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

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT at 18th October showed a decline as compared with 13th September, mainly due to seasonal influences.

Insured Persons in work.—It is estimated that at 18th October, 1937, the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, in employment in Great Britain, exclusive of persons within the agricultural scheme, was approximately 11,659,000. This was 47,000* less than at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis† there was an increase of about 464,000* as compared with 26th October, 1936.

Numbers Unemployed (excluding Persons normally in Casual Employment).—At 18th October, 1937, there were 1,159,613 persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain who were out of a situation. This was 68,646 more than at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 153,150† as compared with 26th October, 1936. The total on 18th October, 1937, was made up of 911,336 men, 33,587 boys, 178,801 women, and 35,889 girls.

Numbers Temporarily Stopped.—At 18th October, 1937, there were registered as unemployed in Great Britain 110,483 men, 2,911 boys, 58,888 women, and 4,055 girls who were on short time or otherwise temporarily suspended from work, making a total of 176,337. This was 15,400 less than at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 5,130† as compared with 26th October, 1936.

Numbers unemployed normally in Casual Employment. At 18th October, 1937, there were on the registers in Great Britain 52,663 men, 143 boys, 1,488 women, and 5 girls who normally seek a livelihood by means of jobs of short duration, making a total of 54,299. This was 2,201 less than at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 8,140† as compared with 26th October, 1936.

Applicants for Benefit or Allowances.—The total of 1,390,249 persons on the registers at 18th October, 1937, included 644,393 persons with claims admitted for insurance benefit (of whom 3,768 had applications authorised for payment of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit), 47,139 claimants whose position under the conditions relating to contributions paid and benefit received had not been determined, and 6,107 persons who had been disqualified for short periods from receiving benefit (of whom 3,003 had applications authorised for payment of unemployment allowances). There were also 544,063 persons (not included in any of the foregoing classes) with applications authorised for unemployment allowances, 699 persons with applications for allowances under consideration, and 147,848 other persons, of whom 31,722 were under 16 years of age.

* The figures for 13th September, 1937, and 26th October, 1936, have been revised (see page 424).

† For the purpose of comparison with 26th October, 1936, an estimate has been made of the effect of the change in the procedure for counting the unemployed introduced in September, 1937 (see page 379 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE).

Percentages Unemployed.—Among insured workpeople, aged 16-64 (excluding persons within the agricultural scheme), the percentage unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 10·2 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 9·7* at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis† there was a decrease of 1·4* as compared with 26th October, 1936.

Industries in which the Principal Variations occurred.—There was a decline in employment, between 13th September and 18th October, in the distributive trades, the hotel and boarding house, shipping, road transport and railway services, in building and public works contracting, in the wool textile, linen, printing and book-binding, and general engineering industries, and in bread, biscuit, etc., making. There was also a slight decline in agriculture, horticulture, etc. On the other hand employment improved in the cotton and tailoring industries, in coal mining, ship building and repairing, dock and harbour service, and in the fishing industry.

WAGES.

The changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in October resulted in an increase of about £64,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 620,000 workpeople.

The principal classes of workpeople affected by the increases were coal miners in several districts; iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands; iron and steel wire drawers; workpeople engaged in textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing; dressmakers in England and Wales; certain railway employees; workpeople (except motor drivers and statutory attendants) in the furniture removal and warehousing industry in England and Wales; and gas workers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The changes so far reported in the ten completed months of 1937 are estimated to have resulted in a net increase of about £594,000 in the weekly full-time rates of wages of 4,611,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st November the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 60 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 58 per cent. at 1st October, and 51 per cent. at 31st October, 1936. The corresponding percentages for food only were 46, 43, and 36, respectively.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in October was 126. In addition 24 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of workpeople involved in these 150 disputes, including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, was about 65,000, and the aggregate duration of the disputes in October is estimated at about 285,000 working days.

* † See footnotes in previous column.

in former years, has continued. The clothing industries exhibit somewhat similar characteristics.

In coal mining, and in the cotton and wool textile industries, the proportions of new entrants are below the average, while the net movement out of the industries is above the average.

CHANGES IN INDUSTRIES, 1923-1937.

The Table given on pages 444 and 445 indicates, by means of index numbers, the degree of expansion or contraction which has occurred during the period of fourteen years, 1923-1937, in the numbers of persons attached to various industries, so far as indicated by the statistics of insured persons. For the years 1923-27 the available figures relate to persons aged 16 and over (including those over 65 years of age), while for 1928-37 they relate only to persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive. From information which was available as to the approximate proportions over 65 years of age, estimates have been made of the numbers aged 16-64 in each industry in 1927, and these estimates have been used to provide a means of linking up the two series of figures on a comparable basis.

The Table below shows for each of the nine main groups of industries, the percentage changes in the estimated numbers insured, aged 16-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland between 1923 and each of the years 1929, 1932, 1936, and 1937 :-

Table showing percentage changes in the estimated numbers insured, aged 16-64, in various industries from 1923 to 1937. Includes columns for Group, July 1923, July 1929, July 1932, July 1936, July 1937, and Estimated Number Insured at July 1937.

In each of these groups, except mining and quarrying, there was an increase, between July, 1936, and July, 1937, in the total number of insured persons.

The figures for the manufacturing group, in particular, reflect the recent industrial recovery. In this group the number of insured persons, aged 16-64, increased between July, 1936, and July, 1937, by 271,660, or 4.4 per cent. It is of interest to note that, while at July, 1936, the manufacturing group included 46.4 per cent. of all insured persons, aged 16-64, no less than 75.8 per cent. of the total increase during the following year in the numbers insured was absorbed by that group.

The decline in the numbers in the mining and quarrying group has continued, but there was, in 1936-37, a further increase in the numbers in iron ore and iron-stone mining.

The figures for the transport and distribution group continue to indicate a slackening in the rate of expansion.

The Table brings out the marked expansion since 1923 of the miscellaneous services group, the building and contracting industries and transport and distribution; but as already pointed out there have been signs in the last year or two of a slackening in their rate of increase. For some years up to 1935 there was a tendency for the transport and miscellaneous services groups to expand at a much greater rate than the manufacturing group. In 1936-37 this tendency was reversed.

Of the individual industries specified on pages 444 and 445, those showing the largest relative increases since 1923 in the numbers insured include the electrical industries, motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft manufacture, silk and artificial silk manufacture, certain industries (such as artificial stone and concrete, heating and ventilating apparatus, paints, varnish, etc., and brick and tile manufacture) which are concerned with building and construction work, and scientific and photographic instrument making.

The greatest proportionate decreases, between 1923 and 1937, have occurred in cart, carriage, etc., manufacture, pig-iron manufacture, coal and iron mining, and certain lesser mining and quarrying industries, ship building and repairing and marine engineering, and the cotton, lace and jute industries. In some of these industries the downward movement has been reversed in the last two years, notably in ship building and repairing, marine engineering, and pig iron manufacture.

* The figures for the fishing industry do not include share fishermen who are outside the scope of the scheme. † The figures are exclusive of considerable numbers of persons excepted from unemployment insurance under certificates of exemption.

The effect of the changes in the various industries on the relative proportions of the total number of insured persons in the nine main groups of industries referred to above is shown in the following Table :-

Relative proportions of the total insured population included in certain large groups of industries in 1923, 1929, 1932 and 1937.

Table showing relative proportions of the total insured population in various groups of industries (Fishing, Mining and Quarrying, Manufacturing, etc.) for the years 1923, 1929, 1932, and 1937.

COAL MINING.

The decrease in recent years in the number of insured persons in Great Britain, classified as attached to the coal mining industry, continued during the past year. Among persons aged 14-64 years the decrease in the numbers insured between July, 1936, and July, 1937, amounted to 28,180.

In order to determine the extent to which insured persons moved during the year from coal mining to other industries, and also in the contrary direction, special steps were again taken in connection with the exchange of unemployment books, this year, to obtain a record of such transfers in the case of men 18 to 64 years of age. The result is shown in the following Table, which gives an industrial analysis of the transfers recorded on unemployment books exchanged in the months July to September :-

Table showing transfers from coal-mining to other industries and vice versa, including net transfers from coal-mining, for various industry groups.

The number of male new entrants, into insurance in the coal-mining industry during the year 1936-37 was nearly 17,600, while 16,984 men transferred into the industry from other industries. As the net decrease in numbers aged 14-64 in the industry was over 28,000, the gross departures from the industry from all causes during the year must have numbered not less than 62,000. This figure compares with 75,000 in 1935-36.

The Table below shows the estimated numbers insured, aged 16-64, in the coal mining industry in the principal districts at July, 1923, and July, 1937, and the index numbers (1923 = 100) corresponding to the numbers insured at July, 1929, 1936, and 1937 :-

Table showing estimated numbers insured and index numbers in the coal mining industry by district (England and Wales, Scotland, Great Britain) for the years 1923, 1929, 1936, and 1937.

CHANGES IN GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

Between July, 1936, and July, 1937, there was an increase of 322,700 in the total number of insured persons, aged 14-64, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, excluding persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries, for whom an analysis by districts is not available, and agricultural workers. The changes for the various administrative areas during this period were approximately as shown below :-

Table showing administrative divisions and their respective increases or decreases in insured persons aged 14-64 between July 1936 and July 1937.

The London division again shows the largest increase in numbers, and also the greatest proportionate increase (3.5 per cent.). Almost as large a percentage increase occurred in the South-Western Division. The Midlands Division shows an increase of 3.0 per cent. and the South-Eastern Division an increase of 2.8 per cent. In Northern Ireland there was an increase of 3.2 per cent. The changes in the other Divisions ranged from increases of 1.7 per cent. in Scotland, 1.6 per cent. in the North-Eastern Division, and 1.1 per cent. in the North-Western and Northern Divisions to a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in Wales.

Of the total increase in the insured population during the year, nearly one-third occurred in London and about one-fifth in the Midlands Division. The increase in London occurred mainly in the outer areas.

Between 1936 and 1937 the numbers in the Southern Section of Great Britain increased by 3.2 per cent., while in the Northern Section (including Wales and Northern Ireland) there was an increase of only 1.3 per cent.

For comparisons over a longer period the figures for insured persons aged 16-64 must be used, since juveniles under 16 years of age were not insured against unemployment prior to September, 1934. The following Table shows the changes in the estimated numbers of insured persons, aged 16-64 (exclusive of those insured under special schemes), in each administrative area between the year 1923 and the years 1929, 1932, 1936 and 1937. For the year 1923, when persons over 65 years of age were insured against unemployment, an approximate estimate has been made of the numbers aged 16 to 64.

Table showing estimated number of insured persons aged 16 to 64 in various administrative divisions for the years 1923, 1929, 1932, 1936, and 1937.

Index Numbers.

Table showing index numbers for insured persons aged 16 to 64 in various administrative divisions for the years 1923, 1929, 1936, and 1937.

The London and South-Eastern Divisions, which cover roughly an area lying to the east of a line drawn from the Wash to Portsmouth, now include 28.3 per cent. of the insured population, aged 16-64, of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as compared with 26.0 per cent. in 1929 and 24.2 per cent. in 1923. The Southern section of Great Britain now includes 51.0 per cent. of insured persons, aged 16-64, compared with 48.0 per cent. in 1929 and 45.7 per cent. in 1923. While the increase between 1923 and 1937 for the whole of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (excluding persons insured under the special schemes) is 22.3 per cent. of the numbers insured at July, 1923, the increase in the Southern Section is 36.4 per cent. and the increase in the Northern Section (including Wales and Northern Ireland) is only 10.4 per cent.

* The figures relate to the areas as defined at July, 1937. Important changes in the boundaries of some of the Divisions were made on 1st August, 1936 see * footnote on page 338 of the September, 1936, issue of this GAZETTE.

AGRICULTURAL SCHEME.

The separate scheme of unemployment insurance for agriculture, horticulture and forestry came into operation in May, 1936; but as there was no general exchange of agricultural scheme unemployment books in the following July, estimates of the number insured under that scheme could not be compiled in the normal way. Provisional estimates were made on the basis of such information as was available from the initial issues of unemployment books (see page 397 of the November, 1936, issue of this GAZETTE). It was then estimated that at the beginning of July, 1936, approximately 600,000 persons, aged 14-64, were insured under the agricultural scheme in Great Britain, and about 20,000 in Northern Ireland. These figures exclude private gardeners, who were not brought into the scheme until 1st February, 1937. The estimated total numbers of persons aged 14-64, insured under the scheme at July, 1937, are given on page 420 above as 695,000 for Great Britain and 723,000 for Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The total for Great Britain includes 105,700 private gardeners. It seems probable that the provisional estimates for Great Britain for July, 1936, were approximately correct, and it therefore appears that the numbers insured under the scheme in Great Britain (exclusive of private gardeners) decreased during the year by about 10,700.

In the Table below an analysis is given of the totals for July, 1936, and July, 1937, with separate figures for the four main sections of the industries covered by the scheme. Some classes of persons engaged in agriculture, horticulture, etc., are outside the scope of the scheme. These include (a) sons, daughters and other near relatives of the employer; (b) persons not working under a contract of service; (c) persons engaged in such casual harvesting work as hop-picking or gathering of flowers, fruit, peas or potatoes (unless they normally undertake other insurable work). Persons not domiciled in the United Kingdom, such as Irish migratory labourers, are not included in the figures. The following Table relates to Great Britain only :-

Table showing the number of persons insured in agriculture, horticulture, and forestry by age group and sex for July 1936 and July 1937.

It should be noted that certain classes of persons, including clerks, mechanics (e.g. masons, blacksmiths and carpenters) and milk roundsmen, employed by farmers, market gardeners, etc., have been, and still are, insurable against unemployment under the provisions of the general scheme of unemployment insurance, and are included in the estimates of the numbers of persons insured under that scheme. The total number of such workpeople insured at July, 1937, was approximately 10,700 of whom about 6,900 were employed by persons engaged in farming or forestry, and 3,800 by market gardeners, etc. For the purpose of estimates of the total numbers of persons in agriculture, horticulture and forestry who are insured against unemployment, these figures must be added to those given in the foregoing Table.

II. NORTHERN IRELAND.

In Northern Ireland, the number of persons insured under the agricultural scheme, at July, 1937, is estimated at about 28,000, of whom about 24,800 were engaged in farming, forestry, etc., 800 in market gardening, etc., nearly 1,800 in private gardening, and about 600 in other gardening. About 27,000 of these were men and boys, of whom 21,600 were men aged 21 or over.

Some revision has been necessary in the provisional estimates for July, 1936, of the number of persons insured under the agricultural scheme in Northern Ireland, as published on page 397 of the November, 1936, issue of this GAZETTE. The total estimated number, aged 14-64, insured under this scheme in Northern Ireland at July 1936, as now revised, was 23,900, of whom 22,700 (including 21,060 males and 990 females aged 16-64, and 650 boys and girls under 16 years) were engaged in farming, forestry, etc., 720 (660 males and 10 females aged 16-64, and 50 boys under 16) in market gardening, etc., and 490 (all males aged 16-64) in other gardening. The figures for 1936 do not include private gardening, which first became insurable in February, 1937.

EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed an improvement in some areas and was fairly good for the time of year in most districts. There was a marked decrease, at 18th October, 1937, compared with 13th September, in the number of persons recorded as temporarily stopped in Lancashire, but an increase in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 13.1 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 13.5* at 13th September, 1937. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.3 (from 9.9* to 9.6) and the percentage temporarily stopped by 0.1 (from 3.6* to 3.5). On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 6.4† in the total percentage as compared with 26th October, 1936.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the respective areas at 18th October, 1937, and the increases or decreases as compared with 13th September, 1937, and on a comparable basis, with 26th October, 1936, are shown in the following Table:—

Table showing employment in coal mining districts. Columns include Area, Insured persons (aged 16-64) recorded as unemployed at 18th October, 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a, Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals), Temporary Stoppages, Total, Month before, Year before.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 23rd October, 1937, and the average number of days worked per week during the preceding fortnight, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Table showing total number of wage earners on colliery books and average number of days worked per week at the mines. Columns include Districts, Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books, Average Number of Days worked per week at the Mines, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Fort-night ended 23rd Oct., 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Month before, Year before.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc. were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked. § Including Cannock Chase.

The average number of coal winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 23rd October, 1937, was 0.56 of a day per week, of which 0.41 of a day was due to want of trade. The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 18th September, 1937, were 0.68 and 0.43 of a day per week, respectively, and for the fortnight ended 24th October, 1936, 0.74 and 0.66 of a day per week, respectively. The average non-winding time, for each of the three periods under review, was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 23rd October, 1937, as reported to the Mines Department, was 19,517,200 tons, as compared with 18,881,200 tons in the four weeks ended 18th September, 1937, and 18,441,500 tons in the four weeks ended 24th October, 1936.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during October improved slightly and was good. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 6.9 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 7.4* at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 3.5† in the percentage as compared with 26th October, 1936.

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

Table summarising information received from employers who furnished returns. Columns include Districts, Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns, Average No. of Days worked per week at the Mines, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Fort-night ended 23rd Oct., 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Month before, Year before.

SHALE MINING.

The number of workpeople employed at the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 23rd October, 1937, by firms making returns, was 2,099, an increase of 1.3 per cent., as compared with September, 1937, and of 3.1 per cent. as compared with October, 1936.

The average number of days worked per week at the mines making returns was 5.94 in October, 1937, as compared with 6.00 in September, 1937, and 5.93 in October, 1936.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed little change and remained good in most districts.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 8.6 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 8.3* at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 4.6† in the percentage as compared with 26th October, 1936.

Returns received by the British Iron and Steel Federation from firms engaged in the production of pig iron, employing 16,442 workpeople at the end of October, 1937, showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with September, 1937, but an increase of 19.6 per cent. compared with October, 1936.

The number of furnaces in operation at the end of October, 1937, was 133, compared with 132 at the end of September, 1937, and 113 at the end of October, 1936. The figures are analysed below:—

Table showing number of furnaces in blast and inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a. Columns include Districts, Number of Furnaces in Blast, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Oct., 1937, Sept., 1937, Oct., 1936, Month before, Year before.

The production of pig iron in October, 1937, amounted to 769,600 tons, compared with 726,600 tons in September, 1937, and 670,300 tons in October, 1936.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc. were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked. § Including Cannock Chase.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed little change as compared with the previous month, but was much better than a year ago.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 9.7 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 9.8* at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 3.5† in the percentage as compared with 26th October, 1936.

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

Table summarising information from employers who furnished returns. Columns include Divisions, No. of Workpeople employed by Firms making returns, Aggregate number of Shifts, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Week ended 23rd Oct., 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Month before, Year before.

The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.7 in each of the three periods.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns from the British Iron and Steel Federation, amounted to 1,133,600 tons in October, 1937, as compared with 1,163,000 tons in September, 1937, and with 1,060,500 tons in October, 1936.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry employment in October showed little change, and continued fair; it was considerably better than a year ago. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 8.9 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 9.4* at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 10.8† in the percentage as compared with 26th October, 1936.

In steel sheet manufacture employment showed a slight decline.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at those works in respect of which returns were received for the week ended 23rd October, 1937, and comparisons with a month before and a year before:—

Table showing number of mills in operation. Columns include Works, Number of Works Open, Number of Mills in Operation, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Week ended 23rd Oct., 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Month before, Year before.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed little general change, and continued good on the whole. It was very good in electrical engineering; good in general engineering, apart from textile engineering, and in motor vehicle manufacture; it improved and was fair in marine engineering; it declined slightly in textile engineering and in constructional engineering and was moderate in both sections.

Compared with a year ago employment was better in all the principal sections of the industry; it was also better in all administrative divisions except the Midlands division, where a slight decline was recorded.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the number of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) at 18th October 1937, among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, and the increases or decreases as compared with a month*, and a year before†:—

Table showing numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 18th October, 1937. Columns include Division, Numbers of Insured Workpeople, aged 16-64, Unemployed at 18th October, 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a, Month before, Year before.

On the North-East Coast employment improved in marine engineering and was moderate; it continued fair in general engineering in that area. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment in general engineering was good, but a slight decline occurred in the textile engineering section.

In Lancashire and Cheshire employment continued good in motor vehicle manufacture; fairly good in general engineering; and fair in textile engineering. Employment in Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry continued very good in electrical and general engineering; it improved and was good in motor vehicle manufacture; and remained good in constructional engineering. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester districts employment continued good; in London and the Southern Counties it was still very good. The principal centres of aircraft manufacture showed continued activity, and employment remained very good.

In Scotland employment remained fair in marine engineering and in general engineering. Employment declined slightly in Wales and continued slack; it remained moderate in Northern Ireland.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed an improvement on the whole as compared with September, increases in the numbers recorded as unemployed in some areas being more than offset by reductions in other districts. Compared with October, 1936, employment was better in the principal areas except London.

In considering the comparisons with a year ago, given in the Table, it is necessary to bear in mind that there was a substantial increase between July, 1936, and July, 1937, in the total number of insured workpeople in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing classification.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 18th October, 1937, and the increases or decreases as compared with a month before*, and a year before†:—

Table showing numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 18th October, 1937. Columns include Division, Insured Workpeople aged 16-64, Unemployed at 18th Oct., 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a, Month before, Year before, Percentages Unemployed at 18th October, 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a, Month before, Year before.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426.

COTTON INDUSTRY

EMPLOYMENT declined at some centres and in some departments, but improved at others; on the whole, it showed an improvement. Shortages of labour were again reported at many centres. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 10.5 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 12.6* at 13th September, 1937.

Table with columns: DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS, Number of Workpeople, Wages paid to all Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before, Per cent.

Returns from firms employing about 64,300 workpeople in the week ended 23rd October, 1937, showed that about 6 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing 10 hours each on the average.

At Ashton-under-Lyne and Stalybridge employment showed little change and remained fairly good. At Stockport there was a slight improvement. Employment at Glossop and Hyde continued good. In the Oldham district employment continued good in the spinning department, and was better than in October of last year; in the manufacturing department it remained fairly good on the whole.

At Preston and Chorley employment showed a slight improvement, and most of the firms in the area were working full time. At Accrington, Great Harwood and Padiham there was little general change and employment was fairly good. At Blackburn employment declined in the manufacturing department, but was better than a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 56 Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres of Lancashire and Cheshire at 18th October, 1937:—

Table with columns: Department, Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 18th October, 1937, Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped, Total, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued to decline on the whole. The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 11.3 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 9.8 at 13th September, 1937.

Worstted Section.—Employment declined on the whole; in the sorting and combing departments it became very slack.

Returns from employers for the week ended 23rd October, 1937, showed that, in the worstted section as a whole, 24 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time; in that week, losing 11½ hours each on the average, and 11½ per cent. were on overtime, averaging 6 hours each.

Employment among woollorers continued bad; in the combing department it showed a further decline and was slack, and much below the level of a year ago. In the spinning department there was a slight decline, but employment remained moderate to good; in the manufacturing department it varied greatly from centre to centre, but remained fairly good on the whole.

At Bradford and Shipley there was a decline in all sections. There was little change at Halifax. At Keighley there was a further decline among combers and spinners. In the fine worstted (men's wear) section at Huddersfield employment again showed a slight improvement, and was moderate.

Woolen Section.—There was a slight general decline, but employment continued to be fair on the whole.

Returns from employers for the week ended 23rd October, 1937, showed that, in the woolen section as a whole, 20½ per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time; in that week, losing 8 hours each on the average, and 15 per cent. were on overtime, averaging 7 hours each.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district, and at Leeds employment remained fairly good; there was a decline, however, with firms making ladies' tweeds at Huddersfield, Yeadon and Guiseley. There was a considerable decline at Morley. In the Heavy Woollen District there was a decline, but employment was still fair.

In the blanket trade there was a decline in Yorkshire and employment was moderate; at Witney there was a slight improvement, but employment remained slack. With flannel workers employment remained fairly good; there was a slight improvement at Saddleworth. In the West of England employment remained fairly good. In the South of Scotland short time was largely worked.

Carpet Section.—There was a decline at most centres, and short time was largely worked.

The following Tables summarise the information received from employers:—

Table with columns: Departments, Number of Workpeople, Total Wages paid to all Workpeople, Week ended 23rd Oct., 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before, Index Figure, etc.

* The percentage for September has been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account, in the case of the weaving departments, other forms of under-employment, such as 'playing for wars' or tending one loom instead of two. § Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed little general change during October, and remained fairly good on the whole.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 9.1 at 18th October, 1937, the same percentage as at 13th September, 1937. On a comparable basis there was a decrease of about 0.9* in the percentage as compared with 26th October, 1936.

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

Table with columns: Number of Workpeople, Total wages paid to all Workpeople, Week ended 23rd Oct., 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before, Per cent., etc.

Table with columns: Districts, WORSTTED SECTION, WOOLEN SECTION, CARPET SECTION, Wool Sorting and Combing, Spinning, Weaving, Other Depts., All Depts.

The following Table shows, by districts and by departments, the percentage increases and decreases in the numbers employed in the week ended 23rd October, 1937, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 18th September, 1937:—

Table with columns: Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month, Wool Sorting and Combing, Spinning, Weaving, Other Depts., All Depts.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 17 employment exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 18th October, 1937:—

Table with columns: Department, Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 18th October, 1937, Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped, Total, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.

* See footnote § in second column on page 430. † Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.

Returns from firms employing about 56,250 workpeople in the week ended 23rd October, 1937, showed that 33 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, losing nearly 7 hours each on the average; while 12 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of nearly 3½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed a slight improvement; it was moderate in East London, and remained good in North London. At Leicester employment was good with women workers, and moderate generally. In the Leicestershire country district there was a further slight improvement, and employment was good.

At Northampton there was a further slight decline; employment was rather slack with most firms, and not so good as a year ago. In the Higham and Rushden district, and at Wellingborough, Irthlingborough and Raunds there was a further slight improvement, and employment was good; at other centres in the Northamptonshire country district employment declined slightly, but remained fairly good.

There was a slight seasonal decline at Stafford, though some firms continued to be well employed. At Norwich there was a further slight decline, and employment was slack.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district, and at Leeds, employment was very quiet in the heavy boot trade, and moderate generally.

Employment in the Lancashire slipper trade showed a further seasonal improvement and was good generally, though some firms at Bacup were still not fully employed.

At Kilmarnock employment continued fairly good; it was moderate at Glasgow and at Edinburgh, and fair at Maybole.

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of 53 Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 18th October, 1937:—

Table with columns: Department, Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Registers at 18th October, 1937, Wholly Unemployed, Temporarily Stopped, Total, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a month before.

* See footnote † in first column on page 426.

BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT at 18th October showed a further slight decline as compared with 13th September, but was still fairly good.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 7.9 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 7.1* at 13th September, 1937.

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

Table with columns: Districts, Number of Workpeople (Week ended 23rd Oct 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before, Year before), Total Wages paid to all Workpeople (£, Per cent., Per cent.).

Returns from employers relative to short-time and overtime working showed that, of 11,995 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 4 per cent. were working overtime to the extent of nearly 5 hours each on the average.

BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed a slight decline on the whole. The decline affected all administrative divisions and all occupations except plumbers, and was most marked in the painting and decorating branch of the industry.

As regards individual occupations, employment was fair with slaters and tilers, moderate with painters, and good with other classes of skilled operatives. In some districts shortages of certain classes of skilled operatives were reported.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, at 18th October, 1937, and the increases or decreases as compared with a month before,* and with a year before† :-

Table with columns: Occupations, Estimated Numbers aged 16-64 Insured at July, 1937, Numbers aged 16-64 Unemployed at 18th Oct., 1937, Numbers included in previous column who were Temporarily Stopped, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentages as compared with a Month before,* and Year before.†

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns as to the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved during October have been received from 142 Local Authorities (representing towns with a population of 17,311,000 in 1931).

An analysis of the figures for October, 1937, by districts and by classes of buildings is given on page 456 of this issue.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire continued fair on the whole. At Bristol there was a slight decline, but employment was still good; at Derby also it continued good.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, was 12.7 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 13.0* at 13th September, 1937.

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

Table with columns: BRANCHES, Districts, Number of Workpeople (Week ended 23rd Oct 1937, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before, Year before), Total wages paid to all Workpeople (£, Per cent., Per cent.).

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,999 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 1,324, or 12 per cent., were working on an average about 7 hours less than full time in the week ended 23rd October, 1937; on the other hand, 1,194, or nearly 11 per cent., were working overtime to the extent of about 4 hours each on the average.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry showed little change as compared with the previous month and was good generally.

In the letterpress printing industry employment showed a decline as compared with September, but was still good on the whole.

Employment in the lithographic printing industry showed a decline as compared with the previous month. With lithographic artists it continued fairly good.

In the bookbinding industry employment showed little change as compared with the previous month and was good generally.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the paper and paper-board industries was 4.2 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 4.0* at 13th September, 1937.

The following Table summarises the returns from various trade unions which furnished information :-

Table with columns: Letterpress Printing, Lithographic Printing, Printing and Bookbinding, No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct. 1937, Percentage Unemployed at end of Oct., 1937, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a Month before, Year before.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during October showed a further slight improvement, but was still slack generally.

The percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped) among insured workpeople, aged 16-64, in the dock, harbour, river and canal service was 21.7 at 18th October, 1937, as compared with 22.6* at 13th September, 1937.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

NUMBERS ON THE REGISTERS IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

THE Table below shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and for the principal towns therein, the number of unemployed persons registered at Employment Exchanges on 18th October, 1937 :-

Large table with columns: Area, Number of Persons on Register at 18th October, 1937 (Men, Women, Juveniles, Total), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in totals as compared with 13th Sept. 1937, 26th Oct. 1936. Includes sections for Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London, and SEAMEN.

* The percentages for September have been revised (see page 442). † See footnote † in first column on page 426. ‡ It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals. § Including Birkenhead and Garston. ¶ Including Avonmouth and Portsmouth. ** Including Barry and Penarth.

* See footnote † in first column on page 426. † The figures for Rutherglen are included. ‡ Comparable figures are not available. [Percentage rates of unemployment for about 760 Towns in Great Britain are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index."]

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED PERSONS AT 18th OCTOBER, 1937.

INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons, aged 16-64, insured against unemployment at July, 1937, and the total number and percentage of such persons unemployed on 18th October, 1937, distinguishing those wholly unemployed (i.e., out of a situation) from those temporarily stopped (i.e., suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment).

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of excepted employments are private domestic service, employment otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 a year, employment as female professional nurse, and, subject to certain qualifications, employment in the teaching profession and in the police forces. Employment under public or local authorities, railways and public utility companies may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted. Persons aged 65 and over, and certain other classes, are excluded from insurance. The Unemployment Insurance Acts do not apply to persons serving in an established capacity in the permanent service of the Crown. Prior to September, 1934, juveniles under 16 years of age were also excepted, and they are excluded from the statistics in these Tables; particulars of the numbers of these juveniles recorded as unemployed at 18th October, 1937, are given on page 439.

The Agricultural Scheme introduced by the Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Act, 1936, came into operation for the payment of contributions on 4th May, 1936. Unemployment benefit became payable under the Scheme six months later. Private gardeners were included as from 1st February, 1937.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or for an unemployment allowance, or registers as unemployed without claiming benefit or allowances.

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

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

The numbers unemployed given in the following Tables relate only to persons aged 16-64, insured against unemployment. They include insured persons of those ages maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges, together with those whose unemployment books remain lodged in the "two months" file referred to above. The figures given on page 427 relating to persons registered at Employment Exchanges include uninsured as well as insured persons who are maintaining registration for employment, but not insured persons whose books are in the two months file. A Table showing the composition of the two series of figures is given on page 438.

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

The estimated numbers of insured persons in each industry are computed once a year, in November, on the basis of information obtained at the annual exchange of unemployment books. The figures relate to the beginning of July, and similar statistics are not available for other dates in the year. In considering the figures on pages 436 and 437 it should be borne in mind that, in the case of individual industries, the percentage rates of unemployment at September and October, 1937, have been calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers of insured persons at July, 1937, while the figures for October, 1936, used for the purpose of comparison, are calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1936 (but see footnote § on page 437 regarding the percentages for all industries combined).

An article dealing with the changes in the numbers of insured persons in the various industry classifications appears on pages 421 and 422 of this issue. Revised percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons in each industry for the months of July to September, 1937, are given on page 422.

Table with 11 columns: INDUSTRY, GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages, Total), GREAT BRITAIN ONLY (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages, Total).

I. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEME.*

Main table for I. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEME. Lists industries like Fishing, Mining, Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemicals, Metal Manufacture, Engineering, Construction, Shipbuilding, etc., with columns for Males, Females, Total for both Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Great Britain only.

* Persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries have been included in the figures.

Table with 11 columns: INDUSTRY, GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages, Total), GREAT BRITAIN ONLY (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages, Total). Lists industries like Other Metal Industries, Textiles, Leather and Leather Goods, Clothing, Food, Drink and Tobacco, Woodworking, Paper and Paper Board, Printing, Building and Contracting, Other Manufacturing Industries, Gas, Water and Electricity Supply, Transport and Communication, Miscellaneous Trades and Services, etc.

II. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL SCHEME.

Table for II. PERSONS, AGED 16-64, INSURED UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL SCHEME. Lists Farming, Forestry, Market Gardening, Horticulture, Private Gardening, Other Gardening, with columns for Males, Females, Total.

See footnote * on page 434. † Including 56,545 casuals (males, 55,039; females, 1,506).

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1937, PERCENTAGES AT 18TH OCTOBER, 1937, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 13TH SEPT., 1937, 26TH OCT., 1936*, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 18TH OCT., 1937.

* For the purpose of comparison with 26th October, 1936, an estimate has been made of the effect of the change in the procedure for counting the unemployed, introduced in September, 1937 (see page 379 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE).

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1937, PERCENTAGES AT 18TH OCTOBER, 1937, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 13TH SEPT., 1937, 26TH OCT., 1936*, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 18TH OCT., 1937.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, AT JULY, 1937, PERCENTAGES AT 18TH OCTOBER, 1937, INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH 13TH SEPT., 1937, 26TH OCT., 1936*, GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGES AT 18TH OCT., 1937.

* See footnote * on page 436. † For 26th October, 1936, separate figures are not available. ‡ See footnote * on page 434. § The percentage for all industries and services combined for October, 1936, used for this comparison, is the revised figure based on the estimated number insured at that date—see page 424 (see also footnote * on page 436). The percentages for September and October, 1937, are based on the numbers insured at July, 1937. ¶ Comparable figures are not available.

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED. GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Table with columns: Industries, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the numbers recorded as unemployed at 18th October, 1937, compared with 13th September, 1937, Males, Females, Total.

NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE. OCTOBER, 1937.

Table with columns: Divisions, Men aged 18-64, Boys, Aged 16 & 17, 14 & 15, Women aged 18-64, Girls, Aged 16 & 17, 14 & 15, Total.

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ANALYSIS FOR 18TH OCTOBER, 1937.

Table showing composition of unemployment statistics for Great Britain, categorized by gender and age groups (18 years and over, 16-17, 14-15).

PERIODS OF REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT.

ANALYSIS IN RESPECT OF PERSONS APPLYING FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT OR UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

The following Table gives an analysis, according to the length of their last spell of registered unemployment, of persons aged 16-64 applying for insurance benefit or unemployment allowances...

Of the persons who had been on the register for extended periods a proportion, which will increase as the period on the register increases, will have had one or more short spells of employment...

Table showing periods of registered unemployment, including sub-tables for 'Applicants, aged 16-64, who had been on Register' and 'PERCENTAGES'.

Of the 744,423 applicants who had been on the register for less than three months, approximately 581,000, or 46.1 per cent, of the total number of applicants, had been on the register for less than six weeks.

* These exclusions represent (a) insurance benefit claimants in receipt of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit (numbering 3,768 at 18th October, 1937); and (b) persons disqualified for short periods from receiving benefit, who are shown in line 2 (b) of the Table.

APPLICANTS FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES.

DIVISIONAL ANALYSIS.

An analysis, for Great Britain as a whole, of the numbers registered as unemployed at 18th October, 1937, according to their position in relation to insurance benefit and unemployment allowances...

CLAIMS ADMITTED FOR INSURANCE BENEFIT.*

Table showing divisional analysis of insurance benefit claims, categorized by region (London, South-Eastern, etc.) and gender.

Table showing applications authorised for unemployment allowances, categorized by region and gender.

INDUSTRIAL TRANSFERENCE.

In continuation of particulars which appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1937 (page 315), the following Table shows the numbers of men, women, boys and girls transferred from the Depressed Areas to employment in other areas...

Table showing industrial transference statistics, including sub-tables for 'Men (18 years and over)', 'Women (18 years and over)', and 'Boys (under 18 years)'.

The numbers of cases in which assistance was given towards the removal from the Depressed Areas of the dependants and household effects of transferred workers were 3,761 in 1935, 10,179 in 1936, and 6,212 in the nine months ended September, 1937.

* The persons with claims admitted for insurance benefit included 3,768 for whom payment of unemployment allowances in supplementation of benefit had been authorised.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, ON THE REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX AT 18TH OCTOBER, 1937.

Table showing juvenile unemployment statistics, categorized by division and age groups (14-15, 16-17).

Note.—These figures include considerable numbers of boys and girls who, though registered at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux as applicants for employment, are remaining whole time at school until employment is obtained.

INSURED JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 18TH OCTOBER, 1937.

Table showing insured juveniles under 18 years of age, recorded as unemployed, categorized by division and age groups.

Note.—These figures include not only insured juveniles on the register, but also those whose unemployment books were in the "two months' file," i.e., boys and girls who had registered as unemployed at some date within the past two months, but were not maintaining registration as applicants for employment...

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT. FIVE WEEKS ENDED 25TH OCTOBER, 1937.

Table showing juveniles placed in employment, categorized by division and gender.

JUVENILES, UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, IN ATTENDANCE AT AUTHORISED COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

Table showing juveniles in attendance at authorized courses of instruction, categorized by division and gender.

* Comparable figures for other educational institutions are not available. † Of these, three Junior Instruction Centres and one class were temporarily closed.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG BOYS AND GIRLS, UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE, IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The following Table shows for each industry group, and for the principal industries, the numbers of insured boys and girls under 16 years of age recorded as unemployed in Great Britain, and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at 18th October, 1937:—

Table showing unemployment among boys and girls in insured industries, categorized by industry and region (Great Britain, Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

The figures above include those boys and girls whose unemployment books were in the "two-months file" of lodged books, i.e., boys and girls who had registered as unemployed at some date within the previous two months and were not known to have found work, but were not maintaining registration as applicants for employment.

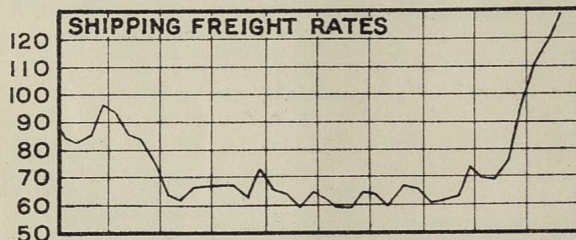
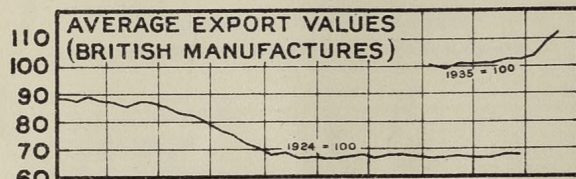
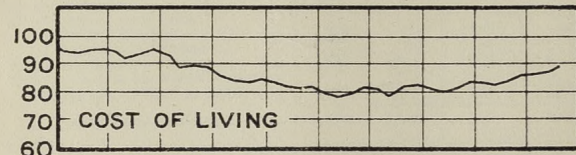
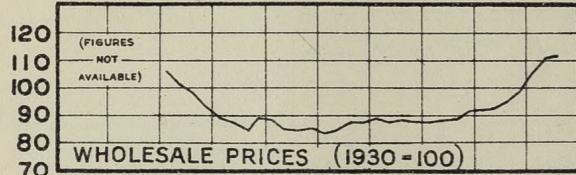
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CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT.

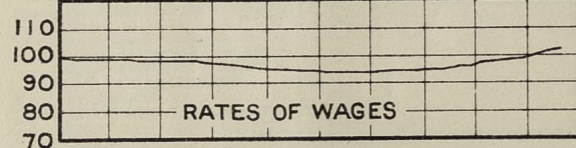
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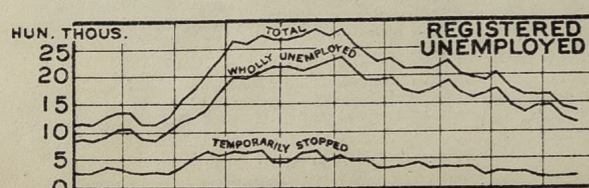
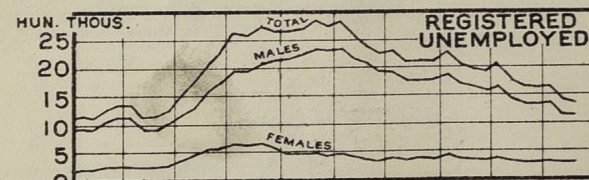
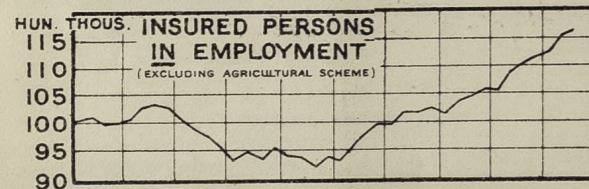
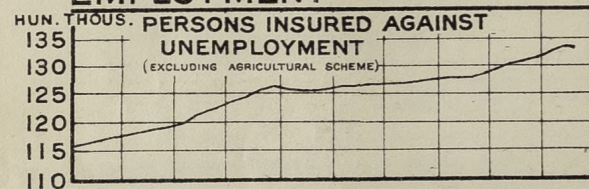
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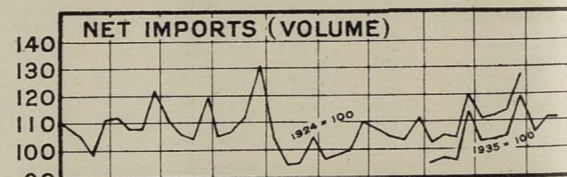
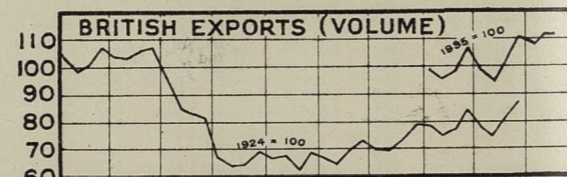
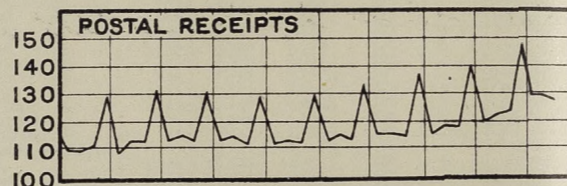
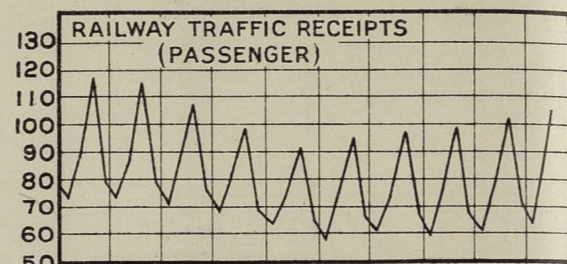
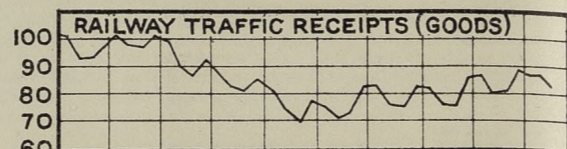
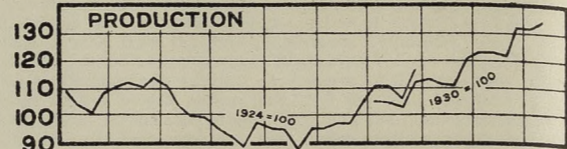
EMPLOYMENT



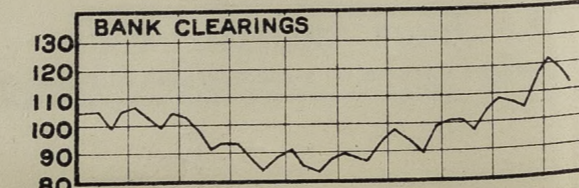
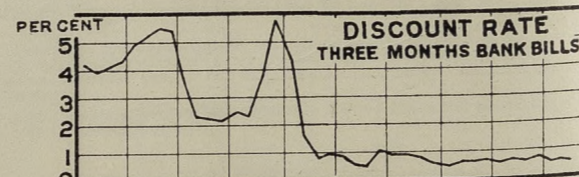
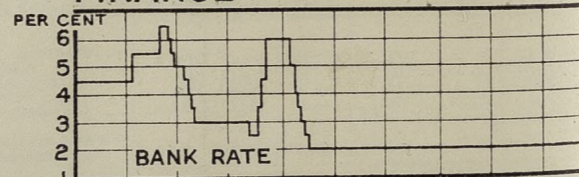
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PRODUCTION AND TRADE



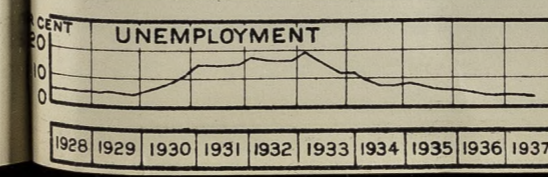
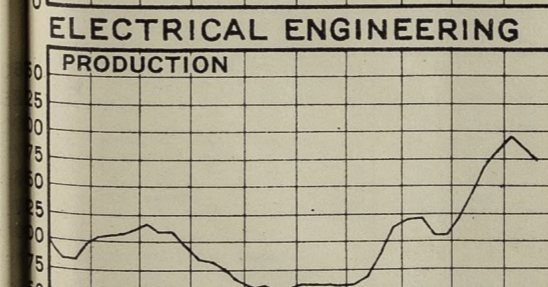
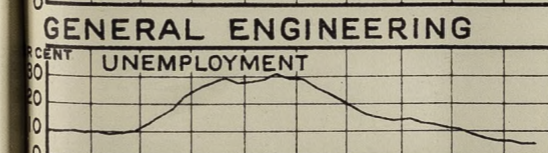
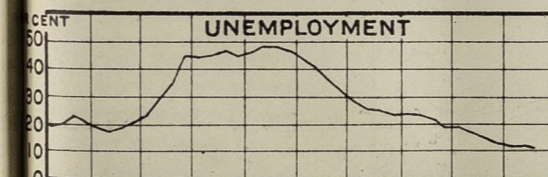
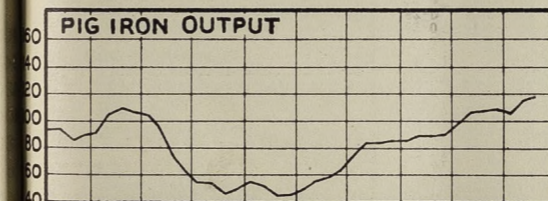
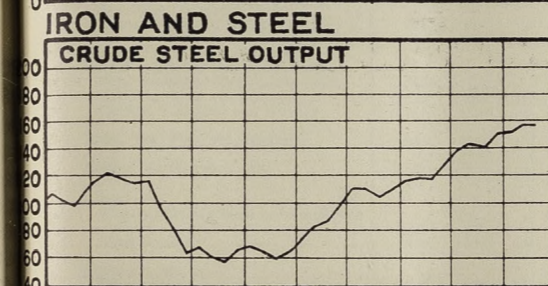
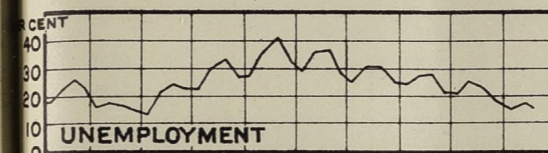
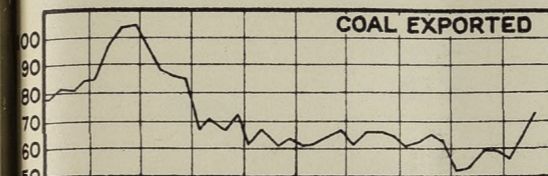
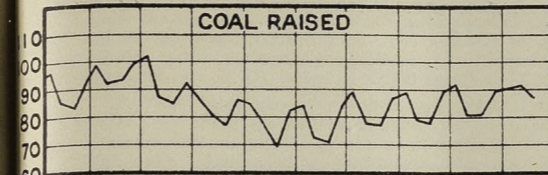
FINANCE



1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937

1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937

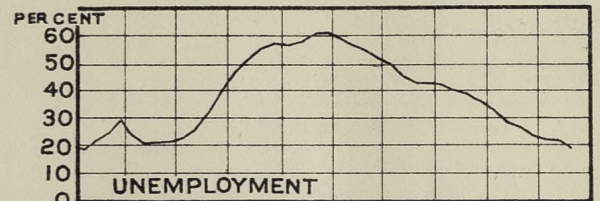
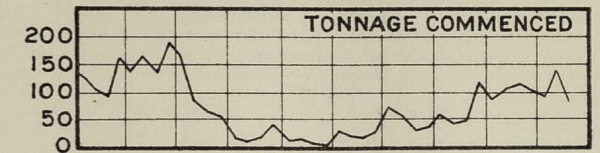
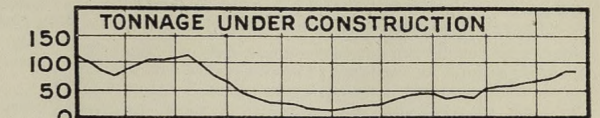
COAL MINING



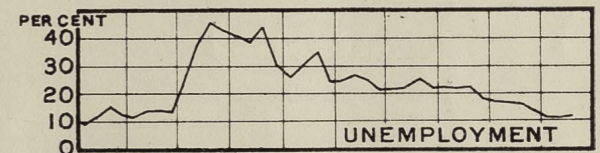
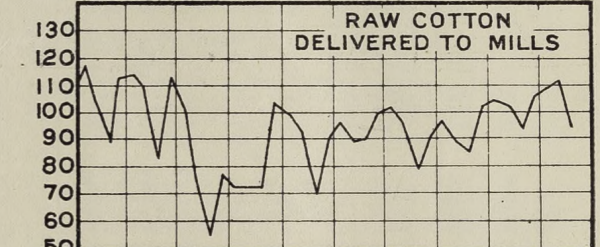
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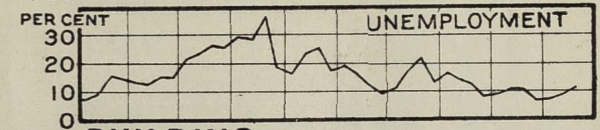
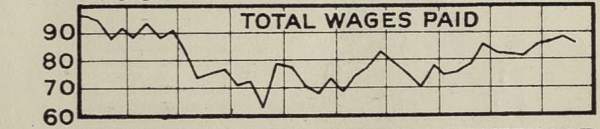
SHIPBUILDING



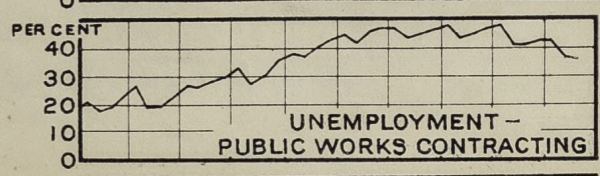
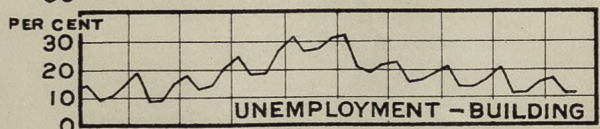
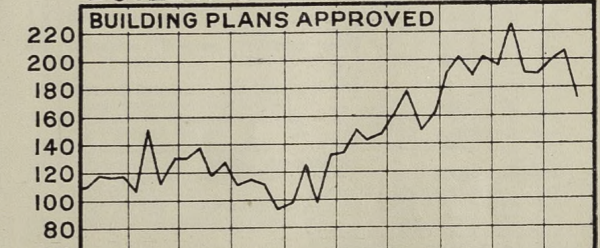
COTTON



WOOL



BUILDING



1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937

REVISED PERCENTAGES OF INSURED PERSONS, AGED 16-64, UNEMPLOYED JULY TO SEPTEMBER, 1937.

The Table on pages 436 and 437 shows, industry by industry, the estimated numbers of persons aged 16-64 insured against unemployment at July, 1937. It is not possible to complete these annual estimates until about the end of October, and consequently the percentages of insured workers recorded as unemployed at the end of July, August and September, 1937, as given in previous issues of this GAZETTE, were calculated on the estimated numbers insured at July, 1936. The following Table shows, for each industry group, the revised percentages unemployed, in each of these months, calculated on the basis of the estimated numbers insured at July, 1937, in Great Britain, and in Great and Northern Ireland, respectively:—

Table with multiple columns for industry, percentage unemployed, and estimated numbers insured. Includes sections for General Scheme and Agricultural Scheme.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS INSURED* AGED 14-64, IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS IN GREAT BRITAIN AT JULY, 1937, AND THESE NUMBERS, TOGETHER WITH THE NEW ENTRANTS AND THE NET EFFECT OF WASTAGE AND TRANSFERS DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR, EXPRESSED AS PERCENTAGES OF THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS INSURED AT JULY, 1936.

[See Special Article on pages 420 to 423.]

Large table showing estimated numbers insured, new entrants, net effect of wastage and transfers, and percentages for various industry groups in Great Britain at July, 1937, compared to July, 1936.

* Exclusive of (a) persons insured under the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance Industries; and (b) persons insurable under the Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Act, 1936. Figures for railway service and gas, water and electricity supply are included in the totals, but not in the separate industry groups; in these cases large proportions of the workers are covered by certificates of exception from unemployment insurance, and the figures are not, therefore, conclusive as a measure of expansion or contraction.

* Including those temporarily stopped, in addition to those wholly unemployed.
† See article on page 379 of the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1937.
‡ Persons insured under the special schemes for the banking and insurance industries have been included in the figures.

CHANGES BETWEEN JULY, 1923, AND JULY, 1927, TO 1937, IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE* IN CERTAIN INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

[See Special Article on pages 420 to 423.]

Table with columns: Industry, Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over (July 1923, July 1927), Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive (July 1927, July 1937), and Index Numbers (July 1923 = 100) for years 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937.

* Excluding juveniles under 16 years of age and agricultural workers. It has been possible this year to distinguish more clearly the electrical apparatus sections of certain firms manufacturing radio apparatus from other sections of their works. In previous years, considerable numbers of insured persons employed in the radio apparatus departments of such firms have been classified under other industry groups. This has now been corrected, and the correction accounts to some extent for the large increase between July, 1936, and July, 1937, in the numbers insured in the electrical cable, apparatus, etc. industry.

Table with columns: Industry, Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 and over (July 1923, July 1927), Estimated Number of Insured Persons aged 16 to 64 inclusive (July 1927, July 1937), and Index Numbers (July 1923 = 100) for years 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937.

* The increase between July, 1936 and July, 1937, in Tramway and Omnibus Service, and the decrease in "Other Road Transport," are due in part to the transfer of certain unemployment books from the latter classification to the former. NOTE.—For 1923 to 1937 the available information relates to persons aged 16 to 64, while the figures annually collected for earlier years were in respect of persons aged 16 and over. Information which was available, however, as to the proportion of insured workers aged 65 years and over enabled estimates to be made of the total numbers aged 16-64 in 1927, and those estimates have been used to provide a basis for fitting up the index numbers for 1923-27 with those for later years on a comparable basis. As, however, figures are not available showing the number of juveniles under 16 years of age in each industry, or the number of persons aged 65 or over who retire from each industry on obtaining old age pensions, it should not be assumed that the index numbers given necessarily represent the changes in the total number of workers, insured and uninsured, attached to any industry.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1937—continued.

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change. Rows include Coal Mining, Other Mining and Quarrying, Pig Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering, Ship-repairing, and Galvanising.

* Apart from the percentage additions to basis rates, certain flat-rate additions per day or per shift, granted in January, 1936, are paid to all workers, as well as "subsistence allowances" to adult day-wage workers for whom the basis rates plus the percentage additions do not yield certain specified amounts.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1937—continued.

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date from which Change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of Change. Rows include Railway Wagon Repairing, Wire Manufacture, Shuttle Manufacture, Tube Manufacture, Typefoundry, Cotton Waste Spinning, Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc., and Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece-Goods Manufacture.

* These increases are the result of an arrangement between the Wagon Repairs Association and the Amalgamated Society of Vehicle Builders, Carpenters and Mechanics. The increases did not apply to the employees of firms whose conditions of employment are regulated by the agreements to which the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation is a party.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1937—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Felt Hat Making	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Falls-worth and Romiley districts; also Carlisle.	1 Oct.	Timeworkers	Bonus increased * from 40 to 45 per cent. Minimum rates after change: 10½d. per hour plus 45 per cent.†
			Pieceworkers	Bonus increased * from 45 to 50 per cent.
Cocoa and Chocolate Confectionery Manufacture.	Great Britain‡	29 Aug.	Male workers	Increases of 7d. to 3s. per week for timeworkers and proportional increases for pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: 1s. 9d. at under 15 years increasing to 56s. at 21 and over; shiftworkers, 21 years and over, 62s.‡
			Female workers	Increases of 6d. or 1s. 6d. per week for timeworkers and proportional increases for pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers other than learners entering the trade for the first time: 11s. 6d. at under 15 years increasing to 30s. 6d. at 18 and over.‡
Sugar Confectionery and Fruit Preserving.	Great Britain‡	29 Aug.	Male workers	Increases of 6d. to 3s. per week for timeworkers and proportional increases for pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: 11s. 9d. at under 15 years increasing to 54s. 6d. at 21 and over.‡
			Female workers	Increases of 1s. or 1s. 6d. per week for timeworkers and proportional increases for pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers other than learners entering the trade for the first time: 11s. at under 15 years increasing to 29s. 6d. at 18 and over.‡
Beet Sugar Manufacture.	Various Districts in Great Britain.§	1-15 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of beet sugar.	Adoption of scale of basic hourly rates resulting in increases of various amounts. Rates after change: process workers—Colwick, Ipswich, Poppleton, 1s. 1½d., Bardney, Bury St. Edmunds, Cantley, Cupar, Felstead, Kidderminster, Peterborough, Selby, 1s. 1d., Allscott, Brigg, Kelham, King's Lynn, Spalding, 1s. 0½d., Ely and Wislington, 1s.; day workers and casual workers, 1d. per hour below the basic rate for process workers; engineers—1½d. per hour above the recognised local engineering minimum hourly rate during the campaign period, and the recognised local engineering minimum weekly rate during the non-campaign period.‡
Seed Crushing, Compound and Provender Manufacture.	Various districts in Great Britain.¶	1st full pay week in Oct.	Male workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increases in minimum weekly rates for general labourers of 1s. to 6s. with proportional increases for other classes of male workers and for youths. Minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: seed crushing—49s. to 57s.¶; provender manufacture—51s. to 57s.** according to district.
Crate Making	North Staffordshire...	20 Oct.	Crate makers	Increases of 1s. in the £ on selling prices in machine shops (6s. 3d. to 7s. 3d.), of 1s. 6d. in the £ for "all through" shops, and of 2d. per hour in the rate for oddwork (1s. to 1s. 2d.).††
Vehicle Building.	Scotland‡‡	1 Oct.	Coachfitters and vicemen (qualified to do fitting).	Increase of 1d. per hour.
Cabinet Case Making.	Sheffield	1 Oct.	Male adult workers	Increases of 1d. per hour in the minimum rates for timeworkers, and of 6 per cent. for pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change include: skilled workers, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s.
			Juvenile workers	Increases of 2s. 6d. per week for timeworkers, and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers. Minimum rate after change for timeworkers 20 years and over, 29s. 6d. Adoption of scale of minimum rates involving increases of various amounts.
Process Engraving.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.§§	1 Oct.	Apprentices employed in process engraving (trade houses).	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change 17s. 6d. and 15s. at 16 years of age, increasing to 42s. 6d. and 40s. at 20 years, for London and provinces respectively.§§
Building.	Wick and Thurso ...	1 Oct.	Joiners	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d.).
Public Works Contracting.	London (Metropolitan Police Area).	1st full pay week in Oct.	Steel benders and fixers on reinforced work, and men engaged in existing sewers employed by public works contractors.	Increases of 1d. per hour.¶¶ Rates after change: steel benders and fixers, 1s. 4½d., 1s. 4d., 1s. 3½d.; men engaged in existing sewers, 1s. 5d., 1s. 4½d., 1s. 4d. in Grade I, II and III areas respectively.
Gas Undertakings.	Great Britain ...	From and including the pay day in the week ending 4 Sept.	Gasworkers 18 years of age and over whose wages are governed by the National Joint Industrial Council.	Increase of ½d. per hour for dayworkers and 4d. per shift for shiftworkers with a proportional increase for pieceworkers.
	Belfast		Gasworkers employed by the Corporation.	
Waterworks Undertakings.	Certain undertakings in the South Midlands Area.***	1st complete pay week in Oct.	Adult male manual workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increases* of 9d. per week for Grade D Areas, of 8d. per week for Grades C and B Areas, and of 7d. per week for Grade A Areas. Minimum rates after change for labourers: Grade D Areas, 52s. 6d.; Grade C, 50s. 9d.; Grade B, 49s.; Grade A, 42s. 10d. Areas regraded and revised schedule of rates of wages adopted, resulting in increases of various amounts. Weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade A Area, 46s.; B Area, 50s.; C Area, 52s. 6d.
	Certain undertakings in the Home Counties Area.***	1st pay day following 1 Oct.	Manual workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change for labourers: Class 1 Area, 1s. 2½d.; Class 2, 1s. 1½d.; Class 3, 1s. 0½d.
	Certain undertakings in South Wales and Monmouthshire.***	1 Oct.		
Electricity Supply	Certain undertakings in Devon and Cornwall.†††	20 Sept.	Undertakings reclassified and revised rates of wages adopted for certain classes of workpeople, resulting in increases of various amounts. Hourly rates after change in Zone A include: electrical fitter, 18.48d.; joiner, 16.95d.; overhead power linesman 16.34d.	

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc., who are in receipt of the minimum rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts.
 ‡ These changes took effect under agreements arrived at by the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee of the Cocoa, Chocolate, Sugar Confectionery and Jam Industries. For the changes in the minimum rates for these industries fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, see page 407 of the October, 1937, issue of this GAZETTE.
 § This change took effect under agreements between the British Sugar Corporation, Ltd., the Transport and General Workers Union, The National Union of Agricultural Workers, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, and the Amalgamated Engineering Union. It is also provided that time worked in excess of 48 hours per week should be paid for at the rate of time and a half.
 ¶ This change took effect under an arrangement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Seed Crushing, Compound and Provender Manufacturing Industries.
 ¶¶ These rates cover seed crushing mills and compound cake factories which were governed by the original Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Joint Industrial Council.
 ¶¶¶ These rates cover compound cake and provender factories which were not regarded as governed by the original Seed Crushing and Compound Cake Manufacturing Joint Industrial Council, and all London compound and provender factories (57s.).
 †† Wages are regulated by selling prices, the workman obtaining a fixed proportion of the value of the crates made.
 ††† This increase took effect under an agreement between the Scottish National Vehicle Builders' Association, the National Union of Vehicle Builders and the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists.
 §§ This change is the result of agreements between the Federation of Master Process Engravers and the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers and the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers (Printing Machine Branch). See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
 || A further increase of ½d. is to operate as from 1 January, 1938.
 ¶¶ These increases were the result of a decision of the Public Works Conciliation Board for the London Area.
 ¶¶¶ The Undertakings affected are mainly those affiliated to the District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry for the Area.
 ††† The Undertakings affected are mainly those affiliated to the Devon and Cornwall (No. 12) District Council for the Electricity Supply Industry.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1937—continued.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change.
Railway Service	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Certain workers in Conciliation Grades and most workers employed under conciliation conditions at docks and on dredgers, tugboats and passenger steamers, Railway police force (constables, sergeants, detectives and detective sergeants).	Increase* of 1s. per week or such less amount as will bring certain grades up to the sliding-scale bonus applicable immediately prior to 1st April, 1931.
			Female wages staff (except part-time employees). Female crossing keepers (wives of companies' servants). Female part-time employees ...	Increase* of 1s. per week. Increases* of 1s. per week for adults and of 6d. per week for juniors. Increase* of 6d. per week. Increases* of 6d. per week for those on basis rates up to 9s. 11d. per week, and of 9d. per week for those on basis rates of 10s. per week and over. Increase* of that proportion of the bonus deducted in respect of the decrease in the cost of living figure from 55 to 50.
Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labour.	Various ports in Great Britain.†	1 Oct.	Coal tippers, teamers, weighers, hoistmen and boxmen.	Increase* of 5 per cent., making wages 85 per cent. above pre-war tariffs and payments for incidentals, subject to the minimum wage previously operated.
	Belfast, Londonderry and Coleraine.	1 Oct.	Dock workers and checkers (including casual men) engaged in cross channel trade.	Increase of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: permanent men, 1s. 8d.; casual men, 1s. 9d.
Road Transport	Various towns in Angus.	1st pay day after 4 Oct.	Horse carters	Increase of 2s. per week. Weekly rates after change: Dundee—one-horse carters, 49s.; two-horse carters, 51s.; Forfar, Arbroath, Brechin and Montrose—one-horse carters, 48s., two-horse carters, 50s.
	England and Wales...	1st pay day in Oct.	Warehousemen, packers, stablemen, etc., employed in the furniture removal and warehousing industry.	Minimum rates of pay adopted† resulting in increases of 2s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per week for stablemen and van washers, 2s. 6d. to 3s. for foremen, and of 2s. 6d. for others. Weekly rates after change include: London (within a radius of 20 miles from Charing Cross)—warehousemen, 65s.; porters, 55s.; carmen, one-horse, 56s.; two-horse, 60s.; three-horse, 63s.; stablemen and van washers, 58s. Industrial Areas—warehousemen, 65s.; porters, 51s.; carmen, one-horse, 51s.; two-horse, 55s.; stablemen and van washers, 51s. Rest of England and Wales—warehousemen, 57s.; porters, 48s.; carmen, one-horse, 48s.; two-horse, 52s.; stablemen and van washers, 48s.
Local Authorities (Non-Trading Services).	Certain local authorities in Monmouthshire.§	11 Oct.	Manual workers, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rate after change for labourers 1s. 3d.
	Certain local authorities in Glamorgan-shire.§	1 Oct.	Manual workers employed by the County Council.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rate after change for labourers, 1s. 2½d.
Hat Leather Manufacture.	Stockport, Ashton-under-Lyne and Denton districts.	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in hat leather production.	Increase of 1d. per hour for adult male workers, and adoption of scales of rates for women and juveniles. Hourly rates after change include: adult male workers—skilled, 1s. 3½d., semi-skilled, 1s. 1½d., unskilled, 1s. 1½d.; women 20 years and over, 8d.
	Toy Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	Male workers	Increase of 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: wood-cutting machinists, 63s.; wood body makers, 59s.; body painters, 57s.; other workers, 14s. at under 15 years increasing to 52s. at 21 years and over.¶
Female workers			Increase of 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: body painters, 31s.; other workers, 10s. 6d. at under 15 years increasing to 28s. at 21 years and over.¶	
Retail Distribution.	Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire.	18 Oct.	Dairy workers employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the District Hours and Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd.	Adoption of scales of minimum rates resulting in increases of various amounts. Minimum weekly rates after change include: roundsmen 22 years and over, 55s.; roundswomen, 22 years and over, 44s.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1937.

Industry.	District.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Printing.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	4 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the printing and allied trades:— Dayworkers Nightworkers	Weekly hours reduced from generally 48 to 45—where 45 hours or fewer are worked, no change. Weekly hours reduced by 2 hours where 45 hours or more are worked; by 1½ hours where 44 hours are worked; and to 42½ hours where fewer than 44 but more than 42½ hours are worked; where 42½ or fewer are worked, no change.
Process Engraving.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in process engraving (trade houses).**	Weekly hours reduced from 46½ to 44 for day work, from 44 to 42½ for late shift, and adoption of 38½ hour week for night-shift.††

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † This increase applied to the principal coal exporting centres including those on the North-East Coast, the East Coast (except Goole), the East of Scotland and the Bristol Channel. At certain North-East Coast ports an extra 5 per cent. is paid in addition to the 85 per cent. quoted, and higher percentages are also paid at certain docks at Bristol Channel ports.
 ‡ This increase is the result of an agreement reached by the Joint Industrial Council for the Furniture Removal and Warehousing Industry, and applies to all workpeople other than motor drivers and those who may act as statutory attendants.
 § The Authorities affected are mainly those affiliated to the Joint Wages Board of Local Authorities for the County.
 ¶ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Trade Boards Acts.
 ¶¶ This reduction is the result of an agreement between the British Federation of Master Printers, the Newspaper Society, and the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation.
 ¶¶¶ This reduction is the result of agreements between the Federation of Master Process Engravers, the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designer Engravers and Process Workers, and the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers (Printing Machine Branch).
 †† See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included ... 60%
Food only ... 46%

FOOD.

At 1st November a further upward movement was recorded in the average level of the retail prices of food in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of the articles of food included in these statistics was 46 per cent. at 1st November, 1937, as compared with 43 per cent. at 1st October, 1937, and 36 per cent. at 31st October, 1936.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices in July, 1914, and at 1st October and 1st November, 1937 :-

Table with columns: Article, Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated - to the nearest td.) for July 1914, 1st Oct. 1937, 1st Nov. 1937, and Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Nov. 1937, as compared with July 1914.

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

Table with columns: Article, Average Percentage Increase or Decrease (-) at 1st November, 1937, as compared with July, 1914, and Corresponding General Average for 1st Oct., 1937.

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the prices of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, enquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st November, 1937, was approximately 51 per cent.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to the variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal were, on the average, about 95 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas was between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 75 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st November, 1937, is approximately 60 per cent. over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 58 per cent. at 1st October, 1937, and 51 per cent. at 31st October, 1936.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken now as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not).

SUMMARY TABLE: 1920 to 1937.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1920 to 1937 :-

Table with columns: Year (1920-1937) and Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914 - All Items (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.) for each month.

NOTE.

A detailed account of the method of compilation of these statistics, "The Cost of Living Index Number: Method of Compilation," is obtainable, price 3d. net (3 1/2d. post free), from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the cover of this GAZETTE.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities.

I.—FOOD.

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

Table showing Percentage Increase in Retail Food Prices in Various Countries as compared with July, 1914. Columns include Country, July 1934, July 1935, July 1936, July 1937, and Latest figures available.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Table showing Percentage Increase in Various Countries in the Cost of Food, etc., as compared with July, 1914. Columns include Country, Items on which computation is based, and Percentage Increase.

* Exceptions to this are: Finland, Italy (Rome), January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; South Africa 1914; Egypt, Germany, 1913-1914; Holland, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; United States, Canada, 1913.

† Fuel and light are also included in these figures. ‡ The method of calculation was revised in 1937. § Figure for August. ¶ The figures for 1936 and subsequent years are on a revised basis. ** A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and Light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

Statistics of fatal industrial accidents in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during October are given below :-

Table of Fatal Industrial Accidents in Great Britain and Northern Ireland for October 1937. Categories include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Factories and Workshops, and Seamen.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

The total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during October, under the Factory and Workshop Act or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 267; the total number of deaths* reported was 4.

I. Cases—continued.

Table of Industrial Diseases: I. Cases (Lead Poisoning, Epitheliomatous Ulceration, Chrome Ulceration) and II. Deaths (Anthrax, Epitheliomatous Ulceration).

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

Leeds Marble & Heating Works, Ltd., Leeds. Irvine Royal Ordnance Factory—Cooling Water Tower: J. Henshaw & Sons, Liverpool. Royal Arsenal, Woolwich—Sifting Fuze Powder: W. Gardner & Sons (Gloucester), Ltd., Gloucester. Uxbridge P.O. Garage—Heating and Hot Water Services: H. C. Goodman, Ltd., Reading. Miscellaneous: Airmen's Boxes: Hampton Timber Co., Ltd., Hampton Asbestos Blankets: Bell's Asbestos & Engineering Supplies, Ltd., Slough. Boots: Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Wellingborough. Canvas Fire Hose: Fleming, Birkby & Goodall, Ltd., Halifax. Chairs—Tub: W. T. Ellmore & Son, Ltd., Leicester. Chairs—W.G.: Owen Haines & Son, High Wycombe. Clocks—Standard English Dial: F. W. Elliott, Ltd., West Croydon. Corduroy Trousers: Redman Bros. (J. & R. Redman, Ltd.), Hebden Bridge; J. B. Hoyle, Hebden Bridge. Doors to Fireproof Chambers: Dreadnought Fireproof Doors (1930), Ltd., London, S.W. Dwarf Cupboards: Wake & Dean, Ltd., Bristol. Electric Light Shades: Hallwood & Ackroyd, Ltd., London, W.C. Fire and Thief Resisting Doors: Constructors, Ltd., Birmingham. Folding Divisions for Convertible Box Fittings: G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E. Gas Mantles: Lighting Trades, Ltd., London, S.W. Gymnasium Knickers and Vests: Douglas Warne & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. India Rubber Hose: Greengate & Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., London, E. Laundry Work: A. Whiteley, Ltd., London, W. Metal Counter Grilles: Potter Rax Gate Co., Ltd., London, N. Motor Driven Pumping Units: Coventry Climax Engines, Ltd., Motor Driven Pumping Units not fitted with Governors: Sulzer Bros. (London), Ltd., London, W.C.; Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham. Overalls & Blue Drill: Workwear, Ltd., Liverpool. Racking: E. W. King & Son, Newport, Mon. Racks, I.R.O.: Duncan Tucker (Tottenham), Ltd., London, N. Redhill Sand Containers: J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Bilston. Shirts: H. Bannerman & Sons, Ltd., Manchester. Shovels—Long Handled: E. H. Hill, Ltd., Sheffield. Showcases: F. Sage & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Soap Powder: E. Cook & Co., Ltd., London, E. Steel Card Index Cabinets: Milners' Safe Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Steel Lockers—Workmen's: Waddells (Stratford Steel Equipment), Ltd., London, N. Suction Hose: D. Moseley & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Suction Hose Couplings: D. T. Pickett & Sons, Cardiff; Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E. Tables—Repetition: Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Dartford. Tables—Tax Officers': A. G. Farmer & Sons, Ltd., Bristol. Trolleys for Monitorial Records: Wake & Dean, Ltd., Bristol.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Accumulator Spares: Chloride Elec. Storage Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—A.G.A. Lamps: Gas Accumulator Co. (U.K.), Ltd., Brentford.—Antrypol, etc.: British Drug Houses, Ltd., London, N.—Asbestos Cement Pipes: Turners Asbestos Cement Co., London, S.E.—Asbestos Cement Slates, etc.: Turners Asbestos Cement Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Axes, etc.: V. & R. Blakemore, Birmingham.—Bandages: R. Bailey & Son, Ltd., Stockport.—Bitumen Boilers and Sprayers: Phoenix Engineering Co., Ltd., Chard.—Bitumen for Pipe Joints: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Blasting Powder: Curtis & Harvey, London, S.W.—Brass Handles, etc.: V. & R. Blakemore, Birmingham.—Brushware: Phoenix Brush Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Cable: Britannia Electric Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Iver; General Cable Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Leatherhead.—Cable, etc.: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Carton Making Machine: Satona, Ltd., London, W.C.—Cadmium Copper Conductors, etc.: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—Cadmium Copper Wire: T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—Catgut: Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—Cement: Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Chloroform: Duncan Flockhart & Co., London, E.C.—C.I. Pipes and Specials for Sewer, etc.: Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—C.I. Soil Pipes, etc.: Sinclair Iron Co., Ltd., London, W.—Coal Tar: Lancashire Tar Distillers, Ltd., Manchester.—Copper Ingots: T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; British Copper Refiners, Ltd., Prescott.—Copper Rods, etc.: Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Copper Tubing: Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—Copper Wire: E. & E. Kaye, Ltd., Ponders End.—Corrugated Culverting: Wells, Ltd., Birmingham.—Corrugated Sheets: Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Wirral.—Cotton Waste: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—Culverts: J. Lysaght, Ltd., London, E.C.—Cupholders: T. W. Lench, Ltd., Birmingham.—Currency Notes: Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., New Malden.—Desks: Andrew Bentley, Ltd., London, S.E.—Diesel Road Rollers, etc.: Aveling-Barford, Ltd., Grantham.—Drilling Machines: Kitchen & Wade, Ltd., Halifax; G. Richards & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Electrical Materials: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Electrical Materials For Airport: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Explosives: Nobels Explosives, Ltd., London, S.W.—Galvanised Braysaw Furnaces & Tools, Ltd., Manchester.—Galvanised Corrugated Sheets: Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Galvanised Lattice Steel Towers: Callender's Cable &

Construction Co., London, E.C.—Galvanised W.I. Piping: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—6 Garratt Locos.: Beyer, Peacock & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Gas and Water Works Material: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Great Coats: Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, W.—Grinding Machine: Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—H.D. Copper, etc.: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton.—Insulators for Overhead Transmission Line: Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—Jerseys: S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—Kelvin Engines and Spares: Bergius Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Kent Meters: G. Kent, Ltd., Luton.—Kilmarnock Caps: J. L. Currie & Co., Kilmarnock.—Laundry Machinery: D. & J. Tullis, Ltd., Clydebank.—Loco. Boilers: Hunslet Engine Co., Ltd., Leeds; R. Stephenson & Hawthorne, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Loco. Spares: North British Loco. Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Lorry Chassis, etc.: Morris Industries Exports, Ltd., Cowley.—Mag. Sulph. : Harris Hart & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Manhole Covers: Burn Bros., London, S.E.—Meters: Ferranti, Ltd., Hollinwood; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., London, E.C.—Monotype Casting Machine, etc.: Monotype Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Mooring Materials: Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd.—Motor Lorries: Morris Industries Exports, Ltd., Cowley.—M.S. Bars: Whitehead Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Newport, Mon.—M.S. Plates, etc.: P. & W. MacLellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—Ol. Ricini: Hull Oil Manufacturing Co., Hull.—Padlocks, etc.: V. & R. Blakemore, Birmingham.—Paints: Torbay Paint Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Red Hand Composition, Ltd., London, S.W.—Paper: Empire Paper Mills, Ltd., London, E.C.—Passenger Locos. and Tenders: Beyer, Peacock & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Passports: T. De la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Pig Iron: Wm. Baird & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Pitch Pine: C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—Power Gear, etc.: English Drilling Equipment Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Power Grader: British East Africa Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—Printing Machine: Dawson, Payne & Elliott, Ltd., Otley.—Punching and Shearing Machine: H. Pels & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Quinine: Carnegie Bros., Ltd., London, N.; Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—Quinine Hydrochloride Tablets: Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—Quinine Sulphate: Carnegie Bros., Ltd., London, N.—Radio Relay Materials: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Rail Joint Shims: Wonham Inc., London, S.W.—Rexine: I.C.I. (Rexine), Ltd., Hyde.—Rice Milling Plant: Lewis C. Grant, Dysart.—Serum, etc.: Evans, Sons, Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool.—Shirts: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—Shovels and Drag-Shovel Equipment: Ruston-Bucyrus, Ltd., Lincoln.—Stamps: Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., Ltd., New Malden; T. De la Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Steelwork for Bridge: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Motherwell Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—Steel Piping and Specials: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel Seals: Acme Lead Seal Co., London, E.—Steel Tubular Poles: Newport & S. Wales Tube Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Stone Breaker Spares: Goodwin Barsby & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—Stone Granulator: F. Parker, Ltd., Leicester.—Street Lighting Equipment: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Tarpaulins: Mollwraith & Co., Glasgow.—Telegraph Ironwork: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Telephones, etc.: General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry.—Telephone Exchange Equipment: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Telephone Materials: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.—Timber: C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—Train Lighting Spares: J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Tubular Steel Poles: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Universal Tool Machine, etc.: Kitchen & Wade, Ltd., Halifax.—Upholstering Cloth: Pile Fabric Manufacturing Co. (Bradford), Ltd., Bradford.—Waterworks Materials: Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—Web Equipment: Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—Well Boring Materials: Duke & Ockenden, Ltd., London, S.W.—Wheel Laths: Loudon Bros., Johnstone.—Wire: Firth Co., Ltd., Warrington.—Wireless Valves: Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—X-Ray Films, etc.: Kodak, Ltd., London, W.C.

NOTICE.

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STATISTICS FORMING THE BASIS OF THE CHARTS ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE OF TRADE, OUTPUT, PRICES, WAGES, FINANCE & EMPLOYMENT.

Table with multiple columns (1928-1937) and rows for various economic indicators: Wholesale Prices, Cost of Living, Export Values, Index Number of Rates of Wages, Estimated Total Numbers, Registered Unemployed, Industrial Production, Railway Traffic Receipts, Postal Receipts, British Exports, Net Imports, Bank Rate.

* The series of figures compiled by the Board of Trade with values at 1930 prices and index numbers with 1924 as the standard year, was discontinued at the end of 1936. The figures shown above, starting with the first quarter of 1935, represent the new series, with 1935 as standard. † For the purpose of the chart the approximate course of the figures has been estimated. ‡ Published by courtesy of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom and of the 'Statist' Company, Limited. § The series of index numbers compiled by the Board of Trade with 1924 as the standard year was discontinued at the end of 1934. The figures shown above, starting with the first quarter of 1934, represent the new series, with 1930 as standard. ¶ Figures not yet available.

