

THE LABOUR GAZETTE

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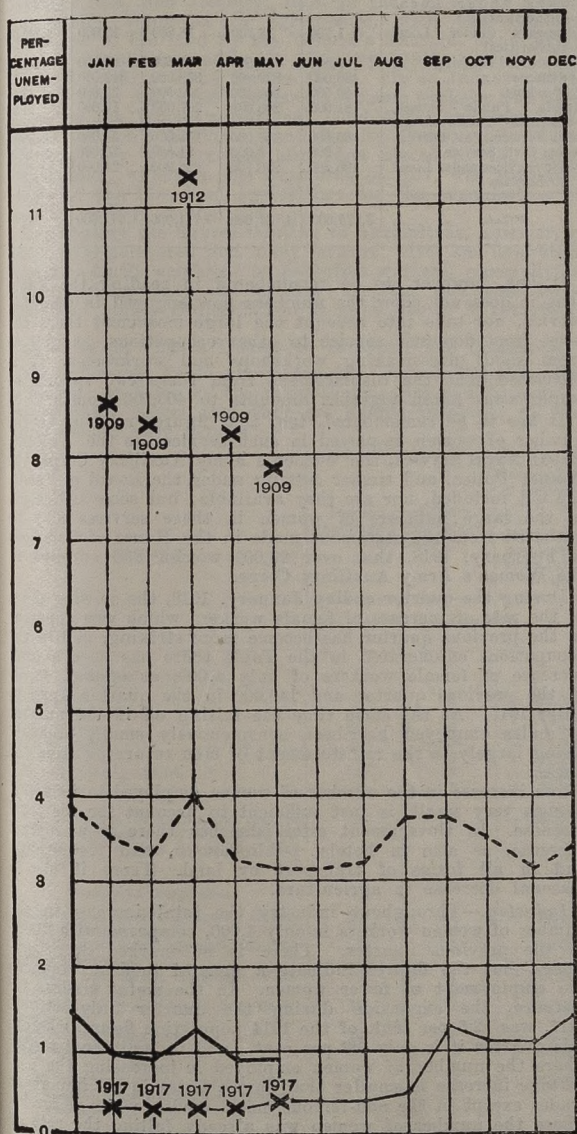
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1918. — Thin Curve = 1917.
.....Dotted Curve = Mean of 1908-17.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1908-17.



NOTE TO CHART.

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

THE LABOUR MARKET.

IN May employment continued to be very good generally, and in many of the principal industries inadequate staffs worked much overtime. The restrictions imposed on the hours of labour in woollen and worsted factories were withdrawn on 17th May, but in most of the textile industries employment continued to be affected by the regulation of the consumption of raw materials.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,090,348, excluding those serving with the Forces, reported 9,850 (or 0.9 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of May, compared with 0.9 per cent. at the end of April and 0.4 per cent. at the end of May, 1917. The increase in the percentage as compared with a year ago was almost entirely due to the cotton industry.

Of the 3,797,223 male and female workpeople insured under the National Insurance Acts, 1911 to 1916, the number unemployed at the end of May was 33,079, or 0.87 per cent., compared with 0.96 per cent. in the previous month and 0.67 per cent. a year ago. For males and females separately the percentages unemployed at the end of May were 0.37 and 1.97.

Employment at coal mines continued good; at collieries covered by the Returns received the pits worked an average of 5.66 days per week in the fortnight ended 18th May, as compared with 5.55 days per week in the corresponding period of 1917; the number of workpeople employed showed a decrease of 2.6 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 4.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. At iron mines employment continued very good, and the number of workpeople employed at the mines covered by the Returns received was 8.9 per cent. greater than a year ago. At shale and lead mines employment continued very good, and at tin mines good. In quarrying employment was good on the whole, though it was only fairly good at some quarries producing road-making material and building stone, and moderate at granite quarries for paving setts.

In the pig iron industry employment continued good, the decline in the number of furnaces in blast at the end of the month being due to a dispute in South Wales. At iron and steel works employment was very good, and a general shortage of labour was reported. The engineering and shipbuilding trades were very busy. The tinplate and steel sheet trade showed little change, and in most of the other metal trades employment continued good.

The cotton trade showed a slight improvement, but owing to the restriction on the consumption of raw cotton, employment was worse than a year ago; in the spinning branch it was fair in districts using American cotton, and good in those using Egyptian; in the weaving branch it was moderate. In the woollen and worsted trades employment showed little change; the Government restrictions on working hours were withdrawn on the 17th May.

In the hosiery trade employment continued good on Government contracts, but inadequate supplies of yarn caused some slackness in the civilian branch. The jute trade continued to be affected by the restrictions on the consumption of jute, and employment showed little

Sheet metal work for Aircraft—continued.

	Per hour.	
Machine processes subject to the provision below as to general aircraft work	5½d.	Plus an advance* of 6s. per week.
General aircraft work in establishments wholly or mainly engaged in the manufacture or repair of aircraft	6d.	

For women employed wholly or mainly on hand processes in the beating of metal to shape from the plain sheet (except as specified above), the rates to be paid are governed by the provisions for women employed wholly or partly on work customarily done by skilled tradesmen.

THE CAUSATION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE Health of Munition Workers Committee appointed by the Minister of Munitions in 1915, has issued a Report† by Dr. H. M. Vernon on certain inquiries made by him into the causation of industrial accidents among munition workers. All of the accident and output data described in the report were obtained at four munition factories, one mainly for the manufacture of fuses and the other three for shells.

Of the factors concerned in accident causation, Dr. Vernon has come to the conclusion that speed of production is the essential factor which can never be neglected. Its action depends especially on the degree of nervous and muscular co-ordination possessed by the worker and on psychological conditions such as his alertness and attention.

The section of the report dealing with accidents in relation to speed of production contains numerous Tables showing the hourly and diurnal variation of accidents and output at the various factories. With regard to hourly variations, these in the fuse factory show a considerable qualitative correspondence with the output variations, and it is concluded that varying speed of production is the factor largely responsible for the day-shift variations in men, and not fatigue. Even in women fatigue is of only moderate importance, as a rule. Though the night-shift output followed a similar course to the day-shift output, the accident incidence, except that of eye accidents, was entirely different. It was at a minimum at the beginning of the shift and fell gradually the whole night through to about half its initial value. These differences in incidence between accidents during the day shift and those during the night shifts are mainly due to psychological causes, which are fully explained in the Report. At the other factories, where shells were made, there was very little hourly variation in the speed with which the operations on these shells were performed, and in correspondence therewith the hourly incidence of accidents incurred by the day shift was fairly steady. The night shift accidents dwindled rapidly the whole night through, because of the psychological factor. The diurnal variations of accidents at the fuse factory generally corresponded with the output variations, both rising to a maximum at the middle of the week and declining at the end of it. The monthly variations of accidents at the fuse factory corresponded with output variations, for the accidents increased gradually about 40 per cent., while the hourly output at the same time increased 30 per cent. Dr. Vernon states that a speeding-up in production of 10 per cent. may well induce an increase of 50 or 100 per cent. in accidents.

At all factories the night shift workers suffered fewer accidents than the day shift workers. On the average accidents among night shift workers were 16 per cent. less than among day shift workers. This was not due to the output being smaller, as at the fuse factory it was distinctly greater during the night than during the day. Dr. Vernon states that the remarkable difference in question is mainly psychical in origin, and is due to the night shift workers settling down to a calmer mental state than the day shift workers, and so becoming less careless and inattentive. It is pointed out that it is almost impossible to obtain direct evidence of the degree of importance to be attached to the alcohol factor specifically, but of indirect evidence there is plenty. As a rule it is considered that alcohol consumption is a factor of small importance in the causation of day shift accidents, especially those of the morning spell, whilst it is a factor of considerable importance in the causation of night shift accidents, especially those of the first spell.

The influence of fatigue on accidents to women was strikingly shown at the fuse factory at a period when the operatives were working a 12-hour day. The women's accidents were two and a half times more numerous than in the subsequent 10-hour day period, but the men's accidents showed no difference. Also, during the period of longer hours, the women were treated for faintness nine times more frequently than the men, and were given sal-volatile 23 times more frequently, whereas in the subsequent 10-hour day period they were treated for faintness and given sal-volatile only three times more frequently.

Indirect evidence upon accident frequency in relation to the nutrition of the workers was obtained by tabulating cases coming under the heading of "faintness" and "sal-volatile administered." In both sexes these cases were much less numerous in the afternoon than in the morning, this, Dr. Vernon considers, being chiefly due to the workers getting a good dinner in the midday interval in contrast with the inadequate breakfast they often partook of before the morning

* The advances referred to in this article were granted subsequent to the fixing of the weekly and hourly rates quoted.

† Memorandum No. 21: An Investigation of the Factors concerned in the Causation of Industrial Accidents. 1918. Price 6d. net. [Cd. 9046.]

spell of work. The night shift conditions, taken as a whole, appear to upset nutrition considerably in comparison with day shift conditions, as the proportion of faintness cases treated by night in respect of both sexes was half as great again as those treated by day.

The influence of lighting upon the incidence of accidents is indicated by the fact that accidents due to foreign bodies in the eye were from 7 to 27 per cent. more numerous in the night shift than in the day shift, though all the other accidents were considerably less numerous. That this was due to the artificial light is shown by the fact that the excess of eye accidents was most marked in the worst lit factory.

Dr. Vernon makes various suggestions with a view to decreasing or eliminating accidents. He considers that the more one can eliminate the worker's lack of attention and increase his concentration upon his work, the more will accidents be reduced. Something in the way of mental calm and equilibrium can be obtained by stopping all conversation except that relating to the work in hand. If the workers would consent to it, a good plan would be to plug the ears and so shut out the noise of the machinery, in itself an important cause of distraction and fatigue. It would also be of value to shut out the sight of surrounding objects by separating the lathes, etc., from one another by screens. Thus left to himself, without sounds or sights to distract his attention, the worker could then concentrate himself entirely upon his work. The careless habit of mind can also be diminished by stricter sobriety. This could be encouraged by establishing factory canteens where food is sold at low prices, whereby the worker would find it more convenient to stay in the works during his dinner-hour rather than go home. Thus he would escape the temptation of drinking. Temptation to the night worker could be reduced by arranging that the shift start work before the public-houses open for the evening.

Further, the production of excessive fatigue, with its concomitant increase of accidents, can be almost entirely avoided by choosing suitable hours of labour, and the introduction of seats for occasional use by standing workers. In all large factories the factors concerned in accident causation should be worked out as fully as possible, and the effects of the remedial measures introduced should be thoroughly tested.

FOOD PRODUCTION.

THE Director-General of Food Production for England and Wales has prepared an Interim Report on the results of the food production campaign, 1917-18. The figures given in this report are based on an official compulsory census taken on April 27 from occupiers of land in England and Wales.

Apart from holdings of less than one acre and of allotments and gardens—which are contributing very greatly this year to the home-grown food supply—the total acreage of corn and potatoes actually sown or planted (up to 27th April) for this year's harvest is 8,302,000. A comparison of the figures now issued with those published by the Board of Agriculture for previous years is given below:—

Acreage under crops specified: England and Wales.

Crop.	Acreage, in thousands.*				
	1918.	1917.	1916.	1915.	1905-14 average.
Wheat	2,665	1,918	1,913	2,170	1,736
Potatoes	645	508	428	463	435
Oats	2,820	2,259	2,085	2,088	2,063
Rye, Dredge Corn and Pulse	682	398	402	444	502
Barley	1,490	1,460	1,332	1,232	1,495
Total of above...	8,302	6,543	6,160	6,397	6,231

As the returns for 1918 relate to the end of April and those for earlier years to the beginning of June and there have been considerable sowings in May, the figures for 1918 are not a complete statement of what has been achieved in 1918.

The wheat acreage given for 1918 is 2,665,000, an increase over 1916 of 753,000 acres, or 39 per cent.—the highest recorded acreage of wheat since 1882. The acreage of potatoes is (according to the census of the Ministry of Food) 645,000 acres, an increase of 217,000 acres, or 50 per cent. over 1916—twenty-seven per cent. above last year, which was the previous highest record. The acreage of oats is 2,820,000 acres, an increase of 735,000 over 1916, or 35 per cent.—twenty-three per cent. above the previous highest record. Rye, dredge corn and pulse are represented by 682,000 acres, an increase of 280,000 acres over 1916, or 69 per cent. The barley acreage is 1,490,000, an increase of 158,000 over 1916, or 11 per cent.

The foregoing figures relate to England and Wales only. Taking the United Kingdom as a whole the acreage now under wheat, barley and oats is the highest ever recorded in the history of British agriculture, whilst the acreage under potatoes is the greatest since 1872. The enormous increase in home production, coupled with the increased economy in consumption, has a most important bearing on the question of shipping and thus on the man-power position in France and elsewhere. Reckoned in tonnage the net saving in shipping resultant upon the increased production of corn and potatoes in England and Wales alone should amount in the next twelve months to about 1½ million tons.

* I.e. The figures "2,665" represent 2,665,000 acres, and so on

AGRICULTURAL WAGES.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales have issued an Order, which came into operation on the 27th May, fixing minimum rates of wages for male agricultural workers of 18 years of age and over in Northamptonshire, of 30s. for a six-day working week of 54 hours for the period from the first Monday in March to the last Sunday in October, and of 30s. for a six-day working week of 48 hours during the rest of the year. The provisions of the Order are printed in full on page 257.

The Board have issued further notices* proposing to fix minimum rates for male workers of 18 years of age and over for the following areas: Suffolk, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Surrey, Worcestershire, Devonshire, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Herefordshire, Kent, Brecon and Radnor, Dorset, and Somerset. The rates proposed are on a basis of a six-day working week of 54 hours in the eight summer months from March to October inclusive, and of 48 hours in the four winter months from November to February inclusive, except in the case of Oxfordshire, where they are based on a six-day working week of 52 hours all the year round, and Herefordshire, where they are on a basis of 56 hours in summer. The weekly wages for the number of hours specified are 30s. in the case of Suffolk, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Dorset, Brecon and Radnor, and Somerset; 31s. in the case of Devonshire, Herefordshire, Leicestershire and Rutland; 33s. in the case of Kent; and 34s. in the case of Surrey.

Notice has also been given by the Board that they propose to fix differential rates for overtime for the following areas: Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Essex, Buckinghamshire, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Bedford, Berkshire, Suffolk, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Gloucestershire, and Somerset. The differential rates for overtime proposed are 8½d. an hour on week days and 10d. an hour on Sundays, except in Essex, where the overtime rates proposed are 9d. and 11d. an hour respectively; and in Leicestershire and Rutland, where the rates proposed are 8½d. an hour for the first six hours over and above 54 in summer and 48 in winter, and 9d. per hour for all subsequent overtime and for all time worked on Sundays. Subject to this special provision for Leicestershire and Rutland, the overtime rates will apply to all employment on a Sunday and to all employment in excess of the number of hours in any week (excluding Sundays) which are specified as the basis for the weekly wage set out above.

Another notice issued by the Board, the terms of which are given in full on page 258, contains a proposal to fix minimum rates for teammen, cowmen and shepherds in Norfolk, on the basis of 36s. per week all the year round, including Sunday work, the hours to be such as have been customary in the area for these classes of workers, and to fix differential rates for overtime, for these workers, of 8½d. per hour on week days and 10d. an hour on Sundays. These overtime rates will apply only in cases where workers of the classes specified work, either on week days or Sundays, in excess of the number of hours which are customary in the case of teammen, cowmen and shepherds respectively.

Objections to any of the proposed rates may be lodged with the Wages Board within one month of the date of the notices. At meetings of the Wages Board held in May, a Report was presented from the Committee appointed to consider and report upon the general principles which should be adopted as a basis for determining the value at which the rent of cottages should be assessed in connection with the payment of a minimum wage.

The Committee recommended that the occupation of a cottage held from the employer should be defined as a benefit or advantage which may be reckoned as part payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash, except where the cottage has been condemned by a sanitary authority as unfit for human habitation. In view of the existing legislation restricting the raising of rents and of the fact that in making their recommendations as to minimum rates of wages the various District Wages Committees appear to have assumed that the existing practice with regard to the tenure of cottages will continue for the present, the Committee recommended that the value at which the occupation of a cottage should be reckoned as a benefit or advantage should be 3s. a week less any rent or rates paid by the occupier, except where on the application of a worker, the District Wages Committee for the area certify that by reason of inadequate accommodation, want of repair, or sanitation the cottage is of less value, in which case the lesser value at which the occupation of the cottage shall be reckoned for the purpose of part payment of wages shall be determined by the District Committee. The Committee reaffirmed their previous view that the minimum rates fixed should be sufficient to enable an economic rent to be paid, and that as soon as the present statutory limitations upon the increase of rents was removed, steps should be taken by the Board to secure this end, and at the same time to define the value of the occupation of a cottage on a corresponding basis. The report was adopted by the Board, but no proposal will be formally issued until the District Committees have had an opportunity of reporting thereon.

A report was also presented from the Committee on "Allow-

* Particulars of previous notices were given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for May 1918, page 213.

ances" recommending that the provision of board and lodging or the provision of meals should be defined as a benefit or advantage which may be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash for the purpose of any minimum rate of wages which may be fixed under the Act. The report was adopted by the Board, and it was decided that each District Wages Committee, in which the custom of giving board and lodging or partial board prevails, should be requested to recommend the maximum value at which such benefit or advantage shall be reckoned in their district per day, per week of six days, or per week of seven days.

SCOTLAND.

The Agricultural Wages Board for Scotland have made Regulations* dated 14th May, 1918, with respect to the duties to be discharged by the District Agricultural Wages Committees and the Central Agricultural Wages Committee in Scotland.

The regulations provide that District Committees shall define the benefits or advantages which may be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of cash for the purpose of any minimum rates fixed under the Corn Production Act; that they may limit or prohibit the reckoning of such benefits or advantages as payment in lieu of cash; that they may determine any question which may arise as to the value of such benefits or advantages; and that they shall define, by Order, after giving notice and considering objections, the employment which is to be treated as overtime employment for the purpose of any differential rate of wages for overtime fixed under the Act.

The Central Committee is to define the general principles on which benefits or advantages, which may be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of cash, are to be valued, and intimate such definition to the District Committees.

COTTON AND WOOL CONTROL.

COTTON.

THE Board of Trade have made an Order—The Cotton (Restriction of Output) Order, 1918, dated 17th May, 1918—prohibiting the use of spindles or looms in cotton mills and weaving sheds without a licence from the Cotton Control Board; authorising the Control Board to prescribe the number of hours that may be worked, the quantity of machinery that may be operated, and the amount of cotton that may be used; and making the issue of licences subject to such conditions as to payment, or otherwise, as the Control Board may prescribe.

Following upon this Order, the Cotton Control Board, in view of the uncertainty of future supplies of cotton, have announced a new scheme of restrictions on working hours and on the quantity of machinery to be operated.

On and after 10th June, 1918, and until further notice, no spindles or looms are to be run without a licence from the Cotton Control Board.

Spindles.—Spinning mills will be licensed to run as follows: When engaged entirely on Surat Cotton and Waste up to 100 per cent., and on Egyptian and Sea Island Cotton up to 80 per cent. of the total spindles, 5½ hours per week; when engaged on American Cotton and on Other Growths, up to 50 per cent. of the total spindles, 40 hours per week. Mixed mills will run 40 hours per week throughout the whole mill, the percentage of spindles to be run varying with the individual case. American spinners who have not already started spindles on Egyptian Cotton will not be permitted to do so after 18th May, 1918.

Looms.—No weaving shed, unless engaged entirely on Waste cloths or entirely on Government orders, may run more than 40 hours per week. Licences will be granted to enable the same number of looms to be run as before for the reduced working hours.

In cases where firms are entirely or almost entirely engaged on Government work, the Cotton Control Board are prepared to consider the granting of special licences to work up to a full week of 55½ hours or to run an increased percentage of machinery.

It has been decided by the Board that firms required to run not more than 40 hours must stop the whole of Saturday and Monday, and that firms specially licensed to work 50 hours must stop each Saturday.

System of Playing Off.—The Board have announced that the system of "playing off" workpeople by rotation will be discontinued, and it will only be permissible to "play off" on Control Board funds operatives who are "played off" continuously through the regulations of the Cotton Control Board. Any operative thus "played off" will not receive out-of-work payment if he (or she) declines to undertake, when offered, work which in the opinion of the Local Joint Committee is deemed suitable. The operation of these provisions, however, has now been postponed for a period of six weeks from 10th June.

Levies and Unemployment Benefits.—A revised scale of levies to be paid by firms, on the basis of the proportion borne by the numbers of spindles and looms operated to the total numbers of spindles and looms has been adopted.

A detailed scale of unemployment payments to operatives, to be applied uniformly in all districts, has also been issued.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918, No. 564. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1d.

Broadly speaking, these payments are on the same basis as hitherto.

WOOL.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for May (page 176) reference was made to the decision of the Board of Control of Wool Textile Production to withdraw the restrictions imposed in 1917 on the hours of labour in woollen and worsted factories.

EMPLOYMENT IN BRITISH DOMINIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

GERMANY.*

Employment in April.—The following is the general conclusion arrived at by the German Department of Labour Statistics as to the course of employment during April:— "In April, 1918, no marked changes in activity were reported in German industry as compared with March.

Returns from Trade Unions.—Returns relating to employment during April were furnished by 34 Trade Unions, the membership covered being 1,162,815. Of these 9,746, or 0·8 per cent., were out of work on the last day of the month, as compared with 0·9 per cent. in the preceding month and 1·0 per cent. in April, 1917.

Returns from Employment Exchanges.—Returns relating to the operations of employment exchanges during April show an increase over the preceding month in the number of applications for employment per 100 situations vacant in the case both of men and women.

Table showing Applications for employment to every 100 situations vacant for April, March, and April of 1918 and 1917 for Men and Women.

Returns from Sickness Insurance Societies.—According to the returns giving the conditions of these Societies on the 1st May, the figures as to membership show an increase of 2·9 per cent. in the case of men, and of 1·8 per cent. in the case of women.

NORWAY.†

Employment in March.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of March in certain Trade Unions making returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour.

Table showing Membership and Percentage Unemployed for various trade groups in Norway from March 1918 to March 1917.

* Deutscher Reichsanzeiger, 25th May, 1918. † Information supplied by the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour.

HOLLAND.*

Employment in February.—Returns relating to employment in February were received by the Dutch Statistical Office from Trade Union and other employment funds with a total insured membership of 165,465. Of these 17,927 were performing military service, on strike, locked out, sick, &c., leaving 147,538 as the number concerning whom returns could be utilised.

Table showing Group of Trades, Number of Members insured against Unemployment, Percentage actually Unemployed, and Average Days Lost per Member Unemployed for February 1918 compared with 1917.

The comparison between February, 1918, and the previous month yields slightly different results when based upon data furnished by Trade Unions only (irrespective of whether they pay unemployment benefit or not) and when further limited to information received from Unions making returns for both months.

UNITED STATES.†

Employment in February.—The following tabular statements, showing the volume of employment in representative manufacturing establishments in thirteen selected industries in the United States in February, 1918, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) February, 1917, are summarised from data compiled by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics.

Table showing Employment in February, 1918, as compared with January, 1918, for various industries in the United States, including Number of Establishments Reporting, Number of Workpeople, and Earnings.

The Table shows that in five industries out of the 13 there were more persons on the pay-roll in February than in January, the greatest increase (3·5 per cent.) being in men's ready-made clothing.

* Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 30th April, 1918. † Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, April, 1918. ‡ The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, car building and silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

turing show marked decreases (12·4 and 8·6 per cent. respectively), due to the fact that several plants did not operate full time during the period covered.

(b) February, 1918, as compared with February, 1917.

Table showing Industry, Number of Establishments Reporting, Number of Workpeople, and Earnings for February 1918 compared with 1917.

In three industries there was thus an increase in the number of persons employed in February, 1918, as compared with February, 1917, and in ten a decrease. Ten industries show an increase in the wages paid, and three a decrease.

New York State.†

Employment in Manufacturing Industries in March.—"The factories of New York State reported more business for March, 1918, than for any other month since June, 1914, as shown by the total number of employees at work and their pay-rolls.

"Except for the water, light and power group, each of the manufacturing industries of the State showed marked increase in wage volume for March, as compared with February. The number of employees did not increase in the same ratio, but surpassed February, with the exception of printing, which fell off slightly, and furs, shoes and leather products, which dropped almost 3 per cent.

"In March, 1918, there were 12 per cent. more employees and 50 per cent. larger wage volume than in March, 1916; similarly 32 per cent. more employees and 94 per cent. larger wage volume than in March, 1915.

"March, 1918, showed the highest average weekly earning per individual worker which has been reported during the past four years. This average was £3 18s. per week, and represents the amount obtained by dividing the sum of the pay-rolls by the number of workers, including men and women in both factory, offices and shops.

COURSE OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.

UNITED KINGDOM.

DURING May the only movements of any importance in the retail prices of the principal articles of food were increases in the prices of old potatoes and of eggs, and decreases in those of fish and milk. With old potatoes and with eggs the rise in prices was fairly general throughout the country, the percentage increases at 1st June, as compared with 1st May, averaging 9 and 6 respectively.

* The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, car building and silk industries, and for one week in other cases. † The Bulletin. (The Journal of the New York State Industrial Commission), Albany, N.Y., April, 1918.

For each of the articles a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st June, in relation to the normal prices of July, 1914, is shown below:—

Table showing Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 1st June, 1918, for various articles, categorized by Large Towns, Small Towns, and United Kingdom.

The foregoing Table shows the average percentage rise in the price of each article. When it is desired to obtain the combined effect of all these increases it is necessary to assign a certain relative importance to each of the articles in accordance with the quantities consumed.

Table showing Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914, for (1) Level of retail prices of foregoing articles of food, and (2) Expenditure on such articles of food, allowing for changes in consumption.

Retail prices of the principal articles of food have, on this basis, more than doubled, and although the level of rents has remained practically unchanged, the prices of nearly all other items have shown substantial increases.

It is not possible to supplement this comparison of the level of prices generally by a comparison of expenditure similar to that given above with regard to food. Combination of the average increase in expenditure on the specified principal articles of food with the average increase in retail prices of other items (including rents) yields a resultant increase of about 65 per cent.

FRANCE.*

The index number representing the general level of retail prices of food in French towns with over 10,000 inhabitants (but not including Paris) during the fourth quarter of 1917 was

* Bulletin de la Statistique Générale de la France, January, 1918.

(2) EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

[NOTE.—The numbers given in the following Tables represent the totals of workpeople covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries.]

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during May. There was a decrease of 14,014 (or 2.6 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed at collieries making returns, as compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 22,220 (or 4.1 per cent.) on a year ago. Of the 517,856 workpeople included in the returns for May, 271,590 (or 52.4 per cent.) were employed at pits working twelve* days during the fortnight to which the returns relate; a further 185,687 (or 35.9 per cent.) were employed at pits working eleven but less than twelve days.

Table showing employment in coal mining by district (England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland) and average number of days worked per week.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked, distributed according to the principal kind of coal raised at pits at which the workpeople were engaged:—

Table showing numbers employed and average days worked by coal description (Anthracite, Coking, Gas, House, Steam, Mixed).

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good at iron, shale and lead mines, and good at tin mines. In quarrying employment was good on the whole, though it was only fairly good at some quarries producing road-making material and building stone, and moderate at granite quarries for paving setts. Shortages of labour and of railway trucks were still reported.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received for each of the three periods named below, relating to the same mines and open works in each case, show that 18,458 workpeople were employed at mines

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

included in these returns in May, 1918, a decrease of 159 (or 0.9 per cent.) on the previous month, and an increase of 1,513 (or 8.9 per cent.) on a year ago.

Table showing employment in iron, shale and other mining by district (Cleveland, Cumberland and Lancashire, Scotland, Other Districts).

Shale.—The returns show that 5,059 workpeople were employed in the fortnight ended 18th May, 1918, compared with 5,142 workpeople in April, and with 4,911 in May, 1917, at mines which worked six days in each period.

Tin.—For those remaining in the industry employment continued good.

Lead.—Employment with lead miners in Weardale continued very good; in Flintshire it continued good.

QUARRYING.

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

Table summarizing quarrying information by district (England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland) including number of workpeople and average days worked.

Limestone.—Employment was good generally with limestone quarries, except at quarries for roadmaking material, where it was fairly good.

Granite, Road Material, Setts, &c.—Employment was good generally at quarries for roadmaking material; at quarries for paving setts it was moderate.

Slate.—Employment in North Wales was good on the whole.

Sandstone.—In grindstone, paving stone, &c., quarries employment was still generally good; in building stone quarries it was fairly good.

Basalt and Whinstone (Road Material).—Employment remained fairly good.

China Clay.—In the St. Austell and Shaugh and Lee Moor districts employment was good.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during May. The decline in the number of furnaces in blast was due to a dispute in South Wales.

Table showing number of furnaces in blast by district (England and Wales, Scotland) for May 1918, April 1918, May 1917.

* See note * in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good, and showed an improvement on a year ago. Shortage of labour was again reported from every district.

According to returns relating to 118,114 workpeople, the number of shifts worked during the week ended 18th May, 1918, was 678,597, showing a decrease of 887 (or 0.1 per cent.) on a month ago, and an increase of 33,483 (or 5.2 per cent.) on a year ago.

Table showing iron and steel works employment by department (Open Hearth Melting Furnaces, Crucible Furnaces, Bessemer Converters, etc.) and by district (England and Wales, Scotland).

ENGINEERING TRADES.

THESE trades continued to be extremely busy during May, and a great amount of overtime was worked.

Trade Unions with 330,471 members (mostly in skilled occupations) reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of May, compared with 0.1 per cent. a month ago and a year ago.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act:—

Table showing engineering trades employment by division (London, Northern Counties, North-Western, etc.) and percentage of unemployment.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, with overtime in operation to a large extent.

Trade Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and shipwrights with 83,604 members reported 0.2 per cent. of the members as unemployed at the end of May, compared with 0.2 per cent. a month ago and 0.4 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured under Part II. of the National Insurance Act:—

* Figures not available.

Table showing iron and steel works employment by division (London, Northern Counties, North-Western, etc.) and percentage of unemployment.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

THE following Table shows the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of May, 1918, at the works covered by the Returns received:—

Table showing tinplate and steel sheet trade by works (Tinplate, Steel Sheet) and number of mills in operation.

The number of tinplate mills working at the end of May showed no change from a month ago, but an increase of 21 on a year ago. Shortage of labour and difficulties in securing supplies of raw materials were reported.

The number of mills making steel and galvanised sheets working at the end of May showed a decrease of four as compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was no change.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in most of these trades, and showed little change from a month ago or a year ago. In many cases overtime was worked.

Trade Unions with 53,853 members had 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of May and April, 1918.

Brasswork.—Employment continued very good.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment with nut and bolt makers and with shoe rivet and wire nail makers continued very good.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—At Sheffield employment was good in the cutlery trades and very good in the file trades; with edge tool makers at Birmingham and Wednesbury it continued good. With bit and stirrup makers employment was fair and showed an improvement on the previous month; with saddle and harness makers it continued fair.

Tubes.—Employment continued good at Birmingham, Wednesbury and in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—At Cradley Heath employment continued good with tackle and anchor makers, and very good with cable and block chain makers. Employment continued good with anvil and vice makers at Dudley, and with axle and spring makers at Wednesbury.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment with sheet metal workers was good in London and Leeds and very good at Edinburgh; a large amount of overtime on Government orders was worked.

Wire.—Employment continued good in most districts. Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—In the Wolverhampton and Willenhall lock trade employment continued fair. In the Midlands galvanised hollow-ware trades employment was again very good; it was good in the cast-iron and tin and enamelled hollow-ware trades.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment continued fair.

COTTON TRADE.

DURING May employment in the spinning department was fair in districts using American cotton and good in those using Egyptian; in the weaving department it continued moderate. On the whole there was a slight improvement compared with a month ago, but employment generally was worse than a year ago. About 8 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on control pay in the week ended 18th May, as compared with nearly 10 per cent. at the end of April.

* Figures not available.

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

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Per cent.), and Earnings (£, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago, Per cent.). Includes rows for Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.

In the Oldham district employment for the workpeople who remained in the trade showed an improvement in the spinning department as compared with a month ago; the number on control pay amounted to about 8 per cent., as compared with 12½ per cent. in April.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

DURING the week ended 18th May over 50 per cent. of the workpeople were still working less than 55½ hours (chiefly 50 hours) per week, but since that date the restrictions on hours have been removed by the Board of Control of Wool Textile Production.

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

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS, DISTRICTS, WEST RIDING, Workpeople, and Earnings. Similar structure to the first table but for woolen trades.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages including war bonuses.

WORSTED TRADE.

In this trade also the official restrictions on hours have been removed, but during the first part of the month about 80 per cent. of the workpeople were working less than 55½ hours (chiefly 50 hours).

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

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS, DISTRICTS, WEST RIDING, Workpeople, and Earnings. Similar structure to the first table but for worsted trade.

HOSIERY TRADE.

In this trade employment during May continued good on Government contracts, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

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

Table with columns for District, Workpeople, and Earnings. Lists districts like Leicester, Nottingham, etc.

JUTE TRADE.

DURING May employment in Dundee and the surrounding districts was not so good as a year ago owing to the restrictions on the consumption of jute.

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

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, Workpeople, and Earnings. Lists departments like Preparing, Spinning, etc.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during May continued very slack in Ireland, with much short time; it was worse than a year ago. In the Belfast district about 70 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on short time during the month.

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

Table with columns for DEPARTMENTS, DISTRICTS, DISTRICTS, IRELAND, SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM, Workpeople, and Earnings. Lists departments like Preparing, Spinning, etc.

SILK TRADE.

DURING May employment continued fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

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

Table with columns for BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople, and Earnings. Lists branches like Throwing, Spinning, etc.

LACE TRADE.

ON the whole employment in this trade continued fair, and was about the same as a year ago for those still in the trade.

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

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Table with columns for BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople, and Earnings. Lists branches like Leavers, Cartain, Plain Net, etc.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT showed little change compared with a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago. About 35 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns were on short time during the month.

Returns from firms employing 4,926 workpeople in the week ended 18th May, and paying £6,810 in wages, showed a decrease of 2½ per cent. in the number employed.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

In these trades employment on the whole was fair during May, but was not so good as a year ago. In the bleaching section employment on the whole was moderate.

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

Table with columns for TRADES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople, and Earnings. Lists trades like Bleaching, Printing, etc.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, with a scarcity of labour, and in several districts overtime was worked.

Trade Unions with 6,119 members reported 1.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of May, compared with 1.8 per cent. in April and 0.5 per cent. a year ago.

In certain branches of the saddle and harness trades at Walsall and Birmingham employment continued quiet.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT generally continued good during May, and showed on the whole little change compared with a year ago for the somewhat reduced number of workpeople now em-

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

ployed. In some districts a little short time was reported among the women workers, owing partly to the shortage of men.

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

Table with columns: District, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include ENGLAND AND WALES, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, and UNITED KINGDOM.

TAILORING TRADE. BESPOKE.

London.—Employment was fairly good; it showed a further seasonal improvement, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms paying £10,868 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 18th May showed an increase of 8.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago, and of 19.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment in all the principal provincial centres was good and about the same as a year ago.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment continued good and on the whole was better than a year ago.

About 60 per cent. of the firms covered by the Returns reported a shortage of labour; overtime was worked by about 13 per cent. of the workpeople reported on during the month.

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

Table with columns: District, Indoor Workpeople (Number Employed, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include Leeds, Manchester, Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs. and Cheshire, Bristol, North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol), South Midland and Eastern Counties, London, Glasgow, Rest of United Kingdom, and TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

DURING May employment continued fairly good and was slightly better than a year ago. More than half the Returns received reported an insufficient supply of labour.

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

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Table with columns: District, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include London, Manchester, Rest of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, S.W. Counties, Rest of England and Wales, Glasgow, Londonderry, Belfast, Rest of Ireland, and TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM.

HAT TRADE.

Silk.—Employment in London and in the provinces continued fair and was better than a year ago.

Felt.—In this branch employment on the whole was fairly good and about the same as a month ago. At Denton employment was reported as good in the soft felt branch and quiet in the stiff felt branch. At Stockport and in Warwickshire employment continued good.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES. DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

RETURNS from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,350 dressmakers in the week ended 18th May showed a decrease of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 12.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment on the whole was fair with all classes of dressmakers and West End milliners.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, &c., TRADES.

In this section employment on the whole continued good; there was a marked shortage of machinists, &c., in London, Manchester and Glasgow, about half the firms reporting an insufficient supply.

Firms in London employing 4,075 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 18th May showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Manchester firms employing 4,671 workpeople in the week ended 18th May showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.1 per cent. compared with May, 1917.

At Glasgow firms employing 1,911 workpeople in the week ended 18th May showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. A considerable amount of overtime was reported.

CORSET TRADE.

In this trade employment continued fairly good. Returns from firms (mainly in England) employing 5,443 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 18th May showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with a month ago, and of 6.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

MEN remaining in the building trade were very well employed, largely owing to Government requirements, and overtime was reported in many cases. Private building work (except maintenance and repairs) continued slack.

The following Table shows the general percentages unemployed of State-insured workpeople in all building occupations:—

Table with columns: Occupations, Number Insured at end of May, 1918, Percentage Unemployed at end of May, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a. Rows include Carpenters, Bricklayers, Masons, Plasterers, Painters, Plumbers, Other skilled occupations, Navvies, Labourers, and ALL OCCUPATIONS.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

The next Table shows in detail the percentage unemployed in each geographical division. Except in London and Ireland, the percentage unemployed was less than 0.4 in all districts.

Table with columns: Division, Number Insured at end of May, 1918, Percentage Unemployed at end of May, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a. Rows include London, Northern Counties, North Western, Yorkshire, East Midlands, West Midlands, E. & S. Eastern Counties, South Western, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and United Kingdom.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

Mill Sawing and Machining.—Employment was fairly good on the whole, and some overtime was reported. The percentage unemployed at the end of May among workpeople engaged in saw milling and insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act was 0.48, as compared with 0.49 in the previous month, and 0.63 in May, 1917.

Furnishing.—Employment continued good. With cabinet makers it continued good at the principal centres. With upholsterers it was fairly good in London, fair at Liverpool, and good elsewhere. Employment with french polishers in London continued good.

Coach Building.—Employment was good in most districts, and much overtime was reported. At Derby it was fairly good, and at Leicester it was fair. Some short time was worked at Coventry. Employment at Belfast was quiet.

Coopers.—Coopers continued well employed on the whole.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with brushmakers was again good, with overtime being worked in some districts. Wheelwrights and smiths continued well employed. With packing-case makers it was good in London, fair at Manchester and Bradford, and slack at Glasgow. With skip and basket makers employment was very good in London, Leicester and Oldham, and fair on the Tyne.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES. BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good for those remaining in the industry. A general shortage of labour was reported, and in some cases overtime was worked.

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

Table with columns: Districts, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire, Midland and Eastern Counties, S. and S.W. Counties and Wales, Other Districts, and TOTAL.

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment continued good, with a shortage of labour, and much overtime was reported. Returns from firms employing 5,170 workpeople in the week ended 18th May showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, but an increase of 21.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good for those remaining in these trades. There was a general scarcity of male labour and some scarcity of female labour, and a good deal of overtime was worked by letterpress printers and bookbinders. The printing of the voters' lists was in progress during the month.

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

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.



Table with columns: Division, No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1918, Percentage Unemployed at end of (May, 1918, April, 1918, May, 1917), Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a (Month ago, Year ago). Rows include Paper, Printing, Bookbinding, and Total.

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

Table with columns: Districts, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include Paper, Printing, Bookbinding, and Total.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and overtime was worked by ovenmen, slipmakers, enginemen and others in consequence of the shortage of men. In certain cases, however, it was reported that workpeople were idle owing to non-delivery of coal.

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

Table with columns: BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include China Manufacture, Earthenware Manufacture, Other Branches, Potteries, and Other Districts.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT remained good, with a general shortage of labour, and in a number of cases overtime was worked by some of the men.

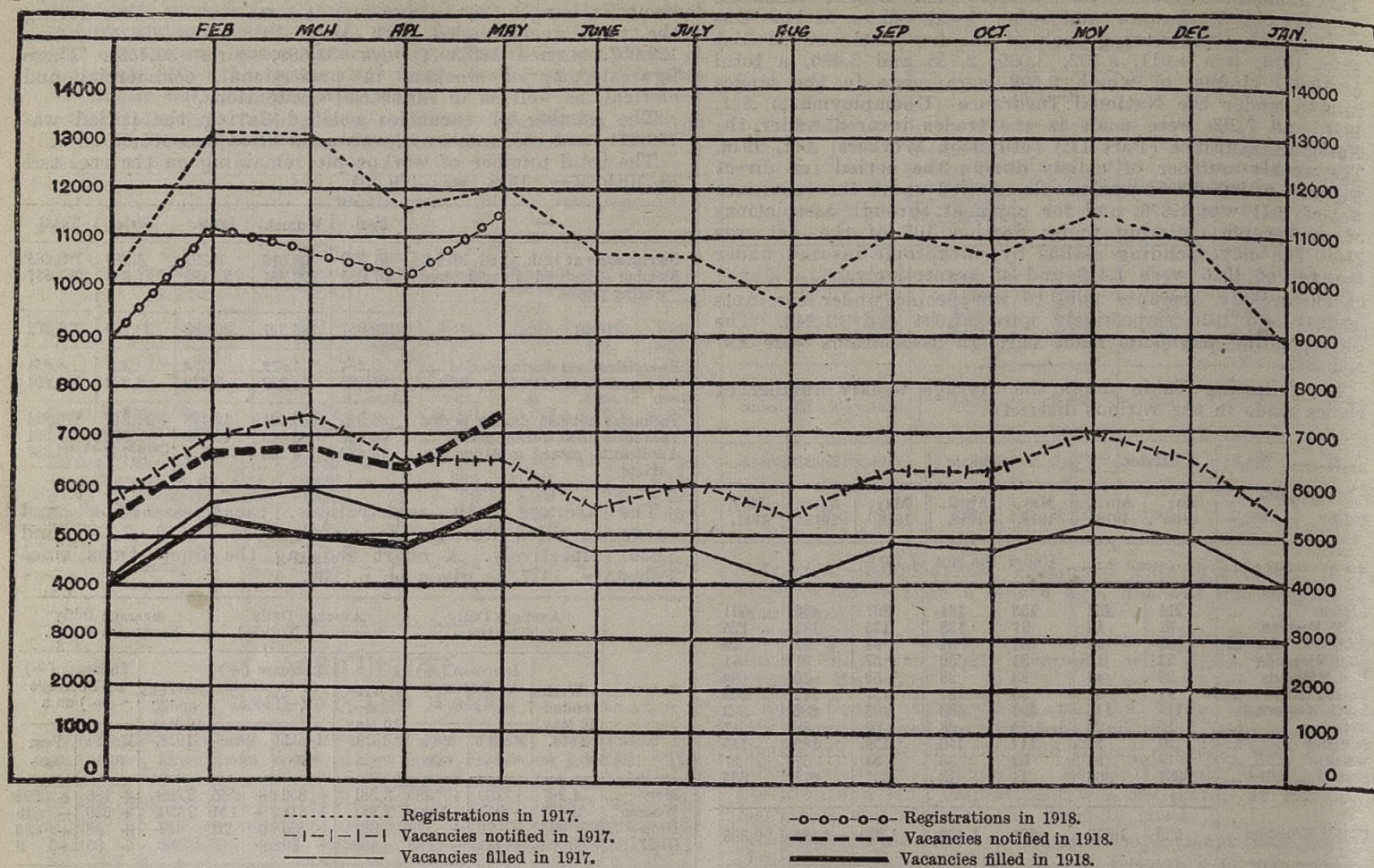
The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns: BRANCHES, DISTRICTS, Workpeople (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a), Earnings (Week ended 18th May, 1918, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a). Rows include Glass Bottle, Flint Glass Ware, Other Branches, North of England, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire, Scotland, and Other Parts of the United Kingdom.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (contd.).

AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED.*



INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED, VACANCIES FILLED AND VACANCIES NOTIFIED IN THE FOUR WEEKS ENDED 10th MAY, 1918 (GENERAL REGISTER).

Table with columns for Occupation Groups, Adults (Registrations, Vacancies), and Juveniles (Vacancies) for various trades.

* The figures are those of the General Register for a period ending early in the month stated at the head of the chart.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

DISPUTES IN MAY.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in May was 71, as compared with 57 in the previous month, and 43 in May, 1917.†

Table showing No. of Disputes and No. of Workpeople Involved (Directly, Indirectly, Total) for various groups of trades in May 1918 and April 1918.

Causes.—Of the 71 new disputes, 36, directly involving 8,590 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 6, directly involving 11,559 workpeople, on other wages questions; 3, directly involving 170 workpeople, on questions affecting hours; 17, directly involving 15,744 workpeople, on questions affecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 6, directly involving 44,167 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; and 3, directly involving 3,221 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 44 new disputes, directly involving 66,088 workpeople, and 6 old disputes, directly involving 155 workpeople.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in May by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 396,500. In addition, 26,500 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before May and were still in progress at the end of the month.

DISPUTES IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1917 AND 1918.

Table comparing No. of Disputes, No. of Workpeople Involved, and Aggregate Duration in Working Days for 1917 and 1918 across various trade groups.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN MAY.

Table detailing principal disputes with columns for Occupations and Locality, Number of Workpeople Involved, Date when Dispute began, Duration in Working Days, Cause or Object, and Result.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—44 disputes, involving about 8,000 workpeople, were in progress at the time of going to press.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e. number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, &c.) exceeded 100 days.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.¹

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported as having been granted during May, to take effect either in that month or from earlier dates, resulted in a total increase of about £65,000 per week in the wages of nearly 280,000 workpeople. No decreases were reported.

The principal increases included in these figures were war advances, under awards by the Committee on Production, to dock labourers at all the principal ports in Great Britain, amounting to 1s. 6d. per day at Liverpool and to 2d. per hour at most of the other ports; increases on the pre-war base piece-work wages of certain classes of men employed on Admiralty work by shipbuilding firms in Scotland, on the North-East Coast, and at Hull, Barrow, and Birkenhead, amounting to 35 per cent. for rivetters, 20 per cent. for caulkers, and 10 per cent. for angle-iron smiths and platers; increases of 3s. per week to men and 2s. per week to women in the linen industry in Belfast and the North of Ireland; an increase of 3s. per week to woolcombers in the Bradford district, and further slight increases, under the sliding scales, in the wages of workpeople in the textile dyeing, finishing, &c., trades in

Yorkshire and Scotland. There were also numerous changes in the building and printing trades.

Changes in January-May, 1918.—The following Table summarises the changes for which particulars are available:—

Table with 3 columns: Groups of Trades, No. of Workpeople affected, Amount of Net Increase per week. Includes categories like Building, Coal Mining, Iron and Other Mining, etc.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1918.

Main table with 5 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Lists changes for various localities like London, Yorkshire, Lancashire, etc.

For Notes see page 230.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1918—(continued).

Main table with 5 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Lists changes for various localities like Midland and Eastern Counties, Derby, Gloucester, etc.

For notes see page 230.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1918—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Building and Allied Trades, Quarrying, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Shipbuilding and Repairing, Engineering and Ironfounding, and Cutlery Trades.

For Notes see p. 239.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1918—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Miscellaneous Metal Trades, Cotton Industry, Woollen and Worsted Industry, Linen Industry, Carpet Manufacture, Lace Manufacture, Textile Dyeing, Bleaching, Printing, and Finishing, and Transport Trades.

For Notes, see page 239.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1918—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Transport Trades, Printing and Allied Trades, and Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.

For Notes see page 39.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MAY, 1918—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of Change. Includes sections for Furnishing and Wood-working Trades, Baking and Confectionery Trades, Local Authority Services, and Building and Allied Trades.

Changes in Hours of Labour.

- 1 Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees.
2 War bonuses and 'war increases' have been so described where possible...
3 For painters employed by master decorators the bonus took effect from the first pay day after 11 May.
4 This increase took effect from the date shown, under an arrangement made in May.
5 The bonus of 12 1/2 per cent. granted to men on munitions work...
6 In this case it has not yet been definitely ascertained whether the bonus of 12 1/2 per cent. granted to men on munitions work...
7 The rates quoted are exclusive of the bonus of 12 1/2 per cent. granted to men on munitions work.
8 In the case of men who received the bonus of 12 1/2 per cent. prior to May, this increase was not payable until 25 May.
9 These increases did not apply to men on munitions work.
10 See also under 'Changes in Rates of Wages.'
11 See also under 'Changes in Rates of Wages.'
12 The rates shown apply to Bilston and Willenhall, where they had previously differed from those paid at Wolverhampton.
13 Including Aberdare, Bargoed, Barry, Cardiff, Llanelli, Merthyr, Newport, Pontypridd, Rhondda and Rhymney Valleys, Swansea and Tredegar.
14 In the Wear and Tyne Districts the increases took effect from the first full pay in March and April respectively.
15 This increase took effect from the date shown, under an award issued in May.
16 This increase was in lieu of the bonuses of 12 1/2 and 7 1/2 per cent. on earnings granted to time-workers and piece-workers respectively in various industries.
17 No poundage is to be paid where all materials and tools are provided by the employer.
18 The bonus of 12 1/2 per cent. granted to men on munitions work is merged into this increase.
19 Plus bonuses of 12 1/2 per cent. on earnings to time-workers and 7 1/2 per cent. to piece-workers.
20 The bonus of 12 1/2 per cent. granted to time-workers, as from 18th October, 1917, and of 7 1/2 per cent. to piece-workers, as from 1st January, 1918, merges with this increase.
21 Including Banbury, Belfast, Birmingham, Bolton, Bradford, Coventry, Dublin, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield and Watford.
22 This bonus is taken into account in calculating overtime rates.
23 Including Aldershot, Ashford, Aylesbury, Bedford, Brighton, Chesham, Dorking, Guildford, Hertford, Hitchin, Ipswich, Letchworth, Maidstone, Margate, Portsmouth, Ramsgate, Reading, Redhill, St. Albans, Southampton, Tonbridge, Uxbridge, Watford, Wealdstone and Windsor.
24 Including Cambridge, Ely, Foxton, Royston, Sawston, Soham and Wisbech.

Increase in Minimum Rates under the Trade Boards Act.—During May the minimum rate of wages for male workers (other than learners) in certain branches of the tailoring trade in Great Britain, as fixed by the Tailoring Trade Board, was raised from 7d. to 8d. per hour. For further particulars see the LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1918, page 214.

Increase in Rates of Wages taking effect in June.—An increase of 25 per cent. on the standard piece rates of wages of workpeople in the cotton industry has been arranged, to take effect on the pay day in the week ended 15th June. Particulars of this increase will be given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE COAL AND IRON TRADES.

THE results of recent ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given below:—

Table with columns: Product and District, Price according to last Audit, Average selling price per ton, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit, Previous Audit, A Year ago.

Coal.—No change took place in miners' wages in Durham in connection with the above ascertainment, wages remaining at 10 1/2 per cent. above the standard...

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED.

[Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

Large table with columns: Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in May, 1918, on a Month ago, Year ago.

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months.]

The total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during May, 1918, was 21, of which 13 were due to lead poisoning...

FOR FIVE MONTHS ENDED MAY, 1918.

During the five months ended May, 1918, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshops Act was 118, compared with 346 in the corresponding period of 1917.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Table with columns: Industry, Cases (Month of May, 1918, Five months ended), Deaths (Month of May, 1918, Five months ended).

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

The number of paupers relieved on one day in May, 1918, in the thirty-five selected areas named below, corresponded to a rate of 128 per 10,000 of population...

Table with columns: Selected Urban Areas, Paupers on one day in May, 1918, Rate per 10,000 of Population, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population.

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

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board...

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

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: DEATH OF WORKMAN IN LOCKED ROOM FULL OF GAS: CLAIM BY DEPENDANTS: BURDEN OF PROOF.

Compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, is payable to an injured workman only when his injuries were caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of the employment.

The defendants appealed. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that it was quite impossible to say that the County Court Judge ought, on the evidence, to have come to a different conclusion.

ACCIDENT ARISING IN COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: ACCIDENT DURING SLEEP: WORKMEN SLEEPING IN HUT ON EMPLOYER'S PREMISES.

A contractor was engaged in erecting buildings in extension of a munitions factory. As there was little accommodation for his workmen in the neighbourhood, he erected on the premises a number of huts in which the men could sleep...

On the night of 13th September last a very heavy storm arose, and one of the huts was blown down. A workman asleep in this hut was seriously injured and claimed compensation under the Act.

The Court of Appeal overruled the decision of the County Court Judge. They held that although the small charge for lodging might be regarded as an inducement to men to enter the employment...

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: RISK NOT INCIDENTAL TO EMPLOYMENT: ADDED RISK: RAILWAY SERVANT LEAVING TRAIN IN MOTION.

A workman in the employment of a railway company was sent with a large number of other men in a ballast train to do certain work at a tunnel on the railway. At the end of the day's work the men returned along the line in the train...

There was no evidence of any rule forbidding the men to leave the train while in motion. On the contrary, it

appeared that they did so occasionally without reprimand. There was no reason for the deceased to alight at the ticket collecting platform, except his own personal convenience.

The County Court Judge refused to make an award in favour of the claimant. He held that there was no evidence that in this case the deceased left the train while in motion with the knowledge or connivance of his employers, although there were cases in which railway servants were allowed to take such a risk. The deceased did an obviously dangerous thing solely for his own convenience. The risk he ran by jumping out of the moving train in the dark was not a risk incidental to his employment, but an added risk outside the sphere of his employment. Therefore the accident was not one which arose out of and in the course of the employment, and no compensation was payable.

The claimant appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the County Court Judge was amply justified by the evidence in deciding as he had done. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Wilson v. London and North Western Railway Company*.—*Court of Appeal*.—24th April, 1918.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: RISK NOT INCIDENTAL TO EMPLOYMENT: ADDED RISK: ENGINE DRIVER TRIMMING SHOVEL ON RUNNING RAIL.

While a railway engine was standing on running rails outside an engine shed, the driver and fireman got down on to the six-foot way in order to trim a shovel used in stoking. To do this the fireman held the shovel to one of the adjoining rails, using it as an anvil, while the driver trimmed the shovel with a hammer and chisel. During this operation a light engine came along, which ran over the driver and killed him. His dependants claimed compensation under the Act, but the claim was resisted by the railway company on the ground that the accident was not one arising out of the employment of the deceased, as it was no part of his duty or that of the fireman to trim a shovel, and that the deceased had voluntarily added a grave risk to the ordinary risks of his employment by acting as he had done in so dangerous a position.

At the hearing in the County Court it was urged on behalf of the claimants that it was quite a common thing for engine drivers to trim shovels as the deceased had done. On the other hand, there was evidence that it was not part of the duty of either a driver or a fireman to trim shovels, nor could they be ordered to do so. A workman was specially employed to trim shovels, and when a shovel became unusable the driver or fireman should return it to store and obtain another or have the old one repaired. The Judge decided that the deceased had met his death in doing an act which he was not employed to do; that the claimants had failed to prove that in using a running rail for the purpose of trimming a shovel the deceased was doing an act well known to any responsible officer of the company, or so notorious that an inference should be drawn that it was acquiesced in by the company; that therefore the deceased had gone outside his employment, or else had in doing his work voluntarily taken upon himself an added risk which resulted in his death; and that the accident was not one arising out of the employment. An award in favour of the claimants was therefore refused and they appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that it could not be said that the decision of the County Court Judge was not supported by the evidence; that the risk taken by the deceased was not incidental to his employment; and that therefore the decision could not be disturbed. The appeal was accordingly dismissed.—*Stevens v. London and South Western Railway Company*.—*Court of Appeal*.—23rd April, 1918.

WANT OF WRITTEN NOTICE OF ACCIDENT: ORAL NOTICE TO SUPERIOR SERVANT OF EMPLOYER: CLAIM TO COMPENSATION: EMPLOYER PREJUDICED IN DEFENCE.

It is provided by the Act that proceedings for compensation are not to be maintainable where notice of the accident has not been given as soon as practicable after the happening thereof and before the workman has voluntarily left the employment; but the want of any such notice is not to be a bar to the maintenance of proceedings if it is found in the proceedings that the employer is not prejudiced in his defence by the want. The notice is to be served on the employer, and must give the name and address of the person injured and state the cause of the injury and the date of the accident.

A young woman was employed in the kitchen of a club. A housekeeper lived on the premises and controlled the servants, with power of engaging them and discharging them. According to the statement of this young woman, she cut her finger with a broken jar in the course of her work on 26th June, 1917. The finger was bound up and she went to bed as usual. Next morning the finger was discoloured and very painful, and when the housekeeper came down to breakfast she told her what had happened on the day before, and showed her the injured finger. The housekeeper poulticed it during the day, but it continued to get worse, and on 30th June, by the housekeeper's permission, she went home, as she was unable any longer to do her work. She then received medical treatment, but was totally incapacitated for work until 24th August, and partially from that date till 22nd September.

She claimed compensation under the Act, but the employers resisted the claim on the ground that no written notice had ever been served upon them as the Act required. At the hearing they also alleged that the state of the claimant's finger was not due to any accident, but to a whitlow.

The County Court Judge decided on the evidence that the claimant's story was true, and that the want of written notice had not in any way prejudiced the employers in their defence. He accordingly made an award of compensation in the claimant's favour.

The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the Judge was entitled on the evidence given to accept the claimant's account of how she came by her injury, and that he was entitled to treat the oral notice to the housekeeper as a fact showing that the employers were not prejudiced in their defence by the claimant's failure to give them a proper written notice.

The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Venters v. Sundridge Park Golf Club*.—*Court of Appeal*.—26th April, 1918.

RECORDING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: DUTY OF REGISTRAR: AGREEMENT TO PAY LUMP SUM: NO AGREEMENT TO REDEEM WEEKLY PAYMENT.

The Act provides that where the amount of compensation has been ascertained, or any weekly payment varied, or any other matter decided under the Act, either by a committee or by an arbitrator or by agreement, a memorandum thereof must be sent to the registrar of the County Court who, on being satisfied as to its genuineness, must record it in a special register, and thereafter it becomes enforceable. Where, however, the registrar considers that an agreement as to the redemption of a weekly payment by a lump sum ought not to be registered by reason of the inadequacy of such sum, he may refuse to record the memorandum of such agreement and may refer the matter to the Judge who has power to make such order as in the circumstances he may think just.

A workman met with an accident by which he was severely injured in circumstances which admittedly entitled him to compensation under the Act. Without any agreement being arrived at his employers paid him £1 a week for 26 weeks. He was then able to do a little light work, and as his condition improved he was able to do more and more. Accordingly he was paid decreasing amounts weekly as his wages increased, until the amount of the weekly payment was 11s. 11d. After that sum had been paid for some time without any agreement being made, negotiations were begun for payment of a lump sum in full satisfaction of all further liability on the employers' part. While these negotiations were proceeding the workman filed a request for arbitration, claiming in the first instance 12s. a week, but afterwards (by permission) amending his claim to £1 a week. Before this amendment, however, and before the case was ready for hearing, an agreement was arrived at between the employers and the workman to the following effect: the employers were to pay and the workman was to accept, in addition to weekly compensation already paid, the sum of £175 in full satisfaction and discharge of all claims and costs under the Act by reason of the accident. This agreement was sent to the registrar to be recorded. The registrar, however, refused to record it and referred it to the Judge. The Judge decided that it ought not to be recorded on the ground of the inadequacy of the lump sum agreed to be paid in lieu of a weekly payment. Against this decision the employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that as the parties had never come to any agreement as to a weekly payment (the question as to the amount of such payment being actually in issue when the agreement to pay the lump sum was arrived at) the agreement to pay the lump sum was not one for the redemption of a weekly payment but one for the payment of £175 in full satisfaction of the workman's claim. Such agreement required to be recorded; but unless there were any doubt as to its genuineness, the registrar was bound to record it and had no discretion to refer the matter to the Judge. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*H. D. Rawlings, Ltd. v. Hodgson*.—*Court of Appeal*.—2nd May, 1918.

(2) MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE TO TERMINATE SERVICE: NO EXPRESS AGREEMENT AS TO NOTICE: IMPLIED AGREEMENT: LIABILITY OF SERVANT LEAVING WITHOUT NOTICE.

In every agreement for service between master and servant it is implied that either party must give to the other notice before terminating the contract of service, unless there is an express agreement, or a custom of the particular trade, to the contrary.

A manufacturer of women's blouses verbally engaged a woman as machinist at a weekly wage of 35s. Nothing was said as to notice to be given by either party. The service began in November, 1917, and continued up to and including Saturday, 12th January, 1918. The employer paid his workwomen weekly, on Saturdays, each payment being for the week ending Friday, the day previous. The woman in question was paid on 12th January for the week ending Friday, the 11th. On Monday, 14th January, she failed to appear, and later the employer found that she had on that day gone to a new situation.

She had given no notice whatever to the employer of her intention to leave his service. The employer accordingly took proceedings against her in a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for damages for leaving her work without notice. He claimed 35s., less the amount due to her for her work on the Saturday.

The magistrate, however, decided that as there had been no agreement whatever as to notice, no notice was required. He therefore dismissed the case. The employer appealed.

The High Court decided that the magistrate was wrong,

and allowed the appeal. They held that unless there is an express agreement to the contrary there is implied in every contract of service a term that notice shall be given by one party to the other before the contract can be determined, the length of such notice to depend on the circumstances of the case. The Court therefore remitted the case to the magistrate to be dealt with.—*Payzu v. Hannaford*.—*King's Bench Division*.—13th May, 1918.

SLANDER OF WORKMAN: ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL UNDER MUNITIONS OF WAR ACTS: COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION: STATEMENT BY WITNESS: PRIVILEGE.

It is well established that any statement made by a witness in a judicial proceeding with reference to a matter in issue is privileged, and the witness is protected from any legal liability for slander in respect of such statement, even when it is false or malicious. By the Munitions of War Act, 1915, it is provided that certain differences arising between employer and employed as to the terms or conditions of employment on munitions work may be reported to the Board of Trade, who are given power to refer the matter for settlement to (a) the Committee on Production, or (b) a single arbitrator agreed upon by the parties or appointed by the Board, or (c) a Court of Arbitration consisting of persons representing both employers and workmen, with a chairman appointed by the Board. The award of any such tribunal is binding on employers and employed. By the amending Act of 1916 it is enacted that if any person makes a false statement in any proceedings before any arbitration tribunal under the principal Act he shall be liable to punishment on summary conviction. There is, however, no provision for evidence to be given on oath before the tribunal. The Minister of Labour has been substituted for the Board of Trade as respects these provisions.

A difference arose between the managers of a company engaged on munitions work and the workmen, which was reported to the Board of Trade. The Board referred the matters in dispute to the Committee on Production, and witnesses made statements before the tribunal.

The assistant manager of the company made a statement, in the course of which he used language implying that a certain workman who had been dismissed by him was a bad and unskillful workman.

The workman contended that this statement was a slander falsely and maliciously made of him, and he accordingly brought an action for damages against the assistant manager. At the hearing it was pleaded on behalf of the defendant that his statement before the tribunal was absolutely privileged. On the other hand, it was contended that the principle of privilege which applied to evidence given before Courts of Justice did not apply to statements before the Committee on Production, which had no power to compel the attendance of a witness or to administer an oath.

The Court of Session held that the statement was privileged, and that the plaintiff could not succeed in his action, even though the statement were false or malicious.—*Slack v. Barr*.—*Court of Session*.—25th January, 1918.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND COURTS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Building Trades.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—W. E. Chivers & Sons (Devizes) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Claim—Application for (1) an advance in wages. (2) a code of working rules. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—As from coming into operation of this award existing bonus shall cease and instead thereof present rates of pay of men concerned shall be advanced by 1½d. per hour. (2) Claim not established. Issued 2nd May. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following date hereof. I.C. 1845/2.

CARPENTERS, JOINERS AND BUILDERS' LABOURERS.—The Civil Engineering Department of the Admiralty and Messrs. McManus, Contractors for Admiralty work at Wormwood Scrubs v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, the General Union of Carpenters and Joiners, and the United Builders' Labourers' Union. Claim—Application with regard to wet time payment. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) When on account of bad weather a full day, 4½ hours or 2 hours have been lost, 3 hours, 2 hours and one hour respectively shall be paid for at ordinary rates. Workmen must have booked on at usual morning hour and have remained at work until usual booking off hour or until official release. (2) When work can be provided under cover during wet time payment for wet time shall not be made. Issued 24th May. Effective as from 22nd April, 1918. I.C. 3368/2.

BUILDERS' LABOURERS.—Building Construction Co., Ltd. v. United Builders' Labourers' Union. Claim—Application as to whether men concerned working at Erith in the erection of air raid shelters for the Trench Warfare Supply Department of the Ministry of Munitions should be paid the bonus of 12½ per cent. granted by award 860 of the Committee on Production, dated 21st Feb., 1918, on wages of 1½d. or 1s. 0½d. per hour. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—The bonus of 12½ per cent. shall be paid on the whole of the wages of 1s. 0½d. as being the men's earnings within the meaning of clause (6) of the said award. Issued 8th May. I.C. 5269/2.

BUILDERS' LABOURERS, MIXERS AND CARRIERS.—Thorburn & Sons (Chittening) v. Navvies', Builders' Labourers and General Labourers' Union. Claim—Application for (1) payment for 2 hours per day travelling expenses. (2) Payment of same rates to all builders' labourers; mixers to receive same as carriers. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claims (1) and (2) not established, but contractors should undertake at earliest convenient date that train should start from Bristol to Chittening not earlier than half an hour before present summer starting hour. Issued 22nd May. I.C. 1934/2.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—W. E. Chivers & Sons (Devizes) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Labourers, painters, plumbers and traction engine drivers shall receive 1½d. per hour advance; blacksmiths and wood machinists 1½d. per hour increase. These increases apply only to men of or above 18 years. (2) Men of or over 18 years of age and those under 18 years shall receive a bonus or additional bonus of 3s. 6d. and 1s. 6d. per full week respectively. Issued 2nd May. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following date hereof. I.C. 1957/2.

BUILDING OPERATIVES.—Cowlin & Son (Avonmouth Dock), P. and W. Anderson, Ltd. (Filton Aerodrome), John Knox (Shirehampton Housing Scheme), Ministry of Munitions for H.M. Factory (Avonmouth) v. Bristol Building Trades' Federation. Claim—Application that local arrangements regarding allowances for inclement weather made prior to the introduction of the Hereford award into Bristol outlying district shall apply to said workmen and not Hereford award. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Local arrangements for payment for wet time shall apply to all above Government building contracts in Bristol outlying district. (2) When work can be provided under cover during wet time payment for wet time shall not be made. Issued 22nd May. I.C. 1918/2a.

BUILDING OPERATIVES.—Thorburn & Son (Bristol) v. Bristol and District Building Trades' Federation. Claim—Application for payment for 2 hours per day travelling time to and from the works. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim not established, but contractors should undertake that at earliest convenient date train should start from Bristol to Chittening not earlier than half an hour before present summer starting hour. Issued 22nd May. I.C. 1918/2b.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES.—Wm. Cowlin & Son (Bristol) v. United Builders' Labourers' Union and The Operative Bricklayers' Society. Claim—Application for members employed by the said firm in the erection of machinery shops at the Bristol shipyard for a good time keeping bonus of 5s. per week. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—Claim not established. Issued 22nd May. I.C. 2884/2.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd. v. Birmingham Allied Building Trades. Claim—Application that certain work carried out at Fort Dunlop should entitle men to be paid under award of Committee on Production of 21st Feb. from first full pay week after 1st Jan., 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Award of 21st Feb. to cover certain specified parts of work. Issued 25th May, but not to apply to the store and canteen. I.C. 5742/2.

SEAPLANE SHED OPERATIVES.—T. J. Moran & Co. (Cork) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland and the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. Andrews, K.C. Award—(1) Wages of men concerned at present paid at the rate of 7½d. per hour shall be advanced to 9½d. per hour, those paid at present rate of 9½d. per hour shall continue to be paid the same. (2) In addition country money at the rate of 1s. 6d. per day and bonus of 12½ per cent. shall be continued. Issued 21st May. Effective as from and including first pay made or to be made next after 11th May, 1918, and by agreement shall be binding on all parties for the period of 6 calendar months from date hereof. I.C. 2541/2.

Mining and Quarrying.

WINDING ENGINEMEN.—Midland Counties Colliery Owners' Association v. Nottinghamshire Miners' Association. Claim—Application for (1) increase in wages of 1s. per day. (2) One week's holiday with full wages. (3) One ton of best coal per man per month free. (4) Week to be one of 7 days. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claims (1) (2) and (3) should be considered in connection and conjunction with demands made by all classes and grades of workers effected by the award of Mr. Mackenzie, K.C., dated 9th Dec., 1916. (2) Where any portion of Sunday is worked by employees in question the week shall be regarded and paid for as a seven day week, but this shall not give workers any right to work on Sunday or to payment when no work is done thereon. Effective as from week commencing on date hereof. Issued 6th May. I.C. 2464/2.

MINERS.—Leicestershire Coal Owners' Association v. Leicestershire Miners' Association. Claim—Application for increase of basis rate per ton at "Five-Foot or Nether Lount Seam" at Ellistown Colliery. Arbitrator—Mr. A. O'Connor, K.C. Award—(1) Basis rate for coal got in said seam to be 2s. 9½d. as from 11th April. (2) Clay raised from 11th April to 29th May to be paid for at existing rate of 2s. 6d. Issued 25th May. I.C. 2722/2.

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

HEATERS.—South Wales Siemens Steel Association (Llanelli) v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Claim—Application

earnings. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Men concerned shall receive an advance of 4s. per week. (2) Claim not established. Issued 16th May. Effective on and from first full pay day in May. I.C. 2478/2.

QUAY LABOURERS.—Dublin Shipping Association v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Arbitrator—Sir Plunket Barton. Award—Agreement of 18th Dec., 1917, modified in so far as (1) Constant men shall be paid 54s. per week of 56 hours. Overtime after these hours shall be paid at rate of 1s. 3d. per hour. (2) Casual labourers' rates shall be increased to 9s. per day and overtime shall be advanced to 1s. 3d. per hour. (3) Rates for handling manganese and all other kinds of plaster shall be the same as for cement and slag. (4) Week shall finish at 2 p.m. on Saturday. (5) Sunday rates advanced to 2s. per hour. Other time and overtime rates fixed. (6) Other claims not established. Issued 23rd May. I.C. 1124/2.

TRANSPORT WORKERS.—Ross & Marshall, Ltd., and The Greenock Stevedore Co., Ltd. (Greenock) v. Greenock and District Dockers' Union. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Arbitrator—Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C. Award—(1) Rate of wages shall be increased by 2d. per hour as from commencement of day shift on 6th May, 1918. Men employed at rafters' work afloat shall be paid rafters' rate of wages. (2) Working conditions of men at the hatch and quay and on the winch platform, &c., fixed in detail. (3) Other claims not established. Issued 20th May. I.C. 2613/2.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

BOX MAKERS.—William Makinson & Sons, Ltd. v. United Trades Committee of Operative Carpenters and Joiners (Bolton District). Claim—Application that men concerned should be paid in accordance with the Harwich working rules. Arbitrator—Mr. C. M. le Breton, K.C., O.B.E. Award—Claim not established. Issued 6th May. I.C. 48/2.

FEMALE EMPLOYEES.—The Houghton-Butcher Manufacturing Co., Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Association of the Furnishing Trades. Claim—Application for advance in wages of 2d. per hour to women concerned on private work. Arbitrator—Sir Cyril Jackson. Award—There shall be an advance of 1d. per hour as from 1st June, 1918. Issued 15th May. I.C. 2006/2.

FEMALE FACTORY EMPLOYEES.—Waring & Gillow, Ltd. (London) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—(1) Wages of females concerned of 18 years and upwards and those under that age shall be increased by 3s. 6d. and 1s. 9d. respectively per present working week as from 1st April, 1918. (2) Other claims not established. Issued 24th May. I.C. 2197/3.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Pottery and Glass Trades.

CEMENT WORKERS.—G. & T. Earle (1912), Ltd. (Hull) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for an increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. A. J. Ashton, K.C. Award—As from first full pay in Feb., 1918, men concerned shall receive weekly additional bonuses specified in the last column but two of two lists attached to this award, and in cases of alteration verified by the arbitrator's initials. The arrears of these weekly additional bonuses shall be paid on the first pay day after the date of this award. Issued 6th May. I.C. 2429/2.

ENGINE DRIVERS AND STOKERS.—British Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd. v. United Builders' Labourers' Union. Claim—Application for increased wage of 1d. per hour for locomotive and main engine drivers and stokers employed at the company's Premier Works, Irthingborough. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 28th May. I.C. 2275/2.

PAINT AND ENAMEL WORKERS.—The Walpamur Co., Ltd. (Darwen) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. P. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—Wages of men concerned of and over 18 years and those under 18 years shall be advanced by 5s. and 2s. 6d. per week respectively. The general advance of 2s. made by the company on 12th Feb., 1918, shall merge in the amounts hereby given. Issued 14th May. Effective as from and including 13th May, 1918. I.C. 2734/2.

Food and Drink Trades.

BAKERY OPERATIVES.—Huddersfield and District Master Bakers and Confectioners' Association v. Northern District of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers. Claim—Application for specified alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. R. B. Clegg Mellor. Award—(1) Foremen where four adult hands or less than four adult hands are employed shall be paid minimum rate of 54s. and 51s. per week respectively. (2) Minimum rate per week for dough mixers and ovenmen, for first and single hands and for table hands shall be 51s., 49s., and 46s. respectively. (3) Minimum rates for juveniles shall be as claimed. Issued 6th May. Effective as from 25th Feb., 1918. I.C. 2583/2.

FEMALE BAKERY EMPLOYEES.—The Aerated Bread Co., Ltd. v. Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers. Claim—Application with regard to (1) The interpretation and application of clause (4) of a Committee on Production award of 13th March, 1918. (2) The in-

roduction since that award of an altered scale of working hours. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Said clause shall be construed as meaning that the Birmingham agreement shall be taken as a basis for grading of workers, but not for the purpose of regulating wages—hence rates of pay for women concerned at work at Camden Road Bakery and Factory fixed in detail. (2) Working hours arranged. Issued 21st May. I.C. 1193/5.

DISTILLERS.—The Distillers' Co., Ltd. (Derby) v. The National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for (1) Increase of wages. (2) Increased rates for overtime and holidays. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) In case of men of and over 18 years, the present time-keeping bonus to be converted into wages and carry overtime. Women of and over 18 years to have an advance at rate of 3s. per full week. (2) Overtime rates fixed. Issued 27th May. Effective on and from pay day of week beginning 1st April. I.C. 1535.

Leather Trades.

MALE AND FEMALE LEATHER OPERATIVES.—John Tullis & Sons, Ltd., James Hendry, Hamilton Caldwell & Sons (all of Glasgow) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for 20s. per ordinary week over pre-war wages in the case of men, and for a proportionate increase in the case of women workers. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Increases already granted by the firms in question meet and in general exceed terms of the application. (2) Dates, at or from which latest advances establishing this result have been made have varied with each firm, and these dates shall be accepted by their respective workpeople as defining date from which claim put forward under the present application has been met. Issued 4th May. I.C. 3163.

FEMALE PREPARERS.—Birmingham and Walsall Leather Trades Association v. Midland Leather Trades Federation and The Union of Saddlers and General Leather Workers. Claim—Application for advance in wages. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Minimum time rate for female leather preparers of 18 years and over shall be 6d. per hour, and such women shall receive 10 per cent. on their earnings. Time rates for female preparers under 18 years shall not be less than 5d. per hour. When a female preparer is capable of earning more on piece than on time rates she shall be given opportunity of piece-work at list rates, plus 20 per cent., in which case she shall forfeit the 10 per cent. (2) Time rates of female probationers fixed in detail. Classes of work to which this award applies are those of naval and military work and for civil work of the same kind as that for naval and military requirements. Issued 8th May. Effective as from first full pay day in Feb., 1918, and shall be payable for week preceding that pay day thereafter. I.C. 2455.

MALE AND FEMALE TANNERY WORKERS.—Richard Hodgson & Sons, Ltd. (Beverley) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for advance in wages of 12s. per week. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Men of or over 18 years shall receive additional war bonus of 5s. per full week, except when too old and infirm, in which case amount to be paid shall be settled by a representative of the Union and the firm. (2) Minimum pay for women of or over 18 years shall amount with wages and bonus to not less than 30s. per full week, and in the case of such women engaged on trimming wet trips or oiling trips to not less than 32s. per such week. (3) System of engaging and paying boys shall remain as now, but when boys under 18 years work in a gang with men day-workers they shall be paid men's rates, provided the work of the gang is complete. (4) Present rule as to overtime shall continue, and other claims not established. Issued 8th May. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following 20th March, 1918. I.C. 745/2.

MALE AND FEMALE LEATHER WORKERS.—The Pyrotan Leather Co., Ltd. (Godalming) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for (1) An advance of wages. (2) Alteration of overtime rates. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Male time-workers of and over 18 years shall receive an advance of ½d. per hour. Female time or piece-workers of or over 18 years and those under that age shall receive a bonus of 4s. and 2s. per full week respectively. (2) Claim not established. Issued 11th May. Effective as from commencement of first full pay following 29th April, 1918. I.C. 2105/2.

MALE AND FEMALE LEATHER OPERATIVES.—Birmingham Leather Traders' Association and Walsall Leather Traders' Association v. Union of Saddlers and General Leather Workers and Midland Leather Trades Federation. Claim—Application for (1) Revision of piece-work list. (2) Fixed time rates for female stitchers. (3) Other working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Claim for further percentage advance on said list not established, but price list should be revised as soon as possible. (2) Rate for qualified female stitchers of 18 years and over shall not be less than 6d. per hour and ½d. per hour extra when engaged on heaviest work, those less than 18 years shall be paid not less than 5d. per hour. Starting wage for female learners (stitchers) of 18 years and over and under that age shall not be less than 14s. and 10s. respectively per full week. These rates shall date on and from first full day following 1st May, 1918. (3) Time rates payable in terms of the award of Alderman Smith, dated 14th Jan., 1918, shall apply to workmen engaged on civilian as well as naval and military equipment of the same kind on and from first pay day after 15th April, 1918. Other working conditions specified. Issued 31st May. I.C. 1553/2.

Public Utility Services.

MALE AND FEMALE CORPORATION EMPLOYEES.—Corporation of Doncaster v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Claim—Application for increase of wages in the departments other than tramways, gas and carting. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie. Award—(1) Men concerned whose increases at date of hearing did not exceed and did exceed 13s. per week over pre-war weekly wages shall receive advance of 5s. and 4s. per full week respectively. (2) Women of 18 years and over and youths and girls under 18 years shall receive advance of 5s. and 2s. per full week respectively. (3) Advances made to infirm men over 65 shall be arranged between the Corporation and the Union. Issued 7th May. Effective as from first full pay day in March and shall be payable for the week preceding that pay day and thereafter. I.C. 1010/2.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.—Houghton-le-Spring Urban District Council v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Existing war bonuses shall remain on their present basis and there shall be a further advance of 5s. per week to men concerned as from the first pay day following 1st April, 1918, for the week previous to such pay day and thereafter. Issued 8th May. I.C. 1836/2.

GAS WORKERS.—Hastings and St. Leonards Gas Co. v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for certain increases in wages and for alterations in working conditions. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—(1) In lieu of present bonuses all workers in receipt of 15s. or 13s. per week and all others on 12 hour shifts be paid like amount as war wages. These payments are to take effect so far as the amounts are concerned but not as regards the other incidents as from date in Dec., 1917, on which last advance of 5s. per week by way of war bonus commenced. They are to be paid as war wages from 4th May. (2) Overtime rates fixed in detail and to take effect as from 12th May, 1918. Issued 6th May. I.C. 3133.

FITTERS.—The Gas Light and Coke Co. (Westminster) v. National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Claim—Application on behalf of men concerned employed at the Beckton works for (1) payment of 10½d. per hour. (2) Certain overtime rates. Arbitrator—Mr. H. Courthope-Munroe, K.C. Award—(1) Claim not established. (2) Company agree to pay double time for Sunday work. Issued 16th May. I.C. 2476/2.

GAS WORKERS.—The Cork Gas Consumers' Co. v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for specified increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. W. Dodd. Award—Advances to certain men and boys concerned given in detail. Issued 20th May. Effective as from last full pay in April, 1918. I.C. 2776/2.

ENGINEERS, BOILERFIREMEN AND GREASERS EMPLOYED IN POWER STATIONS.—The Corporation of Sheffield v. The Wind- and General Engineers' Society. Claim—Application for time and a fifth for night duty and double time from Saturday midnight to 6 a.m. Monday. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 15th May. I.C. 2082/2.

ENGINE DRIVERS AND STOKERS.—Rathmines Urban District Council v. Irish Stationary Engine Drivers, Cranemen, Motormen and Firemen's Trade Union and the Rathmines and District Workers' Union. Claim—Application as to whether men concerned are entitled to the benefit of the war bonus of 15s. under the award of the Committee on Production. Arbitrator—Mr. J. M. Whitaker. Award—Claim not established. Issued 16th May. I.C. 3378.

CARTERS AND LABOURERS.—Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of Wells v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. E. Page, K.C. Award—(1) Rates of weekly wages shall be increased in each case by 5s. per week. (2) Payment for overtime and for Sunday work shall be increased by 25 per cent. (3) Hours and general conditions of labour shall remain unchanged. Issued 22nd May. Effective—clause (1) as from 6th April, the first increased payment shall be due on 13th April; clause (2) on and from 25th May, 1918. I.C. 2492/2.

DOCK LABOURERS.—Corporation of King's Lynn v. Dock, Wharf and Riverside and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for minimum weekly wage of 30s. in addition to existing war bonuses and overtime rates. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Further war bonus of 3s. 6d. per week. Issued 27th May. Effective from first pay day following 13th May, for week previous to such pay day and thereafter. I.C. 369/2.

Miscellaneous.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES.—Joint Committee of London Co-operative Societies v. Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employers and Allied Workers. Claim—Application for adoption of London programme of minimum wages and conditions of employment. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claim not established. Demand as to working hours, overtime and holidays should be separately considered by parties concerned. Issued 25th May. I.C. 3078/2.

Correction.

The summary given in the May issue of this GAZETTE of an award granted by Mr. W. K. Dickson in respect of a difference between the Corporation of Aberdeen and the Scottish Horse and Motormen's Association should be amended to read that the increases awarded are to take effect as on first pay day in Jan., 1918. I.C. 2020/3.

SPECIAL ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL.

(For Women Employed on Munitions Work.)

MUNITION WORKERS.—The Walker Hanna Bearings, Ltd. (Manchester) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for certain retrospective payment of 3s. 6d. per week to women concerned. Award—Claim not established. Issued 10th May. I.C. 2089/2.

MUNITION WORKERS.—Inspection Department of Ministry of Munitions v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application that women employed as examiners at the Llanelly National Shell Factory shall receive same wages as men. Award—Claim not established. Issued 15th May. I.C. 2086/2.

MUNITION WORKERS.—Management of Inspection Department of Royal Arsenal (Woolwich) v. Workers' Union. Claim—Application for payment of 12½ per cent. bonus to women concerned. Award—Claim not established. Issued 15th May. I.C. 5119/2.

MUNITION WORKERS.—The Surgical Instrument Manufacturers' Association (London) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—As from date of this award females over and under 18 years employed at Arnold & Son shall receive an advance of 6s. and 3s. respectively per full week. Issued 15th May. I.C. 2395/2.

MACHINE SETTERS.—London and District Association of Engineering Employers v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—Women concerned shall not be paid district rates for fully skilled men, but as from date of this award their wages shall be advanced by 1½d. per hour. Issued 12th Feb. I.C. 3678.

DRILLERS, CARTERERS, ROUGHERS, &c.—Doulton & Co., Ltd. (Paisley) v. National Union of General Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—(1) Piece-work rates for drillers shall be 5d. per 100. (2) Other claims not established. Issued 2nd May. I.C. 593/2.

CRANE DRIVERS.—Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., Blake Boiler, Wagon and Engineering Co., Ltd., R. Stephenson & Co., Ltd. v. The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—Wages of women in question shall be advanced so as to bear the same proportion to the present wages of men crane drivers (apart from the 12½ per cent. bonus) as existed between the total remuneration of such women and such men immediately prior to 1st Dec., 1917. Issued 9th May. I.C. 14/2.

TOOL MAKERS.—Drummond Bros., Ltd. (near Guildford) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for retrospective payment of a 2s. 6d. per week advance as from 15th Aug., 1917, date of Statutory Rules and Orders, 1917, No. 781, to 22nd Dec., date on which wages were advanced. Award—Claim established. Issued 15th May. I.C. 2252/3.

PAPER WORKERS.—R. Sommerville & Co., Ltd. (Michael) v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside, and General Workers' Union. Claim—Application for alteration of rates of wages and other working conditions. Award—(1) As from date of this award, wages of women concerned employed on piece-work shall be advanced 15 per cent. (2) As from same date wages of women over and under 18 years shall be increased by 3s. and 1s. 6d. respectively per full week. (3) Claim that wages be paid weekly instead of fortnightly not established. Issued 2nd May. I.C. 1116/4.

CORPORATION EMPLOYEES.—Liverpool Corporation v. Municipal Employees' Association. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—(1) Wages of all women concerned earning less than 80s. per week shall be increased by 20 per cent., except in the case of tramway employees who have received increases granted by the Committee on Production dated 8th March, 1918. (2) The wage of 4½d. per hour (apart from war bonus) now generally paid as a minimum wage to women employees shall be extended to money-takers in "Baths" Department. Issued 3rd May. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following 11th April, 1918. I.C. 383/3.

WOMEN EMPLOYED ON SLOTTING AND SHAPING MACHINES.—Kilmarnock District Engineers Employers' Association (representing Glenfield and Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock) v. Kilmarnock District Committee of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Claim—That above machines are skilled machines and that operators thereon should be paid the skilled rate. Award—(1) Women employed on machines mentioned shall be rated at 7½d. per hour, as from date of this award, exclusive of war advances granted by Statutory Rules and Orders, 1917, No. 781, and 1918, No. 31. (2) Claim that said women should receive rates of fully skilled men not established. Issued 10th May. I.C. 2072/2.

SWEEPERS AND CLEANERS.—Osgam-Robertson Lamp Works, Ltd. v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for certain changes in payment of wages. Award—Women concerned to be paid as prescribed by Statutory Rules and Orders, 1917, No. 492, plus total war advance of 6s. per ordinary week. Issued 16th May. Effective as from first full pay following 13th April, 1918. I.C. 3555.

PROPELLER OPERATIVES.—Messrs. W. D. Oddy & Co., Propeller Works (Leeds) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Claim—Application for increase of wages. Award—(1) Women engaged in shaping of windmill propellers (other than those engaged on sandpapering) shall be paid at rate of 8d. per hour. (2) Women, part of whose work consists of soldering metal tips for propellers, shall, as at present employed, be

shall be made to women as to the men for an equal amount of work done.

6. Women employed on piece-work shall be paid the piece-work prices customarily paid for the same or similar work when done by men.

7. Women employed on premium bonus system shall be allowed the time customarily allowed to men for the same or similar work, and their earnings shall be calculated on the basis time rate used in the case of men.

8. Where in the establishment in question there are no data from previous operations to enable the parties to arrive at a piece-work price or time allowance, the price or time allowance shall be so adjusted that a woman would receive the same percentage over the time rate of the class of men customarily employed on the job as such man would have received had he undertaken the job on piece-work or premium bonus system as the case may be.

9. Girls under 18 years of age employed as piece-workers or premium bonus workers on work of a class customarily done by men shall be paid as follows:-

(a) In the case of piece-workers:-
17 to 18 years-the piece-work price paid or allowed for the same or similar work when customarily done by men, less 10 per cent.

16 to 17 years-Ditto, less 20 per cent.
Under 16 years-Ditto, less 30 per cent.

(b) In the case of premium bonus workers:-
17 to 18 years-the time allowed shall be that customarily allowed to men for the same or similar work, and the earnings of the girls shall be calculated on the basis of the man's time-rate, less 10 per cent.

16 to 17 years-Ditto, less 20 per cent.
Under 16 years-Ditto, less 30 per cent.

PART II.-WORK OF A CLASS WHICH PRIOR TO THE WAR WAS NOT RECOGNISED AS MEN'S WORK IN DISTRICTS WHERE SUCH WORK WAS CARRIED ON.

10. Women and girls shall be paid as follows:-
Women, 18 years and over ... 5 1/2d.
Girls, 17 years and over ... 4 1/2d.

11. In an establishment in which a custom prevailed prior to the war of differentiating between the rates of wages paid to women and girls employed in warehouses and those otherwise employed, an application may be made to the Minister of Munitions for special directions as to the rates of wages to be paid to women and girls employed in warehouses.

12. Women and girls may be rated at 1/4d. per hour less than their appropriate time rate under paragraph 10 for probationary periods not exceeding one month from the date when they are first employed, and no woman or girl shall be called upon to serve more than one probationary period.

13. Piece-work prices and premium bonus time allowances shall be such as to enable every woman or girl of ordinary ability in the establishment concerned to earn at least 25 per cent. over her time rate, except in the case of an establishment where an application that this provision should be dispensed with, either generally, or, as regards any particular class of workpeople, has been approved by the Minister of Munitions.

14. Women and girls shall, for the first eight weeks, be paid as follows:-
Women, 18 years and over ... 5d.
Girls, 17 years and over ... 4d.

and 31, be paid according to the nature of the work and their ability.

17. No girl under 18 years shall be employed on any machine process without the sanction of the Minister of Munitions.

18. Piece-work prices and premium bonus time allowances shall be such as to enable every woman or girl of ordinary ability in the establishment concerned to earn at least 25 per cent. over her time rate.

Provided that women or girls employed on piece-work or premium bonus system on work which in the establishment concerned was previously done by men on piece-work or premium bonus system shall be paid according to the provisions of paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

PART IV.-AIRCRAFT.
A. Woodwork Processes.
Time-Workers.
19. Women and girls employed on woodwork processes for aircraft, other than machine processes, shall be paid according to the provisions of paragraphs 14 and 15.

20. Women and girls employed on woodwork processes for aircraft shall be paid as follows:-
Per Hour.
For the first four weeks of such employment ... 5 1/2d.

21. Women and girls employed as inspectors and gaugers on woodwork for aircraft shall, after eight weeks, be paid at the rate of 1/4d. per hour more than the rates mentioned in paragraph 15 hereof.

22. No girl under 18 years shall be employed on any machine process without the sanction of the Minister of Munitions.

23. Where the employment of girls under 18 on machine woodwork processes for aircraft has been sanctioned by the Minister of Munitions they shall be paid as follows, on commencement, and shall receive an increase of 1d. per hour after the first four weeks and an additional 1d. per hour on completion of 8 weeks of such employment:-

Workers, 18 years and over ... 5 1/2d.
" 17 years and over ... 4 1/2d.
" 16 years and over ... 3 1/2d.
" 15 years and over ... 3d.
" under 15 years ... 2 1/2d.

24. Piece-work prices and premium bonus time allowances shall be such as to enable every woman or girl of ordinary ability in the establishment concerned to earn at least 25 per cent. over her time rate.

Subject to compliance with the foregoing provisions of this paragraph the earnings of women and girls for work done in any establishment at the date of this Order on premium bonus system shall, in that establishment, be calculated on the basis of the following time rates:-

Workers, 18 years and over ... 5 1/2d.
" 17 years and over ... 4 1/2d.
" 16 years and over ... 3 1/2d.
" 15 years and over ... 3d.
" under 15 years ... 2 1/2d.

25. Women employed wholly or mainly on hand processes in the beating of metal to shape from the plain sheet, except the processes specified in paragraph 26 (a) and (b), shall be paid according to the provisions of paragraph 3.

26. Women and girls employed on:-
(a) the making of straight folds (whether beaded or not), straight bends and straight flanges;
(b) the making of bends and flanges (if in one plane) on other than straight work;
(c) hand processes other than the beating of metal to shape from the plain sheet,

27. Women and girls shall be paid according to the provisions of paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

28. Women and girls employed as time-workers, or on

systems of payment by results, on machine processes shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph 29, be paid according to the provisions of Part II. of these directions.

C. General Aircraft Work.
29. Women employed as time-workers on Aircraft work in any establishment wholly or mainly engaged in the manufacture or repair of Aircraft shall not in any case be paid a less rate than 6d. per hour after the first eight weeks.

PART V.-GENERAL PROVISIONS.
30. The provisions of Parts I. and II. of these directions shall not apply to any of the work (other than General Aircraft Work) mentioned in Parts III. and IV., except in so far as those provisions are specifically applied by Parts III. and IV.

31. Where special circumstances exist, women and girls may be paid in excess of the rates prescribed in these directions. In particular, and without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, they shall be so paid when they are employed-

(a) in danger zones,
(b) on work injurious to health,
(c) on specially laborious or responsible work, or
(d) on work requiring special ability.

Rates of wages in excess of the respective rates prescribed in these directions shall not be put into operation for any class of workers without the previous sanction of the Minister of Munitions.

32. The same overtime, night-shift, Sunday and holiday allowances shall be paid to women and girls to whom Parts I., III., or IV. (except paragraph 28) of these directions apply as are paid to men employed on work of the same class. For this purpose, the working week shall be the working week for women and girls in the establishment in question, but shall in no case be reckoned as less than 48 hours.

33. Where women or girls are prevented from working owing to breakdown, air raids or other causes beyond their control and no custom exists in the establishment as to payment in respect of time so lost in excess of what is hereby laid down they shall be paid for the time so lost at three-fourths of their time rate unless they are sent home.

34. Where women or girls are employed on systems of payment by results their time rates shall be guaranteed and paid irrespective of earnings. Debit balances shall not be carried forward from one week to another.

35. Women or girls shall not be put on systems of payment by results until sufficiently qualified. The period of qualification on shell work shall not exceed four weeks without the express sanction of the Minister of Munitions.

36. Piece-work prices and premium bonus time allowances shall be fixed by mutual agreement in accordance with these directions between the employer and the worker or workers who perform the work.

37. Piece-work prices and premium bonus time allowances, after they have been established, shall not be altered unless the means or method of manufacture are changed.

38. These directions shall not operate to prejudice the existing remuneration of any person or persons.

39. All wages and balances shall be paid to women and girls through the Office.

40. For the purpose of these directions, the term "woman" or "women" means a woman or women of the age of 18 years or over, and the term "man" or "men" means a man or men of the age of 18 years and over.

of an establishment named in the second schedule hereto and any contractor or sub-contractor employing labour therein from the obligation to comply with any previous Order of the Minister of Munitions regarding the wages of female workers employed in that establishment on munitions work.

41. Any question which arises as to the interpretation of these directions shall be determined by the Minister of Munitions.

Second Schedule.
LIST OF ESTABLISHMENTS.
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.
No. 570.
THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (SUPPLEMENTARY) REGULATIONS, 1918, DATED 17TH MAY, 1918, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER THE NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 TO 1918.

Whereas by Section 91 of the National Insurance Act, 1911, power was given to the Board of Trade to make Regulations for the purposes therein specified and generally for carrying Part II. of that Act into effect, and any Regulations so made are to have effect as if enacted in that Act:

And whereas by Section 2 of the New Ministries and Secretaries Act, 1916, it is provided amongst other things that the powers and duties of the Board of Trade under the National Insurance Act, 1911, as amended by any other Act shall be transferred to the Minister of Labour:

And whereas by Section 14 Sub-Section 2 of the New Ministries and Secretaries Act, 1916, it is provided that where any powers and duties are transferred by virtue of that Act the transfer shall take effect as from a date to be fixed by Order of His Majesty in Council:

And whereas by Order in Council dated 10th January, 1917, the said transfer was ordered to take effect as from the 10th day of January, 1917:

Now, therefore, the Minister of Labour, by virtue of the powers conferred upon him as hereinbefore recited and of every other power him hereunto enabling, doth hereby make the following Regulations:-

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Supplementary) Regulations, 1918, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

2. In proviso (a) to Regulation 11 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Regulations, 1912, as amended by the Unemployment Insurance (Supplementary) Regulations, 1915, the words "two miles" shall be substituted for the words "three miles."

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 17th day of May, 1918.

(Signed) D. J. Shackleton,
Secretary to the Ministry of Labour.

CORN PRODUCTION ACT, 1917.
AGRICULTURAL WAGES BOARD.
ENGLAND AND WALES.

MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FIXED FOR MALE WORKMEN IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE TO COME INTO FORCE ON THE 27TH MAY, 1918.

The Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales) duly established and constituted under Section 5 (1) of the above Act and the Regulations made by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, dated the 8th November, 1917, having given the Notice prescribed by the said Act, and having had regard to the provisions of sub-sections (6) and (7) of Section 5 of the Act, have given Notice, dated 16th May, 1918, that they have fixed the following minimum rates of wages for male workmen of 18 years of age and over employed in agriculture for time work in the area comprising the administrative counties of Northampton and Soke of Peterborough and the county borough of Northampton, that is to say:

1. The wages payable for employment in summer (as hereinafter defined) of male workmen in agriculture of 18 years of age and over, shall be not less than wages at the minimum rate of 30s. for 54 hours (exclusive of meal times).

2. The wages payable for employment in winter (as hereinafter defined) of male workmen in agriculture of 18 years of age and over, shall be not less than wages at the minimum rate of 30s. for 48 hours (exclusive of meal times).

3. The above minimum rates shall apply to all male workmen of 18 years of age and upwards who are wholly or partly employed in agriculture within the meaning of Section 17 (1) of the Corn Production Act, 1917, in the above-mentioned area during such time as they are so employed.

4. For the purpose of the above minimum rates employment in summer shall be deemed to be employment during the period commencing on the first Monday in March and terminating on the last Sunday in October; and employment in winter shall be deemed to be employment during the rest of the year.

5. The above minimum rates shall come into operation on the 27th day of May, 1918.
Applications for Permit of Exemption under the proviso to Section 5 (3) of the Act* may be made by employer or

See LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1918, page 218.

worker and should be addressed to the Secretary, the Northamptonshire District Wages Committee, The Square, Market Harborough, from whom forms of application for Permits can be obtained.

Complaints under Section 6 of the Act* should also be addressed to the Secretary, the Northamptonshire District Wages Committee, as above.

Complaints under Section 7 of the Act* should be addressed to the Secretary, the Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales), 80, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

PROPOSAL TO FIX RATES OF WAGES FOR TEAMMEN, SHEPHERDS AND COWMEN IN NORFOLK.

The Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales) duly established and constituted under Section 5 (1) of the above Act and the regulations made by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries dated the 8th November, 1917, having had regard to the provisions of sub-sections (6) and (7) of the said Section, have given notice dated 11th June, 1918, as required by Section 5 (4) of the above Act, and by paragraph 4 of the Agricultural Wages Regulations, 1918, that they propose to make the following Order:—

(1) The minimum rates of wages fixed by the Board as applicable to employment in the area comprising the administrative county of Norfolk and the county boroughs of Norwich and Great Yarmouth as set out in the notice by the Board dated the 11th day of May, 1918, shall not apply to any man employed in the said area wholly or mainly as a teamman, shepherd or cowman.

(2) The wages payable for employment of any man employed in agriculture in the said area for time work wholly or mainly as a teamman, shepherd or cowman, if of the age of 18 years or over, shall not be less than wages at the rate of 36s. for a week including the customary hours of employment on Sunday.

(3) The differential rates for overtime in the case of employment of any man to whom this notice applies shall, in lieu of any differential rates which would otherwise be applicable, be as follows:—

(a) In respect of overtime employment on week days, 8½d. per hour.

(b) In respect of overtime employment on a Sunday, 10d. per hour.

(4) For the purpose of the application of the above rates all employment in excess of the hours of employment customary in the area in the case of a teamman, shepherd or cowman, as the case may be, is hereby defined to be overtime employment.

The Agricultural Wages Board, as required by Section 5 (4) of the above Act and by paragraph 4 of the above-mentioned Regulations, will consider any objections to the above proposed Order which may be lodged with them within one month from the date of this Notice. All objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, The Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales), 80, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. The objections should state precisely, and so far as possible with reasons, what is objected to.

PROPOSALS TO FIX MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES.

Further Notices, dated 16th and 21st May and 4th June have been issued by the Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales) proposing to fix minimum rates of wages, and differential rates for overtime employment, and defining the employment which is to be treated as overtime, for male workmen 18 years of age and over employed on agriculture for time work in a number of areas in England and Wales. Particulars of the rates proposed are given on page 219. The Notices were printed in full in the *London Gazette* for 17th May, 21st May (Supplement), and 4th June.

The Agricultural Wages Board, as required by Section 5 (4) of the above Act and by paragraph 4 of the above-mentioned Regulations, will consider any objections to the above rates and definition of overtime employment which may be lodged with them within one month from the dates of the Notices. All objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, The Agricultural Wages Board (England and Wales), 80, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. The objections should state precisely, and so far as possible with reasons, what is objected to.

**NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS,
1911 to 1918.**

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Application to the Umpire.

In pursuance of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire has received application for decision as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following class of persons:—

506x. All classes of persons engaged in the manufacture of plywood.

Decisions by the Umpire.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Minister of Labour hereby gives

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1918, page 218

† Particulars of Notices of proposals to fix minimum rates for certain areas were printed in the LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1918 (see page 213).

Notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

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

2417x. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making metal parts (caps, filaments, supports, &c.) of electric lamps.

2418x. Workmen engaged in grinding basic slag.

2419x. Sketchmakers, engravers, die sinkers and other workmen engaged wholly or mainly in connection with the preparation of metal rollers for use in calico printing, or for printing wall papers.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

PROPOSAL TO VARY MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FOR FEMALE WORKERS.

The Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued a notice dated 1st June, 1918, stating that they propose to vary the minimum rate of wages for female workers of 18 years of age and upwards from 19s. 6d. to 21s. 8d. per week of 52 hours. Increases are also proposed in the minimum rates of wages for female learners.

Further particulars regarding the proposed variation of the minimum rates may be obtained by persons affected from the Secretary of the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain), Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

LACE FINISHING TRADE.

VARIATION OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES.*

The Lace Finishing Trade Board have resolved to vary the minimum time-rate of wages for workers in the trade from 3½d. to 4d. per hour, and also to raise the minimum time-rates for learners. The Trade Board have also resolved to increase the general minimum piece-rates for workers in the trade.

The statutory notice of the above-mentioned variations of the minimum rates will be issued on 17th June, 1918. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Lace Finishing Trade Board, Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1918, page 132.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

MAY, 1918.

District.	Certifying Surgeons.	Place and time for examination.†
Dudley (Worcester)	Dr. C. C. Messiter, Cappoly, Dudley	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Motherwell (Lanark)	Dr. W. Wyper, Knowetop, Motherwell	Surgery, weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Newton Abbot (Devon)	Dr. W. Patey, Dagenham House, Queen's Street, Newton Abbot	Surgery, Tuesday, 2-3 p.m.
Tunstall (Staffs)	Dr. J. W. Richmond, 32, Wesley Place, Tunstall	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.

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

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

BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

The Board of Trade Journal and Commercial Gazette, which is published weekly, gives authoritative information on all the activities of the Board of Trade and of the new Department of Overseas Trade, special attention being paid to plans for assisting trade restoration after the war. The Journal is purchasable from the same sources as the LABOUR GAZETTE (see front page of cover), at the price of 6d.

NATIONAL FOOD JOURNAL.

The National Food Journal is issued by the Ministry of Food on the second and fourth Wednesdays in each month. The issue for 12th June contains a number of articles of general interest, the text of recent Statutory Rules and Orders, and a complete list of retail maximum prices. This journal is purchasable from the same sources as the LABOUR GAZETTE (see front page of cover) at the price of 2d.

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BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS—contd

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Supplement to the LABOUR GAZETTE

for JUNE, 1918.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

List of New Contracts, May, 1918.

WAR OFFICE.

Accountments, Leather: W. Brock & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Wallace & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Accountments, Web: M. Abeles, London, E.C.; H. & A. Alvarez, London, E.; Arding & Hobbs, Ltd., London, S.W.; F. H. Bassett, London, E.; Coals, Lovell & Co., London, N.; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; S. Brown, London, N.; E. J. Daunter, London, N.E.; G. Davis, London, E.; Drake Bros., Tollesbury; Forsaith Bros., London, N.; A. L. Gamba & Co., London, W.; J. S. Gould, London, E.; S. Green & Co., London, W.; R. Greenacre & Co., London, N.; Hamilton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; W. Holmes & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.; F. Hunter & Co., Belfast; A. Lane & Co., London, E.; G. H. Leavey & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Light & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Middlesex Equipment Co., London, N.; Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.; H. Pentony & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; H. C. Phillips, London, E.C.; Pike Bros. & Co., London, E.C.; J. Prince & Co., London, E.C.; Roberts, Francis & Co., London, E.C.; Rothesay Manufacturing Co., Surbiton, Surrey; C. J. Russell & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; F. M. Seal, London, E.C.; H. Slade & Co., St. Albans; E. O. Smith & Co., Ltd., Nottingham; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; Spaul & Barnes, London, E.C.; W. D. Talbert & Co., London, E.C.; Tannen Military Equipment Co., London, E.; W. S. Thomson & Co., Ltd., London, N.E.; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.; T. & S. Williams, London, S.E.; M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Loughborough; T. J. Wright & Sons, Ltd., London, N.E.; Young & Neilson, Ltd., Bristol.—Apparatus, Acetylene: Thorn & Hoddle Acetylene Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Apparatus, Bath: H. J. Cash & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Asbestos Cloth, &c.: Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale.—Balances, Spring: G. Salter & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—Band Conveyors: H. Simon, Ltd., Manchester.—Barrows: London Aviation Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Baskets, Tool: N. E. E. Minty, Oxford; Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.—Baskets, Wicker: Belgian Convalescent Home, Surbiton, Surrey.—Baths, Long: R. & W. Wilson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—Belting, Leather, &c.: G. Angus & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; T. H. Haagen, Son & Co., Sheffield; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.—Benches, Circular Saw: J. Sagar & Co., Ltd., Halifax.—Benches, Fitters': Lawson & Co., Glasgow.—Bench Grinders: Wilson-Wolfe Engineering Co., Ltd., Bradford.—Bins, Storage: W. Lucy & Co., Ltd., Oxford.—Blankets: J. Ashworth, Ltd., Bacup, Lancs; T. Barlow & Sons, Ltd., Bury, Lancs; T. Bond, Worthing & Sons, Ltd., Stroud; D. Bradley, Ltd., Morley, Leeds; Brigg & Sons (Batley), Ltd., Batley; Cameron & Co., Ullapool, Ross-shire; B. Crosland & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; J. Crossley & Sons, Ltd., Halifax; J. Dinsmore & Sons, Ballymena, co. Antrim; F. Doble & Sons, Dewsbury; Dodgson & Hargreaves, Ltd., Leeds; Edwards & Rawson, Ltd., Halifax; J. Fenton & Sons, Ltd., Batley; Firth Bros., Huddersfield; J. France & Co., Dewsbury; J. Greenwood & Son, Ltd., Sowerby Bridge; W. Greenwood & Sons, Earlsheaton; L. Harwood & Co., Luddendenfoot, Yorks; S. Heaton & Sons, Athlone; Hepworths & Haley, Ltd., Dewsbury; W. Holton & Sons, Ltd., Birstall, Leeds; J. B. Jubb & Co., Ltd., Batley; J. Kenyon & Son, Ltd., Bury, Lancs; Kyle, Aitken & Gardiner, Dalry, N.B.; D. Lee & Sons, Earlsheaton; T. Lee & Sons, Dewsbury; McBain & Sons, Ltd., Alyth, N.B.; A. & J. Macnab, Ltd., Slateford, N.B.; A. Murdoch & Co., Glasgow; J. Newsome & Sons, Batley; Newsome & Spedding, Ltd., Dewsbury; Pickering, Greaves & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; A. Preston & Sons, Earlsheaton; T. Ratcliffe & Co., Mytholmroyd, Yorks; R. Rawlinson, Waterfoot, Lancs; R. Rostron, Ltd., Waterfoot, Lancs; Russum & Wilkinson, Ltd., Batley; C. Scarth & Sons, Morley, Leeds; Singleton & Co., Ltd., Kirkburton, Yorks; Springhead Mill Co., Guiseley, Yorks; G. & J. Stubble, Batley; J. Swithenbank, Leeds; Sykes & Campinot, Ltd., Dobbross; R. Talbot & Sons, Ltd., Batley; J. Tattersfield & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury; B. Taylor & Sons, Stainland, Halifax; J. T. & J. Taylor, Ltd., Batley; Taylor, Yielding & Co., Ltd., Birstall, Leeds; Ulster Woollen Co., Ltd., Crumlin, co. Antrim; Waddells, Ltd., Carlisle; W. Wade & Sons, Ltd., Wakefield; J. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Mirfield, Yorks; R. R. Whitehead Bros., Ltd., Greenfield, Oldham; Wilcock & Rhodes, Ltd., Birstall, Leeds; Wilford & Johnson, Ltd., Dewsbury; Wrigley & Parker Bros., Ltd., Batley.—Board, Wood-pulp: J. Spicer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Boilers, Converting: Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., Renfrew.—Boilers, Portable: Falkirk Iron Co., Ltd., Falkirk.—Boilers,

War Office—continued.

Vertical: British Steel Piling Co., London, S.E.; Hartley & Suggden, Ltd., Halifax.—Bolts and Nuts, &c.: Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Blakemore & Co., Ltd., Atherton; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Smethwick; D. Harper & Sons, Darlaston; S. Marsden & Son, Ltd., Manchester; T. Pittaway & Sons, Birmingham; J. C. Prestwich, Ltd., Atherton, Lancs; C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—Boots, Ankle: E. Bostock & Co., Ltd., Stafford.—Boots, Gum: North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Bottoms, Tent, Wood: W. E. Chivers & Sons, Devizes; Herman & Phillips, Ltd., London, N.E.—Boxes and Chests, Wood: Educational Supply Association, Ltd., London, E.C.; Messenger & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Staples & Co., London, W.; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—Braces: T. Baxenden & Co., London, E.C.; Faire Bros. & Co., Ltd., Leicester; J. A. & E. Lawford, Liver- sedge; Taylor Bros. Brace Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Brushes: R. Addis & Son, London, E.; Diggings & Co., Ltd., London, E.; G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Titterton & Howard, London, N.E.—Buckets, Steel: E. Allen & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Buttons, &c.: Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Grove & Sons, Ltd., Halesowen; Harcourts, Ltd., Birmingham; W. Maquire & Sons, Birmingham; Oaklands, Ltd., London, N.W.; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham; Tucker Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; W. Twigg & Co., Birmingham.—Canvases: Baxter Bros. & Co. Ltd., Dundee; J. Broadbent & Sons, Ltd., Droylesden; Brookfield Linen Co., Ltd., Belfast; D. Corsar & Sons, Ltd., Arbroath; Edinburgh Roperie and Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Leith; G. Howe & Bros., Manchester; A. Lowson, Ltd., Arbroath; A. Nicol & Co., Ltd., Arbroath; Oswald & Duncan, Ltd., Rochdale; Port Glasgow and Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; M. C. Thomson & Co., Ltd., Arbroath; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath; D. Whitehead & Sons, Ltd., Rawtenstall.—Canvases, Proofing of: T. Briggs (Man- chester), Ltd., Manchester.—Carbide of Calcium: British Carbide Factories, Ltd., Manchester.—Cases, Leather: G. G. Bussey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. & B. Green, Ltd., London, E.C.; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., London, S.E.; E. J. Pearson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Cases, Wood, Packing, &c.: Bootle Case Co., Bootle, Liverpool; F. W. Bunt & Co., Ltd., London, E.; C. Clarke & Co., Ltd., London, E.; W. E. Chivers & Sons, Devizes; Ekins & Co., Ltd., Hertford; M. Erdman & Son, London, S.E.; J. Edwards & Co., London, E.; W. D. Flowers & Co., London, E.; C. J. Gibson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; C. H. Glover & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; R. T. Hindle, Black- burn; A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; W. Lusty & Sons, London, E.; J. Stevenson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Stotes- bury & Co., London, S.E.; F. J. West & Co., London, N.E.—Cellulose Sheets: W. D. Tucker & Sons, London, N.—Chairs, Camp: R. H. Baveystock & Nephew, London, E.; Wrinch & Sons, Ltd., Ipswich.—Chemicals: Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, N.W.—Chests, Acetylene: Imperial Light, Ltd., London, S.W.—Chevrons: Armand & Co. (1914), Ltd., London, W.; Toye & Co., London, W.C.—Clocks: Stockall, Marples & Co. (1912), Ltd., London, E.C.—Chloride of Lime: United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—Clogs: J. Blakemore & Son, Oldbury; J. R. Codling & Son, Enfield.—Cloth (Piece Goods): J. W. Appleyard & Sons, Ltd., Morley; Armitage Bros., Huddersfield; J. Baxter & Son, Apperley Bridge; J. Beaumont & Son, Ltd., Huddersfield; J. Bower & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; J. Bradley & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; Bramley Tweed Co., Ltd., Bramley; J. Brooke & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; Brown, Hepworth & Co., Morley; J. T. Clay & Sons, Ltd., Rastrick, Brighouse; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; Convoy Woollen Co., Ltd., Convoy, Co. Donegal; Crowther, Bruce & Co., Ltd., Marsden, Yorks; J. Crowther & Sons, Milnsbridge, Yorks; J. E. Crowther, Marsden, Yorks; W. & E. Crowther, Ltd., Slaithwaite, Yorks; Dyson, Hall & Co., Ltd., Huddersfield; C. W. Ellis, Ltd., Stainland, Yorks; G. Ellis, Dewsbury; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Leeds; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Apperley Bridge; G. Harrop & Sons, Wakefield; Hewitt, Haigh & Wilson, Ltd., Armley, Leeds; Hill & Son, Ltd., Dublin; Hudson, Sykes & Bousfield, Ltd., Morley; J. Johnson & Co., Elgin, N.B.; Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale; Liversidge & Co., Huddersfield; C. Lockwood & Sons, Ltd., Linthwaite, Yorks; G. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; Marriott & Muff, Halifax; Marshall, Kaye & Marshall, Ltd., Dewsbury; J. Mathers & Sons, Leeds; Middle- most Bros. & Co., Ltd., Huddersfield; Morrough Bros. & Co., Ltd., Douglas, Co. Cork; B. H. Moxon & Sons, Ltd., Hudders-

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H.M. Office of Works—continued.

pentine Substitute: Price's Co., Ltd., Battersea, S.W. Wipers, White: The Lotus Laundry, Ltd., Liverpool.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Repairing Wire: Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Apparatus, Telegraphic:** British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.—**Apparatus, Tele- phonic:** British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Arms, Wood:** British Australian Timber Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Boards for Telegraph Sets:** Tyer & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Bolts, Arm:** Portland Bolt and Nut, Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Brackets, Iron:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton Staffs.—**Cable, Submarine:** Telegraph Con- struction and Maintenance Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Tele- graphic and Telephonic:** British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; W. Geipel & Co., Wembley, Middlesex; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Derby; Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cases for Telegraph Sets:** Sabey & Son, London, N.—**Climbers, Pole:** Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Bir- mingham.—**Clothing, Uniform:** C. & J. Webb & Co., Ltd., Lon- don, E.—**Clothing, Waterproof:** Abbott, Anderson & Abbott, Ltd., Harpenden, Herts.—**Composition, Stamping:** T. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cords for Telephones:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Insulators:** J. Bourne & Son, Ltd., Denby, Derbyshire; Bullers, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem; J. Macintyre & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Plates, Earth:** Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Rags:** J. Phillips & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Solder:** E. Austin & Sons, London, E.—**Suspenders, Cable:** P. Huntington & Co., Liverpool.—**Tubes, Air for Cycle Tyres:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Vices:** Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Flameproof:** C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Wire, Galvanized Iron:** Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DISTRICT.

Supply of Cloth for Metropolitan Police Uniforms: Fox Bros., Wellington, Somerset; S. Cordingley & Son, Pudsey, Yorks; G. Briggs & Sons, Ossett, Yorks; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Fars- ley, Leeds; Colbeck Bros., Wakefield; H. Booth & Sons, Gil- dersome, nr. Leeds; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, nr. Leeds, R. Gaunt & Sons, Farsley, nr. Leeds.

H.M. OFFICE OF WOODS.

Mechanical Parts of Cableway for Transport of Timber, En- gineers' Charges and Expenses for Supervising Erection payable in addition: British Ropeway Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

H.M. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

Caps for Customs and Excise Officers: H. Hobson & Sons, London, W.

PUBLIC WORKS, DUBLIN.

Knockanillo National School, Co., Mayo, Erection: Charles O'Malley, The Mall, Westport.