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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during June showed little change on the whole as compared with May. There was a slight further improvement in the engineering, shipbuilding, and textile bleaching and dyeing industries and in public works contracting, and some improvement was also reported in the jute industry and in dock, canal, river, etc., service. On the other hand, employment was worse in the coal-mining industry, and increases were reported both in the numbers wholly unemployed and the numbers temporarily stopped in that industry. Employment in the tinplate and steel sheet trade continued bad and showed a marked decline on the previous month, and increases in the numbers unemployed were reported in the building, pig-iron, wool textile, pottery, and clothing trades.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together at the 20th June, 1927, was 8.9, as compared with 8.8 at 23rd May, 1927, and 14.6 at 21st June, 1926.

The percentage wholly unemployed declined from 6.7 at 23rd May to 6.5 at 20th June. The percentage of persons temporarily stopped from the service of their employers rose from 2.1 at 23rd May to 2.4 at 20th June.

The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th June, 1927, was approximately 1,032,000, of whom 836,000 were men and 144,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 30th May, 1927, it was 1,015,000, of whom 823,000 were men and 136,000 were women; and at 28th June, 1926, it was 1,699,000, of whom 1,262,000 were men and 346,000 were women. The figures for June, 1926, (although exclusive of coal miners disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute provisions) were affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in June resulted in a reduction of £80,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 539,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £2,600 in those of 40,000 workpeople.

Coal miners again formed the principal group of workpeople affected by reductions. In Yorkshire their wages were reduced by about 4 per cent. on the previous rates, in Nottinghamshire by nearly 6 per cent., and in South Wales and Monmouthshire by 10 per cent. Reductions also occurred in the South Staffordshire

and Forest of Dean coalfields. In other industries there was a reduction of about 1½ per cent. on the previous wages of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, and men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales had their wages reduced by 1d. or ¾d. per hour. Other bodies of workpeople affected by reductions included steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in England and Wales, workpeople employed in the asbestos industry, furniture trade operatives in Scotland, and packing-case makers in London.

The workpeople affected by increases in rates of wages were principally coal miners in the Cannock Chase and Bristol districts, and workpeople employed at waterworks in London.

During the six completed months of 1927 the changes reported to the Department in the industries for which statistics are compiled have resulted in net increases amounting to £22,200 in the weekly full-time wages of 325,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of £244,900 in those of 1,286,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1926 there were net increases of £16,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 135,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £69,500 in those of 658,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st July the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 66 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 63 per cent. a month ago, and 70 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 59, 54 and 61 respectively.

The rise in the index number at 1st July as compared with a month earlier, was mainly due to higher prices for potatoes and eggs.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, and accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in June was 16. In addition, 28 disputes which began before June were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in June (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 22,000; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during June was about 79,000 working days. The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first six months of 1927 was about 686,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 61,000.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT: REPORT FOR YEAR 1926.

A REPORT on the work of Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment during the year 1926 has been issued by the Ministry of Labour.* The Report has been compiled from the annual reports made by the Committees to the Minister of Labour.

Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment (commonly called Juvenile Advisory Committees) are appointed by the Minister of Labour, under the Labour Exchanges Act, 1909, in most of the areas in which the Ministry is responsible for the work of advising boys and girls on the choice of employment, of placing them in employment, and of administering Unemployment Insurance for juveniles. In England and Wales this work may be undertaken by the Local Education Authority; but if the Education Authority decide not to exercise these powers, the work falls to the Ministry. Roughly speaking, the Ministry is responsible for this work in areas which include about two-thirds of the insured juvenile population of England and Wales, including London, and the Education Authorities in areas which include about one-third of that population. In Scotland the Ministry is responsible for this work in all areas other than Edinburgh. There are 123 Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment in England and Wales, and 35 Committees in Scotland.

The Committees' functions are to advise on the management of the Exchanges in relation to juvenile applicants for employment, and to give information and advice to boys and girls and their parents with regard to the choice of employment. The Committees interpret their functions widely and engage in many related activities.

Advising Boys and Girls on Choice of Employment.—The work of advising boys and girls on the choice of employment is usually carried out in one of two ways, at school conferences or at rota committees. At the conference all or many of the boys and girls leaving school are interviewed at the school, either by the secretary or by a member of the Committee in co-operation with the head teacher, and in London (and some other areas) with representatives of Care Committees, voluntary organisations, and occasionally the principals of evening institutes or continuation classes. The parents are invited to be present. "Skeleton" registrations are taken at the conference, and the boy or girl is told to come to the Exchange for further help if he or she finds any difficulty in obtaining employment in the occupation selected.

The other and more usual method is to invite boys and girls who are about to leave school to come with their parents to the Exchange for a talk with one or two members of the Committee. The invitations are so distributed that ample time can be given to each school-leaver, while it is frequently arranged that boys or girls wishing to enter a particular occupation meet those members of the Committee with special knowledge of the occupation desired. Committees which have had experience of both methods invariably prefer school conferences.

The working of the Committees during the year 1926 is exemplified by quotations from some of the Committees' reports; and it is pointed out that, in addition to a detailed employers' register, each Juvenile Department of an Exchange, with the assistance of the Advisory Committee, compiles and keeps up to date a survey of local juvenile occupations. At the request of the London Advisory Council, the Ministry of Labour are preparing, in co-operation with a committee of the Council, a hand-book of London trades for the guidance of boys and girls and their parents.

Placing Boys and Girls in Employment.—Although the actual placing of boys and girls in employment is carried out by the officers of the Juvenile Departments of the Exchanges, the Committees naturally take a close interest in this important work. They receive periodical statements showing the number of boys and girls registered for employment and the number of vacancies notified and filled; they also assist in the work of placing by the interviews of individual members or groups of members with employers, by the issue of letters, and by enlisting the support of local employers' organisations. During 1926, despite the General Strike and the dispute in the coal-mining industry, the total number of boys and girls for whom employment was found in that part of England and Wales for which the Ministry is directly responsible, and in Scotland, was 128,382—64,762 boys and 63,620 girls.

The relations of the Committees with employers appear to have substantially improved during the year. The reports of the Committees abound with cases in which employers have been persuaded to obtain their young workers from the Committees. An examination of the placings effected by the Committees distinctly shows that a substantial proportion of the vacancies filled were of a good type. Several Committees give examples showing that the placings which they effected were satisfactory both to the boys and girls who were placed and to the employers who engaged them.

The work of placing in employment during the year has been hindered or complicated, apart from industrial unrest, by a number of adverse factors, such as the unsatisfactory and intermittent character of much of the employment available for boys and girls; the inconvenience (noted by some Committees) of having large batches of boys and girls thrown on the labour market simultaneously, at the end of the school terms; the cost of fares from outer London to the inner districts; and the difficulty of securing that the boy or girl will keep the appointment with the employer and will do himself or herself justice.

It is stated, however, that the main burden upon the Committees must continue to be the difficulty of adjusting the needs of the boys or girls in their areas to the requirements of local industry. It too often happens that boys particularly desire to enter occupations in

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net.

which there are no openings locally. But in the districts where there has been severe unemployment in the staple local industries the difficulty is of another kind. Any employment is required, provided it will keep the home together; and often the Committee see the most promising boys forced by sheer poverty to accept unsuitable work with few or no prospects.

Several Committees report that there has been an increase in the number of girls desiring domestic service; and there is considerable evidence that more girls would be placed in private domestic service if it were not for the reluctance of mistresses to engage girls as soon as they leave school. The younger girls, finding they are not wanted, often enter other occupations. In the case of boys, on the other hand, a number of Committees report a shortage of labour, principally in the cotton trade and in the coal-mining industry.

Industrial Supervision of Boys and Girls in Employment.—Early in 1925 all the Committees, many of which had "after-care" schemes of different kinds, were invited to prepare formal schemes for looking after and keeping in touch with the boys and girls whom they had advised on leaving school or had placed in employment. By the end of the year 1925, practically every Committee had an approved scheme in operation; and during 1926 this part of the Committees' work was substantially developed. The main feature of all schemes is that enquiry should be made three months or so after the boy or girl has received the help of the Committee, and subsequently at reasonable intervals until he or she has "settled down." Information is obtained either by visiting the employers with whom they have been placed, by inviting the boys or girls with their parents to come to "open evenings" at the Exchange, by enquiry from the club or other voluntary organisation to which they may belong, or, if the case is a particularly difficult one, by arranging for a member of the Committee or some other voluntary worker to visit the boy or girl at home. Reference is made in this connection to the fact that there is a gap in public supervision of two years between the school-leaving age and the age of entry into unemployment insurance. Boys and girls of 14 and 15 need not come to the Exchange until, at 16, they are brought within the scope of Unemployment Insurance.

The general experience of Committees seems to be that the most effective method of keeping touch is by visiting the employers with whom the boys or girls are working. Almost without exception, these visits are welcomed by employers. The visits to employers are usually supplemented by "open evenings," at which the Committees keep "open house," and the members of the Committee talk with boys and girls and their parents.

Other sections of the Report deal with the special steps taken by some Committees to meet the needs of boys and girls from secondary schools; and with apprenticeship. Some Committees refer to the reluctance of boys to bind themselves as apprentices, or to the difficulties in finding openings for boys who wish to become apprentices. Several of the Committees, particularly in Scotland, have held meetings to discuss these aspects of the problem with representatives of the trades concerned. Apprenticeship in the building industry has engaged the attention of many Committees.

On the subject of *overseas settlement*, it is mentioned that some of the Committees have assisted during the year in the recruitment of boys and girls under schemes approved by the Overseas Settlement Committee. Many Committees, however, reported that they had been able to take little or no effective action in the matter; and in London, in particular, there appears to be a strong prejudice against the emigration of boys and girls.

DUST IN CARD-ROOMS: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE.

THE Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to inquire and report (i) whether, and, if so, to what extent, dust in card-rooms in the cotton industry is a cause of ill-health or disease among card-room operatives; (ii) if so, what is the nature of such ill-health or disease; (iii) how the sickness rates among card-room operatives compare in these respects with those of the general population in the same locality; (iv) what are the constituents (if any) in the dust which are particularly responsible; and (v) what remedies can be proposed.

The Committee consists of: Mr. J. Jackson, Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories (chairman); Professor George R. Murray, Mr. Robert H. Pickard, Mr. E. F. May, Mr. G. A. Barnes, Mr. H. Cliff, Mr. J. W. Dyson, Mr. F. Simm, Mr. J. Frayne, Mr. Robinson Olive, Mr. Samuel Sanderson, and Mr. William Thomasson.

The secretary of the Committee is Dr. S. A. Henry, Medical Inspector of Factories (72, Bridge Street, Manchester), to whom any correspondence should be addressed.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED EX-SERVICE MEN.

KING'S NATIONAL ROLL.

THE latest returns show that there are approximately 27,500 employers on the King's National Roll. Enrolled employers include Government Departments and Government Industrial Establishments, Local Authorities, Railway Companies, Electricity, Gas and Water Authorities, and most of the large industrial and commercial undertakings in the country.

The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by enrolled employers is approximately 380,000.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 28th June, 1927, the number of men in training was 222, and the number awaiting training, 70. Since August, 1919, 100,185 men have terminated training.

SCOTTISH SHALE OIL INDUSTRY. A SURPLUS LABOUR PROBLEM.

DURING recent years the depression in the shale oil industry has created, in the shale oil areas of Scotland, an unemployment problem of a particularly intensive and difficult kind. Prior to the reorganisation which took place in 1925 and the early months of 1926,* the industry normally provided employment for nearly 8,000 workers. By the end of February, 1926, as a consequence of the closing down of some undertakings and the reorganisation of others, some 2,600 of these were left without employment.

In order to appreciate the special difficulties of the situation in which these surplus workers found themselves, it is necessary to bear in mind the character of the countryside on which the Scottish shale field is situated. The Scottish shale field occupies a belt of country running in a comparatively narrow strip, with a maximum width of about 10 miles, from Tarbrax, in the Upper Lanarkshire spurs of the Pentland Hills, almost due north, to South Queensferry, at the southern end of the Forth Bridge—a distance of about 25 miles. The shale field includes parts of the counties of Lanark, Midlothian (or Edinburgh) and West Lothian (or Linlithgow), and within its area shale mining and the refining of shale products constitute the only industrial activity of any importance. Apart from this industry the area is almost entirely agricultural, except for a small amount of coal mining at the southern extremity, which is carried on by the shale oil companies. There is also a small explosives factory (whose products are largely absorbed by the shale industry), a small chemical works and a distillery. None of these employs any considerable number of workers. Beyond agriculture there is no opportunity of alternative employment in the immediate neighbourhood to the east or south of the district. On the west lies the Bathgate-Falkirk coalfield; but in this connection it has to be remembered that in the past the collieries and iron and steel works nearest to the shale field have relied to an appreciable extent upon supplying products for the use of the shale oil industry, and that the coal-mining industry, since the end of 1925, has not offered any considerable opportunity for the absorption of surplus labour from other industries.

The shale miners have undertaken, when opportunity offered, work in coal mines, but there appears to have been no material interchange of labour in recent years between shale mining and agriculture.

As already indicated, the problem in this area has been the finding of other employment by over 2,600 workers whose normal means of livelihood in the district had been cut off. At 22nd February, 1926, the number of shale workers recorded as unemployed at local offices of the Ministry of Labour was 2,637. Within the next two months this number fell to 1,604, and during the nine months 26th April, 1926, to 24th January, 1927, there was a further steady reduction to a total of 1,158. No doubt the abnormal industrial conditions of the period May to December, 1926, contributed to the reduced rate of absorption as compared with the previous two months, but the fact remains that within a period of eleven months no fewer than 1,479 out of the total of 2,637 workers, or over 56 per cent., had found other employment. There remained the balance of 44 per cent. unemployed, and these undoubtedly constitute a considerable problem, the more so because they are a residue.

It is of interest to examine the record of the movement out of the shale industry in certain parts of the area, in some of which practically no alternative employment was available.

Tarbrax and Woolfords.—The southern end of the shale field is situated on isolated moorland, and the two villages of Tarbrax and Woolfords are approximately six miles distant from any other centre of population. Before the reorganisation of 1925, there was a population in these two villages of about 1,900, and by January, 1927, this had fallen to 1,200—1,300. The whole of the works and mines, consisting of three shale mines, a crude oil works and a colliery, have been closed down. At 11th November, 1925, these undertakings employed 602 men and boys, and at February, 1927, it was found that, of this number, 66 were engaged on demolition work, 68 were working for the oil companies elsewhere, 41 were still living at Tarbrax and Woolfords, but were employed outside the industry, while 232 had left the district and 195 remained unemployed. Of the unemployed, 160 were miners (20 coal miners and 140 shale miners), 32 were oil workers and 3 were maintenance workers. It has been possible to obtain an analysis of the distances to which those who have left the district and those who, although remaining in the district, have found work outside the industry have gone. This shows that 190 have found work within a radius of 30 miles, 38 outside the 30-mile radius, while 44 have found work outside Scotland. Of this 44, 13 found work in England (as coal miners), 9 in Ireland; while 10 have emigrated to Canada, 5 to Australia, 3 to New Zealand, 3 to United States, and 1 to Persia.

In addition, 5 other families (including 7 workers) were waiting to sail to the United States and 1 family to Canada.

Broxburn.—From this area, 574 shale and oil workers are known to have obtained other employment. In 373 cases the locality of the new work found is not recorded, but of the remainder 166 found work within a radius of 30 miles, 13 at 30–50 miles, 9 outside Scotland; while 12 are known to have emigrated. One man has started work on his own account.

West Calder.—A total of 217 shale and oil workers have found employment, but in 13 cases its location is unknown. Of the remaining 204, some 168 have found work within 30 miles, 6 at 30–50 miles, while 10 have found work in England, 10 have emigrated, and 10 have apparently left insured employment.

* See the Report of the Court of Investigation set up in December, 1925, by representatives of employers and workers to consider certain matters in dispute between them. A summary was given in the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1926, pages 163 and 164.

East Calder.—The total of 32 have found other employment within a radius of 30 miles.

South Queensferry.—Of the total of 22 who have found work elsewhere, 20 obtained it within a radius of 30 miles and 2 at 35 miles.

When it is remembered that the shale oil industry had shown a steady and progressive development in output for more than two generations, that not a few of the workers owned the houses in which they lived, and that the relations between employers and workers had normally been of a very friendly description, it will be realised that it cannot have been easy for the large number of workers involved suddenly to readjust themselves to the necessity for starting afresh in other employment and to leave the district for work elsewhere. The comparative rapidity with which a considerable proportion of those thrown idle by the abandonment of a portion of the shale industry found other employment—and that, too, during a period of general industrial depression—is not only a tribute to the character and quality of the workers concerned, but is also of interest to the student of labour problems as showing that the mobility of labour, even in circumstances of special difficulty, can be surprisingly high.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

I.—PROCEEDINGS AT TENTH SESSION.

THE Tenth Session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation of the League of Nations, convened under Article 389 of the Treaty of Versailles, opened at Geneva on 25th May and ended on 16th June, 1927. Sir Atul C. Chatterjee, K.C.I.E., High Commissioner for India in London, and Government Delegate for India, was elected President of the Conference. A full account of the proceedings at this session of the Conference will be published in due course as a Command Paper, in the form of a report to the Minister of Labour by H.M. Government delegates; the official texts of the Draft Conventions and of the Recommendation adopted will also be published. In the meantime, the following is a summary of the principal decisions of the Conference:—

The Conference adopted two Draft Conventions concerning sickness insurance, one of these being applicable to workers in industry and commerce and domestic servants, and the other to agricultural workers. The Conference also adopted a Recommendation concerning the general principles of sickness insurance.

A draft questionnaire on the subject of freedom of association was rejected by the Conference; and it was decided that this subject should not appear on the Agenda of the Eleventh Session of the Conference to be held in 1928.

The Conference approved the issue of a questionnaire on minimum wage fixing machinery, and decided that this subject should appear on the Agenda of the Eleventh Session of the Conference.

Amendments were made in the standing orders of the Conference, the most important of which related to the preparation, by the Director of the International Labour Office, of official translations of Draft Conventions and Recommendations.

II.—PROPOSED ACTION BY H.M. GOVERNMENT REGARDING DRAFT CONVENTION AND RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED AT EIGHTH SESSION.

At the Eighth Session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation (May–June, 1926) a Draft Convention concerning the simplification of the inspection of emigrants on board ship and a Recommendation concerning the protection of emigrant women and girls on board ship were adopted.* On the 13th June, 1927, a White Paper† was laid on the tables of both Houses of Parliament, setting forth the action proposed by His Majesty's Government in respect of this Draft Convention and Recommendation.

It was stated that at the expiration of a period of twenty-one days from that date it was proposed to proceed with the ratification of the Draft Convention, and, in registering the ratification with the Secretariat of the League of Nations, to state that it will become effective only when the Draft Convention has been ratified by France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Norway and Spain. It was also stated that the Government proposed to accept the Recommendation.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR COST-OF-LIVING FIGURES.

IN answer to a question as to the proposals for a readjustment of the basis of the official cost-of-living figures, the Minister of Labour made the following statement in the House of Commons on 22nd June: "I am anxious that the basis of the cost-of-living figure should be revised as soon as circumstances warrant. There are, however, a number of considerations against immediate revision; and further, on consultation with the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations and the Trade Union Congress General Council, I find that they are both of opinion that the present moment is inopportune. I have decided, in all the circumstances, to postpone further consideration of the matter to a later date."

* For a report of the proceedings at this Conference, see the June, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 206. The text of the Draft Convention and of the Recommendation has been published in Cmd. 2745. (H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net.)

† Cmd. 2890. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

EARNINGS AND HOURS OF LABOUR OF WORKPEOPLE IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

In March, 1925, a general inquiry into the average weekly earnings and the weekly hours of labour of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was instituted by the Ministry of Labour.

The Board of Trade had arranged, under the Census of Production Order of 1923, to undertake an inquiry into production, industry by industry, in 1924.* It was evident that the utility of the information so obtained would be considerably increased if up-to-date statistics could also be made available as to the wages paid and hours worked in each industry, in regard to which no comprehensive information had been collected since 1906, when a general inquiry was made by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade.

It was accordingly arranged, with the co-operation of the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations, that schedules should be sent to employers asking for the following particulars in regard to each of four weeks in 1924, viz., the weeks ended 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October:—

- (a) the total number of workpeople at work, and, if possible, the numbers of males and of females respectively;
- (b) the total wages paid to these workpeople, showing separately, if possible, the total wages paid to males and to females, respectively;
- (c) the hours of labour in a full ordinary week, exclusive of meal-times;
- (d) the number of workpeople on short time, and the average number of hours lost per head by such workpeople;
- (e) the aggregate number of man-hours worked.

Particulars as to the total wages paid to all workpeople during the whole of the year 1924 were also asked for. Employers were asked to include in their returns the whole of the operatives (including foremen, carters, warehousemen, etc.) at work on their premises during the weeks referred to, but to exclude managers, clerks, typists, commercial travellers and salaried persons generally, as well as workpeople doing work at home on material supplied by the employer. In cases where one of the specified weeks was affected by holidays, breakdown, fire, strike, lock-out or other exceptional circumstances, employers were asked to substitute particulars for the nearest week of an ordinary character†; in cases, however, where employment was wholly or partially suspended owing to bad trade no such substitution was to be made.

Statistics derived from the inquiry have been published for workpeople in different groups of industries, in successive issues of this GAZETTE from June, 1926, to March, 1927, viz.:—Textile Industries, June, 1926; Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc., Industries, July, 1926; Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding Industries, August and September, 1926; Paper, Printing, etc., Industries, October, 1926; Woodworking Industries, October, 1926; Clothing Industries, November, 1926; Public Utility Services, December, 1926; Building and Allied Industries, January, 1927; Food, Drink, and Tobacco Industries, February, 1927; Miscellaneous Industries, March, 1927.

Government Industrial Establishments.

The only remaining group of workpeople for whom information has been collected is that of manual workers in Government Industrial Establishments. Statistics for this group are now available and are included in the Tables which follow. The figures under this heading do not cover non-industrial employees in the Government service, such as clerical staffs, office messengers, telegraphists, postal sorters and postmen. Moreover, they exclude manual workers employed at certain of the smaller out-stations; the number of such manual workers, however, is not large, and the number included in the returns is sufficient to render the figures representative.

General Summary of Preliminary Results.

With the publication of the figures for Government Industrial Establishments, and the completion of the preliminary statistics of the inquiry as a whole, a convenient opportunity is afforded to summarise the main results of the inquiry. Accordingly, in the Tables which follow, the earnings and hours of labour in 1924 are shown for each of the main groups of industries covered, and for all these groups combined. Corresponding statistics for individual industries will be found in the articles published in previous issues of this GAZETTE, and it is proposed, in subsequent issues, to publish more detailed information for some of the more important industries.

The inquiry extended to all manufacturing industries and a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries. The most important industries excluded were agriculture, coal mines, railways, docks, and the distributive trades. Of these, agriculture and dock labour present features requiring special treatment in the collection of statistics as to earnings, which rendered the form of questionnaire used for the present inquiry inapplicable: statistics as to earnings at coal mines and in the railway service had already been compiled and published by the Mines Department and the Ministry of Transport, respectively; and some information as to wages and hours of labour in the distributive trades was collected by the Ministry of Labour and published in a series of Reports issued in 1926.

* The results of that inquiry are now being published as supplements to the weekly issues of the *Board of Trade Journal*.
† In the case of the building industry, owing to a widespread dispute in the week ended 12th July, particulars were obtained for the preceding week.

The total number of employers to whom inquiry forms were despatched was nearly 300,000 and the total number of returns received giving sufficient information for use in the compilation of these statistics was nearly 130,000. The number of workpeople covered by these returns was about five million.

The average weekly earnings of all the workpeople covered by the returns, on the average of the four selected weeks, were 47s. 9d. per week; for males the figure was 56s. 3d., and for females it was 27s. 3d. Some industries, however, are more completely represented than others in the returns, the textile industries and the public utility services being relatively overrepresented and the building industry underrepresented. If corrections were made on this account the average earnings shown for males and for females separately would not be appreciably altered; but for males and females combined the average of 47s. 9d. would be raised slightly, though probably by not more than about 3d. to 6d. a week. These averages relate to workpeople of all ages, not to adults only.

If coal mining and railway service were included, on the basis of the information compiled by the Mines Department and the Ministry of Transport for 1924, the weekly earnings of all workpeople, in the industries covered by the Tables which follow, together with coal mining and railway service, would average about 50s. per head.

The average normal full-time hours of labour (exclusive of meal-times, except in the case of those shift workers for whom no definite interval was agreed upon) in the industries dealt with in the following Tables were approximately 47 per week in October, 1924, and for about 70 per cent. of the workpeople they were 47 to 48 per week. The average of the hours actually worked (inclusive of short time and overtime) was over 45 in the week ended 19th January, and about 46 in the other three weeks to which the figures relate.

Short time was being worked by nearly 12 per cent. of the workpeople in the week ended 19th January, and by between 9 and 10 per cent. in the other three weeks. In each week the average number of hours lost by persons working short time was 11 or a little over, and the average number of hours thus lost, if distributed over all the workpeople covered by the returns, was equivalent to 1.3 per head in the week ended 19th January and 1.1 in each of the other weeks.

The foregoing general results are shown in further detail and analysed by groups of industries below.

I.—NUMBER OF RETURNS RECEIVED AND NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE COVERED.

The number of effective returns received, giving information regarding earnings, and the average number of workpeople covered, as shown by the average of the numbers employed in each of the four selected weeks, are as shown below:—

Industry Group.	Number of	
	Returns received.	Workpeople covered.
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	4,764	276,014
Metal ...	25,397	1,355,328
Textile ...	7,693	1,017,381
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	23,426	486,659
Woodworking ...	19,777	390,041
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	10,867	174,383
Building and Allied Industries ...	6,505	233,483
Other Industries* ...	12,883	279,452
Public Utility Services ...	11,013	304,117
Government Industrial Establishments ...	4,930	473,860
All the above ...	21	100,027
All the above ...	127,276	5,090,745

The following Table shows the total number of workpeople, including adults and juveniles, employed by firms which have made returns as to earnings, in each of the four specified weeks of 1924:—

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople employed in the week ended			
	19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	267,904	277,056	280,187	278,909
Metal ...	1,325,378	1,354,339	1,373,615	1,364,982
Textile ...	999,185	1,015,541	1,020,826	1,033,969
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	467,343	491,407	496,471	491,413
Clothing ...	380,275	378,829	398,868	402,192
Woodworking ...	166,501	173,010	178,013	180,007
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	229,995	231,918	233,641	238,379
Building and Allied Industries ...	255,500	283,549	287,201	291,559
Other Industries* ...	295,532	303,433	306,923	310,577
Public Utility Services ...	463,742	469,460	482,387	479,852
Government Industrial Establishments ...	98,080	100,167	100,052	101,810
All the above ...	4,949,435	5,078,709	5,158,189	5,176,649

II.—AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average actual earnings per head, in the four specified weeks, of the workpeople employed by firms making returns, together with the average earnings of males and of females, as shown by those returns which gave separate particulars. As already indicated, the various industries are not represented in

* Including fellmongering and leather tanning, saddlery and leather goods, india rubber, brush and broom, pianos, organs and musical instruments (other than metal), quarrying, metalliferous and shale mining, carting and warehousing, waste reclamation (other than metal) and miscellaneous industries.

equal proportions in the returns. If allowance were made for this the general average earnings for males and for females would not be appreciably altered, but for males and females combined the average would be raised by about 3d. to 6d. a week. It should be observed that the workpeople covered by the returns include workers of all ages, including boys and apprentices and other juveniles. Owing to the fact that a considerable proportion of firms were unable to separate the wages paid to males and females respectively, the numbers of males and females for whom particulars are given separately in Sections (B) and (C) of the Table add to less than the total numbers given in Section (A) of the Table.

The relative levels of average earnings shown for the different industry groups are, of course, affected by the variations in the proportions of males and females, and of adults and juveniles employed.

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average Earnings (for the time actually worked) in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE.						
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	276,014	46 3	48 1	49 5	48 10	48 2
Metal ...	1,355,328	50 8	52 1	52 0	51 9	51 7
Textile ...	1,017,381	37 2	37 10	37 9	38 2	37 9
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	486,659	34 4	36 6	36 4	35 3	35 7
Woodworking ...	390,041	45 7	45 11	46 10	46 4	45 2
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	174,383	48 8	51 0	51 1	51 3	50 6
Building and Allied Industries ...	233,483	52 6	53 8	54 0	54 1	53 7
Other Industries* ...	279,452	54 8	58 5	59 1	59 9	58 1
Public Utility Services ...	304,117	47 8	49 0	49 1	49 5	48 10
Government Industrial Establishments ...	473,860	57 1	58 5	60 2	59 9	58 10
All the above ...	5,090,745	46 7	48 0	48 4	48 3	47 9

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average Earnings (for the time actually worked) in the week ended				
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	Average of the four weeks.
(B) MALES.						
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	171,702	54 1	56 6	58 1	57 3	56 6
Metal ...	1,101,102	53 7	55 2	55 1	54 11	54 8
Textile ...	257,834	31 5	31 5	31 2	31 9	31 6
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	113,756	32 7	36 5	35 9	34 6	34 10
Woodworking ...	218,223	55 11	56 8	58 2	57 9	57 2
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	144,060	51 4	54 0	54 1	54 4	53 6
Building and Allied Industries ...	120,963	68 2	70 0	70 8	70 10	69 11
Other Industries* ...	278,728	54 9	58 6	59 2	59 11	58 2
Public Utility Services ...	224,807	52 7	54 3	54 5	54 7	53 11
Government Industrial Establishments ...	445,932	57 8	58 11	60 7	60 4	59 5
All the above ...	4,153,8	64 3	66 1	66 3	65 8	65 7

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average Earnings (for the time actually worked) in the week ended				
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	Average of the four weeks.
(C) FEMALES.						
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	45,914	24 3	24 9	24 8	25 1	24 8
Metal ...	106,183	24 11	25 2	25 5	25 7	25 3
Textile ...	383,459	27 4	28 1	27 11	28 5	27 11
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	283,625	26 6	28 2	27 9	27 0	27 5
Woodworking ...	119,259	26 11	26 11	28 7	28 0	27 8
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	18,225	25 6	26 10	26 3	26 3	26 2
Building and Allied Industries ...	69,473	26 11	27 2	27 5	27 10	27 4
Other Industries* ...	724	25 10	25 9	25 9	25 2	25 7
Public Utility Services ...	49,302	25 8	26 4	26 8	26 11	26 5
Government Industrial Establishments ...	7,970	28 11	29 5	30 0	29 10	29 7
All the above ...	2,034	37 10	40 6	39 0	39 3	39 2

III.—NORMAL HOURS OF LABOUR.

The following Table shows the proportion of the workpeople employed by firms making returns on this subject, whose normal weekly hours, exclusive of meal times, in a week in October, 1924, fell within the limits stated, and the average normal hours.

The under-representation of the building trades in these returns has resulted in a smaller proportion of workpeople being indicated as normally working "44 hours or less" than would otherwise have been the case. Correction on this account would raise the proportion normally working "44 hours or less" to over 16 per cent.

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
† Including fellmongering and leather tanning, saddlery and leather goods, india rubber, brush and broom, pianos, organs and musical instruments (other than metal), quarrying, metalliferous and shale mining, carting and warehousing, waste reclamation (other than metal) and miscellaneous industries.
‡ Except in the case of those shift-workers for whom no definite meal interval was agreed upon.

and would reduce the percentages at 47 and 48 hours. The average hours would be correspondingly reduced to about 47.0.

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Percentage of Workpeople whose normal weekly hours were					Average weekly normal Hours.
		44 or less.	44 to 46‡.	47	47 to 48.	Over 48.	
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	277,828	11.3	7.8	39.5	2.8	26.8	11.8
Metal ...	1,362,199	10.0	3.4	76.1	0.9	4.6	5.0
Textile ...	1,031,821	3.6	1.8	2.2	0.5	89.0	2.9
Clothing ...	487,318	18.5	15.2	8.1	2.3	52.6	3.3
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	398,911	15.5	8.8	19.2	2.7	39.8	14.0
Woodworking ...	179,516	25.1	9.2	39.6	2.3	10.1	13.7
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	238,004	11.0	5.0	2.8	2.3	75.3	3.6
Building and Allied Industries ...	289,783	67.2	12.6	5.5	0.6	2.5	11.6
Other Industries* ...	306,164	14.2	8.0	19.5	1.9	41.1	15.3
Public Utility Services ...	466,366	7.6	3.2	48.1	0.4	28.1	12.6
Government Industrial Establishments ...	101,810	1.2	0.1	65.3	...	32.6	0.8
All the above ...	5,139,720	13.7	5.8	33.7	1.3	38.2	7.3

IV.—HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED.

The following Table shows the average number of hours actually worked in the four specified weeks by the workpeople employed by firms who were able to supply these particulars:—

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average Hours Worked in the week ended				Average Hours worked in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	167,179	45.7	46.3	46.4	46.3	46.2
Metal ...	941,509	45.5	46.4	46.4	46.1	46.1
Textile ...	559,568	44.9	44.9	44.9	45.3	45.0
Clothing ...	197,740	43.3	45.1	44.7	43.8	44.2
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	218,046	45.8	45.8	46.8	46.4	46.2
Woodworking ...	96,912	44.8	45.9	45.8	45.9	45.6
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	126,087	46.5	46.8	46.6	47.1	46.7
Building and Allied Industries ...	163,995	43.2	45.0	45.4	45.1	44.7
Other Industries* ...	169,248	45.7	46.5	46.5	46.7	46.3
Public Utility Services ...	298,762	46.7	47.2	47.5	47.5	47.2
Government Industrial Establishments ...	97,691	46.1	46.3	46.3	46.5	46.3
All the above ...	3,036,737	45.3	46.0	46.1	46.0	45.8

V.—AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average earnings per hour of those workpeople covered by returns which showed the number of hours actually worked. As some firms were unable to give particulars of the number of hours worked, the average weekly earnings obtained by multiplying the average hourly earnings shown below by the average hours shown in Section IV. do not correspond precisely with the average weekly earnings shown in Section II. Comparisons of the average earnings shown for different industry groups are, of course, affected by the different proportions of males and females and of adults and juveniles employed as between one industry group and another.

Industry Group.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average Hourly Earnings in the week ended				Average Hourly Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	167,179	12.7	12.9	13.1	13.0	12.9
Metal ...	941,509	13.4	13.5	13.6	13.5	13.5
Textile ...	559,568	10.1	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2
Clothing ...	197,740	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.6
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	218,046	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2
Woodworking ...	96,912	13.2	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.5
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	126,087	13.8	14.0	14.2	14.0	14.0
Building and Allied Industries ...	163,995	10.0	15.5	15.6	15.8	15.5
Other Industries* ...	169,248	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.8	12.7

any of the weeks specified have been regarded as unemployed, and have not been taken into account in compiling the statistics.

Industry Group.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Proportion of Workpeople on Short Time in the week ended			
		19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July.	18th Oct.
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	256,166	10.6	8.0	7.5	8.3
Metal ...	1,299,698	9.2	7.9	7.2	8.6
Textile ...	334,891	20.4	18.9	19.8	17.6
Clothing ...	424,023	24.8	14.5	16.2	21.6
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	372,092	11.1	12.3	7.5	9.3
Woodworking ...	151,350	8.8	5.5	4.6	4.7
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	219,301	5.6	5.3	4.8	4.2
Building and Allied Industries ...	254,309	2.4	1.1	0.9	0.8
Other Industries† ...	285,248	9.1	6.8	7.9	6.5
Public Utility Services ...	441,544	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.3
Government Industrial Establishments ...	74,537	...	...	...	...
All the above ...	4,723,199	11.6	9.6	9.3	9.8

Industry Group.	Average Number of Hours lost (a) by those who worked less than Full Time and (b) by all Workpeople covered, in the week ended							
	19th Jan.		12th Apl.		12th July.		18th Oct.	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	10.2	1.1	9.7	0.8	10.2	0.8	10.0	0.8
Metal ...	11.1	1.0	11.0	0.9	11.1	0.8	11.2	1.0
Textile ...	12.5	2.6	12.7	2.4	13.0	2.6	11.9	2.1
Clothing ...	11.3	2.8	9.5	1.4	9.7	1.6	11.1	2.4
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	8.6	1.0	8.9	1.1	8.2	0.6	8.4	0.8
Woodworking ...	8.9	0.8	8.4	0.5	9.0	0.4	8.5	0.4
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	10.2	0.6	9.3	0.5	8.1	0.4	9.3	0.4
Building and Allied Industries ...	10.6	0.3	8.7	0.1	13.7	0.1	10.0	0.1
Other Industries† ...	9.8	0.9	9.3	0.6	9.5	0.7	9.7	0.6
Public Utility Services ...	12.9	0.1	19.1	0.1	20.3	0.1	17.4	0.1
Government Industrial Establishments ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All the above ...	11.4	1.3	11.1	1.1	11.3	1.1	11.0	1.1

WAGES AND HOURS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE MEN'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY, 1926.

A RECENT report published by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics gives the results of a survey of the wages and hours of labour of workpeople in the men's clothing industry in that country in 1926. The data were collected from 198 establishments, employing 17,048 males and 16,611 females, the workpeople covered by the inquiry representing, according to the 1923 United States Census of Manufactures, 17 per cent. of the wage earners in the industry in the United States.

The following Table shows, for certain selected occupations, the average full-time weekly hours of labour, the average hourly earnings, and the average full-time weekly earnings, during the period June to August, 1926:—

Occupation and Sex.	Average full-time hours a week.	Average earnings an hour.	Average full-time earnings a week.
Males.			
Basters, coat ...	44.3	0.925	40.98
Bushelers and tailors ...	44.3	0.856	37.92
Cutters, cloth, hand and machine ...	44.2	1.123	49.64
Machine sewers, coat ...	44.1	1.034	45.60
Machine sewers, trousers ...	44.3	0.961	42.57
Pressers, coat ...	44.3	0.933	41.33
Pressers, trousers ...	44.6	0.904	40.32
Females.			
Basters, coat ...	43.8	0.580	25.40
Hand sewers, coat ...	44.4	0.545	24.20
Hand sewers, trousers ...	44.2	0.451	19.95
Hand sewers, vest ...	44.1	0.578	25.49
Machine sewers, coat ...	44.4	0.638	28.33
Machine sewers, trousers ...	44.7	0.576	25.75
Machine sewers, vest ...	44.5	0.570	25.44
All occupations§ and both sexes	44.3	0.750	33.23

Index numbers compiled from the data collected for 1926 and previous years show that the average weekly full-time hours of labour were less in 1926 than in 1913 by over 14 per cent.: the average hourly earnings increased by 192 per cent., and the average full-time earnings per week by 151 per cent., during the same period.

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
 † Including fellmongering and leather tanning, saddlery and leather goods, india rubber, brush and broom, pianos, organs and musical instruments (other than metal), quarrying, metalliferous and shale mining, carting and warehousing, waste reclamation (other than metal) and miscellaneous industries.
 ‡ Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, No. 435. March, 1927. Washington.
 § Including occupations not shown in the Table.

WAGES IN GERMANY, 1913-1927.*

THE Reichsarbeitsblatt (the official organ of the German Ministry of Labour) for 1st June last, contains an article dealing with the course of wages in twelve of the chief industries of Germany, from which the figures in the following Table are extracted, showing the average wages of skilled and unskilled workers in 1913, at April, 1926, and at April, 1927. The figures are based on the wage rates fixed by collective agreements, and relate to adult workmen, except in the textile and cardboard-box making industries, in which women workers are strongly represented. Where family allowances are paid (e.g., in mining, on Federal railways, and to some extent in the metal, textile, paper and chemical industries), the wages include the allowance given for a wife and two children. In the computation of average wages from the particulars given in the collective agreements, the numbers of workpeople employed in different districts are taken into account.

AVERAGE HOURLY AND WEEKLY WAGES OF ADULT MALE WORKMEN (EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE SPECIFIED) IN 1913, AT APRIL, 1926, AND AT APRIL, 1927.

Industry.	Average Hourly Wages.			Average Weekly Wages.		
	1913.	April, 1926.	April, 1927.	1913.	April, 1926.	April, 1927.
Mining:						
Skilled ...	651 per 395 shift	817 per 580 shift	853 per 605 shift	25.80	31.12	33.61
Unskilled ...	395	580	605	12.50	15.50	16.50
Metals:						
Skilled ...	66.8	92.2†	96.2	36.92	46.00†	48.10
Unskilled ...	42.5	62.4†	67.4	23.55	31.12†	33.61
Chemicals:						
Skilled ...	57.0	85.2	92.3	32.99	40.90	44.30
Unskilled ...	46.0	72.0	77.7	26.76	34.56	37.30
Building:						
Skilled ...	71.8	115.7†	118.8	37.88	55.28†	56.73
Unskilled ...	56.4	93.7†	96.7	29.76	44.74†	46.18
Woodworking:						
Skilled ...	62.7	97.0†	100.8	32.49	46.09†	47.91
Unskilled ...	45.3	84.3†	87.4	23.58	40.08†	41.54
Paper Manufacture:						
Skilled ...	32.6	68.0	73.2	21.57	32.64	35.14
Unskilled ...	29.4	61.1	65.7	17.73	29.33	31.54
Textiles and Spinners and Weavers:						
Males ...	43.2	62.4†	66.8	25.04	29.95†	32.06
Females ...	31.1	49.4†	52.3	17.88	23.71†	25.10
Assistants:						
Males ...	33.3	52.3	55.9	19.01	25.10	26.83
Females ...	24.9	38.8	41.4	14.10	18.62	19.87
Brewing:						
Skilled ...	...	...	...	37.33	48.10†	50.69
Unskilled ...	...	...	...	30.21	42.37†	44.77
Baking and Confectionery:						
Skilled ...	50.4	86.1	89.1	28.84	41.33	42.77
Unskilled ...	41.0	74.3	76.9	23.45	35.66	36.91
Printing:						
Skilled ...	...	...	...	31.65	46.05	49.40
Unskilled ...	...	...	...	25.20	40.16	43.01
Transport (Federal Railways):						
Skilled ...	62.6	82.4†	86.9	33.80	44.49†	44.68
Unskilled ...	39.8	65.1†	73.3	23.88	35.15†	35.19
Cardboard Box Making:						
Skilled ...	48.2	79.2†	77.4	26.88	38.02†	37.15
Males ...	48.2	79.2†	77.4	26.88	38.02†	37.15
Females ...	28.0	52.9†	50.9	15.28	25.39†	24.43
Assistants:						
Males ...	35.6	67.3†	65.8	19.88	32.30†	31.58
Females ...	25.3	43.9†	42.0	13.69	21.07†	20.16

The particulars given are based on time rates of wages, except that in the case of skilled workers in industries which are mainly of a piecework character (e.g., the mining, metal and textile industries), piecework rates computed on an average output of work have been used, or time rates with a piecework adjustment.

The pre-war rates of wages were ascertained by application to the employers' associations and trade unions concerned, to individual undertakings, and to statistical offices, and also by reference to pre-war wage agreements and reports. It is stated that, of the twelve industries under review, only four (building, wood-working, printing and brewing) possessed complete systems for the regulation of wages before the war. In the remaining industries, average earnings were obtained as far as possible. Owing to the difficulties experienced in ascertaining these, complete comparability of pre-war and post-war rates of pay cannot be attained, as the general rule before the war was to pay wages according to capacity, regardless of age and family needs. Caution must, therefore, be observed in comparing the figures given in the Table for 1913 and 1926-1927, as the rates shown for the two later dates are in many cases not on the same basis as those for the pre-war year. Moreover, in comparing the average weekly wages in 1913 with those for 1926-27, differences in the length of the working week must be taken into account. In 1913, the average normal hours worked per week ranged from 48 to 72, whereas the range of normal hours was from 44 to 56 in 1926 and 46 to 56 in 1927. In the mining industry, the difference between pre-war and post-war working hours is, in the main, confined to surface occupations. Generally, unskilled surface workers had an 11-hour shift in 1913, and a 10-hour shift in 1926 and April, 1927 (reduced on 1st May, 1927, to 9 hours).

* Cf. "Wages in Germany, 1913-1926," in this GAZETTE for July, 1926, page 248.
 † Amended figures.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN NORWAY.*

UNDER the Norwegian Labour Disputes Act of 6th August, 1915, power was given to the National Conciliator and to the District Conciliators to prohibit a strike or lock-out in furtherance of any labour dispute where serious danger to the public interest is involved, and any such strike or lock-out, entered upon before the compulsory conciliation proceedings prescribed in the Act had terminated, was declared to be illegal, the parties thereto being liable to a fine of from 5 to 25,000 kroner. In disputes connected with existing collective agreements, strikes and lock-outs were altogether prohibited, all such controversies being referable to the Labour Court (see below).

A further (temporary) Act, dated 9th June, 1916, introduced compulsory arbitration in labour disputes. This Act was renewed annually until April, 1921, when it was allowed to lapse. Another Arbitration Act, slightly different from that of 1916, was passed in 1922, and remained in force for a year.

The serious situation in industry in the early part of 1927 again brought into prominence the question of compulsory arbitration. As a result of the failure of protracted negotiations for a settlement of disputes in the mining, metal, textile and boot and shoe industries, which had been in progress since the middle of February, and which threatened to become even more widespread, the Norwegian Government decided, on 27th April, 1927, to lay before the Storting two Bills, one amending the Labour Disputes Act of 6th August, 1915, and the other re-introducing compulsory arbitration. The two Acts were passed on 5th May, 1927, and came into force immediately. The Compulsory Arbitration Act is technically a part of the Labour Disputes Act, and it is to remain in force until 1st August, 1929.

Immediately after the passing of the new Acts, an Arbitration Court was appointed to settle the disputes in the four industries mentioned above, as well as disputes in certain other separate undertakings, which had been referred to arbitration by the Crown; and, at the same time, any extension of stoppages of work was prohibited in the industries concerned. The Norwegian National Federation of Trade Unions, however, resolved to abstain from nominating a member for the Arbitration Court, and a member was appointed by the Crown. Pending the award of the Arbitration Court, the parties to the disputes agreed before the National Conciliator to resume work on the old terms. The first award of the Court was issued on 21st May; it related to the dispute in the metal industry. Since that date, awards have been given for the mining, textile and boot and shoe industries.

In the main, the amendments to the Labour Disputes Act introduce more specific regulations concerning ballots on conciliation proposals and more stringent measures against illegal stoppages of work. A summary of these amendments as well as a summary of the compulsory Arbitration Act is given below.

1. Labour Disputes Act.—The chief provisions of the 1915 Act and the conciliation procedure remain substantially the same under the new Act.

The most important new provision relates to penalties. The new Act enables the Courts to impose either a fine (5 to 25,000 kroner) or a period of imprisonment up to three months, or both imprisonment and fine, on persons taking part in, or inciting to participation in, an unlawful stoppage of work. This applies also to unlawful stoppages of work under the compulsory arbitration regulations.

The provision that an association must have at least 25 members and an elected committee to be considered a "trade union" under the Act has been repealed. According to "Meddelelsesblad," the disappearance of this limitation extends the responsibility of the central organisations of employers and workers for the acts of their subordinate associations. Moreover, under the 1915 Act, an employers' association or trade union was made liable for a breach of agreement or an unlawful stoppage of work, if it was itself responsible for the breach, or for the continuance of conditions contrary to the agreement, or for the unlawful stoppage. Now the organisation is to be liable, unless it can show that it has not itself caused the contravention or continuance of conditions contrary to the agreement or the illegal stoppage of work, or else that it has attempted, with the means at its disposal, to prevent such contravention, etc.

The Labour Court is in future to consist of a president and six members, instead of four, as under the earlier Act. The president and members (with deputies) are to be appointed by the Crown for three years. Two of the six members are to be appointed from persons nominated by associations of employers and two from persons nominated by trade unions.

An addition to Section 35 provides that, when a ballot is taken on a conciliation proposal, the organisation shall take steps to enable all members entitled to vote to become acquainted with the proposal in its entirety, and that, when a conciliation proposal is rejected as a result of a ballot, the parties shall give the conciliation authority written information regarding the numbers voting for and against the proposal and the number of persons entitled to vote.

2. Compulsory Arbitration Act.—If the King is of opinion that a dispute, in which conciliation has failed, is likely to endanger important public interests, he may, on the report of the National Conciliator, order that it be settled by compulsory arbitration, and prohibit a stoppage of work. Arbitration may be confined to such points at issue as cannot be settled by conciliation. The Arbitration

* Norsk Lovtidende, 7th May, 1927, and Meddelelsesblad, April-May, 1927, Oslo. For summaries of the Acts of 6th August, 1915, and 9th June, 1916, see this GAZETTE for January, 1916, page 11, and April, 1921, page 183, respectively.

Court is to consist of five members (with deputies), a president and two members appointed by the Crown, and two members nominated respectively by the Norwegian National Federation of Trade Unions and the Norwegian Employers' Association. The president is appointed for the period of validity of the Act and the other members for each case as it arises. If the parties fail to nominate their representatives within the time limit prescribed, the appointment is to be made by the Crown. With the consent of the parties, the Court may refer back to them certain points for negotiation and conciliation, if the parties declare themselves willing to co-operate in the solution of the questions without a stoppage of work. An award of the Arbitration Court will be valid for a period not exceeding two years, subject to the right of either party to demand the re-examination of the question if during this period conditions undergo changes which may be regarded as of importance in determining the wages provisions of an award.

FAMILY ENDOWMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.*

THE Family Endowment Act, 1927, which was passed at the end of March last, provides for the payment to mothers in certain circumstances of an allowance at the rate of five shillings a week for each child, for the maintenance, training and advancement of children under 14 years of age. Allowances may be continued up to the age of 16 years in the case of children incapacitated from earning a living by reason of a physical or mental defect.

Various conditions must be satisfied before the allowance becomes payable, the chief of which are:—

(a) At the date on which the claim to an allowance is made the mother must be resident in New South Wales and have had her home there for the two years immediately preceding the date of the claim.

(b) Claims can be considered only in respect of children who have been resident for not less than two years in New South Wales, or, if below the age of two years, were born in that State.

(c) Allowances are not generally payable in respect of illegitimate children, nor in cases where the mother is already in receipt of a pension under the Widows' Pensions Act, 1925.

(d) Children of an alien father, an Asiatic father, or of an aboriginal native of Africa, the Pacific Islands, or New Zealand, are excluded from benefit, unless born in Australia.

(e) Where the total family income, as defined in the Act, in the twelve months preceding the date of the claim exceeds the amount of the living wage for one year based on the requirements of a man and wife without children plus £13 for each child under 14 years, no allowance is payable.

(f) In cases where the payment of the full endowment would increase the family income beyond the limiting qualifying income, such part of the endowment shall be paid as will bring the total family income up to the qualifying limit.

A further Act, the Finance (Family Endowment Tax) Act, 1927, provides that employers shall pay into a newly constituted family endowment fund amounts equal to 3 per cent. of their total wages bill, and from this fund the family allowances will be paid.

The Family Endowment Act will come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Governor, but in any case not until after the declaration of the living wage for a man and wife without children has been made by the Industrial Commission of New South Wales. This declaration, according to the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration (Living Wage Declaration) Act, 1927, must be made not later than the end of September, 1927. Previously the living wage has been based on a man, wife and two children.

GUIDE TO OFFICIAL STATISTICS.

THE fifth annual volume of the Guide to Current Official Statistics of the United Kingdom has been issued by the Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics. The aim of the Guide is to direct the inquirer to all current official publications that contain statistics bearing on his subject; and, more especially, to inform him of the nature of the statistics he will find in the volumes to which he is referred—i.e., their mode of analysis, and the time and place to which they relate.

The statistical material published in the year under review is exhibited in the form of a "Subject Index," which shows against each entry the statistical treatment, as indicated above, of the various subjects. The publications to which reference is made are given separately, under the Departments responsible, in a "List of Publications." A feature of the Subject Index is the grouping of all published statistical data under twenty-five broad references (e.g., Agriculture, Industry and Labour, Social Services, etc.) by means of a system of successive cross-references, thus rendering it possible, with the minimum of effort, to ascertain with certainty what (if any) statistics are available on any given subject.

While this issue of the Guide primarily relates to the publications of 1926, an indication is given in all cases where later issues of annual reports have become available in the present year, up to the end of February. The Guide itself also deals with all other publications containing statistics which have appeared up to the end of February, 1927.

Many of the volumes to which reference is made are of special importance to those interested in labour and industrial problems.

* Industrial and Labour Information, 20th June, 1927. Geneva. Cf. "Family Allowances in New Zealand," in this GAZETTE, April, 1927, page 135. † H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net (1s. 4d. post free).

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	66%
Food only	...	...	59%

FOOD.

At 1st July the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food was higher than a month earlier. This was mainly due to displacement of old potatoes by the new crop at higher prices, and to advances in the prices of eggs. Smaller movements in the prices of other articles approximately counterbalanced one another.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 59 per cent. at 1st July, 1927, as compared with 54 per cent. a month ago, and 61 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st June, and 1st July, 1927:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¹ / ₄ d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st July, 1927, as compared with		
	July, 1914.	1st June, 1927.	1st July, 1927.	July, 1914.	June, 1927.	July, 1927.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs	0 10	1 4½	1 4½	+ 0 6½	...	...
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 2½	...	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—						
Ribs	0 7½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 2½	+ 0 0½	...
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5	0 5½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½	...
Mutton, British—						
Legs	0 10½	1 6½	1 6	+ 0 7½	- 0 0½	...
Breast	0 6½	0 10	0 9½	+ 0 3½	- 0 0½	...
Mutton, Frozen—						
Legs	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 4½	...	...
Breast	0 4	0 4½	0 4½	+ 0 0½	...	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 5½	1 5	+ 0 5½	- 0 0½	...
Flour	0 10½	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 7½	...	...
Bread	0 5½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 4	...	...
Tea	1 6½	2 4½	2 4½	+ 0 10½	...	...
Sugar (granulated)	0 2	0 3½	0 3½	+ 0 1½	...	...
Milk	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 2	...	...
Butter—						
Fresh	1 2½	1 9½	1 9½	+ 0 7	+ 0 0½	...
Salt	1 2½	1 8½	1 8½	+ 0 6	- 0 0½	...
Cheese†	0 8½	1 0½	1 0½	+ 0 4	...	...
Margarine	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 0½	...	...
Eggs (fresh)	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½	...
Potatoes	0 4	0 8½	1 0½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 4	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st July, 1927, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st June, 1927.
	Large Towns and Villages.	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—				
Ribs	71	66	68	68
Thin Flank	37	39	38	39
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	37	33	35	31
Thin Flank	4	11	8	5
Mutton, British—				
Legs	73	74	73	75
Breast	51	51	51	53
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	69	60	65	63
Breast	17	20	19	19
Bacon (streaky)*	51	50	51	53
Fish	126	96	111	104
Flour	65	70	67	66
Bread	70	68	69	67
Tea	51	59	55	55
Sugar (granulated)	87	77	82	88
Milk	54	63	59	59
Butter—				
Fresh	47	48	48	47
Salt	43	43	43	44
Cheese†	45	48	47	48
Margarine	9	5	7	9
Eggs (fresh)	37	30	34	19
Potatoes	172	136	154	71
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	61	58	59	54

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.
 † The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.
 ‡ The reduction in average price, as compared with a month earlier, was very small, but sufficient to lower the average, as expressed to the nearest farthing.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st July, 1927, was approximately 51 per cent. Of the total increase about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges, and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st July the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged between 110 and 115 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group, the average price of coal at 1st July was slightly lower than a month earlier and about 70 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. With the new quarter there were considerable reductions in the charges for gas in a number of towns, and at 1st July gas averaged about 60 per cent. dearer than in July, 1914. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st July, as compared with July, 1914, was about 70 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st July, is, approximately, 66 per cent.* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 63 per cent. at 1st June, 1927, and 70 per cent. at 1st July, 1926.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1927 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in those families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1918 TO 1927.

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

Month.	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)									
	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
Jan. ...	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	79	75
Feb. ...	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72
Mar. ...	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71
Apr. ...	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68	65
May ...	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64
June ...	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63
July ...	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66
Aug. ...	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	...
Sept. ...	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	...
Oct. ...	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	...
Nov. ...	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	...
Dec. ...	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	...

Figures for dates prior to 1918, together with the average increases for each of the five main groups of items (i.e., food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and other items) month by month from January, 1915, to December, 1925, are published in the "Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics" (Cmd. 2740).

NOTE.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during June showed little change on the whole as compared with May. There was a slight further improvement in the engineering, shipbuilding, and textile bleaching and dyeing industries and in public works contracting, and some improvement was also reported in the jute industry and in dock, canal, river, etc., service. On the other hand, employment was worse in the coal-mining industry, and increases were reported both in the numbers wholly unemployed and the numbers temporarily stopped in that industry. Employment in the tinplate and steel sheet trades continued bad and showed a marked decline on the previous month, and increases in the numbers unemployed were reported in the building, pig iron, wool textile, pottery, and clothing trades.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 12,000,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 20th June, 1927 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 8.9, as compared with 8.8 at 23rd May, 1927, and 14.6 at 21st June, 1926. For males alone the percentage at 20th June was 10.2, as compared with 10.0 at 23rd May, 1927; for females the corresponding figures were 5.4 and 5.3. The percentage wholly unemployed declined from 6.7 at 23rd May to 6.5 at 20th June. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th June, 1927, was approximately 1,032,000, of whom 836,000 were men and 144,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 30th May, 1927, it was 1,015,000, of whom 823,000 were men and 136,000 were women; and at 28th June, 1926, it was 1,699,000, of whom 1,262,000 were men and 346,000 were women. The figures for June, 1926 (although exclusive of coal miners disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute provisions) were, of course, affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

The following Table shows, month by month since June, 1926, the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Month.	Percentage Unemployed (at or near end of month) among Insured Workpeople.				Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.
	Males.	Females.	Wholly Unem-ployed.	Tem-porarily Stopped.	
1926.					
June ...	15.4	12.2	9.0	5.6	14.6*
July ...	15.1	12.7	8.9	5.5	14.4*
August ...	14.9	11.6	9.0	5.0	14.0*
September ...	14.7	11.0	9.0	4.7	13.7*
October ...	14.8	10.3	9.3	4.3	13.6*
November ...	14.8	10.0	9.4	4.1	13.5*
December ...	13.1	8.4	9.1	2.8	11.9*
1927.					
January ...	13.3	8.5	9.5	2.6	12.1*
February ...	12.2	7.5	8.8	2.1	10.9
March ...	11.2	6.2	7.9	2.0	9.9
April ...	10.8	5.7	7.2	2.2	9.4
May ...	10.0	5.3	6.7	2.1	8.8
June ...	10.2	5.4	6.5	2.4	8.9

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—In coal mining employment continued slack. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th June, 1927, was 1,011,906, a decrease of 1.3 per cent. as compared with May; the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927, was 4.68, as compared with 4.63 in May.

In the iron mining industry there was a slight decrease both in the number of workpeople employed and in the average number of days worked per week by the mines. In the shale mines in West Lothian there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed compared with May, 1927, and an increase of 2.8 per cent. compared with June, 1926.

Employment at limestone quarries in the Weardale district was fair; in the Clitheroe district it was reported as very good. At slate quarries in North Wales it continued good. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland it was bad. At chalk quarries it was again very slack. At tin mines it continued good; at china clay quarries it was fairly good on the whole.

Manufacture of Pig-iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment showed a decline. Of a total of 442 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of June, 1927, was 175, compared with 184 in May, 1927, and 11 in June, 1926.

In the iron and steel trades employment continued slack on the whole. Short-time working was reported in many districts, and some

* In the coal-mining industry only those unemployed persons who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the trade dispute were taken into account in the unemployment statistics.

† For insured workpeople and for numbers registered the figures relate to 20th December, 1926.

firms closed down for an extended period at Whitsuntide. In the tinplate and steel sheet trades employment was bad. The number of mills in operation at the end of June, 1927, was 467, compared with 470 in May, 1927, and with 165 in June, 1926.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.—In the engineering trades employment continued slack on the whole, but showed a further slight improvement, except in the Midlands, where there was a seasonal decline in the motor and cycle section. Employment in electrical engineering and in the motor industry remained fairly good; in marine engineering it continued very bad, and much short time was still reported at textile machinery works. In railway engineering full time was generally worked and some overtime was reported. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment showed a further slight improvement, but was still very bad on the whole. In the other metal trades employment remained moderate on the whole. It was fairly good in the nut and bolt, and lock and latch trades; fair in the hollow-ware, sheet metal, tube and file trades; moderate in the stove and grate, brasswork, cutlery, needle and fishing tackle trades; slack in the key, wire, metallic bedstead, chain and anchor and jewellery and plated ware trades.

Textile Trades.—In the cotton trade employment showed a slight decline during June. In the American spinning section reduced working hours were still being worked in accordance with the recommendation of the Cotton Yarn Association; in the Egyptian spinning section nearly full-time working continued general; in the weaving department employment remained slack.

In the wool textile trade, taken as a whole, there was a slight decline in employment. In most districts there was a good deal of under-employment, but the position was materially better than in June, 1926, when employment was adversely affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

In the hosiery trade employment showed a further improvement, and was fairly good; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it was also fairly good; in the lace trade it showed a further improvement; in the linen trade there was some decline, but employment was fair on the whole; in the jute trade there was a recovery from the decline reported in May. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment remained slack.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the retail bespoke and in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade continued good, on the whole, although there was a slight seasonal decline towards the end of the month. In the dressmaking, millinery, and blouse and light clothing trades employment remained good in most districts. There was a slight general improvement in the corset and shirt and collar trades, and full time was worked at most centres. In the felt-hat trade employment continued good. In the boot and shoe industry, it showed a decline; some firms closed for a week or more at Whitsuntide, and a good deal of short time was worked thereafter.

Leather Trades.—Employment showed a further improvement. In the tanning and currying section it was fair, and an improvement was reported in a few centres; in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section it remained moderate; with saddlery and harness makers it was slack.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades remained generally good with skilled operatives, and fair with unskilled workers. As regards individual occupations, it was very good with bricklayers, and also with plasterers at most centres; with masons, carpenters and joiners it continued good; with slaters it was good in most districts; with plumbers it was moderate. Employment declined slightly with painters and decorators, but remained good in most districts with skilled men; with tradesmen's labourers it continued fair on the whole. With brickmakers employment continued good.

Employment in the furnishing trades, with millawyers and with coachbuilders continued fairly good; with coopers it was still poor; with packing-case makers it continued bad.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—In the paper trade employment was fair, on the whole, but showed a decline in some districts as compared with the previous month. With letterpress printers employment was generally moderate; at Liverpool it was reported as bad, and worse than in the previous month; it was also slack, or bad, at Birmingham, Swansea and Plymouth. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued very good at London and Manchester, and generally good at other centres; in the lithographic printing trade it showed an improvement, and was fairly good on the whole. With bookbinders employment was moderate.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire showed a slight decline; the Whitsuntide holidays were extended in some cases, and there was an increase in short-time working. In the glass trades employment showed a slight improvement, except in the bottle-making branch.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales the supply of labour, except for occasional shortages of temporary workers for root-hoeing or fruit-picking on the eastern side of the country, was generally sufficient for requirements. In Scotland the supply of regular workers at the end of June was adequate, and in some districts in excess of requirements. In the fishing industry employment showed a seasonal improvement.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued slack on the whole; with seamen it remained moderate to fair.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts. It will be seen that in Great Britain the rates of unemployment continue to be highest in the areas which include the greatest proportions of coal mining and the heavy iron and steel industries:—

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured at July, 1926. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,105,400	6.0	3.4	5.2	-0.1	-2.1
South-Eastern ...	840,200	4.2	2.9	3.9	-0.2	-2.0
South-Western ...	810,900	6.8	3.7	6.2	-0.2	-2.2
Midlands ...	1,777,400	8.9	6.9	8.3	...	6.5
North-Eastern ...	2,020,500	13.7	7.2	12.4	+0.2	-7.5
North-Western ...	2,145,700	11.2	6.2	9.6	+0.2	-8.7
Scotland ...	1,323,100	11.1	5.9	9.7	-0.3	-7.8
Wales ...	626,800	19.4	5.4	18.1	+2.5	-3.6
Northern Ireland	266,000	15.8	4.9	11.5	-1.0	-14.0
Special Schemes	125,000	1.7	0.4	1.3	...	-0.5
TOTAL ...	12,041,000	10.2	5.4	8.9	+0.1	-5.7

NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

TABLE SHOWING, BY DIVISIONAL AREAS, THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1927.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Percentage of numbers insured at July, 1926.
South-Eastern:						
(a) London ...	1,599	5,136	2,469	4,764	13,968	0.66
(b) Rest of South Eastern ...	1,306	2,469	1,097	1,965	6,837	0.81
South-Western ...	1,340	2,020	1,164	1,597	6,121	0.75
Midlands ...	990	3,872	948	3,596	9,406	0.53
North-Eastern ...	1,224	4,761	1,577	3,055	10,417	0.52
North-Western ...	1,226	4,084	1,580	3,878	10,768	0.50
Scotland ...	1,791	3,464	1,391	2,782	9,428	0.71
Wales ...	557	1,703	772	667	3,699	0.59
GREAT BRITAIN ...	10,033	27,509	10,798	22,304	70,644	0.61

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to employment, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for June, 1927.	June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month before.	Year before.
Coal Mining ...	1,011,906	4.68	+ 0.05	*
Iron " ...	7,520	5.45	- 0.12	*
Shale " ...	2,718	5.80	+ 0.05	+ 0.08
Pig Iron ...	...	Furnaces in Blast. 175	Number.	Number.
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	...	Mills working. 467	- 3	+ 302
Iron and Steel ...	73,618	Shifts Worked (one week). 393,686	Per cent. - 1.5	Per cent. + 178.0

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
Textiles:—				
Cotton ...	80,054	+ 0.5	147,954	- 0.8
Woolen ...	65,270	- 0.1	140,171	- 0.7
Worsted ...	91,501	- 0.8	176,086	- 1.1
Carpet ...	9,217	- 0.2	17,338	- 2.4
Boot and Shoe ...	51,340	- 0.7	119,577	5.8
Pottery ...	11,171	- 0.4	20,885	- 2.4
Brick ...	9,380	+ 0.5	26,201	+ 0.5

* Statistics not available. In June, 1926, there was a general stoppage of work at coal mines and most of the iron mines were closed.

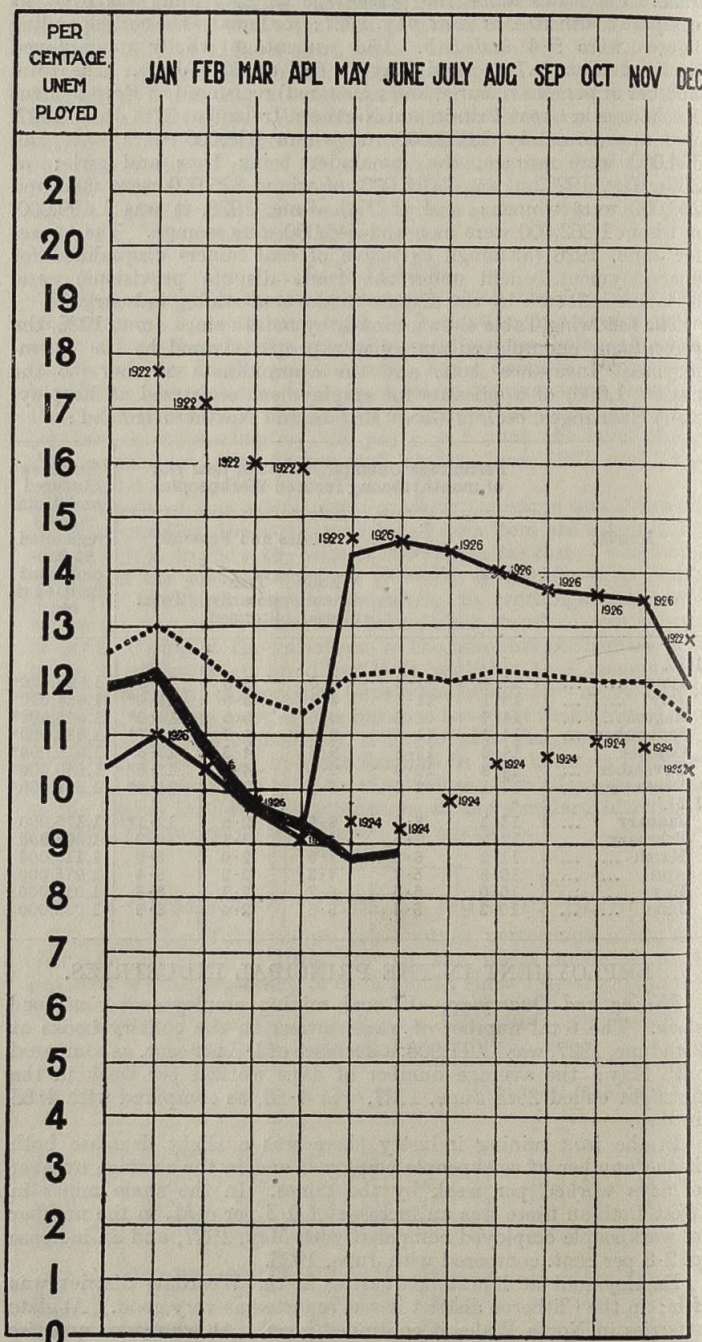
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS:—

Thick Curve - - - - - = 1927.
Dotted Curve - - - - - = Mean of 1922-26.
Thin Curve - - - - - = 1926.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-1926.



NOTE.—From May to December, the curve for 1926 and the curve showing the mean for the years 1922-26 are influenced by the heavy increase in unemployment in those months due to the stoppage in the coal-mining industry of last year. The diagram shows that while the percentage rates of unemployment in January and February, 1927, were higher than those for the corresponding months of 1926, this difference had almost disappeared in March and April. For the whole period of six months the rates were well below the mean for the past five years. The figures for the first two months of 1927 were still affected in some industries by the results of the coal-mining dispute and also by a comparatively high rate of unemployment in coal mining itself. The influence of the latter factor remained at the end of June.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during June continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.0 at 20th June, 1927, as compared with 17.2 at 23rd May.

The percentage wholly unemployed at 20th June was 9.7, as compared with 9.1 at 23rd May; and the percentage temporarily suspended from the service of their employers was 9.3 at 20th June, compared with 8.1 at 23rd May.

The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th June, 1927, showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent., as compared with 28th May, and the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927, was 4.68, an increase of 0.05 of a day, as compared with the fortnight ended 28th May, 1927.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927, as shown by the returns obtained from the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals. Statistics for June, 1926, are not available owing to the general stoppage of work at that time.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earnings on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*	
	25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Fortnight ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:				
Northumberland...	49,971	- 8.2	4.70	- 0.26
Durham ...	132,625	- 1.4	4.51	- 0.33
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	11,858	+ 0.5	4.89	- 0.09
South Yorkshire ...	120,441	- 0.3	4.66	+ 0.08
West Yorkshire ...	62,658	- 1.1	4.02	+ 0.16
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	90,033	- 1.1	4.09	+ 0.01
Derbyshire ...	59,592	- 1.8	4.27	+ 0.72
Nottingham and Leicester ...	67,338	- 0.3	4.41	+ 0.38
Warwick ...	19,026	- 0.5	5.35	+ 0.47
North Staffordshire ...	33,003	- 0.4	4.52	- 0.06
South Staffs., † Wores. and Salop ...	33,359	- 1.9	4.48	+ 0.35
Gloucester and Somerset ...	11,781	- 0.9	4.21	+ 0.14
Kent ...	2,223	+ 4.9	5.60	+ 0.15
North Wales ...	15,761	- 1.3	5.19	+ 0.28
South Wales and Mon. ...	196,857	- 0.3	5.26	- 0.05
England and Wales ...	906,531	- 1.2	4.63	+ 0.04
SCOTLAND:				
Mid and East Lothians...	13,294	- 0.6	5.12	- 0.08
Fife and Clackmannan ...	23,089	- 0.8	4.80	- 0.27
Rest of Scotland...	68,992	- 3.1	5.05	+ 0.10
Scotland ...	105,375	- 2.3	5.01	...
GREAT BRITAIN ...	1,011,906	- 1.3	4.68	+ 0.05

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927, was 1.12 days per week, of which 1.05 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 28th May, 1927, were 1.15 days per week, of which 1.12 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for the periods under review was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 25th June, 1927, which was affected by the Whitsun Holidays, was reported to the Mines Department as 18,297,400 tons, as compared with 20,355,600 tons in the four weeks ended 28th May, 1927.

The export of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 5,954,100 tons in June, as compared with 6,507,600 tons in May, 1927.

The percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 20th June, and the increases or decreases in the percentages, as compared with 23rd May, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Percentage Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentages as compared with			
	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporary stoppages.	Total.	A month before.		Two years before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
Northumberland	15.8	3.9	19.7	+ 6.5	+ 1.9	+ 8.4
Durham ...	17.2	4.7	21.9	+ 0.2	- 0.5	- 0.3
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	3.5	23.9	27.4	+ 0.3	+ 21.9	+ 22.2
Yorkshire ...	3.7	5.3	9.0	+ 0.1	- 1.1	- 1.0
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	6.1	16.8	22.9	+ 0.1	+ 3.1	+ 3.2
Derbyshire ...	3.1	18.1	21.2	+ 0.3	- 8.5	- 8.2
Notts and Leicester ...	2.1	11.9	14.0	...	+ 1.4	+ 1.4
Warwick ...	2.6	1.9	4.5	...	...	+ 0.8
Staffs, Worcester and Salop ...	5.6	11.2	16.8	+ 0.9	+ 0.7	+ 1.6
Glos. and Somerset ...	8.8	14.3	23.1	+ 0.3	+ 10.2	+ 10.5
Kent ...	3.7	...	3.7	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 1.1
Wales and Monmouth ...	12.8	12.4	25.2	+ 0.2	+ 5.1	+ 5.3
England and Wales ...	9.2	10.1	19.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.5	+ 2.0
SCOTLAND ...	13.4	3.7	17.1	+ 1.2	- 1.1	+ 0.1
GREAT BRITAIN	9.7	9.3	19.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.2	+ 1.8

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

For all districts as a whole there was a slight decrease both in the number of workpeople employed and in the average number of days worked per week by the mines.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron ore and ironstone mining industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.1 at 20th June, 1927, as compared with 7.9 at 23rd May, 1927, and 62.9 at 21st June, 1926.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for May and June, 1927. In June, 1926, most of the mines were closed owing to the stoppage of work at coal mines.

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*	
	Fortnight ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Fortnight ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.
Cleveland ...	3,128	Per cent. + 1.7	4.96	- 0.07
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	3,014	- 4.9	5.89	- 0.11
Other Districts ...	1,378	+ 0.1	5.60	- 0.21
ALL DISTRICTS ...	7,520	- 1.3	5.45	- 0.12

SHALE MINING.

According to the returns received, 2,718 workpeople were employed in the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927, an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with the previous month and an increase of 2.8 per cent. compared with June, 1926. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines from which returns were received was 5.80 in June, 1927, compared with 5.75 in May, 1927, and 5.72 in June, 1926.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a decline as compared with May. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.7 on 20th June, 1927, compared with 11.5 on 23rd May, 1927, and with 70.2 on 21st June, 1926.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 175 furnaces were in operation at the end of June, compared with 184 at the end of May and 11 at the end of June, 1926. Returns received from 79 firms employing 19,678

* See footnote * in previous column.

workpeople at the end of June showed a decrease of 5.7 per cent. in the number employed as compared with May.

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
		June, 1927.	May, 1927.	June, 1926.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	99	42	43	4	- 1	+ 38
Cumberland and W. Lancs ...	44	13	16	...	- 3	+ 13
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ...	33	13	14	1	- 1	+ 12
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	64	32	35	1	- 1	+ 31
Lincolnshire ...	24	15	15	...	...	+ 15
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ...	55	15	16	2	- 1	+ 13
South Wales ...	28	9	10	1	- 1	+ 8
England and Wales	347	139	147	9	- 8	+130
Scotland ...	95	36	37	2	- 1	+ 34
Total ...	442	175	184	11	- 9	+164

The production of pig iron in June amounted to 650,500 tons, as compared with 720,100 tons in May, 1927, and 41,800 tons in June, 1926.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in June continued slack on the whole. Short-time working was reported in many districts, and some firms closed down for an extended period at Whitsuntide.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.8 on 20th June, 1927, as compared with 16.5 on 23rd May, 1927, and 55.3 on 21st June, 1926.

According to returns received from firms employing 73,618 workpeople in the week ended 25th June, 1927, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 1.5 per cent., as compared with May. The average number of shifts* during which the works were open was 5.4 in June, 1927, the same as in May, 1927.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*		Per cent.	Per cent.
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
OpenHearth Melting Furnaces ...	8,336	- 10.8	+ 1255.4	46,339	- 12.7	+1228.1
Puddling Forges ...	2,616	- 3.4	+ 586.6	10,978	+ 1.0	+ 681.4
Rolling Mills ...	27,743	+ 1.9	+ 184.7	141,381	+ 1.0	+ 219.2
Forging & Pressing ...	3,357	+ 2.2	+ 121.9	17,725	+ 1.4	+ 139.8
Founding ...	8,123	+ 1.1	+ 60.5	46,552	+ 0.0	+ 71.8
Other Departments	8,476	+ 0.1	+ 105.0	47,855	+ 0.0	+ 105.5
Mechanics, Labourers	14,967	- 0.4	+ 129.6	85,856	- 0.5	+ 140.4
TOTAL ...	73,618	- 0.6	+ 163.2	396,686	- 1.5	+ 178.0
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	16,271	+ 1.6	+ 138.3	91,577	+ 1.1	+ 144.0
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	18,435	- 6.9	+ 183.6	96,596	- 10.7	+ 198.3
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	2,096	+ 28.6	+ 40.2	11,284	+ 28.2	+ 32.6
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	7,101	- 0.1	+ 106.8	36,329	- 0.8	+ 140.1
Staffordshire ...	5,790	- 0.7	+ 181.3	30,961	- 1.1	+ 179.5
Other Midland Counties	3,563	+ 1.4	+ 110.2	19,868	+ 1.2	+ 105.4
Wales and Monmouth ...	7,477	+ 2.0	+ 143.1	40,672	+ 3.5	+ 182.9
Total, England and Wales	60,733	- 0.8	+ 142.1	327,287	- 2.1	+ 154.3
Scotland ...	12,885	+ 0.4	+ 346.6	69,399	+ 1.4	+ 395.4
TOTAL ...	73,618	- 0.6	+ 163.2	396,686	- 1.5	+ 178.0

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers amounted to 747,300 tons in June, 1927, as compared with 884,600 tons in May, 1927, and 34,500 tons in June, 1926.

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

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during June was bad and showed a further decline. At the end of June, 467 tinplate and steel-sheet mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, compared with 470 in the previous month and with 165 in June, 1926. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 25.5 on 20th June, 1927, as compared with 19.9 on 23rd May, 1927, and with 74.6 on 21st June, 1926. Employment in June last year was seriously affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

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

Works.	Number of Works Open			Number of Mills in Operation		
	At end of June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Month before.	At end of June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Month before.
Tinplate ...	63	+ 38	342	- 1	+ 235	
Steel Sheet ...	13	+ 10	125	- 2	+ 67	
TOTAL ...	76	+ 48	467	- 3	+ 302	

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in June, 1927, amounted to 104,422 tons, or 20,680 tons less than in May, 1927, but 29,003 tons more than in June, 1926.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during June continued slack on the whole but showed a further slight improvement, except in the Midlands, where there was a seasonal decline in the motor and cycle section. Employment in electrical engineering and in the motor industry remained fairly good; in marine engineering it remained very bad, and much short time was still reported at textile machinery works. In railway engineering full time was generally worked and some overtime was reported.

The following Tables show the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th June, 1927 :-

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.										Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Buses, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	4,683	410	56	84	1,410	6,643	- 336	- 3,218				
South-Eastern ...	1,672	194	160	50	781	2,857	- 146	- 4,106				
South-Western ...	1,575	128	492	43	1,286	3,524	- 607	- 449				
Midlands ...	5,704	1,021	41	443	6,446	15,655	+ 1,100	- 16,242				
North-Eastern ...	18,445	534	4,151	672	736	24,538	- 758	- 21,024				
North-Western ...	15,604	1,150	137	129	1,283	18,323	- 137	- 19,572				
Scotland ...	8,151	161	1,908	557	569	11,346	- 1,030	- 14,108				
Wales ...	892	10	15	108	117	1,142	- 20	- 2,705				
Northern Ireland ...	1,221	10	1,645	6	127	3,009	- 473	- 1,066				
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	57,947	3,628	8,605	2,092	12,765	85,037	- 2,407	- 82,490				
	Percentages Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.											
London ...	5.6	3.6	8.8	2.9	3.9	4.9	- 0.3	- 2.4				
South-Eastern ...	3.9	2.2	4.7	7.8	2.9	3.5	- 0.3	- 0.2				
South-Western ...	4.4	4.1	7.7	5.6	5.5	5.1	- 0.9	- 0.9				
Midlands ...	6.3	4.3	2.6	6.9	6.9	6.3	+ 0.5	- 7.4				
North-Eastern ...	14.8	6.7	19.1	8.7	6.5	14.2	- 0.4	- 11.6				
North-Western ...	11.2	6.2	10.6	5.2	6.7	10.1	- 0.1	- 10.7				
Scotland ...	9.6	5.4	10.8	9.8	5.7	9.4	- 0.8	- 11.2				
Wales ...	13.0	2.7	7.1	14.0	6.1	11.3	- 0.2	- 25.4				
Northern Ireland ...	16.7	4.3	30.0	15.0	7.2	20.3	- 3.2	- 6.8				
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	9.4	4.7	14.7	7.6	5.7	8.5	- 0.2	- 8.1				
<i>Ditto, May, 1927</i>	9.6	5.1	16.2	8.6	5.6	8.7	...	...		
<i>Ditto, June, 1926</i>	18.3	11.3	27.3	18.0	10.4	16.6	...	...		

On the North-East Coast employment was still very bad in marine and general engineering, but continued to improve in both sections. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment continued slack, but maintained a tendency towards betterment. In Lancashire and Cheshire it was again bad on the whole; full time, with some overtime, was in operation at railway works, and there was some improvement in electrical engineering; but much short time was still worked in the textile machinery section.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment declined to fair, seasonal slackness having set in on motor and cycle work. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district it remained fair. In London and the South-Eastern Counties it continued fairly good on the whole and good in the electrical and motor sections. In the South-Western Counties it was fairly good generally and showed all-round improvement.

In Wales little change was experienced and employment was bad. In Scotland the general improvement continued, though many workpeople were still unemployed. In Northern Ireland employment was still very bad but showed an appreciable improvement.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT during June, though still very bad on the whole, showed a slight further improvement.

The improvement compared with the previous month affected the North-East Coast, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. On the Bristol Channel, the Mersey and the South Coast there was a decline.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th June, 1927 :-

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London ...	1,896	- 8	- 1,393	16.7	...	- 9.7
South-Eastern ...	840	+ 36	+ 7	9.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
South-Western ...	2,985	+ 227	- 996	12.5	+ 0.9	- 3.3
Midlands ...	31	- 2	- 44	10.3	- 0.7	- 16.5
North-Eastern ...	18,015	- 701	- 19,047	28.6	- 1.1	- 26.7
North-Western ...	8,645	+ 380	- 1,603	26.8	+ 1.2	- 4.5
Scotland ...	11,338	- 829	- 15,412	19.1	- 1.4	- 22.3
Wales ...	3,749	+ 564	- 2,165	35.5	+ 5.3	- 18.8
Northern Ireland ...	3,805	- 229	- 2,692	26.1	- 1.5	- 8.8
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	51,304	- 562	- 43,345	22.9	- 0.2	- 16.3

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 1927.

According to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns, the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1927, amounted to 1,390,388 tons, as compared with 1,216,932 tons at the end of March, 1927, and 841,338 tons at the end of June, 1926. The present total, although the highest since September, 1924, is still 500,000 tons below the average tonnage building during the twelve months immediately preceding the war. The tonnage on which work was suspended at the end of June, 1927, amounted only to 3,745 tons, as compared with 77,600 tons at the end of June, 1926. The tonnage of motor ships building at the end of June, 1927, amounted to 45.1 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction.

A considerable decrease is shown in the tonnage commenced during the quarter, viz., 437,112 tons, as compared with 579,839 tons during the first quarter of 1927.

The tonnage launched during the present quarter, viz., 268,545 tons, shows the large increase of 140,798 tons as compared with the figures for the previous three months.

The total horsepower of the marine engines building or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1927, amounted to 939,782 h.p., as compared with 881,617 h.p. in the previous quarter.

The above figures are exclusive of warships and of merchant vessels under 100 tons gross.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry showed a slight decline during June. In the American spinning section reduced working hours were still being worked in accordance with the recommendations of the Cotton Yarn Association; and a further curtailment in the production of medium counts has been recommended, to take effect from 4th July. In the Egyptian spinning section approximately 95 per cent. of the spindles were on full time, about the same proportion as in May. In the weaving department employment continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.0 on 20th June, 1927, as compared with 6.9 on 23rd May, 1927, and with 25.0 on 21st June, 1926.

In the Ashton district there was an improvement in the doubling section; in other sections there was a decline, and employment was bad. In the Oldham district employment with spinners continued slack, but was better than a year ago; short time was worked by most firms in accordance with the recommendation of the Cotton Yarn Association, amounting to a loss of working time of approximately 35 per cent. Some mills in the Royton area, however, were running full time; and a serious shortage of juveniles was reported in this area. In the weaving department in the Oldham district many weavers were working with less than their normal number of looms, and some machinery was idle, especially in the velvet section. In the Stockport, Glossop and Stalybridge districts there was a slight decline; but at Hyde the improvement reported last month was maintained.

In the Bolton district employment was reported as very fair with card-room workers, good with spinners, and fairly good with weavers (especially of fancy goods), winders, and warpers. At Leigh employment in the spinning department continued good. At Bury and Rochdale employment was bad, with much short time, and worse than in the previous month; most of the mills at Bury closed down for an extended holiday at Whitsuntide.

At Preston there was a decline, but employment was fairly good in the fancy weaving section, a shortage of workers being reported. At Chorley there was short-time and irregular working at a number of mills. At Blackburn also there was a slight decline, the number of idle looms having increased during the month. At Great Harwood

all the mills were running, but the preparation departments were subject to short time. At Accrington employment conditions continued satisfactory, except with winders; there was still an unsatisfied demand for weavers suitable for fine or medium counts. At Darwen employment showed a decline; the preparation departments worked irregular time, and many weavers were unemployed. At Burnley employment was reported as bad, and worse than in May, but better than a year ago. Many of the mills were running less than their full complement of looms, and others were playing off workers irregularly; there was a considerable amount of under-employment and unsystematic short-time among women workers, particularly in the winding and preparation departments. At Padiham employment was fair, but not so good as in May. At Nelson the general situation was worse, though at the end of the month employment received a temporary stimulus owing to the proximity of the local holidays, as it is usual to work full time immediately before closing for a holiday. At Colne the position improved, though extended holidays were taken at Whitsuntide. In the Huddersfield area there was a further slight decline; at Dewsbury there was an improvement; full time was worked by most firms at Hebden Bridge and at Sowerby Bridge; elsewhere in Yorkshire employment was slack.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Month before.	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Month before.
Preparing ...	10,733	+ 0.9	+ 5.8	18,063	- 1.2	+ 23.5
Spinning ...	20,830	+ 1.1	+ 11.3	36,733	- 1.8	+ 27.7
Weaving ...	32,895	+ 0.2	+ 5.6	58,478	- 0.8	+ 12.9
Other ...	7,314	+ 1.5	+ 2.2	17,566	+ 1.6	+ 5.5
Not Specified ...	8,282	+ 0.8	- 0.6	17,114	- 1.1	+ 18.3
TOTAL ...	80,054	+ 0.5	+ 6.2	147,954	- 0.8	+ 17.2
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	4,173	- 0.3	+ 17.5	6,918	- 4.2	+ 31.3
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	9,376	- 1.4	+ 4.0	16,269	- 6.8	+ 7.8
Oldham ...	8,829	+ 2.3	+ 9.1	17,463	+ 4.9	+ 37.9
Bolton and Leigh ...	10,808	+ 0.2	+ 4.3	19,322	+ 2.1	+ 9.5
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	8,168	+ 0.0	+ 7.7	14,367	- 5.9	+ 36.4
Manchester ...	5,196	+ 3.2	+ 9.5	8,343	- 2.6	+ 14.1
Preston and Chorley ...	6,226	+ 0.5	+ 6.7	10,613	+ 4.2	+ 4.2
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	9,028	+ 2.0	+ 3.2	17,551	+ 0.5	+ 7.5
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	8,898	- 0.5	+ 4.2	2		

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 97,968,200 lbs. in June, 1927, compared with 117,666,000 lbs. in May, 1927, and with 95,963,900 lbs. in June, 1926.

The exports of cotton yarn were 17,177,300 lbs. in June, 1927, compared with 22,817,600 lbs. in May, 1927, and with 14,442,600 lbs. in June, 1926.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 330,098,800 square yards, as compared with 413,615,200 square yards in the previous month, and with 328,311,000 square yards in June, 1926.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

DURING June there was a slight decline in the wool textile industry taken as a whole. In most districts there was a good deal of under-employment, but the position was materially better than a year before, when employment was adversely affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9.4 on 20th June, 1927, as compared with 8.4 on 23rd May, 1927, and with 24.9 on 21st June, 1926. Returns received from firms employing nearly 166,000 workpeople showed a reduction of 0.5 per cent. in the total number employed, and of 1.0 per cent. in the total amount of wages paid in the week ended 25th June, as compared with the week ended 23rd May.

In the worsted section of the industry, there was in general a further slight decline during June. Employment in the wool sorting and combing departments was slightly worse than a month earlier; about 38 per cent. of the workpeople in those departments covered by the returns received worked short time in the week ended 25th June, with a loss of about 12½ hours each on the average; on the other hand, about 3 per cent. worked about 6½ hours each, in overtime. In worsted spinning there was on the whole little change; about 30 per cent. of the spinners lost about 9 hours each, on an average, in short time working during the week ended 25th June, while 4 per cent. were working overtime to the extent, on an average, of 6 hours each. In the worsted weaving section employment showed a slight decline in the Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds and Halifax areas, but at Keighley employment with weavers was a trifle better than in May. The returns received from employers for the week ended 25th June showed that about 20 per cent. of the worsted weavers worked short time with a loss, on the average, of about 13* hours each.

The returns received from employers in the worsted section of the industry, taken as a whole, showed that, in the week ended 25th June, 27 per cent. of their workpeople were on short time, with a loss, on the average, of about 11* hours each; while 4 per cent. were working overtime, to the average extent of about 6 hours each.

In the woollen section of the industry there was no further improvement, except in the Heavy Woollen District; and in some areas employment declined. In the spinning section about 20 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 25th June, with a loss on the average of about 9 hours each; the corresponding figures for the weaving section were 24 per cent. and about 10* hours. On the other hand, 13½ per cent. of the spinners were on overtime, to the extent of about 10 hours each on the average, while about 8 per cent. of the weavers worked on an average 5 hours per week overtime. Taking the woollen section as a whole about 21 per cent. of the operatives lost, on an average, 10* hours each in short-time working; while 11 per cent. worked an average of about 8 hours each in overtime.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley District employment with woollen workers showed a decline as compared with May; nevertheless some firms were still on overtime and night shifts remained in operation in some cases. In the Heavy Woollen District employment was better than in May; at Batley almost all the highly skilled weavers were employed, while at Morley there was also some improvement. There was a noticeable improvement in the rag and shoddy trade of Batley and Dewsbury. In the Leeds district there was no marked change as compared with May. At Stockport employment was fair on the whole.

Blanket manufacturers at Dewsbury were busier than a month earlier, while at Hebden Bridge the operatives with some exceptions were on full time; at Witney full time also continued. The flannel workers in the Rochdale and Milnrow districts were fairly well employed, and at Saddleworth employment was reported as fair, and as rather better than in the previous month.

In Scotland employment continued good on the whole, and there was very little unemployment among skilled workers in the tweed mills. In the wool spinning industry at Greenock and Ayr short time working was still in operation.

In the carpet trade employment was fairly good, although slightly below the level of the previous month. At Kidderminster the operatives were well employed, and full time was general. In the West Riding employment was described as fair, with a more satisfactory outlook. Taking the carpet trade as a whole, the employers' returns for the week ended 25th June showed 16½ per cent. of the operatives working short time, with a loss on the average of nearly 8 hours each; while about 3½ per cent. worked overtime, to the extent of 5 hours each on an average.

* These figures do not take into account other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps" and tending one instead of two looms.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments :	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan. 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan. 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	11,244	- 2.2	100.6	27,482	+ 2.8	94.7
Spinning ...	43,738	- 0.7	98.7	68,827	+ 0.1	98.3
Weaving ...	22,029	- 0.5	99.2	44,978	- 2.1	99.1
Other Depts. ...	12,632	+ 0.2	100.3	30,993	+ 0.0	100.0
Not specified ...	1,858	- 4.3	100.1	3,806	- 6.2	100.8
Total—Worsted	91,501	- 0.8	99.2	176,086	- 1.1	98.4
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	1,077	- 1.5	100.0	2,582	+ 0.3	109.8
Spinning ...	15,032	- 0.2	100.5	33,713	- 1.1	114.6
Weaving ...	27,533	+ 0.0	107.1	52,013	- 1.3	114.9
Other Depts. ...	19,216	- 0.4	100.7	46,279	- 0.0	110.4
Not specified ...	2,409	+ 0.5	100.7	5,487	+ 0.5	105.0
Total—Woollen	65,270	- 0.1	103.3	140,171	- 0.7	112.8
CARPET SECTION ...	9,217	- 0.2	100.8	17,338	- 2.4	85.7
Total—Wool Textile Industry	165,988	- 0.5	100.7	333,595	- 1.0	103.3
Districts* :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	41,702	- 0.8	98.6	82,211	- 2.0	92.9
Huddersfield ...	10,333	- 0.8	104.9	22,838	- 2.2	109.0
Halifax ...	10,074	- 1.4	93.3	17,379	- 1.7	91.4
Leeds ...	9,287	- 0.9	96.6	17,172	+ 0.1	100.1
Keighley ...	9,488	+ 0.7	102.9	18,088	+ 2.6	117.2
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,462	- 0.3	99.4	5,567	- 4.3	104.4
Total, West Riding	84,351	- 0.7	99.3	163,255	- 1.4	98.1
West of England and Midlands ...	4,838	- 2.7	97.9	9,056	+ 1.3	95.9
Lancs ...	327	- 2.7	113.8	566	+ 0.7	98.9
Scotland ...	1,985	+ 1.2	99.6	3,209	+ 7.9	132.8
Total—Worsted	91,501	- 0.8	99.2	176,086	- 1.1	98.4
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	12,429	- 1.9	99.1	28,315	- 7.1	99.2
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	13,456	+ 1.9	106.7	30,380	+ 3.8	127.9
Leeds ...	9,581	+ 0.2	107.5	22,119	+ 0.1	126.6
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,825	- 2.0	95.9	5,805	- 3.9	90.7
Bradford ...	1,422	- 0.3	107.9	3,304	- 0.7	108.5
Total, West Riding	39,713	- 0.1	103.3	89,923	- 1.5	112.9
Lancs ...	5,977	+ 0.2	102.5	12,750	+ 1.0	113.1
West of England and Midlands ...	4,377	- 0.3	107.6	7,976	- 1.8	118.7
Scotland ...	15,011	+ 0.5	102.1	29,353	+ 1.0	111.4
Wales ...	112	+ 6.7	153.3	169	+ 7.6	167.2
Total—Woollen	65,270	- 0.1	103.3	140,171	- 0.7	112.8
CARPET SECTION ...	9,217	- 0.2	100.8	17,338	- 2.4	85.7
Total—Wool Textile Industry	165,988	- 0.5	100.7	333,595	- 1.0	103.3

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed, in the week ended 25th June, 1927, by firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the numbers employed by the same firms in the week ended 23rd May, 1927:—

Departments :	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with the previous month. (... signifies "no change"; -, without a figure, signifies "no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spin-ning.	Weav-ing.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION :					
Bradford ...	- 1.4	- 0.6	- 1.0	+ 0.4	- 0.8
Huddersfield ...	+ 0.3	- 1.7	- 0.5	- 1.1	- 0.8
Halifax ...	+ 1.5	- 0.8	- 1.3	+ 1.5	- 1.4
Leeds ...	+ 0.2	- 1.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.6	- 0.9
Keighley ...	+ 0.6	- 0.2	+ 2.4	+ 1.4	+ 0.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	- 0.9	+ 6.8	+ 1.2	- 0.3	- 0.7
Total, West Riding	- 1.1	- 0.8	- 0.5	+ 0.1	- 0.7
West of England and Midlands ...	- 28.4	- 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.4	- 2.7
Lancashire ...	- 2.6	- 1.8	- 1.3	- 3.1	- 2.7
Scotland ...	+ 0.8	+ 1.8	- 1.3	- 1.6	+ 1.2
TOTAL	- 2.2	- 0.7	- 0.5	+ 0.2	- 0.8

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

Wool Section :	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with the previous month. (... signifies "no change"; -, without a figure, signifies "no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spin-ning.	Weav-ing.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
Huddersfield ...	- 1.6	- 1.3	- 3.3	- 1.9	- 1.9
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 1.4	+ 3.0	+ 1.6	+ 1.9	+ 1.9
Leeds ...	+ 0.8	- 0.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 3.0	- 3.3	- 3.1	+ 1.1	- 2.0
Bradford ...	- 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.6	- 0.3	- 0.3
Total, West Riding	- 2.4	- 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.1
Lancashire ...	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 1.6	- 0.2	+ 0.3	- 1.3	- 0.3
Scotland ...	- 1.4	0.2	- 0.4	0.8	- 0.5
Wales ...	+ 16.7	- 10.0	- 2.3	+ 25.0	+ 6.7
TOTAL	- 1.5	- 0.2	+ 0.0	- 0.4	- 0.1

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 20th June, 1927:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Register at 20th June, 1927.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool Sorting ...	115	2	117	193	1	194
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	207	95	302	339	180	519
Wool Combing ...	129	73	202	478	449	927
Wool Carding ...	272	43	315	421	78	499
Woolen Spinning ...	149	38	187	227	117	344
Worst Drawing and Spinning ...	238	523	761	261	1,824	2,085
Wool Winding and Warping ...	65	18	83	131	57	188
Worst Winding and Warping ...	68	93	161	30	596	626
Woolen Weaving ...	72	98	170	182	1,324	1,506
Worst Weaving ...	112	321	433	130	2,084	2,214
Other Processes ...	398	38	436	379	178	557
Total	1,825	1,342	3,167	2,771	6,888	9,659

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd May, 1927:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Register at 20th June, 1927.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool Sorting ...	+ 28	+ 1	+ 29	- 19	- 19	+ 10
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	- 9	- 20	- 29	- 41	- 8	- 49
Wool Combing ...	+ 1	+ 2	+ 3	+ 128	+ 119	+ 247
Wool Carding ...	- 29	- 3	- 32	- 12	- 5	- 17
Woolen Spinning ...	- 40	+ 2	- 38	- 41	- 18	- 59
Worst Drawing and Spinning ...	+ 1	- 23	- 22	+ 23	+ 209	+ 232
Wool Winding and Warping ...	+ 4	+ 6	+ 10	- 20	+ 6	- 14
Worst Winding and Warping ...	+ 11	- 7	+ 4	- 80	+ 25	- 55
Woolen Weaving ...	+ 14	- 41	- 27	+ 109	+ 202	+ 311
Worst Weaving ...	- 10	- 10	- 20	+ 40	+ 395	+ 435
Other Processes ...	- 38	+ 6	- 32	- 76	+ 68	- 8
Total	- 57	- 87	- 144	+ 11	+ 993	+ 1,004

The imports, less re-exports, of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 27,331,800 lbs. in June, 1927, compared with 36,506,800 lbs. in May, 1927, and 44,285,000 lbs. in June, 1926.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,636,900 lbs., compared with 4,495,700 lbs. in May, 1927, and with 3,639,400 lbs. in June, 1926.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 13,559,300 square yards, compared with 11,406,300 square yards in May, 1927, and 12,634,800 square yards in June, 1926.

The exports of blankets were 71,282 pairs, 80,607 pairs and 74,056 pairs in June, 1927, May, 1927, and June, 1926.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in June showed a slight falling off in nearly all districts. Some firms closed for a week or more at Whitsuntide; and in the majority of cases factories were less busy after the holidays, and a good deal more short time was worked. Employment was, however, decidedly better than in the corresponding periods of last year and of 1925, and makers of sports goods and of light footwear were fairly well employed on the whole; the heavy boot trade continued depressed.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 6.5

on 20th June, 1927, as compared with 6.3 on 23rd May, 1927, and with 13.6 on 21st June, 1926.

In London employment was fair on the whole, although not quite as good as in May. At Leicester it declined after the Whitsuntide holidays, particularly with women workers, and was generally only moderate; in the week ended 25th June nearly 60 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, losing an average of 10 hours. At Northampton the seasonal improvement was fairly well maintained with men workers; employment with women workers, however, was only moderate. Employment continued fairly good in the Higham and Rushden district; most factories worked full time, and there was some overtime. In the Finedon and Wollaston area there was some improvement during June. Employment was very irregular at Wellingborough, some firms being busy while others were very slack; on the whole, it remained fairly good. At Kettering employment was fair; a large proportion of the factories were able to run full time.

Employment at Stafford showed a slight decline after the holiday, and in the week ended 25th June nearly three-quarters of the operatives covered by the returns received from employers were reported to be working short time. At Norwich employment was poor, and worse than in May, a large number of operatives being on short time or totally unemployed. In the Bristol and Kingswood district, taken as a whole, the position was slightly better than in May; the heavy boot trade was still very quiet, but showed some improvement. At Street also employment showed an improvement and was fairly good. In the Leeds district the improvement which took place in May was maintained on the whole, and there was a marked improvement as compared with June of last year; employment was fairly good with makers of sports goods and of ladies' and children's shoes, but was only moderate in the heavy boot factories. Employment remained good in the slipper trade of the Rossendale Valley, and some overtime was worked.

At Kilmarnock employment continued fairly good, while at Maybole it was fair, and better than in May. In the other Scottish centres employment was generally poor, and worse than in May.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers:—

Department.	Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Per cent.	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Per cent.
	England and Wales:—					
London ...	1,905	- 3.0	+ 7.7	4,140	- 6.8	+ 7.1
Leicester ...	8,145	- 1.8	+ 3.2	20,613	- 12.2	+ 18.9
Leicester Country District ...	1,986	+ 0.4	+ 8.9	4,525	- 7.6	+ 19.9
Northampton ...						

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd May, 1927:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Preparing Department	+ 16	- 8	+ 8	+ 6	- 9	- 3	+ 5
Rough Stuff Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clicking Department	+ 232	...	+ 232	+ 145	...	+ 142	+ 374
Closing Department	+ 2	+ 64	+ 66	- 4	+ 153	+ 149	+ 215
Making Department	+ 85	+ 7	+ 92	+ 32	- 13	+ 19	+ 111
Finishing Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Slipper Making	+ 44	+ 59	+ 103	- 72	+ 53	- 19	+ 84
Clog Making	- 26	+ 1	- 25	- 105	- 47	- 152	- 177
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	+ 5	+ 1	+ 6	- 1	...	- 1	+ 5
TOTAL	+ 369	+ 126	+ 495	+ 10	+ 134	+ 144	+ 639

The exports of boots and shoes in June, 1927, amounted to 91,530 dozen pairs, or 8,142 dozen pairs less than in May, 1927, and 7,164 dozen pairs less than in June, 1926.

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during June, except for a slight decline in the painting and decorating section, showed little change as compared with the previous month; it remained generally good with skilled operatives and fair with unskilled workers; unfavourable weather conditions caused some broken time on outside work. Employment was generally better than in June, 1926, when building operations were hampered by a shortage of materials arising out of the stoppage in the coal-mining industry.

As regards individual occupations employment was again very good with bricklayers and also with plasterers at most centres: there was an unsatisfied demand for these classes of operatives in a number of districts. Employment remained good, on the whole, with carpenters and joiners and with masons; it improved and was good in most districts with slaters and continued moderate with plumbers. Employment declined a little with painters and decorators, but it continued good in most districts with skilled men; it remained fair, on the whole, with tradesmen's labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 20th June, 1927, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with June, 1926:—

Occupations.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1926.	Total Number Unemployed at 20th June, 1927.	Number included in previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Per-centage Unem-ployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.
Carpenters	126,460	4,064	87	3.2	- 0.2	- 1.7
Bricklayers	72,150	2,648	73	3.7	- 0.5	- 1.9
Masons	25,240	1,005	44	4.0	- 0.5	- 3.5
Slaters	5,710	234	16	4.1	- 0.9	- 1.4
Plasterers	19,720	420	16	2.1	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Painters	112,930	6,701	74	5.9	+ 2.5	- 3.4
Plumbers	31,860	2,432	72	7.6	- 0.1	- 2.0
Labourers to above	245,860	21,945	450	8.9	...	- 3.2
All other occupations	161,110	17,673	540	11.0	+ 0.1	- 2.4
TOTAL	801,040	55,422	1,372	6.9	+ 0.3	- 2.7

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 139 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 15,990,000, show that in June, 1927, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £6,230,100, as compared with £4,842,600 in May, 1927, and £5,515,300 in June, 1926. Of the total for June, 1927, dwelling houses accounted for £3,124,800; factories and workshops for £1,175,700; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £401,100; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,528,500.

For figures for the quarter ended June, 1927, in comparison with the corresponding quarter of 1926, see page 273.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during June continued good generally and showed little change as compared with the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 5.2 at 20th June, as compared with 5.3 at 23rd May, 1927, and 24.6 at 21st June, 1926.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	1,926	+ 0.7	+ 34.4	£ 5,151	- 2.5	+ 34.5
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	5,622	+ 0.6	+ 20.2	16,298	- 0.3	+ 25.6
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,657	...	+ 54.6	4,294	+ 1.2	+ 57.1
Scotland	175	+ 3.6	+ 121.5	458	- 1.5	+ 137.3
TOTAL	9,380	+ 0.5	+ 29.1	26,201	- 0.5	+ 32.8

POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a slight decline; Whitsuntide holidays were extended in some cases, and there was an increase in short-time working. At Worcester also employment declined, but at Derby and Bristol it continued fairly good. In the stoneware section in Scotland it was reported to be bad, and worse than during the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.6 at 20th June, as compared with 12.3 at 23rd May, 1927, and 58.5 at 21st June, 1926.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
China Manufacture	1,234	+ 1.3	+ 189.7	2,314	+ 1.0	+ 218.7
Earthenware Manufacture	8,015	- 0.4	+ 79.1	14,921	- 4.3	+ 114.9
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,922	+ 3.4	+ 100.6	3,650	+ 4.0	+ 138.3
TOTAL	11,171	- 0.4	+ 90.7	20,885	- 2.4	+ 127.0

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,031 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 3,651 or 36 per cent., were working on an average about 14 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th June, 1927.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade was fair on the whole during June, but showed a decline in some districts as compared with the previous month; a number of mills were reported as working a certain amount of short time, in a few cases working only alternate weeks.

With letterpress printers employment was generally moderate, but showed a slight improvement on the whole compared with May. At Liverpool, however, it was reported as bad and worse than in May, and it was also reported as bad or slack at Birmingham, Swansea, and Plymouth. Employment continued very good with electrotypers and stereotypers in London and Manchester, and these classes were generally well employed elsewhere.

In the lithographic printing trade employment was fairly good on the whole, and better than in May, though at Edinburgh and also at Sheffield and Leicester it declined, and was bad. Employment also showed some improvement with lithographic artists, and was generally fair, the principal exception in the reports being Leeds, where slackness and a decline on the previous month were reported.

In the bookbinding trade employment was moderate on the whole, and showed an improvement on May.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding trades was 4.6 at 20th June, compared with 4.7 at 23rd May, and 6.1 at 21st June, 1926. In the paper and paper board industry the percentage was 6.3 at 20th June, compared with 5.8 at 23rd May, and 8.7 at 21st June, 1926. In the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery trades, the percentage was 4.3 at 20th June, compared with 4.9 at 23rd May, and 6.5 at 21st June, 1926.

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

Unions.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1927.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		June, 1927.	May, 1927.	June, 1926.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing: London	41,167	5.1	5.5	3.7	- 0.4	+ 1.4
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	17,313	4.1	4.3	12.6	- 0.2	- 8.5
Midlands and Eastern Counties	11,113	2.6	2.7	4.4	- 0.1	- 1.8
Scotland	6,672	5.6	5.4	6.5	+ 0.2	- 0.9
Other Districts	11,248	3.5	3.8	7.0	- 0.3	- 3.5
TOTAL	87,513	4.4	4.7	6.2	- 0.3	- 1.8
Lithographic Printing	10,790	3.1	3.5	2.9	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Bookbinding	20,581	4.1	4.8	7.2	- 0.7	+ 3.1

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during June remained slack on the whole.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 24.2 per cent. were unemployed at 20th June, 1927, as compared with 25.7 per cent. at 23rd May, 1927, and with 32.5 per cent. at 20th June, 1926.

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

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.			
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.	
Week ended—				
4th June, 1927	3,904	2,288	6,192	7,365
11th " "	4,047	2,768	6,815	7,745
18th " "	4,041	2,553	6,604	7,921
25th " "	4,105	1,826	5,931	7,666
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th June, 1927	4,022	2,324	6,346	7,668
Average for May, 1927	4,247	2,318	6,565	8,103
Average for June, 1926	5,124	2,201	7,325	8,393

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during June was 753, compared with 1,007 in May and with 1,063 in June, 1926.

East Coast.—Employment on the North-East Coast with coal trimmers was moderate and generally slacker than in May. With other dock workers on the Tyne it was fair and somewhat better than in the previous month, but on the Wear and at Blyth it was slack. Employment continued good at Middlesbrough; it improved at Hull and at Grimsby. It continued fair at most of the East Anglian ports, but at Ipswich it was slack.

Liverpool.—Employment was bad with coal trimmers and fair with other dock workers. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 1st July was 14,689, compared with 15,116 in May, and with 15,043 in June, 1926. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £37,369 in the five weeks ended 1st July, compared with £39,592 in May, and £39,534 in June, 1926.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at the South Wales ports was not quite as good as in May, but was still generally fair. Timber imports provided increased employment at Cardiff, but tinplate and general cargoes were not up to the level of the previous month. Work remained slack at Avonmouth and at Bristol, but at Gloucester and Sharpness there was an improvement. At Plymouth and other South Western ports it was slack, but at Southampton the seasonal potato trade provided additional work and employment was good.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—The slack season continued at Dundee and employment was very bad. It continued to be fairly good at Aberdeen, and fair at Leith and at Glasgow. It was also fair at Belfast, where there was a slight improvement.

SEAMEN.

DURING June employment continued moderate to fair on the whole. The supply of seamen was usually more than sufficient to meet requirements, although there were temporary shortages of able seamen in a few instances, particularly in the Bristol Channel. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 20th June, 1927, was 14.8, compared with 15.7 at 23rd May, 1927, and 22.9 at 21st June, 1926.

The demand for men on the Thames was inactive early in June, but gradually improved, being described as fairly brisk at the end

of the month. It was fairly active on the Tyne up to the middle of the month, and moderate afterwards. The demand was generally moderate on the Wear, and fluctuated on the Tees, being reported to be poor at the close of the month. It was poor at Hull in the first half of June and fairly brisk subsequently. At Southampton the demand was moderate to brisk. It was moderate to fair at Bristol and fairly good on the whole at Avonmouth. The demand was mainly fair at Newport; at Cardiff it was fairly good, apart from a falling-off in the second week of the month. It was fair at Swansea and improved during the month, being very good in the closing stages. On the Mersey the demand was generally fair to good; at Manchester it was fair until late in the month, when a decline occurred. The demand on the Clyde was fairly active on the whole; it was moderate at Leith and mainly quiet at Belfast.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	June, 1927.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Six Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	June, 1927.	June, 1926.
ENGLAND & WALES:					
Liverpool	14,320	+ 432	+ 544	72,765	66,480
Manchester	846	+ 107	+ 217	4,776	4,306
London	10,237	+ 115	- 1,584	52,710	50,228
Southampton	11,554	- 277	- 844	56,816	58,444
Tyne Ports	2,381	- 784	+ 1,107	14,924	9,387
Sunderland	551	+ 91	+ 368	2,233	1,317
Middlesbrough	400	14	+ 130	2,116	2,106
Hull	1,134	- 13	- 508	7,254	7,290
Bristol	1,271	+ 163	+ 150	6,459	6,077
Newport, Mon.	695	- 63	+ 494	4,592	4,591
Cardiff	2,511	- 893	+ 1,437	16,927	11,831
Swansea	765	- 338	- 28	4,896	4,653
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	372	- 29	- 106	2,216	2,028
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	463	+ 60	+ 65	2,058	1,931
Glasgow	4,212	+ 825	+ 358	16,930	16,697
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	250	+ 81	+ 77	1,299	760
TOTAL for above Ports	51,942	- 537	+ 1,897	268,971	248,126

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 20th June, 1927, differed from the figures for 23rd May, 1927, to the extent of 1,000 or more. The Table shows the increases and decreases for males and females separately, together with the total net variation for all insured industries.

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 20th June, 1927, as compared with 23rd May, 1927.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
DECREASES.			
Distributive Trades	- 2,701	- 2,178	- 4,879
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service	- 2,747	...	- 2,747
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	- 1,053	- 1,410	- 2,463
Other Food Industries	- 269	- 1,190	- 1,459
General Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	- 1,402	+ 90	- 1,312
Shipping Service	- 1,198	+ 31	- 1,167
Public Works Contracting, etc.	- 1,099	- 12	- 1,111
Local Government	- 1,020	- 74	- 1,094
INCREASES.			
Tailoring	+ 614	+ 934	+ 1,548
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	+ 603	+ 2,311	+ 1,708
Manufacture of Tin Plates	+ 1,451	+ 330	+ 1,781
Building	+ 2,436	+ 9	+ 2,427
Woolen and Worsted	+ 424	+ 2,114	+ 2,538
Coal Mining	+ 21,771	+ 116	+ 21,887
Net variation for above industries	+ 14,604	+ 1,053	+ 15,657
Total Net Variation for all insured industries	+ 9,133	+ 1,462	+ 10,595

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.
 † Including Birkenhead and Garston.
 ‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
 § Including Barry and Penarth.
 ¶ This group, which includes miscellaneous industries, corresponds with that under the same heading in the Tables on pages 264-7.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 20th June, 1927, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

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

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

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

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone

abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 267 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

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

Each of these Tables gives an analysis of the figures, distinguishing between persons who are wholly unemployed (in the sense that they are definitely without a job) and those who are temporarily stopped or suspended from the service of an employer. The figures under the heading "temporary stoppages" include those persons recorded as unemployed on the date of the return who were either on short time or were otherwise stood off or suspended on the definite understanding that they were to return to their former employment within a period of six weeks from the date of suspension. In cases where there was no definite prospect of return within six weeks the individuals have been included in the statistics as "wholly unemployed." The only exception to this rule arises in the small number of cases where, although the expectation of resumption within the six weeks' period was not realised, a definite date for resumption of work had nevertheless been fixed. In such cases the individuals concerned have been included under the heading "temporary stoppages." The figures given in the grand total columns in both Tables are strictly comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH JUNE, 1927.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (INCLUDING CASUALS).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	2,820	134	2,954	113	63	176	2,933	197	3,130	2,926	197	3,123
Mining	118,627	532	119,159	113,453	768	114,221	232,080	1,300	233,380	231,991	1,300	233,291
Coal Mining	962	...	962	282	...	282	1,244	...	1,244	1,234	...	1,234
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	321	2	323	42	...	42	363	2	365	363	2	365
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	2,161	7	2,168	270	3	273	2,431	10	2,441	2,279	10	2,289
Stone Quarrying and Mining	103	...	103	14	...	14	117	...	117	117	...	117
Slate Quarrying and Mining	1,261	41	1,302	275	11	286	1,536	52	1,588	1,470	52	1,522
Other Mining and Quarrying	504	36	540	47	1	48	551	37	588	539	37	576
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	955	12	967	141	3	144	1,096	15	1,111	1,094	15	1,109
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :- Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works Brick, Tile, etc., Making Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	1,618	49	1,667	220	5	225	1,838	54	1,892	1,823	53	1,876
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. :- Chemicals Manufacture Explosives Manufacture Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	726	23	749	740	3	743	1,466	26	1,492	1,440	26	1,466
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	3,312	332	3,644	525	130	655	3,837	462	4,299	3,642	462	4,104
Glass Bottle Making	1,529	1,312	2,841	2,739	4,493	7,232	4,288	5,905	10,193	4,260	5,905	10,165
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. :- Chemicals Manufacture Explosives Manufacture Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	4,744	614	5,358	538	111	649	5,282	725	6,007	5,171	722	5,893
Chemicals Manufacture	797	337	1,134	115	85	200	912	422	1,334	910	422	1,332
Explosives Manufacture	534	115	649	28	5	33	562	120	682	560	120	680
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	3,403	685	4,088	1,806	112	1,918	5,209	797	6,006	5,192	782	5,974
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	2,145	11	2,156	958	6	964	3,103	17	3,120	3,103	17	3,120
Metal Manufacture :- Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. Manufacture of Tin Plates Iron and Steel Tube Making Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	15,949	144	16,093	16,479	79	16,558	32,428	223	32,651	32,413	223	32,636
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	3,000	159	3,159	898	26	924	3,898	185	4,083	3,830	185	4,015
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	1,167	82	1,249	5,990	866	6,856	7,157	948	8,105	7,157	948	8,105
Manufacture of Tin Plates	1,933	117	2,050	1,404	20	1,424	3,337	137	3,474	3,336	137	3,473
Iron and Steel Tube Making	1,505	240	1,745	1,590	101	1,691	3,095	341	3,436	3,091	341	3,432
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	43,636	1,169	44,805	12,698	444	13,142	56,334	1,613	57,947	55,113	1,613	56,726
Engineering, etc. :- General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding Electrical Engineering Marine Engineering, etc. Constructional Engineering	2,701	488	3,189	292	147	439	2,993	635	3,628	2,983	635	3,618
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	8,229	25	8,254	345	6	351	8,574	31	8,605	8,529	31	8,560
Electrical Engineering	1,860	31	1,891	195	6	201	2,055	37	2,092	2,049	37	2,086
Marine Engineering, etc.	10,332	953	11,285	1,318	162	1,480	11,650	1,115	12,765	11,526	1,112	12,638
Constructional Engineering	1,262	122	1,384	194	28	222	1,456	150	1,606	1,416	150	1,566
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	2,121	23	2,144	705	26	731	2,826	49	2,875	2,815	49	2,864
Constructional Engineering	1,860	31	1,891	195	6	201	2,055	37	2,092	2,049	37	2,086
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :- Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	10,332	953	11,285	1,318	162	1,480	11,650	1,115	12,765	11,526	1,112	12,638
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	1,262	122	1,384	194	28	222	1,456	150	1,606	1,416	150	1,566
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	2,121	23	2,144	705	26	731	2,826	49	2,875	2,815	49	2,864
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	43,636	1,169	44,805	12,698	444	13,142	56,334	1,613	57,947	55,113	1,613	56,726

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (INCLUDING CASUALS).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	49,998	108	50,106	1,195	3	1,198	51,193	111	51,304	47,390	109	47,499
Metal Trades :- Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding Electrical Wiring and Contracting Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture Heating and Ventilating Apparatus Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture Other Metal Industries	5,840	461	6,301	1,466	170	1,636	7,396	631	7,937	7,225	631	7,856
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	872	26	898	70	1	71	942	27	969	911	25	936
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	3,352	1,711	5,063	533	960	1,493	3,885	2,671	6,556	3,870	2,671	6,541
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	2,629	680	3,309	1,748	933	2,681	4,377	1,613	5,990	4,370	1,613	5,983
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	961	734	1,695	568	184	752	1,529	918	2,447	1,529	918	2,447
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	1,545	760	2,305	384	257	641	1,929	2,946	4,875	1,926	2,946	4,872
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	373	10	383	85	1	86	458	11	469	456	11	467
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	1,744	980	2,724	521	728	1,249	2,265	1,708	3,973	2,250	1,708	3,956
Other Metal Industries	6,945	4,007	10,952	2,398	1,364	3,762	9,343	5,371	14,714	9,228	5,368	14,596
Textile Trades :- Cotton Woolen and Worsted Silk Linen Jute Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. Making Hosiery Lace Carpet Manufacture Other Textile Industries Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	6,621	8,131	14,752	8,421	17,223	25,644	15,042	25,354	40,396	15,036	25,354	40,390
Cotton	3,773	3,695	7,468	5,419	11,114	16,533	9,192	14,809	24,001	9,161	14,791	23,952
Woolen and Worsted	696	645	1,341	521	1,409	1,930	1,217	2,054	3,271	1,214	2,054	3,268
Silk	2,412	2,201	4,613	595	1,843	2,438	3,007	4,044	7,051	558	1,869	2,427
Linen	1,145	1,566	2,711	399	764	1,163	1,544	2,330	3,874	1,542	2,330	3,871
Jute	463	661	1,124	97	513	610	560	1,174	1,734	449	985	1,435
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc. Making	437	2,089	2,526	446	3,917	3,917	560	5,560	6,443	864	5,528	6,392
Hosiery	347	283	630	463	311	774	810	594	1,404	809	594	1,403
Lace	331	304	635	275	720	995	606	1,024	1,630	605	1,024	1,629
Carpet Manufacture	670	1,514	2,184	243	993	1,236	913	2,507	3,420	840	2,206	3,046
Other Textile Industries	3,370	880	4,250	7,438	1,579	9,017	10,898	2,459	13,267	10,359	2,239	12,598
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	1,946	347	2,293	570	136	706	2,516	483	2,999	2,515	483	2,998
Leather and Leather Goods :- Tanning, Currying and Dressing Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	963	676	1,639	170	206	376	1,133	882	2,015	1,107	876	1,983
Clothing Trades :- Tailoring Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making Other Dress Industries Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	2,751	1,749	4,500	201	1,364	1,565	2,952	3,113	6,065	2,892	3,077	5,969
Tailoring	584	2,024	2,608	13	394	407	597	2,418	3,015	583	2,380	2,963
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	391	515	906	62	153	215	453	668	1,121	453	668	1,121
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	304	1,265	1,569	11	529	540	315	1,794	2,109	237	979	1,216
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	517	352	869	114	536	650	631	888	1,519	625	887	1,512
Other Dress Industries	5,079	1,299	6,378	2,012	1,108	3,120	7,091	2,407	9,498	6,919	2,401	9,320
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	6,267	2,046	8,313	236	190	426	6,503	2,236	8,739	6,012	2,194	8,206
Food, Drink and Tobacco :- Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Grain Milling Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery Other Food Industries Drink Industries Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture	1,470	137	1,607	371	32	403	1,841	169</				

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1926 (Males, Females, Total), PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH JUNE, 1927 (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages, Total), INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH (23RD MAY, 1927, 21ST JUNE, 1926, 22ND JUNE, 1925), and GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH JUNE, 1927.

Table with columns: INDUSTRY, ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1926 (Males, Females, Total), PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH JUNE, 1927 (Wholly Unemployed, Temporary Stoppages, Total), INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH (23RD MAY, 1927, 21ST JUNE, 1926, 22ND JUNE, 1925), and GREAT BRITAIN ONLY, TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH JUNE, 1927.

WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

At 27th June, 1927, the number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,004,613; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,032,077.

Comparative figures for men, boys, women and girls, separately, for 30th May, and 27th June, are given below†:—

Table with columns: 30th May, 1927, 27th June, 1927, and Total. Rows include Men, Boys, Women, Girls, and Total for Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The following Table gives particulars relating to certain branches of the work of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the four weeks ended 27th June, 1927. Of the 87,139 vacancies filled, 45,304 were for men, 24,685 for women, and 17,150 for juveniles:—

Table with columns: Week ended, Applications from Employers (During Week, At end of Week), Vacancies Filled, and Number of Work-people on Registers. Rows include 30th May, 1927, 6th June, 1927, 13th June, 1927, 20th June, 1927, and Total (4 weeks).

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of the Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.

† The figures include, in addition to those wholly unemployed, persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, although employed on a basis of systematic short time, were not actually at work on the date in question.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 27th June, 1927. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Registers at 27th June, 1927.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(−) as compared with 30th May, 1927.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division ...	77,920	17,205	5,204	100,329	+ 884
South-Eastern Division ...	23,173	4,623	2,548	30,344	− 777
Brighton ...	1,126	224	126	1,476	− 23
Chatham ...	1,961	193	420	2,574	− 57
Ipswich ...	1,240	131	85	1,456	− 145
Norwich ...	2,142	609	91	2,842	+ 361
Rest of South-Eastern	16,704	3,466	1,826	21,996	− 913
South-Western Division ...	39,904	5,575	3,644	49,123	− 120
Bristol ...	10,602	1,793	833	13,228	− 247
Plymouth ...	3,865	322	454	4,641	− 431
Portsmouth ...	3,434	360	385	4,179	− 174
Reading ...	7,771	49	137	7,957	− 141
Southampton ...	3,440	270	508	4,218	− 419
Swindon ...	676	53	98	827	− 159
Rest of South-Western	17,116	2,728	1,229	21,073	+ 1,450
Midlands Division ...	101,629	26,810	5,446	133,885	− 5,987
Birmingham ...	15,373	6,260	705	22,338	+ 865
Coventry ...	2,739	345	47	3,131	+ 1,159
Cradley Heath ...	2,178	574	103	2,855	+ 192
Derby ...	1,355	408	141	1,904	− 35
Leicester ...	2,416	1,732	57	4,205	+ 982
Northampton ...	1,110	289	64	1,463	+ 198
Nottingham ...	4,646	1,120	478	6,244	+ 56
Smethwick ...	6,156	693	89	7,038	+ 119
Stoke-on-Trent ...	8,677	5,203	820	14,700	+ 1,844
Walsall ...	4,156	646	265	5,067	− 987
West Bromwich ...	2,088	319	93	2,500	− 57
Wolverhampton ...	3,189	715	114	4,018	+ 334
Rest of Midlands	51,546	8,506	2,470	62,522	− 10,502
North-Eastern Division ...	221,966	25,158	12,710	259,834	+ 17,102
Barnsley ...	1,905	275	116	2,296	+ 221
Bradford ...	6,052	3,276	298	9,626	+ 701
Darlington ...	2,530	360	160	3,050	+ 39
Dewsbury ...	1,162	619	89	1,870	− 96
Doncaster ...	2,899	155	234	3,288	− 551
Gatehead ...	10,537	421	483	11,441	+ 2,543
Grimsby ...	2,985	187	262	3,434	+ 197
Halifax ...	2,075	1,023	27	3,125	+ 289
Hartlepool ...	4,759	130	466	5,355	+ 406
Huddersfield ...	1,434	1,104	125	2,663	+ 810
Hull ...	7,822	756	786	11,364	+ 144
Leeds ...	9,327	2,109	317	11,753	+ 337
Lincoln ...	1,217	219	108	1,544	+ 39
Middlesbrough ...	6,316	208	270	6,794	− 913
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	12,818	1,002	661	14,481	+ 2,627
Rotherham ...	2,437	386	309	3,132	+ 641
Sheffield ...	19,212	3,088	1,548	23,848	+ 1,961
South Shields ...	7,323	194	436	8,153	+ 1,234
Stockton-on-Tees ...	5,072	156	275	5,503	+ 352
Sunderland ...	10,230	599	474	11,303	+ 410
Wakefield ...	1,411	180	161	1,752	+ 1,694
York ...	1,404	889	281	2,574	+ 235
Rest of North-Eastern	99,039	7,822	4,824	111,685	+ 13,804
North-Western Division ...	143,665	40,455	10,381	194,501	+ 4,599
Accrington ...	1,660	530	63	2,253	+ 84
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	1,775	989	116	2,880	+ 355
Barrow ...	2,281	141	72	2,494	+ 195
Birkenhead ...	5,526	221	267	6,014	+ 692
Blackburn ...	2,201	1,331	163	3,695	+ 517
Blackpool ...	560	94	39	693	+ 117
Bolton ...	2,914	1,268	161	4,343	+ 1,173
Burnley ...	1,613	1,312	92	3,017	+ 94
Bury ...	1,046	803	115	1,964	+ 87
Chorley ...	1,413	540	87	2,040	+ 660
Liverpool ...	36,816	4,361	3,088	44,265	+ 317
Manchester ...	14,657	4,916	955	20,528	+ 21
Nelson ...	1,012	685	103	1,800	+ 785
Oldham ...	6,851	3,504	264	10,619	+ 136
Preston ...	2,287	1,556	142	3,965	+ 788
Rochdale ...	2,601	1,621	179	4,401	+ 1,007
St. Helens ...	5,008	214	395	5,527	+ 152
Salford ...	6,462	2,016	569	9,047	+ 19
Stockport ...	1,334	877	74	2,285	+ 204
Warrington ...	1,714	168	135	2,017	+ 146
Wigan ...	5,424	1,494	294	7,212	+ 468
Rest of North-Western	38,510	11,834	3,100	53,444	+ 3,714
Scotland Division ...	94,132	16,639	6,845	117,666	+ 6,242
Aberdeen ...	3,341	572	64	3,977	+ 83
Clydebank ...	1,137	184	71	1,392	+ 189
Dunfermline ...	3,278	1,952	213	5,443	+ 1,357
Edinburgh ...	8,738	1,630	531	10,899	+ 110
Glasgow ...	34,743	5,713	2,833	43,289	+ 1,511
Greenock ...	3,877	425	181	4,483	+ 419
Motherwell ...	2,226	102	145	2,473	+ 99
Paisley ...	1,836	386	111	2,333	+ 221
Rest of Scotland	35,006	5,675	2,696	43,377	+ 2,617
Wales Division ...	110,631	3,733	4,567	118,931	+ 9,641
Cardiff ...	6,577	987	515	8,079	+ 975
Llanelli ...	4,242	251	228	5,103	+ 1,306
Newport ...	2,675	620	198	3,493	+ 179
Swansea ...	4,780	245	58	5,613	+ 43
Rest of Wales	91,975	1,630	3,041	96,646	+ 7,496
Northern Ireland ...	22,605	4,222	637	27,464	− 2,034
Belfast ...	16,408	2,687	488	19,223	+ 1,531
Londonderry ...	1,408	238	20	1,666	+ 144
Lurgan ...	255	197	12	464	+ 31
Lisburn ...	320	98	14	432	+ 13
Newry ...	446	200	10	656	+ 152
Rest of Northern Ireland	4,128	802	93	5,023	− 555
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	835,675	144,420	51,982	1,032,077	+ 17,066

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

On page 264 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives figures relating to the 23rd June, 1927, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 5 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 5) and including lines 1 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained:—

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed — Special Schemes ...	1,513	4	139	4	1,660
2. Claims admitted or under consideration ...	690,980	12,387	114,869	7,241	825,477
3. Claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	84,099	648	6,207	305	91,259
4. Insured non-claimants on main file ...	14,091	1,318	1,943	1,217	18,569
5. Uninsured persons on Register ...	8,426	10,873	15,895	16,849	52,043
6. Two months' file ...	63,899	3,271	31,318	3,250	101,738
Persons on Register (lines 2-5) ...	797,596	25,226	138,914	25,612	987,348
Books Lodged (lines 1-4 and 6) ...	854,582	17,628	154,476	12,017	1,038,703

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted to Local Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople.

The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of these Committees in Great Britain during the period 10th May to 13th June, 1927:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications considered by Committees during period ...	244,678	27,264	271,942
Applications admitted by Committees during period ...	32,605	1,985	34,590
(a) For 12 weeks ...	167,581	14,950	182,531
(b) For less than 12 weeks ...	16,024	435	16,459
Applications definitely recommended for disallowance during period:—			
General Conditions:—			
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	1,413	780	2,193
Insurable employment not likely to be available ...	2,150	330	2,480
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	15,654	1,600	17,254
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not willing to accept suitable employment ...	10,082	2,369	12,451
Special Conditions:—			
Single persons residing with relatives ...	4,947	1,632	6,579
Married women who could look for support from their husbands ...	...	1,827	1,827
Married men who could look for support from their wives ...	627	...	627
Working short time but earning sufficient for maintenance ...	8,231	1,384	9,615
Aliens ...	5	6	11
Total definitely recommended for disallowance ...	43,109	9,928	53,037
Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time ...	1,383	401	1,784

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

During the four weeks ended 25th June, 1927, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund were approximately as shown in the following Table:—

	Four weeks ended 25th June, 1927.	Four weeks ended 28th May, 1927.	Four weeks ended 26th June, 1926.
Contributions (Receipts):—			
By Employers ...	£ 1,210,000	£ 1,390,000	£ 1,040,000
Employed Persons ...	1,070,000	1,210,000	910,000
Service Departments (Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry) ...	20,000	30,000	5,000
Exchequer ...	880,000	1,010,000	750,000
Total ...	3,180,000	3,640,000	2,705,000
Payments:—			
Benefit ...	2,440,000	2,460,000	4,420,000
Other Payments* ...	380,000	370,000	307,000
Total ...	2,820,000	2,830,000	4,727,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding ...	23,560,000	23,890,000	9,777,568

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

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in June in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in a net reduction of £80,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 539,000 workpeople and in a net increase of £2,600 in those of 40,000 workpeople. The groups of industries principally affected were as follows:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	35,500	444,000	£ 2,250	£ 71,400
Metal ...	250	61,000	50	4,400
Other ...	4,250	34,000	300	4,700
Total ...	40,000	539,000	2,600	80,500

The percentage additions to the base rates of coal miners were reduced in Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, South Staffordshire, the Forest of Dean, and South Wales and Monmouthshire, the amount of reduction, compared with the total rates previously in force, varying from 1½ per cent. in the Forest of Dean to 10 per cent. in South Wales and Monmouthshire. In the Cannock Chase and Bristol coalfields the percentage additions to base rates were increased by 3½ and 2 per cent. respectively, as compared with the previous rates.

The principal changes in the metal group of industries affected iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, whose wages were reduced by about 1½ per cent. on the previous rates, and steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in various districts in England and Wales, in whose case there was a reduction of nearly 5 per cent. on the previous rates.

In industries other than the above there were reductions under cost-of-living sliding scales of 1d. or ½d. per hour in the wages of men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales, and of ½d. and ¼d. per hour in those of men and women respectively employed in the asbestos industry. Other reductions under cost-of-living sliding scales affected furniture trade operatives at various towns in Scotland and packing case makers in London. Waterworks employees in London had their wages increased by 1s. 6d. per week, under an arbitration award.

The aggregate amount of the reductions was £82,800 per week.† Of this amount nearly £56,000 took effect under sliding scales based on the proceeds of the industry (coal mining) or on selling

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1927.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
MINING AND QUARRYING.				
West Yorkshire	...	1 June	...	Decrease of 5·71 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages at the minimum of 35 per cent. above basis rates for underground workers, and, for surface workers, 34·33 per cent. above basis rates in the Eastern sub-division and 31 per cent. in the Western sub-division.‡
				Decrease of 5·71 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages at the minimum of 36 per cent. above base.§
South Yorkshire	...	1 June	...	Decrease of 10 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages 60 per cent. above basis rates, subject to the proviso that the wages of any adult able-bodied day-wage workman shall not fall below 7s. 11d. per shift.¶
Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (excluding South Derbyshire).	...	1 June	...	Decrease of 5 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages 52 per cent. above the basis rates, subject to lower-paid men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 2d. per day.
South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire	...	1 June	...	Increase of 5·44 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, making wages 75·44 per cent. above basis rates.¶
Cannock Chase	...	2 June	...	Decre

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1927 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
MINING AND QUARRING (continued).				
Coke, etc. Manufacture.	Durham	6 June	Coke and by-product workers ...	Decrease of 10 per cent. on standard basis rates, leaving wages 30 per cent. above standard. Rate after change for labourers, 5s. 6d. per shift, plus 30 per cent.
	South Yorkshire ...	1 June		Decrease of 5.71 per cent. on standard basis rates, leaving wages at the minimum of 36 per cent. above basis rates.
CHEMICAL, GLASS, BRICK, POTTERY, ETC., INDUSTRIES.				
Fertiliser, etc. Manufacture.	Bristol (certain firms)	1st week in June.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of glue and chemical manures.	Decrease* of 2s. per week for men and of proportionate amounts for women and youths. Minimum rate after change for men, 44s.
IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.				
Pig Iron Manufacture.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in June.	Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work, and also labourers) employed at blast-furnaces.	Decrease in bonuses* of amounts varying, according to base rates, from 1.5d. to 3.5d. per week, leaving total amount of bonuses varying from 1s. 7.9d. to 4s. 0.5d. per week.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	6 June	Workpeople employed at iron-puddling furnaces and in iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Decrease† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 47½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 3s. 10d. per day or shift, plus 47½ per cent., plus 10d. per day for daymen and 11d. per shift for shift workers.‡
	Certain districts in England and Wales.‡	6 June	Steel-sheet millmen...	Decrease† of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 45 per cent. above the standard.§
ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING.				
Engineering	Clyde District||	Pay beginning nearest 18 May.	Men employed on repair work on Diesel, semi-Diesel, and other internal combustion engines.	Special allowance of 3d. per hour, with a minimum of 1s. per day, to be paid to men working inside totally enclosed crank-cases of main propelling engines after lubricating oil has been turned on and not previously cleaned down; the allowance to apply also to men working inside the crankcase of a main generating auxiliary engine of internal combustion type.||
Ship-repairing	Thames District ...	Pay week ending 1 June.	Apprentices¶	New schedule of weekly rates adopted, beginning at 11s. in first year and increasing to 14s. in second year, 18s. in third year, 22s. in fourth year, and to 27s. in fifth year, resulting in increases of 4s. per week in third year and of 5s. in first, second, fourth and fifth years.
OTHER METAL INDUSTRIES.				
Galvanising	England and Wales**	6 June	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing)	Decrease† of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 45 per cent. above the standard.
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Greater London ...	2nd pay day in June.	Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates.	Decreases of 1d. per hour for plumber-jointers and of 0.8d. per hour for plumber-jointers' mates. Rates after change: plumber-jointers, 1s. 9.75d. per hour; plumber-jointers' mates, 1s. 5.4d. per hour.
	London District ...	1st full pay day in June.		Decrease to rates of 74s. 6d. per week for firemen and 71s. 6d. per week for doormen.††
Farriery	Liverpool and Birkenhead. Various towns in Yorkshire.‡‡			Decrease* of 2s. per week. Rates after change: firemen, 72s. 6d. per week; doormen, 70s. 6d. per week.
	Manchester, Hanley and Stoke-on-Trent. Larger towns in Lancashire and Cheshire (except Manchester, Liverpool and Birkenhead).§§	1 June	Farriers ...	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d. per hour, or 68s. 6½d. per week; doormen, 1s. 5d. per hour, or 65s. 7d. per week. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5d. per hour, or 68s. 7d. per week; doormen, 1s. 4½d. per hour, or 64s. 7½d. per week.
Asbestos Manufacture.	Smaller towns in Lancashire and Cheshire,||| with Kendal and High Peak District.			Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 62s. 8d. per week; doormen, 59s. 9d. per week.
	Great Britain ...	Day following 1st make-up day after 8 June.	Workpeople employed in the asbestos industry.	Decrease* of ½d. per hour for men and ¼d. per hour for women. Minimum rates after change: men, 1s. 0½d.; women, 8½d.
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.				
Baking and Confectionery.	Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wallasey.	20 June	Bakers and confectioners ...	Decrease* of 2s. per week for adult workers and 1s. per week for juniors. Daywork rates after change: adults—forehands and ovenmen, 68s.; tablehands, 62s.; juniors—18 to 19 years, 25s.; 19 to 20 years, 30s.; 20 to 21 years, 40s.
	Coatbridge and Hamilton.	1st pay day in June.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Decrease* of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 72s.
	Edinburgh and Leith Glasgow ...	25 June 1st pay day in June.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Decrease* of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 72s. Decrease of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 77s.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.
 ‡ Men on base earnings of not more than 5s. 10d. per shift have been, since 2nd November, 1925, in receipt of bonuses varying according to earnings from 2d. to 10d. per shift for dayworkers, and from 2½d. to 11d. per shift for shiftworkers.
 § This change took effect under the terms of an agreement made by the Sheet Trade (Conciliation) Board. The districts concerned are principally in Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire.
 || The change described was embodied in an Agreement between the North-West Engineering Trades Employers' Association and the Amalgamated Engineering Union (Clyde District). It was agreed that the usual "dirty" money should merge into the new allowance and not be payable in addition thereto.
 ¶ The new schedule applies to employees of members of the River Thames Dry Dock Proprietors and Ship Repairers' Association.
 ** Certain firms—members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.
 †† This change took effect under an agreement between the National Master Farriers and Blacksmiths' Association (London District) and the Amalgamated Society of Farriers and Blacksmiths (London District); the new agreement supersedes the cost-of-living sliding-scale agreement previously in operation, and specifies the rates quoted above.
 ‡‡ Including Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Todmorden.
 §§ Including Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Colne, Lancaster, Leigh, Middleton, Nelson and District, Oldham, Ormskirk, Preston, Rochdale, Rossendale, Southport, Stockport, St. Helens, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan.
 ||| Including Alsager, Bentham, Cheadle, Chester, Clitheroe, Congleton, Crewe, Furness District, Garstang, Kirkham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich and Tarporley.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1927 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE INDUSTRIES.				
Packing Case Making.	London	24 June	Adult male workers ...	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: saw doctors, 1s. 6½d.; saw sharpeners (hand filing), 1s. 5½d.; nailing machinists (6 and under), dovetailing machinists and lock cornermen, 1s. 4½d.; panel planers, tonguers and groovers, 1s. 4½d.; hand holers, branders, printers, and borers, 1s. 3½d.; case makers, sawyers, and other skilled men, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.
	Manchester	20 June	Apprentices and improvers ...	Decrease* of 1d. or ½d. per hour. Rates after change: 6d. at 16 to 17 years, increasing to 1s. 0½d. at 20½ to 21 years.
Furniture Manufacture, etc.			Female workers ...	Decrease* of ½d. or ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: 4½d. at 16 years of age, increasing to 10d. at 21.
			Carpet and linoleum planners and fitters.	Decrease* of 4 per cent. on minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: shop cutters, 75s.; Grade I men, 69s. 4d.; Grade II men, 62s.; carpet sewers, 32s.
	High Wycombe ...	Pay day in week ending 25 June	Journeyman ...	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: men engaged on skilled processes, 1s. 5d.; Windsor, cane, and cheap rush-bottom chair makers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 4½d.
			Caners ...	Decrease* of ½d. per chair (8½d. to 8d.) on bedroom chairs bored 21 and 23, and of ¼d. per hour (8½d. to 8d.) on Manchester rockers, odd chairs, and all other cane work.
			Matters ...	Decrease* of ½d. per chair on ordinary chairs (9d. to 8½d.) and of proportionate amounts on children's and kindergarten chairs.
			Apprentices ...	Decreases* of from 3d. to 10d. per week. Rates after change: 1st six months, 10s., increasing to 15s. 8d. during 4th six months and to 30s. 8d. during 8th six months.
	Beith, Dundee, Glasgow, Greenock, Kirkcaldy and Lochwinnoch.	1st full pay week in June.	Cabinet makers chairmakers, carvers, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers, upholstery sewers, and sand-paperers.	Decrease* of 1d. per hour for men, ½d. per hour for women, 5 per cent. for pieceworkers, and proportionate amounts for apprentices. Minimum rates after change: Beith, Dundee, Kirkcaldy, and Lochwinnoch: men—1s. 4½d.; women, 8½d.; Glasgow—men, 1s. 5½d.; women, 8½d.
PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.				
Paper Bag Making.	Great Britain ...	6 June	Female workers to whom the ordinary learnership conditions are not applicable and who have not completed the prescribed course of learnership.	Minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 25 per cent. (calculated to the nearest 6d.) above the general minimum time rates for learners, subject to such rates not exceeding the minimum rates for those who have completed the ordinary prescribed course of learnership (see page 243 of June GAZETTE).
BUILDING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.				
Building	Portadown	8 June	Joiners ...	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.).
Electrical Contracting.	England and Wales and Northern Ireland.†	Pay period preceding 2nd pay day in June.	Men employed by electrical contractors.	Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on rates paid in April, 1921, leaving wages 27½ per cent. below these rates.† Net hourly rates after change for qualified men: Grade A districts, 1s. 9½d.; Grade B, 1s. 7½d.; Grade C, 1s. 6½d.; Grade D, 1s. 4½d.
GAS, WATER AND ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKINGS.				
Waterworks	London	First full pay week following 20 June.	Male manual workers employed by the Metropolitan Water Board.	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week on base rates for men 21 years of age and over; also increases to youths employed as labourers, of 6d. per week for those 17 and under 19 years and of 1s. per week for those 19 and under 21 years. Rates after change: mechanics, 48s. 6d.; stokers, 38s.; trenchmen, 34s.; joiners, 36s. to 40s.; labourers, 33s., plus, in each case, the current cost-of-living bonus of 23s. 6d. for men 21 years and over.‡
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SERVICES.				
Local Government Services (Non-Trading).	Gateshead	15 June	Semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers.	Decreases varying from ½d. to 2½d. per hour. Rates after change: general labourers, 1s. 0½d. and 1s. 1½d. per hour; road labourers, 1s. 2d.; sweepers, 1s. 0½d.; pan helpers (day), 1s. 1d.; cartmen, 1s. 1½d.; scavengers (day), 1s. 1½d.; (night), 1s. 2½d.; motor drivers (day), 1s. 3½d.; (night), 1s. 4½d.
	South Shields ...	Week beginning 2 June.	Manual workers ...	Decrease of 2s. per week. Rates after change: general yard and road labourers, 47s.; scavengers, 46s.
	Scarborough ...	Week ending 9 June.	Manual workers employed in non-trading and water departments.	Decrease* of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: general and road labourers, scavengers and refuse collectors, 46s. 3d.; paviers, 48s. 3d. per week; waterworks labourers, 1s. 1½d. per hour; pipe layers, 1s. 2½d.; stokers, 11½d.
	Certain Authorities in Middlesex.§	1st pay day in June.	Manual workers ...	Decrease* of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change include: Grade A workpeople (bath and lavatory attendants, scavengers, etc.), Zone I districts, 51s. 6d.; Zone II, 50s.; Zone III, 47s. 6d.; Grade B (horse-drivers, stablemen, gardeners, yardmen, dust collectors, labourers, etc.), Zone I, 54s. 6d.; Zone II, 52s. 3d.; Zone III, 49s. 8d.‡
	Plymouth	6 April	House refuse collectors, road-sweepers and certain other classes.	Increase of 2½ per cent. (equivalent to 1s. 10d. per week). Rate after change, 52s. 11d. per week.¶
	Glasgow	1st full pay day in June.	Settmakers ...	Decrease* of 2d. per ton (4s. 11d. to 4s. 9d.).
MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES.				
Basket Making	Yorkshire (except Hull and Sheffield).	June	Basket, skip and hamper makers ...	Increase of 10 per cent. on Yorkshire list prices, making wages 68 per cent. and 83 per cent. above the list for pieceworkers and timeworkers respectively.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 † The change took effect under an agreement made between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union. The decreases were equivalent to 1d. per hour for Grades A and B districts, and ½d. per hour for Grades C and D. A list of districts in the various Grades is given on page 116 of March GAZETTE; this list has been amended by the up-grading of Brighton and Hove, which are now included in Grade C, with effect from the date of the change described above.
 ‡ The increase for men 21 years and over took effect under a Decision of the Industrial Court dated 20th June (see page 278). The increases for those under 21 were the result of a voluntary arrangement made by the Board. The cost-of-living bonus mentioned above was reduced under the sliding scale from 2nd July by 1s. 1½d. per week; particulars of this reduction will appear in the August issue of the GAZETTE.
 § The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provisional Joint Industrial Council and include—Zone I: Brentford and Chiswick, Friern Barnet, Tottenham, Middlesex C.C. (certain areas); Zone II: Twickenham, Wembley, Middlesex C.C. (certain areas); Zone III: Middlesex C.C. (certain areas). The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the minima quoted above.
 ¶ Information was also received in June of two previous changes which have taken place during the present year, viz., an increase of 2½ per cent. in January and a decrease of 2½ per cent. in March, both under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements. The increase in April shown above did not take place under the sliding scale, but under a special arrangement by which wages were stabilised for twelve months.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JUNE.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in June in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 16, as compared with 39 in the previous month and 10 in June, 1926. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 6,000. In addition, about 16,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 28 disputes which began before June and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 44, involving about 22,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss of approximately 79,000 working days.

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

Groups of Industries.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ...	8	7	15	19,000	55,000
Metal Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	5	7	2,000	7,000
Other ...	18	4	22	1,000	17,000
Total, June, 1927 ...	28	16	44	22,000	79,000
Total, May, 1927 ...	15	39†	54†	23,000†	84,000†
Total, June, 1926 ...	22	10	32	1,048,000†	22,487,000†

Causes.—Of the 16 disputes beginning in June, 6, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 5, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 5, directly involving 200 workpeople, on other questions.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING JUNE, 1927.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.¶	Began.	Ended.		
Durham (near) ...	7,400	...	1927, 14 May¶	1927, ...	Refusal of workpeople to carry out agreement providing for the working of one shift on each Saturday instead of two shifts on alternate Saturdays.	By the end of June Saturday work had been resumed on terms of the agreement at all but one of the collieries involved.
Durham (near) ...	2,044	496	21 May**	...	Refusal to work one shift of 7½ hours on Saturdays, workpeople desiring two shifts of 6½ hours.	No settlement reported.
Coal miners, etc. Ebbw Vale, Mon.	1,800	...	30 May	4 June	In sympathy with three fanmen dismissed owing to a dispute respecting the cleaning of the fan house.	Amicable settlement effected.
Ystradgynlais, Brecon.	1,300	...	13 June	25 June	Refusal to work with non-members of the South Wales Miners' Federation.	Non-members in question joined the Federation.
Burnley ...	1,290	...	16 June	17 June	Dispute arising out of the suspension of a surface worker.	Amicable settlement effected.
Riveters, etc. (in shipyards)—Clyde	1,500††	...	15 June	18 June	Dissatisfaction with piece rates in a new price list agreed upon between Employers' Association and Trade Union.	Work resumed under protest; claim to be put forward for an advance of 25 per cent. on the new rates.
Crate makers—North Staffs	200	...	21 June‡‡	13 July	Against reduction in piece-work rates, the workpeople demanding an advance.	Old rates agreed for three months; modified reduction possible there-after.
Building operatives—Londonderry ...	670	...	2 May	9 July§§	Against proposed reduction in wages, the workpeople demanding an advance.	Work resumed at old rates of wages by workpeople other than bricklayers and masons, who received a modified advance; wages stabilised for one year.
Building operatives—Belfast	600††	...	6 May	9 June|||	Against proposed reduction in wages	Proposed reduction accepted by workpeople other than plumbers, in whose case it was modified, and bricklayers and plasterers, in whose case it was withdrawn.

* 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, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

† Revised figures.

‡ The general coal-mining stoppage, involving over one million workpeople, was in progress in June, 1926.

§ In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, very slight, except in the mining and quarrying group in 1926, when about 44,000 workpeople were involved in more than one dispute, and in the case of industries involved in the General Strike in May, 1926.

¶ I.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

‡ The dispute caused stoppage of work on Saturdays only.

** In the case of the majority of the workpeople involved the dispute began on 13th June; the dispute caused stoppage of work on Saturdays only.

†† Estimated number.

‡‡ At a few firms stoppages occurred prior to this date.

§§ Work was resumed on 17th June by workpeople other than bricklayers and masons.

||| In the case of workpeople other than bricklayers and plasterers a settlement was effected in May.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 11 new disputes, directly involving 3,300 workpeople, and 12 old disputes, directly involving 3,200 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 4, directly involving 1,800 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 8, directly involving 700 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 11, directly involving 4,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of two disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926 AND 1927.‡

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first six months of 1927, as compared with the corresponding period of 1926:—

Groups of Industries.	January to June, 1926.			January to June, 1927.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
General Strike ...	1	1,580,000	15,000,000	...	...	...
Mining and Quarrying: General Coal Mining Stoppage ...	1	1,050,000	43,350,000	...	...	...
Other Stoppages ...	49	44,000	1,165,000	51	44,000	500,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	17	4,000	73,000	18	2,000	10,000
Other Metal ...	26	9,000	137,000	18	2,000	16,000
Textile ...	23	15,000	174,000	14	3,000	19,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	19	3,000	18,000	22	7,000	123,000
Transport ...	30	21,000	158,000	11	2,000	6,000
Other ...	44	8,000	149,000	20	1,000	12,000
Total ...	210	2,734,000	60,224,000	154	61,000	686,000

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

RETURNS have been received from 139 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed during the second quarter of 1927. The summarised figures for the quarter are given in the Table below, together with similar figures as to plans passed by the same Authorities during the corresponding quarter of 1926.

District and Aggregate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received.	Estimated Cost of Buildings for which Plans were approved in the 139 Towns from which returns have been received.					TOTAL.
	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses, and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, and Additions and Alterations to Existing Buildings.	
(a) SECOND QUARTER OF 1927.						
ENGLAND AND WALES—Northern Counties (917,000)	£ 335,900	£ 16,800	£ 44,300	£ 41,700	£ 118,900	£ 557,600
Yorkshire (2,334,000)	1,084,900	306,600	92,000	280,000	368,100	2,131,600
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,958,000)	1,089,900	161,800	168,500	301,700	240,200	1,962,100
North and West-Midland Counties (2,910,000)	1,600,300	988,700	191,000	357,200	502,400	3,639,600
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (616,000)	421,800	13,000	52,000	52,800	91,200	630,800
Outer London* (2,007,000)	1,944,700	161,100	230,500	119,200	310,800	2,766,300
South-Eastern Counties (1,041,000)	814,700	11,100	65,600	87,800	289,300	1,268,500
South-Western Counties (433,000)	243,700	3,600	21,100	49,200	104,200	421,800
Wales and Monmouthshire (671,000)	553,300	18,000	35,100	49,500	69,500	725,400
SCOTLAND (2,103,000)	1,501,100	195,100	82,200	277,000	406,700	2,462,100
TOTAL (15,990,000)	9,590,300	1,875,800	982,300	1,616,100	2,501,300	16,565,800
(b) SECOND QUARTER OF 1926.						
ENGLAND AND WALES—Northern Counties (917,000)	£ 335,700	£ 38,400	£ 43,400	£ 32,500	£ 63,600	£ 513,600
Yorkshire (2,334,000)	1,605,200	127,000	108,700	117,100	258,200	2,216,200
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,958,000)	1,413,900	129,900	168,600	268,800	306,200	2,287,400
North and West-Midland Counties (2,910,000)	1,481,600	237,200	97,700	278,500	303,400	2,398,400
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (616,000)	577,300	49,900	144,000	154,000	121,200	1,046,400
Outer London* (2,007,000)	2,294,800	75,900	211,600	154,600	217,500	2,954,400
South-Eastern Counties (1,041,000)	1,024,400	12,100	65,200	36,400	197,100	1,335,200
South-Western Counties (433,000)	381,300	13,000	13,600	11,500	53,100	472,500
Wales and Monmouthshire (671,000)	477,500	2,200	12,100	48,600	65,500	605,900
SCOTLAND (2,103,000)	1,492,100	94,800	43,600	351,200	381,000	2,362,700
TOTAL (15,990,000)	11,083,800	780,400	908,500	1,453,200	1,966,800	16,192,700

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The total number of cases of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during June, 1927, under the Factory and Workshop Act or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, was 47. Five deaths were reported during the month, two due to lead poisoning and three due to epitheliomatous ulceration. In addition, two cases of lead poisoning among house plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during June, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Among Operatives engaged in—
Smelting of Metals ... 1	Aniline Poisoning ... 3
Plumbing and Soldering ... 1	Toxic Jaundice ... 1
Shipbreaking ... 9	TOTAL, OTHER FORMS OF POISONING ... 4
Printing ... 2	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.
Tinning of Metals ...	Wool ... 2
Other Contact with Molten Lead ... 1	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ... 1
White and Red Lead Works ... 3	TOTAL, ANTHRAX ... 3
Pottery ...	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.
Vitreous Enamelling ... 1	Pitch ... 2
Electric Accumulator Works ... 4	Tar ... 2
Paint and Colour Works ...	Paraffin ... 1
Indiarubber Works ...	Oil ... 4
Coach and Car Painting ... 1	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION ... 9
Shipbuilding ...	(e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.
Paint used in Other Industries ...	Manufacture of Bichromates ... 3
Other Industries ... 1	Dyeing and Finishing ... 1
Painting of Buildings ... 2	Chrome Tanning ... 1
	Other Industries ... 1
TOTAL OF ABOVE ... 26	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION ... 5

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported during June, 1927, as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 170, as compared with 197 in the previous month and with 76 in June, 1926. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in June numbered 37, as compared with 28 in the previous month and with 22 a year ago.

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued).
Brakemen and Goods Guards ... 1	Other Metal Trades ... 8
Engine Drivers ... 1	Shipbuilding ... 8
Firemen ... 1	Wood ... 2
Guards (Passenger) ... 1	Gas ... 2
Permanent Way Men ... 5	Electric Generating Stations ... 1
Porters ... 1	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ... 3
Shunters ... 1	Chemicals, etc. ... 2
Mechanics ... 1	Food and Drink ... 2
Labourers ... 1	Paper, Printing, etc. ... 3
Miscellaneous ... 5	Tanning, Currying, etc. ... 1
Contractors' Servants ...	Rubber Trades ... 1
	Other Non-Textile Industries ... 1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ... 15	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.
MINES.	Docks, Wharves, etc. ... 7
Underground ... 70	Buildings ... 9
Surface ... 7	Warehouses and Railway Sidings ... 1
TOTAL, MINES ... 77	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS ... 69
QUARRIES OVER 20 feet deep ... 7	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.
	Cotton ... 4
	Wool, Worsted and Shoddy ... 2
	Other Textiles ... 2
	Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ... 2
	Metal Extracting and Refining ...
	Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ... 12
	Metal Founding ... 2
	Engineering and Machine Making ... 1
	Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering ... 2
	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ... 2
	TOTAL, SEAMEN ... 37
	Total (including Seamen) ... 207

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

The number of assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland granted during June, 1927, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted in June, 1927.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.			Departures in June, 1927.	Total Departures.	
		1922 to 1926.	Jan. to June, 1927.	1922 to 1926.		1922 to June, 1927.	
To Australia ...	2,312	113,421†	14,253†	2,358	111,716	15,593	
" New Zealand ...	253	35,505†	3,143†	262	34,404	2,922	
" Canada: Dominion of Canada ...	2,377	40,966†	20,500†	3,336	40,862	16,549	
Province of Ontario ...	30	1,367	...	...	1,356	...
" South Africa|| ...	30	500	137	18	251	88	
Minor Schemes ...	53	6,752	477†	39	5,927	421	
Total ...	5,025	198,511†	38,510†	6,013	194,516	35,573	

The figures given include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

* Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

† Revised figures.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in June, 1927, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 769,886, or 0.9 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 34.9 per cent. less than in June, 1926.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Areas, Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in June, 1927 (Indoor, Outdoor, Total), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a) Month ago, b) Year ago.

In the 25 selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in June, 1927, was 631,314, a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with May, and a decrease of 37.5 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the 31 districts in June numbered 124,606, or 1.1 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 0.4 per cent. less than in June, 1926.

Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 645,280, or 0.9 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 38.9 per cent. less than a year ago.

Of the 31 areas, 16 showed small increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in June, as compared with the previous month; while 13 areas showed decreases, the most noteworthy being Paisley and Greenock (87 per 10,000).

* The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in asylums, registered hospitals and licensed houses, and persons receiving outdoor medical relief only.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Table with columns: Country, Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914 (July 1923, July 1924, July 1925, July 1926), Latest figures available (Rise, Date).

II.—ALL ITEMS.*

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

Table with columns: Country, Items on which Computation is based, Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914 (July 1923, July 1924, July 1925, July 1926), Latest figures available (Rise, Date).

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period.

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in June.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 25th June, 1927, was 33,720 (20,671 men and 13,049 women).

GERMANY.†

Employment in May.—According to the Reichsarbeitsblatt, there was an unmistakable further improvement in the condition of the labour market. Confidence in the general economic situation was such that, in spite of difficulties in individual cases, seasonal influences operated more freely than in preceding years.

The membership of health insurance societies increased from 14,142,196 on 1st May to 14,566,378 on 1st June, or by 3.0 per cent., as against an advance of 3.7 per cent. between 1st April and 1st May.

On 31st May the Employment Exchanges making returns reported 1,361,288 persons on the "live register," as against 1,643,127 at the end of April.

Figures showing the number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment are available for 15th June, 1927, on which date the total was 806,950 (including 208,619 entitled to assistance from special funds).

Returns relating to 3,751,538 organised workers were received from 39 national trade unions. Of these 262,302, or 7 per cent., were totally unemployed on 28th May, as compared with 8.9 per cent. on 30th April, and 18.1 per cent. at the end of May, 1926.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment among the principal unions represented in the above totals:—

Table with columns: Unions, Membership reported on end of month (May, 1927), Percentage Unemployed at end of month (May, 1927, April, 1927, May, 1926).

* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 1st July, 1927. Paris. † Reichsarbeitsblatt, 20th June and 1st July, 1927. Berlin.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in May.—According to the issue of Statistische Nachrichten (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th June, 1927, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in Austria was 158,332 at the end of May, as compared with 181,175 at the end of the preceding month.

ITALY.*

Unemployment in February.—On 28th February 259,059 workpeople (169,187 males and 89,872 females) were reported to be unemployed in Italy, as compared with 225,346 at the end of the preceding month, the increase between the two dates being 33,713, or 14.96 per cent.

SWITZERLAND.†

Unemployment in May.—On 31st May, 1927, the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 9,547 (or 7.3 per thousand of the employed population according to the census of 1920) as compared with 11,220 (8.5 per thousand) at the end of April and 10,703 at the end of May, 1926.

DENMARK.‡

Unemployment in May.—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 274,428 workpeople, 20.1 per cent. were unemployed on 27th May, 1927, as against 23.6 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 14.7 per cent. at the end of May, 1926.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in April.—According to information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, out of 14,458 members of trade unions making returns 22.4 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of April, 1927. The corresponding figure for the end of March was 23.9 per cent., and that for the end of April, 1926, 25.0 per cent.

SWEDEN.§

Unemployment in May.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st May, 1927, was 10.0, as compared with 12.3 on 30th April, and 9.7 on 31st May, 1926.

UNITED STATES.¶

Employment in May.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in May, based on returns from 10,768 establishments in 54 of the principal manufacturing industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics.

Index Number of Employment, May.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for May, 1927 is 89.7 as compared with 90.6 in April, and 91.7 in May, 1926.

NEW ZEALAND.¶¶

Unemployment in February.—Returns relating to unemployment in the week ending 19th February, 1927, were furnished to the Census and Statistics Office by trade unions having an aggregate membership of 45,028.

CANADA.

Employment in June.—For 1st June, 1927, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,150 firms, with an aggregate of 876,768 upon their pay rolls.

Trade Union Unemployment in May.††—On 31st May, 5.2 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6.0 at the end of April, and 4.9 per cent. at the end of May, 1926.

* Bollettino del Lavoro e della Previdenza Sociale, 30th April, 1927. Rome. † Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen, June, 1927. Bern. ‡ Statistiske Efterretninger, 21st June, 1927. Copenhagen.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

The Mining Industry Act, 1926.

SCHEME FOR "TOTAL AMALGAMATION"—APPLICATION TO THE COURT TO CONFIRM THE SCHEME UNDER SECTION 7 (2) OF THE ACT—"NATIONAL INTEREST"—EFFECT OF AMALGAMATION UPON EMPLOYMENT.

In this case nine colliery companies applied to the Railway and Canal Commission to confirm a scheme for their total amalgamation.

The collieries in question were situated in the important "anthracite" area in the counties of Carmarthen, Glamorgan and Brecon.

By Sections 1 (1), 6, and 7 (2) of the Mining Industry Act, 1926, it is provided as follows:—

"1.—(1) Where with a view to the more economical and efficient working, treating, or disposing of coal the owners of two or more undertakings consisting of or comprising coal mines agree to amalgamate their undertakings either wholly or partially, they may prepare and submit to the Board of Trade a scheme (hereinafter referred to as an amalgamation scheme) framed in accordance with the provisions of this Part of this Act."

"6. The Board of Trade shall consider any scheme submitted to them, and shall, if satisfied after communication with such parties interested as they may think fit that a prima facie case is made out that the proposed scheme would promote the more economical and efficient working, treating, or disposing of coal, refer the matter to the Railway and Canal Commission."

"7.—(2) The Commission, after hearing such objectors as aforesaid, may confirm the scheme, either without modifications or subject to such modifications as the Commission think fit, or may refuse to confirm the scheme:

Provided that the Commission—

(a) shall confirm a scheme if satisfied that it would be in the national interest to do so, and that the terms of the scheme are fair and equitable to all persons affected thereby. . . ."

The Commission granted the application.

Mr. Justice Sankey, in the course of his judgment, referred to the provisions of the Mining Industry Act, 1926 (set out above), and said that the Commission had come to the conclusion that the terms of the scheme were "fair and equitable" to all persons affected. There remained the more difficult part of the case: Was the scheme "in the national interest"?

The Court had formed the view that it was.

Examining this question his Lordship continued as follows:—

"We agree with three of the main tests which were proposed by the applicants themselves, and in considering a scheme of this character we think it right to satisfy ourselves that, first, the workers whether manual or clerical who are engaged in the undertaking should receive not merely a living but a reasonable wage for their exertions: secondly, that those who are willing to risk their capital in such an undertaking should receive a reasonable return for the money they lend: and thirdly, that the persons who are to use the article produced—that is to say, the consumers—should be able to get such article at the lowest rate, having regard to the first two propositions."

With regard to the first of these three tests, his Lordship observed that one of the greatest benefits which could accrue to the coal industry would be the equalisation of the running of the pits so as to produce regularity of employment by stabilisation of production.

A policy which could go far to "decasualize" the industry would be greatly in the interests of those engaged in it, who otherwise must suffer from a system which at one time of the year might give them good wages and at another time of the year a remuneration entirely inadequate for their weekly necessities.

If the Court had been satisfied that the result of the amalgamation would be a general lowering of wages, or if they thought that the object of the amalgamation was to enable its promoters to make more profits at the expense of the workmen, they would not have hesitated to withhold approval of the scheme. There was no evidence in the present case that either of these events was likely to happen.—*Re the Mining Industry Act, 1926, and re the application of Amalgamated Anthracite Collieries Limited and others. Railway and Canal Commission, 27th July, 1927.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS,

1920-26.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published by H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given prior to 31st December, 1926, have been published in pamphlet form and later embodied in bound volumes, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1926 (H.M. Stationery Office, price 7s. 6d. net). Decisions given subsequent to December, 1926, are printed in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All inquiries and applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

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

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 1723/27. (2/6/27.) Section 7 (1) (iv) of Principal Act (as amended)—Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment.

PROVISO (a)—COLLIERY WORKERS UNEMPLOYED OWING TO FRESH TRADE DISPUTE, WHICH FOLLOWED NATIONAL MINING STOPPAGE, REFUSED EMPLOYMENT AT DISTRICT TIME RATES OF PAY—PREVIOUSLY WORKED AT PIECE RATES—CONTENDED SITUATIONS VACANT IN CONSEQUENCE OF STOPPAGE OF WORK DUE TO TRADE DISPUTE—NO STOPPAGE OF WORK—EMPLOYMENT SUITABLE AT TIME RATES IN TRADE WHERE BOTH PIECE AND TIME RATES OPERATE.

The applicants were colliery workers, who lost their employment in the circumstances described in Decision No. 565/27.* They were individually offered employment on the 23rd March, 1927, at the district time rates of pay, but they refused the terms. Their claims for benefit were disallowed under the provisions of Section 7 (1) (iv) (as amended), and they appealed to the Court of Referees against the disallowance.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be allowed. In their opinion the principles of Decision 1206/27† were applicable.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation, and referred the case to the Deputy Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

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

"Previous to the stoppage of work due to the mining dispute all the applicants were working at the colliery in question, either as piece workers or datal workers. In March, 1927, they were individually offered employment at the colliery as datal workers.

"Each of them refused the offer, upon the ground that it was an offer of employment in a situation vacant in consequence of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute, and that is the main issue in the case. Those who had previously been employed on piece work also contended that employment which was paid by time rates was not suitable for them.

"The circumstances of this colliery, so far as material to the present case, have already been considered by the Umpire (Decision 565/27); and although the point now raised as the main issue in this case is not expressly determined in that decision, it does underlie it.

"In the case cited the Umpire has found that, as from 30th November, 1926, the national dispute ceased to exist so far as this colliery was affected, and (subject to any delay due to disrepair and the like, which I find did not in fact exist) that the stoppage of work due to that dispute also then terminated, and that work would have been resumed but for an entirely new and independent dispute between the piece-workers and the management. He also found that the applicants before him had not lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to this new dispute, but that they had merely failed to obtain employment because they did not like the terms offered by the prospective employers.

"I read the decision as finding that there was no stoppage of work due to the new dispute. This accords with my view of the expression 'stoppage of work' and of the facts. Stoppage of work implies the cessation of work which until then or until recently had been proceeding, and there is no evidence that any work then being carried on was stopped.

"The applicants, therefore, fail to show that the situations offered were vacant in consequence of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

"There remains the further question whether those of the applicants who had previously worked on piece work were justified in regarding the work offered as unsuitable because it was to be paid by time.

"So long as the rates of pay offered were those of the district, as in fact they were, I fail to see how it can be said that the employment offered was unsuitable because the method of payment was by time and not by piece. There is no authority for this contention, and it is contrary to the principle hitherto accepted that, in a trade where both piecework and time rates are in operation, applicants are not entitled to refuse an offer of employment at time rates."

Case No. 1755/27. (8/6/27.) Section 7 (1) (iv) of Principal Act (as amended)—Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment.

TEXTILE PIECER, WITH NINE YEARS' SERVICE, SUSPENDED FROM "FURLOUGHED" MILL, OFFERED EMPLOYMENT AT ANOTHER MILL—DECLARED INTENTION OF RETURNING TO FORMER MILL WHEN WORK RESUMED, AND UNWILLING TO UNDERTAKE TO GIVE WEEK'S NOTICE BEFORE SO RETURNING—DESIRED TO RETURN TO FORMER MILL BECAUSE LENGTH OF SERVICE GAVE PROSPECTS OF EARLY PROMOTION—SHOULD HAVE INQUIRED HOW FAR HIS SERVICE WOULD HAVE COUNTED FOR PROMOTION AT PROSPECTIVE MILL, WHICH WAS A NEW ONE.

The claim for unemployment benefit made by the applicant, a textile piecer, was disallowed for six weeks as from the 1st March.

* See Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 2/1927).

† See Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 3/1927), reported in the April issue of this GAZETTE, page 159.

1927, on the ground that he failed to satisfy the statutory condition that he was unable to obtain suitable employment.

The applicant lost his employment in August, when the mill, where he had been employed for nine years, closed down for economic reasons. He had since had occasional periods of work at other mills as deputy for men who were absent through sickness, but had no prospects of permanent work until he received an offer of employment at the end of February at a slightly higher rate of wages than that he had hitherto received, and on no less favourable conditions. In reply to the prospective employer's question, he declared his intention of returning to his former place of employment when work was resumed there, and declined to give an undertaking to give a week's notice to the prospective employer in such eventuality. The employer, desiring to engage only regular workers and not those who would be likely to return to their former jobs at some future date, did not engage him. The applicant was unable to say when his former employers would reopen their mill.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed.

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance, maintaining that the applicant had not refused employment, and that the employer would not engage him because he quite truthfully made known his intentions regarding his former employers. They explained that at each mill promotions were made according to length of service; and, as the applicant had nine years' service, he had prospects of promotion to the grade of a spinner. He would have no claim to seniority in respect of this service at any other mill. With regard to the applicant's unwillingness to bind himself to give a week's notice to the prospective employer, the association stated that such an undertaking was not customary in the case of an employee temporarily suspended from a "furloughed" mill.

A subsequent report indicated that an oral agreement was made some years before, between the cotton employers' and operatives' associations whereby operatives furloughed from one mill could be employed at any other mill, and allowed to return to their own mill when work was resumed there. When a decision was arrived at to reopen a mill after a closure of some months, there was usually an interval of several days before work actually commenced. The mill where the employment was offered was newly acquired, and the manager was endeavouring to obtain workpeople who had not been played off from other mills, so as to ensure that he would not be short-handed when the other mills restarted.

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

"The mill at which the applicant was employed for about nine years has been closed since August, 1926, and there is no definite prospect of its reopening.

"In February, 1927, he was offered employment in his usual occupation of a piecer at another mill, a new concern. The manager was willing to employ him unless he intended to return to his old mill when it reopened; but as he stated that that was his intention he failed to obtain employment. His reason for wishing to return to the mill at which he had been previously employed was that if he did not do so he would lose his turn for promotion to a spinner. After nine years' service as a piecer he was well on his way to promotion.

"He might be prejudiced to some extent in this way, but I do not think that this justifies him in refusing suitable employment and continuing to receive benefit. Moreover, as the mill at which he was offered work was a new concern, I should think his nine years' service as a piecer would give him a good claim to promotion as against other piecers taken on at the same time who had had less experience. He should at least have made inquiries to see how far his nine years' service would be credited to him in his prospect of promotion.

"I agree with the Court of Referees that he fails to show that he was unable to obtain suitable employment."

Case No. 1776/27. (16/6/27.) Section 8 (1) of Principal Act and Section 4 (1) of 1924 (No. 2) Act—Trade Dispute.

LABOUR WITHDRAWN BECAUSE TERMS CONTRARY TO EXISTING AGREEMENTS—EMPLOYERS NOT MEMBERS OF EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION AND NOT PARTIES TO SUCH AGREEMENTS.

The applicant, a textile worker, was unemployed from 11th to 19th April, 1927. His claim for unemployment benefit was disallowed for that period on the ground that employment had been lost by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

It appeared that a mill was reopened in March under new ownership after a closure lasting two years. The new owners, who were not members of any association of employers, made it a condition of employment that weavers should operate eight looms at a fixed wage, with a monthly bonus according to results. A number of men, including the applicant, accepted the employment on these terms. The existing agreements between associations of employers and operatives in the district limited the number of looms to be worked by one weaver to six, and provided that wages should be based on piece rates. With a view to enforcing the terms of these agreements, the officials of various trade unions, after unsuccessful endeavours to obtain an interview with the employers, called out the men.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court considered that the employers had acted in a manner so as to contravene the terms of agreements between employers' and workers' associations; and that the applicant was therefore entitled to relief under Section 4 (1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. In his view the provisions of Section 4 (1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act were not appropriate, since the employers were not members of the masters' federation. He referred the case to the Deputy Umpire, who, after a hearing on the 9th June, gave the following decision:—

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

"Applicant lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the mill where he was working, but claims to be relieved from the statutory disqualification for benefit under Section 4 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, on the ground that the stoppage was due to his employers acting in a manner so as to contravene the terms of an agreement operating throughout Lancashire, and made between the associations of employers and operatives in the cotton industry. There is no doubt that the employers were adopting a course which was contrary to the terms of that agreement, and that the stoppage was the result of their so acting, but this does not conclude the matter.

"In order to succeed applicant must show that 'the stoppage is due to an employer acting in a manner so as to contravene the terms or provisions of an agreement existing between a group of employers where the stoppage takes place, or of a national agreement, to either of which the employers and employees are contracting parties.'

"In the present case the applicant's association were contracting parties, but the employers have not been, at any time material to this case, members of the employers' association which made the agreement, and consequently were not contracting parties.

"At the hearing before me it was very ably and forcibly argued that the terms of the subsection quoted above were intended to apply to such a case as the present, namely, where there is an agreement, made between bodies of employers and bodies of employees, operating generally in an area, and a stoppage of work results from any employer in that area, whether an associated employer or not, acting in contravention of that agreement.

"However attractive that contention may be, it has already been adjudicated upon and rejected by the Umpire on several occasions, and those decisions govern this case (see, for example, Decisions 8343/20,* 8916/20,† and 1667/25‡).

"Decision 8916/20 expressly deals with the interpretation of the words quoted above. It was a case in which non-associated colliery owners had contravened the terms of the national agreement in the mining industry. The section was held not to apply, and in his decision the Umpire says: 'Now, the Act of Parliament, as I construe it, makes it necessary for the applicant to show that the contravention which caused the stoppage was a contravention by employers who were contracting parties to the agreement. . . . It is not clear what "employers and employees" are indicated by those words in the section; but to the best of my judgment the words "the employers" mean the employers (referred to earlier in the section as "an employer") who are so acting as to contravene the terms and provisions of the agreement. As in this case the employers to whose action the stoppage was due were not contracting parties to the National Agreement, the applicants are not entitled to benefit.'

"This decision applies to and concludes the present case."

Case No. 1849/27 (corrected). (7/7/27.) Section 8 (3) of Principal Act—Inmate of Public Institution.

FOUND "NOT GUILTY" AFTER THREE DAYS' DETENTION IN CUSTODY—HELD TO BE AN INMATE OF PUBLIC INSTITUTION, BUT FOR TWO DAYS ONLY.

The applicant was arrested by the police at 11 a.m. on the 9th May, 1927, and detained in custody. On the 11th May he was charged with a criminal offence, and was found "not guilty." His claim for unemployment benefit was disallowed in respect of the period 9th to 11th May inclusive, on the ground that he was an inmate of a public institution. He appealed against the disallowance to the Court of Referees.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were of the opinion that, since the applicant was found "not guilty," he could not be regarded as within the scope of Section 8 (3). They considered that a disqualification under this section could be applied only to a person found "guilty."

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. In his view the case was governed by the principles of Decision 231, given under the 1911 Act. He referred the case to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed in respect of 9th and 10th May.

"I am bound to hold, following Decision 231 (1911 Act), that the applicant whilst in custody was an inmate of a prison, although he was ultimately found not guilty of the offence with which he was charged. But I am of opinion that he cannot in law be treated as having been an inmate of a prison for three days. The date of his arrest and the date of his discharge cannot both be counted, and I think the correct way of computing the period of disqualification is to hold that he was an inmate on the 9th and 10th May, but not on the 11th."

* See Vol. III of Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 47).

† See Vol. III of Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 51).

‡ Not published.

Case No. 1869/27. (29/6/27.) Section 7 (1) (ii) of Principal Act—Not Unemployed.

WATCHMAN RECEIVED BENEFIT WHILST ENGAGED ON CERTAIN DAYS IN PLAYING BARREL ORGAN FOR PROFIT.

The applicant, who for many years had been employed as a watchman, was reported in March, 1927, to have been engaged on certain days in playing a barrel organ for profit whilst in receipt of unemployment benefit. His claim for benefit was accordingly disallowed in respect of such days, on the ground that he was not unemployed.

The applicant explained that usually he took out the organ on Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons, and maintained that the work was performed outside the working hours of his usual occupation.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant could not be regarded as unemployed on the days on which he did not choose to take the organ out.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation of total disallowance, and referred the case to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed in respect of each day on which the applicant plays the barrel organ for profit.

"I agree with the Insurance Officer. The applicant can scarcely be said to be in business as an organ player, and there is no ground for disallowing benefit in respect of days on which he does not play. This case is not analogous to that of a man in business as a costermonger."

BANKING INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1927.*

The Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1927, dated 3rd June, 1927, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30), and the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924 (14 & 15 Geo. 5, c. 30).

WHEREAS by the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1924,† the Special Scheme for the Banking Industry (hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme") was approved by the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister"); and the Banking Unemployment Insurance Board is the body charged with the administration of the Scheme:

And whereas by the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1925,‡ the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Special Order, 1925,§ and the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Further Amendment) Order, 1925,|| the Order aforesaid was varied and amended:

And whereas it is provided by subsection (2) of Section 8 of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, that for the purpose of securing in the case of a special scheme that like rates of benefit shall be payable to the persons to whom the Scheme applies as are payable under that Act, and that the benefits under the Scheme shall otherwise be not less favourable than those provided by the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920-1924 (but for no other purpose), the Minister may, after consultation with the body charged with the administration of the Scheme, notwithstanding anything in Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, by order vary or amend the provisions of the Scheme, and that any such order may provide for consequential amendments as to the rates of contribution and otherwise:

And whereas it is provided by subsection (4) of the said Section 8 of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, that the power of the Minister under subsection (9) of Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, to vary or amend the provisions of a scheme made under that section may, except in the case of provisions relating to rates of contribution, rates or duration of benefit, or the constitution of the body charged with the administration of the Scheme, be exercised by order instead of by special order:

And whereas application has been made to the Minister for the variation and amendment of the provisions of the Scheme:

Now, therefore, the Minister, after consultation with the Banking Unemployment Insurance Board, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the sections aforesaid and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

1. The following amendment shall be made in the said Scheme:—Clause (2) of Part IV of the Scheme as varied and amended shall have effect as if in the last paragraph of such clause for the 30th day of June, 1927, there were substituted the day on which the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1926, expires.

2. This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1927. And this Order, the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1924, the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1925, the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1927, No. 572. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1924, No. 817, page 1784.

‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1925, No. 370, page 1653.

§ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1925, No. 737, page 1659.

|| Statutory Rules and Orders, 1925, No. 1322, page 1660.

Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Special Order, 1925, and the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Further Amendment) Order, 1925, may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1927, and shall be construed as one.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 3rd day of June, 1927.

H. J. WILSON,
Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

**INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919,
AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.****Recent Proceedings.****(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.**

PERSONAL CLERKS, BOARD OF TRADE.—Civil Service Clerical Association v. Board of Trade. *Difference.*—Assimilation to Clerical Class—Initial Salaries. *Decision.*—The Personal Clerk, not established on promotion to the general Clerical Class, to receive an advance of £20 p.a.; the remaining 6 officers an advance of £10 p.a. on their basic salaries. Operative from 1st June, 1927. Issued 3rd June, 1927. (1302.)

DEPARTMENTAL CLASS CLERKS, MINISTRY OF LABOUR.—Ministry of Labour Departmental Whitley Council. Staff Side v. Official Side. *Difference.*—Salary Scales—Claim for Increase. *Decision.*—A case has not been made out. Issued 8th June, 1927. (1303.)

TECHNICAL CLERKS, H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. H.M. Stationery Office. *Difference.*—Salary Scales—Claim for Increase. *Decision.*—The claim has not been made out. Issued 13th June, 1927. (1304.)

ASSISTANT ARCHITECTS AND ASSISTANT FACTORY ENGINEERS, OFFICE OF WORKS.—Office of Works Administrative Whitley Council. Staff Side v. Official Side. *Difference.*—Salary Scales—Claim for Increase. *Decision.*—Basic scales of pay awarded as follows:—

Assistant Architects and Assistant	Grade II, £250-15-450
Factory Engineers	Grade I, £450-20-550

Certain officers to have the option of retaining old scale of pay. Officers to be transferred to the new scales at existing salary, plus accrued increment, or at the minimum of the scale, whichever is the greater. Operative from 1st July, 1927. Issued 14th June, 1927. (1305.)

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD.—Trade Union Side of the Metropolitan J.I.C. for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry v. Metropolitan Water Board. *Difference.*—Wages—Application for Advance. *Decision.*—Basic rates to be increased by 1s. 6d. p.w. with effect from beginning of first pay week following date of Award. Issued 20th June, 1927. (1306.)

LABORATORY ASSISTANTS, GOVERNMENT CHEMIST'S DEPARTMENT.—Government Chemist's Departmental Whitley Council. Staff Side v. Official Side. *Difference.*—Salary Scales—Claim for Increase—Provincial Differentiation. *Decision.*—Basic rates of wages, in London and Liverpool, awarded as follows:—

Grade II Assistants	... .. 33s.-2s.-42s. p.w.
Grade I Assistants	... .. 44s.-3s.-60s. p.w.

to be subject to the current cost-of-living bonus. Operative as from beginning of first full pay week following date of award. Issued 21st June, 1927. (1307.)

TORPEDO FOREMEN, R.N.T.F., GREENOCK.—Admiralty Administrative Whitley Council. Staff Side v. Official Side. *Difference.*—Salary Scales—Claim for Increase. *Decision.*—Annual basic scale of pay to be £230-15-330. Operative from 1st June, 1927. Issued 22nd June, 1927. (1308.)

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

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE: LEICESTER.—Employers' Side v. Trade Union Side of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Leicester. *Difference.*—Claim in connection with the price to be paid for filling up holes and filling defective channels. Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E. appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896 to act as Umpire in the matter. *Award.*—Claim conceded. Dated 25th June, 1927.

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

COTTON WEAVING: YORKSHIRE.—Skipton Weavers' Association v. Messrs. Lowcock & Son, Linton Mills, Grassington. *Difference.*—Strike of 60 weavers to enforce a reduction in working hours from 55 to 48 per week and on questions of prices and system of payment for certain classes of weaving. *Settlement.*—Hours reduced to 48 per week and agreement reached on other questions. Work resumed on 7th June, 1927.

**RAILWAYS ACT, 1921.
NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.**

THE following Findings have recently been issued by the Railways National Wages Board on cases referred to them by the National Union of Railwaymen:—

Meal Times, Carters and Motormen.—The Union claimed that carters and motormen should have a continuous 8-hours' turn of duty where a definite rostered meal time free from duty cannot be arranged. The Board came to the following conclusions. Liverpool Carters and Motormen: Arrangements should be made, as far as possible, for a team, vehicle, or motor, to be placed in such a position during the meal hour that the carter or motor driver can be entirely relieved of responsibility for its care and safety. In cases where carters or motormen can show to the satisfaction of their officers that, owing to the continuous nature of the work, they had no opportunity of taking a full meal interval, they may be relieved for an hour at the end of the day, or, alternatively, be paid from the time of booking on to the time of booking off. When a carter or motor driver is able to take his meal but cannot be entirely relieved of responsibility during the meal hour, there shall be paid to him as compensation in respect of each such occasion a daily allowance calculated at the rate of 6d. per day. No payment will be made under this arrangement to a carter or motor driver who is free from responsibility for the care and safety of his team, vehicle or motor, during a meal hour taken at any time within the period of his rostered turn of duty. All places other than Liverpool: With regard to all other places than Liverpool, existing methods of arranging meal times of carters and motor drivers to remain undisturbed.

Claim for Payment for Good Friday, 10th April, 1925, Signalman A. H. Broughton, Tinsley Junction, L.N.E.R.—The Union claimed that as Good Friday is, in accordance with Clause 8 of Circular Letter No. 1858 of the 19th June, 1919, included in and forms part of the guaranteed week's work, Broughton was entitled to payment for the day in question inasmuch as it comes within the term "Any week day," and that the first turn from 12 midnight to 6 a.m. on Monday, 6th April, should be regarded as a special turn and outside the ordinary turns of duty to be taken for the purpose of the guaranteed week. On behalf of the Company, it was urged that the provisions of the Agreement respecting the guaranteed day and guaranteed week must be taken as a whole, and so long as a man is paid for the normal number of turns on duty, no obligation rests on the Company to pay for any day on which the man is not required to work. The Board expressed the opinion that, of the six turns of duty in the week in question, the first Monday turn was not a special one, and found that the contention of the Union failed.

Application for Payment for Emergency Calls on days stood off during suspension of Guaranteed Week.—This claim for payment of a guaranteed day had reference to the week beginning Monday, 5th July, 1926, and so was during the period when the guaranteed week for conciliation grades had been suspended by an agreement, dated 21st May, 1926, between the Railway Companies and the Trade Unions. Under this agreement, Simmons, the man in question, had been booked off duty on Monday, 5th July. He was called out at 3.35 p.m. to attend to a failure at the Wood Green No. 1 Signal Box. He answered the call and finished duty at 5 p.m. He was paid as for an emergency call. The Board expressed the opinion that as the guaranteed week was suspended and Simmons was not rostered for duty on Monday, 5th July, the case properly falls to be dealt with under Clause 1 (e) of the Railway Executive Committee Circular Letter No. 1786, dated 3rd April, 1919, namely: "Men called on duty for emergency work outside their rostered turn of duty to be paid as follows: For four hours or less, payment to be at the agreed overtime rate (minimum—quarter of a day), and such turns of duty shall not be counted as a full turn of duty nor as part of the guaranteed week," and they find that the correct payment has been made to him.

New Entrants into the Railway Service and Juniors reaching Adult Age.—The Union claimed that the application of the Finding of the National Wages Board, dated 9th December, 1925, should be limited to a period of one year from date of appointment (a) of new entrants appointed to adult grades in the permanent service, and (b) juniors attaining 20 years of age and being appointed to adult posts. The Board's opinion was that no evidence had been submitted to justify disturbance of the present position.

Payment for Temporary Duty in a Higher Class—Salaried Staff.—The Union claimed that in all cases where members of the salaried staff are called upon to perform duty in a higher class, with the exception of cases where such higher grade duty is performed in consequence of sickness, they shall receive the minimum rate for the higher position occupied. Payment at present is governed by Minute No. 97, dated 9th December, 1924, of the Central Wages Board, of which the relevant part is as follows:—"Members of the salaried staff covered by the National Agreements in classes 1-6 required by the Company to temporarily undertake duty in a higher class to be made an allowance under the following conditions: 1. When the employee undertakes the full duties and responsibilities of the higher position, provided that the higher grade duty is performed (a) owing to the transfer of the permanent occupant of the post to other work; (b) pending a permanent appointment to a vacant position; (c) owing to the absence for any reason of an employee to whom salary or wage is not being paid by the Company." The Board expressed the opinion that a case for a revision of the agreement of 9th December, 1924, had not been made out.

Gatekeepers, Broad Street Goods Depot, London, Midland and Scottish Railway—Claim for regrading as Checkers.—The Board found that the Union's claim had not been established.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.**Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.****I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.****Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (England and Wales).**

Order R.B. (E. & W.) (1), dated 4th July, 1927, confirming general minimum piece rates fixed and the variation of general minimum time rates, piece-work basis time rates and overtime rates for male and female workers in the following districts:—Northern, West Lancashire, Yorkshire, North Midland, Central Midland, South Midland, Eastern, South-Eastern, London, South-Western, and Central Southern; and specifying the 18th July, 1927, as the date from which such minimum rates should become effective.

Fur Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order Z (20), dated 4th July, 1927, confirming additional general minimum piece rates fixed for male and female workers and the variation of general minimum time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers, and specifying the 11th July, 1927, as the date from which such minimum rates should become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.**Fur Trade Board (Great Britain).**

Proposal Z (21), dated 5th July, 1927, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers in the furriers' section of the trade.

Objection period expires 5th September, 1927.

Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.H.H.G. (N. 32), dated 3rd June, 1927, to fix minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers.

Objection period expired 3rd July, 1927.

General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.W.R. (N. 7), dated 24th June, 1927, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers.

Objection period expired 8th July, 1927.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.T.R.B. (N. 25), dated 30th June, 1927, to vary minimum rates of wages for male workers.

Objection period expired 14th July, 1927.

**III.—CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES OF
WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE
COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FIGURE.****Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).**

Lower wage rates have become operative in this trade as from 1st July, 1927. The minimum rates of wages now applicable are those appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 65, and are set out in the Confirming Orders C (17), C (21), and C (25), column 9.

IV.—SPECIAL ORDER.**Corset Trade (Great Britain).**

The Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1927. Special Order, dated June 13, 1927, made by the Minister of Labour under Sections 1 and 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918 (8 & 9 Geo. 5, c. 32), varying the description of the Corset Trade contained in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1919.

Whereas it is provided by subsection 1 of Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, that every Special Order may be varied or revoked by a subsequent Special Order:

And whereas the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as the Minister), by a Special Order cited as the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1919,* and dated the 6th May, 1919, applied the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the trade specified in the Appendix to the said Special Order:

And whereas the Minister is of opinion that it is desirable to vary the said Special Order by altering the description of the trade specified in the Appendix thereto:

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, and of any other powers enabling him in that behalf hereby makes a Special Order varying the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1919:—

1. The description of the trade set out in the Appendix to this Order shall be substituted for that set out in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1919.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1919; No. 570.

2. This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1927.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour, this 13th day of June, 1927.

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

APPENDIX TO ABOVE ORDER.

Subject to the provisions of this Appendix, the Corset Trade shall consist of the following operations:—

1. All work in connection with—

- (a) the manufacture of corsets, corselettes, stays, children's corset bodices, and infants' staybands.
- (b) the manufacture of bust confiners.
- (c) the manufacture of support or abdominal belts or similar articles.
- (d) the manufacture (including assembling) of stocking suspenders, suspender belts and suspender pads, when carried on in conjunction with, or in association with the manufacture of any of the above articles.

2. Work in connection with the manufacture specified in paragraph 1 hereof shall include—

- (a) the altering, repairing, renovating or remaking of any of the articles specified in paragraph 1 hereof, when carried on in conjunction with, or in association with such manufacture.
- (b) warehousing, packing, marking, letter-press stamping, when incidental to such manufacture.

3. Notwithstanding anything in this Appendix, the following operations shall not be operations in the Corset Trade:—

- (a) the manufacture of bust confiners, when carried on in a department mainly engaged on the making of articles specified in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Women's Clothing) Order, 1919.*
- (b) the manufacture of any of the articles specified in paragraph 1 hereof when made in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of surgical instruments or appliances;
- (c) the manufacture of corset steels and busks;
- (d) printing, clerical work, cleaning, caretaking, and general maintenance work.

NOTE.—A Memorandum explaining the scope of the above Order has also been issued. This is identical with that printed with the draft Order in the April issue of this GAZETTE, page 161.

V.—REGULATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND PROCEEDINGS OF TRADE BOARDS.

Corset Trade Board (Great Britain).

Regulations, dated 13th June, 1927, have been issued by the Minister of Labour under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, amending the Regulations dated 4th July, 1919, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Corset Trade Board.

Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain).

Regulations, dated 27th June, 1927, have been issued by the Minister of Labour under Section 11 of the Trade Boards Act, 1909, amending the Regulations dated 23rd April, 1919, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain).

VI.—NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A SPECIAL ORDER TO BE CITED AS THE TRADE BOARDS (WASTE MATERIALS RECLAMATION) ORDER, 1927.

The Minister of Labour hereby gives notice that, with a view to altering the description of the Waste Materials Reclamation Trade contained in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1920, he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order varying the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1920, in the manner shown in the Draft Special Order contained in the Appendix hereto.

Further copies of the draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the draft Special Order must be sent so as to reach the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from the 17th day of June, 1927, that is to say, on or before the 29th day of July, 1927. Every objection must be in writing and must state:—

- (a) the specific grounds of objection; and
- (b) the omissions, additions or modifications asked for.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this 13th day of June, 1927.

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

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1919; No. 1263.

DRAFT SPECIAL ORDER.

THE TRADE BOARDS (WASTE MATERIALS RECLAMATION) ORDER, 1927.

Special Order dated —, 1927, made by the Minister of Labour under Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918 (8 & 9 Geo. 5, c. 32), varying the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1920.

Whereas the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as the Minister), by a Special Order called the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1920, dated the 16th day of February, 1920, applied the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the trade specified in the Appendix to the said Special Order:

And whereas it is provided by subsection 1 of Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, that every Special Order may be varied or revoked by a subsequent Special Order:

And whereas the Minister is of opinion that it is desirable to vary the said Special Order by altering the description of the trade specified in the Appendix thereto:

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, and of any other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes a Special Order varying the said Special Order:—

1. The description of the trade set out in the Appendix to this Order shall be substituted for that set out in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1920.

2. This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1927.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this — day of — 1927.

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

APPENDIX.

1. Subject to the provisions of this Appendix the Waste Materials Reclamation Trade shall consist of the following operations:—

(a) reclamation, wherever performed, of any of the following waste materials or waste articles, that is to say:—rags, waste paper and paper salvage (including paper damaged by fire, newspaper reel-ends, damaged paper reels, outer wrappers of reels and news off-cuts), paper stock, woollen, worsted, cotton, flax, or other textile waste (not being jute waste), textile clippings or cuttings, used bags, used sacks, used sackings or used tares, scrap rubber, scrap iron or other scrap metals (other than unbroken heavy machinery or plant), fur cuttings, rabbit skins, bones and fat, used tins, used bottles or jars, old ropes or string, and broken glass or earthenware;

(b) making engine-cleaning waste;

(c) reclamation of any other waste material or article where performed in or in connection with a waste materials establishment;

(d) making (whether from new or waste material) or repairing sacks or bags in a waste materials establishment except where the bags are made or repaired—

(i) otherwise than for use in the establishment, and

(ii) in an establishment wholly or mainly engaged in the making or repairing of sacks or bags, and operations connected therewith.

2. Notwithstanding anything in this Appendix the following operations shall not be operations in the Waste Materials Reclamation Trade:—

(a) reclamation of—

(i) any waste material or waste article in an establishment (other than a waste materials establishment) in which that material or article is produced or is used as material for manufacture or as a container or wrapper for other articles manufactured in the establishment;

(ii) any waste material or waste article produced in the business of breaking up ships or breaking up or dismantling buildings or machinery or tramway installations or heavy plant, and when performed in the course of such business;

(iii) scrap rubber in an establishment in which the scrap rubber is broken down or devulcanised;

(iv) rabbit skins, where performed in an establishment in which such operations constitute the principal business carried on, or in or in connection with an establishment in which the principal business carried on is the manufacture of hatters' fur;

(v) bottles or jars preliminary to their use in the same establishment as containers, or when such bottles or jars are the property of a trader and are used by him for the purpose of delivering the contents to a customer and are recovered when empty from the customer by or on behalf of the trader;

and operations connected therewith.

(b) production of shoddy, mungo or woollen flock or any operations performed in an establishment in which the production of shoddy, mungo or woollen flock is the principal business carried on;

(c) de-tinning of metal or refining of old gold or silver;

(d) repairing and overhauling of machinery or plant;

(e) collecting, transporting, packing, warehousing or despatching when performed by workers in the direct employ-

ment of an employer who is not otherwise engaged in the Waste Materials Reclamation Trade;

- (f) cleaning or washing when performed in an establishment where the cleaning or washing is mainly of articles other than those specified in paragraph 1 hereof;
- (g) cleaning of premises by charwomen;
- (h) caretaking;
- (i) clerical work.

3. For the purposes of this Appendix:—

The expression "reclamation" means all operations (including the operations of willowing and garneting) performed on any waste material or waste article.

The expression "waste materials establishment" means an establishment in which the operations specified in paragraphs 1 (a) or 1 (b) hereof and operations connected therewith constitute the principal business carried on.

The expression "establishment" means any establishment or any branch or department of an establishment.

(DRAFT) EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ORDER.

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

An authoritative interpretation of the Trade Boards Acts and/or of Orders made thereunder can be given only by the Courts of Law. Subject to this limitation, and on the understanding that any views which he may express provisionally as to the inclusion within or exclusion from the scope of the Acts and/or Orders of any trade, process, operation, article, or of any class of worker are given on the information at the time in his possession and are subject to revision in the light of further information, the Minister makes the following observations for the guidance of all concerned in the application of the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation) Order, 1927.

The Waste Materials Reclamation Order of 1927 amends the Waste Materials Reclamation Order of 1920.

The intention of the amending Order is to bring under the Trade Boards Acts sections of the waste reclamation trade which have not hitherto been affected, and to cover all work performed on waste materials or articles in a waste materials establishment. Under the definition (paragraph 3) a waste materials establishment is an establishment principally engaged on the reclamation of certain key materials (paragraph 1 (a)) or on making engine-cleaning waste (paragraph 1 (b)). Work upon all waste materials other than those specified is also included if done in a waste materials establishment (paragraph 1 (c)). Thus the scope of the Order is extended as compared with the Order issued in 1920, which included work upon certain specified materials only.

The definition also extends the list of key materials. Used tares, old ropes or string, and used bottles or jars, are added to the list, and newspaper reel-ends, news off-cuts, etc., are specified as included in "waste paper and paper salvage" (paragraph 1 (a)). Further, the making of engine-cleaning waste and the operations of willowing cotton waste and garneting woollen and worsted waste are now included when done in specialist establishments.

It will be noted that the term "reclamation" is defined in paragraph 3 as meaning "all operations (including the operations of willowing and garneting) performed on any waste material or waste article." Further, all operations "connected with" reclamation are now covered (paragraph 1). The following included operations may be mentioned by way of example:—

- (a) sorting and grading of all kinds of waste; dusting, scouring, carbonising of textile waste; making mixings wholly or partly of textile waste; breaking of scrap metal; ripping of worn clothes for rags; washing, bleaching, drying of rags; trimming of newspaper reel-ends, etc., so as to convert into sheets suitable for printing or wrapping; washing of used tins or used bottles and jars, except as provided in paragraph 2 (a) (v); picking of old ropes or string; drying of rabbit skins;
- (b) collecting, receiving, loading, unloading, packing, unpacking, warehousing, compressing, despatching.

As under the previous Order, the making of sacks or bags (whether from new or from waste material) in a waste materials establishment is regarded as part of the Waste Reclamation Trade, except where the work is carried on in a separate workroom, when it would properly be regarded as belonging to the Sack and Bag Trade. In addition, the making of sacks or bags even in a separate workshop of a waste materials establishment is included in the Waste Reclamation Trade in so far as the sacks or bags are used as containers for the waste handled in the establishment (paragraph 1 (d)).

The scope of the definition is confined to the Waste Reclamation Trade proper by a series of exclusions, the broad effect of which is, as under the old Order, to exclude work performed upon waste materials before they have left the establishment in which they are produced and after they reach the establishment in which they serve as raw material for further manufacture. Words are, however, inserted in paragraph 2 (a) to prevent this exclusion from being applied to any operations performed in a waste materials establish-

ment as defined. Examples of work which it is intended to exclude are:—

- the collecting or sorting of waste bones and fat in a restaurant; the reclamation of textile waste for the purposes of re-manufacture in the establishment in which it was produced; the sorting of waste paper preparatory to re-pulping in the establishment in which it was produced; the cutting up by printers or manufacturing stationers of waste or damaged paper in the establishment; the manufacture of bone meal from used bones.

Paragraphs 2 (a) to 2 (d) deal with the exclusion of particular kinds of work. In general the work so excluded is performed as an integral part of other industries. Thus, paragraph 2 (a) (ii) excludes from the operation of the Order the business of shipbreaking firms; paragraph 2 (a) (iii) the business of rubber firms; paragraph 2 (a) (iv) the manufacture of hatter's fur; paragraph 2 (a) (v) bottle exchanges; and paragraph 2 (b) the production of shoddy, mungo, or woollen flock; paragraph 2 lays down the line of demarcation between the Waste Reclamation Trade and the Laundry Trade. Establishments wholly or mainly engaged in the washing of such articles as sacks or bags, or meat cloths, are held to belong to the Waste Reclamation Trade, even though a small amount of ordinary laundering may be performed in that establishment. On the other hand, a laundry engaged in general laundry work is not included in the Waste Reclamation Trade merely on the ground that a small proportion of its work consists in the washing of used sacks, bags, etc.

The definition does not include the work of transport as such, e.g., railway services. Paragraph 2 (e) excludes not only the operations of transport, but also of packing, warehousing and despatching when done in the course of the business of an employer who is not otherwise engaged in the Waste Reclamation Trade.

Finally, paragraphs 2 (g), (h) and (i) exclude in all circumstances the work of cleaning premises, caretaking, and clerical work.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—*Third Census of Production, 1924. Preliminary Reports. No. 15. Wall-paper trade; fertiliser, glue, sheep dip and disinfectant trades; starch, blue and polishes trades; packing trade. No. 16. Engineering trades, electrical engineering trades, textile machinery, marine machinery, prime movers and boilers (other than marine engines and boilers), machine tools, heating, ventilating and sanitary engineering trades. No. 17. Hat, bonnet and cap making trades; cattle, dog and poultry foods trades; preserved meat, fish, fruit and vegetables, pickles and sauces trades; ice trade. Board of Trade. (S.O. publications; price 6s. each.)*

HEALTH SERVICES.—*Eighth Annual Report of the Scottish Board of Health, 1926. (Cmd. 2881; price 6s. 6d.)*

INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE.—*Report of the Industrial Assurance Commissioner for the year ended 31st December, 1926. (H.C. 41; price 3s.)*

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—*Seventh Annual Report of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board to December 31, 1926. Medical Research Council. (S.O. publication; price 9d.)*

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*Proposed action by the British Government regarding the Draft Convention and the Recommendation adopted by the Conference at its eighth session, 26th May, to 5th June, 1926. Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 2890; price 1d.) (See page 249.)*

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.—*Report on the work of Juvenile Advisory Committees during the year 1926. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (See page 248.)*

MEDICAL INSPECTION.—*The medical inspection of labour. Report of the meeting of Medical Inspectors of Labour, held in Düsseldorf, 15-16 September, 1926. Studies and Reports, Series F (Industrial Hygiene), No. 10. (Geneva, 1926; price 1s. 6d.)*

MINING.—*Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended December 31st, 1926. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)*

OFFICIAL STATISTICS.—*Guide to current official statistics of the United Kingdom. Vol. V., 1926. Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics. (S.O. publication; price 1s.) (See page 253.)*

POOR LAW REFORM.—*Memorandum and Circular, dated 8th June, 1927, addressed to the County Councils Association, etc., Circular 805. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publications; price 1d. each.)*

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*West Ham Union, Second Report of the Board of Guardians on their administration, 1st November, 1926, to 31st May, 1927. (Cmd. 2900; price 3d.)*

PRICES OF BUILDING MATERIALS.—*Inter-Departmental Committee appointed to survey the prices of building materials. Chairman's Report for period up to May, 1927. (Cmd. 2879; price 4d.)*

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—*Railway accidents and casualties. Returns as reported by the several railway companies in Great Britain during the year ending December 31, 1926. Ministry of Transport. (S.O. publication; price 1s.)*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-1926.—*Decisions given by the Umpire on claims to benefit (a) during the month of May, 1927. (U.I. 440. Pamphlet No. 5, 1927.) (S.O. publication; price 6d.) (b) Vol. V.—Selected decisions given during the calendar year 1926, with index. (S.O. publication; price 7s. 6d.)*

VITAL STATISTICS.—*The Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1925. (New Annual Series, No. 5.) Text. (S.O. publication; price 5s.)*

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JUNE, 1927.

ADMIRALTY.

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

H.M. Naval Establishment abroad: Cast Iron Pipes and Specials: The Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Anchors, Mooring: J. Rogerson & Co., Ltd., Wolsingham.—**Bacon, Smoked:** Warren, Sons & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Bags, Calico:** Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.—**Blowers, Rotary:** Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Bollards, Motor:** Laurence Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich.—**Cable, Electric:** Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cloth, Leather:** The Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coal Bags, Cloth for:** The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.—**Electrodes:** Alloy Welding Processes, Ltd., London, N.—**Flour:** W. Vernon & Sons, London, E.—**Gear, Steering:** Brown Bros. & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Hollowware, Aluminium:** J. & A. Bratt & Sons, Wolverhampton; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Bristol; Buncher & Haseler, Ltd., Birmingham; Hague & McKenzie, Ltd., Birmingham; N. C. Joseph, Ltd., Stratford-on-Avon; London Aluminium Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathe:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Machine, Internal Cylinder Grinding:** Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Universal and Vertical Milling:** Cunliffe & Croom, Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Universal Milling:** J. Parkinson & Son, Shipley, Yorks.—**Mills, Rolling:** Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Motors, Electric, and Fans:** Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Oil, Mineral, Lubricating:** Shell-Mex, Ltd., London, W.C.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paint, White Lead:** Alexander, Ferguson & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester; Locke, Lancaster and W. W. & R. Johnson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Rowe Bros. & Co. (Booth), Ltd., Bootle; Cookson Lead and Antimony Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Brimsdown Lead Co., Ltd., Brimsdown; Cox Bros. & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Pickles:** E. Manwaring, Ltd., London, S.E.; Rowat & Co., Glasgow.—**Pinnaces, Motor (Hulls only):** The Rowledge Ironworks Co., Ltd., Rowledge, nr. Colchester; Groves & Guttridge, Ltd., East Cowes, I.O.W.—**Propellers:** Manganese Bronze and Brass Co., Ltd., London, E.; Darlington Forge Co. Ltd., Darlington.—**Pulverisers:** Christy & Norris, Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Pump, Motor-driven, Centrifugal:** Worthington, Simpson, Ltd., Newark-on-Trent.—**Pumps:** Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Regulators, Induction:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Rings, Rubber, Jointing:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Runway Purchases, Torpedo:** Wharton Crane & Hoist Co., Ltd., Stockport.—**Shades, Glass:** Molineaux, Webb & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Stirrers, Conical:** Joseph Foster & Sons, Preston.—**Timber for Cases:** Lawson & Co., Glasgow.—**Tubes, Aluminium, Silicon Alloy:** Wm. Mills, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Turntable:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Valves, Telemotor Operated Vent:** MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Vessels, Absorption:** Mechans, Ltd., Glasgow.

WAR OFFICE.

Activated Charcoal: Sutcliffe, Speakman & Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.—**Bags, Kit:** E. H. Price, Hadleigh, Suffolk; Gowen & Co., West Mersea.—**Bandages, etc.:** T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Hull.—**Bins, Ash:** S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bins, Steel:** Milners Safe Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Brushes, Brass:** Jas. Root & Son, London, N.—**Brushes, Clothes and Polishing:** Vale & Bradnack, Walsall.—**Brushes, Hair:** Rigby, Battcock, Ltd., London, E.—**Builders' Ironmongery:** Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall; S. Parkes & Co., Ltd., Willenhall; Pryke & Palmer, Ltd., London, E.C.; Comyn, Ching & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; J. Holmes & Sons, Ltd., East Ardsley, near Wakefield.—**Calico:** J. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.—**Caps, S.D., O.R.:** Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; L. Silberston, London, E.—**Carbons, Positive:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton.—**Car bodies:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Casks, Vat:** G. Bissell & Son, Ltd., Netherton.—**Chassis, Six-wheeled:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cresoli:** Killgerm Co., Ltd., Cleckheaton.—**Distemper:** Blundell, Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Engines, Petrol, Portable:** Stuart, Turner, Ltd., Henley-on-Thames.—**Fire Hydrants, etc.:** Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Frocks, Khaki Drill:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle (Staffs); Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, E.—**Gabardine, Drab, W.P.:** J. Halliday & Sons, Ltd., Bradford.—**Gloves, Cotton, Cord:** H. R. Hopewell & Sons, Ltd., Kegworth, Derby.—**Goggles:** Wm. Stephens & Co., London, E.C.—**Guttering:** Forth & Clyde & Sunnyside Iron Co.'s, Ltd., Falkirk.—**Helmet Bodies, Khaki:** Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Hides, Enamelled:** Bryant & Co., London, S.E.—**Hides, Rough, Split:** J. S. Deeds & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Jerkins, Leather:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs; Pursers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lorries, Medium, Six-wheeled:** Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Vulcan Motor & Eng. Co., Ltd., Southport; Thornycroft & Co., Basingstoke.—**Metal Rod (Copper Alloy):** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Froghall, Staffs.—

Methylated Spirit: Jones & Co. (Methylators), Ltd., London, E.—**Mits, Woollen:** The Overland Glove Co., Leicester.—**Motor Cycles and Combinations:** Triumph Motor Cycle Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Nails, Wire, Iron:** Hall & Rice, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Netting, Mosquito:** Flersheim & Co., Ltd., Nottingham; A. Topham, Nottingham.—**Ovens, Baking:** W. F. Mason, Ltd., Manchester.—**Paint, G.O., White Lead:** Hall, Dunbar & Co., Leith.—**Pipes and Fittings:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pipes, Cast Iron:** Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge.—**Pullthroughs, Cord:** W. Jones & Co., Bridport.—**Puttees, S.D.:** Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Som.; R. Brearley & Son, Ltd., Batley.—**Rugs, Horse:** E. H. Price, Hadleigh, Suffolk.—**Sheets, Barrack, Linen:** Lamb & Scott, Ltd., Brechin; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Sheets, Cotton:** G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.—**Silk Cloth:** E. Wilman & Sons, Ltd., Hadfield.—**Steel, Shell:** Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Industrial Steels, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Stoves, Oil, Spares:** Ripplingilbes Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tables, Trestle:** W. D. Tucker & Sons, Ltd., London, N.—**Tables, Trestle:** Trestles: Lawson & Co., Glasgow.—**Timber, Yellow Deal:** King & Scarborough, London, E.—**Trousers, Khaki Drill:** Wallis & Linnell, Kettering.—**Tyres:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Vehicles, 4-tracked:** Burford-Kegresse Spares: H. G. Burford & Co., London, W. Crossley-Kegresse Spares: Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—**Vehicles, Six-wheeled, Spares:** Morris & Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Vests, Cotton, Gymnasia:** R. H. Lowe & Co., Ltd., Congleton.—**Works Services: Building Works and Services:** South Aldershot—Periodical Services: A. Bagnell & Sons, Ltd., Shipley. Arborfield Cross, Stabling: Mussellwhite & Son, Basingstoke. London, Northern District, Artificers' Work: Bovis, Ltd., London, W. London, Southern District, Artificers' Work: Truett & Steel, Ltd., Thornton Heath. Colchester, Improvements to Huttad Camps, Reed Hall: F. Hutton & Son, Colchester. Caterham—Artificers' Work: G. Darling, Purley. Dover, Officers' Quarters: R. J. Barwick, Dover. Woolwich, Royal Herbert Hosp., External Painting: Woolwich, R.A. Barracks, External Painting: Woolwich, Medical Inspection Room, etc., External Painting, etc.: Woolwich, Royal Military Repository, etc., External Painting, etc.: F. Holdsworth, Ltd., Shipley. Brighton, Preston Barracks, External Painting: Norman S. Long, Blackpool. Bury St. Edmunds, Drill Shed: H. G. Greengrass, Norwich. Colchester, Tar Spraying of Roads: W. & J. Glossop, Ltd., London, W.C. Colchester, Repairs to Roads: F. Hutton & Son, Colchester. York and Strensall, Repairs to Roads: W. & J. Glossop, Ltd., Hipperholme, near York. Woolwich, Dredging Work: Flower & Everett, Ltd., London, S.W. Edinburgh, Redford Barracks and Dreghorn Castle, External Painting: J. Lawrie & Co., Glasgow. Gravesend, External Painting: S. Lupton & Sons, Bradford. Sheerness, External Painting: F. Holdsworth, Ltd., Shipley. Chatham, Surface dressing of Roads and Parades: H. V. Smith & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester.—**Aircraft, Installation of Engines in:** Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft, Metal Floats for:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Aircraft, Modifications to:** S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning of:** Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Olympia, Leeds; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; G. Parnall & Co., Bristol; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight; Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Spares:** Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Spares for Stores, Dropping Apparatus:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft, Stores, Dropping Apparatus and Spares:** Calthrop's Aerial Patents, Ltd., London, W.; C. G. Spencer & Sons, Ltd., London, N.—**Aircscrews and Cases:** Aircscrew Co., Weybridge.—**Aircscrews:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Armatures and Spares:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., London, W.C.—**Bombs, Baby Incendiary:** Thames Ammunition Works, Ltd., Erith; Vickers, Ltd., Dartford.—**Bombs, Navigation, Float Smoke:** Armstrong Whitworth & Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Battery (Martlesham Heath): Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Housing Accommodation (Eskdalemuir): J. G. Hope, Lockerbie, N.B. Petrol (M.T.) Installations (Bicester and Heyford): Simmons & Hawker, 11, Tavistock Square, W.C. Petrol (Aviation) Installations (Bicester): Bywater & Co., London, W.C.; Installations (Heyford): Simmons & Hawker, London, W.C. Repairs to Breakwater (Cattewater): W. Jones & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Surface Grinding Machine (Henlow): Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Broadheath, nr. Manchester.—**Cable, Electric:** W. T. Henley's Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Caps, Blue:** L. Silberston,

London, E.—**Cases, Engine, Aircraft:** Aircscrew Co., Weybridge.—**Control, Resistance and Voltmeter:** E. Turner, High Wycombe.—**Dope, Cellulose Acetate:** British Celanese, Ltd., London, S.W.; Cellon (Richmond), Ltd., Richmond, Surrey.—**Drives, Flexible:** S. Smith & Sons (M.A.), Ltd., London, N.W.—**Engine Aircraft:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Modifications to:** Ricardo & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Rebuilding of:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares:** Gillett, Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares, Modifying of:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Testing Unit:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Type Test on:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Generators, Hand:** M. L. Magneto Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Gloves, Worsted, Blue:** Alfred Yates & Co., Leicester.—**Goldbeater Skins:** Puckridge & Nephew, Ltd., London, E.—**Halyards, Mast and Adjusters, Stay:** Wright's Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Hangars (Baghdad):** Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Hydrogen-Kerosene Engine, Rebuilding of:** Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Jacks, Hi-Lift:** Harvey Frost & Co. (1924), Ltd., London, W.—**Magnets, B.T.H.:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Magnetos, Watford:** North & Son, Ltd., Watford.—**Mast Sections:** McGruer Hollow Spar Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Mast Sections, W/T:** Talbot-Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Mast Stays:** Bullivant & Co., Ltd., Dagenham.—**Navigation Lamp, Spares:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Oxygen Gas:** British Oxygen Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Parachutes:** Irving Air Chute of Great Britain, Ltd., Letchworth, Herts.—**Plugs, Sparking:** Robinhood Engineering Works, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Radiators, Aircraft:** Excelsior Motor Radiator Co., Ltd., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; J. Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Reid Reaction Apparatus:** Reid Manufacturing & Construction Co., London, N.W.—**Sheets, Aluminium:** Aluminium Corporation, Ltd., Dalgarrog, N. Wales.—**Sights, Bomb, Course Setting:** Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Annesland, Glasgow.—**Slips, Release:** B.S.A. Guns, Birmingham.—**Solder, Tinman's:** Tyne Solder Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Soyer Stoves:** S. J. & E. Fellows, Wolverhampton.—**Stannic Chloride:** Wm. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.—**Tubes, Inner, Aero:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wheels, Tyres and Shields, Aero:** Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wind Balanced Ring Mountings:** Vickers, Ltd., Dartford.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Agency for Press Advertising (Scotland): Robertson & Scott, Edinburgh.—**Cloth, Tracing:** Cousins & Co., Manchester.—**Paper (of various descriptions):** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik; Cooke & Nuttall, Ltd., Horwich, Lancs.; Fisher & Co., Ltd., Tamworth, Staffs.; S. Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Olives Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury (Lancs.); Ryburndale Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ripponden.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, &c.:** Bookwork Printing, Group 2 (1927), Wyman & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 3 (1927), Group 4 (1927), Group 5 (1927), Group 7 (1927), Group 8 (1927), H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow and Hare Street. Letterpress Bookbinding British Museum: H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow. Despatch Boxes, Attaché Cases, Portfolios and Gusset Cases: John Peck & Son, London, S.E. 10,500 Posters (Empire Marketing Board): Johnson, Riddle & Co., Ltd., Penge. 65,000 Motor Drivers' Licences (Northern Ireland): Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London and Dunstable. 13,500 "S.O. Book 127": Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Stencils:** Ellams Duplicate Co., Ltd., Bushey, Herts.—**Toilet Rolls:** Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Waste Paper (Collection and Disposal) (Manchester):** Chadwick, Lunt & Co., Manchester.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Peel-Connor Telephone Works (General Electric Co., Ltd.), Coventry; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. or N.W.; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Wireless:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Baskets:** W. H. Sharp, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Battery Stores:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; C. A. Vandervell & Co., Ltd. and Reduced, London, W.—**Blocks, Terminal:** Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cable, Various:** Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Chloride of Manganese:** Everitt & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Cleats, Zinc:** Alex. Hawkins & Sons, Birmingham.—**Clips, Earth:** E. Showell & Sons, Ltd., Stinchley, Birmingham.—**Clocks:** Gillett & Johnston, Croydon.—**Cloths, Mutton:** Joseph Cookson, Ltd., Manchester.—**Coal:** Wm. Cory & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coils, Loading (to encase):** General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Containers for Mailbags:** W. Goodyear & Sons, Ltd., Dudley, Worcs.—**Cords for Telephones:** International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Springfield, Dudley.—**Dynamotors:** W. Jones & Co., London, S.E.—**Head Dresses:** E. Altman, Ltd., Aldershot; R. Z.

Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, S.E.; R. Silberston, London, E.—**Ironwork:** John Hill & Sons, Stourbridge; T. W. Lench, Ltd., Blackheath, Birmingham; D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Ladders:** A. Beer & Son, Bristol; F. Parker & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Lamps:** Powell & Hanmer, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lugs, Lead:** Thos. Francis & Co., Ltd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.—**Oil, Kerosene:** British Petroleum Co., Ltd., Llandarcy, S. Wales.—**Outfits, Leather, for Motor Drivers:** F. Bryan, Ltd., Worcester; H. Berg, London, E.; G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Screws, Coach:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Thread:** Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Vehicles, Motor, and Parts:** W. H. Perry, Ltd., London, N.; Scammell Lorries, Ltd., Watford.—**Wire, Bronze:** Greenwich Cable Works, Ltd., London, E.—**Wire, Cadmium Copper:** Thos. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakmoor, Staffs; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester.—**Wire, Copper:** Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak, Birmingham.—**Wire, Copper and Enamelled:** Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester.—**Wire, G.I.:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Extension of P.O.:** W. J. Haward, Hoddesdon.—**Alterations, T.E.:** W. Hartley, Wexham, Slough.

Batteries (Replacing): Southampton Telephone Exchange; Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants.—**Cable (Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing):** London-Amersham (Chorley Wood-Amersham Section); W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Bradford-Airedale (Bradford Exchange-Keighley Exchange Section); Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton. Mansfield-Clown (Barlborough); Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Bradford-Airedale (Bradford Exchange-Skipton Exchange Section); British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Conduits (Laying):** Horsham (Sussex); G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Chesterfield; W. Turner (Arwdick), Ltd., Manchester. Bolney, Cuckfield and Warminglid (Sussex); Fordyce Bros., Orpington. Weston-super-Mare; Wellington (Somerset); Moore & Rowley, Northfield, Birmingham. Brighton-Hastings (Section 1); (Section 2); (Section 3); (Section 4); (Section 5): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Uxbridge (Middlesex); Godstone and Limsfield (Surrey); Walton-on-Thames (Surrey); Molesey (Scheme 2); J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Bradford (Scheme 1, Allerton Road and Manningham Lane); Bradford (Scheme 2); Whittaker, Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Bosham (Sussex); W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Radcliffe (Lancs); W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Finsbury, etc.; Croydon (No. 2); J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Bootle (Stanley Road); Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Bideford; G. F. Leadbeter, Newport (Mon.). Camberwell, etc.; St. Pancras; Deptford, etc.; O. C. Summers, London, N. Westminster and Chelsea; T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Crieff; E. E. Jeavons & Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs. Spalding (Lines); W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Grappenhall, nr. Warrington. Norwich; J. McLaren, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Kensington, Paddington and St. Marylebone; Westminster Road Construction and Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Birmingham (Longbridge and Kings Norton) and Quinton; J. F. Hodge, Rednal, Birmingham.—**Low-Tension Switch Gear and Low-Tension Cables:** Metropolitan Automatic Telephone Exchange; J. G. Statter & Co., London, S.W.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Southend-on-Sea (Southend-on-Sea Multi-Exchange Area); Leigh-on-Sea (Leigh-on-Sea Multi-Exchange Area); Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machines. Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines. Chloride E.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W., for Batteries. Marine (Southend-on-Sea Multi-Exchange Area); Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines. Chloride E.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W., for Batteries. Thorpe Bay (Southend-on-Sea Multi-Exchange Area); Hadleigh (do.); Rochford (do.); Great Wakering (do.); Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractor: Walter Jones & Co., London, S.E., for Ringing Machines. Upminster (Essex); Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Machines. Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Batteries. Belfast (Relief) Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Hillside Park (Finchley, N.): Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby, for Machines. Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Batteries. York: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Giffnock (Glasgow); Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C. Reliance (T.E. 17): General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines. D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Liverpool Area; Croydon (Automatic); Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Barrow-in-Furness Corporation; Brintons, Ltd. (Kidderminster); Waring & Gillow, Ltd. (W.1); Meccano, Ltd. (Liverpool); Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Bars: British Reinforced Concrete Eng. Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Battery Materials:** Siemens Brothers and Company, Limited, London, S.E.—**Blowers:** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Boards:** Celotex Co. of Great Britain, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Boilers:** J. Neilson & Son, Ltd., Glasgow, S.E.—**Bolts, etc.:** V. & R. Blakemore, 86, Leadenhall Street, E.C.—**Boots:** S. Walker, Walgrave, Northampton.—**Cables:** Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypidd; Callender's Cable & Constn. Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Carriages:** Birmingham Railway Carr. & Wagon Co., Ltd., S.Methwick.—**Cement:** T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Cement Marketing Co.,

London, S.W.—**Chassis**: Albion Motor Car Co., Scotstoun, Glasgow; Commercial Cars Ltd., Soho, Birmingham.—**Cloth**: H. Booth & Sons, Gilderstone, nr. Leeds.—**Clothing**: T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.; D. Payne & Sons, Hinckley; Milns, Cartwright Reynolds, Ltd., London, S.W.; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Coal**: Pyman, Watson & Co., Ltd., Cardiff.—**Colfix**: Montgomerie, Stobo & Co., Ltd., Bridgeton, Glasgow.—**Cotton Wool**: Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Copper**: R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester.—**Culverts**: J. Lysaght, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Disinfecting Fluid**: Jeyes Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drugs**: Burroughs Wellcome & Co., London, E.C.—**Electric Lighting Equipment**: J. 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