- 0.5	- 6.5	15,733	+ 0.8	
TOTAL	146,184	- 0.4	- 5.3	166,467	- 0.3	
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton	6,645	- 0.9	- 8.2	7,463	- 1.1	
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	9,899	- 0.7	- 5.7	11,206	- 1.2	
Oldham	12,778	- 0.1	- 4.0	16,771	+ 0.5	
Bolton and Leigh	20,062	- 0.3	- 1.8	20,699	+ 0.1	
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden Manchester	13,168	- 0.2	- 7.9	15,127	- 0.6	
Preston and Chorley	10,033	- 1.5	- 8.2	10,433	- 0.4	
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	12,450	+ 0.4	- 2.2	13,562	+ 0.3	
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	26,166	- 0.8	- 7.2	30,467	+ 0.2	
Other Lancashire Towns	17,244	- 0.1	- 6.7	22,549	- 1.3	
Yorkshire Towns	5,241	- 0.0	- 3.2	4,963	- 0.0	
Other Districts	6,007	- 0.2	- 3.2	6,239	+ 0.0	
Other Districts	6,491	- 0.3	- 2.5	6,988	+ 0.0	
TOTAL	146,184	- 0.4	- 5.3	166,467	- 0.3	

The quantity of raw cotton imported during December, 1916, was 1,904,000 centals, as compared with 2,758,000 centals during November, 1916, and with 1,596,000 centals during December, 1915. As between December, 1915, and December, 1916, the value increased by £4,042,000.

The exports of cotton yarn during December, 1916, amounted to 11,225,000 lb., a decrease of 1,157,000 lb. on a month ago and of 3,610,000 lb. on a year ago. The exports of cotton piece goods during December, 1916, amounted to 499,360,500 yards, as compared with 340,500,000 yards during November, 1916, and with 374,209,000 yards during December, 1915.

COTTON FORWARDED FROM PORTS TO INLAND TOWNS.

The following Table shows the quantities of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns at the undermentioned dates:—

Description of Cotton.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a				
	Dec., 1916.	Nov., 1916.	Dec., 1915.	Month ago.	
				Year ago.	
American	Bales. 180,802	Bales. 214,476	Bales. 201,891	- 33,674	- 21,089
Brazilian	5,201	8,756	7,019	- 3,555	- 1,818
East Indian	2,195	2,747	2,649	- 552	- 454
Egyptian	22,253	25,869	27,412	- 3,616	- 5,159
Miscellaneous	10,906	11,015	12,682	- 109	- 1,776
TOTAL	221,357	262,863	251,653	- 41,506	- 30,296

PRICES OF COTTON AT LIVERPOOL.

In the first part of December prices of "middling American" and "good fair Egyptian" cotton were higher than in the early part of November, but later in December they were considerably lower than a month earlier. Taking the month of December as a whole the average price of middling American cotton showed a decline on November, but an increase on October, being 11.15d. per lb., as compared with 11.82d. a month earlier and 10.40d. in October. The average price of good fair Egyptian cotton for December showed, however, a slight increase on that for November, being 20.25d. per lb., as compared with 20.10d. for November.

* Comparison of earnings with a year ago is affected by increases in wages and war bonuses.

BUILDING TRADES, WARRINGTON.—Differences arose between the Warrington and District Master Builders' Association on the one hand, and the Operative Bricklayers' Society, the United Trade Committee of Carpenters and Joiners, and the United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association on the other, in respect of applications for advances of wages to their members. Sir William Robinson, having been appointed arbitrator, issued his award on 22nd December, deciding that the carpenters, joiners, machinists, cabinet-makers, and plumbers should be given war wage advances, raising their rates to 11d. per hour, and the bricklayers' rate to 11½d. per hour.

EMPLOYEES OF GEORGE HADFIELD & Co., LTD., LIVERPOOL.—Sir William Robinson, the arbitrator appointed to determine an application for an advance of wages made by the National Warehouse and General Workers' Union on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, issued his award on 23rd December, giving an advance of 1s. per day to general labourers, foremen, and timekeeper employed on the fertiliser plant, and 6d. per day to labourers receiving extra wages on piece-work; also an advance of 1s. per day to chambermen, and 6d. per day to kilnmen on the sulphuric acid plant.

ELECTRICIANS, BLACKPOOL.—A difference having arisen between the Blackpool Electrical Contractors' Association and the Electrical Trades' Union respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the latter on behalf of their members employed in Blackpool and district, the matter was referred to Sir William Robinson, who issued his award on 27th December, directing that the minimum rate to be paid to electrical wiremen and fitters shall be raised to 10d. per hour, the advance to be regarded as war wages.

DRIVERS, ETC., NEWCASTLE.—A difference having arisen between the Newcastle Master Carters' Association and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour respecting an application for an advance of wages and overtime rates made on behalf of motor-drivers, rollymen, labourers, and cartmen employed by members of the Association, Sir William Robinson was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. Previous to the hearing the Association offered an advance of 3s. per week to men over 21, which offer was accepted on the understanding that the difference between this offer and the application made by the Union be sent to arbitration. At the hearing, an increase of 2d. per hour on overtime rates was offered by the Association to be considered on the same basis as the war bonus which was accepted by the Union, and in his award of 27th December the arbitrator decided that the Union had not made out their claim for any further advance.

EMPLOYEES OF TWEEDALES & SMALLEY, LTD., MANCHESTER.—Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to decide an application for an advance of wages made by the United Machine Workers' Association on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, and issued his award on 6th December, giving a war wage advance of 3s. per week to the men concerned.

EMPLOYEES OF MONKS, HALL & Co., LTD., WARRINGTON.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the National Union of General Workers in connection with an application for an advance of wages of 4s. per week made by the latter on behalf of the workmen employed in the tube department of the firm's works, Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and decided in his award, issued on the 6th December, that a war wage advance of 3s. should be paid to time-workers only.

EMPLOYEES OF SOUTHAMPTON, ISLE OF WIGHT AND SOUTH OF ENGLAND ROYAL MAIL STEAM Co., LTD.—Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine an application for an advance of wages and overtime rates, and for certain alterations in working conditions, made by the British Seafarers' Union on behalf of their members employed by the Company on their passenger boats and on the cargo boat *Lord Elgin*. The arbitrator issued his award on the 12th December, granting a war wage increase of 3s. per week from 1st November to all the men concerned and increasing the rates for overtime to those employed on the *Lord Elgin*, but making no alterations in the working conditions.

EMPLOYEES OF CURTIS'S & HARVEY, LTD., GLYN-NEATH.—Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference between the firm and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union arising out of a claim for an advance of wages of 1s. per shift made by the Union on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, issued his award on the 19th December, granting a war wage advance of 6d. per shift, to date from the 2nd of September last.

EMPLOYEES OF GUEST, KEEN & NETTLEFOLD, LTD., DOWLAIS.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the Workers' Union respecting applications for advances of wages made on behalf of certain sections of workpeople employed by the firm, the matter was referred to Mr. Courthope-Munroe for arbitration. In his award, dated the 19th December, the arbitrator fixed the prices and wages to be paid to greasers and men employed "squaring" at skids on Chippers' and Filers' Bench, but disallowed all other claims.

WOOD-CUTTING MACHINISTS, A. V. ROE & Co., NEWTON HEATH.—Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine a claim for an advance of wages of

1½d. per hour made by the Amalgamated Society of Wood-cutting Machinists on behalf of their members in the firm's employ. The arbitrator issued his award on the 21st of December, granting a war wage advance of ¾d. per hour to the men, the advance to be paid as from the 1st of December.

ENGINEERS, EBBW VALE STEEL, IRON AND COAL Co., LTD.—The Amalgamated Society of Engineers having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of skilled workmen employed in the firm's 8-in. projectile factory, the matter was referred to Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C., for arbitration. Previous to the hearing an agreement was arrived at between the parties, by which the men concerned received an advance of 3s. per week as from the first full pay following the 12th of July, and in his award, dated the 22nd December, the arbitrator confirmed the agreement and decided that the advance should be regarded as war wages.

WAREHOUSEMEN, GREENING & SONS, LTD., WARRINGTON.—An application for an advance of wages having been made by the National Union of General Workers on behalf of the warehousemen employed by the firm, Mr. W. Addington Willis was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award, dated the 9th December, determined that the warehousemen employed by the Company are general labourers, and consequently awarded an advance of 3s. a week to be paid from the 11th November.

EMPLOYEES OF MESSRS. HIGGS & HILL, LAMBETH.—Application having been made to the firm by the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners for payment at the rate of time and a quarter to their members engaged on munition work on August Bank Holiday and the following day, Mr. W. A. Willis was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. In his award, dated the 20th December, Mr. Willis allowed the extra payment for the Bank Holiday to all the men concerned, and for the following day to all who had been employed by the firm on munition work on the previous Whit Monday, and overtime payments for both days on the basis of time and a quarter.

EMPLOYEES OF THOMAS WRAGG & SONS, SHEFFIELD.—Mr. W. A. Willis was appointed arbitrator to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and certain of their employees with regard to an application for an advance of wages made by the latter. The arbitrator issued his award on the 21st December, giving an increase of 2s. per week or its equivalent to men of full age and to mechanics, and of 1s. per week or its equivalent to those under full age. He also gave an advance of ¾d. per hour to the joiners, and decided that the claims put forward on behalf of yard workers or labourers had not been established.

LABOURERS, PALMER'S SHIPBUILDING AND IRON Co., LTD., HERBURN-ON-TYNE.—A difference arose between the Company and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour respecting a claim made by the latter for retrospective payment, as from the 9th August, of 3s. per week to their members employed in the Company's galvanising department. Mr. E. Forbes Lankester, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and in his award, issued 18th December, decided that the men had established their claim.

(1) **PATTERNMAKERS**, (2) **FOUNDERS**, (3) **LABOURERS**, TYERS & Co., LTD., CARLISLE.—Differences having arisen between the firm on the one hand and the United Pattern Makers' Association, the Friendly Society of Ironfounders, and the National Union of General Workers, on the other, in respect of applications for advances of wages made on behalf of their members in the firm's employ at Carlisle, Mr. E. Forbes Lankester, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter. In his awards, dated 30th December, the arbitrator decided that the patternmakers and founders should receive a war wage advance of 3s. per week as from the first full pay following 4th August last, or from such subsequent date as the men may have entered the firm's employ. In respect of the claims by the National Union of General Workers, he granted a war wage advance of 3s. per week from the first pay day after the date of this award, fixed the amount to be paid in lieu of retrospective payment, and also the night-shift rate at time and a quarter for weekdays and double time for Sundays.

PAINTERS, HARROGATE.—The National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, having applied to the Harrogate Master Painters' Association for an advance of 1½d. per hour on behalf of their members, Mr. F. A. Greer, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and in his award, dated 20th December, granted an advance of 1d. per hour to the men concerned.

FARRIERS, LONDON.—An application for an advance of wages and for certain alterations in an agreement of July, 1915, having been made by the Amalgamated Society of Farriers to the Metropolitan Veterinary Surgeons and Master Farriers' Protection Association, and the National Master Farriers' Association, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Mr. F. A. Greer, K.C. In his award, dated 20th December, 1916, the arbitrator granted the advances claimed for firemen and doormen, viz., 6d. and 10d. per day, respectively, and confirmed the clause in the said agreement granting an extra of 2d. per pair for all pads and leathers, but decided against all other claims. One of the claims was to the effect that horses shod with sideline or in trevice should count double. The arbitrator added a note that although unable to award in favour of the men's claim for double pay, he approved the

practice of most employers of making a reasonable addition to the men's remuneration in respect of such dangerous work, and trusted the practice would be recognised by all employers.

STEEL TOYMAKERS, BIRMINGHAM.—The National Union of General Workers, having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of their members employed by the Highgate Tool Co., Ltd., Samuel Cassel & Sons, Handley & Wilkins, Ltd., and Thomas Newey & Sons, Ltd., Mr. E. F. Vesey Knox, K.C., was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 19th December, deciding that in the case of workmen employed by Thomas Newey & Sons, Ltd., there should be no increase of wages, but granting, under certain conditions, an advance of 10 per cent. on piecework rates to employees of the other firms concerned, and deciding that where a workman employs a striker or underhand on time payment, a sum of 3s. per week shall be paid to the striker or underhand, this 3s. to be deducted from the wages of the workman.

LABOURERS AND SEMI-SKILLED WORKERS, FELLOWS & CO., LTD., GREAT YARMOUTH.—Mr. Walter Dodd, the arbitrator appointed to determine a difference between the firm and the National Union of General Workers in respect of an application for an advance of wages made on behalf of semi-skilled and unskilled workers in the firm's employ, issued his award on 5th December, giving an advance of 3s. per week to semi-skilled workers, and fixing the minimum rates for unskilled workers and engine-drivers, the rates to be paid for scrubbing lighters, and also overtime rates.

† **FITTERS, TURNERS, BLACKSMITHS, AND CHARGE HANDS, LONDON SMALL ARMS CO., LTD.**—A difference having arisen between the Company and their employees relative to an application for an advance of wages, Mr. Walter Dodd was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 13th December, deciding that the men should receive an extra 7½d. per hundred rifles, while the men working on finished components for rifles, up to 2,200 per week, should be paid according to the output of each department. The advance to be regarded as war wages, and to be retrospective as from 6th October, 1916.

WEIGHING-MACHINE MAKERS, IRELAND.—Differences having arisen between the Amalgamated Society of Scale, Beam, and Weighing-Machine Makers and the firms of Messrs. W. & T. Avery, Ltd., and Messrs. Henry Pooley & Son, Ltd., concerning rates of wages, overtime rates, and working conditions of the Society's members in Ireland, Mr. James Andrews was appointed arbitrator, and issued his award on 23rd December, deciding that the minimum wage should be 9½d. per hour, and fixing a standard week of 54 hours, the overtime rates to be paid, and working conditions for Ireland.

EMPLOYEES OF EASTON, GIBB & SON, LTD., ROSYTH.—A difference arose between Messrs. Easton, Gibb & Son, Ltd., Rosyth, and the Joint Trades Committee of Employees of the firm at Rosyth respecting a claim for advance of wages. A Court of Arbitration, consisting of Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C. (chairman), Mr. R. W. Wallace, and Mr. W. Adamson, M.P., was appointed to determine the difference. In their award, dated the 10th November, the Court decided that the wages of the respective tradesmen be advanced 1d. per hour and the wages of all other sections be advanced ¾d. per hour. Advances to be paid as from Saturday, the 9th September.

SHIPWRIGHTS AND JOINERS, LARNE.—Differences having arisen between the Larne Shipbuilding Company on the one hand and the Ship Constructors and Shipwrights' Association and the Carpenters and Joiners' Society on the other, with respect to the working hours and conditions of shipwrights and joiners in the employ of the firm, the matter was referred to a Court of Arbitration, consisting of Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C. (chairman), Mr. James Sutherland and Mr. George Greig. By agreement the two cases were heard together on the 23rd November, when the Court determined the working hours and conditions for the workpeople concerned both ashore and afloat.

BRICKLAYERS, STEEL WORKS, TEES-SIDE.—A Court of Arbitration, consisting of three Trade Union leaders, Mr. W. Mosses (chairman), Mr. James Sexton and Mr. E. L. Poulton, was appointed to determine a dispute between the Operative Bricklayers' Society and the British Steel Smelters' Association in regard to the admission as members by the latter Union of bricklayers employed in steel works. The Court sat on the 8th December to hear the parties, and decided that the Steel Smelters' Association were not justified in accepting these members, and that arrangements should be made at once for their re-transfer to their former organisation.

EMPLOYEES, LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL TRAMWAYS.—Applications for advances of wages having been made to the L.C.C. Conciliation Boards (Electrical and Traffic Sections) and no settlement being arrived at, the differences were referred to a Court of Arbitration, consisting of Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C. (chairman), Sir George Wyatt Truscott, Bart., and Mr. Frank Smith, J.P. Claims for advances were made on behalf of the following employees in the electrical section—(1) charge engineers at sub-stations, (2) employees on repair work at Greenwich, (3) bricklayers' labourers, (4) shift-workers and other employees at Greenwich; 15 per cent. advance was claimed for all employees on the traffic section. The Court issued their awards on the 20th December, giving (1) a war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week, (2) a war wage advance of 3s. per week, (3) a war wage advance of 1d. per hour, and (4) war

bonuses ranging from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per week according to the wages of the employees. In settlement of the claim made on behalf of the employees of the traffic section, the Court awarded a further war bonus of 3s. 6d. per week, or 7d. per day, to male employees, and decided that the claim on behalf of the female employees had not been established. All these advances are to be paid on and after the first pay day following the 6th November.

EMPLOYEES OF PARTINGTON STEEL AND IRON CO., LTD., MANCHESTER.—A Court of Arbitration, consisting of Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C. (chairman), Mr. F. W. Gibbins (from the Employers' Panel), and Mr. James Gavin (from the Labour Panel), was appointed to determine a difference between the firm and the British Steel Smelters' Mill, Iron, Tinplate and Kindred Trades' Association in respect of an application in regard to wages made on behalf of the workmen employed in the firm's rolling mill department. The parties were heard on the 28th November, and the Court issued their award on the 5th December, fixing the rates to be paid to the men concerned, with the additions or reductions prescribed by the sliding scale arranged between the Ingot Makers' Association and the British Steel Smelters' Association.

CONDUCTORS AND CARDRIERS, THE LANARKSHIRE TRAMWAYS CO.—Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie was appointed arbiter to determine a difference that had arisen between the Company and the Motherwell and District United Trades Council relative to an application for an advance of wages made on behalf of the Company's conductors and drivers. The arbiter issued his award on the 14th December, deciding that the conductors should receive a war wage advance of 1s. per week, and altered the scale of wages of cardriers so that the maximum rate of 6s. 2d. per shift shall be payable in and after the eighth year of employment.

BOILERMAKERS, SCOTLAND.—A difference having arisen between the East of Scotland Association of Engineers and Ironfounders and the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society respecting a claim made on behalf of the boilermakers that time and a half should be paid for the first four full days worked during the holiday period in July, 1916, and double time for overtime, Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie was appointed arbiter, and in his award, issued 22nd December, decided that the claim had been established.

PLUMBERS, AIRDRIE AND COATBRIDGE DISTRICT.—A joint application for the appointment of an arbiter was received from the Airdrie Coatbridge and District Master Plumbers' Association and the United Operative Plumbers' Association of Scotland to determine a difference that had arisen between them regarding the working rules for Airdrie and Coatbridge district. Professor Richard Lodge was appointed arbiter, and in his award, issued 4th December, confirmed the rate of 11d. per hour, which had been paid since the 1st September last.

ELECTRICIANS AND ARMATURE WINDERS, GLASGOW.—The Electrical Trades' Union, having made an application for an advance of wages on behalf of their members employed by firms in the Electrical Contractors' Association in the Glasgow district, Professor Richard Lodge was appointed arbiter, and issued his award on 9th December, granting a war wage advance of ¾d. per hour to the men concerned.

EMPLOYEES OF BENNET FURNISHING CO., LTD., GLASGOW.—Professor Richard Lodge was appointed arbiter to determine a difference that had arisen between the firm and the Workers' Union in connection with an application made on behalf of certain employees of the firm for (1) a war bonus of 3s. a week, and (2) for 9d. tea money when working late. The arbiter issued his award on 11th December, granting a war bonus of 2s. for a full week of 51 hours, and deciding that the claim made for tea money when working late had been established.

SAILMAKERS, GLASGOW.—Professor Richard Lodge was appointed arbiter to determine a difference which had arisen between the Clyde Sailmakers' Association and the Greenock and Glasgow branches of the Federation of Sailmakers respecting a demand by the operatives for 1d. per hour additional war bonus, to date from 2nd November, and 1d. per hour advance in wages from 1st January, 1917. The arbiter issued his award on 15th December, granting ¾d. per hour additional war bonus, to date from the first pay day following the issue of this award, and ¾d. per hour advance in wages from 1st January, 1917.

EMPLOYEES OF FRASER FRASERS & CO., KILMARNOCK.—Three claims were made by the Workers' Union on behalf of the employees of the firm, viz., (1) for certain minimum time rates for piece-workers; (2) for certain rates for time-workers; and (3) that hand-machinists should receive an advance of 6½d. per dozen on certain work, making the piece rate 2s. 11d. per dozen. No agreement having been arrived at between the parties, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Professor Richard Lodge, who issued his award on 15th December, granting in settlement of the first two claims an additional bonus of 1d. in the shilling. With regard to the third claim, he confirmed the employers' offer of an additional 3d. per dozen, this addition to be retrospective to the first pay day after 26th September last.

EMPLOYEES OF ALLAN WHYTE & CO., RUTHERGLEN.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the National Amal-

gamated Union of Labour respecting an application for an advance of wages made by the latter on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, the matter was referred to the arbitration of Professor Richard Lodge, who issued his award on 22nd December, giving an advance of 2s. per week to the men concerned.

WOODWORKERS, HURST, NELSON & CO., MOTHERWELL.—Professor Richard Lodge having been appointed arbiter to determine a claim for an advance of 5s. per week on time rates, and 10 per cent. on piece rates, made by the Amalgamated Society of Wood-cutting Machinists on behalf of their members employed in the firm's wagon saw-mills, issued his award on the 22nd December, granting an advance of 2s. per week on time rates and 5 per cent. on piece-work earnings to the men concerned.

IRONFOUNDERS, SCOTLAND.—A dispute having arisen between the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation on the one hand and the Associated Iron Moulders of Scotland and the Central Ironmoulders' Association on the other hand on the question of overtime rates in regard to a claim for holiday payment in July last, the matter was referred to Sheriff A. J. Louttit-Laing for arbitration.

In the award issued on the 7th December it was determined that no written agreement existed between the parties under which payment of overtime would fall to be made during a holiday, but that in the light castings trade such payment would normally be paid to the men if asked to work on such days, and that therefore the men may be considered to have established their claim.

ENGINE-FITTERS, ROSE STREET FOUNDRY AND ENGINEERING CO., LTD., INVERNESS.—Sheriff A. J. Louttit-Laing was appointed arbiter to determine an application made to the firm by the engine-fitters in their employ for a standard wage of 43s. per week of 54 hours, and for certain alterations of "dirty work" allowances and overtime payments. The arbiter issued his award on the 7th December, deciding that the rate should be 41s. 6d. per week, inclusive of the present war bonus, fixing the "dirty money" allowance and overtime rates of payment, and granting a war wage advance of 1s. per week, to date from the first pay day in November last.

EMPLOYEES OF W. J. KNOX, LTD., KILBERNIE.—A difference having arisen between the Workers' Union and the Ayrshire Miners' Union, on the one hand, and the firm on the other, in respect of applications for advances of wages made on behalf of the Union's members in the firm's employ, and also an application of the Workers' Union for alterations in the method of calculating overtime of hand pinners, Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., was appointed arbiter to determine the matter. In his award, dated the 27th December, the arbiter gave the men concerned an advance of 3s. per week, and fixed the method of payment of overtime to hand pinners.

ROUGHERS AND HACKLERS, FINLAYSON, BOUSFIELD & CO., LTD., JOHNSTONE.—A difference having arisen between the firm on the one hand and the Newmilns and District Textile Workers' Union and the Flaxdressers and Linen Workers' Trade Union on the other, in respect of applications for an advance of wages made by the former on behalf of roughers, and by the latter on behalf of hacklers or sorters employed by the firm, Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., was appointed arbitrator to determine the matter, and in his award of 28th December granted an increase of 3s. per week.

EMPLOYEES OF THE BRITISH ALUMINIUM CO., LTD., KINLOCHLEVEN.—An application for an advance of wages having been made by the Workers' Union on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, Mr. Condie Sandeman, K.C., was appointed arbiter to determine the matter, and issued his award on the 30th November, giving an increase of ¾d. per hour to all labourers, an increase of 7d. per shift to all shiftmen, and an overtime rate of time and a half to all workmen, but making no change in the present system of granting bonus payments.

WOMEN WORKERS, THE BOTHWELL PARK QUARRIES AND BRICKWORKS, LTD., LANARKSHIRE.—A difference having arisen between the firm and the National Federation of Women Workers in connection with an application for an advance of wages made by the Federation on behalf of women and girls in the firm's employ, Mr. James Macdonald was appointed arbiter, and issued his award on the 4th December, granting in lieu of the present bonus a war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week to all female employees, conditional on working 53 hours or more per week, and 1s. 3d. providing a week of not less than 50 hours has been worked.

ENGINEERS, KIRKCALDY.—The Amalgamated Society of Engineers having made an application to the Kirkcaldy and District Engineering Masters' Association for a district minimum wage of 10½d. per hour to fitters, turners and machinemen, the matter was referred to Mr. James Macdonald as arbiter, who issued his award on the 5th December, deciding that the claim had not been established.

BOILERMAKERS, KIRKCALDY.—Mr. James Macdonald was appointed arbiter to determine a difference that had arisen in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Kirkcaldy and District Engineering Masters' Association by the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society. In his award, issued 7th December, the arbiter granted a war wage advance of ¾d. per hour to members of the Society

employed by Messrs. Douglas & Grant, Ltd., and 3s. per week to those employed by Messrs. Henry Balfour & Co., Ltd., Leven, as from 4th August, 1916, and in respect of the other firms in the Association he decided that the claim for an advance had not been established.

EMPLOYEES OF FERGUSON BROTHERS (PORT GLASGOW), LTD.—Differences having arisen between the firm and the foremen, underforemen, draughtsmen, clerks, and typists in their employ in connection with an application for a war bonus, Mr. James Macdonald was appointed arbiter to determine the matter. The hearing on 16th November was adjourned for the parties to endeavour to adjust the matters in dispute. The parties reported that the difference had been adjusted, and in view of the adjustment the arbiter issued his award on 29th November dismissing the application.

WOMEN MUNITION WORKERS.—The Board of Trade has referred to the Special Arbitration Tribunal constituted under Sections 6 and 8 of the Munitions of War (Amendment) Act, 1916, claims made by the Workers' Union on behalf of their members employed by (1) Messrs. Midland Electric Wire Co., Ltd., Lutterworth; (2) Messrs. the Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham; (3) Messrs. the Stella Conduit Co., Ltd., Bilston; (4) Messrs. Clyde Structural Iron Co., Ltd., Glasgow; and (5) Messrs. Brook, Hirst & Co., Ltd., Chester. They have also referred claims made by the National Federation of Women Workers to (1) Messrs. the British Electric Plant Co., Alloa; (2) Messrs. Arthur Balfour & Co., Sheffield; (3) Messrs. Watson, Laidlaw & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; and (4) Messrs. Christopher Thomas & Bros., Ltd., Bristol; and (5) Messrs. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Manchester. Other claims referred were made by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers to (1) Messrs. Thwaites Bros., Ltd., Bradford; (2) Messrs. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; and (3) Messrs. John Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone. The Board also referred to the Tribunal claims made by (1) the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union, and (2) the Amalgamated Union of Engine and Crane Men, Boiler Firemen and Wire Rope Workers to (1) Messrs. Explosives Loading Co., Ltd., Pembrey, and (2) Messrs. Bulivant & Co., Millwall, respectively, on behalf of women employed by these firms, and also claims made by the employees of Messrs. Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham.

COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

The Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government to inquire into the best steps to be taken to ensure the fullest productive power of employees in engineering and shipbuilding establishments, and whose reference was subsequently extended to deal with the avoidance of stoppages on work for Government purposes (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1915, p. 83, and August, 1915, p. 280), have issued decisions on further cases referred to them. The following are summaries of the Committee's findings issued during December:—

BOILERMAKERS, R. & J. DEMPSTER, LTD., MANCHESTER (ISSUED 6TH DECEMBER).—A war wage advance of 2s. per week on the time rates of wages of the men concerned was awarded by the Committee in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the above firm by the Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society.

ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, DARTMOUTH AND PLYMOUTH (ISSUED 7TH DECEMBER).—Application for an advance of 6s. per week on time rates and 12½ per cent. on piece rates was made to Messrs. Philip & Son, Ltd., Dartmouth, Messrs. Simpson, Strickland & Co., Ltd., Dartmouth, Messrs. Willoughby, Plymouth, and Messrs. Bickle Engineering Co., Ltd., Plymouth, by the West of England Joint Trade Union Committee, comprising the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Shipwrights and Ship Constructors' Association, Friendly Society of Ironfounders, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, and Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union, on behalf of their members employed by the firms mentioned. In the case of the Plymouth firms the Committee granted an advance of 3s. per week or ¾d. per hour. In the case of the Dartmouth firms such grades of labour as have received since the outbreak of war advances amounting to less than 6s. per week or 1½d. per hour shall receive such further increases as will bring them up to these advances. The adjustment in the wages of carpenters and joiners made in July last is not to be included in calculating the war advances already given. An advance of 1s. 6d. per week was granted to boys other than indentured apprentices, and the case of indentured apprentices was recommended to the favourable consideration of the employers. The advances are to be paid to time-workers only, and to be regarded as war wages, and are not intended to apply to or affect piece prices.

ENGINEERING TRADES, MESSRS. JOHN SUMMERS & SONS, LTD., SHOTTON (ISSUED 8TH DECEMBER).—Application was made to Messrs. John Summers & Sons, Ltd., by the Shotton Engineering Trades Joint Committee on behalf of their members in the firm's employ for a bonus of 22½ per cent. on existing rates of wages.

The Committee's finding is that the claim has not been established.

THE GNOME AND LE RHONE ENGINE COMPANY (PETER HOOKER, LTD.), LONDON, N.E. (ISSUED 12TH DECEMBER).—A proposal for a change in the rates of wages of certain classes of persons

employed by Messrs. The Gnome and Le Rhone Engine Company (Peter Hooker, Ltd.), London, N.E., was referred to the Committee by the Minister of Munitions.

The finding of the Committee is that the proposed advances should not be given, but they recommend that the advance of wages given generally to engineers and allied trades employees in the London district by a finding of this Committee dated 7th November should be given to the men now concerned, i.e. a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only.

PACKING CASE MAKERS, BRADFORD (ISSUED 13TH DECEMBER).—A difference arose between the Bradford Master Packing Case Makers' Association and the Bradford Rolling Board and Packing Case Makers' Society relative to an application by the latter for an advance of wages.

The Committee awarded a war wage advance of 2s. 6d. per week, and were of opinion that the parties should meet at an early date with a view to endeavouring to come to an amicable arrangement for introducing piece-work into the trade.

ENGINEERS, CARRON CO., FALKIRK (ISSUED 13TH DECEMBER).—In respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Carron Co., Falkirk, by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers on behalf of their members in the firm's employ, the Committee decided that the time rate of wages of the men concerned should be advanced 3s. per week.

MESSRS. IGRANIC ELECTRIC CO., LTD., BRADFORD (ISSUED 13TH DECEMBER).—Application was made to Messrs. Igranic Electric Co., Ltd., Bradford, by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers for an advance of wages on behalf of their members in the firm's employ. During the course of negotiations the firm offered, under date 19th October, 1916, a general advance of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour to all classes of male employees, other than apprentices, covered by the Society's application.

The finding of the Committee is that the firm's offer should be accepted, and regarded as a war wage advance, to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay in November, 1916. The Committee made no award on the claims made on behalf of the youths and apprentices, but recommended their case to the favourable consideration of the employers.

MANCHESTER CORPORATION TRAMWAYS (ISSUED 14TH DECEMBER).—A difference arose between the management of the Manchester Corporation Tramways and the Workers' Union relative to the rate of wages to be paid during the winter months to the permanent-way men in the corporation's employ. The Committee decided that the men shall be paid the same amount per week during the coming winter as in the summer months, whatever the weekly number of hours up to the normal $5\frac{1}{2}$ they may be called upon to work.

ENGINEERS, ACCRINGTON (ISSUED 17TH DECEMBER).—The Committee had referred to them an application for an advance of wages made by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Steam Engine Makers' Society to Messrs. Howard & Bullough, Ltd., Messrs. C. Whittaker & Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Lang Bridge, Ltd., Accrington. Their finding is that a war wage advance of 3s. per week should be given to time-workers only. The Committee made no advance in the case of apprentices, but recommended their claims to the favourable consideration of the employers.

ENGINEERS, MESSRS. A. F. CRAIG & Co., LTD., PAISLEY (ISSUED 18TH DECEMBER).—A difference arose between the firm (members of the North-West Engineering Trades Employers' Association) and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in regard to a proposal by the firm to introduce the system of premium bonus payment. The Committee's finding is that the "Rowan" system of premium bonus payment is the system best adapted to the requirements of Messrs. Craig's establishment, and that that system shall accordingly be worked therein.

BRAZIERERS AND SHEET METAL WORKERS, LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—An application for an advance of wages was made to (1) the Sheet Metal Workers Employers' Association, (2) the Gas Meter Making Employers' Federation, (3) the Manchester District Engineering Trades Employers' Association, and (4) the Bolton and District Engineering Employers' Association by the Joint Committee of Lancashire and Cheshire Braziers and Sheet Metal Workers, embracing Ashton, Accrington, Bolton, Blackburn, Bury, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Stockport, Todmorden, Wigan, Warrington, Manchester and Districts. The Committee granted a war wage advance of 3s. per week on time wages only. With regard to the Gas Meter Making section the Committee are of opinion that the limitation on output imposed by the men should by arrangement between the parties be removed under adequate guarantees to the men. The Committee also recommended that the employers should give favourable consideration to the apprentices' claim.

GRINDERS AND GLAZIERS, MANCHESTER (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—Application for an advance of wages was made to the Manchester District Engineering Trades Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Machine, Engine and Iron Grinders' and Glaziers' Society of Great Britain and Ireland. The Committee decided that the wages of the men concerned shall be advanced 3s. per week on time rates and $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent. on piece rates, such advance to be regarded as war wages and to be paid from the beginning of the first full pay in December.

ENGINEERS AND ALLIED TRADES, BARROW-IN-FURNESS (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—In settlement of claims made to Vickers',

Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, by the following Trade Unions:—Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, Steam Engine Makers' Society, Electrical Trades' Union, United Journeymen Brass-founders, Turners, Fitters, Finishers and Coppersmiths' Association, National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics, and United Machine Workers' Association, for an advance of wages on behalf of their members, the Committee awarded a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only from the beginning of the first full pay in December.

ENGINEERS AND ALLIED TRADES, BURNLEY (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—Application for an advance of wages having been made to the Burnley and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, and Steam Engine Makers' Society on behalf of their members, the Committee awarded a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only, as from the beginning of the first full pay in December.

ENGINEERING TRADES (SKILLED MEN), WIGAN (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—A war wage advance of 1s. per week was awarded by the Committee to time-workers only in respect of an application made to the Wigan and District Engineers and Foundry Masters' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Steam Engine Makers' Society, United Journeymen Brassfounders, Turners, Fitters, Finishers and Coppersmiths' Association, United Machine Workers' Association, and United Kingdom Society of Amalgamated Smiths and Strikers. This advance is to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay in December.

ENGINEERS, DUBLIN (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—An application for an advance of wages made to the Dublin Engineers Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers was referred to the Committee for their decision. The Committee awarded a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only as from the beginning of the first full pay in December.

ENGINEERS, READING (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—In settlement of an application for a war bonus of 7s. per week made to the London and District Association of Engineering Employers by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers on behalf of their members in the Reading district, the Committee awarded, as from the beginning of the first full pay in December, a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only.

ENGINEERING LABOURERS, OTLEY (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—In respect of an application for an advance of wages of 6s. per week made to the Otley Engineering Employers' Association by the Workers' Union, the Committee awarded a war wage advance of 2s. per week to time-workers only.

ENGINEERS AND TOOLMAKERS, OTLEY (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—Application was made to the Otley Engineering Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists for an advance of 6s. per week on time rates, an equivalent advance on piece prices and increased rates for apprentices. The Committee awarded a war wage advance of 2s. per week to time-workers only. In view of the fact that the employers have recently conceded an advance to apprentices no award in respect of the latter was made by the Committee.

BRICKLAYERS, MESSRS. THE HEDWORTH BARIUM CO., LTD., JARROW (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—In respect of an application for an advance of wages made to Messrs. The Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Jarrow, by the Operative Bricklayers' Society on behalf of their members in the employ of the firm, the Committee awarded a war wage advance of 1d. per hour be paid to time-workers only, to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay after the 8th November.

ENGINEERS, HUDDERSFIELD (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—A war wage advance of 2s. per week to time-workers only was granted by the Committee in respect of an application made to the Huddersfield Engineering Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers for a further advance of 5s. per week on time rates and $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on piece rates. This advance is to be paid from the beginning of the first full pay following 24th October, 1916.

MESSRS. EDWARD PACARD & Co., IPSWICH (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—In settlement of an application made to Messrs. Edward Pacard & Co., Ltd., Ipswich, by the men (members of the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union) employed at the firm's Ipswich works for a further advance of wages, the Committee awarded a war wage advance of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour to time-workers only.

INCE FORGE CO., LTD., WIGAN (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—An application was made to the Ince Forge Co., Ltd., by the National Union of General Workers on behalf of the forge labourers for an advance of wages and a revision of overtime rates of payment. No settlement was arrived at, and the matter was referred to the Committee for their decision. Their finding is that a war wage advance of 2s. per week shall be given to time-workers only. The Committee award no change in the present rates of overtime payment.

ENGINEERS AND ALLIED TRADES, KEIGHLEY (ISSUED 19TH DECEMBER).—Application was made for an advance of wages to the Keighley Engineering Employers' Association by the Keighley Engineering Allied Trades' Committee, comprising the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Friendly Society of

Ironfounders, United Patternmakers' Association, Operative Spindle and Flyer Makers' Society, Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists, National Union of General Workers, Workers' Union, and Amalgamated Society of Coremakers. The Committee awarded a war wage advance of 2s. per week to time-workers only. This advance is not intended to apply to those men who received an advance of wages under the finding of the Committee of 20th September last in respect of labourers. With regard to apprentices, the Committee made no award, but recommended that the employers should favourably consider the position of apprentices, having regard to the advance now awarded to skilled men.

BOILERMAKERS, BRADFORD, & Co. (ISSUED 21ST DECEMBER).—A war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only, as from 15th December, was awarded by the Committee in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Bradford District Engineering Employers' Association by the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society on behalf of the anglesmiths, platers, riveters, and holders-up employed by Messrs. Holdsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bradford; Messrs. J. & J. Horsfield, Ltd., Dewsbury; Messrs. Spurn, Inman & Co., Ltd., Wakefield; and Messrs. Thwaites Bros., Ltd., Bradford.

MESSRS. BOUTON & PAUL, LTD., NORWICH (ISSUED 21ST DECEMBER).—An application for an advance of wages having been made to Messrs. Bouton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich, by the carpenters and joiners, machinists, labourers, painters and polishers employed in the firm's building department at the Rose Lane and Riverside Works on the manufacture of aeroplane railway cases, sectional military huts, &c., the finding of the Committee is that the men concerned shall receive a similar advance to that awarded in October last to the woodworkers in the aeronautical department—i.e. a war wage advance of 1d. per hour from the 15th of October, 1916.

PLATE AND MACHINE MOULDERS, MANCHESTER (ISSUED 21ST DECEMBER).—A war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only was awarded by the Committee in respect of an application for an advance of wages made by the Amalgamated Moulders' Union on behalf of their members employed by the Manchester District Engineering Trades Employers' Association. With regard to the overtime claim, the Committee awarded that piece-workers should be paid extra for overtime at the rate of quarter-time for the first two hours and half-time for subsequent hours.

ENGINEERING TRADE, BURY (ISSUED 21ST DECEMBER).—An application for an advance of wages having been made to the Bolton and District Engineering Employers' Association (Bury Section) by the Engineering Allied Trades, the finding of the Committee is that a war wage advance of 3s. per week to time-workers only shall be granted as from the beginning of the first full pay in December.

IRON STEEL AND METAL DRESSERS, OLDHAM DISTRICT (ISSUED 21ST DECEMBER).—An application for an advance of wages having been made to the Oldham District Engineering Trades Employers' Association by the Iron, Steel and Metal Dressers' Trade Society, the finding of the Committee is that, as from the beginning of the first full pay in December, a war wage advance of 2s. per week shall be paid to time-workers only.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 to 1916.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Applications to the Umpire.

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 28th day of March, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received applications for decisions as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following classes of persons:—

487x. Workmen engaged in the installation or erection of accumulators in buildings, ships or vehicles.

(This involves reconsideration of Decision 1962x.)

488x. Lithographers, stereotypers, and printers employed in connection with munitions work.

This may involve a modification of Decision 1821.

Decisions by the Umpire.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give Notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

A. The Umpire has decided that contributions are payable in respect of:—

2091x. Workmen employed by a firm of spade and shovel manufacturers, engaged in fitting wooden handles to spades and shovels.

2092x. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of finger stalls, sponge bags, bathing caps, and similar druggists' sundries made of leather, rubber, or rubber proofed materials.

2093x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in cutting works for use in war.

2094x. Workmen engaged in tempering steel.

2095x. Workmen engaged in mixing and grinding mortar.

2096x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in refining saltpetre.

2098x. Workmen engaged in methylating spirit for use in the manufacture of explosives.

2099x. Workmen described as gold blockers and engaged wholly or mainly in ornamenting or lettering goods the manufacture of which is insured work.

2100x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making leather hats or shields for use in covering textile machinery rollers. (Application 478x.)

2102x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making metal reflectors for lighting purposes.

2103x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of combs and fallers for textile machinery (other than those in respect of whom contributions are payable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911.)

2105x. Workmen engaged in the manufacture (including assembling, polishing and painting) of periscopes and hyposcopes.

2106x. Workmen (other than those already insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911) engaged in the manufacture of artificial marble.

2107x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in shrinking iron hoops on to the ends of cast-iron pipes. (Application 483.)

2108x. Workmen (other than lithographers) engaged wholly or mainly in making enamelled iron signs, or in preparing and mixing enamel for use in such manufacture.

B. The Umpire has decided that contributions are not payable in respect of:—

1874. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of mosquito netting.

2090. Workmen (other than those insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911), engaged in digging and screening sand, ballast, and gravel.

2097. Workmen (other than those already insurable under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911), employed at laundries and engaged wholly or mainly in washing military or other clothing.

2101. Workmen (other than those covered by Decision A. 2100x above) engaged wholly or mainly in recovering textile machinery rollers. (Application 478x.)

2104. Workmen employed by water companies and engaged in attending to the operation of water-softening plant.

Note.—Decisions in which the Umpire has decided that contributions are payable under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, are indicated by the letter x at the end of the number, e.g. 1554x. Contributions under these decisions are payable as from the 4th September, 1916.

Where no reference is given to an Application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

PAPER BOX TRADE.

IRELAND.

OBLIGATORY ORDER.

In pursuance of their powers under the above Act, the Board of Trade made an order, dated 20th December, 1916, making obligatory, in cases in which they are applicable, the minimum rates of wages for female workers, as varied by the Paper Box Trade Board (Ireland), which came into limited operation on 19th June, 1916.*

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in accordance with the National Insurance Acts), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages after 20th December, 1916, at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Board of Trade, is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time rates.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

DECEMBER, 1916.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.†
Ringwood (Hants)	Dr. C. J. Cressy, Market Square, Ringwood	Weekdays, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Lytham (Lancs)	Dr. R. C. Nicholl, 2, Rossall Road, Ansdell, Lytham	12, Park Street, Lytham, Weekdays (except Saturday), 2-3 p.m.
Hathersage (Derby)	Dr. W. E. Houlbrook, Bradwell via Sheffield	Surgery at Hathersage, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1916, page 269.

† Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER.

[All the United Kingdom Official Publications may be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C., and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, North Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsbury, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Dominions and Dependencies, the United States of America and other foreign countries of T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., London, W.C.]

UNITED KINGDOM.

Board of Trade Journal. The Board of Trade Journal is published weekly and is the principal medium through which commercial intelligence collected by the Department of Commercial Intelligence, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The Journal may be obtained through the above-mentioned sources, price 3d. per copy, exclusive of postage, or 15s. 2d. per annum, post free in the United Kingdom; the rate for places abroad, inclusive of postage, being 19s. 6d.

Health of Munition Workers Committee. Memorandum No. 15. The effect of Industrial Conditions upon Eyesight. [Cd. 8409: price 1d.]

Feeding the Munition Worker. Report by the Canteen Committee of the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic). [Stationery Office Publication: price 6d.]

Manufacture of Flour and Bread, and the Price of Milk. Orders of the Board of Trade under the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914. [Cd. 8400: price 3d.]

Sugar Supply. Copy of Memorandum issued by the Royal Commission on the Sugar Supply, as to the Distribution of Sugar—July to December, 1916. [Cd. 8395: price 3d.]

Sugar Purchases. Copy of a further Treasury Minute dated 1st November, 1916, relative to the financing of Sugar Purchases abroad on behalf of H.M. Government. [Cd. 8407: price 3d.]

National Insurance. Report of the Committee on Audit of Unemployment Benefit of Associations having arrangements under Section 106 of the National Insurance Act, 1911. [Cd. 8412: price 13d.]

National Health Insurance. Second Annual Report of the Medical Research Committee, 1915-16. [Cd. 8399: price 33d.]

Annual Report of the Local Government Board for Ireland. Year ended 31st March, 1916. Poor relief, emigration, education (provision of meals), Unemployed Workmen Act, Old Age Pensions Act, &c. [Cd. 8365: price 33d.]

Report on the Sea and Inland Fisheries of Ireland for 1915. Fish landed, vessels and crews, loans granted, &c. Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. [Cd. 8392: price 23d.]

BRITISH DOMINIONS.

CANADA.—(1) *The Labour Gazette*, November, 1916. Industrial conditions during October, trade disputes, prices, changes in wages, recent industrial agreements, industrial accidents, &c. (2) Report of the Department of Labour for the year ending 31st March, 1916. Prices, labour organisation, trade disputes, industrial accidents, conciliation proceedings during 1915, &c. (3) *Census and Statistics Monthly*, October, 1916. Field crops of Canada, prices of agricultural produce, &c. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]

Manitoba. Report of the Department of Agriculture and Immigration for the year ended 30th November, 1915.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.—(1) *Labour Bulletin* No. 14, April-June, 1916. Unemployment, disputes, wages, prices, arbitration proceedings, accidents, &c. (2) *Monthly Summary of Australian Statistics*, August, 1916. Prices, house rents and cost of living, trade unions, unemployment, changes in wages, industrial disputes, &c. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co., Printers.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—(1) *The Industrial Gazette*, September, 1916. Cost of living and the minimum wage, dislocations in industries, prices, employment and unemployment, arbitration proceedings, &c. (2) *The Industrial Arbitration Reports*, 1916. Vol. XV. Part 4. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer.]

VICTORIA.—*Wages Board Determination.* Drapers, dated 26th October, 1916, cancelling that of 7th July, 1913.

QUEENSLAND.—*Industrial Peace Act Awards*, 1916. *Sawmilling Industry*, Northern Division, 30th September. *Sawmilling Industry*, South-Eastern Division, 27th September, cancelling that of 16th July, 1914.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—*Wages Board Determinations*, 1916. *Bedding, Mattresses and Overmantels*, 12th September. *Furniture*, 21st August. *Hardware*, 7th September. *Restaurant Board*, 10th August. *Bakers and Pastry Cooks* (award of Industrial Court), 11th August. *Adelaide Bottle Makers* (Industrial Agreement), 14th July.

NEW ZEALAND.—(1) *Journal of the Department of Labour*, October, 1916. Condition of trade and employment in September, current retail prices, cost of living, persons assisted to employment, co-operative works, &c. (2) *Awards, Agreements and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act*, 1916. Vol. XVII. Part 10. [Wellington: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—*Bulletin des Internationales Arbeitsamtes*, 1916, No. 10. International Labour Office. [Jena: Gustav Fischer.]

—(1) *International Review of Agricultural Economics*, November, 1916. (2) *International Crop Report and Agricultural Statistics*, November, 1916. International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome.]

UNITED STATES.—(1) *Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics*, December, 1916. Conciliation work of the Department of Labour, strikes and lock-outs—January to October, retail prices of food in September and October, accidents in the gas industry, &c. (2) *Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics*, No. 202, September, 1916. Proceedings of the Conference of Employment Managers' Association of Boston, Mass., held May 10th, 1916. [Washington: Government Printing Office.]

NEW YORK.—(1) *The Bulletin*, November, 1916. The labour market, bureau activities, dyeing and cleaning—abstract of inquiry made by Bureau of Inspection, &c. State Industrial Commission. (2) *Department of Labour Special Bulletin* No. 79, October, 1916. *Anthrax*. (3) *Miscellaneous Labour Laws of New York State*, 1916. (4) *The Labour Law and the Industrial Code*, with amendments, additions and annotations to 1st July, 1916. Printed in advance from the Annual Report of the Department of Labour for 1916. [Albany: J. B. Lyon Co., Printers.]

—*The New York Workmen's Compensation Law.*

MASSACHUSETTS.—*Thirty-fifth Quarterly Report on Employment in Massachusetts*. Quarter ending 30th September, 1916. —*Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Statistics of Manufactures for the year 1914*. Bureau of Statistics, 1916.

Minimum Wage Commission. (A) *Bulletin* No. 12, November, 1916. Preliminary Report on the Effect of the Minimum Wage in Massachusetts Retail Stores. (B) *Statement and Decree concerning Wages of Women in Women's Clothing Factories in Massachusetts* (Cloak, Suit, Skirt, Dress and Waist Shops). [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers.]

PENNSYLVANIA.—*Monthly Bulletin of the Department of Labour and Industry*, September, 1916. Labour laws of Pennsylvania, industrial accidents in August, work of Bureau of Mediation with regard to strikes in August. [Harrisburg: Wm. Stanley Ray, State Printer.]

OHIO.—*Bulletins of the Industrial Commission*, June, 1916. No. 4: Mediation of Industrial Disputes in Ohio, January, 1914, to June, 1916. No. 5: Job Selling in Industrial Establishments in Ohio. No. 6: Statistics of Mines and Quarries in Ohio, 1915. [Springfield: Springfield Publishing Co., State Printers.]

WASHINGTON STATE.—*Tenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour, Statistics and Factory Inspection*, 1915-16. Cost of living, employment bureaus and agencies, eight-hour law for women, minimum-wage law for women, strikes, &c. [Olympia: Frank M. Lamborn, Public Printer.]

GERMANY.—*Reichs-Arbeitsblatt*, November, 1916. Employment in October, labour disputes in 3rd quarter. Department of Labour Statistics, Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Carl Heymann.]

ITALY.—*Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro* (fortnightly series), 1st and 16th December, 1916. Labour disputes in October and November, retail food prices in October, rules for employment of prisoners of war, special regulations applicable to agricultural employment, penalties and disciplinary measures for munition workers. Labour Department of Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour. [Rome: Fratelli Treves.]

HOLLAND.—(1) *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 30th November, 1916. Employment, unemployment insurance, labour exchanges, retail food prices in October. Central Bureau of Statistics. (2) *Verslag over het Haventoezicht uitgeoefend in 1915*. Department of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante.]

DENMARK.—*Statistiske Efterretninger*, 25th November and 22nd December, 1916. Retail food prices in October and November, unemployment in September and October. Statistical Department. [Copenhagen.]

SOCIAL FORSÖRGEN. November, 1916. Unemployment in July and August, labour exchanges in October and in the year 1915-16, sick benefit funds in 1915, trade unions in 1915. Council for Workmen's Insurance and the Department of Inspector of Unemployment. [Hellerup.]

SWEDEN.—*Sociala Meddelanden*, 1916, No. 10. Employment and retail food prices in September, war measures in connection with food supplies (continued). Department for Social Affairs. *Kollektivavtal i Sverige år 1915*. Department for Social Affairs. (1) *Husdjursräkningen den 1 Juni 1916*. (2) *Jordbruk och Boskapsskötsel år 1913*. (3) *Dödsorsaker år 1912*. (4) *Landstingsmannavalen år 1916*. Royal Statistical Central Bureau, 1916. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner.]

SPAIN.—*Boletín del Instituto de Reformas Sociales*, November, 1916. Retail food prices April to September, labour disputes, law of 11th November on maintenance of supplies of food and raw materials. Institute of Social Reforms (Labour Department). [Madrid: D. V. Suarez.]

PORTUGAL.—*Boletim do Trabalho Industrial*. 103: Provident and economic institutions in 4th industrial district. 104: Report upon 6th industrial district for 1915. Department of Labour, Ministry of Trade, &c. (Fomento), 1916. [Lisbon: Imprensa Nacional.]

CHILE.—(1) *Estadística Comercial año 1915*. (2) *Anuario estadístico. Vol. X. Agricultura año 1914-15*. Central Statistical Department, 1916. [Valparaiso and Santiago de Chile.]

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office by CASSELL & CO., LTD., La Belle Sauvage, E.C.—Price 1d.—January, 1917.



SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

Board of Trade Labour Gazette

for JANUARY, 1917.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

List of New Contracts, December, 1916.

WAR OFFICE.

Accoutrements, Leather: M. Harvey & Co., Ltd., Glebeland Works, Walsall; G. & J. W. Hawksley, Ltd., Carver St., Sheffield; Hepburn, Gale and Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Berrymead, S.E.; Leatheries, Ltd., Sampson Rd. North, Sparkbrook, Birmingham; Martins-Birmingham, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham; E. J. Pearson & Sons, Ltd., 275/283, St. John St., E.C.; R. Stafford, 16, Lendsen Place, Golden Lane, E.C.; R. W. Stiby, 41/45, Old St., E.C.; T. Thomasson & Co., Shrub Hill, Worcester; T. Ward & Co., Radium St., Manchester; C. Wincer & Co., Brace St., Walsall; A. Wood, 66a, South St., Walsall; W. Wood & Son, Ltd., Kelvin Works, Kelvin Rd., Highbury, N. —**Apparatus, Cooking:** Adams & Son, Neal St., Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.—**Apparatus, Driving Tube Wells:** C. Isler & Co., Ltd., Artesian Works, Bear Lane, Southwark, S.E.—**Arm Bands and Shoes** (Term Contract): Fosters, Ltd., Boxmoor, Herts.—**Asbestos Millboard:** Turner Bros., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester, and Spotland, Rochdale.—**Badges, Embroidered:** Fabb & Puschart, 21/22, Chapel St., Milton St., E.C.; W. Franklin & Son, Ltd., Providence Mills, Coventry; S. Hess & Son, Ltd., 44, Bethnal Green Rd., E.; Hobson & Sons, 1/5, Lexington St., W.; H. Moreau, Cazenove Works, Stoke Newington, N.; T. Muddiman, 189, Dalston Lane, Hackney, N.E.; Pipe & McGill, Ltd., 27, Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.; R. Stevenson, 10, Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Rd., E.C.—**Badges, Metal:** S. J. Rose, 121, Wardour St., Oxford St., W.—**Bandoliers, Cotton:** McKay & Co., Ltd., Aynam Mills, Kendal.—**Bands, Flannel:** Babb, Hoare & Co., Ltd., 31, Foley St., W.; Broom, Barratt & Howell, 31, Foley St., W.; Ernst, Samuel & Elliott, 21, Castle St. East, Oxford St., W.; Hamilton & Co., 1, Red Lion Court, Watling St., E.C.; Henllan Woollen Mills, 80, Wells St., Oxford St., W. and Henllan, S. Wales; Milton Manufacturing Co., 51, Milton St., E.C.; B. Rabinowitz & Co., 40, Bethnal Green Rd., N.E.; Rotheray Manufacturing Co., 21, Victoria Rd., Surbiton; Spaul & Barnes, 4, Cotton St., Australian Avenue, E.C.—**Bands, Hat:** Abeles Bros., 66/68, Ironmonger Row, Old St., E.C.—**Barrows:** J. Bagshaw & Sons, Ltd., Bradford Rd., Batley, Yorks; J. Glanville, 1/2, Coborn Rd., Bow, E.; Lunn Bros., Saw Mills, Brockenhurst, Hants; F. Parker & Co., 22, West-End Lane, N.W.; W. J. Philpott, Waddon Rd., West Croydon.—**Basils:** Connolly Bros. (Carriers), Ltd., 101/4, Chalton St., Euston Rd., N.W.—**Baskets, Bottle:** H. Finch, Pitt St., Gloucester; A. Owens, 26, Old Hall Place, Chester; Richmond National Institution for the Industrious Blind, Upper Sackville St., Dublin; E. T. Winter, 98, Kennington Park Rd., S.E.—**Bedding:** Atkinson & Co., Ltd., Addington St., York Rd., Lambeth, S.E.; Broadway Damask Co., Ltd., Broadway, Belfast; Davis' Feather Mills, Ltd., 59/63, High St., Whitechapel, E.; M. A. Kent & Co., 125, Queen St., Sheffield; Maple & Co., Ltd., 145, Tottenham Court Rd., W.; H. Matier & Co., Ltd., 1, May St., Belfast; Oetzmann & Co., Ltd., 62/79, Hampstead Rd., N.W.; W. Rhodes, Carlton Cross Mills, Leeds; Rundle, Rogers & Brook, Ltd., Kintebury St., Plymouth; Rylands & Sons, Ltd., 55, Wood St., E.C.; T. Somerset & Co., Ltd., Harcastle St., Belfast; T. Tapling & Co., Ltd., Gresham St., E.C.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., 164/180, Oxford St., W.—**Bedstead Boards and Trestles:** J. Allen & Son, Ltd., Mornington Terrace, Harrogate; W. R. & R. Atkinson, Airedale Saw Mills, Bingley, Yorks; Cork Timber & Iron Co., Ltd., Cork; Eustace & Co., Ltd., Cork and Limerick; Graham & Morton, Burghmuir, Stirling; Herman & Phillips, Ltd., Acton St., Kingsland Rd., N.E.; Irish Curled Hair Manufacturing Co., 1, South Brown St., Dublin; J. McMahon, Ltd., Limerick; R. Melville & Co., Ltd., St. John's Saw Mills, Falkirk; Muirhead & Sons, Ltd., Sawmills, Grangemouth; H. Newsum, Sons & Co., Ltd., Gainsborough; W. O'Connell & Co., Ltd., 52, Watercourse Rd., Cork; J. Sadd & Sons, Ltd., Maldon, Essex; F. Shepherd & Son, Lead Mill Lane, York; G. Sorrill, Trinity Rd., West Bromwich; Stott & Alcock, Dragon Saw Mills, Harrogate; W. D. Tucker & Sons, Ltd., Lawrence Rd., South Tottenham, N.; West of England Joinery Co., Ltd., Newport St., Stonehouse, Plymouth.—**Bedsteads, Barrack:** T. Smith & Sons of Salford, Ltd., Salford Mill, Birmingham; J. Williams & Co., Dennis Park Works, Stourbridge.—**Bedsteads, Folding:** J. & H. Brookes, Grove Lane, Smethwick, Birmingham.—**Benches, Circular Saw:** Haighs, Ltd., Plane St., Oldham.

War Office—continued.

Marshall, Sons, & Co., Ltd., Britannia Iron Works, Gainsborough. **Blankets:** J. S. Booth & Sons, Ltd., Castle Bank Mills, Wakefield; Broadwath, Ltd., Heads Nook, Carlisle; H. Dickinson, Northumberland St., Huddersfield; Dodgson & Hargreaves, Ltd., Hunslet Mills, Leeds; C. Early & Co., Ltd., Witney Mills, Oxfordshire; J. Fenton & Son, Low Mill, Dewsbury Moor; J. Glover, Ltd., Ossett, Yorks; J. Greenwood & Son, Ltd., Holme Mill, Sowerby Bridge; Hepworths & Hiley, Ltd., New Wakefield Mills, Dewsbury; G. H. Hirst & Co., Ltd., Saville Town, Dewsbury; J. Hoyle & Son, Prospect Mills, Longwood, Huddersfield; D. Lee & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury; T. Lee & Sons, Bank Top Mills, Dewsbury; T. & A. Naylor, Ltd., Green St., Kidderminster; Newsome & Spedding, Ltd., Aldams Mills, Dewsbury; A. Preston & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury; Priestley Bros., Grove Mills, Halifax; C. Scarth & Sons, Ltd., Lane Side Mills, Morley, Leeds; W. F. Stewart & Co., Waukrigg Mills, Galashiels; Strathgogie Woollen Co., Bogie Bridge Mills, Huntley; G. & J. Stubley, Ltd., Batley, Yorks.; Taylor, Livesey & Co., Ltd., Paddock Mills, Huddersfield; J. Templeton & Co., William St., Greenhead, Glasgow; W. Wade & Sons, Ltd., Portobello Mills, Wakefield; J. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Holme Bank Mills, Mirfield, Yorks; Wilford & Johnson, Ltd., Calder Bank Shed, Dewsbury; Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury Mill, Dewsbury; Wrigley & Parker Bros., Ltd., Batley, Yorks.—**Blocks, Tackle:** Ansell, Jones & Co., Ltd., Naval Works, Kensington St., Birmingham; Davey & Co. (London), Ltd., Kensington, Lancs; R. Hornsby & Sons, Ltd., Grantham, Lincs.—**Boards, Distributing:** Dorman & Smith, Ltd., Ordsal Electrical Works, Salford, Manchester.—**Boards, Fracture:** J. Latham, Ltd., 124, Curtain Rd., E.C.; Venesta, Ltd., North Woolwich Rd., E.—**Boilers, Locomotive:** Robey & Co., Ltd., Globe Works, Lincoln.—**Bolts and Nuts, &c.:** F. W. Cotterill, Ltd., Atlas Works, Darlaston; F. Griffiths & Co., Bilston Rd., Wolverhampton; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London Works, Birmingham; J. Haywood & Co., Foundry Lane, Smethwick, Staffs; Horton & Son, Ltd., New Alma Works, Darlaston; T. Mayer & Co., Ltd., Crown Works, Darlaston; Nuts & Bolts (Darlaston), Ltd., Foster St., Darlaston; T. Pittaway & Sons, Black Heath, Birmingham; J. C. Prestwich, Ltd., Atherton, Manchester; C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Imperial Works, Darlaston; Stones Bros., Ltd., Vulcan Works, West Bromwich; J. Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Eagle Works, Darlaston; Wilkes, Ltd., Grand Junction Works, Darlaston.—**Boots, Ankle:** A. E. Marlow, St. James's Works, Northampton; F. C. Rubbra & Co., Ethel St., Northampton; Walker, Kempson & Stevens, Ltd., Leicester.—**Boots, Knee:** R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds, Wellingborough; W. Evans, Brunswick St., Leicester; J. Horrell & Son, Raunds, Wellingborough.—**Boots and Shoes, Magazine:** R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds, Wellingborough; W. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Havelock St., Kettering; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Raunds, Wellingborough.—**Boots, Thigh** (Term Contracts): Howlett & White, Ltd., Norwich; Mansfield Shoe Co., Ltd., Mansfield; F. Ward & Co., Paxton Rd., Tottenham, N.—**Boxes, Tin:** J. Booth, Paradise St., Ramsgate; H. Davies & Sons, Kenyon St., Manchester; Four Coin Meter Co., Ltd., Seacote Works, Leith.—**Boxes, Wood:** Educational Supply Association, Ltd., Stevenage, Herts; Herman & Phillips, Ltd., Acton St., Kingsland Rd., N.E.—**Brushes and Parts:** R. Benson & Sons, Ltd., Fazeley St., Birmingham; Borough Broom Works, Ltd., Colliers Rents, Long Lane, Borough, S.E.; Brushes, Ltd., Grosvenor Rd., St. Albans, Herts; D. Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds; W. Cleghorn & Son, Selborne St., Walsall; M. A. Cook & Sons, Brush Works, Bletchley; J. A. & P. Ferguson, 23, Douglas St., Glasgow; J. S. Harrison & Sons, 35, Clerkenwell Close, E.C.; Hawley & Smith, Hall Lane Brush Works, Walsall; D. Hayward, Ltd., Excelsior Brush Works, Bloxwich; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., Victoria Park, N.E.; A. Martin & Son, Lynton Works, Aston, Birmingham; D. Matthew & Son, Ltd., Tariff Rd., Tottenham, N.; J. T. Millwood & Sons, 22/23, Gt. Dover St., Borough, S.E.; E. Mosley, New Cross Brush Works, Manchester; J. Nash, Holywell Rd., Watford; T. Osborne & Sons, Crown Works, Hockley Hill, Birmingham; S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd., Hayhill, Norwich; J. Palmer, Ltd., Somers Rd. North, Ports-

War Office—continued.

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Briggs (Manchester), Ltd., Salford, Manchester; J. T. Inglis & Sons, Carolina Port, Dundee; J. McIlwraith & Co., Ltd., Govan, Glasgow; J. H. Peck & Co., Ltd., Wallgate, Wigan; A. Stockwell & Co., 4, Chatham St., Manchester.—Canvas, Waterproof: Anderson & Chalmers, St. Rollox Works, Broadthorn.—Caps and Plugs, Tank: G. Adlam & Sons, Ltd., Ellbroak St., Bristol; Meynell & Sons, Ltd., Montrose St., Wolverhampton; Sperry & Co., Ltd., Moorsom St. Works, Birmingham.—Cases, &c., Leather: Baltic Leather Goods Co., 47, Graham St. East, Glasgow; C. & R. Brinsley, 489, Lordship Lane, East Dulwich, S.E.; J. Cripps, 314, City Rd., E.C.; J. Dawson & Son, Ltd., Boultham Works, Lincoln; J. & B. Green, 7/8, Bartholomew Close, E.C.; Oak Leather Goods Co., 1/4, School Terrace, St. Paul's, Walsall; Shaw Motor Accessories Co., 135, Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham; W. Swart, 235, Victoria Park Rd., N.E.; C. F. Timbers, 680, High Rd., Tottenham, N.—Cases, Wood, Packing, &c.: Beardmore & West, Stimpson Ave., Northampton; Capjon & Hoare, Blackhorse Rd., Deptford, S.E.; M. A. Castell, 41, Rivington St., Shoreditch, E.C.; Hope Emery, Waterfall Lane, Old Hill, Staffs; J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., 3a, Upper Thames St., E.C.; W. Fiddes & Son, Ltd., Torry Sawmills, Aberdeen; J. B. Fraser & Co., Ltd., Phoenix Saw Mills, Glasgow; C. J. Gibson & Co., Ltd., Dowgate Hill, Cannon St., E.C.; A. Glenn & Sons, Chaucer St., Northampton; C. W. Graham, Ltd., Potter's Lane, Wednesbury; T. H. Helsby & Co., Ltd., Piccadilly Wharf, Ducie St., Manchester; Hollis Bros. & Co., Ltd., Catherine St., Leicester; J. B. Kind, Ltd., Shobnall St., Burton-on-Trent; C. Lamb & Sons, Palmer's Rd., Bethnal Green, E.; A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., Pier Wharf, Deptford, S.E.; Lough & Freeman, 37, Gt. Queen St., W.C.; J. H. Lowe, 174a, Brunswick St., Leicester; Luck & Andrew, Ltd., Wellington St., Kettering; W. Lusty & Sons, Upper North St., Poplar, E.; MacMuldrow & Co., Ltd., 168, London Rd., Liverpool; Mallinson & Eckersley, Ltd., Worsley St., Salford, Manchester; J. Marsland & Sons, Lisbon St., Leeds; J. Mason & Sons, Nottingham Rd., Leicester; Middlesex Joinery Works, Ltd., 103, Northwold Rd., Clapton, N.E.; H. S. Pidgeon, Lever St., Wolverhampton; Priddy & Hale, Ltd., Railway Wharf, Plough Rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.; Ransons, Ltd., Mountergate St., Norwich; Stephings, Son & Byers, Adelina Grove, Mile End, E.; Stotesbury & Co., Colwick St., Deptford, S.E.; W. Toogood & Son, 40, Philip St., Westminster, Bristol; B. G. Waterfield, 2, Bath St., Northampton; Westmorland Cooperage and Saw Mills Co., Glasson Dock, Lancaster.—Cement: Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd., Northfleet, &c.—Chevrans: S. Schneiders & Son, Durward St., E.—Chinaware: Adderleys, Ltd., Daisy Bank Pottery, Longton, Staffs; J. Aynsley & Sons, Portland Works, Longton, Staffs; Birks, Rawlins & Co., Vine Pottery, Stoke-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent; A. B. Jones & Sons, Grafton China Works, Longton, Staffs; R. H. and S. L. Plant, Tuscan Works, Longton, Staffs; Star China Co., Atlas Works, Longton, Staffs.—Chloride of Lime (Term Contract): F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Ida Works, Deptford, S.E.—Cisterns and Tanks: Baldwins, Ltd., 35, Orchard Place, Blackwall, E.; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Ida Works, Deptford, S.E.; Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Millwall, E.; Davies Bros. & Co., Ltd., Crown Works, Wolverhampton; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., Greenwich Metal Works, Woolwich Rd., S.E.; J. Lysaght, Ltd., St. Vincent's Works, Bristol; S. M. Wilmot & Co., Ltd., St. Philip's Marsh, Bristol.—Cleavers: W. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Brades Steel Works, Birmingham.—Cloth (including Serge, &c.): Atkinson Bros., Airedale Mills, Leeds; D. Ballantyne & Co., Ltd., March St. Mills, Peebles; Bower, Roebuck & Co., Ltd., Glendale Mills, Newmill, Huddersfield; Charteries, Spence & Co., Ltd., Rosefield Mills, Dumfries; Convoy Woollen Co., Ltd., Convoy, Co. Donegal;

War Office—continued.

J. Crawford & Sons, Ltd., East St. Mills, Leeds; J. & J. Crombie, Ltd., Grandholme Works, Woodside, Aberdeenshire; Crowther, Bruce & Co., Ltd., New Mills, Marsden, Huddersfield; J. Crowther & Sons, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield; J. E. Crowther, Bank Bottom Mills, Marsden, Huddersfield; A. Dickson & Co., Ltd., Wheatlands Mill, Galashiels; I. Dodgshun & Co., 22, Basinghall St., Leeds; B. Fielding & Son, Wood Field Mills, Greetland, Halifax; Fisher, Firth & Co., Marsden, Huddersfield; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; G. Goodall & Co., Wensleydale Mills, Batley; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Spring Valley Mills, Farsley, Leeds; B. Hall & Son, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield; W. Hamer & Sons, Clay House Mills, Greetland, Halifax; Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon; J. Harper & Sons, Ecclehill, Bradford; T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Dye House Mills, Apperley Bridge, Bradford; Hart & Levy, Ltd., Wimbeldon Works, Leicester; L. Harwood & Co., Luddendenfoot, Yorks; T. Helm & Sons, Spout Mill, Rastrick, Yorks; C. & J. Hirst & Sons, Ltd., Longwood, Huddersfield; J. B. & W. Hirst, Ltd., Lady Ann Mills, Batley; R. Hyde & Co., Spring Grove Mills, Stalybridge; Inverness Tweed Mill Co., Ltd., Munitions Mills, Inverness; C. Lockwood & Sons, Ltd., Linthwaite, Huddersfield; Martin, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wellington Mills, Huddersfield; Middlemost Bros. & Co., Ltd., Clough House Mills, Birkby, Huddersfield; Pearson Bros., Ltd., Commercial Mills, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield; J. W. & F. N. Priestley, Victoria Mills, Liversedge, Yorks; Rawden, Briggs & Co., Ltd., Ravensthorpe Mills, Dewsbury; J. Shaw & Sons, Ltd., Brookroyd Mills, Halifax; Singleton & Co., Ltd., Brookfield Mills, Kirkburton, Huddersfield; W. Thorburn & Bros., Ltd., Damdale Mills, Peebles; F. W. Thorpe, Ltd., Golcar, Huddersfield; Wilson & Glenny, Ltd., Ladylaw Mills, Hawick.—Cloth, American: Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., Portland St., Manchester; Storey Bros. & Co., Ltd., Lancaster; J. Williamson & Son, Lancaster.—Cloth, Cotton, Proofed: Ioco Proofing Co., Ltd., Netherthorn Works, Annesland, Glasgow; Victoria Rubber Co., Ltd., Leith Walk, Edinburgh.—Cloth, Lasting: H. Farrar & Co., Clay Pits Mills, Halifax; Horsfall & Co., Ltd., Stannary Mills, Halifax; J. Murgatroyd & Son, Oats Royd Mills, Luddenden, Yorks.—Clothing, Leather: J. Prince & Co., 127/31, Bedford St., E.—Clothing, Oilskin: Abbott, Anderson & Abbott, Ltd., Dod St., Limehouse, E.; M. Barr & Co., Ltd., 83, Hutcheson St., and 22, Kyle St., Townhead, Glasgow; F. Casey, Charlemont, Moy, Co. Tyrone; Chamberlins, Ltd., Botolph St., Norwich; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., 1, Balloon St., Manchester; J. Edgington & Co., Ltd., Old Kent Rd., S.E.; Johnson Bros. & Co., Eastern Waterproof Works, Ford Rd., E.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; J. Longdon & Sons, Duke St., Liverpool; Lybro, Ltd., Wood St., Duke St., Liverpool; E. Macbean & Co., Ltd., Wellington Mills, Port Dundas, Glasgow; A. Ramsay, Ltd., 49, Queen St., Glasgow; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Paisley Rd., Glasgow; J. Unite, Ltd., 291, Edgware Rd., Paddington, W.; R. Watson & Co., George St., Cellardyke, Anstruther.—Clothing, Plain Clothes: Arthur & Co., 1, Copingers Row, Dublin; Atkinson, Rhodes & Co., Ltd., 2/4, Chorley Lane, Leeds; S. Deyong, 31, Houndsditch, E.C.; Dublin Clothing Co., 148, Capel St., Dublin; A. England, 62/64, Cannon St., Manchester; English Fustian Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 12, Market St., Hebbden Bridge; Gerrish, Ames & Simpkins, Ltd., Basingstoke; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., 4/8, St. Mary's St., N.E.; Murdoch, Thompson & Co., 5, St. John's Rd., Huddersfield; J. Rhodes & Co. (Clothing), Ltd., Temple Works, Marshall St., Leeds; Thorneloe & Clarkson, Northampton St., Leicester.—Clothing, Uniform: Airedale Clothing Co., Ltd., Crown Works, Harehills Lane, Leeds; Albrecht & Albrecht, Ltd., Hudson Rd., Burmantofts, Leeds; H. & A. Alvarez, Brunswick Clothing Works, Poplar, E.; B. Applestone & Son, 119, Minories, Aldgate, E.; W. Arthur & Waterman, 55/8, Wells St., Oxford St., W.; Bainbridge Bros. (Leeds), Ltd., 97, Park Lane, Leeds; W. Blackburn & Co., Ltd., Springwell Works, Whitehall Rd., Leeds; Bottomley's, Ltd., 26, King St., Blackburn; Boulton Bros., 71/5, St. Paul's St., Leeds; J. R. Bousfield & Co., Ltd., 126, Houndsditch, E.; Briggs, Jones & Gibson, Ltd., Charles St. Mills, Manchester; E. Broderick & Co., Ltd., St. James' Barton, Bristol; Brown & Haigh, Wood St. Mills, Wigan; Chilton, Wrigley & Co., Ltd., Eagle Works, Green St., Huddersfield; E. Clark & Sons, 9, Savile Row, W., and South Norwood, S.E.; N. Cohen & Co., 102/4, Kempton St., Liverpool; J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., Swindon, Wilts, and Old Ford Rd., E.; Cooper & Co., 113/25, Grove St., Stepney, E.; County Tailoring Co., Ltd., 1, Hoxton Square, N.; Crowther Bros., Ltd., High St., Colchester; Davies, Jamieson & Wood, 15, Maddox St., W.; Devas, Routledge & Co., Ltd., 196, Burdett Rd., E.; Dickie, Parsons & Co., 133/9, Lawrence Hill, Bristol; A. B. Dobell & Co., Ltd., 22, Castle St., Finsbury, E.C.; Dolan & Co., Ltd., 31/33, Bond St., Vauxhall, S.W.; Drake & Joel, Ltd., 9, Wellclose Square, Cable St., E.; Dublin Clothing Co., Ltd., 148, Capel St., Dublin; Eastwood Bros. (Hebbden Bridge), Ltd., Croft Mill, Hebbden Bridge; H. Finegold & Sons, 92, Middlesex St., E.C.; Firth & Carr, 2, St. John's Rd., Huddersfield; Fox, Parkinson & Tidwell, Ltd., Cardigan Factory, Lennox Rd., Leeds; L. Fox & Co., Cross Mill St., Leeds; Fraser, Ross & Co., 60, Ingram St., Glasgow; Frazer Bros., St. Peter's Buildings, York Bridge Mills, Leeds; Gardam & Sons, Byron St., North St., Leeds; Genese & Young, 5, Bayer St., Golden Lane, E.C.; George House, Ltd., 343, Wick Rd., Hackney Wick, N.; J. T. Gent, Flavell & Co., Ltd., Melton Works, Wellingborough; G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., 1/5, Brick Lane, E.; L. Goldstein, 28/9, Gun St., Bishopsgate, E.C.; T. Gordon, 11, Maitland St., Glasgow; Goswell Clothing Works, Ltd., Alexandra Mills, High St., Stratford, E.; Haighs (Huddersfield), Ltd., St. John's Rd., Huddersfield; J. Haighton &

War Office—continued.

Sons, Star Works, Nantwich; J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Enderley Mills, Newcastle, Staffs; Harman Bros., 42, Mortimer St., W.; F. W. Harmer & Co., St. Andrews Works, Norwich; Hipps, Ltd., Hipsley Works, Grace St., Leeds; Hobson & Sons, 154/64, Tooley St., S.E.; Hollington Bros., Middlesex St., E.; Holloway Bros., Ltd., Kendrick St., Stroud, Glos; Holmes & Co. (Clothing), Ltd., 7, Charlotte St., Manchester; Hope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sheepscar St., Leeds; Horrocks & Sons, Greaves St. Mills, Blackburn; P. Horsefield & Co., 7, Duncan St., Leeds; Huggins, Son & Co., Ltd., Newfoundland Rd., Bristol; Hutcheson's, Ltd., 45/53, Leonard St., Finsbury, E.C.; J. & F. Ibbotson, Ltd., 53, Park Place, Leeds; Ideal Clothiers, Ltd., Mill Rd., Wellingborough; J. Imrie & Co., 85, Candleriggs, Glasgow; J. Jacobs & Co., 1/2, Australian Avenue, E.C.; D. Joseph & Sons, Sky Works, Camp Rd., Leeds; Josselson Bros., 9/11, Playhouse Yard, E.C.; Kettering Clothing Manufacturing Co-operative Society, Ltd., Dryden St., Kettering; M. Kruszinski & Co., 111, Shore-ditch, E.; J. & E. Lichtenstein, Gordon St. Works, Broughton, Manchester; Limerick Clothing Factory, Ltd., Limerick; Lloyd, Attree & Smith, 24, Shacklewell Lane, N.E.; London Woollen Co., Ltd., 1, Little Love Lane, Wood St., E.C.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., 4/8, St. Mary's St., N.E.; H. Marsden & Co., Ltd., 77, Dantzic St., Manchester; L. Michaels & Co., 44/46, Scrutton St., Finsbury, E.C.; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.; Moore, Taggart & Co., 18, Albion St., Glasgow; Mumby & Son, Ltd., Newark-on-Trent; Murray & Co. (Bristol), Ltd., Rupert St., Bristol; Nathen, Wilson & Co., 119/23, Templar St., Leeds; E. Osborne & Co., Ltd., Wick Lane Clothing Works, Old Ford, E.; A. Pearce & Sons, 2/3, Turton's Buildings, Leeds; J. and B. Pearce & Co., 812, Old Ford Rd., E.; Phillips & Piper, Ltd., Old Foundry Rd., Ipswich; Pipe & McGill, Ltd., 46/48, Sun St., E.C.; Premier Clothing Co., 32, Hanover Lane, Leeds; J. Preston & Sons, Ltd., Chestergate Clothing Works, Stockport; Proudfoot, Willis & Sons, 8/22, Johnson St., Commercial Rd., E.; Rains & Co., Sedley Place, Oxford St., W.; Rawson & Coop, Ltd., Britannia Mills, Wallgate, Wigan; Reveley & Haggart, 63/64, New Broad St., E.C.; J. Rhodes & Co. (Clothing), Ltd., Temple Works, Marshall St., Leeds; S. Rose & Son, Foundry St., Water Lane, Leeds; J. L. Rowse & Co., 38, Bethnal Green Rd., E.; Sawers & Simpson, 80, Gt. Clyde St., Glasgow; Selincourt & Sons, 67, Canal Rd., E.; Simpson & Son, 63, South Audley St., W.; Sindal Bros. & Co., 37, John Campbell Rd., Dalston, N.E.; J. Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Drewry Lane Works, Derby; J. Snowden & Co., 129, Leeds Rd., Bradford; G. Sowry, 1/3, Sovereign St., Leeds; Stewart & McDonald, Ltd., 40, Park Lane, Leeds; F. & R. Stone & Co., 72, Sandgate, Ayr; Strongwear Co., Ltd., 6/8, Beauchamp St., Holborn Bars, E.C.; Sunderland Bros., 219a, Argyle St., Glasgow; A. Taberner & Co., Norfolk St. Works, Globe Rd., E.; Tattersall & Co., 1, Union St., Church St., Manchester; Taylor & Co., 45a, St. James St., Leeds; C. Tighe & Sons, 42, Lombard St., E.C.; W. Tucker & Co., Ltd., 13, Southgate St., Bath; H. Turnbull & Co., 12, Thomas St., Manchester; Madame Val-Smith, Ltd., 79, Lime St., Liverpool; Vardy & Co., Ltd., West Walls, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Wacks & Co., Burlington Works, Leicester; Wallis & Linnell, Ltd., Kettering; Walsh & Co., Ltd., Quay St., Bristol; Walton Bros., Darnley Works, Hackney, N.E.; W. Ward & Co., 15, Hanover St., Hanover Square, W.; Wathen, Gardiner & Co., Staple Hill, Bristol; Watson & Co., 24, Camp Rd., Leeds; C. & J. Webb & Co., Ltd., Burdett Rd., E.; Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Co., St. Peter's Buildings, York St., Leeds; R. T. Williamson & Co., Ltd., 49, Castle St., Leeds; C. Wills & Co., Ltd., Rupert St., Bristol.—Clothing, Working: J. Crompton & Sons, Ltd., Swindon, Wilts; Hollington Bros., Middlesex St., E.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.; W. A. Smith & Co., Ltd., Boleyn Castle, Upton Park, E.; C. & J. Webb & Co., Ltd., Fenchurch Wharf, Burdett Rd., E.; Wood, Harris & Co., Bedford St. North, Halifax.—Cloths, Sponge: R. Stott's Sons, Mellor St. Mill, Rochdale.—Cocks, Bib and Stop, &c.: G. & W. G. Gummer, Ltd., Effingham Brass Works, Rotherham; T. Harper & Co., Garston, Liverpool; J. Webb & Co., Ltd., Crescent Works, Hockley, Birmingham.—Cogs, Frost: P. Priest & Sons, Ltd., Old Hill, Staffs; Coates & Twines: R. Budden & Son, 26, West St., Bridport; Coates & Co., Ltd., Balhouse Works, Perth; F. Drake & Co., North Coker Mills, Yeovil; W. Gale & Sons, St. Michaels Lane, Bridport; J. Gundry & Co., Ltd., West St., Bridport; Halkett & Adam, Union Place, Dundee; W. Lawson & Sons, Ltd., Tay Rope Works, Dundee.—Cottons (Piece Goods): Armitage & Rigby, Ltd., 95, Portland St., Manchester; Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., 29, Portland St., Manchester; J. & J. Ashton, Ltd., Newton Moor Mills, Hyde; T. Barnes & Co., Ltd., 16, Newton St., Manchester; L. Behrens & Sons, 131, Portland St., Manchester; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., 31, Cooper St., Manchester; J. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., 50, Piccadilly, Manchester; J. Kenyon & Son, Ltd., Roach Bank Mills, Bury; H. Spencer & Co., Newton St., Manchester; Tootal, Broadhurst Lee Co., Ltd., 56, Oxford St., Manchester; Union Mill Co., Ltd., 127, Portland St., Manchester; D. Whitehead & Sons, Ltd., Lower Mill, Rawtenstall, Manchester; H. Whitworth, Ltd., 115, Princess St., Manchester.—Counterpanes: J. Ainscow & Co., Ltd., Charlotte St. Manchester; H. Bond & Co., Ltd., Milton Mills, Haugh, Bolton; J. Johnson, Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., 105/107, Portland St., Manchester; J. Kippax & Son, Ltd., Moseley Works, Manchester.—Covers, Cap: Ferguson, Shiers & Co., Blossom Mills, Strangeways, Manchester; J. & E. Lichtenstein, Ltd., Gordon St. Works, Broughton, Manchester; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Cambridge St., Manchester; Monarch Waterproof Co., Ltd., Victoria Works, Pimblett St., Manchester.—Cranes: Taylor & Hubbard, Kent St. Works, Leicester.—

War Office—continued.

Cylinders, Coal Gas: British Mannesmann Tube Co., Landore, South Wales; Broadhurst, Clarkson & Co., 63, Farringdon Rd., E.C.—Dental Outfits: Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Newman St., W.—Discs, Fibre: Sutcliffe (Crumpsall), Ltd., Crumpsall Mills, Manchester.—Disinfectants (Term Contracts): Sanitas Co., Ltd., Locksley St., Limehouse, E.; W. C. Smithie & Co., Britannia Works, Farnworth, Bolton.—Dowels: R. Armstrong & Son, Hudson St. Factory, Belfast; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dens Works, Dundee; Bessbrook Spinning Co., Ltd., Bessbrook, Co. Armagh; Blackstaffe Flax Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd., Springfield Rd., Belfast; A. Blyth & Co., Park Head, Sinclairtown, Kirkcaldy; Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., St. Andrew's Buildings, Dundee; Dickson & Co., Dungannon, Ireland; Don Bros., Buist & Co., Ltd., Ward Mills, Barrack St., Dundee; D. & R. Duke, Denburn Works, Brechin; Grove Weaving Co., Ltd., Grove St. East, Belfast; Inver Factory, Ltd., Larne, Ireland; Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Caldahae Works, Brechin; N. Lockhart & Sons, Linktown Works, Kirkcaldy; J. Lornie & Sons, Coal Yard, Kirkcaldy; J. Lowson, Junr. & Co., Ltd., Victoria Works, Don St., Forfar; W. Lumsden & Son, Eden Valley Works, Freuchie, Fife; T. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; Milford Weaving & Finishing Co., Ltd., Waterford St., Belfast; New Northern Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd., Northumberland St., Belfast; New Smithfield Weaving Co., Ltd., Smithfield, Belfast; J. Normand & Sons, Ltd., Dysart, Fife; Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen; J. & J. Smart, Valley Works, River St., Brechin; D. M. Stenhouse, Ltd., Stratheden Linen Works, Cupar, Fife; R. Stocks & Co., 278, Links St., Kirkcaldy; Tavanagh Weaving Co., Ltd., Tavanagh, Portadown, Ireland; A. N. Thomson, Skene Works, Strathmiglo, Fife; W. Thomson & Son, East Bank Works, Strathmiglo, Fife; R. Wemyss & Co., Ltd., Caledonian Mills, Kirkcaldy; Whiteabbey Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Whiteabbey, Belfast; J. Wilson & Sons (Belfast) Ltd., Downshire House, Belfast; York St. Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.—Drabbett: Brookfield Linen Co., Ltd., Donegal St., Belfast.—Drums, Steel, Cylinders, &c.: Baldwins, Ltd., 35, Orchard Place, Blackwall, E.; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., Trundley's Rd., Deptford, S.E.; W. P. Lowrie & Co., Ltd., 97, Hyde Park St., Glasgow; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Palmer St., Birmingham; J. Mitchell & Co., Julian St., Grimsby; P. D. Mitchell, Ltd., King's Cross Works, Dundee; B. Noakes & Co., Ltd., Spa Rd., Bournemouth, S.E.; F. Peeters, Victoria Crescent, Burton-on-Trent.—Dubbin: A. Britenall & Co., 11, Tabley Rd., Holloway, N.—Dyes: Kennesette Oil Syndicate, Ltd., York Works, Short Rd., Stratford, E.—Earthenware: J. Bourne & Son, Ltd., Denby, Derby; S. Ford & Co. (Burslem), Ltd., Lincoln Pottery, Burslem; G. Jones & Sons, Ltd., Crescent Potteries, Stoke-on-Trent; Myott, Son & Co., Alexander Pottery, Cobridge.—Ebonite, Rod and Sheet: British Ebonite Co., Ltd., Nightingale Rd., Hanwell, W.—Emery Cloth and Powder: J. Oakley & Sons, Ltd., Westminster Bridge Rd., S.E.—Enamelled Ware: Elm Works, Ltd., Summerstown, Tooting, S.W.; Eveson Bros., Ltd., Stanley Works, Wollescote, Stourbridge; Macfarlane & Robinson, Ltd., Wolverhampton; E. Stevens, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs; J. Stevens, Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs.—Engines, Fire: Shand, Mason & Co., Upper Ground St., Blackfriars Rd., S.E.—Engines, Oil: Blackstone & Co., Ltd., Rutland Engineering Works, Stamford, &c.; R. Hornsby & Sons, Ltd., Grantham; Peters, Ltd., Nautilus Works, Yeovil.—Engines, Steam, Portable: R. Garrett & Sons, Ltd., Leiston, Suffolk; Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich; Robey & Co., Ltd., Globe Works, Lincoln.—Fans, Motor Driven, and Accessories: J. Keith & Blackman Co., Ltd., Holloway Hall, Holloway Rd., N.; Stertavant Engineering Co., Ltd., 147, Queen Victoria St., E.C.—Fittings, Electric Light: Barton & Sons, Ltd., Beehive Works, Walsall; Cable Accessories Co., Ltd., Tividale, Tipton; Electrical Conduits, Ltd., Birch St., Walsall; Eureka Conduits and Fittings Co., Queen St., Walsall; General Electric Co., Ltd., 67, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; Ingram & Kemp, Ltd., Newtown Row, Birmingham; Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., 54, High Holborn, W.C.; Oriental Tube Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; Perfecta Seamless Steel Tube and Conduit Co., Ltd., Plume St., Aston, Birmingham; Rainsford & Lyles, Ltd., 117, Emily St., Birmingham; G. Roe & Sons, 137/8, New John St., Birmingham; T. Savelker, 301, Aston Brook St., Birmingham; Simplex Conduits, Ltd., Garrison Lane, Birmingham; C. J. Thursfield & Co., Ltd., Clement St., Birmingham; Veritys, Ltd., 31, King St., Covent Garden, W.C.; Walsall Hardware Manufacturing Co., Ablewell St., Walsall; Ward & Goldstone, Salford, Manchester.—Flags: C. Groom, Ltd., Ramornie Works, Dod St., Limehouse, E.; Lane & Neeve, Ltd., Britannia Works, Millwall, E.; Procter & Cockshaw, Black Dog Mills, Leeds; E. Riley & Co., Ltd., Providence St., Leeds.—Flannel: P. Ashworth & Co., Baker St. Mill, Bury; Black & Borthwick, 164, Howard St., Glasgow; T. & H. Blamires, Ltd., Leeds Rd., Huddersfield; J. Bradbury & Co., Upper Mill, Yorks; D. Butterworth & Co., Andrew Mill, Greenfield, Yorks; J. Clay & Co., West End Mills, Cleckheaton, Yorks; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Hare Hill Mills, Littleborough, Lancs; J. Crowther & Sons, Union Mill, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield; E. Denison, Westfield Mills, Yeadox, Leeds; Farnhill & Hirst, Ltd., Rasping Mills, Delph, Oldham; G. Garnett & Sons, Ltd., Valley Mills, Apperley Bridge, Bradford; Hally & Co., Ruthven Vale Works, Auchterarder, Perthshire; R. C. Higgins & Co., 7, Cochrane St., Glasgow; Hirst & Mallinson, Ltd., Cliffe End Mills, Longwood, Huddersfield; J. Ives & Co., Yeadox, Leeds; G. Lawton & Sons, Ltd., Micklehurst, Mossley, Manchester; Leigh Mills Co., Ltd., Stanningley, Leeds; T. & C. Littlewood & Co., Low Hill Mills, Rochdale; D. & H. Mallalieu, Ltd., Bailey Mills, Delph, Oldham; T. Mills & Sons, Primrose Hill, Rochdale; Paisley Co-operative Manufacturing Society, Ltd.,

War Office—continued.

Colinslee Works, Paisley; J. Radcliffe & Co., Green Mill, Rochdale; W. Radcliffe & Sons, Ltd., Oak View Mills, Greenfield, Yorks; J. Schofield & Sons, Buckley Mills, Rochdale; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Ettrick Mills, Selkirk.—**Flannelette:** J. Bright & Bros., Ltd., Fieldhouse Mills, Rochdale; Pickles Bros., Ltd., 57, Faulkner St., Manchester.—**Flare-lights, Oil:** A. C. Wells & Co., Cheetham, Manchester.—**Furniture:** G. A. Large & Son, Jubilee Rd., High Wycombe; R. Smith & Co., Lane End, High Wycombe.—**Galvanised Ware:** J. & J. Harriman & Co., 3/6, Middle Row, Wolverhampton; J. Hill Galvanizing Co., Ltd., Lower High St., Stourbridge; Hingley & Lamb, Ltd., Stour Works, Lye, Stourbridge; Hyde Bros. & Timmings, Reliance Works, Northwood St., Birmingham; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Palmer St., Birmingham; Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron Co., Ltd., Jarrow and Hebburn-on-Tyne; J. & P. Round, Orchard Lane, Lye, Stourbridge; E. Stevens, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs; Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall; Walls, Ltd., Lower Fazeley St., Birmingham.—**Gauze, Wire:** G. Baker, Cecil St. Wire Works, Birmingham; G. Christie, Ltd., 197, Broomloan Rd., Govan, Glasgow; N. Greening & Sons, Ltd., Warrington; J. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Cheapside Wire Works, Birmingham; Patent Process Wire Weaving Co., 96, Baltic St., Bridgeton, Glasgow; F. W. Potter & Co., Phipp St., Great Eastern St., E.C.; W. Riddell & Co., 636, Springfield Rd., Glasgow.—**Generating Sets:** Aster Engineering Co., Ltd., Wembley, Middlesex; Austin Motor Co. (1914), Ltd., Longbridge Works, Northfield, Birmingham; A. Lyon & Wrench, 5, Crawford Passage, Farringdon Rd., E.C.—**Gloves, Cloth, Lined:** F. Bryan, 195/7, Long Lane, Borough, S.E.; Debenham & Co., 73, Welbeck St., W.—**Gloves, Leather:** F. Bryan, 195/7, Long Lane, Borough, S.E.—**Glue:** Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan.—**Granite, Broken, &c.** (Term Contracts): Cliffe Hill Granite Co., Ltd., Cliffe Hill Quarries, Markfield, Leicester; Mountsorrel Granite Co., Ltd., Mountsorrel, Loughborough.—**Grease, Lubricating:** Gaunt & Hickman, Bilston Rd., Wolverhampton; London Lubricants, Ltd., 618, Old Ford Rd., E.—**Grummetts, Spur-toothed:** Herbert, Kershaw & Co., Ltd., Highgate St., Birmingham; H. Hiphiss & Co., Ltd., Goodman St. Works, Birmingham.—**Handkerchiefs and Scarves, Silk:** Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek, Staffs; Caldwell, Young & Co., Ltd., 21, Gresham St., E.C.; S. Kain & Co., Argyle Works, 2a, Malvern Rd., East Ham, E.; Silk Neckwear Manufacturing Co., 31, Cank St., Leicester; J. Smale & Sons, Bollin Mills, Macclesfield.—**Handles, Broom:** Leif Sundt & Co., 62, New Broad St., E.C.—**Handles, Hammer:** Appleton Saw Mills, Ltd., Halton View Rd., Widnes; R. Charnley & Sons, Canal Head Saw Mills, Ulverston; J. Nicholls & Sons, All Saints' Rd., Wolverhampton; G. J. Smith & Sons, Old Hill, Staffs; E. Tailby, Rood End Rd., Oldbury.—**Harness and Saddlery:** A. Allen (Exors. of), 4, King's Rd., Reading; W. Bennett, Lower Rushall St., Walsall; Butler Bros, 48, Park St., Walsall; Champion & Wilton, 457/59, Oxford St., W.; J. Cliff & Co., Forster St., Walsall; T. H. Crumpton & Co., 48, Stafford St., Walsall; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., 8, Bucknall St., W.C.; R. Dewsbury & Sons, Freer St., Walsall; Drummond & Co., 154, Market St., Aberdeen; M. Harvey & Co., Ltd., Glebeland Works, Walsall; J. H. Hawkins & Co., Ltd., Station St., Walsall; Heppburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; T. Icke & Son, Heath Works, West Bromwich; E. Jeffries & Sons, Ltd., 31/32, Mountrath St., Walsall; Lomax, Ltd., 39/40, William St., Birmingham; Martins-Birmingham, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham; D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Bath Row, Birmingham; Midland Harness & Saddlery Co., Ltd., 28, Lister Gate, Nottingham; Nobes & Hunt, Ltd., 75, Rockingham St., S.E.; W. Overton, Ltd., Argent Works, Station St., Walsall; E. J. Parkes & Co., Hatherton Works, Holtshill Lane, Walsall; Rawle & Son, 231/2, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.; Whippy, Steggall & Co., 30, North Audley St., W.—**Haversacks and Packs:** D. T. Jackson & Co., Ltd., Shand St., S.E.; W. Wood & Son, Ltd., Kelvin Rd., Highbury, N.—**Headstresses:** Christy & Co., Ltd., 35, Gracechurch St., E.C., and Bermondsey St., S.E.; J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., Old Kent Rd., S.E.; J. Ellwood & Sons, 24, Gt. Charlotte St., S.E.; Hawkes & Co., Ltd., 1, Savile Row, W.; Hobson & Sons, High St. Factory, Woolwich, S.E.; C. Owen & Co., 34, Coutts Rd., Bow, E.; W. Stone, 20, Old Compton St., W.; H. & W. Towell & Co., Ltd., Military House, Ramillies St., W.; Vero & Everitt, Ltd., Atherstone; E. W. Vero & Co., 49, East Dulwich Rd., S.E.—**Heads, Broom, Bass:** G. & W. Atkins & Co., Muriel St., Caledonian Rd., N.; G. Bacon & Co., Ltd., 10/12, John St., Bradford; C. Baker, 39/40, Gt. Dover St., Borough, S.E.; Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind, Woodville Rd., Harborne, Birmingham; F. R. Bradbeer, 73, Commercial Rd., Exeter; A. Butler, Ltd., Mount St., Poole, Dorset; R. Cocker & Sons, 33, Bolton Rd., Darwen, Lancs; M. A. Cook & Sons, Brush Works, Bletchley, Bucks; T. C. Cooper, Brewery St., Hanley, Staffs; Co-operative Bass Dressers, Ltd., 105, Charles St., Stepney, E.; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Belleisle Rd., Hunslet, Leeds; F. Coxson & Sons, Tiviot Dale, Stockport; J. Dawson & Son, Eldon Brush Works, St. Philip St., Leeds; T. Goode, Ltd., 24, Holloway Head, Birmingham; E. Green & Co., John St., Pendleton, Manchester; Harbach & Young, Lye, Stourbridge; J. Harley, Coleham Brush Factory, Shrewsbury; J. S. Harrison & Sons, 35, Clerkenwell Close, E.C.; Henshaw's Blind Asylum, Old Trafford, Manchester; G. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Queen's Brush Works, Sheffield; Incorporated Association for Welfare of the Blind, 258, Tottenham Court Rd., W.; H. W. Jones & Sons, Ltd., 32/34, Gt. Dover St., Borough, S.E.; P. Jones, Borough Brush Works, Leigh, Lancs; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., Victoria Park, N.E.; Knight & Son, Ltd., Lansdowne Hill, Southampton;

War Office—continued.

Lee & James, Ltd., Moseley St., Birmingham; Leppard & Sons, 57/59, Bayham Place, N.W.; C. H. Ley & Sons, Sherbourne Rd., Birmingham; S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd., Harford St., Mile End, E.; A. Martin & Son, Wainwright St., Aston, Birmingham; J. Mason & Sons, Acton, W., and Mile End, E.; S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd., Hayhill, Norwich; J. Postlethwaite, 67, Toad Lane, Rochdale; J. Pritchitt & Son, 29/31, Gt. Dover St., S.E.; A. Reid & Sons, 283, Tabard St., S.E.; Richmond National Institution for the Industrious Blind, 41, Upper Sackville St., Dublin; Royal Institution for the Blind, 2, North Parade, Bradford; Royal Midland Institution for the Blind, Chaucer St., Nottingham; Singleton, Flint & Co., Newland Works, Lincoln; South London Brush Co., Ltd., 167, Gt. Dover St., S.E.; Ulster Brush Co., Ltd., 93/95, Victoria St., Belfast; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Bristol, and Stonehouse, Glos.; S. D. Warren & Co., 2, Crown Yard, Stanhope St., Euston Rd., N.W.; W. White, Son & Co., 1, Mansfield St., Kingsland Rd., N.E.; J. Wilson, Lister St., Halifax; Yates & Co., Boothtown, Halifax.—**Heads, Brush, Sweeping:** Aldrich Bros., Ltd., Roydon, Diss, Norfolk; G. & W. Atkins & Co., Muriel St., Caledonian Rd., N.; R. Benson & Sons, Ltd., Fazeley St., Birmingham; A. Butler, Ltd., Mount St., Poole; R. Chase & Son, 42/43, Upper Dean St., Birmingham; Child Bros., Earlsheaton, Dewsbury; W. Clark, 31, Brook St., Macclesfield; R. J. Clarke & Co., Causeway Lane, Leicester; W. Cleghorn & Son, Selborne St., Walsall; M. A. Cook & Sons, Brush Works, Bletchley; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Belleisle Rd., Hunslet, Leeds; F. Coxson & Sons, Tiviot Dale, Stockport; J. Dawson & Co., 22/24, High St., Dalkeith; J. A. & P. Ferguson, 23, Douglas St., Glasgow; F. Fulger & Co., 296, Borough High St., S.E.; T. Goode, Ltd., 24, Holloway Head, Birmingham; E. Green & Co., John St., Pendleton, Manchester; E. A. & W. Greenlake, Thomas St., Bristol; J. S. Harrison & Sons, 35, Clerkenwell Close, E.C.; E. W. Hayward, 205a, Pentonville Rd., King's Cross, N.; G. J. Hobbs & Co., 84, Benacre St., Birmingham; C. Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Queen's Brush Works, Sheffield; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., Victoria Park, N.E.; Lee & James, Ltd., Moseley St., Birmingham; S. Ludbrook & Co. Ltd., Harford St., Mile End, E.; A. Martin & Son, Wainwright St., Aston, Birmingham; J. Mason & Sons, Acton, W.; D. Matthew & Son, Ltd., Tariff Rd., Tottenham, N.; Maxime & Co., Ltd., 6/12, Featherstone St., E.C.; J. T. Millwood & Sons, 22/23, Gt. Dover St., Borough, S.E.; W. Morier, Copland Rd., Govan, Glasgow; Moss & Paddock, Ltd., Garside St., Bolton; Newton & Cook, 64, Grange Rd., S.E.; S. D. Page & Sons, Ltd., Hayhill, Norwich; J. Perrins & Sons, 72, Summer Lane, Birmingham; T. Peyton & Co., 5/7, Amber St., Manchester; J. Phillips & Sons, Queen's Rd., Chorley; W. Phillips, Eureka Brush Works, Accrington; Phoenix Brush Co., 91, Long Lane, Bermondsey, S.E.; J. Postlethwaite, 67, Toad Lane, Rochdale; J. Pritchitt & Son, 29/31, Gt. Dover St., S.E.; A. Reid & Sons, 283, Tabard St., Borough, S.E.; Rigby Battcock, Ltd., Mount Pleasant Works, Upper Clapton, N.E.; R. A. Rooney & Sons, 99, Higham Hill Rd., Walthamstow, N.E.; Royal Midland Institution for the Blind, Chaucer St., Nottingham; Sharman Bros., George St., Wellington; R. Sherwin, Ltd., New St., Hanley, Staffs; South London Brush Co., Ltd., 167, Gt. Dover St., S.E.; A. Squires, Ltd., North St., Exeter; J. Stratton & Sons, 71, Newington Causeway, S.E.; Tucker & Pys, 38, Gt. Dover St., Borough, S.E.; Vale & Bradnack, Stafford St., Walsall; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Stonehouse, Glos.; C. Watt & Co., 24, Courtenay St., Plymouth; R. Webb & Sons, 22/42, Townsend Rd., Chesham; W. White, Son & Co., Mansfield St., Kingsland, N.E.; F. Whiting, 1, Shenton St., Old Kent Rd., S.E.—**Helves, Pickaxe:** H. Lebus, Tottenham, N.—**Hides:** S. E. Norris & Co., St. Paul's Leather Works, Shadwell, E.—**Hose, Canvas:** G. Angus & Co., Ltd., St. John's Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne; McGregor & Co., Mid St., Dundee; W. Rose Hose Co., Ltd., Metropolitan Works, Salford, Manchester.—**Hosiery (including Drawers, Jerseys, Waistcoats, Socks, &c.):** Abell Bros., Ltd., Brook St., Derby; H. E. Allsopp & Co. (Leicester), Ltd., Great Central St., Leicester; R. N. Anderson & Co., East Wall, Londonderry; Armstrong, Bradbury & Co., Ltd., Churchpath, Walthamstow, N.E.; F. J. Bamkin & Son, Hucknall Torkard, Nottingham; Barrie & Kersel, Anfield Mills, Hawick; A. Baum, Ltd., 25, Southgate St., Leicester; Beale & Herbert, Ltd., Causeway Lane, Leicester; Bedworth Hosiery Co., Ltd., Bedworth, Nuneaton; Belvoir Manufacturing Co., 35, Belvoir St., Leicester; T. Billson & Sons, Ltd., Church Gate, Leicester; G. Bott & Son, Trinity Lane, Hinckley; J. Bradshaw & Co., 9, Erskine St., Leicester; G. Braund, Ltd., 10, Woodgate, Loughborough; R. Broughton & Co., Central Avenue, Wigston Magna, Leicester; W. Buckler & Co., Ltd., Crown Mills, Walnut St., Leicester; F. Caldwell & Co., Ltd., Church Gate, Loughborough; Campbell & Mair, Ann St., Greenock; J. F. Carnall & Co., Redcross St., Leicester; H. Carrier & Sons, Ltd., Bath St., Ilkeston; Cook & Hurst, Ltd., Wigston Magna, Leicester; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., 1, Balloon St., Manchester; N. Corah & Sons, St. Margaret's Works, Leicester; H. & B. Cox, Crocus St., Nottingham; A. Cunningham, Ltd., Holm Factory, Stewarton; A. Davenport, Hinckley; Dix, Watson & Co., Ltd., Priory Works, Acton, W.; Dixon & Moore, South Bond St., Leicester; Elder & Watson, Dunlop St. Hosiery Works, Strathaven, N.B.; L. Eyres, 167, Victoria Rd., Cambridge; M. C. Foister, 92, Redcross St., Leicester; Fraser, Frasers & Co., Lovat Works, Kilmarnock; Gerrard & Green, Market St., Hindley; J. Glazebrook & Co., Countesshorpe, Leicester; Glenfield Manufacturing Co., 27, Highcross St., Leicester; J. G. Glover & Co., Canal St., South Wigston, Leicester; Gordon & Co., Spring Gardens, Aberdeen; J. H. Greenwood, "El Tore" Works, Church St., Hanley, Staffs; Gunn & Co., Wheat St.,

War Office—continued.

Leicester; J. Haines & Co., Western Rd., Leicester; Hall & Earl, Leicester; Hanford & Miller, Long Wharton, Loughborough; Hannah & Co., The Factory, Kilmarnock; T. W. Hardy & Co., Hockley Mill, Nottingham; Harper & Grudgings, Hucknall Torkard, Notts; Harrott & Co., Ltd., Rose St., Aberdeen; J. Hearn & Co., Newark St., Leicester; J. Henderson & Co., Victoria Rd., Hawick; A. E. Hill, Frederick St., Wigston, Leicester; Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Ballot Rd., Irvine, N.B.; House of Johnston, Ltd., Hamilton, N.B.; Hubbard & Kenning, Woodboy St. Works, Leicester; A. P. Innes & Co., Victoria Rd., Hawick; A. Kemp, Dover St., Leicester; Kirkby-in-Ashfield Manufacturers, Ltd., East Kirkby, Nottingham; Leicester Knitting Co., Grange Lane, Leicester; C. Lewin, Wigston, Leicester; W. Lockie & Co., Westfield Works, Hawick; Lyle & Scott, Ltd., Lothian St., Hawick; D. Macrae & Sons, 19, Avenue St., Stewarton; Manx Industries, Ltd., Derby Castle, Douglas, I.O.M.; Mason & Blakesley, John St., Hinckley; Model Machine & Hosiery Co., 3, Upper Kent St., Belfast; Moore, Eady & Murcott Goode, Ltd., 39, Granby St., Leicester; I. & R. Morley, 18, Wood St., E.C.; J. L. Morley (Leicester), Ltd., Queen St., Leicester; T. Morley & Son, 176, Highcross St., Leicester; R. W. Myhill & Co., Humberstone Rd., Leicester; Neckwear, Ltd., Grosvenor St., Macclesfield; North Lancashire Hosiery Co., Trinity Works, Preston; Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Moor Lane, Loughborough; Pool, Lorrimer & Tabberer, King St., Leicester; Pratt, Copeland & Co., Wood St., Hinckley; R. Pringle & Son, Walter's Wynd, Hawick; Pudan & Burridge, Ltd., Wellington St., Leicester; W. Raven & Co., Wheat St., Leicester; S. Resdale & Co., 18/19, Upper Rathbone Place, Oxford St., W.; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., 95, Morrison St., Glasgow; J. Skelton & Son, St. George's Mills, Norwich; S. Smith, King Richard's Rd., Leicester; Smith's Hosiery Manufacturing Co., Dorning St., Wigan; Stewarton Hosiery Co., High St., Stewarton; Strathbogio Woollen Co., Bogie Bridge Mills, Huntly; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Southgate St., Leicester; Thornton & Mawby, Duke St., Leicester; J. Toon & Sons, Premier Works, Earl Shilton, Hinckley; Two Steeples, Ltd., Wigston Magna, Leicester; Victoria Hosiery Co., 7, North St., Belfast; R. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Rutland St., Leicester; P. Watson & Son, Ferryhill Mills, Aberdeen; West Lothian Hosiery Factory, Ltd., Bathgate; Wigston Hosiers, Ltd., Paddock St., Wigston, Leicester; Women's Workrooms United Club, Bethesda, Bangor, North Wales; Woodford & Wormleighton, Langton St., Leicester; Wynne & Sons, New Evington, Leicester.—**Huts, Sectional:** Hampton & Sons, Ltd., Phoenix Wharf, Commercial Rd., S.E.—**Huts, Sectional (Term Contracts):** Ashby & Horner, Ltd., Love Lane, Shadwell, E.; Griggs & Sons, Isle of Dogs, E.; J. McManus, 237, Hammersmith Rd., W.—**Instruments, Tooth:** C. Ash, Sons & Co., Ltd., 5/12, Broad St., Golden Square, W.; Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 17, Newman St., W.; S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate St., E.C.—**Ironwork for Tables:** Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Monmore Green, Wolverhampton; Douglass Bros., Ltd., Globe Ironworks, Blaydon-on-Tyne; Wrinch & Sons, Ltd., St. Lawrence Works, Ipswich.—**Jars, Stone:** F. Brayne & Co., Ltd., Bow Potteries, Bromley-by-Bow, E.; A. W. Buchan & Co., The Portobello Potteries, Portobello, Edinburgh; C. Carder & Sons, Leys Pottery, Brierly Hill; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Lambeth, S.E.; Fulham Pottery & Cheavine Filter Co., Ltd., Fulham, S.W.; Gibbs & Canning, Ltd., Glascoate Works, Tamworth, Staffs; W. A. Gray & Sons, Midlothian Potteries, Portobello, Edinburgh; Hunt's Patent Cased Jar Factory, Ltd., 33, Henry St., Liverpool; M. Knowles & Son, Welshpool & Payne Potteries, Chesterfield; Mansfield Bros., Church Gresley, Burton-on-Trent; Mottishaw & Bradshaw, The Potteries, Castledorf; J. Pearson, Ltd., Oldfield & London Potteries, Chesterfield; Jackson & Co., The Potteries, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield; C. Phillips & Son, Castledorf Pottery, Castledorf; Port Dundas Pottery Co., Ltd., Bishop St., Glasgow; Price, Powell & Co., The Old Stone Ware Potteries, Bristol; G. Skey & Co., Ltd., Wilnecote, Tamworth, Staffs; Slack & Brownlow, Gorton, Manchester; E. Wright & Co., Ltd., Wheatbridge Potteries, Chesterfield.—**Joinery:** Austins (East Ham and Ilford), Ltd., Barking Rd., East Ham, E.—**Knives, Clasp:** J. Allen & Sons, Ltd., Ecclesall Works, Sheffield; Atkinson Bros., Ltd., Milton Works, Sheffield; Baum Bros. (Sheffield), Ltd., 42, Nursery St., Sheffield; E. Blyde & Co., Charleston Works, Orange St., Sheffield; Brookes & Crookes, Ltd., Atlantic Works, Sheffield; A. Brooksbank & Co., Malinda Works, Sheffield; W. & S. Butcher, Ltd., 41, Eyre Lane, Sheffield; G. Butler & Co., Ltd., Trinity Works, Sheffield; J. Christie & Sons, Ltd., 246, West St., Sheffield; J. Clarke & Son, Ltd., Mowbray St., Sheffield; H. Clegg & Sons, Fitzwilliam St., Sheffield; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Eldon St., Sheffield; E. M. Dickinson, Ltd., 203, Arundel St., Sheffield; A. Dodson, 151, Arundel St., Sheffield; T. Ellin & Co., Ltd., Sylvester Works, Sheffield; J. Elliot & Sons, Hollis Croft, Sheffield; Hale Bros. Moorfields Works, Snow Lane, Sheffield; W. Hutton & Sons, Ltd., 146, West St., Sheffield; J. U. James & Sons, Clintock Works, Milton St., Sheffield; Lockwood Bros., Ltd., Spital Hill, Sheffield; H. G. Long & Co., Ltd., New Hallamshire Works, Sheffield; J. McClory & Sons, Ltd., Milton St., Sheffield; F. Mills & Co., Ltd., Division St., Sheffield; A. Milns & Co., Stanley Works, Arundel St., Sheffield; W. Morton & Sons, Old Rockingham Works, Sheffield; W. Needham, 146, Eyre St., Sheffield; Needham, Veall & Tyzack, Ltd., Eyewitn Works, Sheffield; F. Newton & Sons, Ltd., Portobello Works, Sheffield; J. Nowill & Sons, Scotland St., Sheffield; A. Oates, 64, St. Philip's Rd., Sheffield; W. H. Roberts, 54, Holly St., Sheffield; W. Saynor, Ltd., 15, Sidney St., Sheffield; H. M. Slater, 105, Arundel St., Sheffield; Southern & Richardson, Ltd., Doncaster St., Sheffield; T. Turner & Co., Suffolk Works,

War Office—continued.

Sheffield; J. Watts, Lambert St., Sheffield; G. Wostenholm & Son, Ltd., Washington Works, Sheffield.—**Lamps, Oil, and Parts:** Howes & Burley, Ltd., Holloway Head, Birmingham; Sherwoods, Ltd., 44/50, Granville St., Birmingham.—**Leathers, Chamois:** A. Gaunt, 130a, Trafalgar Rd., Peckham, S.E.; A. G. Jones & Co., Ltd., Slack Lane, Derby; C. Kirkham & Son, Garden St., Nottingham; W. J. Turney & Co., Ltd., Leather Works, Stourbridge.—**Linen, White:** Greenmount Spinning Co., Ltd., Harold's Cross, Dublin.—**Linoleum:** Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Fife Linoleum Co., Ltd., Fife Works, Kirkcaldy; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Locomotives:** Avonside Engine Co., Ltd., Fishponds, Bristol.—**Machines, Horse-Clipping, and Parts:** Barton-Gillette Horse-Clipping & Sheep Shearing Co., Queen's Rd., Reading; Brown's Clipper Co., Ltd., Chard Works, Summer Row, Birmingham; Cooper-Stewart Engineering Co., Ltd., 11, Broad St., Bloomsbury, W.C.—**Machines, Weighing:** J. W. Webb & Co., 131, Constitution Hill, Birmingham.—**Masks, Cloth:** B. Prager & Co., Ltd., 42, Dock St., E.—**Masks, Leather:** W. Stephens & Co., 24, Fann St., E.C.—**Matches:** Vulcan Match Agency, Ltd., Barking, E.—**Mattresses, Spring:** J. & J. Taunton, Ltd., Belgrave Works, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.—**Medicines:** Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Station St., Nottingham; British Drug Houses, Ltd., 22/30, Graham St., City Rd., N.; Burgoyne, Burdighes & Co., Ltd., High St. South, East Ham, E.; W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., Rawdon, Leeds; Davies, Sons & Co., Bridge St., Derby; Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, E.; Johnson & Sons Manufacturing Chemists, Ltd., Cross St., Finsbury, E.C.; T. Kerfoot & Co., Bardsley Vale, Bardsley, Lancs; Matthews & Wilson, Ltd., Mill St., Dockhead, S.E.; Parke, Davis & Co., Heston Mills, Hounslow; Pickard, Ive & Rankin, Ltd., 186/8, Walmer Rd., Notting Hill, W.; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Lower Priory, Birmingham; Standard Tablet & Pill Co., Ltd., Goldstone Chemical Works, Hove; Whiffen & Sons, Ltd., Lombard Rd., Battersea, S.W.—**Medicines (Term Contract):** Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Ltd., Dartford.—**Metal Work for Harness, &c.:** J. Gilbert, Newtown St., Old Hill, Staffs.—**Methylated Spirit:** W. T. Alexander, Chase St., Red Bank, Manchester; Bellingham & Co., Ltd., 23, Laburnum St., Dalston, N.E.; B. Biggs & Co., Ltd., Blondin St., Bow, E.; Bowley & Sons, Wellington Works, Battersea Bridge, S.W.; Bristol Distilling Co., Ltd., Cheese Lane, Bristol; J. Burrough, Ltd., Cale Distillery, Lambeth, S.E.; J. & D. Macnair & Co., Allan St., Bridgeton, Glasgow; May & Baker, Ltd., Gt. Eastern St., E.C.; Sutton, Carden & Co., Ltd., Hill St., Finsbury, E.C.; Waters & Co., Ltd., 7/10, Bateman's Row, E.C.—**Methylated Spirit, Solidified:** A. Vickers & Sons, 28, King St., Covent Garden, W.C.—**Nails, Horse-Shoe:** Capewell Horse Nail Co., Ltd., Hadley, Wellington, Salop.—**Nails and Tacks:** D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Petershill Rd., Glasgow; J. Capewell & Sons, City Nail Works, Dewsbury Rd., Leeds; J. Clews & Sons, Ltd., Dartmouth St. Works, Birmingham; Clyde Nail Co., Ltd., Newton, Lanarkshire; R. Green, Ltd., Cokeland Works, Cradley Heath; D. Powis & Sons, Floodgate St., Birmingham; J. Summers & Sons, Ltd., Globe Iron Works, Stalybridge.—**Nails, Wire:** Armistead & Grimshaw, Ltd., Stafford St., Hunslet, Leeds; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; J. Sadler, Ltd., Spring Hill, Birmingham.—**Nails, Wire (Term Contract):** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Rogerstone, Newport, Mon.—**Netting, Mosquito:** Taylor Bros., Sandiacre, Nottingham.—**Netting, &c., Wire:** G. Baker, Cecil St. Wire Works, Birmingham; Foggins, Ltd., High Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., Greenwich Metal Works, Woolwich Rd., S.E.; R. Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; H. A. Joyner & Co., 62, Bournemouth Rd., Peckham, S.E.; T. Locker & Co., Ltd., Ellesmere St., Warrington; J. Lysaght, Ltd., St. Vincent's Ironworks, Bristol; Shields, Barbut & Co., 212, Bermondsey St., S.E.; J. Starkie & Sons, Ltd., Church St. Wire Mills, Preston.—**Oils:** British Petroleum Co., Ltd., Royal Albert Dock, E.; F. How & Co., Stratford, E.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., Millwall, E.—**Oils (Term Contracts):** H. Birnage & Co., Harrison's Wharf, Lower East Smithfield, E.; E. Cooper & Co., Ltd., Raleana Rd., Poplar, E.; Huxley & Co., Denbigh St., Liverpool.—**Overshoes:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Castle Mills, Edinburgh.—**Padlocks, Iron:** H. Harrison & Sons, Belmont Works, Villiers St., Willenhall; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Neale St., Walsall.—**Paint and Putty:** L. Berger & Sons, Ltd., Homerton, N.E.; Blyth, Heald & Langdale, Ltd., Newland Paint Works, Hull; Burrell & Co., Ltd., West Ferry Rd., Millwall, E.; Colthurst & Harding, Ltd., Bath Rd., Bristol, and Millwall, E.; H. W. Cox & Co., Ltd., Earl St., Westminster, S.W.; J. S. Craig & Co., Ltd., 97, Portman St., Glasgow; Crown Compositions Co., South Dock, Swansea; Dixon's White, Ltd., Albion Wharf, Bow, E.; T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., Nine Elms, S.W.; Foster, Blakett & Wilson, Ltd., Tyne Lead Works, Hebburn-on-Tyne; J. Foulger & Sons, St. George St., E.; J. Freeman, Sons & Co., Ltd., Garratt Lane, Wandsworth, S.W.; R. Gay & Co., Ltd., Langthorne Works, Stratford Market, E.; Giddings & Dacre, Ltd., 19, Chapel St., Salford, Manchester; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking, Essex; Hanger, Watson & Harris, Ltd., Stoneferry Works, Hull; James & Co., Ltd., Ouseburn Lead Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., 306, Burdett Rd., Limehouse, E.; Meredith & Co., Western Rd., Birmingham; Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington; Pilchers, Ltd., Morgan's Lane, Tooley St., S.E.; Strathclyde Paint Co., Davidson St., Glasgow; O. Wilkins & Co., Ltd., Traffic St., Derby.—**Panniers:** Dryad Cane & Metal Works, 42, St. Nicholas St., Leicester; W. H. Sharp & Sons, Lowtown, Pudsey.—**Pins, Picketing:** W. Mills & Co., Old Hill, Staffs.—**Pins, Tent:** F. W.

War Office—continued.

Cotterill, Ltd., Atlas Works, Darlaston; T. B. Wellings & Co., Elbow Works, Old Hill, Staffs.—Piping and Fittings, Metal: E. Bennett & Son, Ltd., 45/51, Leman St., E.; British Steam Specialities, Ltd., 79/80, Turnmill St., E.C.; Frost & Sons, Tidvale, Tipton, Staffs; Lambert Bros. (Walsall), Ltd., Green Lane, Birchills, Walsall; Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Rutherglen, Glasgow, &c.; E. Smith, Ltd., Brunswick Tube Works, Wednesbury; Stewart & Lloyds, Ltd., Dalmarnock Bridge, Glasgow, &c.; Victoria Tube Co., Ltd., Great Bridge, Tipton, Staffs.—Plant, Ice-Making: J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dartford Ironworks, Kent.—Pumps, &c.: Alley & MacLellan, Ltd., Polmadie, Glasgow; Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Elswick Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Beck & Co., Ltd., 130, Gt. Suffolk St., S.E.; J. Blakeborough & Sons, Woodhouse Works, Brighouse; Deane & Beal, Ltd., 676, Old Kent Rd., S.E.; Marshall, Sons & Co., Ltd., Britannia Iron Works, Gainsborough; Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., Greenwich Rd., S.E.; Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., Nine Elms Ironworks, Reading; Thould & Hutchinson, Upton-on-Severn, Worcester; Worthington Pump Co., Ltd., India House, Kingsway, W.C.—Puttees: G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., 1/5, Brick Lane, E.; Rego Clothiers, Ltd., 134/135, High St., Shoreditch, E.—Railway Plant: Guest, Keen & Nettelfolds, Ltd., Smethwick, Birmingham.—Ranges and Accessories: Albion Iron Co. (London), Ltd., Larbert, Stirlingshire.—Razors: T. R. Cadman & Sons, 211, St. Mary's Rd., Sheffield.—Respirators, Antiseptic: Keeling & Walker, Ltd., Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.—Roofing, Felt, &c.: D. Anderson & Son, Ltd., Roach Rd. Works, Old Ford, E.; Asbestos and Building Materials Co., 11, John St., Minories, E.C.; Engert & Rolfe, Ltd., Barchester St., Poplar, E.; Graves & Co., Ltd., Waterford, F. McNeill & Co., Ltd., Kirkintilloch, Glasgow, &c.; Vulcanite, Ltd., Stour Rd., Old Ford, E.—Rope, Cotton: J. T. Bateson, Ribblesden Lane, Preston; W. Kenyon & Sons, Ltd., Chapel Field Works, Dukinfield.—Rope, Wire: Glaholm & Robson, Ltd., Sunderland; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd., Warrington.—Ropes, Head: J. Hawley & Co., Ltd., Goodall St., Walsall; A. & A. H. Pegley, 4, Willis St., Poplar, E.—Ropeways, &c.: British Ropeway Engineering Co., Ltd., 34, Fenchurch St., E.C.—Rubber Articles for Repair of Gum Boots: Associated Rubber Manufacturers, Ltd., Almagam Mills, Harpenden, Herts; Midland Rubber Co., Ltd., 89, Ryland St., Birmingham; New Liverpool Rubber Co., Ltd., Rice Lane, Walton, Liverpool; Victoria Rubber Co., Ltd., Leith Walk, Edinburgh; Waverley Rubber Co., Ltd., Russell Rd., Murrayfield, Edinburgh.—Rubber-proofed Goods: Anderson's Bristol Rubber Co., Ltd., High St., Bristol; J. E. Barlow & Co., Ltd., Sherborne St., Strangeways, Manchester; Ferguson, Shiers & Co., Blossom Mills, Strangeways, Manchester; Impervious Rubber Co., Ltd., 38, Falfield St., Glasgow; J. Mandelberg & Co., Ltd., Pendleton, Manchester; D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Ardwick, Manchester; Premier Waterproof & Rubber Co., Ltd., Bromley St., Manchester.—Safes: Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Ratner Safe Works, Hancock Rd., Bow, E.; S. Withers & Co., Ltd., Park Works, West Bromwich.—Screws, Drive and Washers: W. & S. S. Allen, Ltd., Coseley, Bilston; Roofing Fittings, Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham.—Seals, Lead: Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., 63, Belvedere Rd., Lambeth, S.E.—Sewings: Ainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Cleator, Cumberland; W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek, Staffs; H. Campbell & Co., Ltd., Mossley, Belfast; Cardigan Thread Mills Co., East Park Rd., Leicester; W. Evans & Co., Ltd., Boar's Head Cotton Manufactory, Derby; Finlayson, Bousfield Co., Ltd., Johnstone, N.B.; J. Harris & Sons, Ltd., Derwent Mills, Cockermouth; Hicks, Bullock & Co., Ltd., Sackville Thread Works, Belfast; Imperia Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Brown St. Mills, Leicester; W. & J. Knox, Ltd., Kilbirnie, Ayrshire; Leek Twist Manufacturing Society, Ltd., Nelson Mills, Leek; Lindsay, Thompson & Co., Ltd., Linen Thread Mills, Belfast; W. Milner & Sons, Ltd., Union St., Leek; W. Paton, Ltd., Johnstone, N.B.; Walker Thread Co., Ltd., Oxford Thread Mills, Leicester; Wardle & Davenport, Ltd., Belle Vue Mills, Leek; Watson & Co. (Leek), Ltd., London Mills, Leek.—Sheets, Corrugated Steel: Baldwins, Ltd., 35, Orchard Place, Blackwall, E.; Pontnewynydd Sheet & Galvanising Co., Ltd., Pontnewynydd, Pontypool; J. Summers & Sons, Ltd., Shotton, Chester.—Sheets, Cotton: Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde, Cheshire; Barlow & Jones, Ltd., 2, Portland St., Manchester; Hollins Mill Co., Ltd., 5, Portland St., Manchester; T. Johnson & Sons, Marsden Sq., Manchester; J. Parkyn & Co., 70, Mosley St., Manchester; Rigg Bros., Ltd., Mosley St., Manchester; Rose, Hewitt & Co., Minshull St., Manchester.—Shelters, Sectional (Term Contracts): F. R. Rand & Co., Ltd., Teddington Wharf, Teddington; T. Weeks, 6, Beaulieu Rd., Bedminster, Bristol.—Shirts, Flannel: Burton, Vowles & Co., Ltd., 35a, Chatsworth Rd., Stratford, E.; E. J. Caldicott & Co., Rye Works, Hanover St., Peckham, S.E.; G. Cooper & Co., Ltd., Alpha Works, Cobourg Rd., S.E.; Hogg & Mitchell, Birchin Lane, Manchester.—Shirts, Flannel—Cutting Out, &c.: G. H. Leavey & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.—Shoes, Horse: Chillington Tool Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Essex Forge Co., Ltd., Ongar Rd., Brentwood; Guest & Co., Halesowen, Birmingham; S. Vaughan, Ltd., Henry St., West Bromwich.—Slippers, Leather: R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Nene Works, Raunds, Wellingborough; E. F. Kempton & Co., St. Saviour's Rd. East, Leicester; Unity Co-operative Society, Ltd., High St., Ringstead, Thrapston.—Soap: J. Knight, Ltd., Royal Primrose Soap Works, Silvertown, E.—Soap (Term Contracts): Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Soap Works, Grangemouth; Wilkie & Soames, Ltd., East Greenwich, S.E.—Standards, Trough: W. H. Beal, Sharp St., Newland, Hull.—Staples, Fencing: Guest, Keen & Nettelfolds, Ltd., Rogerstone,

War Office—continued.

Newport, Mon.; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—Steel, Constructional: Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe, Lincs; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; R. A. Skelton & Co., Moorgate Station Chambers, Moorfields, E.C.—Steelwork for Huts: Davies Bros. & Co., Ltd., Crown Works, Wolverhampton.—Stoves, Non-Ventilating (Term Contracts): Carron Co., Carron, Stirlingshire; Dobbie, Forbes & Co., Larbert, Stirlingshire; R. & A. Main, Ltd., Gothic Works, Angel Rd., Edmonton, N.—Stoves, Oil, and Parts: S. Heath & Sons, Ltd., Cobden Works, Leopold St., Birmingham; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—Strappings, Leather: G. Stock & Son, Ltd., Britannia Leather Works, Kettering.—Stretchers, Ambulance, and Parts: Gowen & Co., Tollesbury; Hampton & Sons, Ltd., Baltic Wharf, Belvedere Rd., S.E.; H. Lebus, Tottenham Hale, N., and Finsbury, E.C.; E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., 29, Aylesbury St., Clerkenwell, E.C.; Sycamore Works Co., 88, Worple Rd., Wimbeldon, S.W.; J. Ward, Ltd., 246, Tottenham Court Rd., W.; Wrinch & Sons, Ltd., St. Lawrence Works, Ipswich.—Surgical Instruments and Materials: Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Bethnal Green, N.E.; C. Ash, Sons & Co., Ltd., 5/12, Broad St., W.; G. Barth & Co., 54, Poland St., Oxford St., W.; J. Bell & Croden, Ltd., Upper Colham Mill, Uxbridge; British Oxygen Co., Ltd., High St., Saltley, Birmingham; J. Christie & Sons, Ltd., 246, West St., Sheffield; Coxeter & Son, 171/5, Pancras Rd., N.W.; Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham; Darton Gibbs Co., Pazo Works, Oldbury; Dental Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Alston House, Newman St., W.; Down Bros., Ltd., 21/22, St. Thomas's St., Borough, S.E.; Goldschmidt, Schmelz & Co., 147, Farringdon Rd., E.C.; H. Lewis, 2, Westmorland St., New Cavendish St., W.; S. Maw, Son & Sons, 7, Aldersgate St., E.C.; Mayer & Meltzer, 71, Gt. Portland St., W.; Medical Supply Association, 169, Gray's Inn Rd., W.C.; J. H. Montague, Blenheim Yard, W.; Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Charford Mills, Saltley, Birmingham; C. F. Thackray, Gt. George St., Leeds; J. Tye & Son, 457, Caledonian Rd., N.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., Hammersmith, W.; J. Weiss & Son, Ltd., 287, Oxford St., W.; C. T. Willetts, Ltd., Heneage St., Birmingham.—Switchboards and Dynamos: Dorman & Smith, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Lancashire Dynamo & Motor Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester.—Switches: Sperryn & Co., Ltd., Moorsom St. Works, Birmingham; J. H. Tucker & Co., King's Rd., Hay Mills, Birmingham.—Tallow: Langley-Smith & Co., 14/20, St. Mary Axe, E.C.—Tallow (Term Contract): T. Harris & Co., Ltd., 4, Lloyd's Avenue, E.C.—Tape, Cotton: J. Lilley & Sons, Dean St., Derby; G. H. Wheatcroft & Co., Wirksworth.—Tape, Stay: E. Barlow, Ltd., Radcliffe, Manchester; A. Green, Ltd., New Normanton Mill, Derby; Oakden & Co., Ltd., Newtown Mills, Bedworth, Nuneaton.—Targets: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Paul St., Finsbury, E.C.—Tarpaulins: J. H. Peck & Co., Ltd., Wallgate, Wigan; J. Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., 44, Upper East Smithfield, E.; W. Smith, Columbia Works, Poplar, E.—Tents and Parts: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2/4, Southgate Rd., N.; J. A. Cooper, Victoria Works, Bedminster, Bristol; C. Groom, Ltd., Dod St., Limehouse, E.; Maple & Co., Ltd., Tottenham Court Rd., W.; N. E. E. Minty, Cherwell St., Oxford.—Tinware: Barclay & Fry, Ltd., The Grove, Southwark St., S.E.; Bartlett & Digby, 66, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.; Bradley & Co., Ltd., Albion Works, Bilston; S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs; E. Camelinat & Co., Ltd., Tenby St., Birmingham; Chatham & Son, Ltd., Abow St., Wolverhampton; Excel Co., Ltd., Carpenter's Rd., Stratford, E.; Farmer & Chapman, Ltd., Caledonian Works, Bilston; H. Grant & Co., Ltd., Riley St., Tower Bridge, S.E.; T. Johnson & Co., Cambridge St., Bilston; Joyce Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Centurion Rd., Brighton; A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., Pier Wharf, Deptford Green, S.E.; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Palmer St., Birmingham; Newton, Shakespeare & Co., Ltd., Garrison Lane, Birmingham; Orme, Evans & Co., Elgin Works, Wolverhampton; Parkinson & W. & B. Cowan, Ltd., Bell Barn Rd., Birmingham; Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., Canister Works, Stoneferry Rd., Hull; J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Albert St. Works, Bilston; A. G. Scott & Co., Ltd., Crown Wharf, Grove St., Deptford, S.E.; Sutherland Meter Co., Ltd., Electric Avenue, Witton, Birmingham; Welford & Son, 666, Commercial Rd., Limehouse, E.—Tools: Alldays & Onions Pneumatic Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham; W. G. Birkinshaw & Co., Reliance Works, Wolverhampton; F. J. Brindley & Sons, River Lane, Sheffield; British Tool & Engineering Co., Ltd., Owen Rd. Works, Wolverhampton; W. Brookes & Sons, Howard Works, Sheffield; Buck & Hickman, Ltd., 2/4, Whitechapel Rd., E.; W. & S. Butcher, Ltd., 41, Eyre Lane, Sheffield; Carr, Wild & Co., Ltd., Egerton St., Sheffield; Chater Lea, Ltd., 74, Banner St., E.C.; G. Collier, 3, Electric Avenue, Brixton, S.W.; S. A. Daniell, Ltd., Lion Works, Edward St. Parade, Birmingham; E. Elwell, Ltd., Wednesbury Forge, Wednesbury; B. Fiddian & Son, Albion Works, Stourbridge; Fox Bros. (Sheffield), Ltd., Delhi Works, Henry St., Sheffield; W. Gilpin, Senr., & Co., Ltd., Churchbridge, Cannock, Staffs; C. & J. Hampton, Ltd., Attercliffe, Sheffield; Hardy Patent Pick Co., Ltd., Sheffield; A. Hildick, Rutland Rd., Sheffield; Hope Works Co., Shaw Rd., Dudley; W. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Brades Steel Works, Birmingham; S. & J. Kitchen, Summerfield St., Sheffield; T. Lambert & Sons, Napier St., Sheffield; Lawson & Heaton, Ltd., 315, Long Acre, Netchells, Birmingham; C. Lucas & Son, Scotch Lane, Prescott; J. McDowall & Sons, Walkinshaw Foundry, Johnstone, N.B.; R. Martindale & Co., Ltd., Alma St., Aston, Birmingham; Moore & Wright, 137, Trafalgar St., Sheffield; I. Nash & Sons, Ltd., Wollaston Mills, Stourbridge; T. Newey & Sons, Ltd., 8, St. Mary's Row, Birmingham; F. G. Pearson & Co., Hope Works, Sheffield; J.

War Office—continued.

Perks & Sons, Ltd., Monmore Green Works, Wolverhampton; G. Potts & Co., Hayes Works, Blackheath, Birmingham; Provident Steel and Tool Co., Ltd., Brown St., Sheffield; Sanderson Bros. & Newbould, Ltd., Newhall Rd., Sheffield; I. & D. Smallwood, Leopold St., Birmingham; J. H. Smith, Roway Works, Oldbury, Birmingham; Steel Nut & J. Hampton, Ltd., Wednesbury; G. V. & H. Stormont, 124, Fitzwilliam St., Sheffield; J. H. Swift & Sons, Ltd., Penistone Rd., Sheffield; Swindell & Co., Ltd., Withymoore Works, Netherton, Dudley; J. Watts, Lambert St., Sheffield; Whitehouse Bros., Ltd., District Works, Cannock, Staffs; C. Whitehouse & Sons, Ltd., Cannock, Staffs; Wolseley Sheep Shearing Machine Co., Ltd., Sydney Works, Alma St., Birmingham; Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Commercial St., Birmingham.—Tools (Term Contracts): J. Bedford & Sons, Ltd., Ball St. Works, Sheffield; W. G. Birkinshaw & Co., Derry St., Wolverhampton; B. Fiddian & Son, Albion Spade Works, Stourbridge; W. Gaythwaite, The Forges, Cleator, Cumberland; Hardy Patent Pick Co., Ltd., Sheffield; J. Hatton, Washing Pool, Stourbridge; Leedham & Heaton, Ltd., Armley Rd. Works, Leeds; W. Mills & Co., Woodhouse Mills, Sheffield; W. Park & Co., Wigan; J. Perks & Sons, Ltd., Monmore Green Works, Wolverhampton; J. Potts & Son, Old Hill, Staffs; C. T. Skelton & Co., Ltd., Sheafbank Works, Sheffield; L. Thomas & Co., Coaley Edge Tool Works, near Dursley, Glos; G. Wolfe & Sons, Ltd., West Lothian Works, Bathgate, J. Yates & Co., Ltd., Aston Manor, Birmingham.—Towels: Barlow & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; J. Smith, Hargreaves & Co., Ltd., 11, Fountain St., Manchester.—Troughing, Steel: J. Lysaght, Ltd., St. Vincent Works, Bristol.—Tubing, Metal: A. C. Potter & Co., Lant St., S.E.—Twill, Proofing of: A. Cairns & Co., Commerce St., Glasgow; Ioco Proofing Co., Ltd., Anniesland, Glasgow; Northern Rubber Co., Retford.—Valises, Tent: Gowen & Co., Tollesbury.—Valves, Sluice, &c.: E. Bennett & Son, Ltd., 45/51, Leman St., E.; British Steam Specialities, Ltd., 80, Turnmill St., E.C.; Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., 39, Victoria St., S.W.; T. Harper & Co., Garston, Liverpool; A. Turnbull & Co., Ltd., Bishopbriggs, Glasgow; United Brassfounders & Engineers, Ltd., Empress Foundry, Cornbrook, Manchester.—Varnish (Term Contract): Naylor Bros. (London), Ltd., Southall, Middlesex.—Watches: Rotherham & Sons, Ltd., Coventry; Stockall, Marples & Co., Ltd., 6/10, Clerkenwell Rd., E.C.—Wheels, Barrow: A. Barrett & Co., The Forge, Bradford; Carntyne Steel Castings Co., Renfrew, N.B.; J. Gibson & Co., Ltd., Unity Works, West Bromwich; Jones & Attwood, Ltd., Stourbridge and Sheffield; Malleable Steel Castings Co., Lonsdale St., Pendleton, Manchester.—Wire, Electric: British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Warrington; Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Hamilton House, Victoria Embankment, E.C.; I. Frankenburg & Sons, Ltd., Rubber & Cable Works, Salford, Manchester; Fuller's Wire & Cable Co., Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester; A. Green, Ltd., New Normanton Mills, Derby; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.; Hooper's Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., Millwall Docks, E.; Liverpool Electric Cable Co., Ltd., Linacre Lane, Bootle, Liverpool; Midland Electric Wire Co., Ltd., Lutterworth.—Wire, Iron and Steel: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Cleveland Wire Mills, Middlesbrough; Firth Co., Ltd., Florence Mills, Warrington; R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Bradford Iron Works, Manchester; J. Rigby & Sons, Ltd., Parkhouse Wire Mills, Low Moor, Bradford; J. Shipman & Co., Ltd., Attercliffe, Sheffield.—Woodware (Miscellaneous): W. H. Beal, Sharp St., Hull; Birmingham Cabinet Manufacturing Co., Redhill Rd., Hay Mills, Birmingham; C. R. Claridge, The Basin, Exeter; Cork Timber & Iron Co., Cork; Fosters, Ltd., Boxmoor, Herts; G. E. Gray, Katherine Rd., Forest Gate, E.; W. Lambert, Spring Bank, Nelson; J. Parkinson & Sons (Blackpool), Ltd., Talbot Rd., Blackpool; E. Punnett & Sons, Ltd., Vale Rd., Tonbridge; Rippers, Ltd., Castle Hedingham, Essex.—Works Services: Drainage at Canterbury: G. E. Wallis & Sons, Ltd., Broadmead Works, Maidstone; H. Pierill, 24, Canning Rd., Wealdstone, Middlesex; Drainage at Turnhouse: Stark & Dobbie, 204, St. Vincent St., Glasgow; Electric Lighting at Lympe: H. J. Cash & Co., Ltd., Caxton House, Westminster; Electric Lighting at Thetford: Tredgars, Ltd., 7, Brook St., W.; Electric Lighting at Turnhouse: Allan, Arthur & Ure, 192a, St. Vincent St., Glasgow; Heating Installation at Croydon: Wenham & Fowler, 70a, North End, Croydon; Heating Installation at Farnborough: W. Watkins & Son, 234a, High Rd., Wood Green, N.; Repairs at Hospital at Tooting: J. Garrett & Sons, 83, Balham Hill, S.W.—Erection of—Buildings at Yatesbury: Holland & Hannen & Cubitts, 12, Hyde St., W.C.; Cookhouse, &c., at Newmarket: J. Thompson & Sons, 43, Wood St., Peterborough; Hospital Ward at Mansfield: J. C. Vaughan & Son, 27, Commercial St., Hereford; Hospital Hut at Tipperary: J. Murphy, Blackrock Rd., Cork; Huts at Borrowstoun Mans: W. R. Thomson & Co., Bonnington Rd., Leith; Huts at Culross: W. R. Thomson & Co., Bonnington Rd., Leith; Huts at Dunfermline: W. R. Thomson & Co., Bonnington Rd., Leith; Huts at Hurst Park: Clements, Knowling & Co., Ltd., 27, Culmington Rd., Ealing, W.; Huts at Mannerston: W. R. Thomson & Co., Bonnington Rd., Leith; Huts at Upavon: W. E. Chivers & Son, Devizes, Wilts; Sanitary Blocks at Gourcock: J. Baxter & Sons, 20, Catherine St., Glasgow; Screens at Aldershot: Ham Baker & Co., Langley Green, Birmingham; Shed at Lancaster: A. Lloyd, Mandeville St., Liverpool; Shed at Manchester: R. Carlyle & Co., Ltd., Elsinore St., Manchester.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Paper of Various Descriptions: Caribonum Co., Ltd., Caribonum Works, Leyton, N.E.; Inveresk Paper Mills Co., Musselburgh; Cooke & Nuttall, Ltd., Vale Paper Mills, Horwich; Thomas and Green, Ltd., Soho Mills, Woodburn, Bucks; Thames Paper Co., Purfleet, Essex; A. West & Partners, 91/98 York St., S.W.; A. E. Mallandain, King's House, King's St., E.C.; A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Valleyfield Paper Mills, Penicuik; Wiggins, Teape & Co., Ltd., Buckland Mill, Dover; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Moffat Mills, Airdrie; A. M. Peebles & Sons, Ltd., Whiteash Paper Mill, Oswaldtwistle, nr. Accrington; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead, Herts; F. Tremlett & Co., Ltd., Stoke Canon Paper Works, nr. Exeter; Spicer Bros., Ltd., King's Mill, Alton, Hants; R. Sommerville & Co., Crech Mill, Taunton; J. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd., 83, Upper Thames St., E.C.; A. Pirie & Sons, Ltd., Stoneywood Works, Bucksburn, Aberdeen-shire; C. T. Hook & Co., Ltd., Snodland, Kent.—Printing and Binding: Printing, binding, &c., 60,000 "Army Books"; 30,000 "Army Books"; 500,000 "Army Books"; binding 3,000 books, "D.475c"; printing and binding 8,000 "Army Books"; 10,000 books, "D.223"; binding, &c., 8,000 "Cyphering Books"; printing 6,000 "Army Books"; printing and binding 30,000 Books, "T.E. 1030 Workmen's Diary"; printing, &c., 10,000 Pads, "Army Books"; 1,500 Time Sheet Books: Sir J. Causton & Sons, Ltd., 139, Clapham Rd., S.W. Printing, binding, &c., 40,000 "Army Books"; printing, &c., 20,000 "Army Books"; printing, binding, &c., 100,000 "Army Books"; 4,000 "Army Books"; binding, &c., 50,000 Memo Books; printing, binding, &c., 2,500 Books, "S.248 Leave Tickets"; binding, &c., 52,000 Memo Books; printing, binding, &c., 10,000 "Army Books"; jobwork printing Pp.157 (1917); binding, &c., 50,000 "Small Note Books," No. 2; printing, binding, &c., 30,000 "Shorthand Note Books No. 3"; McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton, Bucks. Printing, binding, &c., 5,000 "Army Books"; W. Brendon & Son, Ltd., West Hoe, Plymouth. Printing, binding, &c., 10,000 "Army Books"; binding 1,500 Books, "D.475A"; supplying 8,000 Springback Portfolios; binding, &c., 5,000 Books, "D.192, M.209, S.472"; printing, binding, &c., 1,000 Books, "D.456"; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Paul St., Finsbury, E.C. Printing 2,650,000 Labels, No. 166a, Weekly until May 30th; Leslie Smith & Co., Goddman St., St. Paul's, E.C. Printing 500,000 A.R.M.W. 40: Harrison & Sons, 45, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. Printing 75,000 lifts of 25 forms each; 180,000 lifts of 10 forms each, M.O.D., No. 3.D.; punching, taping, &c., 90,000 Books, A.F.; printing 1,500,000 "Army Forms; 40,000 Registry Jackets; printing 4,000 Books, "Postmasters No. 1037"; W. P. Griffith & Sons, Ltd., Prujean Square, Old Bailey, E.C. Printing 180,000 "Army Books"; 500,000 "Army Books"; Burrup, Mathieson & Sprague, Ltd., 114, Southwark St., S.E. Printing 100,000 "Army Books"; J. Parry & Co., Ltd., Upper Thames St., E.C., and Horse Shoe Alley, S.E. Printing 100 Reels of 500 Targets: J. Spicer & Sons, Red Cross St., S.E. Printing 100 Reels of 500 Targets: Geo. Reynolds, Ltd., 23, Stepney Green, E. Printing 2,500,000 Manilla Labels, Army Form: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead, Herts. Printing 100,000 Linen Labels: Cooper, Dennison & Walkden, Ltd., Verney Rd., S.E. Printing 4,000 "Army Books"; Taylor, Garnett, Evans & Co., Ltd., South Reddish, Stockport. Printing 16,000 "Army Books"; printing, binding, &c., 150,000 "Army Books"; supplying 1,000 Portfolios, "D.475"; binding, &c., 2,500 "D.458 Copying Letter Book"; ruling 14,000 reams paper; printing 140,000 Registry Jackets: Willmott & Sons, Ltd., 52/56, Bartholomew Close, E.C., and 36/40, Fann St., E.C. Printing, &c., 20,000 "Army Books"; Tee, Whiten & J. Mead, Ltd., 258, Waterloo Rd., S.E. Binding, &c., 2,500 "D.458 Copying Letter Book"; ruling and cameoing 800 reams demy; ruling, &c., 2,000 reams foolscap: Drake, Driver & Leaver, Ltd., Rosebery Avenue, E.C. Binding, &c., 3,000 Manifold Books (3 sizes); jobwork printing Gp. 156 (1917) Section A: Suttley & Silverlock, Ltd., Newcomen St., S.E., and 92, Blackfriars Rd., S.E. Printing 117,000 cards: Geo. Reynolds, Ltd., Stepney Green, E. Making 1,000 Loose Leaf Binders: Moore's Modern Methods, Ltd., 12, St. Bride St., E.C. Supplying 350 "Majestical" Mechanisms: British L. Leaf Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 25, Finsbury St., E.C. Supplying 15,000 Portfolios 14 in. by 8 1/2 in. by 2 in.: G. & J. Kitcat, Ltd., 50, Hatton Garden, E.C. Printing, binding, &c., 1,500 Books, "D.712"; supplying 10,000 Portfolios, 14 in. by 8 1/2 in. by 2 in.; binding, &c., 5,000 Books, "D.192, M.209, S.472"; Clements, Newling & Co., Ltd., 28/32, Chiswell St., E.C. Supplying 15,000 Portfolios, 14 in. by 8 1/2 in. by 2 in.: J. Adams, 76/8, Gray's Inn Rd., W.C. Binding, &c., 14,750 Foolscap Memo Books: J. Rissen, Ltd., Clerkenwell Green, E.C. Printing, &c., 50,000 Pads, Army Form: The Northamptonshire Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd., Kettering. Printing 30,000 Diagrams: Roberts & Leete, 19/25, Bermondsey St., S.E. Printing 2,000,000 Army Forms: The Hills Press, Holmeside, Sunderland. Printing 50,000 Pads, Army Form: J. Corah & Son, Wood Gate Works, Loughborough, Leicestershire. Binding 5,000 copies Board of Agriculture Leaflets, Nos. 1-100: Leighton, Son & Hodge, Ltd., 16, New St. Square, E.C. Binding 10,000 Garrison Artillery Training: A. W. Bain & Co., Ltd., 17/19, Bishop's Rd., E. Printing 2,500 Books, Army Form: Jas. Truscott & Son, Ltd., Suffolk Lane, Cannon St., E.C. Jobwork printing Gp. 156 (1917), Section B: Isle of Wight County Press, Ltd., High St., Newport, Isle of Wight. Printing 7,000,000 Army Form: The Premier Press, Lancaster St., Southwark, S.E. Stores and Miscellaneous: Envelopes of various descriptions: Thornburn, Bain & Co., Broadwall, Stamford St., S.E.; A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., 24/5, Upper Thames St., E.C.; J. G. Graves, Ltd., Sheffield.

INDIA OFFICE: STORE DEPARTMENT.

Axes: W. Gilpin & Co., Cannock, Staffs.—**Axeboxes:** Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Newton-le-Willows.—**Core:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Woolwich, S.E.—**Crucibles:** Morgan Crucible Co., Battersea, S.W.—**Cutters:** H. Rossell & Co., Sheffield.—**Gauges, &c.:** Kitson & Co., Leeds.—**Metal, Stereo:** Grey & Marten, 54, Park St., S.E.—**Moulds:** J. Barcham Green & Son, Maidstone.—**Paper:** A. Cowan & Sons, 24, Upper Thames St., E.C.; Ellams Duplicator Co., 72, King St., E.C.; Basted Paper Mills Co., Sevenoaks.—**Springs:** T. Turton & Son, Sheffield.—**Transmitters, &c.:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Woolwich.—**Tyres:** Taylor Bros. & Co., Leeds.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Admiralty Transport Office, Erection: F. & H. F. Higgs, Ltd., Hinton Rd., Herne Hill, S.E. Bradford District, Ordinary Works and Repairs: Thomas Obank & Sons, Cyprus Works, Thackley, Bradford. Bramley, Construction of Railway Sidings: W. Alban Richards & Co., 16, Albemarle St., W. Broadheath, Construction of Railway Sidings: W. Alban Richards & Co., 16, Albemarle St., W. Embankment Gardens, Temporary Building: F. G. Minter, Ferry Works, Putney. Gwydyr House, Extension: F. G. Minter, Ferry Works, Putney. India and Canada Houses, Partitions: Leslie & Co., Ltd., Kensington Square, W. Montague House, &c., Gardens, Temporary Building: F. G. Minter, Ferry Works, Putney. Surrey Commercial Dock, Customs Offices: Thomas & Edge, 79, New Rd., Woolwich, S.E.—**Engineering Service:** Military Transport Building, Victoria Embankment, Heating, Hot Water and Gas Services: Beaven & Sons, Ltd., 27, Victoria St., S.W.—**Furniture:** Bookcases: E. Pollard & Co., Ltd., 29, Clerkenwell Rd., E.C. Chairs: J. Elliot & Sons, 267, Desborough Rd., High Wycombe; J. Gomm, 113, Gordon Rd., High Wycombe; George A. Large & Son, Jubilee Rd., High Wycombe. Cupboards, dwarf, and cases of Pigeon Holes: Wm. Shurmur & Sons, Ltd., Riverside Works, Upper Clapton, N.E. Desks, double: G. M. Hammer & Co., Ltd., St. James's Rd., Bermondsey, S.E. Desks, Single: Friend, Cocks & Co., Sedan St., Ipswich. Plan Presses: T. Bradford & Co., Crescent Ironworks, Salford. Presses: Wake & Dean, Ltd., Yatton, nr. Bristol. Shelving at Stationery Office, Kingsway, W.C.: Higgs & Hill, Ltd., Crown Works, South Lambeth Rd., S.W. Tables, Officers': Isaacs & Co., Alcester St., Birmingham. Table Racks: E. R. Livermore, 77, Northdown St., King's Cross, N.; A. Cooper & Co., Ogle Works, Ogle St., W.—**Miscellaneous:** Birmingham Parcel Office, Fittings: E. Crowder, Farm St., Birmingham.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Repairing Wire: Wynn, Timmins & Co. Ltd., Birmingham.—**Apparatus, Telegraphic:** India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Silvertown, E.—**Apparatus, Telephonic:** British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—**Arms, Telegraph, Pole, Tubular:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Cable, Submarine:** Telegraph Construction & Maintenance Co., Ltd., Greenwich, S.E.—**Cable, Telegraphic:** Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.—**Cases, Packing:** J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Chloride of Ammonia:** Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich.—**Clamps, Wrought Iron:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Clothing, Uniform:** C. & J. Webb & Co., Ltd., Burdett Rd., E.—**Coils, Loading:** Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.—**Galvanometers:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; W. G. Pye & Co., Cambridge.—**Headresses:** Richard Burley, Ltd., Luton.—**Plates for Stay Rods:** Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Plugs, Cable, Distribution:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot.—**Rods, Stay:** Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Suspenders for Cable:** P. Huntington & Co., Liverpool.—**Wire, Bronze:** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor, Staffs.; F. Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—**Wire, Copper, Strand:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescot.

H.M. PRISON COMMISSION.

Boards, &c., for Brushmaking: Leif, Sundt & Co., 62, New Broad St., E.C.; Verinder & Sons, 12, Great Eastern St., E.C.—**Boots and Shoes:** Adams Bros., Raunds.—**Brushmaking Materials:** Arnold & Gould, Glemsford, Suffolk; W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; J. Griffin, 270, Tabard St., S.E.; J. M. Hamilton & Co., Ltd., Hull; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; T. Rushworth & Son, Ltd., 52, Dantzic St., Manchester; Verinder & Sons, Ltd., 12, Great Eastern St., E.C.—**Cotton Materials:** J. Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., 50, Piccadilly, Manchester; J. Johnson, 24, China Lane, Piccadilly, Manchester; Woods, Sons & Co., 62/63, Queen St., E.C.—**Drugs and Sundries:** Baiss Bros. & Co., Ltd., Grange Rd., Bermondsey, S.E.—**Gas Mantles:** Plaissetty Co., Parkfield Works, Leyton, E.—**Grindery:** W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; H. Campbell & Co., Ltd., 41, Royal Avenue, Belfast; J. Legard & Son, Bull Ring, Wakefield; Pocock Bros., 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; Wilkins & Denton, 298/304, Bishopsgate, E.C.—**Haberdashery:** R. H. Barker & Co., Rutland Mills, Wakefield; J. Bond (London), Ltd., 75, Southgate St., N.; Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Cross St., Leek; Buttons, Ltd., Portland St., Birmingham; Carr Bros., Ltd., Royal East St., Leicester; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.; Newey Bros., Ltd., Brearley St., Birmingham; W. Paton, Ltd., Johnstone, Scotland; F. Percival, Ltd., Valentine Place, Blackfriars Rd., S.E.; A. Shrimpton & Sons, Britannia Works, Redditch; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Brearley St., Birmingham; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Kiln Mill, Watergate, Dewsbury; Woods, Sons & Co., 62/3, Queen St., E.C.—**Hemp, Jute and Linen Materials:** W. Ewart & Son, Ltd., 9, Bedford St., Belfast; W. Ritchie & Son, 3, East India Ave., E.C.; Stevenson & Son, Ltd., Dungannon, Co. Tyrone.—**Leather:** Pocock Bros., 235, Southwark Bridge Rd., S.E.; J. Tullis & Son, Ltd., 5, Lloyds Avenue, E.C.—**Mailbag Canvas:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; The Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., 39, St. Andrew's St., Dundee; D. Corsar & Sons, Ltd., 5/6, Carey Lane, E.C.; Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen.—**Mailbag Sundries:** Barton & Sons, Ltd., Beehive Works, Walsall; J. Birch & Sons, Ltd., Brook St., Walsall; Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd., Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham; F. Dowler & Sons, Aston, Birmingham; H. Frost & Co., Ltd., Fieldgate, Walsall; J. H. Hawkins & Co., 16, Station St., Walsall; W. & J. Knox, Ltd., Kilbirnie, Ayrshire; H. Moseley & Son, Bath St. Works, Walsall; Newey Bros., Ltd., Brearley St., Birmingham; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; C. C. Walker, Ltd., Stafford St., Walsall; H. W. Walker, 2, Fenchurch Avenue, E.C.—**Meat:** Gunton Bros., Central Meat Market, E.C.; A. Wolsey & Co., Central Meat Market, E.C.—**Oatmeal, &c.:** G. T. Cox & Sons, Ltd., 31, King William St., E.C.; J. F. Percival, Ltd., Valentine Place, Blackfriars, S.E.—**Rope, Twine, &c.:** W. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn, Ireland; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2, Budge Row, E.C.; J. T. Davis, Ltd., Coborn Rd., Bow, E.; T. S. Donne & Sons, Castle Cary, Somerset; W. Peters & Sons, Goodman's Fields, E.; Stephens Bros. & Martin, St. Philip's Mills, Bristol; Woods, Sons & Co., 62/3, Queen St., E.C.—**Soap:** J. Knight, Ltd., Silvertown, E.—**Tin Plates:** C. Hatton & Co., 107, Upper Thames St., E.C.—**Tools, &c.:** Baxendale & Co., Ltd., Miller St., Manchester; Bodill, Parker & Co., Ltd., Gt. Hampton Row, Birmingham; Pryke & Palmer, 40/41, Upper Thames St., E.C.; H. Woolley & Sons, Birmingham Rd., Redditch.—**Vegetables:** Lee Bros., Borough Market, S.E.—**Weaving Gear:** Baxter & Thrippleton, St. Ann's Mills, Kirkstall, Leeds; T. Miln, Baltic Factory, Dundee; Milner & Firth, Ltd., Yeadon, nr. Leeds.—**Weaving Materials—Cotton, &c.:** Hoare, Marr & Co., 26/27, Budge Row, E.C.—**Weaving Materials, Woollen:** Baxter & Thrippleton, St. Ann's Mills, Kirkstall, Leeds; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Kiln Mill, Watergate, Dewsbury.—**Woollen Materials:** T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Apperley Bridge, Bradford; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., Ltd., 69/72, Hatfield St., Southwark, S.E.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Accountments (extension for one year): W. Jenkinson & Co., 23, White St., Moorfields, E.C.—**Bedding** (extension for one year): W. & C. Nightingale, 65, Dean St., Oxford St., W.