MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Vol. XXXV.—No. 1.]

JANUARY, 1927.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.

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

EMPLOYMENT.

With the resumption of work at the coal mines there was an improvement in employment in nearly all the principal industries during the first three weeks of December. In iron-mining, at coke-ovens, in the iron, steel, and tinplate industries, and in railway carriage and wagon building (all of which had been specially affected by the coal-mining stoppage), there were substantial reductions in the proportions of workpeople unemployed. Considerable improvements were also recorded in the cotton industry, in the railway service, and in brick manufacture. As usual, however, there was a seasonal decline in employment after Christmas.

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 at 20th December, 1926, was 11.9* as compared with 13.5* at 22nd November, 1926, and 10.4 at 21st December, 1925. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 12.2 at the end of December, 1926, as compared with 13·2 at the end of November, 1926, and with 11·0 at the end of December, 1925. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 20th December, 1926, was approximately 1,357,000, of whom 1,075,000 were men and 222,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 29th November, 1926, it was 1.545,000, of whom 1,206,000 were men and 265,000 were women; and at 21st December, 1925, it was 1,166,000, of whom 933,000 were men and 183,000 were women. The figures relating to 29th November, 1926, and those for 20th December, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who were disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute.

Wages.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in wages reported to have come into operation during December resulted in an increase of about £20,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 150,000 workpeople and in a reduction of £4,650 in those of 24,000 workpeople. (These figures are exclusive of changes in the wages of coal miners in certain districts which were reported last month as taking effect early in December and were included in the statistics for November, published in the last month's issue of this GAZETTE.)

The increases in the wages of coal miners included in the above figures occurred in the Forest of Dean, South

* These percentages include coal mining, but in respect of that industry only those unemployed persons who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute are taken into account. In other industries (excluding coal mining) the percentage of unemployment at 20th December was 12·1, as compared with 14·1 at 22nd November, 1926.

Staffordshire, and Warwickshire districts. Other groups of workpeople whose wages were increased in December included iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, electrical cable makers, steel sheet millmen and galvanisers and blastfurnacemen in Cumberland.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by reductions included in the above figures were coal miners in the Bristol and North Wales districts, iron-ore miners in Cumberland, and railway traffic workers in Northern Ireland.

The changes in wages so far reported to the Department for the year 1926, in the industries for which statistics are compiled, have resulted in net increases of nearly £120,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 420,000 workpeople and in net reductions of over £81,000 in those of about 740,000 workpeople. In 1925, there were net increases of over £80,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 870,000 workpeople, and net reductions of nearly £160,000 in those of 850,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st January 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 75 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 79 per cent. a month earlier and 75 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the average percentage increase over the pre-war level declined from 69 per cent. at 1st December to 67 per cent. at 1st January, but the greater part of the decline in the general average was due to the reductions in the prices of coal during December.

TRADE DISPUTES.

At the beginning of December about 450,000 work-people in the coal-mining industry continued to be involved in the stoppage of work which began on 1st May. During the first three weeks of December the majority of these workpeople resumed work, the date of resumption varying in different cases. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about three million in December, making a total of nearly 146 million days lost during the whole period of the stoppage.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as in progress in December, was 15. 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 about 3,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in December was about 14,000 working days.

During the whole of 1926, 313 disputes causing a stoppage of work were reported to the Department. These disputes involved about $2\frac{3}{4}$ million workpeople in a loss of nearly 163 million working days. Almost the whole of this loss was due to the coal-mining dispute and the general strike.

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN 1926.

EMPLOYMENT.

AFTER the usual seasonal increase in unemployment in the last week of December, 1925, there was a continuous improvement in employment during the first four months of 1926. The proportion of insured workpeople unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which had been 11.0 per cent. at the end of November and 10.4 per cent. at 21st December, 1925, gradually declined from 11.0 per cent. at the end of January to 9.1 per cent. at the end of April, 1926. The number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, Branch Offices, and Juvenile Employment Bureaux, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which had risen from 1,166,000 at 21st December, 1925, to 1,316,000 at the beginning of January, 1926, had fallen to 1,034,000 by the end of April. At the latter date, both the percentage rate of unemployment among insured workpeople and the number of applicants for employment registered at the Employment Exchanges, etc., were the lowest recorded since December, 1920. While employment was still bad in some of the principal industries, including iron and steel manufacture, shipbuilding, marine engineering, and the linen and jute trades, it was fair in coal mining, fairly good in some sections of the metal, printing, and clothing trades, in the furnishing trades, and in coachbuilding, and good with skilled building operatives and brickmakers. In the cotton industry it was fairly good in the section using mainly Egyptian cotton, but slack in other branches. In the wool textile industry it was fair in the worsted section, and moderate in the woollen

From May onwards employment was seriously affected, in the first half of that month by the general strike, and subsequently by the increasing shortage of fuel resulting from the dispute and stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May and continued to some extent into December. The proportion of insured workpeople unemployed (apart from those who ceased work in the coal-mining industry owing to the dispute) rose to 14.3 per cent. at the end of May and to 14.6 per cent. at the end of June, and at the end of November it was 13.5 per cent. The number of applicants for employment registered at the Employment Exchanges, etc., was nearly 1,700,000 at the end of June, and 1,545,000 at the end of

After the termination of the coal-mining stoppage there was an improvement in employment. At 20th December, 1926, the proportion of insured workers unemployed (exclusive of those persons in the coal-mining industry who, at that date, remained disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification) had fallen to 11.9 per cent., as compared with 10.4 per cent. on 21st December, 1925, and the number of applicants for employment registered at the Local Offices, etc., to 1,357,000 as compared with 1,166,000 at 21st December, 1925. Notwithstanding this improvement, employment was still bad, at the end of the year, in many of the principal industries, especially in iron-ore mining, iron and steel manufacture, and shipbuilding.

The following Table shows, month by month since December, 1925, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of certain Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The two columns of unemployment total percentages are given on the following bases: in the first, the coal-mining industry is included*; in the second, the coal-mining industry is excluded altogether, both from the numbers insured and the numbers

restational st			Unemploy of month			Numbers (Insured
	TE .but on any		nsured Wo	rkpeople	· fair	and Unin- sured)
Month.	Trade Unions		deal w	To	tal.	registered at Em-
Perceptors	making	Males.	Females.	Includ- ing coal mining.	Excluding coal mining.	ployment Exchanges, etc.
1925. December†	11.0	11.5	7.3	10.4	10.4	1,166,000
January February March April May June	10.6 10.4 10.1 10.0 13.2 12.9	12·1 11·4 10·8 10·0 14·9 15·4	8·1 7·7 7·1 6·7 12·6 12·2	11·0 10·4 9·8 9·1 14·3* 14·6*	11·2 10·6 9·9 9·4 15·1 15·3	1,237,000 1,169,000 1,070,000 1,034,000* 1,675,000 1,699,000
July August September October November December	13·2 13·3 13·6 13·6 13·2 12·2	15·1 14·9 14·7 14·8 14·8	12 · 7 11 · 6 11 · 0 10 · 3 10 · 0 8 · 4	14·4* 14·0* 13·7* 13·6* 13·5* 11·9*	15·1 14·6 14·2 14·1 14·1	1,664,000 1,606,000 1,582,000 1,610,000 1,545,000 1,357,000

The proportions of insured workers recorded as unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in December of each of the years 1921 to 1926 have been as follows:-

December	1921	1	4.55	-	7	17.9 per cent.
,,	1922					12.8 ,,
,,	1923					10.6 ,,
,,	1924					10.7 ,,
,,	1925					10.4 ,,
,,	1926					11.9 ,,

As the Unemployment Insurance Acts, prior to the end of 1920, applied to a much smaller number of industries than at present, the total number of insured persons being about 4 millions in 1920, compared with about 12 millions at the present time, comparable figures cannot be given for earlier years. The following Table, however, gives comparative figures for the period 1900–1925 of the percentage of members unemployed in certain Trade Unions making returns to the Department, showing separately (a) the mean of the 12 monthly percentages for each year, and (b) the percentage for the end of December in each year. The aggregate membership of the Trade Unions concerned at the end of 1926 was about 800,000.

IAUN.	Percentage	Unemployed.	.oM.	Percentage	Unemployed.
Year.	Mean of End of December.		Year.	Mean of Year.	End of December.
1900 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 1912 1913	2·5 3·3 4·0 4·7 6·0 5·0 3·6 3·7 7·8 7·7 4·7 3·0 3·2 2·1	3.5 4.2 5.0 6.3 7.1 4.4 5.6 9.6 5.0 3.1 2.3	1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926	3·3 1·1 0·4 0·7 0·8 2·4 2·4 14·8 15·2 11·3 8·1 10·5 12·2	2.5 0.6 0.3 1.4 1.2 3.2 6.0 16.2 13.8 9.3 9.2 11.0

A special article dealing with the effects of the coal-mining stoppage on unemployment in the principal industries appears on pages 6 to 10. RATES OF WAGES.*

The numbers of workpeople affected by changes in rates of wages, and the net effect of the changes on the general level of wages, were smaller than in any year since 1914.

In the industries and services for which statistics are availablet the changes reported during the year resulted in an aggregate net increase of nearly £120,000 in the full-time weekly wages of 420,000 workpeople, and in a net decrease of over £81,000 in those of 740,000 workpeople. In 1925 there were net increases amounting to over £80,000 a week in the wages of about 870,000 workpeople, and net decreases amounting to nearly £160,000 a week in those of 850,000 workpeople. These figures, it should be observed, are exclusive of changes in the wages of agricultural labourers; in 1925 considerable numbers of such workers obtained increases in wages, and if these were included the statistics for that year would show a slight net increase, but in 1926 there was little movement in the wages of these

The following Table shows the number of workpeople affected by the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department in 1925 and 1926, and the net amount of the change in their weekly rates of wages, in each of the principal groups of industries for which statistics are available†

Industry	people	ximate No obtaining staining n ctively, in	Total Net Amount of Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the weekly Wages of those affected.			
Group.	19	25.	19	26.	000.00	1 48 m
	In- creases.	De- creases.	In- creases.	De- creases.	1925.	1926.
Mining and Quarrying Brick, Pottery,	9,000	404,000	210,000	236,000	− 67,050	+ 52,600
Glass, Chemical, etc Iron and Steel Engineering, Ship- building and	30 000 19,000	1,150 162,000	5,600 61,000	1,000 66,000	+ 4,550 - 34,550	+ 690 - 3,600
other Metal Textile Clothing Food, Drink and	38,500 62,500 218,000	38,000 59,000 6,350	6,000 10,000 7,250	34,000 126,000 2,600	- 550 + 100 + 21,140	- 4,100 - 6,500 + 530
Tobacco Woodworking, etc. Paper, Printing,	23,750 5,750	10,500 4,250	28,000 650	15,500 5,000	+ 960 + 240	+ 720 - 440
etc Building and Al- lied Industries	10,500 43,500	500	17,500 41,000	50 100	+ 1,660 + 5,000	+ 2,100 + 7,000
Transport Public Utility Services	210,000 172,000	7,750	2,000 18,000 10,000	194,000	- 27,400 + 15,600	- 9,900 - 2,000
Other Total	30,500 873,000	6,500 851,000	417,000	739,000	+ 2,200 $-$ 78,100	+ 400 + 37,500

It should be observed that, as the changes in the wages of adult men have usually been greater than those affecting wo

* The figures given for 1926 are preliminary and subject to revision. Those for 1925 and earlier years have been revised in accordance with the latest information available.

† The statistics are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, Government employees, domestic servants, shop assistants, and clerks. They relate to rates of wages for a full week, assuming full employment, and do not take account of variations in actual earnings resulting from changes in the state of employment. In many cases changes arranged by individual employers, and affecting unorganised workers, are not reported to the Department

girls, comparisons of the average amount of change per head in different groups of industries, to be deduced from the figures given in this Table, are affected by the varying proportions of men, women and young persons employed in those industries. It should also be noted that the changes in wage rates reported to the Department consist mainly of those arranged between organised groups of workpeople and employers, and that many changes among unorganised workers, especially those affecting only employees of single firms,

January, 1927.

Increases in Wages in 1926 .- In the coal-mining industry, rates of wages were increased,* on the resumption of work after the stoppage, in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Cannock Chase, North and South Staffordshire, and the Forest of Dean. In some other districts (see below) they were reduced. The principal other bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased in 1926 included iron miners and blastfurnace workers in Cleveland, iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, paper makers (except the higher-paid men), building trade operatives in the Liverpool district, workers engaged in civil engineering construction, and electricity supply workers in London. The minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were raised in the aerated water trade in England and Wales.

Reductions in Wages in 1926.—The industries in which the largest numbers of workers sustained a net decrease were coal mining, iron and steel, textile, and transport. The principal reductions in the coal-mining industry occurred in Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, North Wales and the Radstock area, where work was resumed, after the stoppage, at rates of wages lower than those prevailing in April.* In the iron and steel industries there were net reductions in the wages of steel smelters and millmen in various districts in England and Scotland, in those of steel sheet millmen in England and Wales, and in those of iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire. In the textile industries the principal reductions affected linen operatives in Northern Ireland, carpet makers, and bleachers, dyers, etc. The net reduction in the transport industries was mainly accounted for by a reduction, under a cost-of-living sliding scale, in the rates of wages of a considerable number of railway workers. Other groups of workpeople who sustained a net reduction in wages during the year included shale miners, most classes of tinplate makers, wire drawers, seed crushers and oil millers, and electricity supply workers in various provincial districts.

Industries in which Wages were at the same level at the end of 1926 as at the end of 1925.—Apart from the workpeople covered by the changes for which statistics are included in the above Table, nearly 445,000 workpeople received increases, and also sustained reductions. at different dates in 1926, which left their wages at the same level at the end as at the beginning of the year. Amongst these were electrical cable makers, bobbin makers, chain and anchor makers, hosiery workers in the Midlands, boot and shoe makers and repairers, dyers and dry cleaners, men employed by electrical contractors, paper-bag and paper-box makers, brush and broom makers, waterworks employees in London and various provincial towns, and workpeople employed in the non-trading services of a large number of local authorities in London, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, and the East and South Midlands.

In a large number of cases weekly rates of wages remained unchanged throughout the year. These included coal mining* in Yorkshire, Lancashire, South Wales and Scotland, chemical, brick, pottery and glass manufacture, engineering, shipbuilding, light castings manufacture, the cotton and wool textile industries, printing, building (except at Liverpool), dock labour, marine transport, flour milling, vehicle building, tanning, rubber manufacture,

Summary for 1926.—When account is taken of all the information available to the Department, it would appear that, at the end of 1926, weekly full-time rates of wages were at about the same level, on the average, as at the end of 1925, and about 75 per cent. higher than in August, 1914. This estimate relates to rates of wages for a full normal week, and takes no account of changes in earnings resulting from alterations in the state of employment, the effect of which varied in different industries.

METHODS BY WHICH CHANGES IN WAGES WERE ARRANGED.

As indicated above, some workpeople obtained increases in wages during 1926, others sustained reductions, and in a considerable number of cases the same workpeople obtained increases and sustained reductions at different dates in the year. The total of all the increases reported to the Department was equivalent to about £193,500 a week, and the total of all the reductions to £156,000 a week, the net effect being an increase of £37,500 a week.

Of the total *increase* of £193,500 per week, nearly £55,000 resulted from the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales (including £13,500 under scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils and other standing joint bodies of employers and workpeople, and nearly £9,000 under scales embodied in Trade Board Orders). Other increases arranged y standing joint bodies accounted for nearly £2,000, and by Trade Boards for rather over £2,000. Over £25,000 took effect under sliding ependent on sellin of manufactured iron, steel, etc., and increases amounting to £3,600 were the result of arbitration. The remaining increases, amounting to £106,000 a week, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople; of these, increases of £97,000 were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, the workpeople concerned being principally coal

* The hours of labour per shift or per week were increased on the resumption of work. (See under Hours of Labour in the next column.)

Of the total weekly reduction of £156,000, over £69,000 was due to the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales; this sum includes nearly £9,000 under scales embodied in Trade Board Orders and £16,000 under scales arranged by Joint Industrial Councils and other standing joint bodies of employers and workpeople. Under other agreements made by the latter there was a reduction of nearly £2,000. Sliding scales dependent on selling prices, etc. accounted for over £29,000. Of the remaining £56,000, £1,400 was the result of arbitration, and the rest, apart from a small sum (less than £500) under Trade Board Orders other than those embodying a cost-ofliving sliding scale, was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, including nearly £45,000 which took effect after disputes causing stoppage of work, most of the latter amount affecting coal miners.

CHANGES IN WAGES IN THE YEARS 1919-1926.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople, in the industries and services for which statistics are available,* whose rates of wages were increased or reduced (so far as reported) in each of the years 1919-1926, and the net amount of increase or decrease in their weekly rates of wages :-

Year.	of Workpe	ate Number cople whose Wages were	Total Net	Amount of	Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-)		
	Increased.	Decreased.	Increase.	Decrease.	in the rates of Wages of those affected.		
1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925	6,240,000 7,867,000 78,000 73,700 1,202,000 3,019,000 873,000 417,000	100 500 7,244,000 7,633,000 3,079,000 481,500 851,000 739,000	£ 2,547,200 4,793,200 13,600 11,450 169,000 616,000 80,900 119,000	£ 60 180 6,074,600 4,221,500 486,000 62,100 159,000 81,500	$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ + & 2,547,140 \\ + & 4,793,020 \\ - & 6,061,000 \\ - & 4,210,050 \\ - & 317,000 \\ + & 553,900 \\ - & 78,100 \\ + & 37,500 \\ \end{array}$		

In view of the limitations to which attention has been drawn above and particularly to the fact that certain large groups of workpeople (notably agricultural labourers) are not covered by these statistics, the figures given in this Table should not be regarded as affording more than a general indication of the movement of wages in any year, and as a very rough measure of the extent of such movement in comparison with that in other years; and significance should not be attached to small differences in the amount of change as between one year and another.

HOURS OF LABOUR.*

The total number of workers whose normal hours of labour were reported to the Department as having been changed in 1926 was about 933,000, all of whom, except 340 whose hours were reduced by 1,000 per week, were engaged in coal mining. The increase in working time for these workpeople averaged about 41 hours per

In the coal mining industry the hours of labour were increased from 7 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per shift for all underground workers in Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire (except South Derbyshire), and Kent, from 7 to 7½ for hewers and from 7 to 8 for other underground workers in Northumberland and Durham, and from 7 to 8 per shift for underground workers in other districts. In the case of surface workers the hours were increased by varying amounts, usually of $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours per week, but in some cases by larger amounts than these, up to 5 hours per week.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople whose hours of labour were reported as changed in each of the years 1919 to 1926, together with the aggregate amount of the change in weekly

	Approximate Numb whose Hours of	Aggregate Net Increase (+) or	
Year.	Increased.	Reduced.	Decrease (-) in Weekly Hours.
1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926	1,150 2,000 31,500 16,000 325,000 13,150 1,300 932,600	6,305,000 570,000 12,900 302,700 9,600 16,150 3,925 340	$\begin{array}{c} -\ \ 40,651,000 \\ -\ \ 2,114,000 \\ +\ \ 14,500 \\ -\ \ 93,000 \\ +\ \ 108,750 \\ +\ \ 12,500 \\ -\ \ 11,750 \\ +\ \ 3,972,000 \end{array}$

COST OF LIVING.

At the beginning of 1926 the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, as shown by the index numbers compiled by the Ministry of Labour, averaged approximately 75 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 80 per cent. at the beginning of the previous year. During the early part of 1926 the figure fell in successive months until, at 1st May, it was 67 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, the lowest percentage recorded at any date since early in 1917. At 1st June a slight rise was shown, and from that date to 1st December, when the index figure stood at 79, a more or less continual rise was recorded. From this figure it declined to 75 on 1st January, 1927.

The following Table shows, month by month, during the period under review, the average percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices of each of the five main groups of

* See footnote † in second coolumn on page 2.
† If agricultural labourers were included, the net reduction of £78,100 shown for 1925 would be converted into a slight increase.

^{*} 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 are taken into account in the unemployment statistics.

† For insured workpeople and for numbers registered the figures relate to 21st December, 1925, and 20th December, 1926.

items (food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous other items) included in the figures. The particulars given relate to the changes in the prices of those articles, and those descriptions of each article, most generally bought by working-class families. In computing the final percentages for "All Items included" the percentages for the various groups are combined in the following proportions: food $7\frac{1}{2}$, rent 2, clothing $1\frac{1}{2}$, fuel and light 1, other items included $\frac{1}{2}$. Details of the separate articles included within these groups, and of the methods adopted in compiling these index numbers, were published in the issues of this GAZETTE for February, 1921, and

Average Percentage Increase in Retail Prices, Rents, etc., over the level of July, 1914.

Date.	Food.	Rent (including Rates).	Clothing.	Fuel and Light.	Other Items included.	All Items included.
January lst February lst March lst April lst May lst June lst July lst September lst October lst November lst December lst	71 68 65 59 58 61 61 62 63 69	48 48 48 49 49 50 50 50 50 50	125 125 125 120-125 120-125 120-125 120 120 120 15-120 115-120	80-85 85 85 85 85 90 95 100 110-115 130 155 150	80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80	75 73 72 68 67 68 70 70 72 74 79
1927: January 1st	994 67	51	115–120	115	80	75

It will be observed from the above Table that while, as is usually the case, changes in food prices accounted for much of the fluctuation during the year in the index figure for "All Items," a considerable part of the rise in the latter part of the year was due to the increased cost of fuel and light resulting from the coal-mining stoppage.

Food.—Retail prices of food declined from the beginning of the year, when they averaged approximately 71 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, until, at 1st May and 1st June, the index figure for food alone stood at 58, the lowest recorded figure since 1st May, 1916. From 1st July the figure rose slowly until 1st October, and more sharply, to 69, at 1st November. There was no change in the succeeding month, but a fall, to 67 per cent. above the pre-war level, was recorded at 1st January, 1927. The fluctuations in the figure largely resulted from seasonal changes in the prices of eggs and milk and to a lesser extent of potatoes. It is worthy of note that at the beginning of each month of the period under review, the average level of the retail prices of food, as shown by these percentages, was lower than at the corresponding date twelve months earlier. This was largely due to lower prices of beef and mutton and butter throughout the year, and of flour and bread, potatoes, sugar and eggs, during the greater part of the year.

The following Table shows the average prices of the articles of food included in the statistics at 1st January, 1926 and 1927, and 1st June, 1926, together with the average percentage increases, at those dates, as compared with July, 1914:-

Antiala	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest \(\frac{1}{4} \).						Average Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.			
Article.	1st Jan., 1926.		1st June, 1926.		1st Jan., 1927.		1st Jan., 1926.	1st June, 1926.	1st Jan., 1927.	
Beef, British—	8.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Ribs Thin Flank Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	0	5 ³ / ₄	0	5½ 9¾	0	5 91	78 49	75 46	71 43	
Ribs Thin Flank Mutton, British—	0	10½ 5½	0	10 51	0	10 5½	45 17	39 11	39 13	
Legs Breast Mutton, Frozen—	0	7 ¹ / ₂	0	7½ 10½	0	6 1 10 1	86 68	85 64	75 56	
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)* Fish	1 0 1	0½ 5½ 8½	1 0 1	0 51 81	0 0 1	112 51 61	82 35 82 126	75 27 80 115	71 27 65 124	
Flour per 7 lbs. Bread per 4 lbs. Tea Sugar (granulated)	1 0 2 0	6 9 2 5 3 1	0 2 0	61 10 51 31	0 2 0	6 10 51 34	70 70 58 63	72 72 60 67	71 72 60 86	
Milk per quart Butter— Fresh	0 2	62	0	5½	ŏ 1	3 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	92	61	87 59	
Salt Cheese† Margarine Eggs (fresh) each Potatoes per 7 lbs.	1 0 0 0	11 31 8 31 7	1 1 0 0 0	974 14 8 15 64	1 0 0 0	91 12 8 27 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77	62 77 15 167 47	52 60 15 24 39	52 57 15 135 63	

^{*} If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality the returns quote prices for another kind locally representative.

† The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canalian or American, but when such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative,

The only articles of food included in these statistics which on balance showed an appreciable rise in price during the year were granulated sugar, the average price of which was 3½d. per lb. on 1st January, 1926, and 3½d. on 1st January, 1927, and potatoes. Slight increases on balance were shown in the and potatoes. Slight increases on balance were shown in the average prices of flour and bread, and tea. Apart from fish and margarine, in which there was no appreciable change, the average prices of all the other articles of food included in the statistics were lower at the end than at the beginning of the year. The more noticeable changes were a fall of 1½d. to 2d. per lb. in the prices of butter, cheese and bacon, and of ½d. each in the price of eggs. In the case of butchers' meat, the reductions in the price of mutton (¼d. to 1¼d. per lb. according to the cut) were larger than in those of beef (¼d. to ¾d. per lb.).

Rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings, which continued to be subject to the provisions of the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts, rose during the year owing to increases in local rates in a number of towns, and at the end of the year were about 51 per cent. above those of July, 1914, as compared with 48 per cent. a year earlier.

Clothing.—There was a slight but continual fall throughout the year in the retail prices of all articles of clothing and clothing materials taken into consideration in compiling the index number, and at 1st January, 1927, the increase over the July, 1914, level of prices for the whole group was between 115 and 120 per cent., as compared with 125 per cent. at the corresponding date in 1926. The decline was most pronounced in the case of cotton goods, and least so in mark a strike and expressed a way of the party. in men's suits and overcoats and in boots.

Fuel and Light.—There was little change in the retail prices of coal during the early part of the year. At 1st June, however, as a result of the coal-mining stoppage which began on 1st May, a sharp rise was recorded, which continued month by month until, at 1st November, prices averaged about 240 per cent. above those of July, 1914. Thereafter prices fell, and at 1st January, 1927, the average level of coal prices was between 125 and 130 per cent. above pre-war, compared with between 90 and 95 per cent. a year earlier. The prices of gas showed little change during the first three quarters of the year, but as from the beginning of the fourth quarter increased charges were made in many towns, and subsequent further increases raised the made in many towns, and subsequent further increases raised the average level of prices of gas, at 1st January, 1927, to between 80 and 85 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with about 55 per cent. on 1st January, 1926. There was a slight rise, early in the year, in the average price of lamp oil, from a little under 50 to about 55 per cent., and a fall in the price of candles, from about 70 to about 65 per cent above the pre-war level. Matches showed relatively little change during the year, prices averaging about six times as much as in July, 1914. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole the level of prices on 1st January, 1927, was, on the average, about 115 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with between 80 and 85 per cent. twelve months earlier.

Other Items.—In this group of articles prices of soap were reduced slightly in April, but after three months at the lower prices were raised again, and at the end of the year were about the same as at the beginning. Prices of china and earthenware were advanced in many cases, by amounts up to about 10 per cent., in August and September. The remaining articles in the group, viz., soda, ironmongery and brushware, newspapers, tobacco and fares, showed little or no change during 1926, and the net effect of all the movements in the prices of articles in the group of miscellaneous items was so small as to leave the average increase for the group practically unchanged throughout the year, at about 80 per cent. above the pre-war level.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

The following Table compares the means of the average percentage increases recorded for the beginning of each of the twelve months of 1926 with the corresponding means for previous years since the

17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18		Mean percentage increase over the level of July, 1914.								
		1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	
Food only All items	Europa C	119 115	156 149	129½ 126	76 83	69 74	70 75	71 76	64 72	

It will be seen that the figures for 1926, both for food and for all the items included in the statistics, were lower than the corresponding figures for any year since the war.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

The number of trade disputes causing stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in 1926, in Great Britain and Northern

The number of workpeople directly involved (i.e., on strike or ocked out) in these disputes was about 2,721,000; the number indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 9,000. In addition, about 18,000 workpeople were involved in 26 disputes which began in 1925 and continued into

* The figures for 1926 are preliminary and subject to correction. † Disputes involving less than ten workpeople and those which lasted less than one day are 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.

1926. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was thus about 2,748,000.

The aggregate number of working days lost by these workpeople in the disputes was approximately 162,784,000.

While the number of disputes was the smallest recorded in any

January, 1927.

year during the whole period of nearly 40 years for which statistics are available, the number of workpeople involved and the time lost owing to the disputes were greater than in any previous year. This was due to the general stoppage in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, and lasted, in some districts, until December, and, in a less degree, to the general strike which began on 4th May and was called off on 12th May, work being resumed during the following days. The magnitude of the other disputes in 1926 was relatively unimportant, as will be seen from the following figures:—

by ligary for the end of April was at a case waterpounting mean in a	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days. (nearest million.)
General Coal-Mining Stoppage General Strike All other Disputes	1,050,000 1,580,000 118,000	146,000,000 15,000,000 2,000,000
it should be some amount become to	2,748,000	163,000,000

Comparison, by industrial groups, of the figures for 1926 with those for the previous year is given in the following Table:—

	0124	1925.	39 15 300		1926.	NUMBER OF THE
Groups of Industries.	No. of Disputes beginning in 1925.	Number of Work- people involved in all Dis- putes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Dis- putes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in 1926.	Number of Work- people involved in all Dis- putes in progress,	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Dis- putes in progress.
General Strike Coal Mining	164	130,000	3,453,000	1 58	1,580,000 1,098,400	15,000,000 146,992,000
Other Mining and Quarrying	12	8,600	301,000	6	500	22,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc Chemical	13 11	700 600	5,000 29,000	5 3	2,600	43,000 10,000
Engineering Shipbuilding	18 27	6,400 7,000	37,000 49,000	15	3,400	64,000 4,000
Other Metal Textile Clothing	48 59 31	11,600 172,100 4,600	97,000 3,173,000 38,000	37 33 12	9,800 16,600 1,000	129,000 195,000 8,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco Woodworking and	26	5,300	56,000	18	1,700	7,000
Furnishing Paper, Printing, etc. Building, Decora- ting, Contract-	31 17	5,400 19,200	126,000 136,000	12 4	1,500 1,400	29,000 42,000
Ing, etc	54 46	5,400 28,800	79,000 68,000	41 41	3,400 23,300	34,000 169,000
Other Industries and Services	47	39,600	‡319,000	20	2,800	36,000
Total	604	445,300†	7,966,000	313	2,747,500†	162,784,000

Comparative Figures for 1912-1926.—The following Table gives a comparison of the general aggregate figures for the years 1912–1926. In comparing the figures in this Table with those given in the foregoing Table, relating to 1925 and 1926, that in the following Table the particulars of numbers involved relate to those involved in disputes beginning in each year, whilst in the previous Table they relate to the total numbers involved in all disputes in progress:—

Year. Dispute beginning		Number of Disputes	involved in Dis	Number of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in Year.				
		Year.	Directly.	Indirectly.	Days of all Disputes in progres during Year.			
1912		834	1,232,000	230,000	40,890,000			
1913		1,459	497,000	167,000	9,800,000			
1914		972	326,000	121,000	9,880,000			
1915		672	401,000	47,000	2,950,000			
1916		532	235,000	41,000	2,450,000			
1917		730	575,000	297,000	5,650,000			
1918		1,165	923,000	193,000	5,880,000			
1919		1,352	2,401,000	190,000	34,970,000			
1920 1921		1,607	1,779,000	153,000	26,570,000			
1921		763	1,770,000	31,000	85,870,000			
1923	•••	576 628	512,000	40,000	19,850,000			
1924		710	343,000	62,000	10,670,000			
1925		604	558,000	55,000	8,420,000			
1926	***	313*	2,721,000*	9,000*	7,970,000			

In connection with this Table it may be noted that the magnitude of the figures as to the numbers of workpeople involved in disputes and as to the aggregate duration of the disputes for 1912, 1920 and 1921, as well as for 1926, was mainly due to general stoppages of work in the coal-mining industry.

* The figures for 1926 are preliminary and subject to correction.
† Of the total number shown, approximately 40,600 in 1925 and 9,300 in 1926 were indirectly involved—i.e., thrown out of work in consequence of the disputes at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not actually on strike or locked-out.
‡ Including 239,000 in india-rubber and waterproof garment manufacture.

|| Workpeople involved in more than one dispute during the year are counted more than once in the totals for the year. The extent of such duplication is not very considerable except in the case of industries involved in the general strike in May, 1926, and in the coal-mining group, in which about 35,000 workpeople in 1926, 100,000 in 1921, 300,000 in 1920, 150,000 in 1919, and 106,000 in 1912 were involved in more than one dispute.

MEMBERSHIP, INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND FUNDS OF REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS IN 1925.

THE Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies has issued a Statistical Summary,* giving preliminary figures of the membership, income, expenditure and funds in the years 1916–1925 of those Trade Unions in Great Britain which were registered under the Trade Union Acts. The figures given may be subject to adjustment in the Annual Report of the Chief Registrar for 1926.

Comparative figures for the years 1916, 1920 (when the aggregate membership of Trade Unions reached its highest point) and 1923-5, extracted from this Summary, are given below, the membership being shown to the nearest thousand, and the income, expenditure and funds to the nearest £1,000. It should be observed that the figures relate only to Great Britain, and that registered Trade Unions of employers, as well as of employees, are included in the figures. The employers' Unions included, however, form only a small proportion of the total: a grain 1925 they may be produced to the total of of the total; e.g., in 1925 they numbered 93, with a total membership of 44,000, an aggregate income of £126,000, expenditure of £114,000 and funds of £160,000.

Registered Trade Unions in Great Britain.

editos ferences , all de solico la	1916.	1920.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Number of Unions on Register at	(Suppl	anda o	in best	CERTAIN STATE	belehan
end of Year	611			578	58
Number of Returns received†	610	664	583	578	57
		Thous	ands.		
Membership at end of Year	3,670			4,501	4,49
Income:	(II and the state		nds of £	A Comment	a. Line
From Members	4,543	11,315	8,087	8,344	8,10
From Ministry of Labour (Un-					
ployment Insurance and Ad-	22	710	0.040	2.070	7 11
ministration Expenses) From Other Sources	406	312 1,372‡		2,070	3,11
Expenditure:—	400	1,5124	043	330	14
Unemployment, Travelling and			obugot si	A BALLEY	
Emigration Benefits	1178	1,718§	3,7338	3,1398	4,521
Dispute Benefit	90	3,219	721	1,188	33
Sick and Accident Benefit	554	748	783	822	79
Funeral Benefit	230	297	286	310	31
Other Benefits, including Super-	DINE SE			N. D. C. S.	
annuation and Grants to Mem-	507	723	934	992	1 00
Payments from Political Fund	32	185		216	1,06
Grants to Federations, Other	Q,E	100	220	210	- TEA / TE
Societies, etc	167	1,687‡	403	673	35
Management and Other Expenses	1,354		3,308	3,327	3,29
Total Funds:—			SECTION OF	HUNC BU	J. G. S. C.
At beginning of Year		15,917		10,905	11,53
At end of Year	10,521	15,975‡	10,889	11,581	12,70

In the following Table details are given of the aggregate membership, income, expenditure and funds in 1925 in each of a number of different groups of Trade Unions.

	d and t	iogologics	RIA RESIDEN	Expend	liture.	tions'L
Group.	Unions Member- on the ship at Regis- ter.† 1925.		Income.	Unemploy- ment, Tra- velling and Emigration Benefit.	Other Expenditure.	Funds at end of 1925.
Mining and Quarry-		Thou- sands.	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's	£1,000's
ing Metals, Machines, Implements and	99	816	1,456	768	658	1,394
Conveyances Textiles Clothing	77 67 15	665 244 148	3,913 862 367	2,152 453 171	1,550 352 165	2,882 1,410 530
Papermaking, Printing, etc Building, Decorat-	20	145	542	130	332	675
ing, etc Transport Commerce and Fi-	29 28	332 644	1,142 1,235	378 102	588 852	602 3,025
nance Other and General	34 120	219 1,235	340 1,978	34 333	275 1,384	307 1,720
Total of above Registered Employ- ers' Associations	489 93	4,448	11,835 126	4,521	6,156	12,545
GRAND TOTAL	582	4,492	11,961	4,521	6,270	12,705

* H.M. Stationery Office. Price 4d. net.

† In some instances Returns were received from unions removed from the

Register during the year.

the sum of £1,687,000 shown under "Grants to Federations, Other Societies, etc.," in 1920, includes a substantial amount of funds transferred to the Amalgamated Engineering Union by certain unions which amalgamated to form that union in 1920, but not brought into account in the return of that union until 1921. The figures shown for 1920 under "Income from Other Sources" and "Total Funds at end of Year" are, accordingly, lower than would have been the case if these funds had been brought into account.

§ The expenditure on Unemployment, Travelling and Emigration Benefit shown in this Table (e.g., £4,521,000 in 1925) represents the total amount paid by the unions, including, in addition to the benefit chargeable to the funds of the unions, the amounts disbursed by the unions and recoverable from the Ministry of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The total amount receivable each year from the Ministry of Labour on this account and in respect of administration expenses (e.g., £3,114,000 in 1925) is shown under "Income."

COAL-MINING DISPUTE: EFFECT ON EMPLOYMENT IN OTHER INDUSTRIES.

The dispute in the coal-mining industry led to a stoppage of work which began on 1st May, 1926, and which for some months was practically complete throughout all the coal fields of Great Britain. It was not until about the beginning of July that reports were received of the resumption of work in certain districts by a small proportion of the miners, but from that time onwards the numbers showed a steady increase, until at the end of November there were nearly half a million at work in all districts. With the conclusion of agreements at the end of November and in December terminating the dispute, district by district, these numbers rapidly increased.

A stoppage of such a character was bound to have important effects on the state of employment in many other industries and these effects are indicated by the monthly statistics of unemployment among persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. As a general rule, these statistics show the position on the last Monday or the last Monday but one in each month.

At 26th April, 1926, immediately before the coal-mining stoppage began, out of the twelve million persons insured against unemployment 9·2 per cent. were recorded as unemployed; 7·7 per cent. being classified as wholly unemployed and 1·5 per cent. as temporarily stopped from the service of their employers.

Towards the end of May the chief effects of the general strike which began on 4th May and was called off on 12th May had passed away, and the abnormal unemployment which prevailed from the end of May, 1926, onwards may undoubtedly be attributed mainly to the stoppage in the coal-mining industry.

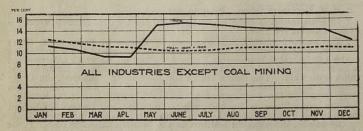
At 24th May the unemployment percentage for all industries except coal mining had risen to 15·1 (wholly unemployed, 9·4 per cent. and temporarily stopped 5·7 per cent.); while by the end of June it had further advanced to a total of 15·3 per cent. (wholly unemployed 9·7 per cent. and temporarily stopped 5·6 per cent.). At the end of July there was a slight reduction to the extent of 0·3 per cent. in the total, and this tendency continued steadily during the succeeding months until at the 22nd November the total percentage unemployed was 14·1 (wholly unemployed 10·0 per cent., and temporarily stopped 4·1 per cent.). At 20th December the total percentage had fallen to 12·1 (wholly unemployed 9·0, and temporarily stopped 3·1). The reduction down to 22nd November occurred entirely among persons classified as temporarily stopped, while the percentage of those wholly unemployed tended to increase. The increase in the percentage relating to those temporarily stopped shows conclusively that the main increase in unemployment was directly attributable to the effects of the coal stoppage (and this is true of the individual industries affected), while the gradual, but slight, increase in those wholly unemployed is doubtless to be attributed to the protracted character of that stoppage. The following Table gives the percentages month by month. The coal-mining industry is excluded throughout.

Percentage of Insured Persons unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.—All Industries except Coal Mining.

Date.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	Date.	Wholly unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.
1926. 26 April 24 May 21 June 26 July 23 Aug	7·8 9·4 9·7 9·4 9·5	1·5 5·7 5·6 5·6 5·1	9·3 15·1 15·3 15·0 14·6	1926. 20 Sept 25 Oct 22 Nov 20 Dec	9.8	4·8 4·3 4·1 3·1	14·2 14·1 14·1 12·1

The trend of these figures from month to month during the period was contrary to the general trend shown by the percentages for corresponding months during the years 1924 and 1925. The following diagram and Table give a comparison between the mean percentage unemployed month by month for the two years 1924 and 1925, and the corresponding figures for 1926. In view of the abnormal conditions in the coal-mining industry both during the summer of 1925 and during 1926 this industry has been excluded throughout.

DIAGRAM 1.



The percentages at the monthly points on the above curves are as follows:—

Month.	Mean of 1924 and 1925.	1926.	Inc. (+) or dec. (-) in 1926.	Month.	Mean of 1924 and 1925.		Inc. (+) or dec. (-) in 1926.
Jan Feb Mar April May June	% 12·4 11·7 11·1 11·0 10·5 10·3	% 11·2 10·6 9·4 9·3 15·1 15·3	- 1·2 - 1·1 - 1·7 - 1·7 + 4·6 + 5·0	July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec	10.5 10.9 10.9 10.8 10.9 10.8	% 15·0 14·6 14·2 14·1 14·1 12·1	+ 4.5 + 3.7 + 3.3 + 3.3 + 3.2 + 1.3

The diagram and Table show that while the early months of 1926 showed on the whole a progressive improvement in employment as compared with the previous two years, this tendency was reversed during May and June. At the end of the latter month the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed reached a total of just over $1\frac{\pi}{4}$ millions. The corresponding figure for the end of April was 1,094,000. It will be observed that at the worst point the percentage unemployed in 1926 exceeded the corresponding mean for 1924 and 1925 by $5\cdot0$.

From the end of July, the comparison between 1926 and the preceding two years shows a steady improvement; this movement was distinctly marked during the month of August, and by the 20th December the percentage of insured persons unemployed exceeded the mean percentage for the corresponding month of 1924 and 1925 by no more than 1.3.

The coal stoppage inevitably affected individual industries and individual districts in different degrees, according to the extent to which coal constitutes a part of the raw material of manufacture or is necessary in the processes of manufacture or is an essential

In the diagrams and Tables illustrating the following industrial analysis, curves and statistics are given showing the percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons in Great Britain and Northern Ireland month by month for 1926, and also, for purposes of comparison, the mean for each calendar month in the period July, 1923, to April, 1926. This latter represents the maximum period for which comparable unemployment statistics, industry by industry, are available.

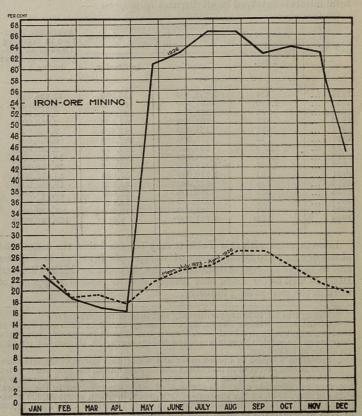
INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS.

Coke Ovens and By-Product Works, of which coal is the raw material, were the most seriously affected. In this industry the percentage rate of unemployment rose from 11·5 at 25th April to 50·0 at 24th May, and it continued to rise (with a slight fluctuation in September) until it reached 72·6 per cent. at 25th October. There was a slight fall to 69·6 per cent. at 22nd November, while by 20th December the figure had decreased to 39·9 per cent. It should be stated that in this industry and also in iron-ore mining and pig-iron production, the percentage rate of unemployment varied greatly in different districts. In some of the larger areas it almost reached the maximum 100 per cent. of the insured population.

Iron and Steel Production, including Iron-ore Mining, also showed heavy increases in unemployment. This was particularly the case with iron-ore mining and pig-iron manufacture.

By the end of May iron-ore mining was practically at a standstill. The percentage rate of unemployment advanced from 16·1 at the 26th April to 61·0 at 24th May, and increased to a maximum of 66·6 at 26th July. A slight gradual improvement appeared during the following four months, but at 22nd November the percentage rate of unemployment still stood at 62·8. The effect of the resumption of work in the coal mines on a large scale is seen in the fact that at 20th December the percentage had fallen to 45·0.

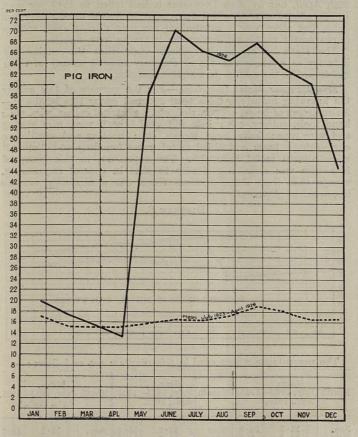
DIAGRAM 2.



The record is the pig-iron industry was very similar. At 26th April the percentage rate of unemployment stood at 13:3. It advanced to 58:5 by 24th May and to 70:1 at 21st June. In the following four months the rate fluctuated to some extent, with a downward tendency on the whole, until at 22nd November it stood at 60:3 per cent. The recovery during December in the industry was at about the same rate as in iron-ore mining. At 20th December the percentage rate of unemployment stood at 44:7, showing a fall of 15:6 during the period of four weeks. During the whole period of seven months May to November, five blast-furnaces remained in op ration out of a total of 147 in blast at the end of April, and the production figure fell to 12,500 tons in September, compared with 539,100 tons in

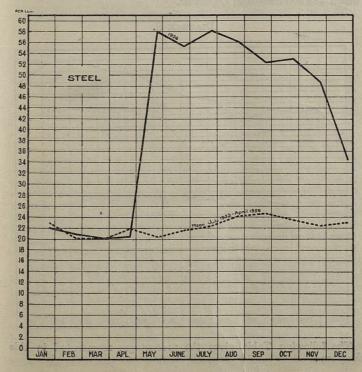
January, 1927.

DIAGRAM 3.



The degree to which the steel industry (including steel melting and iron puddling furnaces, iron and steel rolling mills and forges), was affected was only slightly less than in the case of the pig-iron industry. At 26th April the percentage rate of unemployment in the steel industry was 20·4. It rose to 58·0 per cent. at 24th May, and, after a slight fall in June, advanced to 58·1 per cent. at 26th July. Thereafter there was a fairly steady decline to 48·7 per cent. at 22nd November. In this industry also the recovery during December was pronounced, and at 20th December the percenatge rate of unemployment stood at 34·5. The production of steel ingots and castings fell to 45,700 tons in May, as compared with 661,000 tons in April, but there was a gradual increase each month, until in November the production amounted to 97,500 tons. In December it reached 319,300 tons.

DIAGRAM 4.



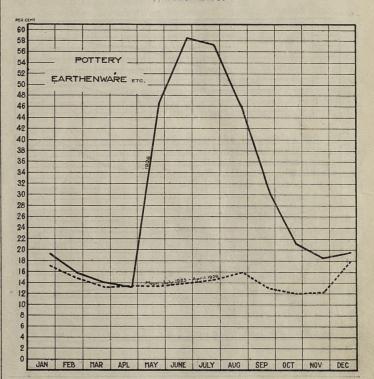
The following Table gives the percentage figures represented by the foregoing diagrams, together with the corresponding percentages for coke oven and by-product works.

		ven and oducts.		n-ore	Pig	Iron.	Ste	eel.
Month (end of).	Mean July, 1923– April, 1926.	1926.	Mean July, 1923– April, 1926.	1926.	Mean July, 1923– April, 1926.	1926.	Mean July, 1923- April, 1926.	1926.
January February March Aprilj May June July September October November December	10·4 9·6 10·0 10·4 9·5 10·2 11·6 10·7 10·8 12·1 11·6 10·7	14·2 13·7 12·3 11·5 50·0 66·2 70·7 72·2 71·9 72·6 69·6 39·9	24·7 18·7 19·1 17·6 21·5 23·5 24·3 26·9 26·8 23·9 20·9	22.7 18.7 16.9 16.1 61.0 62.9 66.6 66.5 62.6 63.8 62.8 45.0	17·0 15·2 15·1 15·1 15·8 16·5 16·4 17·2 19·0 18·1 16·5 16·6	19·8 17·3 15·4 13·3 58·5 70·1 66·3 64·6 67·8 63·1 60·3 44·7	23·0 20·2 20·2 21·9 20·3 21·7 22·4 24·2 24·7 23·5 22·4 23·0	22.0 20.9 20.1 20.4 58.0 55.3 58.1 56.1 52.3 53.0 48.7

The Tinplate and Steel Sheet industry is also largely dependent on adequate supplies of fuel and is carried on principally in the South Wales district. The stoppage in the coal mines resulted at once in the closing of a large number of mills and the unemployment rate rose from 16·0 per cent. at 26th April to 75·3 per cent. at 24th May. By 26th July it had fallen to 55·6, and there was further slight improvement during the following four months. At 22nd November the percentage rate of unemployment stood at 49·1, and by 20th December it had fallen to 22·0.

Pottery is the next of the more important industries which suffered severely from the coal mining stoppage. Large supplies of fuel are of course indispensable in this industry. At 26th April the percentage rate of unemployment in the industry was 13·2. It rose to 46·8 per cent. at 24th May and reached a maximum of 58·6 per cent. at 21st June. There was a slight fall in July followed by an improvement in employment in the following four months doubtless owing to the larger supplies of fuel available from collieries in the Midlands area and elsewhere. By 22nd November the percentage rate of unemployment had fallen to 18·4 per cent. There was a slight set-back in December, but this is a normal occurrence at that season of the year, as will be seen from the following diagram.

DIAGRAM 5.



The following Table gives the percentage figures represented in the above diagram.

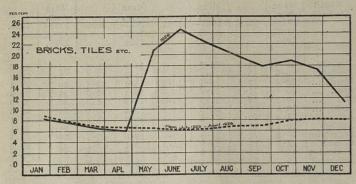
Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926
Jan.	17·1	19·2	May	13·4	46·8	Sep.	13·0	30·4
Feb.	14·8	15·7	June	14·0	58·6	Oct.	12·0	20·9
Mar.	13·2	14·0	July	14·6	57·3	Nov.	12·2	18·4
Apr.	13·4	13·2	Aug.	15·9	46·0	Dec.	17·8	19·6

Bricks, Pipes, Tiles, etc.—This industry also is largely dependent on adequate supplies of fuel. In the Peterborough district employment continued good throughout the whole period of the dispute, but in some other districts short time was worked and other yards were completely idle. The effect of the coal mining dispute on the industry as a whole was much less severe than was the case in the Pottery industry. At 26th April the percentage rate of unemployment was 6·0. It rose to 20·7 per cent. at 24th May and 24·6

at 21st June. From that date it steadily declined until at 22nd November it stood at 17.3 per cent. By 20th December it had fallen further to 11.2 per cent. The course of unemployment is shown in the following diagram.

8





The percentage figures represented in this diagram are as follows:-

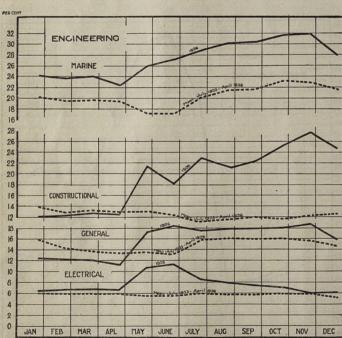
Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.
Jan.	8·8	8·3	May	6·5	20·7	Sep.	6·9	17·8
Feb.	7·6	7·5	June	6·1	24·6	Oct.	7·9	18·9
Mar.	6·8	6·5	July	6·3	22·1	Nov.	8·1	17·3
Apr.	6·6	6·0	Aug.	6·8	19·9	Dec.	8·0	11·2

It will be seen that the monthly percentages in normal times have a seasonal trend somewhat similar to that experienced by the building industry, but this was reversed by the results of the coal mining stoppage.

Engineering.—The engineering industry (exclusive of motors) is divided for purposes of classification into the four constituent parts: Constructional Engineering; Marine Engineering; General Engineering (including engineers' iron and steel founding); and Electrical Engineering.

The following diagram indicates the course of unemployment in each of the four sections:—

DIAGRAM 7.



The percentages represented in this diagram are as follows:-

Feb March April May June July	Mari	ne.	Construc	ctional.	Gene	eral.	Electrical.	
Month.	Mean, July, 1923- April, 1926.	1926.	Mean, July, 1923– April, 1926.	1926.	Mean, July, 1923- April, 1926.	1926.	Mean, July, 1923– April, 1926.	1926.
Jan Feb March April June July August Sept Nov	20·2 19·5 19·6 19·3 17·2 17·2 20·1 21·5 21·6 23·1 22·8	24·1 23·6 24·0 22·3 25·9 27·2 28·8 30·1 30·3 31·7 31·9	13·8 12·8 13·2 12·9 13·0 12·3 11·1 11·5 12·0 11·7	12·1 12·3 12·7 12·5 21·4 18·0 22·8 21·1 22·3 25·2 27·6	15·8 14·3 13·7 13·4 13·5 13·2 15·8 16·0 15·9	12·5 12·3 12·1 11·2 17·2 18·4 17·5 17·8 17·9 18·0 18·7	6.9 5.9 5.5 5.5 5.7 5.7 5.9	6.5 6.6 6.7 6.6 10.6 11.4 8.5 7.9 7.1 6.8

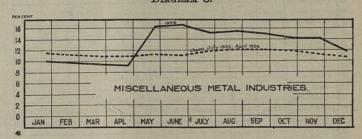
Constructional engineering uses large quantities of steel, and, as might be expected, it suffered most in consequence of the curtailment of supplies through the coal-mining stoppage. The percentage rate

of unemployment in this section of the industry rose from 12·5 at 26th April to 21·4 at 24th May, and, with slight fluctuations in June and August, it continued to rise until, at 22nd November, it reached 27·6 per cent. At 20th December it had fallen to 24·6 per cent. The fortunes of marine engineering are closely linked with those of the shipbuilding industry, and the curves for these two industries are very similar in outline. The general trend of the curve for 1926 is similar to that of the mean for the period July, 1923, to April, 1926. General and electrical engineering would be likely to suffer in so far as difficulty was experienced in obtaining an alternative source of power to coal and adequate supplies of raw material. In general engineering there was a rapid increase in unemployment during May, and the percentage tended to increase slightly throughout the whole of the following six months. At 22nd November it stood at 18·7 per cent., as compared with 11·2 per cent. In the electrical section unemployment increased during May and June, but there was a substantial recovery during July, and the improvement continued during the following four months.

The statistics of unemployment show that the engineering industry as a whole was not so seriously affected as any of those mentioned in the earlier part of this analysis.

Miscellaneous Metal Industries.—For the purpose of this survey the following industries have been grouped under this heading:—Manufacture of brass, copper, zinc, etc.; electrical cables, wire, etc.; hand tools, cutlery, etc.; iron and steel tubes; wire, wire netting and wire rope; bolts, nuts, screws, etc.; heating and ventilating engineering; brass and allied metal wares founding and "other" miscellaneous metal industries. The experience in this group of industries was somewhat similar to that in general engineering, except that from June onwards there was a tendency towards improved employment.

DIAGRAM 8.



The percentages represented in this diagram are as follows:-

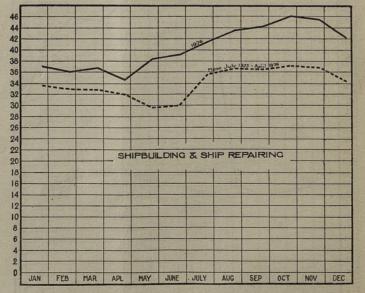
Month	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.		Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.		Month	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.
Jan.	11·5	10·0	May	11·2	16·3	Sep.	12·1	15·0
Feb.	11·3	9·8	June	11·0	16·5	Oct.	11·8	14·2
Mar.	10·9	9·5	July	11·8	15·1	Nov.	11·2	14·2
Apr.	10·9	9·2	Aug.	12·1	15·4	Dec.	10·7	11·7

The effect of the coal stoppage on the *motor* industry was less pronounced. The percentage rate of unemployment rose from 5.8 at 26th April to 10.0 at 24th May and 11.4 at 21st June. Thereafter it fluctuated out it, at 22nd November, it had fallen to

9.4. At 20th December it stood at 8.5 per cent.

The Shipbuilding industry (as well as Marine Engineering) had been suffering acute depression for some years before the coal mining dispute arose, and although the industry uses large quantities of iron and steel, the experience of the past eight months shows that the coal-mining dispute did not immediately lead to any considerable increase in unemployment. The tendency, however, was for the percentage rate of unemployment in shipbuilding to rise steadily from May to October. There was a slight recovery in November, which was accelerated in December.

DIAGRAM 9.

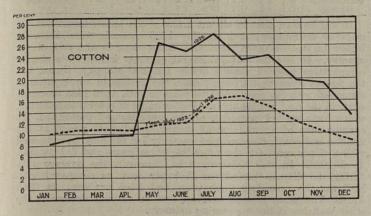


The following Table gives the percentages represented in this diagram:—

Month.	Mean. July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.		Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.
Jan.	33·6	37·0	May	29·7	38·4	Sep.	36·5	44·4
Feb.	33·0	36·0	June	30·0	39·1	Oct.	37·1	46·2
Mar.	32·8	36·7	July	35·5	41·5	Nov.	36·8	45·5
Apr.	32·0	34·7	Aug.	36·6	43·6	Dec.	34·4	42·2

Textiles.—Both the cotton and wool textile industries experienced heavy increases in unemployment in May. In the cotton industry the percentage rate of unemployment at 26th April was 9.8; by 24th May it had risen to 26.6 per cent. There was a slight improvement in June among those temporarily stopped, but at 26th July the total percentage had risen to 28.0. Thereafter there was considerable improvement varying somewhat in degree from month to month, until at 22nd November the unemployment rate had fallen to 19.1 per cent., and by 20th December it had improved further to 13.2 per cent. The experience in the woollen and worsted industry was somewhat similar, except that the maximum figure was reached by 21st June (24.9 per cent.), and thereafter a steady improvement was shown month by month. At 22nd November the unemployment percentage stood at 14.2, and at 20th December it had decreased further to 11.0.

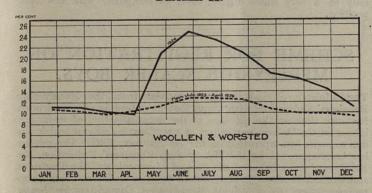
DIAGRAM 10.



The percentages represented in this diagram are as follows:-

Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.
Jan.	10·1	8·2	May	11·7	26·6	Sep.	14·9	24·1
Feb.	10·7	9·4	June	12·0	25·0	Oct.	12·1	19·7
Mar.	10·8	9·6	July	16·3	28·0	Nov.	10·2	19·1
Apr.	10·6	9·8	Aug.	16·8	23·4	Dec.	8·6	13·2

DIAGRAM 11.



The percentages represented in this diagram are as follows:-

Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month,	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926
Jan.	10·8	11·1	May	11·3·	21·0	Sep.	10·7	17·2
Feb.	10·4	11·1	June	12·8	24·9	Oct.	9·9	16·3
Mar.	9·7	10·2	July	12·7	23·4	Nov.	9·8	14·2
Apr.	10·4	9·8	Aug.	12·5	21·0	Dec.	9·3	11·0

Employment in the silk industry (including artificial silk) was not so seriously affected by the coal stoppage, This is one of the smaller textile industries as regards numbers employed. The unemployment percentage rose from 7·1 at 26th April to 15·6 at 24th May, but by 21st June it had fallen to 11·8. It fluctuated around this figure until 25th October, when it fell to 10·3. The experience in the other textile industries was similar to that in the cotton and wool textile sections.

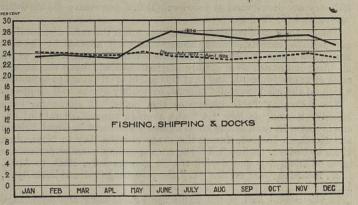
Fishing, Shipping and Docks.—These three industries together include over 345,000 insured persons. The percentage rate of unemployment had been high for some time before the coal stoppage began and the immediate effect of the stoppage was not pronounced. The activity in these industries is not necessarily dependent on supplies of British coal, and the import of foreign coal on a large scale took the place to some extent of the normal coal export trade.

At 26th April the rate of unemployment in this group was 23·1 per cent. At 24th May it was 26·0 per cent. and it rose to 28·0 per

cent. by 21st June. Thereafter it declined steadily to 26·1 at 20th September and then rose slightly to 26·9 at 25th October and 27·0 at 22nd November. At 20th December it had again fallen to 25·2 per cent

It is clear that the effects of the coal stoppage were not sufficient to overcome entirely the usual seasonal movement in this group of industries

DIAGRAM 12.



The following Table gives the percentages represented in this

Month	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926
Jan.	24·3	23·4	May	24·3	26·0	Sep.	22·9	26·1
Feb.	24·2	23·7	June	23·4	28·0	Oct.	23·2	26·9
Mar.	23·7	23·4	July	23·1	27·3	Nov.	23·7	27·0
Apr.	23·6	23·1	Aug.	22·7	26·8	Dec.	22·9	25·2

The foregoing survey includes all the most important industries which were adversely affected by the coal-mining stoppage. In certain other industries, such as the wood-working group; watches, clocks, plate, jewellery, etc.; musical instruments; the paper and paper board and printing industries; and miscellaneous mining and quarrying there was a general increase of unemployment during May (which may have been partly due to the general strike), followed by a steady fall until at 20th November the numbers unemployed were little, if any, greater than at 26th April.

were little, if any, greater than at 26th April.

In the rubber industry the increase in unemployment continued until 21st June, and in the following months there was a general improvement which, however, left the position worse at the end of November than at the end of April.

The industries engaged in the manufacture of clothing, food and drink were little affected by the stoppage. In the clothing group the downward seasonal trend of unemployment in the early part of the year was reversed during May by an increase of 4.6 per cent. in the unemployment rate as compared with April, but it was again evident by the end of June. From that point the upward seasonal trend was resumed.

In the food and drink industries the seasonal trend usually reaches its lowest point towards the end of July. In this group also this movement was arrested during May by an increase of 1.8 per cent. over April, but there was an improvement in June followed by a fluctuating, but on the whole, slightly upward, tendency in the following months.

The experience in the distributive trades was similar. Here the increase in May as compared with April amounted to no more than 1·1 per cent. in the rate of unemployment and the figure remained practically stationary during the remainder of 1926, with a decline in December due to Christmas trade. At 20th December the percentage rate of unemployment in this industry was 6·0.

It is of interest to observe that the gas, water and electricity industries were little affected by the coal stoppage. During the first four months of 1926 the percentage rate of unemployment in these industries taken as a whole fell from 6.0 to 5.2. At 24th May the rate rose to 5.8 per cent. and to 6.2 per cent. at 21st June. It fell to 5.9 per cent. at 26th July and thereafter rose by 0.1 per cent. each month, until at 22nd November it stood at 6.3 per cent. At 20th December it had fallen to 5.9 per cent. Large quantities of coal were imported during the period of the dispute.

dispute.

The experience in the building and public works contracting industries was very similar to that in the other seasonal industries such as food and clothing, and neither of these industries was seriously affected by the coal stoppage.

The following Table indicates the course of unemployment in

The following Table indicates the course of unemployment in all industries taken together, other than the following: coal mining; coke ovens and by-product works; iron-ore mining; pig iron; steel; tin plates; pottery, bricks, tiles, etc.; engineering; miscellaneous metals; cotton; woollen and worsted; shipbuilding; and fishing, shipping and docks. The industries to which the figures relate include 64·1 per cent. of the insured population.

Month.	Mean, July, 1923- Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month.	Mean, July, 1923- Apr., 1926.	1926.	Month	Mean, July, 1923– Apr., 1926.	1926.
Jan.	10-2	9·7	May	8·4	10.9	Sep.	9·0	10·2
Feb.	9-6	8·9	June	8·1	10.7	Oct.	9·3	10·5
Mar.	8-8	8·0	July	8·6	10.5	Nov.	9·5	10·6
Apr.	8-4	7·4	Aug.	8·9	10.3	Dec.	9·3	9·5

District Analysis.—The greater proportion of the coal mining industry in Great Britain is concentrated in the northern section

10

If the country is divided into three sections as follows: (1) London and South Eastern Division; (2 South Western and Midlands; (3) North Eastern, North Western, Scotland and Wales, it is found that the insured persons classified as belonging to the coal-mining industry are distributed as follows: (1) 0.2 per cent.; (2) 20.0 per cent.; and (3) 79.8 per cent.

The iron and steel industries have very much the same distribution, and as these industries were the most seriously affected by the coal mining stoppage it was to be expected that the districts in which all these industries were mainly carried on would have the highest rates of unemployment, and that this might even extend to industries which on the whole were not affected so acutely by the coal stoppage.

The following Table illustrates this point. It shows for each industry named, on line "A" the average percentage rate of un-employment in each of the areas named above, and in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, during the seven months May to November, 1926, inclusive; on line "B" the corresponding average percentage rates of unemployment during the 34 months July, 1923, to April, 1926, inclusive; and on line "C" the percentage rates at 26th April,

In the second half of the Table the figures show the percentage distribution of the insured population in each industry named, in each of the three sections of the country, and finally in the last column the percentage proportion which the total number of insured persons in each industry is of the total for all industries taken together.

			s of In		of In	sured	Distrib Popular, 1926	ation	Per- centag of
Industry.	L. and S.E.	S.W. and Mids.	N.E., N.W., Scot. and Wales	N.I.	L. and S.E.	S.W. and Mids.	N.E., N.W., Scot. and Wales	N.I.	Total (all Indus tries).
$\begin{array}{c} \text{Coke Ovens} \\ \text{and} \\ \text{By-Products.} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \end{array} \right.$		65·7 8·6 9·9	69·2 11·0 11·5	67·6 10·7 11·5	} 2.4	12.2	85-4	100-0	0-1
Pig-iron \{\begin{array}{c} A \\ B \\ C \end{array}		52·9 14·5 8·1	67·2 17·0 14·5	64·4 16·6 13·3	} 0.4	17-9	81.6	100-0	0.2
Tinplates $\begin{cases} A \\ B \\ C \end{cases}$		38·1 11·3 6·8	59·8 13·2 16·4	58·2 13·3 16·0	} 0.6	6.0	93-4	100-0	0.3
$\begin{array}{c} \text{Iron-ore} \\ \text{Mining.} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \end{matrix} \right.$		40·3 11·6 10·4	72·0 25·3 17·5	63·7 22·2 16·1	} 0.1	25.7	73.6	100.0	0.1
$\begin{array}{c} \text{Steel} \\ \text{production.} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \end{matrix} \right.$	10·3 10·8 9·1	54·2 29·2 23·5	55·1 21·1 19·9	53·1 22·4 20·4	} 0.8	14.5	84.7	100-0	1.6
Pottery $\begin{cases} A \\ B \\ C \end{cases}$	10·4 7·3 4·8	40·8 14·7 13·4	40·3 13·1 13·5	39·8 14·3 13·2	3.3	88-2	8.4	100.0	0.6
Glass $ \begin{cases} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \end{cases} $	10·1 16·3 8·5	13·4 11·5 7·6	18·0 11·2 10·4	15·8 12·1 9·5	14.4	22-1	63.3	100.0	0.1
Glass AB	14.2	27.8	41.1	32.3	31.2	2.7	66.0	100.0	0.1
Brick, SAB	11·4 4·6 5·5	5·0 18·8 6·2	17·7 27·5 8·5	15·2 20·2 7·3	15.2	43.1	40.3	100.0	0.7
Miscellaneous A B	2·8 6·7 8·1	4·5 15·1 12·7	8·0 20·9 11·5	6·0 15·2 11·4	21.3	45.8	32.6	100.0	3.9
Industries. $\begin{bmatrix} C \\ A \\ B \end{bmatrix}$	6.0 16.6 20.2	8·9 16·1 17·5	11·4 49·9 38·6	9·2 42·7 34·2	9.0	10.8	73.7	100.0	1.9
Vehicles (other than B	7·9 6·6	15·7 20·9 7·9	39·9 20·3 8·6	34·7 18·4 8·1	}16.8	38.7	43.7	100.0	0.6
Motors and Cycles, etc.). C Motors, (A	4·2 5·7	5·4 12·4	7.1	6.1)				
Cycles and Aircraft.	6·0 4·0	8·9 5·8	8.7	8·1 5·8	}27.8	52.5	18.9	100.0	1.9
Engineering: Marine A B	6.4	7·0 7·3	33.3	29.4	} 6.9	13.6	70-1	100-0	0.5
CA	4·9 7·0 6·5	6·4 21·4 11·1	26·5 26·4 14·0	22·3 22·6 12·4	13.0	26.3	60.7	100-0	0.2
tional.	5·9 7·6 9·6	9·1 12·4 10·4	15·1 23·4 18·0	12·5 17·9 14·9	\{\}_{20.5}	20.5	57.8	100.0	5.1
General B C	6·1 7·1	5·8 6·7	14·6 11·1	11·2 8·5	}		4.0		0.6
$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{Electrical} \ \left\{ \begin{matrix} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{matrix} \right. \end{array}$	4·1 4·1 6·4	5·3 5·0 18·6	7·1 9·3 23·8	5·8 6·6 23·7	26.0	34.8	38-9	100.0	
Cotton { B	9·1 6·8 7·8	9·2 15·6 12·7	12·1 9·7 20·2	12·1 9·8 19·7	} 0.2	1.8	98-0		4.8
$\begin{cases} \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{cases}$	9·3 6·2 7·3	9·1 7·7 9·4	10·9 9·8 16·5	10·8 9·8 12·1	} 0.5	5-6	93-4	100-0	2.1
Silk BCA	4·5 3·8 14·7	6·5 7·4 18·8	9·7 7·2 22·3	7·8 7·1 26·4	9.3	50.7	40-0	100.0	0.4
$\begin{cases} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} \end{cases}$	18·7 12·4	25·1 18·8 13·1	14·2 11·0 17·5	20:8 23:0 13:9	} 0.2	0.7	17.0	100-0	0.7
Hosiery $ \begin{cases} A \\ B \\ C \end{cases} $	8·1 6·3 6·1	7·1 5·1	9.2 9.3	7·6 6·2	6.3	70.6	22.4	100-0	0.8
other Textiles and Textile Bleaching, C	7·5 9·1 6·9	18·5 11·8 11·3	23·3 13·2 15·5	21·0 12·9 14·2	6.5	18-8	68.6	100.0	2.2
Boot and $\begin{cases} A \\ B \end{cases}$	11·3 10·0	13·7 8·5	16·3 12·4	13·7 9·7	}19-9	61.5	17.8	100-0	1.2
Shoe. $\begin{cases} C \\ A \\ B \end{cases}$	5·5 5·1 6·5	6·1 8·7 9·7	11.9 12.6 10.0	7·2 9·1 8·8	39.1	16.8	38.9	100.0	3.6
Clothing. $\begin{cases} C \\ A \\ B \end{cases}$	2·6 6·7 8·9	3.6 9.0 6.5	3·7 10·5 11·1	3·7 9·1 9·6	31.9	19-1	46.9	100-0	3.1

			of Ins		of I	nsured	Distrik Popul y, 1926	ation	Per- centage of Total	
Industry.	L. and S.E.	S.W. and Mids.	N.E., N.W., Scot. and Wales	G.B. and N.I.	L. and S.E.	S.W. and Mids.	N.E., N.W., Scot. and Wales	G.B. and N.I.	(all Industries).	
	4·2 5·7 3·7	5·4 5·3 3·8	9·5 7·8 7·7	7·1 6·7 5·7	}30.9	26.8	40-2	100-0	0.9	
Distributive $\begin{cases} A \\ B \\ C \end{cases}$	4·5 5·5 4·2	5·7 5·5 4·8	8·9 7·4 6·9	6·9 6·5 5·8	35.8	18.5	43.8	100.0	12.5	
Public Works Contracting.	13.8 14.3 11.0	17·9 16·9 13·7	24·9 20·0 18·9	20·6 17·8 15·9	328.4	21.3	47-3	100-0	1.4	
Building $ \begin{cases} A \\ B \\ C \end{cases} $	7·8 10·0 5·4	8·6 9·2 5·7	13·1 11·3 9·0	10·4 10·6 7·3	35:6	23.7	38-8	100-0	6.6	
Printing, Publishing, B C	5·0 5·1 3·9	5·0 4·4 3·5	6·9 5·3 4·7	5·7 5·1 4·2	30.7	14.9	32-8	100-0	2.1	
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply.	3·2 4·1 2·9	5·3 5·0 4·2	8·3 8·0 6·6	6·1 6·2 5·2	}33.6	22.6	42.1	100-0	1.5	
All Industries A except Coal- B C	6.6 8.1 2.6	12·7 9·6 7·1	20.0 13.2 12.0	14·8 11·2 9·4	}27.5	21.9	48-1	100-0	89-8	

It will be seen that in all but a few of the industries named the rates of unemployment from May 1926 onwards were distinctly higher in the Northern Area and Wales than in the rest of the country. It is true that in several of these industries a similar comparative position existed before the coal stoppage began, but the figures show that in some cases the decline in employment as compared with the previous three years or with April 1926 was most acute in the coal mining areas. For example in general engineering, which includes 5.1 per cent. of the total insured population, the average rate of unemployment during the dispute period in the London and South Eastern Area was only 7.6 per cent. as compared with 9.6 per cent. for the preceding three years and 6.1 at 26th April 1926. In the Northern Area, however, the average rate during the dispute period was 23.4 per cent. as compared with 18.0 for the preceding three years and 14.6 per cent. at 26th April. The same phenomenon appears in varying degrees in the other branches of the engineering industry.

The cotton and wool textile industries are, of course, mainly introduced in the collaboration and th

situated in the coal-mining areas, and there is an appreciable amoun of each in the Midlands and South-Western Divisions. The latter districts, however, had lower rates of unemployment than the Northern areas, due, no doubt, to better supplies of fuel.

A similar position may be observed in the glass industries; to a pronounced degree in the brick and tile and building industries; and also in the miscellaneous metal group; in the boot and shoe; clothing, food and drink industries; in printing; gas, water and electricity; and also in the distributive trades. In the last-mentioned industry the Southern portion of the country was affected only to a very slight degree, even as compared with the April

SCHEME FOR REGISTRATION OF MERSEYSIDE SCALER BOYS.

THE Ministry of Labour have received from the Mersey Ship Repairers' Federation, with whom they have been in communication for some time on the question of the decasualisation of scaler boy for some time on the question of the decasualisation of scaler boy labour on the Mersey, particulars of a registration scheme which was due to come into operation on the 1st January, 1927. The scheme has been approved by the Mersey Ship Repairers' Federation, the Employers' Association of the Port of Liverpool, and the Transport and General Workers' Union, and these three bodies are to appoint representatives to a "Joint Registration Committee for Scaler Ports"

Under the scheme the various firms concerned are to draw up a list of the scaler boys who are fairly regularly employed by them. The Registration Committee will then decide on the number of boys to be registered, and books will be issued to the boys so selected. When boys are engaged the firms employing them will collect their books, which will be returned to the boys on their discharge. These books will be stamped with the dates on which the boys have been so employed and the name of the firm employing them. The books will be forwarded at stated intervals to the Registration Committee for examination, and, should it appear that any boy is not being sufficiently employed, the Committee will decide whether the boy should be retained on the register or referred to the Employment Exchange or Juvenile Employment Bureau for employment elsewhere. Should a firm at any time require more boys than those registered boys offering themselves for employment on the firm's stand, application is to be made to the Mersey Ship Repairers' Federation or the Transport and General Workers' Union, who will telephone to other firms, so that any unemployed registered boys will be informed that work is available. No boys other than registered boys are to be engaged until all the available boys registered are employed. If it is found necessary to add boys to the number of registered boys, the additional boys will be recruited through the Employment Exchange, the Juvenile Employment Bureau, or the Joint Registration Committee.

The Committee are to review the position of the requirements of the trade periodically, and to decide whether any increase or decrease of the numbers on the register should be made.

LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT INDEX.

January, 1927.

SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION SERIES FOR MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS.

In recent months a number of manufacturers and distributors have applied to the Ministry of Labour to enquire whether they could be regularly supplied with tables showing the course of un-employment from month to month in each town or area served by an Employment Exchange. The information in each case was by an Employment Exchange. The information in each case was required to enable the firm to adjust its sales activities to the changing prosperity of the various local areas or to make due allowance for such changes in judging the effectiveness of its advertising or salesmanship.

The information so required is regularly collected by the Ministry of Labour, but the general demand for local detail is not such as to warrant tables of the kind in question being printed in the Ministry of Labour Gazette, which devotes the bulk of its unemployment, pages to presenting the figures on an industry

its unemployment pages to presenting the figures on an industry

The Ministry of Labour has given careful consideration to the manner in which this specialised demand could be satisfied, and has reached the conclusion that it could best be met by the issue of a special subscription series. Communications were addressed to a certain number of manufacturers and distributors with a view to ascertaining what measure of support was to be expected for such a project. The replies received have been favourable to the project and His Majesty's Stationery Office announces the institution of the series as from the present month:

The publication, which is entitled "Local Unemployment Index," will give, for 637 towns and for county areas in Great Britain, the numbers of insured persons in each area, together with the pernumbers of insured persons in each area, together with the percentage rate of unemployment for men, women, and juveniles on the Monday nearest the 14th of each month. Comparisons with a month and two months before will also be given in order that recent fluctuations may readily be seen.

Arrangements have been made for tabulating the returns received from Employment Exchanges, for preparing the figures in percentage form, and for printing and despatching in the shortest practicable time, and the information will be in the hands of subscribers within two to three weeks of the day to which the

The cost of specially tabulating and printing this information is necessarily high in relation to the circulation which such a series at present commands, and the initial subscription has been fixed at £5 per annum. The Index will be issued to subscribers only. Subscriptions are received by H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2.

EARNINGS AND HOURS IN THE BUILDING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.*

Particulars are given below of the earnings and hours of labour in the building and allied industries, including public works construction, electrical installation, etc., in 1924, as shown by the returns received from employers in response to the general inquiry instituted in 1925 by the Ministry of Labour. The details supplied on the returns relate to four dates in 1924, viz., the weeks ended 19th January, 12th April, 12th July† and 18th October. The figures given below are subject to slight revision when later returns are included. For an explanation of the scope and nature of the inquiry reference should be made to the article on page 196 of the June, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE.

I.—AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS.

The number of returns received giving information regarding earnings was 12,883. The following Table shows the total number of workpeople, including adults and juveniles, covered by the returns, together with the average weekly earnings for the actually

	Ma	ales.	Fem	nales.	All Workers.		
Week ended	Number of work- people covered.	Average earnings.	Number of work- people covered.	Average earnings.	Number of work- people covered.	Average earnings.	
19th January 12th April 12th July† 18th October	254,772 282,856 286,463 290,822	s. d. 54 9 58 6 59 2 59 11	728 693 738 737	s. d. 25 10 25 9 25 9 25 9 25 2	255,500 283,549 287,201 291,559	s. d. 54 8 58 5 59 1 59 9	
Average for the four weeks	278,728	58 2	724	25 7	279,452	58 1	

* Particulars relating to various other groups of industries have been published in the issues of this GAZETTE for June-December, 1926.
† Owing to the fact that a dispute was in progress in the Building Industry in the week ended 12th July, the particulars given by those employers who were affected by the dispute relate to the nearest week of an ordinary character, usually that ended 5th July.

It is possible that owing to intermittent engagements some workers may have been included in a particular week in the returns from more than one employer. The elimination of this factor, if it were practicable, would tend to increase the average

II.—NORMAL HOURS OF LABOUR.

The returns received which gave particulars in regard to the normal weekly hours of labour covered on the average 277,873 workpeople. The following Table shows the proportion of the workers whose normal weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, in each of the four specified weeks, fell within the limits stated, together with the average normal hours. with the average normal hours :-

Week	Percentage of employees whose normal weekly hours were								
ended	Under 44.	44.	44½ to 46½.	46½.	47 to 473.	48.	Over 48.	weekly normal hours.	
19th Jan. 12th Apl. 12th July* 18th Oct.	Per cent. 3·1 0·7 0·7 1·0	Per cent. 75·3 67·8 50·8 66·2	Per cent. 3·2 2·2 2·1 2·1	Per cent. 2.7 9.2 24.3 10.5	Per cent. 7.5 5.3 6.3 6.1	Per cent. 3.0 3.0 2.6 2.5	Per cent. 5·2 11·8 13·2 11·6	44·7 45·3 45·9 45·4	

Of the operatives whose normal hours exceeded 48 per week about two-thirds at each date were working 49 to 50 hours

III.—HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED AND AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average number of hours actually worked in the four specified weeks by the workpeople covered by the returns received from those firms who were able to supply these particulars, together with the average earnings per hour of such workpeople. The average number of workers covered by these figures in the four weeks was 163,995. It should be observed that the averages may be affected by the inclusion of workers intermittently engaged in returns received from more than one employer in respect of a particular week.

Week ended						Average hours worked.	Average hourly earnings.
19th January 12th April 12th July* 18th October						43·2 45·0 45·4 45·1	d. 15·0 15·5 15·6 15·8
Aver	age fo	or the f	44.7	15.5			

As some employers were unable to give particulars of the total number of hours worked, the average weekly earnings obtained by multiplying the average hourly earnings by the average hours shown above do not correspond exactly with the average weekly earnings shown in Section I.

IV.—EXTENT OF SHORT TIME.

The following Table shows the proportion of workpeople covered by returns on the subject who were reported to be working less than full time, together with the average number of hours lost per week by such workpeople, and the average time lost by all the workpeople covered. Workpeople "stood-off" for the whole of any of the weeks specified have been regarded as unemployed, and have not been taken into account in compiling the statistics. The average number of workers covered by these figures in the four weeks was 254 309.

to 7 Secret Into	Proportion	Average Numbe	Average Number of hours lost by			
Week ended	of Workpeople on short time.	Workpeople who worked less than full time.	All Workpeople covered by the returns.			
19th January 12th April 12th July* 18th October	Per cent. 2 · 4 1 · 1 0 · 9 0 · 8	10·6 8·7 13·7 10·0	0·3 0·1 0·1 0·1			

It should be observed that the amount of broken time in the building trades varies to some extent according to weather conditions, etc., and the extent to which these figures may be regarded as typical, therefore, depends on how far conditions in the four selected weeks of 1924 may be regarded as representative. It also appears possible, as the result of inquiries which have been made, that some employers, in making up their returns, may not have included time lost owing to inclement weather in the amount of 'short time' returned.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED EX-SERVICE MEN

THE latest returns show that there are approximately 27,500 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms is approximately 375,000. At 28th December, 1926, the number of men in training was 450, and the number awaiting training, 81. Since August, 1919, 99,733 men have terminated training.

* See footnote † in previous column.

PERSONS INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

12

SAMPLE INVESTIGATION.

THE Ministry of Labour have issued a Report* on an investigation into the employment and insurance history of persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain.

against unemployment in Great Britain.

The investigation has been made on the "sample" basis. To analyse the insurance records of 12 million workpeople would be an almost impossible task, and the Ministry have resorted again in this case to the plan which was adopted first in 1923, and again in 1924 in connection with the analysis of the circumstances of unemployed persons;—that is, of taking a small evenly-spread sample of the 12 millions and from that sample obtaining 12 millions and from that sample obtaining results which prove by every test to apply accurately, within insignificant limits of error, to the whole body of insured persons.

Previous investigations made on a sample basis by the Ministry Previous investigations made on a sample basis by the Milliary of Labour have related as mentioned above to unemployed persons. No corresponding analysis has been available hitherto as to the composition and insurance record of the whole body of insured workpeople, employed and unemployed alike. The present investigation was designed to fill that gap.

The records which have been subjected to analysis are the ledger

The records which have been subjected to analysis are the ledger accounts (i.e., records of contributions, benefits, with particulars of age, industry, etc.) which are kept at the central Claims and Record Office at Kew. The sample taken for the purpose of the investigation was 1 in every 218 accounts (the 218 results from the fact of there being on an average in each ledger 218 accounts, of which one was taken in each case) and this yielded 80,233 cases for examination. About 7 per cent of these were found to be recorded. nation. About 7 per cent. of these were found to be persons who had applied for unemployment books at one time or other but had nad applied for unemployment books at one time or other but had not subsequently paid any contributions or drawn any benefit, and about 20 per cent. proved to be persons who had been effectively insured but who had since passed out of insurance. The remaining 73 per cent. (represented by 58,347 cases in the sample) were accounts of persons effectively in insurance. These only were subjected to detailed analysis.

The value of the present enquiry and Report naturally consists largely in the detail of its analyses, detail which will serve for the elucidation of problems affecting unemployment insurance for some years to come. All that is possible here is to give examples of the kind of information which the enquiry has disclosed.

One section of the Report deals with the amount of unemployment benefit drawn by insured persons since their entry into insurance. The enquiry shows that about one-half (52·3 per cent.) of the persons insured against unemployment have drawn benefit at some time or other since they became insured. The proportion varies greatly, of course, from industry to industry. Of the males in lead, tin, and copper mining 90.5 per cent. have drawn benefit at one time or other; in iron and steel 84.4 per cent.; and in cotton 83.2 per cent. At the other end of the scale are the distributive trades cent. At the other end of the scale are the distributional with 31.6 per cent., printing with 31 per cent., and professional services with 22 per cent. As regards females the percentages services with 22 per cent. As regards females the percentages range from 82.2 per cent. for the cotton industry to 24.6 per cent. for laundries, dyeing and dry cleaning.

The amount of benefit drawn is further related to the amount paid in contributions. From this it appears that the number of weekly contributions paid is for males nearly double, and for females more than double, the number of days benefit drawn. In the case of males the contributions paid up to July, 1925, averaged 233 per contributor and the days benefit drawn averaged 122. For females the figures are 161 and 69. Among males there are two industries the figures are 161 and 69. Among males there are two industries in which the total days of benefit exceeded the total number of contributions, namely, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, which has been long subject to acute industrial depression, and canal, river, dock and harbour service, which includes a high proportion of casual workers. Among females the cotton industry is the only one in which the total days of benefit drawn by females exceeded the total number of contributions paid. As indicated above, nearly one-half the contributors have drawn no benefit since their entry into insurance. If the calculation be confined to those who have drawn benefit, then the average benefit per recipient was 226 days for benefit, then the average benefit per recipient was 226 days for males and 144 for females.

The insurance records were further classified according to the ages of the persons insured. The results of this classification are remarkable as showing that there is a great measure of uniformity remarkable as showing that there is a great measure or uniformity in the regularity of employment by persons in the various age groups. It would appear that age is not a factor of predominant importance in the retention of employment. Such differences as there are point to the age group 25 to 29 as being subject to somewhat worse continuity of employment, both with males and females, than any other group except that containing persons over 55.

Thus far the analysis disregards the date of the person's entry into instance. For some purposes, however, this is an important factor: obviously a person who entered insurance in 1925 is differently circumstanced from one who entered in 1920 or 1912. Accordingly a further analysis of the records was made according to year of entry into insurance, and details of this analysis are given

Particulars are given, for instance, of the record since November, 1920, of those who entered insurance prior to July of that year, and

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. 6d. net. + See the issues of this GAZETTE for March, 1924 (pp. 79-80); July, 1924 (pp. 234-236 and 252), and June, 1925 (pp. 190-191).

who remained effectively insured in 1926. Of these, over 75 per cent. of the males and 54 per cent. of the females had paid in on the average about 80 per cent. of the maximum contributions payable in the period, while 73 per cent. of the maximum contributions payable in the period, while 73 per cent. of the males and 80 per cent. of the females drew benefit at some time during the five years or more covered by this particular examination. It also appears that those among this number who were very intermittently employed during the period had considerable spells during which they were neither paying contributions nor receiving benefit.

Among these early entrants, taken as a whole, however, the period Among these early entrants, taken as a whole, however, the period during which they were in employment (as represented by contributions), added to the period during which benefit was being received, amounts to 90 per cent. of the entire term. If the very intermittently employed be excluded (those whose contributions did not cover as much as 12 per cent. of the period) the figure is 92.8 per cent. The balance of the period within which no contributions were resident. e period, within which no contributions were paid and balance of the period, within which no contributions were paid aim no benefit drawn, was no doubt accounted for by employment in some uninsured occupation, by waiting periods, sickness, holidays, and by periods of unemployment in respect of which benefit was, for one reason or another, not payable.

From other figures furnished by the Report an idea may be obtained of the rate at which the personnel of "claimants to benefit" changes by the incoming of persons who have lost their employment and the outgoing of persons who cease to be claimants. In the fourteen months February, 1925, to March, 1926, inclusive, approximately 7 506 000 separate individuals made claims to benefit, and mately 3,526,000 separate individuals made claims to benefit, and during the same period there was an average of 1,148,575 claims current each week. The fact that in fourteen months the number of persons who had made claims was three times the average number or persons with hat the massive and the figures as substantial movement in and out. It follows also from the figures that some 8,500,000 insured persons did not claim benefit at all during the fourteen-month period.

This question of the change in personnel is examined still further, and the records were subjected to detailed analysis for a 2½ year period—October, 1923, to April, 1926. The results are not easily period—October, 1923, to April, 1926. The results are not easily expressed in text, but the following is an indication of the kind of facts which emerge. Those males who drew benefit at some time or other drew on the average 146 days benefit each and the females drew 88 days. Of these, 90·3 per cent. of the males and 99·1 per cent. of the females drew benefit for less than 50 per cent. of the period; 17 per cent. of the males and 17·5 per cent. of the females did not draw any benefit at all during the last 18 months of the period; 44·1 per cent. of the males and 44·5 per cent. of the females commenced to draw benefit within that 18 months; and 38·9 per cent. of the males and 37·8 of the females drew benefit both before and of the males and 37.8 of the females drew benefit both before and after October, 1924. These figures afford still more direct evidence of a considerable and constant change in the personnel of those in receipt of benefit, and show that the numbers of those on benefit for long periods are comparatively small.

A sidelight on the same question is thrown by another analysis A sidelight on the same question is thrown by another analysis which has independent value in other connections. It was desired to ascertain what part the "waiting period" occupies of the total period of unemployment. It was impossible to make this detailed examination in respect of all the claimants to benefit in the 58,000; therefore a sample was taken of the sample itself and this smaller number of records was subjected to special analysis. From this analysis it may be deduced that in conditions such as those prevailing in and about 1905 the average claimant served eight waiting days in and about 1925 the average claimant served eight waiting days in the year and the waiting days formed 7.8 per cent. of the total

A subject on which this investigation gives for the first time A subject on which this investigation gives for the first time authoritative information is the rate at which the body of insured workpeople itself changes as the result of persons entering into the insurance scheme and other persons passing out of it. The figures for new entrants (until recently vitiated somewhat by duplicate applications) have been known, but the wastage has had to be guessed from rather imperfect data. The figures bearing upon this point disclose that of all the individuals who have been within the point disclose that of all the individuals who have been within the scheme of unemployment insurance at some time or other since November, 1920, 20·1 per cent. (males 17·1 per cent., and females 26·7 per cent.) had passed out of insurance during the 3½ years from November, 1920, to the end of June, 1924. The movement in and out is relatively greater with females than with males, and the figures furnish a measure of the difference.

Every year about 6 per cent. of the whole body of insured persons Every year about 6 per cent. of the whole body of insured persons (males 5 per cent. and females 14 per cent.) pass out of insurance. The losses represent persons who have died, gone abroad, entered into business on their own account, become non-manual workers with salaries above the £250 limit, those retired from work, and in the case of women those who have passed into uninsured employment or who have married and ceased to be employed in an insured

Attention is given in the Report to the age distribution of insured persons. It is compared with the age distribution of occupied persons given in the 1921 Census of Population. In general the two are remarkably similar, but the differences, where they occur have considerable interest. The age distribution is also given of insured persons in various industries, on which subject there has hitherto been no information later than that relating to occupied persons in 1921.

The age analysis already referred to has been further utilised in the Report for comparing the age distribution of unemployed persons with that of all insured persons. The result is of considerable interest.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

It appears that over a given period there is not very much difference between the age distribution of those who claimed benefit during that period and that of all insured persons. This, however, is not true of the claimants at any given date, and the difference arises from the fact that, generally speaking, younger people come more readily out of employment and find employment more readily, while older people lose their employment less frequently but find it more difficult

January, 1927.

obtain new employment.
One further feature of the Report of special interest to students of industrial conditions may be mentioned. It is a tabulation of the extent to which persons who were within insurance at the date of the investigation have transferred from one insured industry to another since the date of their entry into insurence. The limitations of the material are set out in the Report, but, when every allowance is made for these, information of much significance can be derived from the figures. Coal mining, to give an example, appears as the insured industry which shows the smallest recruitment from other industries and from which the smallest proportion of persons transfers to other industries. of persons transfers to other industries

LEAD PAINT (PROTECTION AGAINST POISONING) ACT, 1926.

THE above Act, which received the Royal Assent on 15th December, 1926, came into force on 1st January.

The Act empowers the Home Secretary to make regulations for

preventing danger from the use of lead paint to persons employed in or in connection with the painting of buildings.

The Act also makes it illegal, on and after the 19th November, 1927. to employ any woman or young person in painting any part of a building with lead paint. This does not apply to women who, at the passing of the Act (i.e., 15th December, 1926), were employed in any trade which involves as part of their occupation the painting of buildings with lead paint. Exceptions to this provision may also be allowed by Order of the Home Secretary in the case of (i) apprentices in the painting trade, and (ii) women or young persons employed in certain special decorative or other work not of an industria

The Act requires every person who employs other persons in painting buildings, whether he uses lead paints in his work or not, to send to the factory inspector of the district in which his office is situated a written notice stating his name and the address of his office, and to keep at his office a register in the form directed by the Home Secretary of the persons employed by him in painting and the work on which they are employed.

If a case of lead poisoning occurs among his employees, the employer must send at once a notice in the prescribed form to the factory inspector and to the certifying surgeon.

The employer is further required to give the factory inspector the necessary facilities for inspecting any painting work which is undertaken by him, and factory inspectors are given the same powers of entry and inspection in any case where persons are employed in

entry and inspection in any case where persons are employed in painting buildings as they have under the Factory and Workshop Acts in respect of factories and workshops.

In the exercise of his powers under the Act the Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 31st December, 1926, that he proposes to make Regulations for the protection of persons employed in or in connection with the painting of buildings, against the danger from lead paint

lead paint.

terms of the proposed Regulations have been discussed and The terms of the proposed Regulations have been discussed and approved at a series of conferences between the Home Office and organisations representing the employers and workpeople in the trades concerned. One addition, however, of some importance has been made thereto by the Home Secretary as a result of later representations, whereby it is proposed that no painted surface shall be rubbed down or scraped by a dry process, except where the employer, after taking all reasonable steps for the purpose, has satisfied himself that the surface is not painted in whole or in part with lead paint. A leaflet, also issued by the Home Office, describes a rough test which may be used for ascertaining the presence of lead in a painted surface.

lead in a painted surface.

Copies of the draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, London, S.W. 1; and any objection with respect to them by or on behalf of any person affected thereby must be sent to the Secretary of State within 40 days of the date of the notice. Every such objection must be in writing and must state (a) the draft Regulations or portions of draft Regulations objected to; (b) the specific grounds of objection; and (c) the omissions, additions or modifications asked for.

The Home Secretary also made, on 24th December, 1926, (i) an Order under Section 3 of the Act, further modifying the application of the provisions of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, mentioned in the said Section in any ages when the said Section is a said Section in any ages when the said Section is a said Section in any ages when the said Section is a said Section in a sai of the provisions of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, mentioned in the said Section, in any case where persons are employed in painting buildings; and (ii) a Rule under Section 7 of the Act, as to the method of treatment to be applied for the purpose of ascertaining whether any paint or other material used in painting is "lead paint"; within the meaning of the Act.

CHARTS, Etc., ILLUSTRATING LABOUR STATISTICS.

The February issue of this GAZETTE will include a special free supplement containing a series of charts, diagrams, etc., illustrating the principal official statistics relating to labour conditions (employment, cost of living, wages, industrial disputes,

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1926.

THE Workmen's Compensation Act, 1926,* received the Royal Assent on the 15th December, 1926.

The Act amends subsection (2) of Section 11 of the Workmen's

Compensation Act, 1925. This subsection provides that a workman who meets with an accident when he is under 21 years of age may apply for an increase in the amount of his compensation on the basis of what he would have been earning on the date of the review had he remained uninjured. This, however, was subject to the conditions that the review should take place more than six months after the accident, and before the workman attains the age of 21. This twofold requirement created hardship in certain cases, in that, if a man was injured at any time during the last six months before reaching the age of 21, it was impossible for him to comply with the

Torgoing conditions.

Under the Act as amended the review is allowed provided it takes place more than six months after the accident and the application for review is made before, or within six months after, the workman

MINES DEPARTMENT: REPORT FOR 1925.

THE Fifth Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines, and the Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines, for the year ended 31st December, 1925, have been issued.†

In a general review of the industry for the year it is stated that

the depression of 1924 continued to deepen during the first eight months of 1925. During September, however, a recovery began in the volume of trade, and continued to the end of the year. The fall in prices, which had been almost continuous since April, 1924, was arrested in the closing months of 1925.

The quantity of coal raised in 1925 was lower than in any year since 1905, except in the abnormal war and post-war years 1918-21. Altogether 243.2 million tons of saleable coal were raised in 1925, or 23.9 million tons less than in 1924, 44.2 million tons less than in 1913, and 26.4 millions tons less than the average annual output in 1909-13. The decline in production, as compared with 1924, though general, was less marked in the districts where development has been most active in recent years. It was only 3 or 4 per cent. in Yorkshire, and in the Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire districts, as against 12 per cent. in Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales, 12½ per cent. in Northumberland, and in the South Wales and Monmouthshire district, and 14 per cent. in Durham. There was an actual increase in the output of anthracite.

The output of coal per man-shift was higher than in 1923 or 1924, and in the month of December it reached 18½ cwts., a higher rate of

and in the month of December it reached 18½ cwts., a higher rate of output than at any period since the 7-hour day was introduced.

Coal was wound on 252¾ days, or 16 days less than the average of 1922, 1923, and 1924. The number of wage-earners on the colliery books fell from 1,140,100 at the end of 1924 to 1,041,100 in August, but had risen again to 1,084,600 at the end of the year. There was thus a considerable increase in unemployment. The percentage of insured coal-miners unemployed (including those working short time or suspended) rose from 7-9 at the end of 1924 to 25-0 per cent. in June, 1925; it declined rapidly in the last three months of the year, and at the end of December it was 11-3

the year, and at the end of December it was 11.3.

In a review of the course of wages and profits during the year, reference is made to the termination of the wages agreement of 1924 by the mine-owners in July, 1925, when, the miners having refused to accept the owners' proposals for negotiating a new agreement, the Government, to avert a stoppage of the mines, intervened with a subvention. A statement is included in the Report showing (a) for the seven ante-subvention months, and (b) for the five subvention months of the year, the gross proceeds, the costs other than wages, the net proceeds, the wages costs, the amount of subvention (when operating), and the profit or loss per ton disposable commercially; also the output and average earnings per manshift, the average number of shifts worked, and the average earnings per person amployed. The amount of subvention paid was equivalent to employed. The amount of subvention paid was equivalent to 2s. 8½d. per ton on all the tonnage sold during the last five months

28. 630. per ton on all the tonnage sold during the last five months of the year, the aggregate amount paid in the period being £12,160,000. The average proceeds per ton in 1925 of all classes of coal in all districts fell by 2s. 8d. as compared with 1924. A saving of about 2d. per ton in other costs reduced the fall in average "net proceeds" to about 2s. 6d. Wages per shift, on the other hand, remained, on the average, substantially at the same level, viz., 10s. 6d., as against 10s. 8d. in the processor. 10s. 8d. in the previous year. An increase in output of ½ cwt. per man-shift increased the savings in wages costs per ton to about 5d. or 6d. The net results were, therefore, 2s. per ton worse than in the previous year; and, without the subvention, the credit balance of 1s. 2d. in 1924 would have been converted into a debit balance of Is, 2d. in 1924 would have been converted into a desire state 10d. in 1925. The subvention, however, spread over the total tonnage of the year, was equivalent to 1s. 1d. per ton, and there was a reality belance on the year's working of about 3d. When allowance is made for interest on loans, amortisation, etc., which are not charged as costs in the ascertainments, the owners as a whole over the whole year may be said to have almost exactly squared

The numbers of persons employed in the mining and quarrying of iron ore and ironstone during the year 1925 averaged 12,819. In 1924 the number employed was 15,167; in 1920, 23,369; and in 1913, 22,900. In the Cleveland district the total number of persons employed at the end of the year was 3,609, as compared with 9,129 in 1913.

* H.M. Stationery Office: price 1d. net.





The following Table shows the number of wage-earners employed at all mines and quarries in Great Britain (including brine salt wells and other mineral workings to which the Regulation Acts do not apply) in 1924 and in 1925:-

sinencially oil to 10 acts	Employed	in getting	Tot	al.
Persons employed.	Coal.	Other Minerals.	1925.	1924.
Underground at mines, and inside at quarries: Males under 16 ,, 16 and over	35,854 842,825	953 73,345	36,807 916,170	47,428 991,033
Total	878,679	74,298	952,977*	1,038,461*
Above ground at mines, and outside at quarries:— Males under 16 ,, 16 and over Females under 16 ,, 16 and over	15,020 185,143 389 4,406	1,465 37,826 6 462	16,485 222,969 395 4,868	19,682 240,711 512 5,281
Total	204,958	39,759	244,717	266,186
Grand Total	1,083,637	114,057	1,197,694	1,304,647

Accidents.—The number of persons killed at mines and quarries in 1925 was 1,233, or 61 less than in 1924; and the number of persons injured and incapacitated for a period of more than three days was 185,974, or 17,448 less than in 1924.

The following Table shows the number of persons killed and injured at mines (excluding quarries) in 1924 and 1925, distinguishing the principal causes of accidents and fatalities:—

Place and Cause of	Persons ?	Killed.	Persons I	njured.
Accident.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.
Underground Accidents:— Explosions of firedamp or coal dust Falls of ground Shaft accidents Haulage accidents Miscellaneous	29 559 37 260 164	35 614 63 262 128	141 60,454 1,255 43,771 58,851	92 65,534 1,223 49,368 63,813
Total, underground	1,049	1,102	164,472	180,030
Surface Accidents:— On railways, sidings, or tramways Elsewhere	46 64	49 67	4,126 11,004	4,757 12,324
Total, surface	110	116	15,130	17,081
Total, underground and surface	1,159	1,218	179,602	197,111

Among other subjects dealt with in the Report are colliery developments, new legislation, the Miners' Welfare Fund, washing and drying accommodation at mines, health and safety. Statistical tables and charts giving particulars of production for the various districts, numbers employed, wages, costs of production, proceeds, distribution and consumption, prices, plant and equipment, accidents, etc., are appended to the Report.

SILICOSIS IN THE POTTERY INDUSTRY.

THE General Council of the Trades Union Congress asked the Home Secretary, in the year 1923, to schedule "potter's asthma," or silicosis, among pottery workers, as an industrial disease under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Silicosis is not a scheduled disease under Sections 43 and 44 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, but special powers were obtained in the Workmens Compensation (Silicosis) Acts, 1918 and 1924 (now Section 47 of the 1925 Act) to make special schemes of compensation for industries or processes involving exposure to silica dust.† Before any scheme could be made for the pottery industry, it was deemed essential that the facts as to the incidence of the disease in the industry should be established. On the instructions of the Home Secretary, therefore, a medical examination of a representative number of workers in the different processes which are known to be associated with the evolution of dust was carried out by the two medical officers appointed as members of the medical board under the Refractories Industries Silicosis Scheme, assisted by a doctor resident at Stoke-on-Trent, who conducted radiographic examinations. The Report of this inquiry has now been published.‡

The broad result of the inquiry is to indicate that silicosis is

liable to be produced in many occupations in the industry, but the

* Including females employed inside quarries, viz., 42 in 1925, none of whom were under 16 years of age, and 52 in 1924, of whom 2 were under 16 years of age.

† Silicosis in the refractories industries (roughly, ganister mines and quarries, and factories engaged in the manufacture of silica bricks or other articles or materials used for lining furnaces) is already covered by a special scheme made by the Home Secretary under these powers. See Workmen's Compensation: Statistics of Compensation, &c. (Cmd. 2784: H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d.)

† Report on the Incidence of Silicosis in the Pottery Industry. H M. Stationery

ce 3a.)
Report on the Incidence of Silicosis in the Pottery Industry, H.M. Stationery

degrees of risk vary within very wide limits. It has been found in workers employed in china placing, where dry flint is used, and in the subsequent incidental processes; in the use of sand as a placing material; in the milling of flint, and in the sliphouse; in processes of manipulation of the body in the clay state; and in addition, in sagger making and in ware polishing, in which exposure to flint dust is only incidental. The occupations specially mentioned in their summary of conclusions by the doctors who conducted the inquiry as exposed to risk of the disease are:—potters' millers and mill labourers; all workers in the slip and dust house; all workers in the potters' shop; all workers in the biscuit warehouse; sagger makers and marl grinders; all polishers and grinders and tile slabbers; and all labourers working in connection with any of the above.

The great majority of cases of silicosis occur after twenty years' or

more employment in the industry; but in the occupations where the incidence of silicosis is high it becomes evident at an early stage in the occupational history of the workers.

H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories, in presenting the Report, makes the following observations with regard to the possibilities of

"Since the present code of Factory Regulations came into force in 1913, serious attempts have been made to reduce the amount of dust to which workers are exposed, where the application of localised exhaust draught is possible, and efforts are still being made to improve the methods of dust removal. The present Report tends to emphasise the danger which arises from processes which have been regarded as comparatively safe because of the materials being damp or wet. Attention might be directed to improvements in potters' shops, slip-houses, and flint mills, along the lines of providing impervious floors and benches; laying on water for cleansing purposes, and frequent cleansing of floors, benches and walls; prohibiting the deposition of any material not necessary for the purposes of the work, which is dry or liable to become dry and to produce dust, in workrooms, yards, or other places on the premises; the provision and frequent washing (not sponging) of overalls, for all persons employed in handling any clay body which contains over 10 per

LABOUR DISPUTES AND THEIR SETTLEMENT IN SWEDEN IN 1925.

A REPORT* recently published by the Swedish Department for Social Affairs contains information on (1) labour disputes, (2) collective agreements, and (3) the work of the State Conciliators in 1925.

(For corresponding particulars for 1924 see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1925, p. 424.)

(1) In 1925, there were 239 disputes, which affected 145,778 workpeople, and involved the loss of 2,559,700 working days. The metal and engineering industry was the most seriously affected, the total loss in working days amounting to 506,200. Of the total number of disputes, 67 per cent. were due to wage questions. The disputes resulted as follows: 18.4 per cent., in favour of the employers; 19.3 per cent., in favour of the workers; 55.2 per cent. were compromised; and the results of the remaining 7.1 per cent. were unknown or indecisive.

(2) The number of collective agreements concluded in 1925 was 958, covering 7,185 employers and 225,312 workers. At the end of the year, there were in force 2,455 agreements affecting 451,592 workers. The total number of agreements concluded in 1925 included 22 national agreements covering 121,441 workers. The majority were concluded for one year or less; but 191 were for a period of one to two years, and three agreements contained no special provision regarding their duration. Some machinery for negotiation (either between the parties or their organisations, or by means of conciliation committees) previous to a stoppage of work was provided for in 875 agreements affecting 214,779 workers. In 731 agreements, affecting 183,655 workers, provision was made for annual holidays. A holiday period of less than a week was prescribed in 257 agreements, affecting 116,203 workers; of one week in 343 agreements, affecting 51,147 workers; of from seven to eleven days in 95 agreements, affecting 24,980 workers; and of two weeks or more in 36 agreements, affecting

(3) The number of disputes (including those entailing no stoppage of work) in which some measure of conciliation was employed was 249. Of these cases, 220 were actually brought before the official conciliators, with the result that a settlement was reached in 183 cases; the remaining 37 cases were either settled by the parties themselves or received no solution. In the other 29 cases the parties either refused the offer of conciliation or had settled the dispute before the offer of conciliation was made. In 102 cases there was a stoppage of work. Disputes brought before the conciliators affected in all 2,892 employers and 233,177 workers; the disputes in which a stoppage of work occurred affected 1,440 employers and 138,653 workers. The conciliators and conciliation committees exercised their mediatory action in 39 per cent, of the total number of disputes in 1925, covering 92 per cent. of the workers affected. In 78 of the 102 cases referred to above, work had ceased before negotiations began. The initiative in conciliation procedure, in the 220 cases brought to negotiation, was taken by the conciliators themselves in 167 cases, by the employers in 14 cases, by the workers in 14 cases, and by both parties in 25 cases.

* Arbetsinställelser och Kollektivavtal samt Förlikningsmännens verksamhet år 1925. Stockholm, 1926.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914. All Items included

... 67% Food only ...

FOOD.

At 1st January the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food was slightly lower than at 1st December. The decrease was chiefly due to a seasonal decline of nearly ½d. each in the average price of eggs; bacon was also cheaper. On the other hand, there were appreciable advances in the prices of butter.

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 67 per cent. above the pre-war level, as compared with 69 per cent. a month earlier and 71 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 December, 1926, and 1st January, 1927 :-

Article.	other	Price (per wise indica the nearest	Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Jan., 1927, as compared with			
on weather and	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1926.	1st Jan., 1927.	July, 1914.	1st Dec., 1926.	
Beef, British— Ribs Thin Flank Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	s. d. 0 10 0 6½	s. d. 1 51 0 91	8. d. 1 5 0 9½	s. d. + 0 7 + 0 3	8. d. - 0 01	
Ribs Thin Flank Mutton, British—	0 7½ 0 4¾	0 10½ 0 5½	0 10 0 5½	+ 0 23 + 0 03	- 0 01	
Legs Breast Mutton, Frozen—	0 10½ 0 6½	1 6½ 0 10½	1 6½ 0 10½	+ 0 7½ + 0 3¾	- 0. 01	
Legs Breast Bacon (streaky)*	0 68 0 4 0 111	0 113 0 51 1 7	0 113 0 51 1 61	+ 0 5 + 0 11 + 0 71	- 0 0 ₁	
Flour per 7 lb. Bread per 4 lb. Tea Sugar (granulated) Milk per quart	0 10½ 0 5¾ 1 6¼ 0 2 0 3⅓	1 61 0 10 2 51 0 34 0 61	1 6 0 10 2 5½ 0 3¾ 0 6½	+ 0 7½ + 0 4¼ + 0 11 + 0 1¼ + 0 3	- 0 0¼ ::	
Butter— Fresh Salt Oheese† Margarine each Potatoes per 7 lb.	1 2½ 1 2¼ 0 8¾ 0 7 0 1¼ 0 4¾	1 101 1 81 1 11 0 8 0 31 0 72	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	

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

	1st Janua	Percentage I ary, 1927, as ith July, 191	compared	Corre- sponding General	
Article.	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	Average for lst Dec., 1926.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Ribs	72	70	71	73	
Thin Flank	43	43	43	44	
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—	42	37	39	40	
	12	14	13	40 14	
Thin Flank Mutton, British—	14	14	13	14	
Logo	74	77	75	76	
Breast	58	54	56	57	
Mutton, Frozen—	12 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	THE RESERVE TO SERVE		THE TOUTS	
Legs	75	66	71	72	
Breast	27	27	27	28	
Bacon (streaky)*	65	65	65	70	
Fish	140	108	124	127	
Flores	69	73	71	70	
Flour Bread	73	70	72	72	
Tee	57	63	60	73 60	
Sugar (92	80	86	83	
Mills	85	89	87	86	
Butter—	00			00	
Fresh	55	64	59	54	
Salt	51	52	52	45	
Cheese†	58	57	57	54	
Margarine	18	12	15	15	
Eggs (fresh)	139	131	135	169	
Potatoes	80	45	63	62	
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase)	69	66	67	69	
TOTAL CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY O	172713200 0	THE PARTY OF THE P			

* 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 average decrease was very small, but sufficient to alter the average price as expressed to the nearest ½d.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

15

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 rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings rose slightly during December, and at 1st January were approximately 51 per cent, above the level of July, 1914. The increase in December was due to increases in local rates in certain areas. 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 January 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 1.15 and 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group, there were general reductions in the prices of coal during December, and at 1st January retail prices averaged between 125 and 130 per cent. above those of July, 1914, On the other hand there were increases in the prices of gas in some towns, and at 1st January the average price of gas was between 80 and 85 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches), the average increase at 1st January, as compared with July, 1914, was about 115 per cent.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in prewar 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 January is, approximately 75 per cent.* over the level of July 1914, as compared with 79 per cent. at 1st December, and 75 per cent. at 1st January, 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 re-adjustments 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 some 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: 1915 TO 1926.

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 in the years 1915-26:-

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

Month.	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Jan	10-15	35	65	85–90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75
Feb	15	35	65-70		120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73
	15-20			90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72
			70-75		110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68
May		40-45		95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67
June	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68
July	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70
Aug		45-50		110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70
Sept	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72
Oct	30		75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74
Nov	30-35		85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79
Dec	35	65	85	120	125	169	9.9	80	77	81	77	79

For 1st January, 1927, the corresponding figure was 75.

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 DECEMBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

WITH the resumption of work at the coal mines there was an improvement in employment in nearly all the principal industries during the first three weeks in December. In iron-mining, at cokeovens, in the iron, steel, and tinplate industries, and in railway carriage and wagon building (all of which had been specially affected by the coal-mining stoppage), there were substantial reductions in the proportions of workpeople unemployed. Considerable improvements were also recorded in the cotton industry, in the railway service, and in brick manufacture. As usual, however, there was a seasonal decline in employment after Christmas.

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 December, 1926, was 11.9* as compared with 13.5* at 22nd November, 1926, and with 10.4 at 21st December, 1925. For males alone, the percentage at 20th December was 13·1, as compared with 14·8 at 22nd November; for females, the corresponding figures were 8.4 and 10.0. Among members of trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 12·2 at the end of December, 1926, as compared with 13·2 at the end of November, 1926, and with 11·0 at the end of December, 1925. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 20th December, 1926, was approximately 1,357,000, of whom 1,075,000 were men and 222,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 29th November, 1926, it was 1,545,000, of whom 1,206,000 were men and 265,000 were women; and at 21st December, 1925, it was 1,166,000, of whom men numbered 933,000 and women 183,000. The figures relating to 29th November and 20th December, 1926, are exclusive of those workpeople in the coal-mining industry, who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—In coal-mining substantial progress was made during December in the re-absorption of workers following the termination of the dispute. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 18th December was 925,367; the average number of days worked per week, in the fortnight ended 18th December, 1926, was 5.33.

In the iron-mining industry considerable improvement was shown in all districts. At the mines from which returns were received there was an increase of 138.6 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, compared with the previous month, but the figures were still 63 per cent. below those of a year ago. The average number of days worked per week by the mines that made returns for the three periods was 3.63 in December, 1926, compared with 5.41 in December, 1925. In the shale mines in West Lothian there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed compared with the previous month. At limestone quarries employment was fair in the Clitheroe and Weardale districts, showing an improvement generally as compared with November. At slate quarries in North Wales it continued fairly good. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland employment continued moderate; at chalk quarries it remained very slack. At tin mines it was again good; at china clay quarries it was fair and showed an improvement as compared with

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tin plate.—In the pigiron industry employment showed an improvement but was still bad. At the end of December there were 78 furnac s in blast, as compared with 7 at the end of November, 1926, and with 141 at the end of December, 1925.

In the iron and steel trades employment showed a marked improvement but was still very bad. In the tinplate and steel sheet trades employment was fair and showed a considerable improvement as compared with the previous month. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of December, 1926, was 506, as compared with 294 in November, 1926, and with 514 in December,

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—In the engineering trades employment was bad but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month, although it was still handicapped by shortages of raw material consequent on the recent stoppage in the coal-mining industry. Short time was still reported, especially at some of the railway and textile engineering works; while in the marine engineering section employment remained very depressed. The electrical section was fairly well employed, and many of the motor engineering works were busy.

In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment was still very bad but showed some improvement following the terminametal trades employment improved slightly during the month but

remained moderate on the whole. It was fairly good in the lock, latch and key trade; fair in the needle and fishing tackle, stove and grate, sheet metal, file and hollow-ware trades; moderate in the brasswork, farriery, tube, wire, nut and bolt, and jewellery and plated-ware trades; and slack or bad in the metallic bedstead, cutlery, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade showed an improvement in December; this, however, was chiefly in the week before Christmas, and was followed, in some cases, by extended holidays. In accordance with the decision of the Short Time Committee of the Employers' Federation the organised restriction on working hours in the American spinning section was removed on 18th December; but although, following this, there was an increase in working hours in some cases, there was no general resumption of full-time working. In the wool textile trades employment showed further improvement. A large number of firms continued to work reduced hours, but, on the whole, less short time was worked than in November, and in the week preceding the holidays many firms worked full time.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed a slight decline; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it continued fairly good generally; in the lace trade it remained bad and short-time working was fairly general; in the linen trade there was a marked improvement but employment was still slack on the whole; in the jute trade it also showed an improvement but was still only moderate. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment continued very slack and short-time working was

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade showed some improvement, particularly in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branch; it was generally fair in the latter section and moderate in the retail bespoke section. In the wholesale mantle and costume trade it was reported as slack in London and as bad in Scotland. In the dressmaking trade the seasonal decline continued and employment was quiet; in the London blouse and light underclothing trade it was moderate and worse than in the previous month. In the corset trade employment remained quiet, and in the shirt and collar trade it continued fair generally. In the felt hat trade employment was slack and much short time was worked. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued moderate, on the whole, and a great deal of short time was still worked.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning and currying section was fair; with saddlery and harness makers it was again slack; in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it continued moderate, on the whole.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trade varied considerably as between different centres. With skilled operatives, taken as a whole, it showed a decline, and, except with painters, was generally fair; it remained moderate in most districts with unskilled workers. It was good with plasterers in most districts; fairly good with bricklayers and with slaters; fair, on the whole, with carpenters and joiners; and generally quiet with masons. There was a decline with plumbers, and employment was moderate; with painters also there was a further decline and employment was very slack. With tradesmen's labourers employment was moderate on the whole. With brickmakers employment showed a considerable improvement and was fair on the whole; in the Peterborough district it continued good.

Employment in the furnishing trades was fairly good; with millsawyers it continued fair; with coachbuilders it showed an improvement but was still slack; with packing case makers and coopers it continued bad.

Paper Manufacture, Printing, and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade was fairly good and showed a general improvement as compared with the previous month. With letterpress printers employment showed a slight decline and was moderate; it was reported as slack at Glasgow, and bad at Birmingham. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued very good in London and was fairly good in other centres except at Manchester, where it was reported as bad; in the lithographic printing trade it was moderate on the whole. With bookbinders employment showed a further improvement.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire showed little change, though there was a seasonal decline towards the end of the month. In the glass trade employment showed a marked improvement, but was still bad on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales the supply of labour at the end of December was generally sufficient for requirements and there was practically no unemployment. It was reported that skilled labour was often difficult to obtain, and that a shortage of this class of worker existed in many districts. With fishermen employment showed a slight improvement.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment showed a general improvement, and was moderate on the whole; with seamen it continued slack, on the whole.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

January, 1927.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 801,878 in branches covered by the returns received, reported 97,671 (or 12·2 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of December, 1926.

Trade.	Member- ship of Unions reporting	Unemp at en Decem 1926	d of aber,	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a		
d sixtiem of the like surveys of the	at end of December, 1926.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.	Month before.	Year before.	
Engineering and Ship-	200 Feb.					
building	321,727	66,638	20.7	- 2.0	+ 5.2	
Miscellaneous Metal	50,214	4,486	8.9	- 2.3	+ 5.2 + 3.2	
Textiles :-	THE PERSON NAMED IN	1,100				
Cotton	55,478	4,685	8.4		+ 2.2	
Other	65,891	3,006	4.6	- 0.5	+ 1.5	
Printing, Bookbinding and	STATE OF THE PARTY					
Paper	105,717†	5,598	5.3	- 0.2	+ 1.9	
Furnishing	25,377	2,399	9.5	+ 1.4	+ 5.0	
Woodworking	37,448	3,611	9.6	- 0.3	+ 3.4	
Clothing:	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	Little VS518			STEPHEN S	
Boot and Shoe	80,784	4,072	5.0	+ 0.3	+ .0.1	
Other Clothing	45,592	1,392	3.1	- 0.3	- 1.2	
Leather	5,514	626	11.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.4	
Glass	1,088	40	3.7	+ 0.6	+ 2.5	
Tobacco (mainly Cigar	S. D. Street	CONTROL OF THE		P. British	THE WOOD	
Makers)	7,048	1,118	15.9	+ .0	+ 3.5	
Total	801,878‡	97,671‡	12.2	- 1.0	+ 1.2	

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured at July, 1926.		tage Unem at December,	The state of the last	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentage as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland Special Schemes	2,105,400 840,200 810,900 1,777,400 2,020,500 2,145,700 1,323,100 626,800 266,000 125,000	7.5 5.9 9.6 9.9 18.9 13.7 18.8 18.5 23.5	4·3 4·8 5·2 9·9 10·0 11·7 8·6 9·2 14·1 0·6	6.5 5.7 8.6 9.9 17.0 13.0 16.0 17.6 19.9 1.8	-0·5 -0·2 -1·9 -1·0 -2·2 -2·9 -1·4 -3·8 -1·5	$\begin{array}{c} -0.1 \\ +0.2 \\ +2.2 \\ +2.9 \\ +2.7 \\ +0.6 \\ +4.2 \\ -5.8 \\ -0.1 \end{array}$
TOTAL	12,041,000	13.1	8.4	11.9	-1.6	+1.4

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS. INFORMATION as to employment, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below:

The distribution of the second	Workpeople included in the	December.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
Trade.	Returns for December, 1926.	1926.	Month before.	Year before.	
Coal Mining Iron , Shale ,,	925,367 3,052 2,766	Days Worked per week by Mines. 5·33 3·63 5·87	Days. - 0.26 + 0.05	Days 1.78	
Pig Iron Tinplate and Steel Sheet Iron and Steel	51,805	Furnaces in Blast 78 Mills working 506 Shifts Worked (one week). 274,826	Number. + 71 + 212 Per cent.	Number 63 - 8 Per cent 30.9	

TION WHO DUCCE	• 1000	31,003	1) 417	,020	T 41.4	- 30.9	
NATIONAL PROPERTY.	(b)	OTHER	TRADES	J.	Contraction of		
o canada - 1		er of Worl		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
Trade.	Week ended 18th		(+) or -) on a	Week ended 18th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year efore.	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	
Worsted Boot and Shoe Pottery	80,108 66,188 91,947 50,217 11,280 8,641	Per cent 0·2 + 0·2 + 0·1 - 0·3 + 1·8 + 4·7	Per cent 3·4 - 1·2 - 2·7 - 0·0 - 7·9 - 6·5	£ 139,643 136,814 175,770 114,156 22,138 23,168	Per cent. + 2·7 + 1·2 + 3·3 + 0·4 - 1·2 + 6·7	Per cent 9.0 + 1.1 - 5.1 - 2.7 - 3.1 - 5.8\$	

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked out are also excluded.

† The returns actually received cover a larger number, but to preserve comparability the number taken for this Table is that corresponding with the figures available for previous dates.

‡ Coalmining is not included in the figures for November and December, 1926, but is included in those for December, 1925. If it is excluded throughout, the increase in December, 1926, over December, 1925. is 3·1.

§ Comparison is affected by changes in rates of wages in some districts.

|| Computed as explained in the article on page 83 of the March, 1926, 64ZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

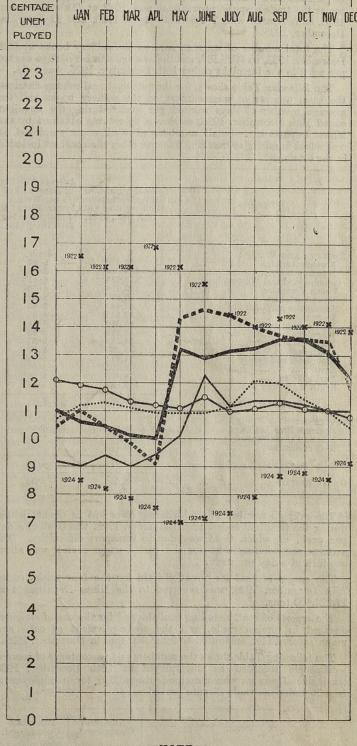
PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:—

Thick Curve = 1926Thin Curve -= 1925.Chain Curve - 0-0-0-0-0 = Mean of 1922-25.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union Members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-1925,

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK-PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS:—

Thin Dotted Curve -----= 1925.



NOTE.

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The Trade Union Returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail, on pages 26 to 29.

^{*} These percentages include coal-mining, but in respect of that industry only those unemployed persons who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute are taken into account. In other industries (excluding coal-mining), the percentage of unemployment at 20th December, was 12·1, as compared with 14·1 at 22nd

DETAILED REPORTS ON UNEMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Note.—The numbers of workpeople 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.

18

DURING December substantial progress was made in the reabsorption of colliery workers following the termination of the dispute. Short-time working due to a shortage of railway wagons was reported from some centres.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges (exclusive of persons who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute provisions), was 10·2 at 20th December, 1926, as compared with 7·9 at 26th April, 1926, and 11·3 at 21st

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 18th December, 1926, was 925,367, and the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 18th December, 1926, was 5.33.

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 18th December, 1926, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at 18th Dec., 1926.	Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines* in fortnight ended 18th Dec., 1926.
ENGLAND AND WALES: Northumberland Durham Cumberland and Westmorla South Yorkshire West Yorkshire Lancashire and Cheshire Derbyshire Nottingham and Leicester Warwick North Staffordshire South Staffs,† Wores. and S Gloucester and Somerset Kent North Wales South Wales and Mon.	50,370 117,088 10,534 109,954 60,897 87,420 59,033 65,380 18,871 31,172 33,520 11,021 2,092 14,403 155,623	Days. 5.44 5.09 5.51 4.72 5.49 4.85 4.68 5.27 5.72 5.45 5.50 5.87
England and Wales	 827,378	5.31
Scotland: Mid, and East Lothians Fife and Clackmannan Rest of Scotland Scotland Great Britain	 12,465 18,751 66,773 97,989 925,367	5·66 5·62 5·51 5·56

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 18th December, 1926, was 0.48 of a day per week, of which 0.43 was due to transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for the period under review was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal for Great Britain for the four weeks ended 25th December, 1926, was reported to the Mines Department as

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal-equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 2,333,400 tons in December, 1926.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople recorded as unemployed at 20th December, 1926 (exclusive of persons who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit under the trade dispute provisions):-

Area.		Numbers Unemployed.	Percentage Unemployed.
England Scotland Wales and Monmouth	 	70,460 21,799 32,579	8·7 14·8 12·0
GREAT BRITAIN	 	 124,838	10.2

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

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

FOLLOWING the resumption of work at the coal mines, employment at iron mines showed considerable improvement in all districts, compared with the previous month, notably in the Cleveland district, but it still showed a great decrease compared with a year ago.

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 45.0 at 20th December, 1926, as compared with 62.8 at 22nd November, 1926, and 19.3 at 21st December, 1925.

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

in (+ 13 wemit is to a law sept	peop Mir	mber of Wo le employe les included he Returns	d at	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
Districts.	Fort- night ended 18th		+) or) as com- with a	Fort- night ended 18th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as com- pared with a		
	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	
1-00-13 6:00- 3:0-1:01-		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.	
Cleveland	1,868	+372.9	-46.0	3-24	+ 0.21	- 1.72	
Cumberland and Lancashire	1,109	+ 31.7	-68.1	4-26	+ 0.84	- 1.47	
Other Districts	75	+ 78.6	-94.3	4.16	- 1.48	- 1.61	
ALL DISTRICTS	3,052	+138.6	-63.0	3.63	+ 0.26	- 1.78	

SHALE MINING.

According to the returns received, 2,766 workpeople were employed in the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 18th December, 1926, an increase of 0.8 per cent. compared with the previous month. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was 5.87 in December, 1926, compared with 5.82 in the previous month. The mines were closed during the greater part of December, 1925, owing to a dispute.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during December showed an improvement as compared with the previous month, but was still very bad.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 78 furnaces were in operation at the end of December compared with 7 at the end of November, 71 having been blown in during the month. There were 147 furnaces in blast at the end of April.

Production of pig iron in December amounted to 98,000 tons, compared with 12,700 tons in November, and 503,400 tons in

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, were 44.7 on 20th December, 1926, as compared with 60.3 on 22nd November, 1926, and 20.2 on 21st December, 1925.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in December was still seriously affected by the results of the recent dispute in the coal mining industry and continued very bad, although there was a marked improvement as compared with

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 34.5 on 20th December, 1926, as compared with 48.8 on 22nd November, 1926, and 24.4 on 21st December, 1925.

According to returns received people in the week ended 18th December, 1926, 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) increased by 47.4 per cent. as compared with November, but showed a decrease of 30.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was $5 \cdot 3$ in each of the three periods.

* See footnote * in previous column.

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

January, 1927.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

	emplo	f Workped by flighting return	rms		rate numl Shifts.*	per of
AND	Week ended 18th	Inc. (- Dec. (- compa with	-) as	Week ended 18th	Inc. (- Dec. (- comp with	-) as
	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	4,784 3,047 16,808 2,696 7,592 6,425 10,453	+ 212·2 + 52·0 + 53·1 + 4·4 + 34·3	-41.6 -12.7 -41.8 -13.1 - 3.0 -11.8 -34.6	24,810 14 993 82,513 13,732 43,768 36,392 58,618	+112·5 +251·6 +55·1 +50·6 +7·5 +33·0 +46·2	-45.8 - 0.4 -43.1 -14.7 - 1.9 -11.1 -35.1
TOTAL	51,805	+ 47.9	-30.7	274,825	+ 47.4	-30.9
DISTRICTS.		1 15-0			Son'il - L	100
Northumberland, Dur- ham and Cleveland Sheffield and Rother-	9,388	+ 72:1	-39.6	52,840	+ 80.3	-39.1
ham Leeds, Bradford, etc Cumberland, Lancs, and	16,109 1,547	+ 28·0 + 48·0	$-15.0 \\ -27.7$	84,856 8,257	+ 26·0 + 47·1	-14·1 -25·9
Cheshire Staffordshire Other Midland Counties Wales and Monmouth	5,180 4,285 2,651 6,639	+ 20.9 + 84.1 + 82.6 + 13.8	-31·0 -38·4 -31·7 -17·0	26,418 22,308 14,849 35,354	+ 18·7 + 82·2 + 74·5 + 13·1	-38.4
Total, England and Wales Scotland	45,799 6,006	+ 38·9 + 194·7	-27·3 -48·9	244,882 29,944	+ 38.7 + 202.8	
TOTAL	51,805	+ 47.9	-30.7	274,826	+ 47.4	-30.9

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 319,300 tons, in December, 1926, as compared with 97,500 tons in November, 1926, and 606,800 tons in December, 1925.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in December was fair and showed a great improvement as compared with the previous month; a shortage of tinplate bars was reported. At the end of December, 1926, 506 tinplate and steel sheet mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, compared with 294 in the previous month, and with 514 in December, 1925. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22.0 on 20th December, 1926, as compared with 49.1 on 22nd November, 1926, and with 10.6 on 21st December, 1925.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of December, 1926, at the works covered by the returns

Works.	Numb	er of Worl	s Open	Number of Mills in Operation				
	At end of		(+) or -) on a	At end of	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	Dec. 1926.	Month before.	Year before.		
Tinplate Steel Sheet	69 13	+ 28 + 5	- 3	378 128	+172 + 40	- 13 + 5		
TOTAL	82	+ 33	- 3	506	+212	- 8		

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in December, 1926, amounted to 65,731 tons, or 2,370 tons less than in November 1926, and 49,530 tons less than in December, 1925.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during December was bad, but showed a general improvement as compared with the month before, although still handicapped by shortages of raw materials consequent on the recent stoppage in the coal-mining industry. Short time was still reported, especially at some of the railway and textile engineering works, while in the marine engineering section employment remained very depressed. The electrical section was fairly well employed, and many of the motor engineering works were busy.

Compared with a year before, employment was worse generally. The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th December, 1926, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before.

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

t description of	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th December, 1926.									
Divisions.	Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	urine sring, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			
	Engine Engine and Four	Elec Engir	Marine Engineering,	Constr Engir	Constru Repair Vehicle	(6) 17 ((6) 17 ((7) (3))	Month before.	Year before.		
ondon outh-Eastern outh-Western idlands orth-Eastern orth-Western cotland vales orthern Ireland	5,379 2,517 3,615 10,455 27,605 24,300 19,165 2,267 1,430	324 330 136 1,415 721 1,384 324 39 13	8,552 166	369 2,110 117	2,038 1,170 1,195 9,829 1,140 2,232 972 218 259	7,993 4,216 5,429 23.0 ±7 40.435 28,451 27,314 2,704 3,864	- 1,185 - 579 - 5,472 - 3 8 18 - 5,416 - 4,639 - 2,409 - 539 - 362	+ 359 + 619 + 2,145 + 8,330 + 8,578 + 7,854 + 4,538 + 457 - 106		
REAT BRITAIN NO NORTHERN RELAND	96,733	4,686	16,294	6,737	19,053	143,503	- 24,419	+ 32,774		
iw forest	Pe	rcenta	ges Une	emplo	yed at 2	oth Dece	mber, 19	926.		
ondon outh-Eastern outh-Western lidlands orth-Eastern orth-Western cotland Vales orthern Ireland	33.1	2.9 3.8 4.3 6.0 9.1 7.4 10.9 10.5 5.7	8·3 3·2 6·5 2·7 39·3 12·9 26·8 30·0 39·2	37.0	5·1 10·5 10·1 11·6 9·7 11·4	5.9 5.2 7.8 10.7 23.3 15.7 22.6 26.7 26.1	- 0.9 - 0.7 - 7.9 - 1.7 - 3.1 - 2.6 - 2.0 - 5.4 - 2.4	+ 0·2 + 0·7 + 2·9 + 3·5 + 5·2 + 4·4 + 4·1 + 14·8		
REAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	1	6.1	27.9	24.6	8.5	14.3	- 2.4	+ 3.		
Ditto, Nov., 1926 Ditto, Dec., 1925		6·8 5·1	31·9 25·2			16·7 11·0		9612 il		

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad, but showed a further improvement in general engineering and in the very depressed marine engineering section. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment continued bad, but some improvement was experienced. In Lancashire and Cheshire conditions were still bad, but an improvement was noted, except at some of the textile engineering centres. In the Birmingham and Coventry district an improvement was reported in both general and motor engineering, while conditions in the electrical section were fair. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment on the whole re-

mained bad, but showed an upward tendency.

In London and the South-Eastern Counties employment improved and was fair on the whole, and good on electrical and aircraft work. In the South-Western Counties employment in the railway engineering section revived with the re-opening of the Swindon works; in the electrical and motor sections it was fair.

In South Wales employment was still very bad, though it showed a considerable improvement. In Scotland conditions remained very bad, but some improvement was noted in nearly all sections. At Belfast also, though employment continued very bad, it showed a slight improvement on the whole.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very bad during December, but showed some improvement following the termination of the stoppage in the coalmining industry; a greater improvement was prevented by continued scarcity of steel due to that stoppage. Compared with a year ago, employment was worse in the principal districts, though some of the smaller districts showed an improvement.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th December, 1926, and the increase or decrease as compared with 22nd November, 1926, and with a year before:-

Divisions.	Number of Workpeople ployed at Dec., 1926.	Decrea	se (+) or se (-) as red with a	centage ployed at Dec., 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a		
to in the inster the Year country than a middle	Total Insured Unem 20th I	Month before.	Year before.	Percenta Unemploye 20th Dec.,	Month before.	Year before.	
London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland	2,396 719 3,336 50 37,559 9,184 30,604 4,560 6,168	- 708 - 182 - 491 + 4 - 2,820 - 412 - 1 048 - 1,923 + 268	- 976 - 211 + 122 - 49 + 3,587 - 1.483 + 3,304 + 1,148 - 170	21·1 8·1 14·0 16·7 59·7 28·5 51·6 43·2 42·3	- 6·2 - 2·0 - 2·0 + 1·4 - 4·4 - 1·2 - 1·8 - 18·2 + 1·9	- 6.0 - 1.3 + 1.3 - 18.7 + 9.0 - 4.1 + 9.4 + 11.9 + 8.2	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	94,576	- 7,312	+ 5,272	42-2	- 3.3	+ 5.3	

On the North-East Coast and in Scotland more than 50 per cent. and in Wales and Northern Ireland more than 40 per cent. of the insured workpeople were still recorded as unemployed. In London and the Southern Counties, employment, though bad, was better than in other districts.

The most noticeable change shown in the percentages unemployed compared with a month before was a substantial improvement in Wales, attributed to the work of completing repairs before the

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1926.

20

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 December, 1926, amounted to 760,084 tons, as compared with 774,947 tons at the end of September, 1926, and 885,013 tons at the end of December, 1925. The present total is the lowest recorded since June, 1909, and is 1,130,000 tons below the average tonnage building during the 12 months immediately preceding the war. The tonnage on which work was suspended at the end of December, 1926, amounted to 99,468 tons, which is about 2,000 tons more than at the end of December, 1925. The tonnage of motor ships building at the end of December, 1926, amounted to 34.7 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction.

An increase is shown in the tonnage commenced during the quarter, viz., 152,404 tons, as compared with 68,327 tons during the third quarter of 1926.

The tonnage launched during the quarter, viz., 67,853 tons, shows a marked reduction, of 139,888 tons, as compared with the figures for the previous three months.

The total horse-power of the marine engines building or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of December, 1926, amounted to 720,735 h.p., as compared with 668,191 h.p. in the previous quarter.

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

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

On the whole there was a further improvement in employment in December, as compared with the previous month. A large number of firms throughout the industry continued to work reduced hours; but less short time was worked than in November, and in the week preceding the holidays many firms worked full time.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.0 on 20th December, 1926, as compared with 14.2 on 22nd November, 1926, and with 8.8 on 21st December, 1925.

Employment with wool sorters was slightly better than in November, but it still continued slack on the whole with wool combers, although the position was better in the merino section than in the crossbred section. In both sorting and combing less short time was worked than in the previous month; about 44 per cent. of the workpeople in the sorting, combing and preparing branches of the industry covered by the returns received worked short time in the week ended 18th December, 1926, with a loss of about 13 hours each on the average. In worsted spinning there was a slight improvement with botany spinners, but no improvement with spinners of crossbred yarns; with mohair and alpaca spinners employment continued bad. About 35 per cent. of the spinners covered by the returns received, lost about seven hours each, on an average, in the week ended 18th December, while about 6 per cent. were on overtime to the average extent of five

In worsted weaving there was no appreciable change in the Bradford district, although in this district, as in others, a number of firms ran as full a week as possible prior to Christmas. In the Keighley and Silsden districts employment varied from fair to good; in the Huddersfield fine cloth trade employment was described as moderate, and the improvement of recent months was not quite maintained. The returns received from employers for the week ended 18th December showed that about 23 per cent. of the weavers worked short time, with a loss, on an average, of about 812*

In the woollen section employment, taken as a whole, continued slack. About 32 per cent. of the spinners and about 33 per cent. of the weavers covered by the employers' returns worked short time in the week ended 18th December, with a loss on the average of about 10* hours each, in both departments; on the other hand, about 9 per cent, of the spinners were on overtime to the extent of eight hours each on the average, while about 3 per cent. of the weavers worked on an average seven hours per week overtime. In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district very little night work was in progress and employment remained very quiet; while in the Heavy Woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley it was poor and worse, on the whole, than in the previous month; in the rag trade at Dewsbury there was some improvement. In the Leeds and Morley district employment was reported as moderate in the better class trade, but was bad in the low woollen trade; in the Yeadon and Guiseley district employment was fair and better than a month With woollen workers in the Stockport district employment

In the blanket manufacturing trade of the Heavy Woollen District employment was only moderate. Operatives in the blanket industry at Witney were fairly well employed. In the flannel trade of Saddle-

worth and Rochdale employment varied from fair to moderate.

In Scotland continued activity was reported in the tweed industry, and some firms were not able to run their full number of looms on account of the shortage of weavers, darners and menders.

In the carpet trade there was little change on the whole.

Employment at Kidderminster was reported as moderate, with the majority of operatives on short time, but it was somewhat better than in November. At Bridgnorth employment continued fairly good. At Halifax, Liversedge and Sowerby Bridge there was some improvement, but elsewhere in Yorkshire employment remained slack. In Scotland it was fairly good on the whole.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers.

		Number of Workpeopl			l Wages pa Workpeor	
to the part of the	Week ended 18th Dec., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 18th Dec., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
Departments: Worsted Section:		Per Cent.		£	Per Cent.	
Wool Sorting and Combing Spinning Weaving Other Depts. Not specified	10,981 43,660 22,462 12,866 1,978	+ 1.7 - 0.0 - 0.3 - 0.0 - 1.4	99·4 97·7 *100·7 *101·6 107·6	25,362 69,360 45,416 31,788 3,844	+ 6·3 + 2·6 + 3·1 + 2·2 + 9·5	88.6 99.1 *99.0 *102.6 100.7
Total-Worsted	91,947	+ 0.1	99-3	175,770	+ 3.3	97.9
Woollen Section: Wool Sorting and Combing Spinning Weaving Other Depts Not specified	1,092 15,186 27,664 20,033 2,213	- 0.9 + 0.8 - 0.0 + 0.4 - 2.1	99·7 96·8 *102·3 *99·5 99·0	2,605 32,494 50,541 46,214 4,960	+ 1·0 + 1·2 + 0·8 + 1·8 - 0·1	105·9 104·0 *106·1 *103·0 105·4
Total-Woollen	66,188	+ 0.2	100-1	136,814	+ 1.2	104:6
CARPET SECTION	9,519	+ 0.1	99.7	16,857	- 0.4	81.3
Total—Wool Textile Industry	167,654	+ 0.1	99.3	329,441	+ 2.2	99.6
Districts†: WORSTED SECTION: Bradford Huddersfield Halifax Leeds Keighley Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Bat- ley, etc.)	41,770 10,244 10,419 9,080 9,580 3,482	+ 0.9 - 1.9 - 2.6 + 0.5 + 0.5	97·9 104·9 95·6 100·7 101·1	81,646 22,675 17,710 16,494 17,759	+ 6.7 - 2.7 - 1.3 + 0.6 + 5.3 + 2.2	92·1 107·7 92·6 100·1 110·6
Total, West Riding West of England	84,575	+ 0.0	99 · 2	162,188	+ 3.4	97.1
and Midlands Lancs Scotland	5,047 337 1,988	$\begin{array}{c c} + & 0.1 \\ + & 0.3 \\ + & 0.9 \end{array}$	$100 \cdot 9$ $117 \cdot 2$ $100 \cdot 3$	9,542 663 3,377	+ 2·0 + 0·6 + 1·;	100·7 115·8 143·1
Total—Worsted	91,947	+ 0.1	99.3	175,770	+ 3.3	97.9
Woollen Section: Huddersfield Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Bat-	13,897	+ 1.1	98.8	32,113	+ 5.7	100.3
ley, etc.) Leeds Halifax and Calder	12,610 9,153	- 1·5 + 1·8	98·4 95·8	25,447 19,250	- 2·9 + 4·3	106.0
Vale Bradford	3,144 1,608	$\begin{array}{c c} - & 0.9 \\ - & 1.8 \end{array}$	101·0 106·9	6,289 3,651	- 3·7 - 0·5	91·5 106·5
Total, West Riding Lancs West of England	40,412 6,006	+ 0.2 + 0.4	98·3 100·3	86,750 12,610	+ 1.8 + 1.2	101·6 108·6
and Midlands Scotland Wales	4,297 15,271 202	$+0.1 \\ -0.1 \\ +35.6$	106·9 102·1 183·3	7,679 29,509 266	$ \begin{array}{r} -1.9 \\ +0.1 \\ +29.8 \end{array} $	115.6 109.5 193.5
Total—Woollen	66,188	+ 0.2	100-1	136,814	+ 1 2	104.6
CARPET SECTION	9,519	+ 0.1	99.7	16,857	- 0.4	81.3
Total—Wool Textile Industry	167,654	+ 0.1	99.3	329,441	+ 2.2	99.6

In the worsted section of the industry, taken as a whole, the returns received from employers showed that 31 per cent. of their workpeople were on short time in the week ended 18th December, with a loss, on the average, of about 9‡ hours each. In the woollen section the returns showed that, in the same week, about 30 per cent. of the workpeople lost about 10‡ hours each on the average. In the carpet section the employers' returns showed about 36 per cent. on short time, with a loss of about 9 hours each on the average. The corresponding particulars for overtime were 6 per cent., averaging 6 hours each, in the worsted section; and 5 per cent., averaging 8 hours each, in the woollen section.

* Revised figures:—It was recently found that, owing to changes in classification in the returns supplied by certain employers, the index figures published for "weaving" for August-November, 1926, were unduly high and those for "other departments" were correspondingly low. Revised figures have now been computed as shown below:—

	Re	vised Ind	lex Figur	re (Jan.	1926 = 1	100.)
integral of Terroidy tod Mira companie, contact	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Worsted:-	and R	Territoria (d asia	n Isoo	20 ar	NACTURE.
Weaving— Workpeople	97.5	96.7	99.9	100.2	101.0	100.7
Wages	88.0	87.5	95.6	95.5	96.0	99.0
"Other Departments"—	1107 100	STATE OF THE PARTY OF	· 25 77694	G00000	HER CON	DE STREET
Workpeople	99.4	97.6	99.5	101.1	101.6	101.6
Wages	92.7	92.0	97.0	98.9	100.4	102.6
WOOLLEN:	1029,000				PARTY NAMED IN	A THE PARTY OF
Weaving-	100	100000	0.000000		2017/29/2013	C THE LESS
Workpeople	99.1	100.7	101.8	101.6	102-3	102.3
Wages	100-7	102.6	104.4	102.4	105.3	106 - 1
"Other Departments"-	MORES O		0.012	EXPERIENCE.		Participal Control
Workpeople	96.4	96-7	97.8	98 - 1	99.1	99.5
Wages	98-8	100.5	101.1	98-5	101.2	103.0

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

† See footnote * in previous column.

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed, in the week ended 18th December, 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 27th November.

January, 1927.

The state of the s	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with the previous month. (signifies "no change"; —, without a figure, signifies "no workpeople returned.")								
A STATE OF SECTION OF	Wool Sorting and Comb- ing.	Spin- ning.	Weav- ing.	Other Depts.	Not specified.	All Depts.			
WORSTED SECTION: Bradford	+ 2·2 - 2·0 - 2·5 + 0·6	+ 0.8 - 2.0 - 4.0 + 3.4 + 0.7	+ 0·3 - 2·0 + 2·0 - 2·2 + 0·6	+ 1·2 - 1·8 - 0·4 + 0·2 - 0·3	- 0.6 - 1.2 + 2.1 -15.3	+ 0.9 - 1.9 - 2.6 + 0.5 + 0.5			
bury, Batley, etc.) Total, West Riding West of England and Midlands Lancashire Scotland	+ 2·8 + 1·8 + 1·4 - 2·4	+ 1·1 - 0·0 - 0·6 + 0·3 + 0·8	- ··· 4 + · · · 6	$ \begin{array}{rrr} & 1 \cdot 7 \\ & 0 \cdot 2 \\ & + 0 \cdot 4 \\ & + 2 \cdot 8 \end{array} $	- 1·4 =	+ 0.5 + 0.0 + 0.1 + 0.3 + 0.9			
TOTAL	+ 1.7	- 0.0	- 0.3	- 0.0	- 1.4	+ 0.1			
Woollen Section: Huddersfield Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) Leeds Halifax and Calder Vale Bradford Total, West Riding Lancashire West of England and Midlands Scotland Wales	+ 1·5 - 3·6 - 2·4 + 1·4 - 1·0 - 2·1 + 0·8 - 0·8 - 0·8	+ 1.0 + 1.9 + 1.6 - 0.9 + 1.2 - 0.6 + 1.2 - 0.2 + 17.5	+ 1.5 - 5.2 + 2.6 - 0.7 - 3.3 - 0.5 - 0.0 + 0.2 + 0.7 + 55.8	+ 0·7 + 0·2 + 1·7 - 1·3 - 1·1 + 0·5 + 1·9 - 1·1 - 0·3 + 37·0	- 0.9 + 2.3 - 3.6 - 1.7 - 1.1 + 1.6 - 6.7	+ 1·1 - 1·5 + 1·8 - 0·9 - 1·8 + 0·2 + 0·4 + 0·1 - 0·1 + 35·6			
TOTAL	- 0.9	+ 0.8	- 0.0	+ 0.4	- 2.1	+ 0.2			

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 December, 1926:—

	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Register at 20th December, 1926.										
Department.	Wholl	y Unemp	loyed.	Temp	orarily Sto	opped.	- 30031				
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Total.				
Wool Sorting	222	9	231	189	8	197	428				
Wool Washing and	269	144	413	574	057	831	1 044				
Preparing	166	86	252	528	257 412	940	1,244				
Wool Carding	390	50	440	736	106	842	1,282				
Woollen Spinning	321	73	394	426	241	667	1,061				
Worsted Drawing and			The state of				A PORT OF THE PARTY OF THE PART				
Spinning	338	587	925	366	1,340	1,706	2,631				
Wool Winding and Warping	76	21	97	228	157	385	482				
Worsted Winding and	10	21	91	240	151	365	482				
Warping	47	86	133	133	561	694	827				
Woollen Weaving	110	377	487	243	2,922	3,165	3,652				
Worsted Weaving	122	425	547	131	1,139	1,270	1,817				
other Processes	621	49	670	1,086	185	1,271	1,941				
TOTAL	2,682	1,907	4,589	4,640	7,328	11,968	16,557				

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with the 22nd November, 1926:—

Department.	Whol	Wholly Unemployed.				12	Temporarily Stopped.					Total.	
Dopaz ament.	Men.	Wo	men.	Te	otal.	1	Men.	M	omen.	T	otal.	1	DUMI.
Wool Sorting Wool Washing	- 97	_	3		100	-	142	+	6	-	136	-	230
and Preparing	-24	-	26	-	50	-	230	-	96	-	326	-	376
Wool Combing Wool Carding	- 9 +12	+	2	+	7		345	=	391 30	_	736 401	=	74.
Woollen Spinning Worsted Drawing	- 8	=	11	H	19	-	126	F	71	-	197		210
and Spinning.	+ 7	-	11		4	-	190	-	1,618	-	1,808	-	1,81
Vool Winding and Warping Vorsted Winding	+ 4	-	1	+	3	-	24	-	1	-	25	-	2
and Warping	- 5 - 3	-	21	-	26	+	20	-	435	-	415	-	44
Voollen Weaving		+	37	+	34	-	88	7	21	-	109	-	7
Vorsted Weaving other Processes	+17	-	6 18	++	11 16	_	47 231	-	573 75		620 306	-	609 290
TOTAL	-72	-	59	-1	131	-	1,774	-	3,305		5,079		5,21

n November, 1926, and 53,206,000 lbs. in December, 1925

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,639,700 lbs. compared with 4,115,500 lbs. in November, 1926, and with 3,611,500 lbs. n December, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 12,465,300 square yards, compared with 13,295,800 square yards in November, 1926,

and 14,821,900 square yards in December, 1925.

The exports of blankets were 63,988 pairs, 131,598 pairs and 86,668 pairs in December, 1926, November, 1926, and December, 1925.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

In this industry employment in all the principal departments showed an improvement in December, but remained generally very poor; such improvement as there was occurred chiefly in the week before Christmas, and was in some cases followed by extended holidays.

In accordance with the decision of the Short Time Committee of the Employers' Federation organised restriction on working hours in the American spinning section was discontinued on 18th December. Although, following upon this, there was an increase in working hours in some cases, there was no general resumption of full-time working; on the contrary, it was reported that little more than half time had been worked in this section during the month. The Egyptian spinning section continued to run practically full time. Employment in the weaving department was still considerably below the level of December, 1925.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges was 13.2 on the 20th December, 1926, as compared with 19.0 on the 22nd November, 1926, and with 6.7 on the 21st December, 1925.

In the Oldham and Stockport districts employment in the spinning department, although still slack, showed an improvement before Christmas, but many mills closed for an extended holiday after Christmas. In the manufacturing section at Oldham there was no appreciable change; employment was still slack, particularly in the velvet and fancy sections.

In the Bolton district employment with spinners showed an improvement; with weavers and winders it was still bad. At Leigh employment was reported as good both with spinners and with weavers, and better than in November; at Chorley it was fair in the spinning department. At Bury short-time working was still very prevalent, and most mills closed for extended holidays at Christmas; at Rochdale employment was still bad, but the improvement reported in November continued.

In most of the principal weaving districts there was some further improvement in December. At Blackburn the improvement reported in the two previous months continued; several factories restarted work and there was much activity in the preparation departments. At Burnley employment was still slack, and worse than a year ago; there was some improvement immediately before Christmas, but some firms closed down for a whole week after Christmas. At Preston after the first week in December there was a gradual improvement, until at the end of the third week only four mills were standing idle; in the week after Christmas, however, many mills were again idle. At Accrington an increased demand for bleaching cloths and shirtings caused an increase in the amount of work available for weavers. At Darwen employment improved, though under-employment was still prevalent; there was also an improvement at Colne and at Great Harwood. In the Rossendale Valley there was a slight improvement at the beginning of December, but a number of mills stopped for extended holidays at the end of the month; about 50 per cent. of the operatives were under-employed (i.e. working on less than the normal number of machines), and about 15 per cent. were totally unemployed. At Padiham employment was reported as fair, and better than in November. At Nelson employment continued bad, with much short time and under-employment, particularly in the coloured section. At Todmorden there was an improvement in employment before Christmas, but extended holidays afterwards. In Yorkshire also there was some improvement before Christmas, full time being resumed, with few exceptions, in the Hebden Bridge and Sowerby Bridge districts; in other Yorkshire districts short time and unemployment were still

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

The state of the s		orkpeop			Wages I Workped	
	Week ended 18th		(+) or -) on a	Week ended 18th		(+) or -) on a
	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	10,814	+ 1.1	- 1.1	17,658	+ 3.2	- 5.8
Spinning	20,115	+ 0.4	- 2.3	34,751	+ 3.2	- 4.1
Weaving	33,258	- 0·8 + 0·4	+ 0.3	54,380	+ 1.6	- 11.8
Other Not Specified	7,244	- 1.7	- 5.6	16,972 15,882	+ 5.4	- 8·5 - 13·1
Not Specified	0,011		3 0	10,002	T 3 T	10
TOTAL	80,108	- 0.2	- 3.4	139,643	+ 2.7	- 9.0
DISTRICTS.		***	L CALL		I was a	
Ashton	4,130	- 4.9	- 1.8	6,129	+ 0.5	- 14.2
Stockport, Glossop and			THE REAL PROPERTY.			10021008
Hyde	7,258	- 1.6	- 2.0	13,205	+ 7.4	+ 1.2
Oldham	9,037	+ 2.2	+ 1.3	16,905	+ 6.0	- 3.7
Bolton and Leigh	12,601	+ 0.8	+ 2.2	22,125	+ 2.3	+ 1.2
Bury, Rochdale, Hey-						
wood, Walsden and Todmorden	8,468	- 1	- 3.7	14,688	- 0.1	- 8.8
A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	4.926	- 4-6	- 8.6	7,478	- 1.5	- 12.9
Preston and Chorley	5,069	+ 4.6	- 4.6	8,572	+ 3.8	- 5.5
Blackburn, Accrington	0,000	100		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
and Darwen	8,567	- 0.5	- 5.0	14,438	- 6.3	- 19.4
Burnley, Padiham, Colne		0.0			19859	
and Nelson	10,606		- 6.7	20,321	+ 6.7	- 17.0
Other Lancashire Towns	2,944		-21.5	4,777	+ 1.5	- 18.4
Yorkshire Towns	4,005	- 0·2 + 0·5	+ 1.1	6,959	+ 5.2	- 12·3 + 4·6
Other Districts	2,491	7 0.5	T 1.5	4,046	⊤ 3.0	Д 4.6
TOTAL	80 108	- 0.2	- 3.4	139,643	+ 2.7	- 9.0

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

Returns from firms employing about 78,000 workpeople in the week ended 18th December showed that about 19 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 16 hours

each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 20th December, 1926:—

reactions and a	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Register at 20th December, 1926.										
Department.	Whol	ly Unemp	loyed.	Temp	m-4-1						
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Total.				
Card and Blow- ing Room Spinning Beaming, Wind-	495 2 ,130	1,490 1,556	1,985 3,686	1,340 5,685	5,597 5,648	6,937 11,333	8,922 15,019				
ing and Warp- ing Weaving Other Processes	596 2,139 529	1,380 4,234 101	1,976 6,373 630	1,753 3,878 753	8,859 10,442 250	10,612 14,320 1,003	12,588 20,693 1,633				
Total	5,889	8,761	14,650	13,409	30,796	44,205	58,855				

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd November, 1926 :-

-	Whol	ly Unemp	loyed.	Tempe	Total.	
Department.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women. Total.	10041.
Card and Blowing Room Upinning Beaming, Winding	- 23 -119	- 129 - 108	- 152 - 227	- 507 - 4,015	- 2,903 - 3,410 - 2,276 - 6,29	- 3,56 - 6,51
and Warping Weaving Other Pro-			C. P. Live S. Phys.		- 2,302 - 3,06 - 9,822 - 12,94	
Total	+ 19 - 113	+ 14			$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	_

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 244,953,800 lbs. in December, 1926, compared with 229,833,300 lbs. in November, 1926, and with 273,981,800 lbs. in December, 1925.

The exports of cotton yarn were 14,822,000 lbs. in December, 1926, compared with 15,333,700 lbs. in November, 1926, and with 17,947,100 lbs. in December, 1925.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 239,775,600 square yards, as compared with 277,639,700 square yards in the previous month and with 382,184,700 square yards in December, 1925.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT remained moderate, on the whole, and was at about the same level as in November and as in December, 1925; a good deal of short time was still worked. As usual before a holiday period there was some increased activity with certain firms in getting out orders immediately before Christmas; but this had not much influence on the general state of employment, and in the majority of centres the factories closed for a week or longer after Christmas. A little additional employment was provided in some districts by the increasing demand for heavy boots and by the continued demand for Russian boots and for ladies' gaiters.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.4 on 20th December, 1926, as compared with 10.5 on 22nd November,

1926, and with 8.5 on 21st December, 1925.

The following Table summarises the information received from those

Dec. The property France	Number	r of Worl	kpeople.		Wages p Workpec		
enoted (enoted) Allon	Week		(-) or -) on a	Week ended 18th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	18th Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	Dec., 1926	Month before,	Year before.	
514 00 1914 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		Per	Per		Per	Per	
England and Wales:	7 074	cent.	cent.	£ 7.610	cent.	cent.	
London	1,634	+1.5	- 8.2	3,619	+ 1.2	$-14.2 \\ -11.8$	
Leicester	8,990	+ 0.2	- 1.5	22,340	- 1.1	- 11.9	
Leicester Country Dis-	1,820	+1.4	+ 0.8	4,127	- 3.9	- 3.5	
trict			+ 2.2	15,199	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	
Northampton	6,320	•••	1 4.4	10,133	1 1	1.1	
Northampton Country	7,752	+ 1.8	+1.5	17,953	+ 4.3	+ 2.1	
District	3,600	+ 0.6	2.4	9,281	+ 3.9	+ 4.9	
Kettering Stafford and District	2,619	- 0.5		5,750	- 2.0	+ 6.2	
Stanord and District	4,003	- 2.1	+ 7.3	8,090	- 0.4	- 1.7	
Norwich and District	4,000		30	0,000			
Bristol, Kingswood and	1,842	+ 1.1	- 1.8	3,776	+ 1.7	+ 11.6	
	1,868	+ 2.7	+ 1.4	4,421	+ 5.9	+ 5.5	
Leeds and District Lancashire (mainly	2,000		11910100	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH			
Rossendale Valley)	4,478	- 7.5	-10.6	8,622	- 2.0	- 16 - 4	
Birmingham and Dis-	.,	4 6 6 6 6 6 6	The second		Seal Plantage		
trict	1,028	- 0.7		1,834	+ 3.4	- 5.2	
Other parts of England		E PROPERTY.	-0.5000			A 1866	
and Wales	1,751	+ 0.9	+ 5.6	3,627	- 1.0	+ 9.1	
44.53					100		
England and Wales	47,705	- 0.3	- 0.2	108,639	+ 0.7	- 3.1	
					1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		
Scotland	2,512	+ 0.3	3.4	5,517	- 4.1	+ 3.8	
Great Britain	50,217	- 0.3	- 0.0	114,156	+ 0.4	- 2.7	

Returns from firms employing 41,500 operatives in the week ended 18th December, 1926, showed that 37½ per cent. of these operatives worked short time in that week, losing, on an average, about 11 hours each.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

In London employment was moderate, and considerably below the level of December, 1925. At Leicester it continued quiet; the demand for gaiters and for Russian boots provided some employment but nearly 43 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time prior to the holidays, and most factories remained closed at Christmas until after the New Year. At Northampton there was practically no change, employment being only moderate; nearly 40 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time. At Wellingborough employment showed a further improvement, less short time being worked. In the Irthlingborough and Earl's Barton districts employment remained generally poor, but at Finedon the improvement reported last month was maintained. Little short time was reported in the Higham and Rushden district, and some overtime was worked; taken as a whole employment was fair, and showed a further slight improvement; the majority of the factories, however, closed down at Christmas for eight or nine days. At Desborough employment was bad. Employment at Kettering showed a further slight improvement; there was still much unemployment, but short time was less prevalent.

Employment was fairly good, and better than a year before, at Stafford; some short time, however, was still worked. At Norwich employment was slack, especially in the turn-shoe trade, and a large number of operatives were unemployed; most factories closed down for over a week at Christmas.

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment was moderate, and considerably better than in December, 1925; only about one-fifth of the operatives were on short time before the holidays; some firms in this district were benefiting from the revived demand for miners' boots; most factories, however, remained closed for a week at Christmas. At Leeds there was a further slight improvement, partly due to some revival in the demand for miners' boots: but short time was still worked to a considerable extent. There was depression, unusually severe for the time of year, in the shoe and slipper trade at Bacup and Rawtenstall, and much short time

There was no marked change in Scotland. Employment was fair generally; but in one or two centres a decline was reported, particularly at Edinburgh, where employment was very quiet.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 20th December,

Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th December, 1926.									
Wholl	y Unemp	loyed.	Temp	matal.					
Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Total.			
a see	000	200	I des						
The same	100								
106	25	131	87	14	101	232			
100	23	131	0,		101	201			
337	8	345	162	9	171	516			
	4	524	664	7	671	1,19			
	554	573	5	614	619	1,192			
	45	1,715	739	13	752	2,46			
060	A SHEAR	A CHE A			-				
1,095						2,285			
	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR			THE RESERVE TO SERVE		2,13			
11	•••	11	5	•••	5	1			
477	2	479	23	STONE SERVICE	23	502			
7.1.1	- 4	713	20		20	- 30.			
4.588	1.096	5.684	3,322	1,537	4,859	10,543			
	Wholl Men. 106 337 520 19	Men. Women. 106 25 337 8 520 4 19 554 1,670 45 1,095 420 353 38 11 477 2	## Act 20th Dec Wholly Unemployed.	## At 20th December, Wholly Unemployed. Tempore	at 20th December, 1926. Wholly Unemployed. Temporarily Sto Men. Women. Total. Men. Women. 106 25 131 87 14 337 8 345 162 9 520 4 524 664 7 19 554 573 5 614 1,670 45 1,715 739 13 1,095 353 38 391 991 756 11 11 5 477 2 479 23	at 20th December, 1926. Wholly Unemployed. Temporarily Stopped. Men. Women. Total. Men. Women. Total. 106 25 131 87 14 101 337 8 345 162 9 171 520 4 524 664 7 671 1,670 45 1,715 739 13 752 1,095 353 38 391 991 756 1,747 353 38 391 991 756 1,747 477 2 479 23 23			

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 22nd November, 1926 :-

200 0 -0 000 -0 1	Whol	ly Unemp	loyed.	Tempo	rarily Sto	pped.	Total.	
Department.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	2 2 2 2 2	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture: Preparing Department	+ 5	+ 7 - 3 + 2 - 28 + 13 + 48 - 2 - 2	+ 2 - 15 - 14 - 23 - 8 - 9 + 99 - 14 + 4	- 3 - 27 + 103 - 3 - 400 - 92 + 83 + 5 - 8	- 3 + 4 - 2 - 101 + 3 - 37 + 183 	- 6 - 23 + 101 - 104 - 397 - 129 + 266 + 5	- - - - - - - - - - - - - -	
TOTAL	- 18	+ 40	+ 22	-342	+ 47	-295	- 27	

The exports of boots and shoes in December, 1926, amounted to 90,779 dozen pairs, or 37,987 dozen pairs less than in November, 1926. and 6,940 dozen pairs less than in December, 1925.

BUILDING TRADE.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

EMPLOYMENT during December varied considerably as between different centres. With skilled operatives taken as a whole, it showed a decline, but, except with painters, was generally fair; it remained moderate, in most districts, with unskilled workers. Employment was again adversely affected, in some districts, by a shortage of materials, resulting from the effects of the recent stoppage in the coal-mining industry, and there was a certain amount of shorttime working due to bad weather conditions.

As regards individual occupations, employment showed some decline with plasterers, but was good in most districts, and a shortage of this class of labour was again reported from a few centres; it remained fairly good in many districts with bricklayers and with slaters, and was fair, on the whole, with carpenters and joiners; it continued generally quiet with masons. There was a decline with plumbers, and employment was moderate; it showed a further decline with painters, and was very slack; it continued moderate, 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 inemployed at 20th December, 1926, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with December, 1925:—

January, 1927.

2385 2385	Estimated Number of Insured Work-	Total Number Unem- ploved	Number included in previous Column	Per- centage Unem-	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with a		
244, 407, 104, 20	people at July,1926.	Dec., 1926.	who were Temporarily Stopped.	ployed.	Mouth before.	Year before.	
Occupations. Carpenters Bricklayers Masons Slaters Plasterers Painters Plumbers Labourers to above All other occupations Total	126,460 72,150 25,240 5,710 19,720 112,930 31,860 245,860 161,110 801,040	9,051 4 667 2 153 330 804 29,109 2,637 34,295 25,457 108,503	475 491 222 30 54 1,273 143 1,622 1,435	7 2 6 5 8 5 5 8 4 · 1 25 8 8 3 13 · 9 15 8	$\begin{array}{c} + & 0.5 \\ + & 0.3 \\ 0.3 \\ + & 1.7 \\ + & 1.8 \\ + & 1.7 \\ - & 0.3 \\ - & 0.3 \\ \hline + & 0.3 \end{array}$	+ 1.9 + 1.6 - 2.3 - 4.9 + 0.9 + 0.2 + 2.8 - 0.9 + 0.4 + 0.1	
DIVISIONS. London South-Eastern South-Western Midlands North-Eastern North-Western Scotland Wales Northern Ireland Great Britain and Northern	162,020 123,470 98.750 91,230 103,190 104,350 73,690 29,310 15,030	21,120 8,174 9,655 11,296 19,209 16,683 11,143 6,437 4,786	23 47 101 1,362 1,862 1,342 552 452 4	13 0 6 6 9 8 12 4 18 6 16 0 15 1 22 0 31 8	- 0.5 + 0.3 0.2 + 0.7 + 1.2 + 0.6 - 0.4 - 0.5 + 2.1	+ 0.4 - 1.1 + 0.3 + 1.7 + 0.5 - 0.1 - 3.9 + 7.1 + 0.8	
Ireland	801,040	108,503	5,745	13.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 141 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council Area), with a total population of 15,919,000, show that in December, 1926, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,814,300, as compared with £4,328,700 in November, 1926, and £5,150,300 in December, 1925. Of the total for December, 1926, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,241,300; factories and workshops for £76,800; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £352,800; and other buildings, additions and alterations, for £943,400.

For figures for the quarter ended December, 1926, in comparison with the corresponding quarter of 1925, see page 35.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during December was fair on the whole and showed considerable improvement as compared with the previous month. In the Peterborough district it continued good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick. pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11·2 at 20th December, 1926, as compared with 17·3 at 22nd November, 1926, and 7·8 at 21st December, 1925.

The following Table summarises the information received from

t steely		orkpeop		Total Wages paid all Workpeople.			
Districts.	Week	led Dec. (-) on a		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	18th Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	18th Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year* before.	
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	1,715	Per cent. + 6·1	Per cent.	£ 4,289	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	5,236	+ 2.6	- 3.6	14,613	+ 4.8	+ 0.	
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,531	+ 6.4	- 6.6	3,838	+ 14 · 3	urolless.	
Scotland	159	+ 63.9	-16.8	428	+ 67.2	- 22.0	
TOTAL	8,641	+ 4.7	- 6.5	23,168	+ 6.7	- 5	

* Comparisons of earnings are affected by changes in rates of wages in some districts.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade in December was fairly good and showed a general improvement compared with the previous month, the resumption of coal supplies having an appreciable effect.

In the letterpress printing trade employment generally continued moderate, but showed a slight decline compared with November and was also worse than during December, 1925; it was again reported as slack at Glasgow and bad at Birmingham. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued very good in London and was fairly good at other centres, except at Manchester, where it was bad; compared with December, 1925, there was a decline at most centres.

In the lithographic printing trade employment was moderate on the whole, and rather worse than during the previous month and December, 1925. With lithographic artists employment was again moderate in London and bad at Manchester, and worse than in November at both centres.

Employment in the bookbinding trade again improved during the month, but was not so good as during December, 1925.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 5·1 at 20th December, compared with 5·3 at 22nd November and 3.8 at 21st December, 1925. In the paper and paper-board industry, the percentage was 5.5 at 20th December, compared with 9.6 at 22nd November and 5.5 at 21st December, 1925. In the cardboard-box, paper bag and stationery trades, the percentage was 4.9 at 20th December, compared with 5.3 at 22nd November and 4.3 at 21st December, 1925.

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade

820.00 TO B	No. of Members of Unions at end of		Percentagologed at	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a		
hogoligase separated in the first and on, and	at end of December, 1926.	Dec., 1926.	Nov., 1926.	Dec., 1925.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:	SENIORIE I	e de las	Seamy	olymil.	-38500	22.05%
London	41,762	6.2	5.5	2.3	+ 0.7	+ 3.9
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lanca- shire and Cheshire.	18,064	5.5	4.6	2.4	+ 0.9	+ 3.1
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	12,693	2.7	2.9	1.7	- 0.2	+ 1.0
Scotland	7,631	5.3	6.2	2.1	- 0·9 + 0·1	+ 3.2
Other Districts	12,807	3.7	3.6	2.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Total	92,957	5.2	4.8	2.2	+ 0.4	+ 3.0
Lithographic Printing	10.621	4.2	3.7	3.1	+ 0.5	+ 1.1
Bookbinding	23,020	3.4	4.4	2.6	- 1.0	+ 0.8

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed little change, though there was a seasonal decline towards the end of the month. At Worcester and Derby it was reported as fairly good; at Bristol it was fair. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment continued bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19:6 at 20th December, 1926, as compared with 18:5 at 22nd November, 1926, and 19.2 at 21st December, 1925.

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

del en Belires de la constante		Number Vorkpeor		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
end to the property of the party	Week			Week	Inc. (-) or Dec. (-) on a		
infot. The demand as	Dec.,			18th Dec., 1926.	Month before.	Year before.	
BRANCHES. China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,253 8,135 1,892	Per cent 4.2 + 3.1 + 0.3	88 8102		Per cent 9.8 + 0.1 + 0.0	- 5.2	
DISTRICTS. North Staffordshire	8.622 2,658	+ 1·8 - 3·1 + 21·5	- 8·9 - 4·6	15,780 6,358	- 1·2 - 6·4 + 14·6		
TOTAL	11,280	+ 1.8	- 7.9	22.138	- 1.2	- 3.1	

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,679 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 2,038, or 19 per cent., were working, on an average, about 13 hours less than full time in the week ended 18th December, 1926.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

THERE was a general improvement in December, and employment on the whole was moderate. At some ports, however, the reduction in the importation of foreign coal occasioned some slackness.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 28.2 per cent. were unemployed at 20th December, 1926, as compared with 31.1 per cent. at 22nd November, 1926, and with 25.9 per cent. at 21st December, 1925.

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

	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.								
	In	Docks.							
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners, etc.	Total.	At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.				
Week ended— 4th December, 1926 11th , ,, 18th ,, ,, 25th ,, ,,	5,314 4,852 4,771 4,646	1,959 1,819 2,547 1,843	7,273 6,671 7,318 6,489	8,460 8,412 8,642 8,088	15,733 15,083 15,960 14,577				
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th Decem- ber, 1926	} 4,906	2,051	6,957	8,414	15,371				
Average for Nov., 1926	4,952	1,999	6,951	8,292	15,243				
Average for Dec., 1925	5,825	2,296	8,121	8,497	16,618				

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during December was 1,324, compared with 1,244 in November, and with 1,387 in December, 1925.

East Coast.—Employment at the North-East coast ports was sack, but there was on the whole some improvement as compared with the previous month. On the Humber it continued moderate. At the East Anglian ports it was moderate on the average, and rather worse than in November.

Liverpool.—Employment continued to improve and was fair. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 24th December was 16,448, compared with 16,146 in November and with 17,102 in December, 1925. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing house was £47,870 in the four weeks ended 24th December, compared with £46,624 in November, and £48,244 in December, 1925.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at the South Wales ports was mainly fair, and showed a general improvement as compared with November. At Avonmouth it continued good. At Southampton it was fair, but not quite as good as in November. At Plymouth and other South-Western ports it remained slack.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Dundee was good until the last week of December, when it fell off. It was fair at Leith and continued moderate at Glasgow, Grangemouth and Belfast.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during December continued slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service, the percentage unemployed at 20th December, 1926, was 21·4, compared with 21·4 at 22nd November, 1926, and 20·6 at 21st December, 1925.

The demand for men on the Thames was moderate, and showed a substantial improvement following the Christmas holidays. It improved on the Tyne during December, and was described as fair at the end of the month. The demand was, on the whole, moderate on the Wear; it was fair on the Tees early in the month, and slack subsequently. At Hull the demand improved up to the holidays and then declined, being reported to be moderate at the close of the month. At Southampton it was generally quiet. The demand at month. At Southampton it was generally quiet. The demand at Bristol was fair to quiet; at Avonmouth it was moderate, and improved towards the end of the month. It was quiet at Newport and moderate at Cardiff. There was a gradually increasing demand at Swansea until late in December, when a falling-off occurred. It improved in the first half of the month in the foreign-going trade on the Mersey, but declined afterwards, being described as moderate in the closing stages. The demand was mainly fair at Manchester, and quiet on the Clyde. It was rather quiet at Leith, and showed an improving tendency at the end of December. The demand at Belfast was dull on the whole, but showed increased activity in the middle of the month.

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 December:—

named and others	Number of Seamen* shipped in								
Principal Ports.	Dec.,	Inc. (Dec. (-		Year ended					
e y last rapide error es veggale dissource all te - teste forgality and the	1926.	Month before.	Year before.	Dec., 1926.	Dec., 1925.				
ENGLAND & WALES: Liverpool† Manchester London Southampton Tyne Ports Sunderland Middlesbrough Hull Bristol‡ Newport, Mon. Cardiff\$ Swansea	10,670 1,165 8,712 6,762 2,092 248 223 1,277 1,288 429 1,953 628	- 536 - 93 - 2,987 - 2,473 + 1,163 + 169 - 32 + 296 + 136 + 274 + 788 + 250	+ 840 + 157 + 1,812 + 125 - 247 + 55 - 48 + 228 + 70 - 560 - 1,132 - 85	140,918 12,178 116,724 121,051 16,685 2,046 3,904 16,876 13,975 6,046 18,858 7,904	146,832 10,628 94,283 114,763 24,836 3,490 4,425 16,938 13,077 9,541 30,288 8,550				
SCOTLAND: Leith Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth Glasgow	301 168 2,613	- 171 - 56 - 482	+ 5 - 179 + 392	4,242 3,277 37,435	4,268 4,061 36,072				
NORTHERN IRELAND :	171	- 100	- 33	2,385	2,174				
TOTAL for above Ports	38,700	- 3,854	+ 1,400	524,504	524,226				

WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

AT 24th December, 1926, the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,351,045; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,403,055.

Comparative figures for men, boys, women and girls, separately, for 29th November and 24th December are given below

	29th Nov., 1926.	225,0	24th December, 1926.							
_		Persons in regular e	normally mployment.	Persons normally	Water)					
	Total.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary Stoppages.	in casual employ- ment.	Total.					
	Great Britain.									
Men Boys Women Girls	1,170,615 36,913 251,371 37,168	754,295 25,998 102,013 23,102	239,142 6,363 121,884 7,613	69,892 140 597 6	1,063,329 32,501 224,494 30,721					
Total	1,496,067	905,408	375,002	70,635	1,351,045					
della bet	rests.	Great Britain	and Norther	n Ireland.	Contract C					
Men Boys Women Girls	1,205,654 37,506 264,582 37,616	784,556 26,333 111,368 23,377	241,599 6,556 128,089 8,150	72,283 140 598 6	1,098,438 33,029 240,055 31,533					
Total	1,545,358	945,634	384,394	73,027	1,403,055					

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 24th December, 1926. Of the 78,848 vacancies filled, 43,415 were for men, 22,046 for women, and 13,387 for juveniles :-

Invests has didde of		ions from oyers.	L ngiên î y	Number	
Week ended	During Week.	At end of Week.	Vacancies Filled.**	of Work- people on Registers.¶	
29th Nov., 1926	22,575	14,386	19,796	1,545,358	
6th Dec., 1926 13th ,, ,, 20th ,, ,, 24th ,, ,,	25,498 26,261 24,571 12,954	14,808 14,373 15,469 15,690	22,250 23,895 21,307 11,396	1,555,281 1,457,758 1,357,211 1,403,055	
Total (4 weeks)	89,284	00.0%	78,848		

• 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.

¶ 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 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 all workpeople on the Registers of Exchanges with the exercition of those in the coal-mining industry who remained discutalified

The figures include all workpeople on the Registers of Exchanges with the exception of those in the coal-mining industry who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute. They include 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.

*** "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class Bolacings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men on relief works in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 22nd November 1926, the average number of such placings was 6,132 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers, such as dock labourers and coal porters, during the four weeks ended 24th December, 1926, was 1,000 per week.

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 24th December, 1926. In certain eases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area :-

Number o Persons on Registers Inc. (+) or

January, 1927.

Area.		Num	Dec.(-) as compared			
The state of the s	De la	Men.	Women.	Juven- iles.	Total.	with 29th Nov., 1926.
London Division		93,334	21,564	5,500	120,398	- 18,623
South-Eastern Divi	sion	32,457	7,118	3,191	42,766	- 4,664
Brighton Chatham		1,482 1,714	302 230	184 506	1,968 2,450	- 839 - 464
Ipswich	•••	1,525 2,729	316 922	94 145	1,935 3,796	+ 93 + 324
Rest of South-Ea	astern	25,007	5,348	2,262	32,617	- 3,778
outh-Western Divi		55,465 10,861	8,318	4,158	67,941	- 10,953
Plymouth		3,997	3,079 547	826 360	14,766 4,904	+ 562 - 632
Portsmouth Reading	***	5,101	424 95	360 179	5,885	- 655 - 392
Southampton Swindon	•••	4,810 2,733	373 84	623 167	5,806	- 230
Rest of South-We	estern	27,138	3,716	1,643	2,984 32,497	- 6,574 - 3,032
(idlands Division		124,179	42,783	7,402	174,364	- 7,614
Birmingham Coventry		22,040 2,086	10,407	1,361	33,808 2,692	- 3,480 - 1,182
Cradley Heath Derby		3,442 2,265	526 818	129 412	4,097	- 773 - 1,222
Leicester Northampton		3,769 1,367	1,853	88	3,495 5,710	+ 315
Nottingham		6,611	2,412	90 437	1,896 9,460	- 346 - 1,357
Smethwick Stoke-on-Trent	***	2,648	938 7,755	82 922	3,668	- 716 + 4,218
Walsall West Bromwich		3,919 2,556	872 458	338 94	5,129	+ 32
Wolverhampton		5,474	1,213	223	3,108 6,910	+ 356
Rest of Midlands		57,219	14,512	3,200	74,931	- 2,722
orth-Eastern Divis	non	286,437 2,172	34,922	13,923 171	335,282 2,746	- 39,805 - 994
Bradford Darlington		7,938	3,046	339	11,343	- 3,663
Dewsbury	•••	1,246	201 833	172 151	4,249 2,230	- 1,109 - 182
Doncaster Gateshead		1,245	214 840	199 942	1,658 12,006	- 204 - 214
Grimsby Halifax		3,707 3,257	182	311 46	4,200 5,284	- 803 - 252
Hartlepools Huddersfield	•••	8,884	188	424	9,496	- 1,306
Hull		2,748 10,312 14,162	1,235	200 632	4,183 11,617	- 1,119 - 2,703
Leeds Lincoln	***	14,162 2,496	5,100	610 127	19,872 2,807	- 4,194 - 161
Middlesbrough Newcastle-on-Tyr		15,273 16,045	441	549	16,263	- 7,296
Rotherham		4,273 23,837	1,485	907	18,437 4,919	- 1,176 - 3,157
Sheffield South Shields	•••	23,837	2,425	1,293 560	27,555 11,387	- 4,200 - 276
Stockton-on-Tees Sunderland		8,220 18,159	193	338 593	8,751 19,524	- 1,802 - 2,921
York Rest of North-Ea		1,847	335	148	2,330	- 605
			13,574	4,788	134,445	- 1,468
orth-Western Divid		181,941 5,207	80,730 2,361	14,426 188	277,097 7,756	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Ashton-under-Ly Barrow	ne	2,466 4,980	1,762	228 206	4,456 5,349	- 1,160 - 605
Birkenhead	•••	5,024	2.54	251	5,529	- 923
Blackpool		5,653 1,464	6,905 577	523 255	13,081 2,296 6,385	+ 592 936
Bolton Burnley		4,268 3,348	1,847 3,047	270 416	6,385 6,811	- 3,123 - 543
Bury		1,482 1,349	1,567	144 119	3,193	- 666
Liverpool		35,968	4,552	3,087	2,737 43,607	- 6.902
Manchester Nelson		21,967 1,130	8,562 690	1,262	31,791 1,881	- 3,769 - 730
Oldham Preston	•••	5,946 5,068	4,681 6,302	394 156	11,021 11,526	- 2,128 + 2,786
Rochdale		2,947	2,568	230	5,745	- 139
St. Helens Salford		3,187 6,847	3,260	444 922	3,863 11,029	$ \begin{array}{rrr} & - & 1,763 \\ & - & 1,927 \\ & - & 1,127 \end{array} $
Stockport Warrington		2,477 2,030	1,420	320 205	4,217 2,579	- 1,127 $-$ 1,206
Wigan Rest of North-We		4,008 55,125	2,737 25,630	474 4,271	7,219 85,026	- 2,051 - 12,943
otland Division	1989	168,153	24,839	9,678	202,670	- 23,707
Aberdeen		5,151	878	259	6,288	+ 141
Clydebank Dundee	***	3,278 4,562	2,598	139 179	3,682 7,339	- 5 $-$ 1,154
Edinburgh Glasgow		11,508 63,429	2,016 8,724	718 4,100	7,339 14,242 76,253	- 2,096 - 7,241
Greenock		9,667	518	307	10,492	- 1,494
Motherwell Paisley		5,513 3,496	391	225 197	5,955 4.084	- 3,388 - 440
Rest of Scotland		61,549	9,232	3,554	74,335	- 8,030
ales Division		121,363 10,145	1,016	4,944 586	130,527 11,747	- 666 - 2,642
Cardiff Llanelly		3,695	170	100	3,965	- 2,688
Newport Swansea		4,700 8,378	212	170 566	5,082 9,221	- 2,106 - 143
Rest of Wales		94,445	2,545	3,522	100,512	+ 6,913
orthern Ireland		35,109	15,561	1,340	52,010	+ 2,719
Belfast Londonderry		23,796 1,840	9,242	793 39	33,831 2,716	+ 1,806 - 156
Lurgan Lisburn	•••	518 590	927 360	45 35	1,490 985	+ 310 - 77
Newry		786	161	7	954	- 288
Rest of Northern	Ire-	7,579	4,034	421	12,034	+ 1,124
	and		1 184		S DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON OF	
		The second liverage of	240,055	64,562	1,403,055	- 142,303

* The figures are exclusive of those persons in the coal-mining industry who were still disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

On page 26 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 20th December, 1926, for the total of each group included in these statistics.

control or the control of the contro	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed — Special	1025 July	or rough	essibility	in gila	200 100 100
Schemes 2. Claims admitted or under	2,003	6	218	6	2,233
consideration 3. Claimants disqualified, but	929,576	14,812	185,364	11,015	1,140,767
maintaining registration	86,031	901	10,342	444	97,718
4. Insured non-claimants on main file	14,358	1,333	1,656	1,223	18,570
5. Uninsured persons on Register	10,652	12,819	12,467	16,746	52,684
6. Two months' file Persons on Register (lines	69,976	4,665	41,072	4,020	119,733
2-5) Books Lodged (lines 1-4	1,040,617	29,865	209,829	29,428	1,309,739
and 6)	1,101,944	21,717	238,652	16,708	1,379,021

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of Local Committees in Great Britain respecting the claims to "Extended Benefit" submitted during the period 16th Nov.-13th

ton was notice discussed by the plant of the	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications considered by Committees during period Applications admitted by Committees during	316,719	48,291	365,010
period:— (a) For 12 weeks (b) For less than 12 weeks	66,149 210,067	3,775 28,718	69,924 238,785
Applications definitely recommended for disallowance during period:— General Conditions:	DER THE	2 3 2 3 N	a dois
Not normally insurable and not seek- ing to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment Insurable employment not likely to	2,398	1,329	3,727
be available Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding	1,248	312	1,560
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not	14,084	2,175	16,259
willing to accept suitable employment	10,579	3,813	14,392
Single persons residing with relatives Married women who could look for support from their husbands	6,182	2,766 3,074	8,948 3,074
Married men who could look for support from their wives Working short time but earning	368		368
sufficient for maintenance Aliens	3,968	1,681	5,649
Total definitely recommended for disallow-ance	38,845	15,153	53,998
Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time	1,658	645	2,303

NEW ENTRANTS INTO INSURANCE.

During the month of December, 1926, 63,079 applications for Unemployment Books were made at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour in Great Britain. These applications were in respect of 8,088 men, 7,068 women, and 29,749 boys and 18,174 girls of 16 and 17 years of age. The figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of such applications has been discovered.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

During the four weeks ended 25th December, 1926, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund were approximately as shown in the following Table:—

200 100 ES 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	Four weeks ended 25th Dec., 1926.	Five weeks ended 27th Nov., 1926.	Four weeks ended 26th Dec., 1925.
Contributions (Receipts):— By Employers " Employed Persons " Service Departments (Admiralty,	£ 1,150,000 1,010,000	£ 1,170,000 1,030,000	£ 1,480,000 1,320,000
War Office and Air Ministry) "Exchequer	40,000 810,000	20,000 850,000	20,000 1,000,000
Total	3,010,000	3,070,000	3,820,000
Payments:— Benefit Other Payments*	4,040,000 440,000	4,400,000 370,000	3,210,000 480,000
Total	4,480,000	4,770,000	3,690,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding	†22,040,000	†20,550,000	‡7,595,000

* Includes refunds at age 60 and compensation for the abolition thereof,

Includes refunds at age 60 and compensation for the abolition thereos, cost of administration, etc.

† Excludes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 31st December, 1925, amounts to £332, 431 8s. 3d.

† Includes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 30th June, 1925, amounted to £324,277 17s. 1d., the matter not being settled at this stage.

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 December, 1926, and the increase or decrease at that date n 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,

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

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 24 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

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 DECEMBER, 1926.

7 TACA -157.1 197.5	000		GREAT 1	BRITAIN	AND NORT	THERN IR	ELAND.			GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.			
INDUSTRY.		LY UNEMP		ТЕМРОІ	RARY STOR	STOPPAGES. TOTAL.		2 - 30	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES AND CASUALS.				
State state state	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Fishing	5,657	81	5,738	210	142	352	5,867	223	6,090	5,841	223	6,064	
Mining:— Coal Mining*	124,194	689	124,883			- 4-42	124,194	689	124,883	124,149	689	124,838	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying Lead, Tin and Copper Mining Stone Quarrying and Mining Slate Quarrying and Mining Other Mining and Quarrying	2,868 677 3,623 154 2,145	1 1 8 2 52	2,869 678 3,631 156 2,197	4,030 128 1,995 27 729	2 2 82	4,032 128 1,997 27 811	6,898 805 5,618 181 2,874	3 1 10 2 134	6,901 806 5,628 183 3,008	6,877 805 5,217 181 2,727	3 1 10 2 134	6,880 806 5,227 183 2,861	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	793	11	804	277	2	279	1,070	13	1,083	1,026	13	1,039	
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:	2,395	12	2,407	2,258	6	2,264	4,653	18	4,671	4,652	18	4,670	
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	2,067	73	2,140	914	35	949	2,981	108	3,089	2,971	108	3,079	
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting	977	41	1,018	438	15	453	1,415	56	1,471	1,353 7,945	56 988	1,409 8,933	
Brick, Tile, etc., Making Pottery, Earthenware, etc	5,925 2,156	610 2,184	6,535 4,340	2,389 4,267	378 5,886	2,767 10,153	8,314 6,423	988 8,070	9,302 14,493	6,394	8,061	14,455	
Glass Trades: Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals,	2,094 2,738	318 173	2,412 2,911	538 1,200	85 42	623 1,242	2,632 3,938	403 215	3,035 4,153	2,624 3,938	403 215	3,027 4,153	
etc.:- Chemicals Manufacture	5,993 1,019	719 488	6,712	1,512	250 42	1,762	7,505 1,074	969 530	8,474 1,604	7,388 1,074	961 530	8,349 1,604	
Explosives Manufacture Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White	697	170	867	91	23	114	788	193	981	787	192	979	
Lead Manufacture Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	4,224	879	5,103	1,265	213	1,478	5,489	1,092	6,581	5,456	1,036	6,492	
Metal Manufacture :-							40.00	42	10.052	10,901	42	10,943	
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	3,811	36	3,847	7,099	6	7,105	10,910	44	10,952	10,901	74	10,540	
naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	27,625	224	27,849	38,967	156	39,123	66,592	380	66,972	66,571	379	66,950	
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc Manufacture of Tin Plates Iron and Steel Tube Making	4,552 1,985	206 172	4,758 2,157	1,797 4,296	49 549	1,846 4,845	6,349 6,281 5,769	255 721 127	6,604 7,002 5,896	6,234 6,280 5,768	255 721 127	6,489 7,001 5,895	
Iron and Steel Tube Making Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu-	2,328	106	2,434	3,441	106	3,462	3,842	340	4,182	3,838	340	4,178	
facture	1,846	234	2,080	1,996	106	2,102	0,012					CHINESES TO	
Engineering, etc: General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding Electrical Engineering Marine Engineering, etc. Constructional Engineering	62,850 3,266 14,894 4,225	1,474 680 34 54	64,324 3,946 14,928 4,279	31,719 506 1,361 2,455	234	32,409 740 1,366 2,458	94,569 3,772 16,255 6,680	914	96,733 4,686 16,294 6,737	93,142 3,759 14,101 6,672	2,161 914 39 57	95,303 4,673 14,140 6,729	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :-	100				010	0.000	17 500	1,454	19,053	17,342	1,452	18,794	
Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Construction and Repair of Carriages,	15,126	1,235	16,361	2,473		2,692	17,599 2,398		2,625	2,298		2,525	
Carts, etc Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-	2,049	162	2,211	349	-	1	9,481		9,540	9,465		9,523	
car Building	4,007	38	4,045	5,474	21	5,495	3,461	35	0,010	1 0,,,,,,			

^{*} The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May, 1926.

January, 1927. GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND. GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals). INDUSTRY. TEMPORARY STOPPAGES. TOTAL. TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS. Total. Males. Females. Total Males. Males. Females. Total Males. Females. Total. 88,408 94,576 88,202 206 Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing 91,251 198 91,449 3,109 3,127 94.360 216 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 ... Metal Trades : 11,110 1,059 7,270 1,010 7,750 4,032 103 168 4,200 11,302 1,113 11,950 1,141 3,883 5,007 2,371 3,562 2,739 2,008 569 5,570 3,308 341 2,271 704 2,477 2,371 775 6,274 5,785 6,254 5,782 363 206 3,570 2.280 1.290 3,570 2,280 1,290 1,268 2.231 1.012 327 1.339 963 Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-1,016 2,870 2,880 401 1,854 3,919 1,519 7,013 1,102 5,112 3,131 14,002 2,400 12,148 2,029 8,890 417 1,904 819 5,302 1,519 7,016 3,950 19,304 402 3,398 Textile Trades :-25,689 12,934 1,725 639 2,010 50,865 14,957 3,585 1,448 3,334 76,554 27,891 5,310 2,087 5,344 23,602 9,822 1,700 11,226 4,077 50,866 14,985 3,585 10,233 3,334 76,562 28,031 5,311 15,108 5,344 52,960 18,209 3,611 3,882 1,267 9,345 5,250 816 14,257 4,572 884 36,609 10,413 2,701 2,663 862 16,351 Woollen and Worsted 7,796 910 1,219 405 3,656 1,605 Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making... 1,346 6,524 1,392 1,099 3,275 2,089 7,836 2,84**3** 1,865 4,414 1,730 2,586 982 940 3,165 570 4,566 943 603 1,441 743 1,312 1,451 1,078 2,085 449 497 265 837 919 327 366 835 5,403 1,862 930 1,807 1,338 1,452 770 1,252 Carpet Manufacture ... Other Textile Industries 766 1,139 2,279 886 Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, 4,699 19,756 5.284 20,94 15,057 5.235 15.711 15,662 4.021 1,214 11.641 4.070 Leather and Leather Goods :-Tanning, Currying and Dressing ... Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ... 653 3.839 3.182 652 3.834 2,881 826 958 3,186 2,360 1,472 2,309 839 1,505 1.159 602 1,761 346 237 583 Clothing Trades :-16,344 24,828 7,371 14,333 9,693 11,469 9,147 16,655 25,802 8.482 6,962 Dress and Mantle Making and 811 7,797 832 7,285 8,11 6,986 2.327 5,022 5.790 2.263 768 Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) 1,553 2,212 3,765 3,773 1,888 709 1,176 1,885 1.559 2.214 1,038 Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-3,550 2,074 15,011 5,472 2,091 15,190 3,098 1,103 8,887 ing, etc., Making
Other Dress Industries
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades 2,612 1,241 4,193 191 4,116 988 6,303 6,881 10,997 2,187 Food, Drink and Tobacco :-7,475 1,861 10,225 2,031 10,316 8,152 1,952 cuit, Cake, etc., Making . 649 295 10,965 2,126 Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ... Grain Milling ... Gocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con-7,775 377 271 272 2,541 7,254 7,844 2,143 8,978 12,862 7,005 1,724 5,018 4,862 5,110 980 694 1,599 4,891 5,051 1,785 5,166 5,335 186 275 284 4,924 9,065 13,104 fectionery ... Other Food Industries 705 410 6,822 Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff 1,039 1,526 1.153 547 386 533 1,314 372 Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :-5,590 1,420 6,935 2,390 Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. 132 122 734 Other Woodworking ... Printing and Paper Trades:

Paper and Paper Board Making ...
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and 755 3.093 2,128 680 2,808 2,338 919 1.746 2.174 592 327 428 2,676 2,798 1,034 1,642 1,741 955 1,164 2,119 102 679 1.057 Wall Paper Making and Paper 181 135 136 46 182 133 37 170 12 Stationery and Typewriting Requisites 119 9,046 138 3,803 257 12,849 31 930 22 511 12,580 (not paper) ... Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding 11,919 419 Building and Construction of Works :-103,581 34,513 103,717 34,537 108,365 36,309 102,758 34,932 5,740 5,745 1,401 Public Works Contracting, etc. ... 34,908 Other Manufacturing Industries :-6,526 891 1,192 3,012 6,523 Rubber Manufacture
Olleloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture
Brush and Broom Making
Scientific and Photographic Instrument and Apparatus Manufacture
Musical Instrument Making
Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites
Manufacture 1,756 3,013 1,813 1,200 4,770 887 1,184 86 394 570 518 245 411 805 798 263 812 1,078 501 969 311 313 109 824 1.090 224 102 698 416 372 788 410 372 782 137 375 276 651 Cas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ... 10,334 10.166 168 10,657 173 10.830 631 10,041 158 10,199 616 15 Transport and Communication :-13,874 6,035 20,763 27,103 390 276 181 448 123 3,655 654 1,035 1,410 Railway Service Tramway and Omnibus Service Other Road Transport 633 1,024 1,369 5,199 20,414 River, Dock and Harbour 51,956 52,041 86 53,318 53.232 49,541 75 49,616 3,691 11 3,702 Other Transport and Communication and Storage 2,599 2,537 88 2.625 2.511 88 104 2,521 100 2.437 84 25,717 87,582 26,357 91,289 61,865 64,932 22,792 84,008 3,716 3,565 7,281 61,216 Distributive Trades Commerce, Banking, Insurance and 6,060 5,228 978 6.206 5.093 967 103 5.154 949 6.103 29 Miscellaneous Trades and Services :-849 9,057 8,712 796 345 53 398 9,508 TOTAL 943,001 156,849 1,099,850† 218,741 113,249 331,990 1,161,742 270,098 1,431,840* 1,123,661 255,360 1,379,021

^{*} The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May, 1926.

† Including 74,853 Casuals (Males 74,185, Females 668).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

AREC TORREST TO STATE OF THE ST	BEKS							Nort		-				(iga	DATE.	GREAT
1				PER	CENTAG	B UNI	BMPLOY	ED AT	20тн	DECEM	BER, 19	926.	INCR	EASE (-	+) OR	BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL
INDUSTRY.	INSUR	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1926.		Uni (in	VHOLLY EMPLOY acluding asuals).	ED		MPORAE OPPAGE			TOTAL.		DECE TOT	REASE (AL PEE LAGES A PARED	-) IN CEN-	PER- CENTAGE UNEM- PLOYED AT 20TH
The state of the s	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	22ND Nov., 1926.	21ST DEC., 1925.	22ND DEC., 1924.	DEC., 1926.
Fishing	26,090	880	26,970	21.7	9.2	21.3	0.8	16.1	1.3	22.5	25:3	22.6	- 2.3	+ 7.3	+ 6.3	22.7
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and	1,220,550	7,320	1,227,870	10.2	9.4	10.2				10.2	9.4	10.2	+ 1.6	- 1.1	+ 2.3	10.2
Quarrying Lead, Tin and Copper Mining Stone Quarrying and Mining	15,280 5,250 40,820	40 40 330	15,320 5,290 41,150	18·8 12·9 8·9	2·5 2·5 2·4	18·7 12·8 8·8	26·3· 2·4 4·9	5.0	26·3 2·4 4·9	45·1 15·3 13·8	7·5 2·5 3·0	45·0 15·2 13·7	$ \begin{array}{r} -17.8 \\ + 0.3 \\ - 2.2 \end{array} $	+ 2.2	$+26.4 \\ -2.7 \\ +7.4$	45·2 15·2 13·0
Slate Quarrying and Mining Other Mining and Quarrying Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit	10,860 17,920	1,630	10,870 19,550	1·4 12·0	20·0 3·2	1.4	0·3 4·0	5.0	0·3 4·2	1·7 16·0	20·0 8·2	1·7 15·4	$-0.9 \\ -1.2$	- 0·2 + 4·5	+ 0.5 + 7.6	1·7 15·0
Digging	14,960	170	15,130	5.3	6.5	5.3	1.9	1.1	1.9	7.2	7.6	7.2	- 3.0	+ 2.9	+ 2.5	6.9
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu-	11,560	160	11,720	20.7	7.5	20.5	19.6	3.8	19-4	40.3	11.3	39.9	-29.7	+26.6	+26.6	39-8
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting	15,230	1,230	16,460	13.6	5.9	13.0	6.0	2.9	5.8	19 6	8.8	18.8	- 1.8		- 1.1	18.8
Works Brick, Tile, etc., Making	17,970 75,230	950 7,680	18,920 82,910	5.4	4.3	5.4	3.2	1.6	2.4	7.9	5·9 12·9	7.8		+ 3.0		7·6 10·9
Pottery, Earthenware, etc	35,220	38,590	73,810	6.1	5.7	5.9	12.1	15.2	13.7	18.2	20.9	19.6	+ 1.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	19.6
Glass Trades:— Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture Glass Bottle Making	21,320 15,910	5,270 2,100	26,590 18,010	9·8 17·2	6·0 8·2	9·1 16·2	2·5 7·6	1.6 2.0	2·3 6·9	12·3 24·8	7·6 10·2	11·4 23·1	- 4·3 - 6·3	+ 1.6 + 5.6	- 0·8 + 4·6	11·4 23·1
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc. I—	72 690	91.950	94,530	8.2	3.3	7.1	0.1	1.1	1.9	10.2	4.4	9.0	- 2.4	1 0.6	- 0.2	8.9
Chemicals Manufacture Explosives Manufacture Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White	72,680 12,520	21,850 6,070	18,590	8.1	8.0	7·1 8·1	2.1	0.7	0.5	8·6	8.7	8.6	- 3.5	+ 1.3	- 0.1	8.6
Lead Manufacture Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match,	13,450	3,900	17,350	5.2	4.4	5.0	0.7	0.5	0.7	5.9	4.9	5.7	THE STREET	+ 1.0		5.6
etc., Manufacture	59,550	20,850	80,400	7.1	4.2	6.3	2.1	1.0	1.9	9.2	5.2	8.2	- 0.8	+ 1.9	+ 1.0	8.1
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur-	24,210	280	24,490	15.7	12.9	15.7	29.4	2.1	29.0	45-1	15.0	44.7	-15.6	+24.5	+26.7	44.7
naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	189,980	3,870	193,850	14.5	5.8	14-4	20.6	4.0	20.1	35 · 1	9.8	12000	-14.3	177		34.6
Manufacture of Tin Plates	39,120 27,290	3,370 4,500	42,490 31,790	7.3	6·1 3·8		4·6 15·7		15.2	16·2 23·0	16.0	22.0	- 4·6 -27·1	+11.4	-23.0	
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	26,580	1,760 4,240	28,340 25,070	8.8	6.0	8.6	9.5	2.5	12.2	21.7	7·2 8·0		- 5.3	+ 5.4		20.8
Engineering, etc. :-	131.0															1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding Electrical Engineering	572,820 61,240	43,100 15,760	615,920 77,000	11·0 5·3	3.4	10·4 5·1	5.5	1.6	5·3 1·0	16.5	5.0	15·7 6·1	- 0.7	+ 4.0	+ 1.1	15·7 6·1
Marine Engineering, etc Constructional Engineering	57,370 26,370	1,000 1,060	58,370 27,430	26·0 16·0	3·4 5·1	25·6 15·6	2.3	0.5	2·3 9·0	28·3 25·3	3·9 5·4	27·9 24·6	- 4·0 - 3·0	+ 2.7	+10.8	26·7 24·6
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :— Construction and Repair of Motor	300													1	the board	146,0
Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft Construction and Repair of Carriages,	201,780	22,260	224,040	7.5	5.5	7.3	1.2	1.0	1.2	8.7	6.5		- 0·9 - 3·5			8.5
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building	19,350 54,970	2,350 1,320	21,700 56,290	10.6	6.9	7.2	9.9	2.8	9.8	12.4	9.7	A STATE OF	-11.3			17.0
hipbuilding and Ship Repairing	220,820	3,300	224,120		6.0	40.8	1.4	0.5	1.4	42.7			- 3.3			42.2
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	82,160	8,330	90,490	8.8	5.8	8.6	5.0	2.0	4.6	13.8	7.8	13.2	- 1.9	+ 3.4	+ 1.3	13.1
Electrical Wiring and Contracting Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric	12,740	1,170	13,910	7.9	2·3 6·3	7.5	0.8	0.1	0.7	8.7		8.2		+ 1.4	A CENT OF S	8.0
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails,	56,030 24,620	31,880 10,520	87,910 35,140	6.4	5.4	9.4	9.2	1·1 2·0	0.8	7·0 20·3			- 6.7	1	+ 4.5	16.5
etc., Manufacture Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-	15,020	11,380	26,400	8.4	8.5	8.5	6.8	2.8	5.0	15.2	in Street			+ 3.1		9.2
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery,	19,180 6,610	11,980 490	31,160 7,100	8·1 5·0	2.9	7.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	9·7 5·8	8.5	5.6	- 1.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	5.7
etc., Manufacture Other Metal Industries	25,400 117,970	20,070 68,450	45,470 186,420	8·0 7·5	5·5 7·5	6.9	1.6	2·1 2·7	1.8	9·6 10·4		8.7	+ 0.3	+ 1·0 + 2·1	-1.9 -0.7	8·7 10·3
Cotton	210,730	368,460	579,190	4.4	3.9	4.1	7.8	9.9	9.1	12.2	13.8		_ 5.8	+ 6.5	+ 6.2	13.2
Woollen and Worsted Silk	106,380 21,350	148,370 29,870	254,750 51,220	3.8	3·1 3·0 12·3	3·9 3·3 12·5	7·4 4·3 4·3	7·0 9·0 4·3	7.1	12·3 8·1	12.0	10.4	- 0.2	+ 2·2 - 0·4 - 16·7	+ 3.2	11·0 10·4 13·0
Jute Weaving, Rope,	28,000 13,430	61,590 28,130	89,590 41,560		8.8	9.8	3.0	3.1	3.1	17·4 15·0	11.9	12.9	- 3.2	1000000	+ 2.8	12.9
Cord, Twine, etc., Making Hosiery	7,490 21,190	12,250 76,700	19,740 97,890	8·7 2·4 6·6	8·8 2·7 4·1	8·8 2·6 5·2	3·5 3·9 11·3	4·7 6·0 8·7	4·2 5·6 9·8	12·2 6·3	8.7	8.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.8 + 3.4 - 2.8	- 0.8	12·6 8·1 15·0
Carpet Manufacture Other Textile Industries	8,110 10,730 13,360	10,890 15,510 31,160	19,000 26,240 44,520	4.1	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.9	3.5	17·9 7·2 9·4		7-1	- 3·9 - 0·4	1+ 0.3	- 0.1	7.1
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc	86,540	32,740	119,280	4.6	3.7	4.4	13.5	12.4	13.2	18-1	16.1	The same of		+ 6.0		17.9
eather and Leather Goods :— Tanning, Currying and Dressing	32,080	8,450	40,530	7.4	6.2	7.1	2.5	1.5	2.4	9.9	7.7	9.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	9.5
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	13,750	12,970	26,720	8.4	4.6	6.6	2.5	1.9	2.2	10.9			+ 0.1			8.7
Clothing Trades :— Tailoring	66,830	126,930	193,760	11.0	5.5	7.4	2.7	7.6	5.9	13.7	13.1	13.3	- 1.3	+ 2.0	+ 0.7	13.1
Dress and Mantle Making and	11,740	95,060	106,800	6.5	5.3	5.4	0.6	2.4	2.2	7.1	7.7	7.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 2.3	7-4
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-	13,400	20,940	34,340	6.3	5.0		5.3	5.6					- 1.3	1000000		
ing, etc., Making	7,240 10,520	65,750 17,830	72,990 28,350	6.7	4.0	4.2	0.6	3.5	3.3	7·3 8·1	7.0	7.4	+ 0.2	- 0.1	- 1·7 - 4·8 - 1·4	6.3
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	92,070	53,930	146,000	7.5	3.7	6.1	4.4	4.1	4.3	11.9	7.8	10.4	- 0.1	+ 1.9	- 1.4	10.4

^{*} The figures for November and December, 1926 are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May, 1926

January, 1927. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.											GREA					
INDUSTRY.	INSUR	TED NUM ED PERSO ULY, 192	ONS AT	A	WHOLL	Y		ED AT		DECEM	BER, 1	CLL	DEC	REASITAL I	PER	-) IN OEN-	ONL TOT PER CENT. UNE
			(including Casuals).		STOPPAGES.		TOTAL.			сом	PARE			PLOY			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	22ND Nov., 1926.	DE	C.	22ND DEC., 1924.	20T DEC 192
od, Drink and Tobacco: Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making Grain Milling	94,280 28,020	51,550 3,580	145,830 31,600	8·2 6·0	4·9 4·2	7·1 5·8	0·4 1·0	0·6 0·7	0.4	8.6	5·5 4·9	7·5 6·7	- 0·9 + 0·1	- 0 + 1		- 2·0 + 1·7	7: 6:
fectionery	27,110 56,430 87,950	49,630 57,750 23,180	76,740 114,180 111,130	5·9 8·7 5·7	4·7 12·5 7·6	5·2 10·6 6·1	0·7 0·5 0·4	10·0 1·2 1·8	6·6 0·9 0·7	6·6 9·2 6·1	14·7 13·7 9·4	11·8 11·5 6·8	- 1·9 + 1·1 - 1·0	+ 4	1.3	+ 2·0 - 5·2 + 0·3	11: 11: 6:
Manufacture	15,040	29,620	44,660	3.5	2.6	2.9	0.1	1.3	0.9	3.6	3.9	3.8	- 0.4	- 0).7	- 2.9	3.
wmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :— Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. Other Woodworking	55,090 11,170 88,170 19,270	2,940 1,950 19,640 5,680	58,030 13,120 107,810 24,950	9·4 10·5 6·5 8·7	4·5 6·3 3·7 6·1	9·2 9·9 6·0 8·1	0·8 1·3 0·6 1·8	1·3 1·6 0·9 2·3	0·8 1·4 0·6 2·0	10·2 11·8 7·1 10·5	5·8 7·9 4·6 8·4	10·0 11·3 6·6 10·1	- 0.6 - 1.8 - 0.8 - 1.4	+ - + - + - + - + +)·1)·3 l·6)·7	+ 0·2 - 2·1 + 0·5	9. 11. 6. 9.
Inting and Paper Trades:— Paper and Paper Board Making	40,780	15,190	55,970	4.3	2.8	3.9	1.4	2.2	1.6	5.7	5.0	5.5	_ 4.1			- 2.2	5.
Stationery	19,840	37,230	57,070	4.8	3.1	3.7	0.5	1.6	1.2	5.3	4.7	4.9	- 0.4			- 1.5	4.
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining Stationery and Typewriting Requisites	4,000	1,390	5,390	3.3	2.7	3.2	0.1	0.6	0.2	3.4	3.3	3.4	- 0.9	+ 0	8.0	+ 0.4	3
(not paper) Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	2,220 163,700	2,910 88,850	5,130 252,550	5·0 5·3	4·0 3·7	4.4	0·4 0·2	0.7	0·6 0·4	5·4 5·5	4.7	5·0 5·1	+ 0·5 - 0·2	- 0 + 1	0.1	- 1·1 + 0·1	5 5
Building and Construction of Works: Building Public Works Contracting, etc	793,170 162,820	7,870 1,330	801,040 164,150	12·9 21·4	1·7 1·8	12·8 21·3	0.8	0.1	0·7 0·8	13·7 22·3	1.8	13·5 22·1	+ 0·3 - 1·0	+ 6	0.1	+ 1·6 + 3·0	13 21
her Manufacturing Industries: Bubber Manufacture Clicloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture Brush and Broom Making	34,760 12,470 5,940	25,540 2,380 4,800	60,300 14,850 10,740	8·5 4·6 8·7	7·1 3·2 5·5	7·9 4·3 7·3	1·6 1·9 4·7	4·7 0·4 2·7	2·9 1·7 3·8	10·1 6·5 13·4	11·8 3·6 8·2	6.0	- 4·8 -24·2 - 0·6	+ 1	1.2	+ 1.4	10 6 11
Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture Musical Instrument Making	14,440 19,870	7,970 4,680	22,410 24,550	3.3	2.8	3·1 4·2	0.2	1.1	0·6 0·2	3.5	3.9	3.7	- 0·1 - 0·8			- 1·0 - 1·1	3 4
Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites Manufacture	5,970	5,390	11,360	6.3	5.1	5.7	0.7	1.8	1.2	7.0	6.9	6.9	- 0.8	A STATE OF	0.00	- 5.0	6
, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	178,820	6,560	185,380	5.6	2.4	5.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	6.0	2.6	5.8	— 0·5	+ 0) · 1	- 0.6	5
Ansport and Communication: Gailway Service Framway and Omnibus Service Other Road Transport Shipping Service Janal, River, Dock and Harbour	152,630 124,450 155,930 123,590	8,020 5,290 4,770 5,820	160,650 129,740 160,700 129,410	6:8 4:2 13:1 21:0	3·3 4·8 3·6 7·0	6·6 4·2 12·8 20·3	2·3 0·5 0·6 1·1	1.6 0.4 0.2 0.7	2·3 0·5 0·7 1·1	9·1 4·7 13·7 22·1	4·9 5·2 3·8 7·7	8·9 4·7 13·5 21·4	- 4·2 - 0·5 - 1·1	+ 0	0.8	+ 2·0 + 1·2 - 1·6 - 1·7	8 4 13 21
Service	186,860	2,250	189,110	26.5	3.3	26.2	2.0	0.5	2.0	28.5	3.8	28 · 2	- 2.9	+ 2	2.3	+ 3.1	28
and Storage	19,040	2,040	21,080	12.8	4.1	12.0	0.5	0.2	0.5	13.3	4.3	12.5	- 2.2	- 0).3	- 3.1	12
tributive Trades	914,270	596,580	1,510,850	6.7	3.8	5.6	0.4	0.6	0.4	7.1	4.4	6.0	- 0.9	+ 0	1.4	- 0.5	5
merce, Banking, Insurance and Finance cellaneous Trades and Services :—	149,040	71,120	220,160	3.5	1.3	2.8	0.0	0.1	0.0	3.5	1.4	2.8	- 0.3	- 0).3	- 0.8	2
ational Government	123,040 242,390 68,800 42,060 107,490 23,430 89,680	28,430 18,860 47,420 22,900 185,890 98,800 32,360	151,470 261,250 116,220 64,960 293,380 122,230 122,040	7·1 9·6 3·5 12·2 10·7 5·4 25·9	2·8 3·6 1·8 7·8 10·2 4·0 4·5	6·3 9·2 2·8 10·6 10·4 4·3 20·2	0·3 0·6 0·2 0·4 0·1 0·2 1·0	0·2 0·4 0·1 0·4 0·2 0·8 2·5	0·2 0·5 0·1 0·4 0·2 0·6 1·5	7·4 10·2 3·7 12·6 10·8 5·6 26·9	3·0 4·0 1·9 8·2 10·4 4·8 7·0	4.9	- 0.9 - 0.3 - 0.3 - 0.7 - 1.1 - 0.4 - 0.7	+ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0.6	- 2·1 + 0·8 - 0·9 - 3·4 - 3·5 - 1·7	6 9 2 10 10 4 21

* These percentages include coal-mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute, being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who remained disqualified for unemployment benefit ewing to the dispute. If coal-mining were excluded, the percentage of unemployment in other trades at 20th December, 1926, would be Males 13.6, Females 8.4, Total 12.1, as compared with 15.8, 10.0, and 14.1 respectively at 22nd November, 1926. The percentage for Great Britain only at 20th December, exclusive of coal-mining, is 11.9, compared with 13.9 at 22nd November, 1926.

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 December, 1926, differed from the figures for 22nd November, 1926, to the extent of 1,500 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 December, 1926, as compared with 22nd November, 1926.						
Complete Assessment Address to the	Males.	Females.	Total.				
Cotton Steel Melting and Iron Puddling	- 11,745	- 22,015	- 33,760				
Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	- 27,459	- 157	- 27,616				
General Engineering, Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	- 18,523	- 204	- 18,727				
Distributive Trades	- 7,657 - 7,611	- 5,220 - 984	-12,87				
Woollen and Worsted	$ \begin{array}{rrr} & - & 7,657 \\ & - & 7,611 \\ & - & 2,984 \\ & - & 2,981 \end{array} $	- 5,154	- 8,598 - 8,138				
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Railway Service	$ \begin{array}{rrr} - & 7,291 \\ - & 6,763 \end{array} $	- 21 - 63	$ \begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$				
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building	- 6,284	- 119	- 6,403				
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour			AMERICA (5. 4530 A.)				
Service Brick, Tile, etc., Making	- 5,566 - 4,260	- 22 - 788	- 5,588 - 5,048				
Linen	- 945	- 3,455	- 4,400				

T. T. M. C. J. (DI. J.)			
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast	- 3,809	- 12	7 901
Furnaces) Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dye-	- 3,009	- 12	- 3,821
ing etc	- 2,810	- 996	- 3,806
ing, etc Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manu-	2,010	330	0,000
facture	- 3,199	- 402	- 3,601
coke Ovens and By-Product			
Works	- 3,481	- 5	- 3,486
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Ser-			
vices	- 1,359	- 1,991	- 3,350
Rubber Manufacture	- 1,761	- 1,141	- 2,902
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and	0.700	Short S	0.701
Quarrying *Other Metal Industries	- 2,720	$- \frac{1}{-348}$	-2,721 $-2,708$
*Other Metal Industries	$-2,360 \\ +123$	- 2,672	
Tailoring Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File	T 123	- 2,012	- 2,549
Making	- 2,176	- 189	- 2,365
Marine Engineering, etc	- 2,308	- 22	- 2,330
Paper and Paper Board Making	- 1,679	- 628	- 2,307
Chemicals Manufacture	- 2,162	- 125	- 2,287
Construction and Repair of Motor			
Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	- 1,967	- 23	- 1,990
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc,			
Tin, Lead, etc	- 1,904	- 37	- 1,941
*Other Road Transport	- 1,794	- 13	- 1,807
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General	1 000	10	7 007
Ironfounding	- 1,669	- 12	- 1,681
Public Works Contracting, etc	$-1,608 \\ +2,748$	- 13 - 14	- 1,621
Building	+ 2,748	14	+ 2,734
Net variation for above industries	- 142,983	- 46,846	-189,829
Total Net Variation for all	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY.	Many and Charles	desperature of
insured industries	-148,351	-49,951	-198,302

^{*} These groups, which include miscellaneous industries, correspond with those under the same headings in the Tables on pages 26-29.

January, 1927.

30

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 December, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, resulted in an aggregate increase of about £20,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 150,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £4,650 in the weekly wages of 24,000 workpeople. These figures are exclusive of the effect of changes in the wages of coal miners in certain districts which were reported in the December issue of the GAZETTE, and included in the statistics relating to November; some of those changes took effect from 1st or 2nd December.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown

Group of Industries.	Approx Number of affect	ximate Workpeople ed by	Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.		
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.	
Mining† and Quarrying Metal Other	32,000 80,000 37,000	20,250 250 3,600	£ 6,250 10,600 3,000	4,300 10 340	
Total	149,000	24,100	19,850	4,650	

In the mining group the principal increases included in the figures affected coal miners in Warwickshire, South Staffordshire, and the Forest of Dean, in which districts the percentage additions to basis rates were raised by about 6 or 7 per cent. as compared with the previous rates in Warwickshire and South Staffordshire, and by 20 per cent. in the Forest of Dean. Among the workpeople for whom reductions are recorded were coal miners in North Wales and the Bristol district, in whose case the percentage additions to basis the Bristol district, in whose case the percentage additions to basis rates were reduced by 10 per cent., as compared with the previous rates; and iron miners in Cumberland, who sustained reductions of varying amounts up to 1s. 3d. per shift.

In the metal group there was an increase of nearly 7 per cent. on the current wages of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, and of nearly 2 per cent. on those of steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in various districts in England and Wales. Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry also had their wages increased, adult male workers receiving an

increase of 1s. 6d. or 1s. 11½d. per week and adult female workers an increase of 1s. per week. Other workpeople in this group whose wages were increased in December included blastfurnacemen in Cumberland, metallic bedstead makers, penmakers at Birmingham, and farriers in London and various towns in Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Among the other industrial groups there were increases of 3s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. per week in the wages of men and women respectively employed in the hosiery industry at Hawick; roller leather makers received an increase of about 3 per cent. on their current wages, and men employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in the men employed in the non-trading services of local authorities in the East Midlands received an increase of ½d. per hour. Under the Trade Boards Acts there were increases in the minimum rates for certain classes of workpeople employed in brush and broom making and coffin furniture and cerement making. The principal reduction concerned railway traffic workers in Northern Ireland, who, with the exception of engine-drivers, firemen and cleaners, had their wages reduced by amounts varying from 1s. 4d. to 2s. per week.

of the total increase of £19,850 per week included in the Table in the previous column over £8,800 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices, and £4,600 under sliding scales based on the cost of living, the latter amount including £2,800 under scales arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople or by Trade Boards. Practically the whole of the remaining changes were the result of direct pagestations between employers and works. were the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople, nearly the whole of the amount being accounted for by increases in the wages of coal miners, following the general stoppage

Of the reduction of £4,650 per week, nearly £1,100 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices, and the remainder was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople, nearly the whole of the amount being accounted for by reductions in coal miners' wages.

Hours of Labour.

In addition to the changes in the hours of coal miners reported in the December issue of the GAZETTE, particulars are given in the Table on page 33 of the increases which have occurred in the South Staffordshire, Forest of Dean, Bristol, and North Wales coalfields.

Changes in Wages and Hours in 1926.

A special article dealing with these changes appears on pages 2

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1926.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)			
Sula per tra	The Secret Co.		MINING AND QUARRYING.	ea description of the case of the control of the control of the case of the control of the case of the			
Coal Mining Tron Mining	Warwickshire South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire. Forest of Dean Bristol North Wales Cumberland	1 Dec. ; Dec.; Dec.; Dec.; 13 Dec.	Workpeople employed in and about coal mines other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries. Workpeople employed at iron ore mines.	Increase of 10 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, making wages 75 per cent. above base.‡ Increase of 10 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, making wages 56.67 per cent. above base, subject to lower paid men receiving a subsistence wage of 6s. 2d. per day (as previously).‡ Increase of 36 per cent. on basis rates (equivalent to 26 per cent. on 1921 standard rates) making wages 116 per cent. above basis rates (equivalent to 60 per cent. on 1921 standard rates), subject to the proviso that the wages of any adult able-bodied day-wage man shall not fall below 6s. 1½d. per shift.‡ Decrease of 13.54 per cent. on the basis rates of hewers and of 13.77 per cent. on those of other workers, leaving wages 22 and 24 per cent. respectively above base; \$ also subsistence allowance for married men reduced from 6¼d. and 10d. per day to 6d. and 9d. for underground and surface workers respectively, subject to a maximum total of 6s. 9d. per day.‡ Decrease of 14.66 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, leaving wages 32 per cent. above base, subject to lower paid men having their wages made up to 6s. per shift.‡ Decrease of 13.3d. per shift in the bargain price (9s. 2d. to 7s. 11d. of 6d. per shift in the miners' minimum wage, of 11½d. per shift for winding enginemen, of 7½d. per shift for obey under 16 year of age. Rates after change: miners' minimum wage, 5s. per shift; underground 1st class or leading labourers, 5s. 4d. winding enginemen, 7s. 2d.; plus in each case a temporary bonum of 1s. 9d. per shift.			

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers,

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wage statute to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc. statistics are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc. the Lacked of the Cazette.

† Excluding the changes in Hours of Labour on page 33, except for Warwickshire. The conditions described are those under which work is reported to have been resumed in the various coalfields mentioned during December. In the case of Warwickshire, where the workpeople had resumed work at earlier to have been resumed in the various coalfields mentioned during December. In the case of Warwickshire, where the workpeople had resumed work at earlier dates under different terms, particulars of those terms were given in pages 458 and 461 of the December Gazette. Details of the terms of resumption of work in other coalfields were given in the same issue of the Gazette.

§ These particulars apply to the largest collieries. At a smaller collierie where the hours of underground workers have also been increased to 8 per shift, there was a reduction of about 20 per cent. on basis rates and the subsistence allowance was also reduced.

| The date varied according to when work was resumed at the various collieries.

| Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Lead Mining	Wearhead and Allen- dale.	22 Nov.	MINING AND QUARRYING (contin Underground and surface workers	ued). Decrease* in bonuses of 1½d. or 3d. per shift for lead ore dressers, and of 3d. or 3½d. per shift for enginemen, surface labourers and other classes. Rates after change (including bonus) for labourers: underground, 7s. 11½d. per shift; surface, 6s. 10d.
Quarrying	West Cumberland	· 13 Dec.	Limestone quarry workers	underground, 7s. 11\frac{1}{4}c. per shift; surface, 6s. 10d. Decrease* of 6d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 9d. per shift for other men, and of 4\frac{1}{4}d. per shift for boys under 16 years of age. Rates after change: knobblers, 7s. 3d.; haulage enginemen, 6s. 11d.; blacksmiths and joiners, 7s. 8\frac{1}{4}d.; day borers, first class, 6s. 9d., plus, in each case, a temporary advance of 1s. per shift; day labourers, 6s. 1d., plus a temporary advance of 1s. 5d. per shift; ruddmen, 5s. 7d., plus a temporary advance of 1s. 6d. per shift.
Fertiliser, etc., Manufacture.	Bristol	lst week in Dec.	8, BRICK, CHEMICAL, POTTERY, Workpeople employed in the manufacture of glue and chemical manure.	ETC., TRADES. Increase† of 2s. 3d. per week for men and of proportionate amounts for women and youths. Minimum rate after change for men, 47s. 9d.
Pig Iron Manu- facture.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Dec.	Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work and also labourers) employed at blast-	
ron and Steel Manufacture.	Certain districts in England & Wales.‡ Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lanca- shire.	6 Dec. {	furnaces. Steel sheet millmen Workpeople employed at iron-puddling furnaces and in iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Increase* of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 50 per cent. above the standard. Increase* of 10 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 55 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rates after change for labourers: 3s. 10d. per day or shift, plus 55 per cent., plus 10d per day for day workers and 11d. per shift for shift workers.
Engineering, etc.	Bury, Ramsbottom, Radcliffe and Hey- wood.	lst full pay week after 11 Dec.	Maintenance mechanics	Bons of 1d. per hour to be paid above the district skilled fitter's rate, provided that where a man is in receipt of extra remuneration for ability, etc., or earnings from piecework or other system of payment by results, which equal or exceed 1d. per hour, the bonus is held to have been applied. Increase* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 50 per cent. above the standard.
Galvanising	England and Wales¶ Middlesex, Kent,	6 Dec.	Workpeople employed in galvanis- ing departments (excluding pro- cess of annealing).	
Electrical	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Hertford- shire, Bucking- hamshire and Berkshire.	1 200 J C To	SOUNDE DESIGNATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP	Increase† of 1s. 11½d. per week for men 21 years of age and over of 1s. 5¾d. per week for youths 18 to 20 years, of 6d. per wee for boys 15 years, of 5¾d. per week for boys 14, 16 and 1 years, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and o 6d. per week for girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wage correspondingly increased. Time rates after change: mei 21 years and over, 56s. 9¾d. to 62s. 8d.; women 18 years and over, 29s. 6d. to 33s. 6d.**
Cable Manufacture.	Great Britain, other than the above counties.	3rd pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in the electrical cable-making industry (except plumber jointers, etc.).	week for women 18 years and over, and of 6d. per week for boys and girls 14 to 17 years; pieceworkers' wages correspondingly increased. Time rates after change: men 21 year and over, 51s. to 57s.; youths 18 to 20 years, 37s. 6d. to 44s. boys 14 to 17 years, 14s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.; women 18 year and over, 29s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.**; girls 14 to 17 years, 14s. 6d.
Ietallic Bedstead Manufacture.	Birmingham, Smethwick, Dudley, Bilston, Manchester, Warrington, Sowerby Bridge, Keighley and Glasgow.	3 Dec.	Workpeople employed in the metallic bedstead industry.	to 19s.** Increase† in flat-rate bonus of 2s. per week for men 18 years an over, of 1s. per week for women 18 years and over, and of 6c per week for boys under 18 years and girls under 18 but ove 16 years. Rates after change: men—cupola men, 1s. 3d. per hour (56 hours); frame setters, 1s. 4d. per hour (48 hours) bending, 1s. 3d. per hour; other sections (except stock fitter 1s. 1½d. per hour; less 12½ per cent. in each case, and subject to the addition of a bonus of 16s. per week; women 18 year and over—wrappers and lacquerers, 7d. per hour; colou painters and transferrers, 8d. per hour; plus in each case a bonus of 8s. per week.
intelemente (12 22 de decembro Como (12 de de)	of very potent of a control of the c		Male timeworkers over 21 years of age.	Increase of is. 4d. per week for skilled men and charge hand and of is. per week for others. Rates after change toolmakers over 25 years of age, 80s, 8d, and 71s, 2d.; too makers, 21 to 25 years, 61s, 2d.; charge hands in hardenin shops and rolling mills, 73s, 2d.; charge hands in shaking mill and tempering and colouring shops, 65s, 2d.; others, 50s.
Steel and Metal Pens and other Small Wares Manufacture.	Birmingham and District.	Pay day following 1 Dec.	Male timeworkers under 21 years of age. Apprentices Female dayworkers and learners	Increase† of amounts varying, according to age, from 3d. t 9d. per week. Increase† of amounts varying, according to age, from 2d. t 6d. per week. Increase† of amounts varying, according to age, from 2d. t 5d. per week. Rate after change for dayworkers 18 years an
	London District	Pay day following	Female pieceworkers	over, 25s. 1d. per week. Increase† of 5d. per week in the basic piecework rate (26s. 2d to 26s. 7d.). Increase† of ½d. per hour for timeworkers, and 2s. per week for pieceworkers. Rates after change for timeworkers: firement for the pieceworkers.
The state of the s	Liverpool and Bir- kenhead. Various towns in Yorkshire.††	6 Dec.	7.13.14 2.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.13.14 3.14	76s. 10\frac{1}{4}d. per week; doormen, 73s. 10\frac{1}{4}d. Increaset of 2s. per week. Rates after change; firemen, 74s. 6c. per week; doormen, 72s. 6d. Increaset of \frac{1}{4}d. per hour. Rates after change; firemen, 1s. 6c. per hour; doormen at Hull, 1s. 6d.; doormen at other town 1s. 5\frac{1}{4}d.
Farriery	Manchester, Hanley and Stoke-on- Trent. Larger towns in Lancashire and Cheshire (except Manchester, Liv- erpool and Bir-	1 Dec.	Farriers	Increase of \(\frac{1}{2} \) d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, ls. 6\(\frac{1}{2} \) per hour or 72s. 5\(\frac{1}{2} \) d. per week; doormen, ls. 6d. per hour or 70s. 6d. per week. Increase of \(\frac{1}{2} \) d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, ls. 6\(\frac{1}{2} \) per hour or 70s. 6d. per week; doormen, ls. 5\(\frac{1}{2} \) d. per hour or 68s. 6\(\frac{1}{2} \) d. per week.
in diseased to be a second to be a s	kenhead).;; kenhead).;; Smaller towns in Lancashire and Cheshire, §§ with Kendal and High Peak District.	10 Section 1		Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 66s. 7 per week; doormen, 63s. 8d. per week.

* Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.
† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
† The change took effect under an arrangement

ment made by the Sheet Trade (Conciliation) Board. The districts concerned are principally in Staffordshire,

† The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Sheet Trade (Conciliation) Board. The districts concerned are principally in Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Mommouthshire.

§ 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.

|| That is, fully qualified skilled mechanics who are capable of dismantling, repairing and re-erecting every type of machinery and plant installed or used in the engineering establishment in which they are employed.

|| Certain firms—members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

** Excluding any service bonus that may be due.

†† 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, Rochadle, Rossendale, Southport, Stockport, St. Helens, Warrington, Widnes and Wigan

§§ Including Alsager, Bentham, Cheadle, Chester, Congleton, Crewe, Furness District, Garstang, Kirkham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich and Tarporley.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Hosiery Manufacture.	Hawick	lst full pay in Dec.	TEXTILE TRADES. Men and women	Flat-rate bonus of 6s, 6d, per week for men and 5s, per week for women increased* to 9s, 9d, and 7s, 6d, per week respectively. Flat-rate bonus of 2s, 3d, per week increased* to 3s, 4½d, per week.
	Bristol	4 Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	RADES. Increase* of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 63s. 6d. Increase* of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands,
Baking and	Ayrshire†	1st pay day in	Bakers and confectioners	62s. 9d. Increase* of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 72s.
Confectionery.	Clydebank, Coatbridge, Hamilton and Wishaw.	Dec. 1st pay day in Dec.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase* of ls. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d.
Amilian godesa	Glasgow (certain non - associated firms). North East Lanca-	lst pay day in Dec.	Bakers and confectioners y	Increase* of ls. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 76s. 6d. Increase* of 2s. per week for men 19 years and over, ls. per week
Brewing	shire.‡	1st week in Dec.	Brewery workers	for women and 6d. to 1s. per week for youths. Rates after change: men 19 and over, 58s., women, 39s.
Furniture Manufacture.	Glasgow	1st full pay in Dec.	Rocking and baby chairmakers	TRADES. Increase* of ½d. per hour for timeworkers (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5d.) and of 2½ per cent. for pieceworkers.
Hand-Made Paper Making.	Dartford, Maidstone, Ashford, Laver- stoke, Wells and Totnes.	22 Nov.	PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED Workpeople employed in hand-made paper mills.	Increase* of 2d. per "day's work" for journeymen and 1d. per "day's work" for apprentices. Rates after change for journeymen per "day's work": \$ vatmen, 12s.; couchers, 11s. 8d.: layers. 9s. 10d.: dryworkers. 9s. 6d.
Lithographic Printing.	London and other principal towns in Great Britain.	Pay day in week ending 6 Nov.	Lithographic printers employed on machines fitted with automatic and semi-automatic feed attachments.	Rates fixed for machines fitted with semi-automatic feed attachments at 2s. 6d. or 3s. per week (according to size) above the minimum rates; and for machines fitted with full automatic feed at 2s. 6d. or 4s. per week (according to size) above the minimum rates, in lieu of 3s. 6d. per week extra previously paid for all sizes of machines.
Building Civil Engineering Construction.	Sheffield Great Britain	1 Dec.	BUILDING AND ALLIED TRA Plasterers Members of the Shipconstructors' and Shipwrights' Association employed on works of civil engineer- ing construction.	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d.). The Rate for men engaged as rough carpenters fixed at that current for navvies and labourers plus 2d. to 3d. per hour, and for those engaged as fully skilled craftsmen at the craftsmen's rate current in district where men are employed; the hours to be those applicable to other classes employed on civil engineering, viz., 44½ per week in winter and 49½ in summer.
			TRANSPORT.	Groups I and II Railways. ††—Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week for men
1 / 1 / 13 1	Northern Ireland	in Dec.	Adult workers in railway con- ciliation grades, except engine drivers, firemen and cleaners.	who are employed at Belfast or whose home station is there, and of 2s. per week for men employed elsewhere. Rates after change: traffic porters, Belfast, 46s. per week; other stations, 41s. 6d. to 44s.; goods porters, Belfast, 49s. 6d.; other stations, 41s. 6d. or 46s.; guards, Belfast, 55s. to 59s.; other stations, 52s. to 58s.; platelayers, Belfast, 47s.; other stations, 41s. 6d. to 45s. 6d. Group III Railways.††—Decrease of 1s. 4d. per week for men employed at Class 1 and 2 stations and of 2s, per week for those employed elsewhere.
	Stockton-on-Tees	1 Dec.	Manual workers	Increase* of \$\frac{1}{4}d\$, per hour. Rates after change: general labourers, 1s. 2\frac{1}{4}d\$; road labourers, 1s. 3\frac{1}{4}d\$; scavengers, 1s. 1\frac{1}{4}d\$.; refuse collectors 1s. 2\frac{1}{4}d\$.
e ced esseta par esseta con esseta con	South Shields	Week beginning 2 Dec.	Manual workers	Increase* of 1s. per week. Rates after change: general yard and road labourers, 49s.; scavengers and refuse collectors, 48s.
Total Mark St. 19	Scarborough	Week	Manual workers employed in non-trading and water departments. Men paid hourly rates	Increase* of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: general and road labourers, scavengers and refuse collectors, 50s. per week; waterworks labourers, 1s. 2½\$\frac{1}{2}\$, per hour. Increase* of ½d. per hour. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change for road and general labourers and scavengers: Grade A areas, 1s. 2d.; Grade B, 1s.; Grade C, 11d.; Grade D
Non-Wrading Services of Local	Certain Authorities in the East Mid- land Area.;;	1st pay day in Dec.	Men paid weekly rates (including attendants, caretakers, porters, lamplighters, etc.).	11d. (industrial districts) and 10d. (agricultural districts). I Increase* of 1s. 11d. per week for Grade A areas, of 1s. 9d. for Grade B, and of 1s. 6d. for Grade C. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A areas, 50s. 11d.; Grade B, 47s. 1d.; Grade C. 40s. 3d. per week. 1
Authorities.	Certain Authorities in Middlesex.§§	1st pay day in Dec.	ON THE CONTROL OF THE	Increase* of 11d. per week for Grade A areas (24s. 9d. to 25s. 8d.)† Increase* of 1s. per week. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A workpeople (bath and lavatory attendants, scavengers, etc.), Zone I districts, 52s. 6d., Zone II, 51s., Zone III, 48s. 6d.; Grade B (horsedrivers, stablemen, gardeners, yardmen, dust collectors, labourers, etc.), Zone II, 55s. 6d., Zone II, 55s. 3d., Zone III, 50s. 6d.; Grade C, Zone II, 58s. 6d., Zone III, 58s. 6d., Zone III, 58s.; Grade D, Zone I, 61s. 6d., Zone II, 58s. 6d., Zone III, 58s.; Grade E, Zone I, 64s. 6d., Zone II, 61s. 6d., Zone III, 57s.; Grade E, Zone I, 67s. 6d., Zone II, 64s. 6d., Zone III, 60s.; Grade G, Zone I, 70s. 6d., Zone II, 67s. 6d., Zone III, 67s. 3d.§§
to all the life of	1888 - 2 188 C 163	39 3	101 700	The state of the s

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
† Auchinlech, Dalmellington, Irvine, Kilbirnie, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Maybole, Stevenston, Troon, Largs, Fairlie, West Kilbride, Old Cumnock, New Oumnock, Mauchin, Catrine, Dunlop, Stewarton, Beith, Dalry, Glengarnock, Crosshouse, Hurlford, Darvel, Galston, Newmilns, Kilmaurs, Ardrossan, Salteoats, etc.
‡ Accrington, Blackburn, Burnley, Brierfield, Barrow-in-Furness, Cloughfold, Haslingden, Preston, Waterfoot and Whittle Springs (certain firms).
§ A "day's work" is a quantity of paper which varies according to the different sizes.

¶ The change took effect under an agreement made between the Federation of Master Printers and Allied Trades and the Amalgamated Society of Lithographic Printers. It was provided that minders working the machines referred to who were receiving more than the rates now fixed were not to suffer any reduction on account of the new arrangement.

¶ It is has been notified to the Department that the National Joint Council for the Building Industry was not a party to this arrangement.

* The conditions described are in accordance with an agreement dated 30th November, 1926, between the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors and the Shipconstructors' and Shipwrights' Association.

† The reductions described form the second instalment of reductions agreed to in June, 1926. The Groups I and II Railways in Northern Ireland are the Great Northern (Ireland) Railway, the London, Midland and Scottish Railway (Northern Counties Committees), and the Belfast and County Down Railway.

Group III Railways are the Castlederg and Victoria Bridge Tramway, the Clogher Valley Railway, and the Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway.

Authorities affected are those which follow the recommendations of the East, Midlands, Joint, Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-

Railway. Group III Railways are the Castlederg and Victoria Bridge Trailway, the Clogher Valley Railway, and the Bottontoff and Bridge Trailway, the Clogher Valley Railway, and the Bottontoff and Bridge Trailway, the Clogher Valley Railway, and the Bottontoff and Bridge Trailway, the Clogher Valley Railway, and the Bottontoff and Bridge Trailway, the Clogher Valley Railway, and the Bottontoff of Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include:—Grade A: Chesterfield, Derby, Grimsby, Ilkeston, Leicester, Lincoln (\$\frac{1}{2}\text{d}.\text{ below schedule}), Mansfield Woodhouse, Northampton, Nottingham: Grade B: Coalville, Grantham, Hinckley, Kettering, Kirby-in-Ashfield, Loughborough, Newark, Ripley, Rushden, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Swadlincote. Grade C: Ashby Woulds, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Rothwell, Warsop, Wigston Magna. Grade D: Daventry, Derbyshire C.C., Shardlow R.D.C. The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services, and include:—Zone I: 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.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. January, 1927.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1926 (continued).

Industry. Locality.		Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)		
			PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES (con	tinued).		
Non-Trading ervices of Local Authorities (contd.)	Ayrshire (Ayr District). Ayrshire (Northern District).	15 Nov. 4 Oct.	Road surfacemen employed by County Council. Road labourers employed by County Council.	Increase* of 1s. per week (46s. to 47s.). Increase* of 1s. per week (52s. to 53s.).		
Port and Harbour Authorities.	Mersey	{ 18 June } 19 Nov. }	Navvies and labourers employed by Docks and Harbour Board on civil engineering work.	Increase of 1s. 10d. per week. Further increase of 1s. 10d. per week (55s. to 56s. 10d.).		
		la ant 1	MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.	The services the telegraph of the services and the services of the services and the services of the services o		
Roller Leather Manufacture.	Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Wales.	1st pay day in Dec.	Workpeople employed in roller leather manufacture.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 75 per cent. to 80 per ce on basic rates. Minimum rates after change: men—skill 9d.; semi-skilled, 6d. to 7½d.; women—5d.; plus in each c 80 per cent.		
Saddlery, etc.	London (Metropolitan Police Area).	lst pay day in Dec.	Saddlers and harness makers	Increase* of ld. per hour for timeworkers (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6 and of 7½ per cent. on piece price lists.		
1 1 1 12	THE PROPERTY.	500.	Workpeople employed in brush and broom manufacture:—	Increases* in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boa Acts of the following amounts for the classes nan respectively (see page 469 of December GAZETTE):—		
32.4		-115	Male timeworkers 21 years and over with three years' experience in certain operations and those of all ages who have served at least five years' apprenticeship in one or more of these operations. All other male timeworkers	Increase* of ½d. per hour (1s. 2½d, to 1s. 2¼d.). Increases* of ¼d. per hour for those 16½ and under 17, 17½		
Brush and Broom Manufacture.	Great Britain	1 Dec. {	Female pan hands	under 18, and 19 and under 21, the rates for other a remaining unchanged. Increase* of 4d, per hour for certain classes.† Minimum r		
house as those in the most pai	er eller ell el bes sem emperale el cas ar ere combo espew	10 17 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	Female workers (other than pan hands and learners). Female learners (other than	under 18, the time rates for those of other ages and the pi work basis time rate for all workers remaining unchanged Increase* of 4d, per hour during the 3rd and 4th six mon		
in the per	of the feet of the	TE TOO	pan-setting learners). Male and female pieceworkers	employment for those starting at 16 and under 21, and du lst, 2nd, and 4th three months' employment for the starting at 21 and over. Increase* in the minimum piece rates of 1½ per cent., lea		
Basket Making	Lancashire and Cheshire.	6 Dec	Apprentices Skip and basket makers	wages 16 per cent. below the list. Increases* proportionate to the above. Increase* of 5 per cent. on Lancashire price list, making w 100 per cent. and 90 per cent. above list for timeworkers		
Boths landers	o no. Jess per per out of the best out of the	5	Male workers employed in coffin fur- niture making:— Timeworkers:—	pieceworkers respectively.		
Liments As to all the street of the street o	a telephone and the second		Dressers, stampers, polishers or planishers (including wheelers).	Acts of 3s. 11d. per week for those 21 years and over, an 1s., 1s. 6d., or 2s. per week for those under 21. Minir rates after change for those 21 and over: dressers stampers—Grade I, 61s. 5d.; Grade II, 68s. 11d.; Grade 74s. 11d.; polishers and planishers (including wheeler Grade I, 62s. 11d.; Grade II, 71s. 11d.; Grade III, 76s.		
Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making.	Great Britain	1 Dec. {	Packers, rough warehousers and despatchers).	(See page 469 of December GAZETTE.) Increase* in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Bo Acts of Is., Is. 6d., or 2s. per week. Minimum rates change for those 21 and over: with less than 1 y experience, 49s.; with more than 1 and less than 5 y experience, 52s.; with not less than 5 years' experience, (See page 469 of December GAZETTE.) Minimum piecework basis time rates fixed under the T		
Transmission of the control of the c	on of the Lister Letters of the Listers of the List		Female workers employed in cerement making (including folders, packers, warehousers, and despatchers).	Boards Acts at 12½ per cent, above the appropriate minitime rate. (See page 469 of December GAZETTE.) Increase* in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards of ½d. per hour for those 16 years and over, the rate		

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING DECEMBER, 1926.;

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining	Forest of Dean South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire. North Wales Bristol	1 Dec. { 1 D	Underground workers and surface workers other than those working with the bond§ and continuous or three-shift men. Other surface workers Underground workers Underground workers Surface workers Underground workers Surface workers Underground workers Surface workers	Increase of 1 hour per shift on Monday to Friday (7 to 8). Increase of 2½ hours per week (46½ to 49). Increase of 1 hour per shift on Monday to Friday (7 to 8). Increase of 1 hour per day. Increase of 1 hour per shift on Monday to Friday (7 to 8) and ½ hour on Saturday. Increase of 1 hour per shift (except Saturdays) for those manipulating coal, and of 2½ per week (46½ to 49) for others). Increase of 1 hour per shift on Monday to Friday. Increases up to 1 hour per day (except Saturdays).

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

† The rates previously paid (time 6\frac{2}{4}\)d., piecework basis time, 7\frac{1}{2}\d.) remain unchanged for those employed on all cocoa and all other fibre brooms and banisters of any length (except whisk and Piasava brooms and banisters) and bass heads up to 12 in. stock, 30 knots round.

‡ Particulars of changes in the hours of coal miners (covering most of the principal districts) which were reported earlier in the month, were given on page 461 of the December issue of the GAZETTE.

§ That is men dealing with material from the mine at points where it reaches the pit head.

§ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages on page 30.

¶ The change took effect from various dates, according to when work was resumed.

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN JANUARY, 1927.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in January: Increases.—Workpeople employed in the seed-crushing and oil-milling industry; men employed by public works contractors in London; workpeople employed by electricity supply and waterworks undertakings in London and various provincial districts; railway traffic workers in Great Britain. Decreases.—Coal miners in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire (other than South Derbyshire), Leicestershire, and Warwickshire; blastfurnace and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire; coal trimmers at the principal coal-exporting centres. Particulars of these and other changes reported in January will be given in the February issue of the GAZETTE.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

(1) COAL-MINING DISPUTE.

Ar the beginning of December, about 450,000 workpeople in the coalmining industry were still involved in the general dispute in that industry, out of about 1,050,000 who stopped work at the beginning of May. In the Midlands, in Lancashire and Cheshire, North Wales, Somerset and Kent, work had been resumed by the majority of workpeople before 1st December. At various dates during the of workpeople before 1st December. At various dates during the early part of December work was generally resumed, subject to certain exceptions, in all districts except South Wales and Monmouthshire, and on 22nd December the stoppage terminated in that district generally, although at a number of pits resumption was still delayed. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about three million in December, making a total of nearly 146 million since the beginning of the stoppage. Special articles on the subject of this dispute will be found in the issues of this GAZETTE for July to December. An article on the effect of the coal-mining dispute on employment in various industries will be found on pages 6-10 of the current issue.

(2) OTHER DISPUTES DURING DECEMBER.

The other disputes in progress in December involved only small numbers of workpeople. A statistical summary relating to these other disputes is given below, the corresponding figures for a month earlier and a year earlier being also given.

Of the Sandard and the Sandard		Number	r of Dispuress in Mo	Number of Work- people in-	Aggregate Duration in Workin	
Month.		Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.	volved in all Dis- putes in progress in Month.	Days of all Dis- putes in progress in Month.
December, 1926 November, 1926 December, 1925		7 4 34	8 12 28	15 16 62	3,000 1,000 37,000	14,000 7,000 629,000

Causes.—Of the eight disputes beginning in December, five, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, arose on wages questions, and three, directly involving 1,400 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—In the coal-mining industry work was resumed by the majority of the miners in all districts, either in accordance with the terms of agreements or pending formal settlements. In other industries, settlements were effected during the month in the case of seven new disputes, directly involving 2,200 workpeople, and five old disputes, directly involving 200 workpeople. Of these disputes two, directly involving 700 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople, seven, directly involving 1,600 workpeople, in favour of the employers, and three, directly involving 100 workpeople, were compromised.

(3) DISPUTES IN 1925 AND 1926.

The number of trade disputes causing a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in 1926 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 313. In these disputes, about 2,721,000 workpeople were directly involved and 9,000 indirectly involved. In addition, about 18,000 workpeople were involved in 26 disputes which began in 1925 and continued into the following year. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in 1926 was thus about 2,748,000, of whom 1,050,000 were involved in the national stoppage in the coal-mining industry and 1,580,000 in the general strike in May. The aggregate number of working days lost by the workpeople in all disputes in progress was about 162,784,000, of which nearly 146 million were lost owing to the coal-mining dispute, and 15 million owing to the general strike.

In 1925 the number of disputes reported to have begun in the year in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 604; the number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was about 445,000 (including about 41,000 workpeople indirectly involved), and the total loss of time in these disputes was approximately 7,966,000 working

Further particulars with regard to disputes in 1926, with comparative statistics for previous years, are given in the special article on pages 4 and 5.

[The usual tabular statement of principal disputes in progress during the month is omitted, as, apart from the coat-mining stoppage, they no disputes in December involving large numbers of workpeople.]

† 1.e., thrown out of work in consequence of the disputes at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not actually on strike

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

The following Table shows the results of recent ascertainments of selling prices of pig iron and manufactured iron and steel:—

CARINE WINESA	Price accordi		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit on				
Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.			
Pig Iron:	1926.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.			
Cleveland (No. 3)	July-Sept.	83 6	+ 14 81	+ 12 13			
Cumberland	SeptOct.	85 0	+ 6 111	+ 7 51 + 3 3			
(Hematite mixed num-	{ Sept.	81 4	+ 6 11± + 2 0± + 8 4± + 5 4± + 6 2 + 22 3±	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			
bers).	Coct.	89 81	+ 8 41	+ 12 71 + 5 9			
Lincolnshire	July-Sept.	72 44	+ 5 41 + 6 2	+ 5 9			
Nottinghamshire	July-Sept.	73 82 93 42	+ 6 2 + 22 31	+ 2 04 + 17 7			
North Staffordshire	July-Sept. July-Sept.	93 44	T 44 35	+ 11 1			
Northamptonshire West of Scotland	July-Sept.	81 10	+ 4 4	- 2 0			
Manufactured Iron:	omy-sept.	01 10		_ 2 0			
North of England	SeptOct.	239 91	+ 7 91	+ 4 04			
(Bars and angles).	DOP0. 000.	200 01	1 01				
West of Scotland	SeptOct.	239 8	+ 3 61	+ 0 6			
(Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops, and rods).							
Steel:	Tules Cont	170 03	+ 12 1	1 7 01			
South-West Wales	July-Sept.	132 93	+ 12 1	+ 3 8			
(Steel tin bars). South Wales and Mon-	June-Aug.	142 47	+ 5 53	- 2 0			
mouthshire (Steel rails and steel tin bars).	June-Aug.	142 47	7 3 31				

The variations in prices indicated in the Table resulted, as regards the price of Cumberland pig iron, in increases varying from 1d. to 3d. per shift in October, in the wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland, followed by further increases of 9d. per shift in the miners' bargain price and of amounts varying from 1d. to 3d. per shift for other men in November. There were also increases in the wages of other men in November. There were also increases in the wages of West Cumberland limestone quarrymen, varying from \$\frac{1}{2}\text{d}\$ to \$1\frac{1}{2}\text{d}\$. per shift in October, and from \$3\frac{1}{2}\text{d}\$. to \$6\frac{2}{3}\text{d}\$, per shift in November, and an increase for iron ore miners in Furness, varying from \$1\frac{2}{3}\text{d}\$. to \$3\frac{1}{2}\text{d}\$, per shift in November. The Cumberland ascertainment also resulted in an increase of \$2\frac{1}{2}\$ per cent. on standard rates of blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire, the increase on output bonus earnings of keepers, staggers and certain other classes of men amounting to \$8\frac{1}{2}\$ per cent. In Lincolnshire the ascertainment resulted in an increase of 2 per cent. on standard rates for ironstone miners and blastfurnacemen, the increase on rates for ironstone miners and blastfurnacemen, the increase on output bonus earnings for blastfurnacemen being 7 per cent. The ascertainment for Nottinghamshire warranted an increase of 33 per cent. on standard rates of blastfurnacemen in that area, but this did not operate owing to reductions, due under previous ascertainments, having been waived. The West of Scotland ascertainment ments, having been waived. The West of Scotland ascertainment resulted in an increase of 4 per cent. on standard rates of blastfurnacemen, but this increase did not apply to lower paid day-wagemen, whose wages have remained at 21 per cent. above standard since August, 1925. In the case of Cleveland and North Stafford-shire, the increases warranted by the ascertainments were not put into operation owing to the abnormal trade conditions. In Cleveland, however, a special arrangement was made whereby the wages of blastfurnacemen were increased by 3 per cent. on standard rates in October. As regards manufactured iron there was an increase of 5 per cent, on standard rates for iron nuddlers and millmen in the 5 per cent. on standard rates for iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England, and an increase of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates for iron puddlers and millmen and iron and steel sheet millmen in the West of Scotland in November. In the case of Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales, the ascertainment resulted in an increase of 64 per cent. on standard basis rates in November, and the South Wales and Monmouthshire ascertainment resulted in an increase in October of 23 per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen and workpeople in steel melting shops and iron and steel rolling mills in that area.

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern

Assisted Passage	Assisted Passages Granted Total Assist Passages Granted		ages	Depar- tures	res Departu	
Schemes.	in Dec., 1926.	1922 to 1925.	Jan Dec., 1926.	in Dec., 1926.	1922 to 1925.	Jan Dec., 1926.
To Australia ,, New Zealand	2,437 821	82,141† 25,609†	31,438† 10,030†	1,911	78,689 22,625	33,130 11,780
Dominion of Canada Province of Ontario South Africa	2,189 37 36	21,151† 1,367 167 5,582	21,257† 333 1,195†	301 13 21	21,489 1,356 79 4,939	19,373 172 988
Total	5,520	136,017†	64,253†	3,958	129,177	65,443

^{*} No ascertainment was made. † Revised figures.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

I .- FOURTH QUARTER OF 1925 AND 1926.

January, 1927.

RETURNS have been received from 141 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed during the fourth quarter of 1926. 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 1925.

	Estim approv	ated Cost ed in the	141 town	ings for what seceived.	hich plans ich return	were s have					
District and Aggregate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Work- shops.	Shops, Offices, Ware- houses, and other Business Premises.		Other Build- ings, and Addi- tions and Altera- tions to Existing Buildings	TOTAL.					
(a) FOURTH QUARTER OF 1926.											
ENGLAND AND WALES—	£	£	£	£	£	£					
Northern Counties (917,000)	317,000	17,900	40,100	10,600	83,100	468,700					
Yorkshire (2,334,000) Lancashire and	1,108,300	98,200	121,200	199,600	237,500	1,764,800					
Cheshire (3,035,000) North and West-	1,422,300	123,900	122,500	134,400	193,200	1,996,300					
Midland Counties (2,910,000) South-Midland and	1,459,400	233,300	182,600	191,300	425,200	2,491,800					
Eastern Counties (641,000)	503,800	22,000	81,400	19,600	83,800	710,600					
Outer London* (1,790,000) South-Eastern	2,293,900	67,100	253,100	149,000	210,200	2,973,300					
Counties (1,041,000)	640,000	78,500	62,300	20,400	176,000	977,200					
South-Western Counties (433,000) Wales and Mon-	309,500	4,100	8,900	10,000	42,900	375,400					
mouthshire (671,000)	448,400	600	71,600	14,600	42,900	578,100					
SCOTLAND(2,147,000)	998,300	67,500	43,200	272,100	238,600	1,619,700					
TOTAL (15,919,000)	9,500,900	713,100	986,900	1,021,600	1,733,400	13,955,900					
	(b) Four	RTH QUAI	RTER OF	1925.		70.2 20.0 K					
INGLAND AND WALES—	£	£	£	£	£	£					
Northern Counties (917,000)	308,500	11,200	45,700	151,200	75,900	592,500					
Yorkshire (2,334,000)	1,245,100	73,000	72,300	308,100	231,100	1,929,600					

ENGLAND AND WALES—	£	£	£	£	£	£
Northern Counties (917,000)	308,500	11,200	45,700	151,200	75,900	592,500
Yorkshire (2,334,000) Lancashire and	1,245,100	73,000	72,300	308,100	231,100	1,929,600
Cheshire (3,035,000) North and West-	1,424,100	117,500	139,000	88,100	216,700	1,985,400
Midland Counties (2,910,000) South-Midland and	2,651,500	462,200	131,700	162,800	365,400	3,773,600
Eastern Counties (641,000) Outer London*	656,000	28,700	83,400	26,500	109,600	904,200
(1,790,000) South-Eastern Counties	2,389,000	88,600	120,200	22,100	211,300	2,831,200
(1,041,000) South-Western	1,054,500	34,300	44,100	29,000	204,200	1,366,100
Counties (433,000) Wales and Mon- mouthshire	324,300	19,000	38,500	47,700	51,200	480,700
(671,000)	329,300	24,800	19,500	8,200	80,100	461,900
SOOTLAND(2,147,000)	991,800	80,600	26,500	135,100	286,000	1,520,000
TOTAL (15,919,000)	11,374,100	939,900	720,900	978,800	1,831,500	15,845,200

II.-YEARS 1925 AND 1926.

In the following Table is given a comparison of the estimated cost of all building plans passed by those Local Authorities* for which particulars are available in the case of both 1925 and 1926. These figures are preliminary and subject to revision when a few outstanding returns are received, the omission of which, however, does not materially affect the comparisons.

	Estimat	ted Cost.	Percentage of Total.		
	1925.	1926.	1925.	1926.	
Dwelling Houses Factories and Workshops Shops, Offices, Warehouses	£ 44,888,000 4,307,000	£ 45,684,400 3,683,000	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	
and other Business Premises Churches, Schools and Pub-	4,356,000	5,037,300	7	8	
lic Buildings Other Buildings, and Additions and Alterations to	3,894,200	4,653,500	6	7	
Existing Buildings	8,318,300	7,843,800	13	12	
TOTAL	65,763,500	66,902,000	100	100	

Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

THE total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during December, 1926, was 38. Five deaths* were reported during the month, three due to lead poisoning and two due to epitheliomatous ulceration. In addition, seven cases of lead poisoning (including one death) among house painters and two cases among house plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during December, but notification of these cases was not obligatory.

(a) Cases of Lead Poisoning	NG.	HOUSE PAINTING	7
		HOUSE PLUMBING	2
Among Operatives engage	ged	(b) Cases of Other Forms Poisoning.	OF
Smelting of Metals	1	(c) Cases of Anthrax.	1000
Plumbing and Soldering	1	Wool	
Shipbreaking		Handling of Horsehair	
Printing		mill man a color con even as a	_
Tinning of Metals		TOTAL, ANTHRAX	3
Other Contact with	***	Total, militare in	_
Molten Lead	1	(d) Cases of Epitheliomato	PITT
White and Red Lead		ULCERATION.	-
Works		Pitch	2
Pottery†		Oil	6
Vitreous Enamelling	1 3	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS	
Electric Accumulator	0		8
	7	ULCERATION	0
Works Paint and Colour Works	2	(a) Chang on Cypony	20072
	200	(e) Cases of Chrome	
Indiarubber Works		ULCERATION.	MIL
Coach and Car Painting	***	Manufacture of Bichro-	
Shipbuilding	1	mates	***
Paint used in Other			5
Industries	2	Chrome Tanning	
Other Industries	2	Other Industries	2
	-	The state of the s	-
TOTAL OF ABOVE	20	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION	7
to the second the second second second	-	S CONTRACTOR OF STREET	-

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during December, 1926, was 184, as compared with 143 in the previous month and with 266 in December, 1925. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 91 in December, 1926, as compared with 44

n the previous month, and		56 a year ago.
RAILWAY SERVICE.		FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS
Brakesmen and Goods		(continued):
Guards	3	
Engine Drivers		Other Metal Trades 1
Firemen		Shipbuilding 5
Guards (Passenger)	1	Wood 3
Permanent Way Men	6	Gas 2
Porters	1	Wood 3 Gas 2 Electric Generating Stations 2 Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. 3
77	i	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc 3
Shunters		
Mechanics Labourers Miscellaneous Contractors' Servants	2	
Labourers		Food and Drink 4
Miscellaneous	3	Paper, Printing, etc 1
Contractors' Servants		Tanning, Currying, etc
	-	Rubber Trades 1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	17	Other Non-Textile Indus-
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	-	tries 2
MINES.		
Underground	90	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106,
Surface	8	FACTORY ACT, 1901.
		Docks, Wharves, etc 14
TOTAL, MINES	98	Buildings 9
		Warehouses and Railway
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	3	Sidings 1
commission of the new deep	_	To the second se
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOP	Q	TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS 64
~	1	Total, Factori acis of
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	i	Construction or Repair of :-
Other Testiles	1000000	Deidas
Other Textiles		Bridge 1 Tramway 1
Textile Bleaching and		Trainway 1
Dyeing Metal Extracting and Re-		Total (excluding Sea-
Metal Extracting and Re-		men) 184
fining	1	LEW TELLOW THE STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
Metal Conversion, including		SEAMEN.
Rolling Mills and Tube		Trading Vessels, Sailing 1
Making	5	,, ,, Steam 85 Fishing Vessels, Sailing
Metal Founding	2	Fishing Vessels, Sailing
Engineering and Machine		" " Steam 5
Making	2	THE RESIDENCE MANAGEMENT OF THE PARTY OF THE
Making Boiler Making and Con-		TOTAL, SEAMEN 91
structional Engineering		
Locomotives, Railway and		Total (including Sea-
Manager Cominger		men) 275
Motors, Aircraft	3	2202) 210
motors, Ameran	0	

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

† The person affected in the Pottery industry was a female.

^{*} 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

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 December, 1926, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 860,021, or 16 6 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 5.5 per cent. more than in December, 1925. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 481, 577 and 457‡ per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in December, 1926, was 713,704, a decrease of 19.2 per cent. as compared with November, but an increase of 5.4 per cent. as compared with a year ago. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 146,317, a decrease of 1.3 per cent. as compared with November, but an increase of 5.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in December numbered 129,539, or 0.8 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 1.4 per cent. more than in December, 1925. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 730,482, or 18.9 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 6.2 per cent. more than a year ago.

Twenty-one areas showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in December, as compared with the previous month, including Barnsley (2,095 per 10,000), Wigan (992 per 10,000) and Newcastle (500 per 10,000); while ten areas showed small increases. Compared with December, 1925, twenty-four areas showed increases, the most noteworthy being Barnsley (242 per 10,000) and Cardiff and Swansea (173 per 10,000); while seven areas showed decreases, the chief being West Ham (316 per 10,000).

In the districts included in the Table, the numbers relieved per 10,000 of population ranged from 125 in the Halifax and Huddersfield area and 178 in the Bolton, Oldham, etc. area, to 1,198 in the East Metropolitan District.

	of Poor	er of pers Law Rel in Decemb	ief on one		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a		
Selected Urban Areas.	Indoor.	Out-		Rate per 10,000 of Esti-			
reserve total of 10 Pic Pragada				Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.							
Metropolis.							
West District	9,233	7,676	16,909	203	- 7	- 8	
North District	10,743	20,516 2,795	31,259 5,208	303 387	- 11 - 9	+ 6	
Central District East District	10,073	68,003	78,076	1,198	+ 12	+ 97	
South District	19,146	78,345	97,491	497	- 18	- 21	
TOTAL, Metropolis	51,608	177,335	228,943	496	- 10	+ 3	
West Ham	4,593	44,606	49,199	642	- 42	-316	
Other Districts.	1	192		701			
Newcastle District	2,740	37,531	40,271	794	- 500	+ 23	
Stockton and Tees District	1,262	19.742	21,004	756	- 102	+ 93	
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,433	9.664	14,097	178	- 11	+ 13	
Bolton, Oldham, etc. Wigan District	1,866	15,335	17,201	377	-992	+ 86	
Manchester District	9,399	40,550 62,089	49,949 71,666	477 571	- 12 + 4	+ 93 + 70	
Liverpool District Bradford District	9,577	7,597	9 479	255	+ 4 + 3	+ 63	
Halifax and Hudders				10 at 10		30	
field	1,452	3,280	4,732	125	+ 4	+ 1	
Leeds	2,809	11,720	14,529	305 565	- 85	+ 242	
Barnsley District Sheffield	1,003 2,595	17,811 30,167	32,762	632	$\begin{bmatrix} -2,095 \\ -47 \end{bmatrix}$	+ 242	
Hull District	1.895	13.816	15,711	489	- 13	+ 22	
North Staffordshire	2,321	8.588	10,909	260	-108	+ 36	
Nottingham District	2,209	12,186	14,395	305 220	1 + 7	+ 20	
Wolverhampton	1,257	7,005	5,322	220	+ 7	+ 42	
District	3,520	16,447	19.967	266	- 12	- 18	
Birmingham	7,524	21,787	29,311	309	+ 3	+ 30	
Bristol District Cardiff and Swansea	2,447 2,663	15,534 24,799	17,981 27,462	433 571	+ 5 -118	+ 54 + 173	
TOTAL, "Other Districts"		372,708	435,562	416	- 155	+ 54	
2		,,,,,			-		
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales	119,055	594.649	713,704	451	- 107	+ 22	
SCOTLAND Glasgow District	6,041	87,008	93,049	968	+ 1	+ 33	
Paisley and Gree-	- 007	13,923	14 910	769	1 77	0	
nock District Edinburgh	1,699	18,616	14,810 20,315	481	+ 11 - 27	- 25 + 68	
Dundee and Dun-	2,000		- 15 TAY 18		41		
fermline	871	5,665	6,536	301	- 27	+ 54	
Aberdeen Coatbridge & Airdrie	600 386	4,465 6,156	5,065 6,542	322 641	+ 7	+ 7	
	000	0,100		011	- 35		
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	10,484	135,833	146,317	713	- 9	+ 3'	
TOTAL for above 31 Dis						-	
tricts in Dec., 1926	129,539	730,482	860,021	481	- 96	+ 2	

The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in asylums, gistered hospitals and licensed houses, and persons receiving out-door registered hospitals medical relief only.

† The rates previously published have been revised in accordance with more recent estimates of the population of the six Scottish districts.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

[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. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard f living is identical at the various periods compared.]

I.-FOOD.

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

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Pe	ercentage		e as com 1914.*	pared wi	th	
Country.	July,	July.	July,	July,	Latest figures available.		
	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	Rise.	Date.	
9 10 4 10	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per	et standard	
UNITED KINGDOM	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.	1 Jan. '2	
						1926.	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES. Czechoslovakia		737	816	776	802	Nov	
Denmark	88	100	110	59	59	July	
Egypt (Cairo)t	52	48	58	58	60	Oct.	
Finland	868	916	1.007	967	981	Nov.	
France (Paris) :	221	260	321	474	499	Dec.	
(other towns):	2498	300€	3518	5109	547	Nov.	
Germany	•••	•••	54	45	48	Nov.	
Holland (The Hague)		67	76	68	64	Sept.	
Italy (Milan)	396	408	502	554	530	Nov.	
,, (Rome)	382 118	369 148	160	498 98	485 86	Nov.	
Norway	72	82	90	86	90	Oct.	
Spain (Madrid)‡ (Barcelona)‡	65	72	82	63	67	Oct.	
0-1-4	60	59	69	56	57	Dec.	
Switzerland	66	70	69	59	59	Nov.	
United States	44	40	59	54	64	Nov.	
BRITISH DOMINIONS.&C.							
Australia	64	49†	56	59	55	Nov.	
Canada	37	34	41	49	48	Nov.	
India (Bombay):							
Native families	48	51	52	55	54	Dec.	
"European "do	***	80	78	72	71	Oct.	
Irish Free State	82	85	88	74	78	Oct.	
New Zealand	42	48	51	49	49	Dec.	
South Africa	16	17	20	- 16	19	TYOV.	

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Items on	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.¶								
Country.	which Computa- tion is	July,	uly, July,	July,	July,	Latest figures available.				
	based.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	Rise.	Date.			
United Kingdom	ARCDE	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent. 70	Per cent.	1 Jan'27			
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							1926.			
Belgium Czechoslovakia	A,C,D,E	329	393	409	537	630	Nov.			
(Prague)	A,B,C,D,E	600	589	641	618	634	Nov.			
Denmark	A,B,C,D,E	104	114	119	84	84	July			
Estonia(Tallinn)	A,B,C,D,E			14++	11++	8††				
Finland	A,B,C,D,E	990	1,032	1,094	1,018	1,073	Nov.			
France (Paris)	A,B,C,D,E	231**	267**	301**	439**	439	3rd qr.			
Germany	A,B,C,D,E	:::-		43	42	44	Nov.			
Greece (Athens)	A,B,C,D,E	933	1,225	1,372	1,708	1,762	OCE.			
Holland (Am-	ADGDE	74+	771	79+		64	Sept.			
sterdam)	A,B,C,D,E		73† 412	498	549	557	Nov.			
Italy (Milan)	A,B,C,D,E	387 350	349	395	462	460	Nov.			
(Rome)	A,B,C,D,E A,C,D	340	381	415	509	634	Dec.			
Luxemburg	A,B,C,D,E	139†	151+	161+	118+		Oct.			
Norway Poland(W'rsaw)	A,B,C,D,E		NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	57	77	95	Nov.			
Sweden	A,B,C,D,E	74	71	76	72	71	Oct.			
Switzerland	A,B,C,D			68	62	61	Oct.			
United States	A,B,C,D,E	70+	691	74+			June			
BRITISH	1,0,0,0,1									
DOMINIONS,&C.		500 M	ALC: NO.		1000000	S 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5				
Australia	A.B	56**	48**	54**	58**	58	3rd qr.			
Canada	A,B,D	46	44	46	50	50	Nov.			
India(Bombay):										
Native families	A.B.C.D	53-	57	57	57	56	Dec.			
"European" do,			65	60	59	58	Oct.			
Irish Free State	A,B,C,D,E	80	83	88	82	89	Oct.			
New Zealand	A,B,C,D,E		60§	638	61	63	Dec.			
South Africa	A,B,C,D,E		32	33	30	31	Nov.			

* 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; Amsterdam, Spain, South Africa, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913–1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and light are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. || A = Food; B = House-Bent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exceptions to this are: Amsterdam, 1911–1913; France, Poland, Australia and South Africa, average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece. March. 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt. average 1913–1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913. ** Figure for 3rd Quarter. †† These figures are calculated on a gold basis.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

January, 1927.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 16-17 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office. (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7.)]

Unemployment in December.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 31st December, 1926, was 21,439 (14,769 men and 6,670 women). At the end of November the corresponding total was 16,709 and in December, 1925, 7,952. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 3,432 (1,757 for men and 1,675 for women), as compared with 5,608 at the end of November and 6,386 in December, 1925. During the last week of December the Exchanges succeeded in placing 19,895 persons in situations, including 10,273 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 492 foreign immigrants.

Employment in November.—The Reichsarbeitshlatt states that the general trend of the labour market in the month under review followed the course of former years. As usual at this period, the advent of the colder season and the consequent diminution in outdoor work brought about an increase in the number of persons applying for situations and of claims for unemployment relief. Owing, however, to the mildness of the weather and to the maintenance of however, to the mildness of the weather and to the maintenance of the revival in employment in most branches of industry which has been noted in recent months, the change was less sudden than usual, so that, in spite of a slight decline, the labour market in November could be described as relatively favourable.

The returns from statutory health insurance societies showed a decrease in the number of members; in employment, the total on 1st December being 13,453,436, as compared with 13,455,144 on 1st November, a decrease of 0.01 per cent

November, a decrease of 0.01 per cent.

Returns relating to 3,414,849 organised workers were submitted by 38 national trade unions. Of these 484,978, or 14.2 per cent., were totally unemployed on 27th November, as compared with 14.2 per cent. also on 30th October, and 10.7 per cent. at the end of November, 1925. In addition 284,774, or 8.3 per cent., were working short time, as against 10.2 per cent. on 30th October and 16.0 per cent. at the end of November, 1925.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment among the principal Unions included in the returns:—

Unions. S.D. = Social-Democratic.	Membership reported on	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.			
H.D. = Hirsch - Duncker (neutral). O. = Christian.	at end of November, 1926.	Nov., 1926.	Oct., 1926.	Nov., 1925.	
Unions making Returns	3,414,849	14.2	14.2	10-7	
Porcelain (S.D.)	40,400	8-4	10.4	5.6	
Glass (S.D.)	43,700	14.1	15.1	5.2	
Metal (S.D.)	642,600	17-6	18-1	8.4	
_ ,. (H.D.)	76,700	10-5	10.8	6.6	
Textile (S.D.)	280.500	9.9	11.6	3.8	
_,, (C.)	68,900	5.0	5.8	2.0	
Clothing (S.D.)	68,600	20.7	19.3	16.1	
Boot and shoe (S.D.)	70,300	17.0	21.5	14.3	
food, tobacco, etc. (8.D.)	51,800	12.0	12.3	9.9	
food and drink (S.D.)	67,800	5.5	5.3	4.4	
Tobacco (S.D.)	57,200	11.2	13.7	13-7	
Woodworking (S.D.)	265,700	20.7	22.4	11.7	
Printing (S.D.)	78,500	4.0	6.8	2.0	
Bookbinding (S.D.)	50,900	10 3	12.9	6.5	
Building (S.D.)	329,600	21.0	16.0	27-8	
Carpenters (S.D.)	86,800	21-7	19.2	18.8	
ransport (S.D.)	258,900	8.7	9.1	6.0	
factory workers (trades not					
distinguished) (8.D.)	372,800	13-8	13.7	11-2	
Engine drivers and firemen	CORP. STREET, STREET	ALL DE LOS DE LA CONTRACTION D		AND THE RES	
(8.D.)	44,700	11-7	11.8	8.1	
factory and transport (S.D.)	49,100	10.8	10.0	12.5	
Municipal and State workers	THE PERSON NAMED IN		IN COLUMN TO SERVICE S		
(8.D.)	187,700	2.0	1.8	1.6	

Figures showing the number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment are available for 15th December, on which date the total was 1,463,480. On 1st December the corresponding figure was 1,369,454, and on 15th November,

At the end of November the Employment Exchanges making returns reported 2,007,193 persons on the "live register," as against 1,920,059 at the end of October. The number of vacant situations at the end of November was 19,465 as compared with 22,178 at the average, 638 applications for each 100 vacancies for men registered at the Exchanges (as compared with 541 in October) and 411 for each 100 vacancies for women (366 in October).

* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 7th January 1927. Paris,
† Reichsarbeitsblatt, 1st January, 1927. Berlin.
‡ "Members" of these societies are persons under obligation to pay insurance premiums. During unemployment they are relieved of this obligation; hence paying members are assumed to be in employment.

AUSTRIA.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

Unemployment in November.—According to the issue of Statistische Nachrichten (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th December, 1926, the number of persons in receipt of un-employment benefit in Austria was 168,757 at the end of November, 1926, as compared with 151,183 at the end of November, 1925, as compared with 151,183 at the end of the preceding month and 159,248 at the end of November, 1925. In Vienna alone there were 93,781 persons in receipt of benefit at the middle of December and 87,842 at the end of November.

HOLLAND.*

Unemployment in November .- The Journal of the Dutch Statistical Office contains preliminary figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, which show that out of 267,118 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 27th November, 1926. 20,650 (7.7 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week, and 4,746 (1.8 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 30th October) the percentages were respectively 6.1 and 1.7.

SWITZERLAND.†

Unemployment in November.—On 30th November, 1926, the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 16,366 (or 12.5 per cent. of the employed population according to the census of 1920), as compared with 14,253 (10.8 per cent.) at the end of October and 15,760 at the end of November, 1925. Offers of situations made by applayers on these dates numbered 1,287 of situations made by employers on these dates numbered 1,287. 1,352 and 1,572 respectively. There were thus on an average 1,272 applications for each 100 vacancies on 30th November, as compared with 1,054 on 30th October and 1,003 on 30th November, as 1925.

DENMARK.†

Unemployment in November.—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 270,779 workpeople, 22·1 per cent. were unemployed on 26th November, 1926, as against 18.6 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 20.5 per cent. at the end of November, 1925.

SWEDEN.§

Unemployment in November.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 30th November, 1926, was 13·0, as compared with 11·2 on 31st October, and 11.8 on 30th November, 1925.

POLAND.

Unemployment in October.—According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland, the estimated number of persons unemployed on 20th November, 1926 (the latest date for which figures are available), was 197,381 as compared with 196,586 on 30th October, and 249,666 at the end of November, 1925. These figures are based on returns from Employment Exchanges. On 20th November last, 92,658 unemployed persons were entitled to assistance from unemployment funds, etc., as compared with 94,433 at the end of October.

UNITED STATES.

Employment in November.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in November, based on returns from 10,296 establishments in 54 industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 3,026,330 persons employed in November as against 3,075,640 in October. The aggregate wages paid for November show a decrease of 3·2 per cent. as compared with October, and the average earnings per head a decrease of 2·1 per cent. decrease of 2.1 per cent.

Index Number of Employment, November .- If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for November, 1926, is 95.4, as compared with 98.6 in October, and 96.2 in November,

CANADA.

Employment in December.**—For 1st December, 1926, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,895 firms, with an aggregate of 832,847 upon their pay rolls. On 1st November the same firms reported 847,282 employed, and the total for December thus shows a decrease of 14,435 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st December, 1926, is 101-1, as seem and with 100.8 at the heginning of the preceding month, and compared with 102.8 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 95.3 on 1st December, 1925.

Trade Union Unemployment in November. ††—On 30th November, 1926, 4.7 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 2.6 at the end of October and 5.7 per cent. at the end of November, 1925.

* Maands hrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st December 1926. The Hague.

† Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen, December, 1926. Berne. The figures relate to exchanges affiliated to the Association of Swiss Employment

relate to exchanges annuated to the Associated Exchanges.

† Statistiske Efterretninger, 18th December, 1926. Copenhagen.

§ Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.

| Windomosci Statystyczne, 5th December, 1926. Warsaw.

¶ Employment in Selected Industries, October, 1926. Washington.

** The December Employment Situation, 1926. Ottawa.

†† Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

[†] The figures for England and Wales relate to 25th December, and those for Scotland to 15th December.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

38

Workmen's Compensation Acts.

EX-SERVICE MAN IN GOVERNMENT INSTRUCTIONAL FACTORY-WORKMAN OR PUPIL-INDUSTRIAL DISEASE-SUFFICIENCY OF

In this case, the appellant, an applicant for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, appealed from an award of the County Court Judge at Luton, who had dismissed the application, holding that the relation between the appellant and the respondent (the Minister of Labour) was that of teacher and taught, that there was no contract of service, that the applicant's allowances at the factory were subsistence allowances and not wages, and that the appellant was not a "workman" within the meaning of the Acts.

The appellant had served in the Royal Army Service Corps in the War, and was invalided out of the service in 1918. For a time he was in receipt of a disability pension.

On 2nd April, 1925, he entered a Government instructional factory to undergo instruction in furniture making, including French polishing. During his training in the factory the appellant received weekly maintenance allowances of £2 for himself and 10s. for his wife, with travelling expenses in addition.

One of the terms upon which he was accepted for training at the factory was that his training might be terminated at any time by the Ministry of Labour, without any cause assigned. Under this provision, his training was terminated on 23rd July, 1925, and on 14th August, 1925, he obtained from a surgeon appointed under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, what purported to be a certificate of suspension under Section 8 (1) (ii) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906 [Section 43 (1) (ii) of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925], upon the ground that he had contracted "dermatitis produced by dust or liquids" (an industrial disease within the Acts)

The Ministry of Labour denied liability, upon the ground that the appellant was not a "workman" within the meaning of the Acts.

The Master of the Rolls, in dismissing the appeal, said :-

"There are two points which it appears to me must be considered. The first is the one on which the case has been decided by the County Court Judge, but Section 43 needs attention. That section says [43 (1) (ii)] that where a workman is, in pursuance of any special rules or regulations made under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, suspended from his usual employment on account of having contracted any such disease—that is the industrial disease—and the disease is due to the nature of any employment in which the workman was employed at any time within the twelve months previous to the date of the disablement or suspension the disablement or suspension shall be treated as the happening of the accident. Now, the workman in this case has produced a certificate of suspension. The nature of the training factory at Luton is not quite clear, but at any rate the workman, if he is to succeed against the Ministry of Labour, must be able to show that the Act has been complied with. Dermatitis is, and has been made, an industrial disease; but this workman purports to make his claim, or says that his claim arises, under a suspension which purports to be made in pursuance of rules or regulations made under the Factory and Workshop Act. We were not clear that there had been any such rules or regulations made, and when the case came before us on the 30th November and 1st December, after ascertaining that full information was not available, we adjourned the case in order that there might be an opportunity on the part of the workman, if he could do so, of establishing that rules and regulations had been made, enabling the suspension, in his case in respect of dermatitis, to be made in accordance with, and to comply with, subsection (1) (ii) of Section 43 of the Act. appears now that although there are rules and regulations which are set out and are to be found in Mr. Redgrave's book on the Factory Acts, which gives a very complete catalogue of them, there are no rules and regulations which apply in the present case, and it appears, therefore, that on this ground the suspension that has been made cannot be shown to comply with the Act, Section 43.

"It appears, therefore, that the claim must fail, for the conditions on which compensation would be payable have not been fulfilled."— Broome v. Minister of Labour. Court of Appeal. 9th December,

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 plaims 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, 1925, have been published in pamphlet form and later embodied in bound volumes, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1925 (H.M. Stationery Office: price 7s. 6d. net). Decisions given subsequent to December, 1925, 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. 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. 4784/26. (3/12/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act and 4(1) of the 1924 (No. 2) Act.—Employment lost owing to Trade

MINERS' DISPUTE-DEPUTIES LOST EMPLOYMENT WHEN STOPPAGE COMMENCED—BELONGED TO COLLIERY OFFICIALS' MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY-WILLING TO CONTINUE IN EMPLOYMENT ON EMPLOYERS' TERMS—SOME DEPUTIES IN OTHER AREAS PERFORMED MANUAL AS WELL AS SUPERVISORY WORK-ALSO SOME DEPUTIES BELONGED TO UNIONS AFFILIATED TO MINERS' FEDERATION-HELD TO BELONG TO GRADE OR CLASS MEMBERS OF WHICH WERE INTERESTED IN, FINANCING, OR PARTICIPATING IN DISPUTE.

The applicants, who were deputies at a Yorkshire colliery, lost their employment on the 30th April, 1926, when a stoppage of work commenced in consequence of the national mining dispute; and their claims for unemployment benefit were disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

A representative of the applicants' association explained that in Yorkshire the deputies belonged to one or more of three societies, the Yorkshire Deputies' Association, the Yorkshire Miners' Association, and the Colliery Officials' Mutual Benefit Society. All the applicants were members of the last-named society, of which two of the rules were as follows:—

"(i) The Society, being for purely benefit purposes only, shall not concern itself directly or indirectly in trade disputes of any kind, and is not to be a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1906, or any statutory extension or amendment thereof, nor shall its funds or machinery be available or used for promoting any objects of a trade union or

be available for any purposes except as herein mentioned.

"(ii) Members of any Society which concerns itself with trade disputes shall not be entitled to benefit as participating members of this Society; nor shall this Society impose trade union regulations on its members."

The representative maintained that the applicants were out of work solely for economic reasons. During every other dispute within the past 28 years the deputies had remained in employment at the colliery. The men had worked eight-hour shifts and were willing to resume work, but were not re-engaged until the 29th July. They had offered their services on the 1st May on the employers' terms, and a certain number of their colleagues had continued to work after the stoppage commenced. Unlike the wages of the members of the Yorkshire Deputies' Association the applicants' wages did not vary in accordance with the county percentage nor on ascertainment, and it was contended, therefore, that they were not in the same grade or class as other deputies. It was explained also that the applicants were part of the management. society was financed partly by the owners, who provided the applicants with uniforms for their work.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be allowed. The Court were unanimously of the opinion that the applicants were not of a grade or class members of which were participating in, financing, or directly interested in the dispute.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation and referred the case to the Umpire.

It was subsequently stated, in support of the applicants' contention that their conditions of employment were different from those of other deputies in the area, that the members of the applicants' association were paid a weekly standing wage, whereas other deputies in the area received a day wage. Any overtime worked was not paid for, and they were allowed one week's holiday a year in addition to the usual Bank Holidays with full pay; but other deputies were paid for overtime like ordinary workmen in the pits and were not paid for holidays. Moreover, their duties were different, in that they were required to make the statutory examinations under the Coal Mines Act, and were responsible for taking off the time and measure each week, while other deputies made only the necessary examinations and did bye-work in addition, oversmen taking off the time and

It was elicited that in some counties the duties of the deputies were of a dual nature, i.e., supervisory and manual, the proportion of which varied in different counties. Also a considerable number of deputies in all areas were members of miners' unions or unions

affiliated to the Miners' Federation. After consideration of all the evidence, the Umpire gave the following decision :-

Decision.—" On the facts before me my decision is that the claims

for benefit should be disallowed. "The duties of deputies and the system of remuneration vary in different collieries, but there seems to me to be nothing in the duties or system of remuneration of the deputies at this colliery which enables me to say that they belong to a different grade or class from that to which deputies in other collieries belong. It is true that they are not allowed to belong to any trade union, but that does not affect their grade or class."

Case No. 4850/26. (7/12/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act -Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE - DISQUALIFICATION LIFTED AS FROM DATE WHEN PIT PERMANENTLY CLOSED.

The claims for unemployment benefit made by two colliery workers on the 8th September_were treated as test cases, and disallowed

under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act on the ground that they had lost employment in consequence of the national mining stoppage, which commenced on the 30th April, 1926.

January, 1927.

It appeared that in one case the applicant left his tools at the pit when the stoppage commenced, expecting to resume work when the dispute was settled. He was instructed by the colliery manager on the 3rd September, however, to lift his tools. He did so on the following day, and was informed that the colliery had been closed permanently and that there would be no more work for him.

In the other case, the applicant stated that when the stoppage commenced he decided to relinquish mining work for good, and took steps to obtain work elsewhere. He had a spell of work, at a beetsugar factory, but again becoming unemployed he lodged his claim for unemployment benefit. The colliery where he had been formerly employed being closed permanently, he would not have been able to obtain work there even if he had wished to return to the pits.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be

The applicants' association appealed against the disallowance to the Umpire, who gave the following decision :-

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

"The applicants on 30th April lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at the colliery at which they were employed, and are therefore disqualified for benefit so long as the stoppage of work continues, but no longer.

"On 3rd September, the colliery was finally closed down. It was an old colliery and its closing was hastened by the long stoppage of work; but as from 3rd September there was no longer any intention of re-opening it after the settlement of the general dispute in the coal mining industry, and the question is whether the stoppage of work by reason of which the applicants lost employment ceased on

"This question has been very ably argued by the Solicitor for the Ministry of Labour. He submitted that as the dispute to which the stoppage of work was due was not settled, and the final closing of the colliery on 3rd September was brought about or at any rate hastened by the prolonged stoppage of work, the stoppage of work at that colliery was still continuing.

I do not agree with this argument. In my opinion a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute means not merely a cessa tion of work, but a cessation of work which is due to the unwillingness of men to work, or of employers to give employment, so long as some matter in dispute is unsettled; and a stoppage of work in this sense comes to an end when for any reason the employers no longer have employment to offer on any terms and will not again employ men at the colliery in question on any terms. If it were not so, the stoppage of work at a colliery which has been abandoned would go on for ever, even though the dispute to which it was due were settled and though the men had agreed to all the terms proposed by the employers.

"This is not inconsistent with Decision 801 (1920 Act),* which lecided that a stoppage of work continues after the settlement of the dispute for such time as is necessary to remedy disrepair naturally resulting from the stoppage of work. That principle applies where there is an intention to resume work as soon as the necessary repairs have been completed.

"My predecessor took this view of the proper construction of the Act in Decisions 1453† and 3643‡ (1920), and I have several times ollowed the same principle.

"It has been held in many cases that where there is a stoppage of work which was due to a national dispute, the stoppage of work may continue at particular premises after a general settlement of the dispute, and conversely the stoppage of work may cease at particular premises although the national dispute is still unsettled."

Case No. 4943/26. (13/12/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act-Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE-COLLIER LOST EMPLOYMENT OWING TO STOPPAGE -DISTRICT IN WHICH HE WORKED SUBSEQUENTLY ABANDONED-ARSORPTION OF COLLIERS IN OTHER PARTS OF COLLIERY LIKELY UPON GENERAL RESUMPTION OF WORK IN COAL INDUSTRY-DISQUALIFICATION NOT LIFTED WHEN DISTRICT ABANDONED.

It was reported that the applicant, a collier, had lost his employment on the 30th April, 1926, owing to the national mining stoppage. Accordingly his claim for unemployment benefit was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicant maintained that he was entitled to unemployment enefit, since the district in which he worked prior to the stoppage had been closed down.

vers confirmed that the applicant's district had been closed as from the 18th August, but added that it was likely that, upon a general resumption of work in the coal-mining industry, hey would be able to absorb all the colliers in their other collieries by means of the introduction of the double shift system, which was one of the conditions laid down by the coal owners for the resumption of work.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were satisfied that the district in which the applicant worked had been definitely abandoned.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He was of the opinion that the disqualification in this case should continue until there was a settlement of the mining dispute, either nationally or locally. The case was heard before the Umpire, who gave the following decision :-

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

"The stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at the pit at which this man was employed had not ceased on the 18th

"It has generally been held that each pit must be regarded as a separate 'factory, workshop or other premises,' but not each district of a pit, and this appears to me to be the sound view, Separate districts of a pit are in no way analogous to a factory or workshop. Each pit or colliery may fairly be regarded as a separate entity analogous to a factory, but I can find no justification for so regarding each district or other division of a colliery. Indeed, in some cases a group of pits belonging to the same owners and worked as one concern are much more nearly analogous to a single factory

Case No. 5022/26. (16/12/26.) Sections 7 (1) (iv) of the Principal Act (as amended)—Genuinely Seeking Work.

FEMALE LABOURERS LOST EMPLOYMENT AFTER SIX YEARS WITH SAME FIRM-HAD APPLIED FOR WORK TO OTHER FIRMS IN SAME TRADE BUT MADE LITTLE EFFORT TO FIND OTHER KINDS OF WORK-ONE ENTERED NAME AT SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE AND THE OTHER DID NOT-FORMER, HOWEVER, MADE INFREQUENT CALLS AT REGISTRY OFFICE—QUESTION OF BENEFIT IN CASE OF APPLICANT WHO REGISTERS FOR DOMESTIC SERVICE AND ONE WHO DOES NOT.

The applicants had been employed continuously for 5½ and 6 years respectively in the capacity of female labourers at the brickyards of a fireclay company They lost their employment on the 6th January, 1926, and their repeat claims for unemployment benefit, made in July and September respectively, were disallowed on the ground that they were not genuinely seeking work.

It appeared that the applicants had applied to their late firm for reinstatement, and had been promised re-engagement when vacancies occurred. They had made applications for work to other brickyards, but had made little effort to find other kinds of work. One of the women had registered with a domestic servants' registry office, but made infrequent calls at the office to ascertain whether there were any vacant situations. The other woman, while willing to accept domestic work, had not so registered.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion, having regard to the ength of time they had been unemployed, that the applicants were not doing all they could to obtain employment, and in the case of the applicant who was registered for domestic service, that she was not making serious efforts to obtain it.

The applicants' association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance, and after an oral hearing the Umpire gave the following

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

"These applicants had been regularly employed as labourers at brickworks for five or six years up to January, 1926, when their work was given to men. They claimed benefit and their claims were

"On the 3rd June their claims were disallowed by the Chief Insurance Officer on the ground that they were not genuinely seeking work, and this disallowance was confirmed by the Deputy Umpire on the ground that in view of the length of time they had been unemployed they ought to have tried to obtain work in domestic service. Their claims were again disallowed on the 15th July and the 3rd September, and this last disallowance is now referred to me

"One of the applicants has had her name entered at a servants' registry office for a considerable time, but the Court of Referees felt that no serious effort was being made, as she had not attended for three weeks to inquire whether the registry office had any vacant situation to offer her. The other applicant had not entered her name at a private registry for domestic servants.

"The fact that an applicant has registered at a private registry is evidence that she is genuinely seeking work, though the fact that she has not done so is not conclusive evidence that she is not genuinely seeking domestic service. Some registry offices charge servants a substantial registration fee, and a young woman may not have money available for payment of the fee, especially if she has not been in domestic service before and only looks for employment of that kind after failing to get work in her usual occupation. There are in some districts registry offices which do not make any charge for registration, but I do not know whether there is any such office in the district in which the applicants live.

"When the question arises as to why an applicant has not entered her name at a private registry, it is important

to know whether she could have done so without paying a fee, or on payment of such a small fee as she could afford, and whether after entering her name an applicant has kept in touch with the office and really tried to obtain such situations as the office may be able to

find for her.

"The applicant who had entered her name at a registry office seems to have made but little effort to follow up the quest for work by keeping in close touch with the office. I cannot but think that she was not really trying to get domestic service. The other applicant gives no reason for not trying to get domestic work

through a private registry office.
"I came to the conclusion, therefore, that the applicants have not made any serious effort to obtain employment in domestic service, and as that seems to be employment of a kind which would be suitable for them and which they had some prospect of obtaining, I agree with the Court of Referees that they do not show that they were genuinely seeking work, although I have no doubt that they were genuinely trying to get work of other kinds."

Case No. 5132/26. (20/12/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act.

MINERS' DISPUTE—COLLIERY BANKSMAN LOST EMPLOYMENT OWING TO STOPPAGE—COLLIERY RE-OPENED ON 18TH SEPTEMBER BUT APPLICANT NOT RE-ENGAGED-PART OF PIT TEMPORARILY ABANDONED-STOPPAGE CEASED WHEN WORK GENERALLY RESUMED ON 18TH SEPTEMBER.

The applicant, a colliery banksman, lost his employment on the of the national dispute in the mining industry; and his claim for unemployment benefit, made on the 23rd September, was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The employers reported that there was a general resumption of work on the 18th September. The applicant had applied for work but was not re-engaged, as a portion of the pit remained closed and would not be re-opened for a long time, if at all.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court considered that there was some doubt as to whether the stoppage of work due to the dispute had ceased to exist. They granted the applicant leave to appeal to the Umpire.

The employers subsequently reported that a portion of the pit remained closed on account of the pit having collapsed. They re-engaged all the surface workers required on the 18th September.

Decision.—" On the facts before me my decision is that the claim

for benefit should be allowed.

"The stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at this colliery came to an end on 18th September. By that date there had been a general resumption of work, and the employers had all the workers they wanted. There were not as many working as before the stoppage of work, as part of the colliery was closed, and that part will not be re-opened for a long time if at all, and the employers have, temporarily at any rate, abandoned it. There was as from 18th September no longer a stoppage of work which is due to a trade

Case No. 5277/26. (30/12/26.) Section 7 (1) (ii) of the Principal Act and 7 (1) (iv) (as amended)—Not Unemployed—Not Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment.

APPRENTICE SUSPENDED THROUGH SHORTAGE OF WORK-SUBSE QUENTLY WORK AVAILABLE BUT SUSPENDED AT OWN REQUEST-WAGES NOT PAID FOR TIME LOST OTHER THAN FOR FIXED HOLIDAYS AND ILLNESS—UNEMPLOYED UNTIL SUSPENDED AT OWN REQUEST, AFTER WHICH NOT UNABLE TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT,

The applicant, an apprentice fitter, was suspended on 30th August, 1926, and his claim for unemployment benefit, made on the 6th September, was disallowed on the ground that he was not unem-

It was reported that the applicant, in accordance with the terms of his indentures, was required to work 52 weeks in a year. He was allowed time off with permission, however, for fixed holidays and periods of illness up to eight full working weeks. Otherwise he had to make up time lost.

It was maintained on his behalf that, although the applicant was an indentured apprentice, he was not guaranteed work, nor was he paid for time lost through shortage of work. The employers were unable to find him employment, and he was therefore entitled, after eight weeks suspension, to have his indentures cancelled if he

The employers reported that the apprentice was suspended from the 30th August to the 3rd September for misconduct. He presented himself on the 4th September, but was suspended on account of shortage of work. He again presented himself on the 13th September, and at his own request was given another week's suspension.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. In the absence of definite evidence from the employers the Court accepted the statement that wages were not payable during suspension owing to slackness of work.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He explained that the employers had refused to produce the indentures or a copy thereof for perusal. The only information available was supplied by the applicant, who noted the main terms when he signed the indentures. From this information he gathered that there was no stipulation that wages would cease during periods of unemployment, and he was therefore of the opinion that the applicant was not unemployed. He referred the case to the Umpire, who obtained a copy of the applicant's indentures from the firm.

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be allowed up to and including 12th September.
"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees. I have before me a copy of the applicant's articles of apprenticeship, from which it appears that whilst he was suspended owing to slackness of work he was not entitled to wages. Accordingly, I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees as regards the period before the 13th September, but after that date the applicant was suspended for another week by his own request, and was not unable to obtain suitable employment."

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

SALARIED SUB-POSTMASTERS AND SUB-POSTMISTRESSES.—Salaried Salaried Sub-Postmasters and Sub-Postmistresses.—Salaried Sub-Postmasters' Assn. v. Post Office. Difference.—Triennial revisions for determination of increases. Claim for abolition and substitution of annual increments. Decision.—The Court awarded that on and after 1st January, 1927, new entrants shall receive four regular biennial increments after appointment, at the following rates:

£5 on salaries below £180 per annum. £6 on salaries of £180 and over and below £230 per annum. £7 on salaries of £230 per annum and over.

Members of the class before 1st January, 1927, to have the option of retaining their existing salaries and receiving a service increase on the present basis at triennial periods, or renouncing all rights on on the present basis at triemnal periods, or renotations the present basis and taking the new rates with readjusted salaries calculated with biennial increments as from 1st April, 1921, or date of appointment if later. Effective on 1st January, 1927. Issued 3rd December, 1926. (1264.)

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, HIGHER CLERICAL OFFICERS AND HIGHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, CIVIL SERVICE.—Staff Side v. Official Side of the National Council for the Administrative and Legal Departments the National Council for the Administrative and Legal Departments of the Civil Service. Difference.—Overtime for extended periods—Non-Overtime classes—Claims for payment. Decision.—The Court made recommendations as regards the payment of overtime to the Executive and Higher Clerical Classes, but decided against any payment in the case of Higher Executive Officers. Issued 8th ecember, 1926. (1267.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—SHIPWRIGHTS—FURNESS SECTION OF L.M.S. RLY.—Fedn. of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. L.M.S. Rly. Difference.—Extra payment for docking and undocking vessels. Decision.—The Court decided that for docking and undocking the court decided that for docking and the court decided that for docking the court decided that for docking and the court decided that for docking the court decided the court decided that for docking the court decided the court d docking done within the ordinary hours no extra payment need be

Issued 8th December, 1926. (1268.)

SEA-GOING WIRELESS OPERATORS.—On the application of the parties, the Court gave an interpretation of Clause 36 of Decision No. 1240, relating to Foreign Service Agreements. Issued 13th December, 1926. (1269.)

CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION.—Workers' Union v. Fedn. of C.E. Contractors. Difference.—Classification—Quakers Yard, Merthyr Tydfil. Decision.—The Court decided that Class I rates should be paid with effect as from the beginning of the first full pay week in December, 1926. Issued 15th December, 1926. (1270.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN—PAINTERS, SCAFFOLDERS, CARPENTERS AND ZING WORKERS—BIRMINGHAM.—N.U.R. v. L.M.S. Rly. Difference.—Claim for allowance for dirty and dangerous work. Decision.— The Court decided that the painters concerned, when engaged on inside cleaning or painting work above protective sheeting, should receive an extra payment of 1s. p.w. The claims in respect of carpenters and zinc workers should be considered on their merits. The Court decided against the claims of the scaffolders. Operative as from the beginning of the first full pay week after the date of issue. Issued 15th December, 1926. (1271.)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN-DOCK MASONS, PORT TALBOT.-N.U.R. v. G.W.R. Difference.—Claim for dangerous work allowance. Decision.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 22nd December, 1926. (1272.)

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

BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURING: LONDON.—Two Sides of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of London and Two Sides of the Standing Committee for the London Wholesale Hand-Sewn Louis XV Heel Trade. Difference.—Certain differences between the two sides of the Board and Standing Committee regarding the interpretation and application of the award by Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E., dated the 16th March, 1926.*
Mr. Willis appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Mr. Willis appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as Umpire to determine the matter. Award.—Fixed the amount of the reduction in wages of Outdoor Workers brought into Indoor Workshops provided by manufacturers under the terms of the earlier Award. A question relating to the employment of Contractors was also decided. Dated 15th December, 1926.

* See April, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 153.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS. Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order Q (34), dated 20th December, 1926, confirming the variation of General Minimum Time Rates, Piece-Work Basis Time Rates and Overtime Rates for female workers employed as Dippers and specifying the 3rd January, 1927, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

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

Order N.I.H.H.G. (30 and 31), dated 1st December, 1926, confirming certain minimum rates of wages as varied for male and female workers in the Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade in Northern Ireland, and specifying the 3rd January, 1927, as the effective date.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal D (35), dated 14th December, 1926, to vary certain General Minimum Piece Rates, General Minimum Time Rates and Overtime Rates for male and female workers for periods dependent upon the "Cost-of-living" Index Figure and to cancel Overtime lates for Outworkers.

Objection period expires 14th February, 1927.

III.—REGULATIONS: MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE

In pursuance of the Special Order dated 4th December, 1926, the Minister of Labour has issued Amending Regulations, dated 31st December, 1926, to those with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Trade Boards for England and Wales dated 27th February, 1920, and for Scotland dated 16th August, 1920, expectively.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

MINING.—(1) List of mines in Great Britain and the Isle of Man, year 1925. (8.O. publication; price 18s. 6d.) (2) Fifth Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines for the year ended December 31, 1925, and the Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines for 1925, that the Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines 51 Mines for the same period. (S.O. publication; price 6s.) (See pages 13-14.) (3) Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Mines for the year 1925. 3. Northern Division. 7. Swansea Division. (S.O. publications; price 1s. each.) Board of Trade, Mines Department.

MINING ACCIDENTS.—Report of H.M. Electrical Inspector of Mines for the year 1925. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

Contains a detailed analysis of electrical accidents in mines in

1925, and suggests means whereby such accidents may be prevented.

POOR LAW RELIEF.—West Ham Union, Report of the Board of Guardians on their administration for the period 20th July, 1926, to 30th October, 1926. (Cmd. 2786; price 6d.)

Social Services.—Return showing . . . the total expenditure . . . in England and Wales under certain Acts of Parliament during the years ended the 31st day of March, 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921 and 1926, respectively, and the total number of persons directly benefiting from the expenditure for the year 1925, together with similar particulars for Scotland (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 205 of Session 1924–25). (H.C. 135; price 3d.)

TRADE UNIONS.—Statistical summary showing the operations of registered trade unions, 1916–1925. Registry of Friendly Societies. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (See page 5.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—Report on an investigation into the employment and insurance history of a sample of persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 3s. 6d.) (See pages 12-13.)

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.—Statistics of compensation and of proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1906 and 1923, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1925. Home Office. (Cmd. 2784; price 9d.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, DECEMBER, 1926.

ADMIRALTY

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

Devonport: Portland Cement: Smeed, Dean & Co., Sitting-bourne.—Superstructure of Shop, Store, etc.: A. Carkeek & Son, Redruth, Cornwall.—Pembroke: Steel Fencing and Gates: Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., London, E.C.—H.M. Naval Yards, Abroad.: Asbestos Cement Corrugated Sheeting: British Fibro-Cement Works, Ltd., Erith, Kent.—Construction Steel and Ironwork: Glasgow Steel Roofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Aluminium Sheets, etc.: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Battery Fittings: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Boxes, Ammunition: D. M. Davies, Slough.—Boxes, Junction, Electric: Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Pinnacle Switch-Junction, Electric: Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Pinnacle Switchgear, Ltd., Weybridge; General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley.—Buttons: Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; Carr Bros., Ltd., Leicester; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Furnace Grinderies Co., Halesowen; J. R. Gaunt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Cabinet Work: C. Gibbons, High Wycombe; Sheridan Knowles & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Matthew Pollock, Ltd., Beith; Enham Village Centre, Andover; Joynson Holland & Co., High Wycombe; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Elliott & Sons, High Wycombe; G. A. Large & Son, High Wycombe; Exors. of late S. Snawdon, Plymouth.—Cable, Electric, C.T.S.: Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Cable, Electric, P.I.L.S.: Standard Telephone & Cables, Ltd., London, S.E.—Cables, Electric; British Insulated London, S.E.—Cable, Electric, P.I.L.S.: Standard Telephone & Cables, Ltd., London, S.E.—Cables, Electric: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton.—Carpets, Rugs and Mats: Brintons, Ltd., Kidderminster; Chlidema Carpet Co., Ltd., Kidderminster; Tomkinson & Adam, Kidderminster.—Cells: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—Chain Cable: S. Taylor & Sons (Brierley Hill) Ltd., Brierley Hill; Brown Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; N. Hingley. & Sons, Ltd., Netherton; J. Wright & Co., Ltd., Tipton.—Chamois Skins: C. Kirkham & Son, Nottingham; C. F. Stead & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Chemicals: Brunner Mond & Co., Ltd., Chester; Chance & Hunt Ltd., St. Helens; F. Allen & Sons (Poplar) Ltd., London, E.; J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; United Alkali Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Coats, Oilskin: Chamberlins Ltd., Norwich; E. Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Coats, Waterproof: Zambrene, Ltd., London.—Cotton Waste, Purified: Cotton Cellulose Co., Ltd., Rawtenstall.—Cotton Linters, Purified: Cotton Cellulose Co., Ltd., Rawtenstall.—Cotton Linters, Purified: Cotton Cellulose Co., Ltd., Rawtenstall.—Couplings, Hose: M. W. Swinburne & Sons, Itd., Wallsend-on-Tyne.—Crankshaft: W. Jessop & Sons, Sheffield.—Cupboards, Steel: Waddell & Wilson, London, E.—Dryers, Ground: Lohn Hare & Co. Brital Earthenware Miscalleraeux. Wallsend-on-Tyne.—Crankshaft: W. Jessop & Sons, Sheffield.—Cupboards, Steel: Waddell & Wilson, London, E.—Dryers, Ground:
John Hare & Co., Bristol.—Earthenware, Miscellaneous: G. L.
Ashworth & Bros., Hanley; Bovey Pottery Co., Ltd., Bovey Tracey;
Bishop & Stonier (1926) Ltd., Hanley; W. T. Copeland & Sons,
Stoke-on-Trent; Furnivals (1913) Ltd., Cobridge; Keeling & Co.,
Ltd., Burslem; Mintons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Pountney & Co.,
Ltd., Bristol; A. J. Wilkinson, Ltd., Burslem; W. Wood & Sons,
Ltd., Burslem.—Electric Heating Elements: Credenda Conduits Con.
Ltd., Birjimingham.—Fnamel, White: R. Gay & Co., Ltd., London. Ltd., Burslem.—Electric Heating Elements: Credenda Conduits Co., Ltd., Birimingham.—Enamel, White: R. Gay & Co., Ltd., London, E.; R. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon.—Fans, Table: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—Fire-Engine, Motor: Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—Fire-Pump, Trailer: Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—Floorcloth, Canvas: J. Hare & Co., Bristol.—Flour: W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; P. Mumford & Sons, London, S.E.; W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool; C. Brown & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Rank, Ltd., Liverpool; C. Brown & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Rank, Ltd., London, E.—Furnaces, Hardening Annealing Muiffe: Manochester Furnaces Ltd., Manchester.—Glass, Table: H. G. Richardson & Sons, Stourbridge; Stevens & Williams, Brierley Hill; Thos. Webb & Corbett, Ltd., Stourbridge; Thos. Webb & Sons, London, E.C.—Hoses, Leather Suction: Barrowfield Leather Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—India Rubber Goods: Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts; J. E. Baxter & Co., Ltd., Leyland, nr. Preston; Clyde Rubber Wilts; J. E. Baxter & Co., Ltd., Leyland, nr. Preston; Clyde Rubber Works Co., Ltd., Renfrew; India Rubber, etc. Co., Ltd., London, E.; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.; Rubber Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Stirling.—India Rubber Tubings: North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.—Insulating Materials: Connollys (Blackley) Ltd., Manchester; Ioco Rubber & W/P Co., Ltd., Glasgow; McBean & Co., Glasgow.—Lamps, Electric: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Siemens & English Electric Lamp Co., Ltd., Preston; Metro-Vick Supplies Ltd., Brimsdown.—Lard: C. & T. Harris (Calne) Ltd., Calne, Wilts.—Leather: G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle; G. A. Bacon, Ltd., Redhill; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; J. Conyers & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London,

W.C.; Harold Nickols, Ltd., Leeds; J. Siderfin & Co., Ltd., Minehead; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton; Western Tanning Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Leggings, Web: Frenchs, Ltd., London, E.; Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—Linoleum and Cork Carpets: New Shepley Linoleum Co., Ltd., Audenshaw, nr. Manchester; Corticine Floor Covering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kiskoldyn, Born, Ostbare, & Shepherd, Ltd., Kiskoldyn, Mantlets. Kirkcaldy; Barry Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Mantlets: John & Edwin Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Margarine: Jurgens, Ltd., Purfleet.—Micanite: Micanite & Insulators Co., Ltd., London, Ltd., Purfleet.—Micanite: Micanite & Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.; Mica & Micanite Supplies, Ltd., London, N.; Mica Products, Ltd., London, S.W.; R. Whiffen, Ltd., Manchester.—Motor Generator Set: Harland Engineering Co., Ltd., Alloa, Scotland.—Motors: Laurence Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich.—Oil, Rapeseed: J. L. Seaton & Co., Ltd., Hull.—Oils, Linseed: Smith Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Younghusband Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—Paint, Oxide of Iron: Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Wick, nr. Bristol.—Plates, Steel, "D" & "D.1" quality: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Cardiff; D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Dorman Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Plywood: W. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Venesta, Ltd., London, E.C.—Press, Hydraulic Plate Bending: Hollings & Guest, Ltd., Birmingham.—Putty: N. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Reamers: Pickford Evans & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—Reels for Rope: Bullivant & Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Sir J. Laing & Reels for Rope: Bullivant & Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Sir J. Laing & Reels for Rope: Bullivant & Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland.—Rivets, Steel, M.S. and D.R. quality Reels for Rope: Bullivant & Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland.—Rivets, Steel, M.S. and D.R. quality: Gladstone, Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees; Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Darlaston.—Sections, Angles, etc., "D" and "D.1" quality: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Pease & Partners, Saltburn-by-Sea.—Sheets, Steel Ship, T.T.: Park Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—Shirts, White Dress and White Tunic: Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., Londonderry.—Socks, Black Cashmere and White Cashmere: I. & R. Morley, Heanor.—Table Covering, Leather Cloth: The Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Tanks, Oil: Stream Line Fitter Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Ties, Black Silk: Toms, Steer & Toms, Ltd., London, E.C.—Timber, English: R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; J. Stenning Toms, Ltd., London, E.C.—Ilmber, English: K. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; J. Stenning & Sons, Ltd., East Grinstead; R. Mulford, Ltd., Hook; J. E. Elliott & Son, Cranleigh; W. J. Taylor & Sons, Ltd., Bath; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; E.C. White & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; Child & Son, Horsham; W. Ivens & Sons, Rugby; C. Miles & Sons, Stamford, Lines; J. D. Foster, Emsworth, Hants.—Transmitters, (W/T) and Keys, Magnetic: Gambrell Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.—Trucks, Morris, 1 ton: Stewart & Arden, Ltd., London, N.W.—Valves, W/T: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—Vans, Morris, 10-cwt. Stewart & Arden, Ltd., London, N.W.—Varnishes, etc.: Blundell Spence & Co., Ltd., Hull; R. Ingham Clark & Co., Ltd., London, E. W. S. Jenkins & Co., London, N.W.; Naylor Bros. (London) Ltd. Slough; Nobles & Hoare, Ltd., London, S.E.; Chas. Orme & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Paripan, Ltd., Egham; Sissons Bros. & Co., Ltd., Lull; John Smith & Sons (Haltwhistle) Ltd., Haltwhistle; C. W. Waters, Ltd., London, E.C.; L. G. Wilkinson, Ltd., London, E.C.; S. Wills & Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Vehicle, I ton Roadless: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—Vices: New Alldays & Onions, Ltd., Birmingham.—Waistbelts: Frenchs, Ltd., London, E.—Wedges, Beech: Bartlett Bayliss & Co., Ltd., Bideford; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater.—Wire, Copper: Ward & Goldstone, Ltd., Manchester; Connollys (Blackley) Ltd., Manchester; Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., Nottingham; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby, nr. Warrington.—Wire, Enamelled Copper: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby, nr. Warrington.—X-Ray Apparatus: A. E. Dean & Co., London, E.C.—Zinc Slabs, Sheets, etc.: G. A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd., London, Slough; Nobles & Hoare, Ltd., London, S.E.; Chas. Orme & Co., Zinc Slabs, Sheets, etc.: G. A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd., London, S.E.; London Zinc Mills, Ltd., London, N.; Locke Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

WAR OFFICE.

Aluminium Ingot: The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs., or Milton, Staffs.—Ballast, "Railway": Thos. Patterson & Sons, Ltd., Farnham, Surrey.—Blankets, G.S.: Wormald & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury; T. & D. Lee & Sons, Dewsbury; A. Preston & Sons, Ltd., Dewsbury.—Boots, Ankle: Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds; S. Walker, Northampton; Northants Productive Soc., Ltd., Wollaston; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Wellingborough.—Braid and Lace: S. Simpson, Preston.—Bronze Stampings: Sir W. G. Armstong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Elswick.—Buttons: Smith & Wright, Birmingham.—Cable, Submarine: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—Gases, Mostress, M.S.: Atkinson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Gases, Mattress, M.S.: Atkinson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Gases, Mattress, M.S.: Atkinson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Gase, Mattress, M.S.: Atkinson & Co., Ltd., East Dereham, Norfolk.—Chassis, sixwheeled: J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke; Karrier Motors, Ltd., Huddersfield; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd. (two contracts), Birmingham; Guy Motors, Ltd., Welverhampton.—Coats, Great: J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Newcastle; Hobson.—Coats, Great: J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Newcastle; Hobson.—Coats, Great: Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich.—Crossley-Kegresse Machines (half-tracked vehicles): Crossley Motors, Ltd., (two contracts), Manchester.—Drums, Steel lead lined: T. Davies, Ltd., Widnes. Electric Light Conduits and Fittings: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham and London.—Fire Alarm System:

Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., Hendon.—Generating Sets, 5 k.w.: W. H. Dorman & Co., Ltd., Stafford.—Grease, Lubricating: Sterns, Ltd., London, E.—Jackets: W. Silberston, London, E.; J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Newcastle; J. Compton, Sons, & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—Jean, Khaki: Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Little-borough.—Lathe, Turret: H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lathes, Capstan: H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lathes, Heavy Cutting: Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham.—Lead, Sheeting and Piping: Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Linoleum, Brown: Lino Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Staines; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Logs, etc. (Oak, Beech and Elm): John Stenning & Son, Ltd., East Grinstead.—Logs (Beech and Ash): E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—Mattresses, M.S. Coir: Atkinson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Metal Washing Machine: Burton, Griffiths & Co., Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., Hendon.—Generating Sets Ltd., Birmingham.—Mattresses, M.S. Coir: Atkinson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Metal Washing Machine: Burton, Griffiths & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Milling Machines: Jas. Archdale & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Motor Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Oil, Lubricating, Mineral: Frank How & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Ovens, Field, Dismantling, Inspecting and Repair of: Baker, Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough.—Paint, P.F.U. Service Colour: The Crown Compositions Co., Swansea.—Pantaloons: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—Pontoons, etc.: S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes.—Pontoons, Rowlocks, Baulks, etc., for: Otto Anderson & Co. (London), Wivenhoe.—Pump, Well: Worthington, Simpson, Ltd., Newark.—Rags, Old, Cotton: A. Jacob & Co., London, S.E.; S. & M. Mevers, Ltd., London; E. Austin & Sons, London, E.— S. & M. Meyers, Ltd., London; E. Austin & Sons, London, E.—Rags, Linen: A. Jacob & Co., London, S.E.—Sand Blast Plant: J. W. Jackman & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sash Pulley and Chains: J. W. Jackman & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Sash Pulley and Chains: Rhodes Chains, Ltd., Birmingham.—Sleepers and Crossing Timbers: Wm. Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Soap, Yellow: Joseph Watson & Son, Ltd., Leeds.—Soap, Coarse and Carbolic: Joseph Watson & Son, Ltd., Leeds.—Stable Fitments: Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Steamer, Single Screw: Bow, McLachlan & Co., Ltd., Paisley.—Steel Guttering Ridging, etc.: Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall.—Steel Plates, Mild: Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel Plates, Medium Tensile: Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—Steel Round: Brown Bayley's Steelworks, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel Plates, Medium Tensile: Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.

Steel Round: Brown Bayley's Steelworks, Ltd., Sheffield.—Steel

Sheets, Corrugated: Burnell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—Studs and

Nuts: Ross, Courtney & Co., Ltd., London, N.—Suits, Discharged

Soldiers: Fainer Bros., Ltd., Leeds.—Tarpaulins: Richards, Ltd.,

Aberdeen.—Tinplates: Wilbraham & Smith, South Wales.—

Everett & Co., Ltd., South Wales.—Trestles, Iron, for Table Tops: Everett & Co., Ltd., South Wales.—Trestles, Iron, for Table Tops: Douglass Bros., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne.—Trousers: W. Silberston, London, E.; Briggs, James & Gibson, Ltd., Manchester.—Tyres and Tubes: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Vehicles, tracked: Carden-Loyd Tractors, Ltd., London.—Vehicles, half-tracked: F. W. D. Lorry Co., Ltd., Slough.—Water Softening Mixture: Sofnol, Ltd., London, S.E.—Wheels, Disc: Steel Stampings Co., Kidderminster.—Works Services: Building Works and Services: Bovington—Officers' Quarter, Block for 10 single officers and 10 servants: Burston & Hawkins, Clevedon. Aldershot—Erection of R.A.O.C. Offices: McCarthy E. Fitt, Reading. London District—Artificers' Works: Truett & Steel, Ltd., Thornton Heath. Woolwich—Cambridge Barracks, Ablution Rooms: R. Mansell, Croydon. Woolwich—R.A. Barracks: Ablution Rooms and Night Urinals: W. Harris, Ltd., North Woolwich. Aldershot—Stanhope W. Harris, Ltd., North Woolwich. Aldershot-Stanhope Urinals: W. Harris, Ltd., North Woolwich. Aldershot—Stanhope Lines: Improvements to Five Sergeants' Messes (Corunna, Maida, Mandora, Albuhera and Barrosa Barracks): Crosby & Co., Ltd., Farnham, Surrey. Didcot—Foxhall Camp: Barrack Block: F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. Devonport—Conversion of Barrack Block into Three W.O.'s Quarters: Jas. Cockerell, Devonport.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Olympia, Leeds; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Stag Lane, Edgware; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—Aircraft and Spares—Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Woolston, Southampton; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—Aircraft, Development of: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—Aircraft, Development of: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—Aircraft, Holdingdown Gear for: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—Aircraft, Reconditioning of: Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—Aircraft, Repairs to: Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Woolston, Southampton.—Aircraft, Spares: Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Coventry; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Olympia, Leeds; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., Cowes, I. of W.; Short Bros. (Rochester and Bedford), Ltd., Rochester; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—Aircraft, Wooden Hulls for: Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Woolston, Southampton.—Airscrews, Steel, Development of: Accles & Pollock, Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham.—Batteries Inert: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Buildings and Works Services: Artificers' Work (Wittering): Roberts Bros., Stamford. Barrack Blocks (Sealand): J. Mayers, Sons & Co., Ltd., Chester. Construction of Stands (Hendon): Humphreys, Ltd., Chester. Construction of Stands (Hendon): Humphreys, Ltd., London, S.W. Engine Test Houses (Digby): W. Laughton, Bedford. External Services to Married Quarters (Martlesham Heath): E. J. Edwards, Norwich. Married Quarters (Henlow): M. & F. O. Foster & Co., Ltd., Hitchin; (Old Sarum): W. E. Chivers & Son, Devizes. Quarters (Farnborough): C. Morgan & Son, South Farnborough; (West Drayton): W. S. Try, Cowley. Reconditioning Buildings (West Drayton): H. Lacey & Sons, Luton. Reservoirs

Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E.—Canvas, Packing Hessian:
Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee.—Duralumin: J. Booth & Co. (1915),
Ltd., Birmingham.—Dynamometer: Laurence, Scott & Co., Ltd.,
Norwich.—Engines, Aircraft: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol;
D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Development
Test on: Ricardo & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., London, S.W.—Engines,
Aircraft, Jigs and Tools for: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines,
Aircraft, Modifications to: E.L.S. Engines, Ltd., London, S.W.—
Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., London, W.—
Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of: Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—
Engines, Aircraft, Replacement of Parts: Armstrong Siddeley
Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Engines, Aircraft, Spares: Armstrong
Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Gillett, Stephen & Co., Ltd.,
Bookham; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Extinguishers,
Fire: Pyrene Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Felt, Grey: Carpet Trades,
Ltd., Kidderminster.—Fire Tender Bodies: Weybridge Motor
Engineering Co., Ltd., Weybridge.—Leyland 30-40-cwt. Vehicles:
Leyland Motors, Ltd., Leyland, Lancs.—Mast Sections: Talbot
Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall.—Mountings, Aluminium: Monarch
Engineering Co., London, S.E.—Radiators and Cases: Vickers,
Ltd., Weybridge.—Sextants: E. R. Watts & Son, Ltd., London,
S.E.—Switchboxes: The Plessey Co. (1925), Itd., London, E.—
Wheels, Tyres, etc. (Aero): Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, S.W.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Peel-Conner Telephone Works (General Electric Co., Ltd.), Coventry; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; T. Watson, London, N.W. Apparatus, Telegraphic: Creed & Co., Ltd., Croydon.—Apparatus, Testing, Protective and Miscellaneous: T. Watson, London, N.W.— Testing, Protective and Miscellaneous: 1. Watson, London, N.W.—Cabinets, Telephone: W. A. Collins, Ltd., London, N.—Cable, various: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Cheshire; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Peel-Conner Telephone Works), Coventry; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge Surrey; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., Gravesend; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.—Canvas: Brookfield nen Co., Ltd., Belfast; Craiks, Ltd., Dundee and Forfar; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—Castings, Joint Box: General Foundry and Engiheering Co., Ltd., Arlesey.—Clothing, Waterproof: M. Barr & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth; Edw. Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; H. E. Walters, London, S.E.—Coils, Loading, to encase: General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford.—Covers, Tyre: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birming-nam.—Ebonite, to recoat with: Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.—Generators: Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.—Lamps: H. Miller & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lugs, Lead: Thos. Francis & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.— Paper: Reed & Smith, Silverton, Cullompton and Stoke Canon; C. Townsend Hook & Co., Ltd., Snodland, Kent.—Saddles, Bicycle: Lycett Saddle & Motor Accessories Co., Ltd., Small Heath, Birmingham.—Safes, Home: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—Screws: Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.— Sleeves, Lead: Geo. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.-Tyne Solder Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Vehicles, Motor, and Bodies Tyne Solder Co., Newcastle-on-Lyne.—Vehicles, Motor, and Bottle-for: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Bonallack & Sons, London, E.; W. H. Perry, London, N.; Medley, Brooker & Smith, London, W.; Morris Motors (1926), Ltd., Cowley, Oxford.—Wire, Flameproof: Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—Wire, Bronze: T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescot; Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Johnson & Nephew, td., Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Wellington, Salop; Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co., and niths Ltd. Salford, Manchester.

Battery Replacing: Grimsby Automatic Telephone Exchange: D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire.—Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing In and Jointing: Dewsbury-Wakefield: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, E.C.—Conduits—Laying: Royal—Rodney Junction: H. Farrow, London, N.W. Taunton (Somerset); Holmwood and Findon (Sussex): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Birmingham. Wigston (Leicestershire); Riddings and Somercotes (Derbyshire); Gloucester and Newnham: W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Warrington. Chalfont St. Giles (Bucks): W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Anerley-Beckenham, S.E.; Wallington Junction (Surrey): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Manchester Automatic Exchange Area (Cateaton Street-City Exchange): J. E. Turner, Heywood, Lancs. London—Slough (Sipson Lane—Hatch Lane): G. J. Anderson, London, E. Alexandra Park (The Avenue), N.; Camberwell, etc.; Friern Barnet; Deptford, etc.; Kensington, Paddington and St. Marylebone: O. C. Summers, London, N. Colwyn Bay—Conway, Penrhynside, Old Colwyn and Llandudno Junction; Stockton-on-Tees (Co. Durham); Nottingham (Carlton Road and Sneinton): Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Stonehaven (Kincardineshire): J. McAdam & Sons, Ltd., Aberdeen. Wateringbury and Southfleet (Kent): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Perth (Isla Road and Lakeside T.P.); Cupar (Fife): Dobbie & Son, Leith, N.B. Rickmansworth (Herts); Crowborough and Henfield: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Finsbury, etc.: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Westminster and Chelsea: T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Arundel (Sussex); St. Paneras: H. Collingridge, London, W.C.

Gosforth (High Street): H. E. Pitt, Ltd., Sunderland. Stockport (Portswood): Chandler Bros., Manchester. Purley (Section II.): Mears Bros., London, S.E. North Shields: J. R. Surtees, Blackhill, Co. Durham.—Conveyors: Cardiff H.P.O.: A. Sauvée & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Telephone Exchange Equipment: Buckhurst; Worcester: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Fforestfach (Swansea Multi Exchange Area); Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd. (S.W.): Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham, S.E., for Dynamotor. Kaye, Son & Co., Ltd. (E.C.); Rochdale: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., London, S.W., for Batteries; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines. Morrison & Co., Ltd. (Glasgow); Illustrated London News and Sketch, Ltd. (W.C.); Bristol Corporation; W. S. Crawford, Ltd. (W.C.); Crabtree & Co., Ltd. (Walsall); G. & R. Dewhurst (1926), Ltd.; Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Telephonic Repeater Equipment: G.P.O. (South): Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—Telephonic Repeater Station—Power Plant: Glasgow: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—Ventilating Plant: Strand (Temple Bar) Automatic Telephone Exchange: New Alldays & Onions Ltd., Birmingham.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Carbons: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable, Beds.—Cardboard Boxes: F. T. Pillivant, Ltd., London, S.W.—Cloth, Bookbinding: Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Envelopes: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton, Bucks.—Paper of various descriptions: Alders Paper Mills, Ltd., Tamworth, Staffs.; J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Caldercruix, Lanark; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal, Westmorland; Fisher & Co., Ltd., Tamworth; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Bitton, Nr. Bristol; W. Joynson & Son, St. Mary Cray, Kent; King's Norton Paper Mills, Ltd., King's Norton, Birmingham; London Paper Mills, Ltd., Dartford; Wm. Nash, Ltd., St. Paul's Cray, Kent; Ryburndale Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Ripponden, Nr. Halifax.—Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc., Contract for: Group 110 (1927) W.O. Specified Items No. 1: H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow. Group 111 (1927) W.O. Specified Items No. 2: Northamptonshire Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Kettering. Group 112 (1927) Various Offices No. 1. Printing only: Henderson and Spalding, Ltd., London, S.E. Group 113 (1927) Various Offices No. 1: Howard & Jones, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 114 (1927) Various Offices No. 2: J. W. Truscott & Son, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 201 (1926) Betting Duty Tickets: H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow. Covers, Army Book 156: A. E. Walker, Ltd., London, N.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Battery Materials: Siemens & General Electric Railway Signal Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Belting: J. Dawson & Son, Ltd., Lincoln. Boilers: Cammell, Laird & Co., Birkenhead; Beyer, Peacock & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath.—Bolts and Nuts: C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston, Staffs.—Brake Blocks and Firebars: Tees Side Bridge & Eng. Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Buoys: Brown, Lenox & Co., London, Ltd., London, E.—Buttons: Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—Cars: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., London, W.; Sentinel Wagon Works, Ltd., London, S.W.—Ceiling Board: Celotex Co., Ltd., of Great Britain, Ltd., London, W.C.—Cement: Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Watson, Slack & Co., London, E.C.; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Chassis: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Scotstoun, Glasgow.—Clothing: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—Cloth: Whiteley & Green, Ltd., Holmbridge, near Huddersfield; J. Watkinson & Co., Ltd., Holmfirth, near Huddersfield.—Coupler Spares: A.B.C. Coupler & Eng. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Crane: Isles, Ltd., Stanningley, near Leeds.—Drill: E. Spinner & Co., Manchester; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Crane: Isles, Ltd., Stanningley, near Leeds.—Drill: E. Spinner & Co., Manchester; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Fans: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—Fishbolts and Nuts: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London, E.C.—Fans: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—Fishbolts and Nuts: Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., London, E.C.—Hon: Carron Co., Glasgow.—Ironwork: Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. Wagon & Finance Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Lathes: G. Swift & Sons, Ltd., Halifax.—Locomotive Spares: Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Hunslet Engine Co., Ltd., Cleds; North British Locomotive Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Lymph: Lister Institute, Marazion, Cornwall.—Machinery: T. Robinson & Son, Ltd., Railway Works, Rochdale.—Machinery: T. Robinson & Son, Ltd., London, S.E.; Webley & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Poerent & Co., Ltd., Ball

and Fishplates: Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—Rope: Bullivant & Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex; Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast.—Sack Elements: India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Serge: J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot, Yorks.; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Buckfastleigh, South Devon.—Size: R. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon, Yorks.—Signal Materials: Tyer & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Westinghouse Brake & Saxby Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.—Slates: Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Sluice Gates, etc.: Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock; Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Langley Green, Near Birmingham.—Springs: J. Spencer & Sons, Ltd., Newburn, Northumberland.—Stationery: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Steel Windows and Door Frames: H. Hope & Sons, Ltd., Smethwick, Staffs.—Steel Windows and Doors: Crittall Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Steel: Wolverhampton C.I. Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, Near Birkenhead; P. & W. MacLellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—Surgical Requisites: Baiss Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Switches and Crossings: Darlington Railway Plant & Fdy. Co., Ltd., Darlington; Andersto: Wilkinson Sword Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Telephone Switchboard: Relay Auto. Tele. Co., London, S.W.—Timber: C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—Tools: Holman Brothers, Ltd., Camborne, Cornwall.—Train Lighting Equipments: J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Trolley: Drewry Car Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Tubes: Chesterfield Tube Co., Chesterfield.—Tyres: The Avon Indiarubber Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Valves, Bends, etc.: J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse, Yorks.—Wagon: G. R. Turner, Ltd., Notts.—Waste: J. White, Ltd., Wigan; E. Illingworth & Co., Bradford.—Wire: Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Near Wellington, Salop.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Aldershot Employment Exchange—Steelwork: T. W. Palmer & Co., London, S.W. Armley Employment Exchange—Asphalter: Northern Asphalt & Roofing Works Co., Ltd., Leeds. Painter: Charles Fenton & Sons, Leeds. Plasterer: W. Calbert, Leeds. Plumber: F. L. Armitage, Leeds. Steelwork: S. Butler & Co., Ltd., Stanningley. Beccles P.O.—Slater: Dawber, Townsley & Co., Ltd., Great Yarmouth. Belfast, Parliament Buildings—Basement Storey: Stewart & Partners, Ltd., Belfast. Broadmoor Asylum—Drainage: H. W. Yates, Sunningdale. Bury Employment Exchange—Erection: A. Fenton, Manchester. Clitheroe P.O.:—Asphalter: Robinson, Hey & Co., Blackburn. Painter: Wrigley & Hampshire, Clitheroe. Plasterer, etc.: John Ford & Sons, Clitheroe. Plumber, etc.: W. H. Watson & Co., Clitheroe. Smith, etc.: Banister, Walton & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Cricklewood Telephone Exchange—Erection: Harry Neal, Ltd., Northwood. Croydon Employment Exchange—Steelwork, etc.: Lambourne & Co., Ltd., Manchester. East Grinstead P.O., etc.—Alterations, etc.: T. & H. Bartlett, Wivelsfield. Edgware Telephone Exchange—Erection: Harry Neal, Ltd., Northwood. Glasgow. Painter: P. McKerracher & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow. Goole P.O.—Alterations, etc.: Platt & Featherstone, Ltd., Goole Grantham Employment Exchange—Erection: John F. Bush, Nottingham. G.I. Spouting, etc.: A. K. Singer, Sutton-on-Sea. Painter: C. Hett & Son, Mablethorpe. Plasterer: F. Lazzarini, Nottingham. Tiler: Pattinson & Co., Ltd., Sleaford. Maintenance Work—Bexhill: J. Bodle, Ltd., Bexhill. Blackburn: W. H. Ainsworth, Ltd., Blackburn. Dewsbury, etc.: (Joiner), Fothergill & Schofield, Batley; (Painter), W. Hartley, Batley; (Plumber), Walshaw & Wood, Batley. Edinburgh: (Carpenter, Excavator, etc.), Colin MacAndrew, Ltd., Edinburgh: (Carpenter, Excavator, etc.), Logan & Gray Stafford. "Metropolitar" Telephone Exchange, E.C.—Grano. Work, etc.: F. Bradford & Co., London, E. Plasterer: Telling Bros., Ltd., London, S.E. Plumber:

W. H. Gascoigne & Co., London, S.W. Morley, Leeds, Employment Exchange—Asphalter: Tunstalls, Sesseyl & Limmer Rock Asphalte Co., Ltd., Leeds. Painter: Cookson & Son, Morley. Plumber: Firth & Longley, Morley. Slater: George Rogerson, Ltd., Morley. Steelwork: Leonard Cooper, Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds. "Oval" Telephone Exchange, S.E.—Erection: Galbraith Bros., Ltd., London, S.E. Steelwork: Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Penrhynside, Llandudno, Telephone Exchange—Erection: T. G. Huxley & Co., Chester. Rednal, Birmingham—Demolition Work, etc.: J. E. Taylor, Smethwick. Stockport, Hooper Street—Adaptation Work: Daniel Eadie & Co., Ltd., Stockport. Stoke-on-Trent, Wolf Street Employment Exchange—Erection: Cooper Bros., Macclesfield. Tavistock Telephone Repeater Station—Erection: Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Redruth. Tooting, S.W., Branch P.O.—Alterations: Dowsett & Jenkins, Ltd., London, S.W. West Hartlepool Telephone Exchange—Painter: Stokell, Ltd., West Hartlepool. Plumber: T. O. Richardson, West Hartlepool.—Engineering Service: Edinburgh Castle—Wiring: A. & J. Morgan, Ltd., Govan.—Painting: W. G. Beaumont & Son, London, E.; E. Proctor & Sons, London, S.E.; R. S. Skevington & Sons, Derby.—Miscellaneous: Clothing: John Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs. Fittings (P.O.): The Planet Foundry Co., Ltd., Guide Bridge. Flooring (Wood Block): Hollis & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Notice Boards, etc.: Hollybank Joinery Works, Ltd., Tunbridge Wells; Colin MacAndrew, Ltd., Edinburgh. Soap: Joseph Watson & Sons, Ltd., Leeds. Tables: Simpoles, Ltd., Manchester.

COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

Improvement of Cowhouse and providing new Cooling room for milk on Hainault Farm, Hainault, Essex: C. J. Smith, Abridge, Essex.—New Roads at Oxshott, Esher, Surrey: Morrison Roads, Ltd., Woking.—Refitting existing Shippons at Organsdale Farm, Delamere, Cheshire: W. & T. Wood, Hartford, Cheshire.

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS.

Artificial Limbs (Wooden): Charles A. Blatchford & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—Laundry: (Bellahouston Hospital, Glasgow): Walter Yuill & Co., Govan, Glasgow. (Orpington Hospital, Kent): Hale Laundry, Ltd., Hale, Farnham, Surrey. (Saltash Hospital, Cornwall): Leggo-Wilson, Ltd., Plymouth.

H.M. PRISON COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND.

Leathers: Leslie, Pringle & Co., Edinburgh.—Milk: East Kilbride Dairy Farmers, Ltd., Glasgow, S.E.

BOARD OF CONTROL.

Fish: R. Pearson, Grimsby.

NOTICE.

The "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" is published on or about the 18th of each month, price 6d. net. The annual subscription (post free) is 7s.

The Publishers (to whom should be addressed all communications concerning subscriptions and sales) are H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches (see Cover).

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, LTD., HIS MAJESTY'S PRINTERS, EAST HARDING STREET, LONDON, E.C. 4.