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Summary of the Monthly Statistics

Full details on pages

Employment

The estimated total number in civil employment in Great Britain in mid-February was 24,386,000. This was 8,000 less than in January. The main changes were a decrease in the distributive trades and increases in financial, professional and scientific services and construction. 165-168

Unemployment

There were 343,000 persons registered as wholly unemployed in Great Britain on 8th March and 29,100 registered as temporarily stopped from work; a total of 372,100 (1.6 per cent. of all employees). Between 8th February and 8th March unemployment rose by 4,000. In most industries and services there were decreases in the numbers registered as wholly unemployed but in the vehicle manufacturing industry there was an increase of 17,000 in the numbers registered as temporarily stopped. The number unemployed for more than eight weeks was 196,000—57 per cent. of the wholly unemployed. Excluding school-leavers the numbers wholly unemployed fell by 14,000; the normal monthly seasonal decrease is about 19,000. 169-171

Unfilled Vacancies

There were 358,000 unfilled vacancies on 3rd March, 33,000 more than on 3rd February. 172

Overtime and Short-time

In the week ended 13th February the estimated number of operatives working overtime in the manufacturing industries was 2,083,000 and the estimated number on short-time was 43,000. 167

Rates of Wages

The indices of weekly rates of wages and of hourly rates of wages at 31st March (January 1956 = 100) were, respectively, 144.4 and 154.2, compared with 144.0 and 153.4 at 28th February. 180-186

Retail Prices

The retail prices index at 16th March (January 1962 = 100) was 109.9, compared with 109.5 at 16th February. The index for the food group was 110.4, compared with 109.9 the previous month. 187

Stoppages of Work

About 100,900 workers were involved in March in stoppages of work due to industrial disputes: they lost about 394,000 working days. 188

TABLE 2—PERCENTAGES OF MANUAL WORKERS EMPLOYED AS SHIFT WORKERS ACCORDING TO ALL RETURNS RECEIVED AND THE PROPORTIONS EMPLOYED ON VARIOUS SHIFT-WORK SYSTEMS IN OCTOBER 1964

Industry	Percentage of all workers employed as shift workers	Proportions of shift workers employed on various shift systems							
		Three-shift			Two-shift		Normal night shift	Evening employment for part-time workers	Other shift systems
		Continuous working		Non-continuous working	Double day shift	Alternating day and night shift			
		Four crews	Other systems						
Food, drink and tobacco									
Grain milling	31	1	3	57	25	11	2	1	
Bread and flour confectionery	28	2	1	13	8	59	5	11	
Biscuits	23	—	—	4	18	4	20	54	
Bacon curing, meat and fish products	10	—	—	1	31	1	22	43	
Milk products	11	7	7	12	50	6	5	10	
Sugar	57	7	44	25	20	18	9	18	
Cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	21	5	1	20	18	9	18	28	
Fruit and vegetable products	20	2	—	4	53	1	17	22	
Animal and poultry foods	37	30	2	30	31	4	—	2	
Food industries not elsewhere specified	26	10	11	38	16	3	7	14	
Brewing and malting	7	18	23	14	30	9	3	2	
Other drink industries	7	7	13	36	10	6	4	24	
Tobacco	8	6	2	—	77	—	—	12	
Chemicals and allied industries									
Coke ovens and manufactured fuel	59	88	3	3	4	1	—	1	
Mineral oil refining	34	86	2	3	7	1	—	—	
Lubricating oils and greases	6	—	14	10	45	22	1	—	
Chemicals and dyes	33	67	8	10	9	3	1	—	
Pharmaceutical and toilet preparations	9	14	11	15	12	8	3	32	
Explosives and fireworks	22	60	3	9	19	5	1	3	
Paint and printing ink	10	34	2	7	36	12	2	4	
Vegetable and animal oils, fats, soap and detergents	32	7	7	10	56	20	1	6	
Synthetic resins and plastics materials	54	65	5	19	6	4	—	—	
Polishes, gelatine, adhesives, etc.	21	13	27	38	8	4	—	—	
Metal manufacture									
Iron and steel (general)	59	49	1	30	7	11	1	—	
Steel tubes	32	2	22	24	7	38	6	—	
Iron castings, etc.	19	27	3	12	15	28	14	1	
Light metals	42	4	2	56	13	14	4	7	
Copper, brass and other base metals	32	13	6	33	14	23	8	2	
Engineering and electrical goods									
Agricultural machinery (except tractors)	14	—	—	—	2	93	5	—	
Metal working machine tools	7	—	1	—	4	49	44	2	
Engineers small tools and gauges	5	—	—	5	17	27	41	10	
Industrial engines	27	—	—	2	3	66	27	3	
Textile machinery and accessories	5	—	—	1	8	60	28	3	
Contractors' plant and quarrying machinery	15	—	—	—	13	74	13	—	
Mechanical handling equipment	4	—	2	—	2	40	55	1	
Office machinery	7	—	8	4	8	59	8	15	
Other machinery	8	1	1	2	3	49	32	10	
Industrial plant and steelwork	8	1	2	15	3	21	25	33	
Ordnance and small arms	6	7	4	6	5	51	12	3	
Other mechanical engineering not elsewhere specified	21	—	2	8	17	39	27	7	
Scientific, surgical and photographic instruments, etc.	7	26	1	13	28	7	7	18	
Watches and clocks	6	—	—	—	14	32	54	—	
Electrical machinery	11	—	—	—	4	44	34	11	
Insulated wires and cables	31	—	6	6	3	44	34	11	
Telegraph and telephone apparatus	7	—	1	23	12	31	11	9	
Radio and other electronic apparatus	9	3	1	4	2	50	43	7	
Domestic electric appliances	15	—	—	21	6	16	47	—	
Other electrical goods	16	1	3	15	5	51	14	15	
Shipbuilding and marine engineering									
Shipbuilding and ship repairing	4	—	2	—	4	19	75	—	
Marine engineering	7	—	1	3	—	62	34	—	
Vehicles									
Motor vehicle manufacturing	42	—	1	6	15	64	13	1	
Motor cycle, three wheel vehicle and pedal cycle manufacturing	15	—	—	18	40	30	11	1	
Aircraft manufacturing and repairing	16	—	4	2	7	59	26	2	
Locomotives and railway track equipment	11	—	2	3	33	48	14	—	
Railway carriages and wagons and trams	2	6	15	—	12	19	48	—	
Perambulators, hand trucks, etc.	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Metal goods not elsewhere specified									
Tools and implements	4	—	1	5	47	29	9	—	
Cutlery	16	—	—	6	72	4	11	7	
Bolts, nuts, screws, rivets, etc.	15	—	—	6	54	21	5	14	
Wire and wire manufactures	38	1	—	55	11	27	3	1	
Cans and metal boxes	26	—	—	22	62	—	3	13	
Jewellery, plate and refining of precious metals	6	1	10	42	2	8	31	7	
Metal industries not elsewhere specified	10	1	1	15	16	35	16	16	
Textiles									
Production of man-made fibres	59	79	8	2	8	1	1	—	
Spinning and doubling of cotton, flax and man-made fibres	31	3	1	8	45	4	14	25	
Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	32	4	1	21	58	3	7	6	

* For this industry figures cannot be shown in this column because of the small number of undertakings concerned.

Table 2—Percentages of Manual Workers employed as Shift Workers according to all Returns received and the Proportions employed on various Shift-work Systems in October 1964—continued

Industry	Percentage of all workers employed as shift workers	Proportions of shift workers employed on various shift systems							
		Three-shift		Non-continuous working	Two-shift		Normal night shift	Evening employment for part-time workers	Other shift systems
		Continuous working			Double day shift	Alternating day and night shift			
		Four crews	Other systems						
Textiles—continued									
Woolen and worsted	13	—	1	10	11	5	43	30	
Jute	30	—	—	10	56	4	16	14	
Rope, twine and net	9	—	—	2	47	2	18	31	
Hosiery and other knitted goods	12	2	6	27	50	2	8	—	
Lace	18	6	—	43	47	—	2	—	
Carpet	24	3	3	20	44	18	11	7	
Narrow fabrics	15	—	—	3	37	16	9	18	
Made-up textiles	1	—	—	3	41	—	5	51	
Textile finishing	14	1	1	11	25	30	26	6	
Other textile industries	25	—	2	30	14	5	44	5	
Leather, leather goods and fur									
Leather (tanning and dressing) and fellmongery	4	1	5	33	24	20	15	2	
Leather goods	4	*	*	*	*	*	10	77	
Fur	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Clothing and footwear									
Weatherproof outerwear	—	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Men's and boys' tailored outerwear	—	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Women's and girls' tailored outerwear	—	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Overalls and men's shirts, underwear, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	51	11	38	
Dresses, lingerie, infants' wear, etc.	—	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Hats, caps and millinery	1	—	—	64	2	8	1	25	
Dress industries not elsewhere specified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Footwear	2	—	10	28	35	7	4	16	
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc.									
Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods	24	5	21	6	7	53	8	—	
Pottery	6	14	34	17	10	9	4	12	
Glass	44	60	6	13	3	3	2	—	
Cement	32	3	68	8	14	6	1	—	
Abrasives and building materials not elsewhere specified	15	4	19	27	12	28	7	2	
Timber, furniture, etc.									
Timber	2	2	7	23	34	16	10	2	
Furniture and upholstery	1	—	—	7	14	13	52	—	
Bedding, etc.	1	*	*	*	54	13	6	25	
Shop and office fitting	—	—	—	—	37	12	24	—	
Wooden containers and baskets	1	—	—	—	2	25	14	15	
Miscellaneous wood and cork manufactures	2	—	2	42	2	—	—	—	
Paper, printing and publishing									
Paper and board	48	7	9	70	8	3	1	2	
Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibre-board packing cases	21	2	17	28	49	5	4	12	
Manufactures of paper and board not elsewhere specified	15	3	1	54	7	7	5	13	
Printing, publishing of newspapers and periodicals	36	—	—	10	2	20	66	1	
Other printing, publishing, bookbinding, engraving, etc.	9	—	—	6	51	14	25	3	
Other manufacturing industries									
Rubber	37	2	1	62	7	21	4	3	
Linoleum, leather cloth, etc.	39	2	6	37	15	34	4	7	
Brushes and brooms	6	1	—	77	7	22	12	48	
Toys, games and sports equipment	6	—	—	10	24	1	35	30	
Miscellaneous stationers' goods	5	—	—	12	24	24	13	10	
Plastics moulding and fabricating	29	13	2	26	14	13	12	16	
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	3	27	2	16	—	—	—	—	
Mining and quarrying (except coal)									
Stone and slate quarrying and mining	3	—	6	29	38	16	11	—	
Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction	21	26	4	43	24	3	—	—	
Other mining and quarrying	30	12	4	19	35	28	2	—	
Gas, electricity and water									
Gas	19	91	2	—	4	1	—	2	
Electricity	14	74	2	1	17	2	—	3	
Water	11	66	14	1	12	3	2	1	
Other services									
Laundries	1	—	—	4	2	—	2	92	
Dry cleaning, job dyeing, carpet beating, etc.	1	5	6	3	25	18	17	48	
Motor repairers, distributors, garages and filling stations	—	*	*	*	33	12	*	24	
Repair of boots and shoes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Public administration									
National government service (except where previously included)	2	30	41	1	3	6	7	9	
Local government service	3	18	8	4	49	4	11	4	

* See footnote on opposite page.

THE MANPOWER RESEARCH UNIT

Second Report: The Metal Industries

Although the impact of technological change on the level of productivity clearly helps to determine the size of the labour force, the level of demand for industry's products is still the dominant factor.

The effects of technological changes are complex and varied, depending on the type of innovation, on the extent of its use and on the level of manning (in relation both to numbers and grades of skill) at the time of its introduction. Their main impact has so far, however, been less on the total size of the labour force than on the sort of work which people do, so that the occupational structure of the labour force is changing. Some of these movements are all in one direction but some are tending to cancel out others. These effects need detailed study in terms of particular processes and even in relation to particular firms and particular applications of each process. It is therefore too early to make many generalisations about the direction they are taking, though they do not suggest any notable change over the next few years in the balance between the three main categories of employment—"white collar" workers, skilled operatives and other employees. For some individual skills, however, such as those of electricians and machine tool setters, technological factors are all leading to increased needs; a growing importance is also attached to maintenance crafts. Some changes are leading to the emergence of the technician as a "super craftsman" while others involve the breaking up of traditional skills.

These are among the conclusions of the second report of the Ministry of Labour's Manpower Research Unit entitled "Manpower Studies No. 2—The Metal Industries", recently published and obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 4s. 6d. (5s. including postage).

The Report covers those industries grouped in the Standard Industrial Classification under Orders V to IX; they are metal manufacture, engineering and electrical goods, shipbuilding and marine engineering, vehicles and metal goods not elsewhere specified. It is based on the views of over 300 firms which participated in an enquiry and on informed opinion in the industries, and was prepared in consultation with other Government Departments and the National Economic Development Office.

The purpose of the enquiry was to obtain as clear and accurate a picture as possible of the occupational structure of the metal manufacturing and metal using industries and of the trends which have been affecting it and are likely to do so in the foreseeable future. The selection of firms was not, in the statistical sense, representative, but was deliberately biased towards the firms which, it was hoped, might give the best indication of future trends—the object being to gather reliable impressions rather than to aim at statistical accuracy. Nevertheless, the Report considers that the participating firms were reasonably typical of at least the larger units in their industries and that conclusions drawn generally from their replies are a good indication of the main factors which are likely to influence future trends and of those trends themselves. The information presented in the present Report should be considered against the general manpower movements described in the Unit's first report, "Manpower Studies No. 1—The Pattern of the Future", which was summarised on page 328 of the issue of this GAZETTE for August 1964.

The Report points out that new ground was broken in asking firms to attempt forecasts of their manpower requirements and that it is to be regarded as an exploratory study. The trends shown may need to be revised in the light of improvements in forecasting methods and sources of information, as well as in the light of subsequent events. The Report also emphasises that it is presented as an analysis of the views of the participating firms and of informed opinion in the industries rather than as a forecast by the Manpower Research Unit itself.

Some of the other conclusions of the Report are given below:

(1) A particular innovation, as in the electronics field, may affect different occupations differently within the same main category of employment. Where, as commonly happens, a variety of technological changes are being introduced or developed simultaneously their effects are even more complex and can influence a particular occupation in opposite ways.

(2) Particular technological changes are not necessarily introduced in order to achieve a manpower saving, though this is their usual effect in the short term; in the longer term they may lead to an increase in employment as a result of the firm's greater ability to compete.

(3) The impact of automation is seen to be gradual, part of a continuing process of technological change; and its effects on manpower are not expected within the measurable future to be substantially different in kind from those of other technological factors, though automatic assembly may be a major area of change about the implications of which little is yet known.

The Report is summarised in the following paragraphs.

The Main Factors

Production

In discussing the main factors influencing the demand for labour, the Report says that the general view of participating firms was that overall changes in employment were dictated primarily by changes in the volume or range of production, deriving in turn from changes in product demand. It was widely indicated that increases in output would not call for proportionate increases in employment, though firms made few specific comparisons of rates of increase or references to productivity levels. In many cases, expansion of production was expected to accrue from investment already made and modernisation schemes completed or nearing completion.

Organisational change

Organisational change did not emerge as a major influence on levels of employment and the effects of changes in structure seem,

on the whole, to have tended to even out. The effects of other forms of organisational change, e.g., programming and improved layout, were not seen as particularly notable. Reference was made to the use of works study and other management aids to efficiency which cumulatively are capable of exerting a significant influence on the use of labour.

Technological change

In the view of participating firms generally, the main effects of technological change have been partially to offset increases in employment derived from expansion of demand, thus permitting increases in the volume of production without proportionate increases in manpower, and to bring under review traditional elements of occupational skills—more particularly in relation to existing divisions between skilled operatives on the one hand and semi-skilled workers and technicians on the other. Fairly extensive use of computers was reported, for production control and design as well as for administration. Many firms referred to the introduction of automatic machines or automatically controlled machine tools, and the importance of automatic instrumentation was emphasised, particularly in relation to metal manufacture. Emphasis was also given to the possibilities and implications of automatic or semi-automatic assembly, especially in the electrical engineering field. Though there was less emphasis on the introduction of further mechanisation, a good deal of reference was made to the developing use of conveyors and of mechanical handling methods in general. There was also a substantial volume of comment on the use of new materials, both plastics and metals, and on other changes in techniques.

The Labour Force as a Whole

The labour force in the firms which provided comparable figures for 1958 and 1963 increased over that period by a little more than 9 per cent., compared with an estimated increase of over 4 per cent. in the industries as a whole. The latter increase was appreciably greater than in manufacturing industries as a whole, though still a little below the increase in all industries and services. The firms' forecast for the period 1963 to 1968 was of further expansion but rather less than that of the preceding five years.

There were marked variations in the movements in employment between 1958 and 1963 in the participating firms in different industries and sectors, and for purposes of comparison these movements among participating firms are set out in Table 1, together with the corresponding movements in the industries of which the firms are part.

Table 1—Changes in the Size of the Labour Force of Participating Firms and of Industries or Sectors (1958 to 1963)

Industry or sector	Participating firms		Whole industry or sector
	Labour force in mid-1963 (thousands)	Percentage change	
Metal manufacture	188.7	+ 4.1	+ 1.1
Mechanical engineering	254.2	Nil	+ 4.9
Machine tools	19.2	+ 7.5	+ 5.2
Electrical engineering	230.0	+ 23.2	+ 16.9
Radio and other electronic apparatus	79.9	—	—
Shipbuilding and ship repairing	29.2	+ 30.8	+ 31.1
Vehicles	423.6†	- 25.6	- 24.1
Motor vehicles	261.3	+ 28.1	+ 0.3
Aircraft	162.3	- 0.9	+ 17.8‡
Other metal goods	57.4	+ 14.2	+ 7.9‡
All metal manufacturing and metal using industries	1,183.1	+ 9.2	+ 4.4
All manufacturing industries	—	—	+ 2.5

The employment of women

Employment of women in the participating firms rose by more than 11 per cent. between 1958 and 1963, compared with an increase of less than 9 per cent. for male workers. These trends are broadly in line with the experience of the metal manufacturing and metal using industries as a whole, though not of all manufacturing industries.

In the future, employment opportunities for women and girls were expected to increase substantially as a result of simplification of machine and, particularly, of assembly processes. Some decrease, on the other hand, was thought likely to arise from the extension of shift working. In the clerical field, increasing mechanisation or automation might further reduce routine occupations but there was likely to be some compensating expansion of administrative functions. The proportion of women in employment was, however, expected to change only marginally, up to 1968.

The Main Categories of Worker

The Report gives details of changes affecting the three main categories of worker—administrative, technical and clerical workers, skilled operatives and other employees—during the period 1958 to 1963. These show that the "white collar" element increased at the expense of skilled operatives, while the proportion of other employees remained almost unchanged. The forecasts made by firms indicated that no substantial change was expected up to 1968,

* Changes are approximate only because of changes in classification in 1959.
† This covers only motor vehicles and aircraft.
‡ The changes in these industries are from 1959 to 1963.

though it was likely that the proportion of skilled operatives would increase slightly. Details of the structure of the labour force in mid-1963 in participating firms, in the metal manufacturing and metal using industries as a whole and in all manufacturing industries are shown in Table 2.

Table 2—Main Categories of Employment (mid-1963)

Category	Proportion in the participating firms (%)	Proportion in all metal manufacturing and metal using industries (%)	Proportion in all manufacturing industries (%)
Males	82.8	78.0	68.1
Females	17.2	22.0	31.9
Administrative, technical and clerical workers*	27.3	26.5	23.9
Skilled operatives*	24.4	29.5	25.5
Other employees*	48.3	44.0	50.6

Administrative, technical and clerical workers

The enquiry provided some evidence that within this category, office employment, particularly in routine occupations, might play a decreasing part and technical employment an increasing one. The increase within participating firms appears to be attributable to scientists and technologists and technicians, and other supporting staff, and to expanded sales and other administrative departments. The rate of increase expected in participating firms between 1963 and 1968 is only about half as fast as that between 1958 and 1963. The Report says that, in part, this follows from an appreciably slower rate of increase expected in the employment of scientists and technologists and technicians and, in part, it might be due to greater efficiency in administration.

Qualified scientists, professional engineers and other technologists.—The numbers of scientists and technologists employed in participating firms increased between 1958 and 1963 by 28 per cent.; three times as fast as the increase for the labour force as a whole. Some of this increase resulted from the same underlying factors of demand and production which affected the total labour force, and in firms in the faster growing industries these factors accounted for a substantial part of it. Much of it, however, came directly or indirectly from technological change which raised increasingly complex and technical problems, and firms laid much emphasis on increased activity in research, development and experimental work and design. Scientists and technologists appear also to be increasingly concerned with production planning and production engineering and in administration, for example, on the sales side. Forecasts for the period up to 1968 suggested that the expansion in the number of scientists and technologists was likely to slow down appreciably in most industries though it was still expected to be about twice the rate for the labour force as a whole.

Technicians.—The number of technicians, other than draughtsmen, employed also increased notably between 1958 and 1963—by 31 per cent. As in the case of scientists and technologists, technological factors contributed markedly to the expansion of employment. Many technicians were said to be filling new occupations in or between production and administration. Particular trends included an increased role in supervision, a tendency to replace some highly skilled operatives, particularly on maintenance and repair work, and an increase arising from more instrumentation and control equipment generally. The forecasts for the period up to 1968 indicated a rate of increase substantially lower than that for the earlier period and only about half as fast again as that forecast for the firms' total labour force. The Report suggests that one possible explanation for this was that the firms concerned expected to need some time to digest their large intake over the preceding five years, and adds that the factors to which they ascribed the large increase over those years were still expected to be operating in the forecast period.

Draughtsmen.—Among draughtsmen, the increase in employment between 1958 and 1963 was only 5 per cent.; and though the rate of increase for the period 1963 to 1968 was expected to be nearly twice this figure, it would still be a slower increase than that for other technicians. The Report suggests that advancing computer techniques and the increased influence of scientists and technologists in design may be among the factors limiting growth in this field.

Skilled operatives

The numbers of skilled operatives employed in participating firms rose by 5 per cent. between 1958 and 1963, not much more than half the increase in their labour force as a whole but it was largely in the industries employing the largest numbers of skilled operatives that the relatively slow growth occurred. The rate of increase forecast by firms for the five years to 1968 was twice that for the preceding five years and somewhat faster than the prospective rate of increase in their total labour force. Firms reported a growing need for a higher level of skill, and emphasis was also placed on the possible need for higher qualifications and willingness to accept responsibility. Two other apparently contrasting trends were mentioned: on the one hand an increasing need for skilled operatives to be more versatile and flexible, and on the other a growing need for more specialisation. The Report suggests that these viewpoints probably depend on the size and type of firm concerned and on the particular occupations.

During the period 1958 to 1963 notable increases were recorded among participating firms in the employment of instrument makers and mechanics, machine tool setters and setter operators, and

* The figures in the last two columns relate only to employees in establishments employing 11 or more persons.

inspectors and markers-off, with changes of 23 per cent., 18 per cent. and 13 per cent., respectively. Further substantial increases were forecast for these occupations up to 1968, while the numbers of electricians were expected to rise by 20 per cent., almost twice the rate for the earlier period. Decreases of almost one-quarter occurred among moulders and coremakers and platers between 1958 and 1963. However, the reduction in the latter occupation was dominated by a large decrease among shipbuilding firms, and a substantial increase was forecast for the period up to 1968. No notable decrease was expected in any occupation.

Other employees

The increase in employment in this category in participating firms between 1958 and 1963 was only slightly less than that for the labour force as a whole—about 8 per cent., compared with just over 9 per cent. For the period up to 1968, a rate of increase equal to that for the whole labour force was forecast. The Report points out that the level of employment follows quite closely changes in the volume and range of production but that technological and administrative changes are also important. Employment in this category, particularly among semi-skilled workers, was shown to increase quite substantially as a result of the simplification of work content, for example, in assembly. The introduction of particular machines and processes, however, in other areas of production appeared capable of causing either an increase or decrease in employment, according to the level of manning at the time they were introduced. The Report concludes that it would be an over-simplification to assume that technological change always resulted in a reduction in the demand for semi-skilled workers. Administrative economies were reported, affecting primarily unskilled workers, especially in stores and handling of materials and in transport.

Long-term Trends

Participating firms were asked to indicate, in general terms, the likely trends in employment beyond 1968 over a ten to fifteen-year period. Though most firms expected to see quite appreciable changes in the structure of employment over such a period, there was little suggestion of any dramatic and far-reaching changes between the main categories of worker. Firms spoke rather of trends and tendencies and degrees of emphasis than of sweeping innovations.

Little comment was made about the long-term trends in the employment of scientists and technologists. Those firms which did comment emphasised the increasing complexity of technical problems in design, research and production, and in some fields the growing sophistication of products. The trend for scientists and technologists to be employed increasingly in administrative posts was expected to continue. An increase in the proportion of technicians was expected as a result of expanded research, experimental planning and development, from the strengthening of design staffs and from the employment of technicians as "super craftsmen"—both on production and on the maintenance of the more advanced plant and equipment—and from employment as supervisors and in various administrative posts with a technical content.

A majority of firms expected a gradual reduction in the proportion—though not in the numbers—of skilled operatives, mainly as a result of technological change, with some of the more demanding work being taken over by technicians and some, broken down into simple operations, by semi-skilled workers. It was a general view that skilled operatives on maintenance were likely to gain in relative importance compared with those on production, and that both would need to be better trained. There was a division of view about whether they would need broader training because of a need to broaden skills. Some firms referred to a future need for operatives highly skilled in electronics or hydraulics, but others envisaged work at this level going to technicians or even technologists.

There was less comment on the long-term outlook for other employees, but on balance it appeared that an increase in employment was more likely than a decrease. A good deal of emphasis was placed by firms on the increasing use of automatic and semi-automatic and other simplified methods in assembly, as well as in other areas of production; this, it was suggested, would lead to gradual replacement of some skills by semi-skilled workers. Further development of mechanical handling was expected.

Training

The ratio of apprentices to skilled operatives in participating firms, which was slightly higher in mid-1963 than that for the metal manufacturing and metal using industries as a whole, showed little change over the periods considered in the Report. Most firms gave day or block release to their craft apprentices and a majority reported that there was available either a training school or specialist instructors. It appeared to be an increasing practice to devote a substantial part of the apprenticeship to general training before allocation to a craft.

Training of student and technician apprentices was reportedly quite widespread and increasing, as was training of graduates. Increasing emphasis was also being given to the training of commercial apprentices and of supervisory and managerial staff. There appeared to be a substantial volume of training of semi-skilled workers, mainly of an informal nature, which included training for upgrading.

There was a good deal of reference to wastage, and evidence that some firms were training more apprentices than they actually needed. There was also evidence of considerable flexibility in arrangements for the revision of the level of training appropriate to individual entrants, according to the ability and the rate of progress shown after entry.

Annexes

Annexes A to I analyse in detail the position of the following industries or sectors: metal manufacture, mechanical engineering, machine tools, electrical engineering, radio and other electronic apparatus, shipbuilding and ship repairing, motor vehicles, aircraft and other metal goods.

REDUNDANCY PAYMENTS BILL

A scheme under which men and women who lose their jobs through redundancy will get compensation as a legal right is set out in a Bill presented to Parliament by the Minister of Labour and published on 1st April.

With certain exceptions the scheme will apply to employees between 18 and 65 (60 for women) who normally work 21 hours a week or more. They must have had a minimum of two years' service with their employer and, if their jobs disappear because of redundancy, they will be entitled to payments on the following scale:

Age	For each year of service
18 to 21	half week's pay
22 to 40	one week's pay
41 to 65 (60 for women)	one-and-a-half week's pay.

Reckonable service is to be limited to the last 20 years before redundancy, and earnings above £40 a week will not be taken into account. Employers will be responsible for making the payments, but a central Redundancy Fund will be set up to help spread the cost of payments over industry as a whole. This Fund will be financed by a surcharge of 4d. for men and 2d. for women on the employer's weekly National Insurance contribution. Employers will be able to claim rebates from the Fund, averaging around 60 per cent. of the total payments due. Disputes arising on all questions under the Bill will be referred to tribunals with legally qualified chairmen and employers' and workers' representatives.

Exceptions

Domestic servants in private households will be included in the scheme, except where they are close relatives of their employers.

The main groups excluded from or not covered by the Bill are sharefishermen; registered dock workers; Crown servants (who will be given comparable treatment) and the Armed Forces. The Bill will not apply where the employer is the husband or wife of the employee. Also excluded will be workers, other than apprentices and merchant seamen, employed on fixed-term contracts of two years or more which were entered into before the Royal Assent to the Bill. But workers employed on such contracts which are entered into after that date will be included. The parties can, however, agree to the insertion of a clause in the contract whereby the employee would forego his rights under the legislation if he was not re-engaged after the expiry of the term of his contract.

Exemptions

Where there is an agreement between employers and unions for redundancy payments to workers the Minister may, on application by the parties, exempt employers from liability to make payments under the Bill to employees covered by the agreement. Disputes under the agreement, however, must be settled by the tribunals which are to deal with disputes under the Bill. This provision will make it possible for industries in which workers do not work for long periods with one employer to agree on special schemes more suited to their conditions.

When payments will be made

Redundancy payments will be made to men and women who lose their employment because the work they are doing comes to an end, or is reduced, or they lose their job because of the death of their employer. In certain circumstances they will be able to get redundancy payments if they are laid off or put on short-time.

They will not be entitled to redundancy pay if the lay-off or short-time working is only temporary. But if the lay-off or short-time working, for less than half the normal hours, has continued for four weeks (or for an aggregate of six weeks in any 13-week period) the worker will be entitled to a payment, unless the employer can satisfy the tribunal that there was good reason for the lay-off or short-time to continue, and that there was a reasonable expectation that full-time working would be resumed within a further four weeks and would continue for at least 13 weeks.

To get payment they must have left their employment, or, in the case of a tribunal award, they must have left within four weeks of the date of the award.

Employees will not be able to get payment if they unreasonably refuse an offer, either of a renewal of their contract, or of suitable alternative work, either with the same firm, or with a subsidiary or parent company, provided the offer is made before notice has expired and the alternative employment is to start within four weeks.

Those ordinarily entitled to redundancy payment and who leave their job voluntarily during notice do not lose their title to payment provided they leave with their employer's consent. There is a right of appeal to the tribunal if the employer's consent is thought to have been unreasonably withheld. If they are dismissed for misconduct whilst under notice of redundancy, they can appeal to a tribunal who may grant the redundancy payment in full, or in part, or withhold it completely according to the circumstances.

Industrial disputes are not to affect title to payment, though time spent on strike will not count as reckonable service. The Contracts of Employment Act 1963 will be brought into line so that strikes will not break continuity of employment for purposes of accumulating rights to notice.

Payments under any statutory compensation scheme (e.g., schemes covering loss of job through nationalisation) will be reduced by the amount of a redundancy payment made under the Bill. Employers who pay occupational pensions on, or shortly after, redundancy are to be allowed to set these off against a redundancy payment.

The Redundancy Fund

The Minister of Labour will make rebates to employers paying redundancy payments. These will come from the Redundancy Fund into which is paid the 4d. surcharge on the employer's National Insurance contribution for men and 2d. for women. The rebates will be as follows:

Payments for years of service at age 40 or below	one-half
Payments for years of service over age 40	two-thirds

The effect of this is that the Fund will meet the whole of the cost of the extra half week's pay for years of service over age 40 thus avoiding heavier costs for employers who have taken on older workers. The Fund will also guarantee payments to employees who have a right to them but are unable to recover them from their employers e.g., through insolvency.

The Minister will have power to reduce the rebate by up to 10 per cent. if the employer fails, without reasonable excuse, to make his claim in time. It is proposed that claims should be put in not less than two weeks before the expected date of dismissal (four weeks where the claim is for ten or more employees).

All employers must pay the surcharge on their National Insurance contributions. Thus, payments from the Fund may be made by the Minister to employers for workers excluded from the Bill. He will also make rebates to employers for workers covered by an exempted agreement. Similarly, payments will be made to workers under exempted agreements when they are unable to recover from their employers for reasons such as insolvency. Where an employer makes a claim on the Fund, the Minister will have power to inspect the employer's books and employment records, and the giving of false information in connection with such a claim will be a criminal offence.

Settlement of disputes

The special tribunals to be used for dealing with disputes under the legislation will be those shortly to be set up under the Industrial Training Act. Reference can be made by aggrieved workers or employers and, since payments from the Fund will be involved, by the Minister of Labour.

In the case of disputes about continuity of service or cause of dismissal the onus will be on the employer to prove that the service was not continuous, or that the worker was not dismissed because he was redundant within the meaning of the Act.

Date of commencement

The legislation will come into force on a day to be appointed by the Minister of Labour.

ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL JOINT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The 89th Meeting of the National Joint Advisory Council was held on 24th March 1965. The Minister of Labour, the Rt. Hon. R. J. Gunter, M.P., took the chair.

The manpower situation

The Minister had circulated the latest available information about expected long-term changes in the size and composition of the future working population. The broad picture presented was a total population growing rather faster than it had recently but a working population growing much more slowly. Against this background and the current position of manpower shortage, the Council considered some special aspects of the manpower situation, including the regional pattern of employment; possible reserves of manpower, with particular reference to the unemployed, married women and older workers; the work of the Government Training Centres; and the need to secure a more efficient use of manpower and greater mobility of labour.

The Council will discuss some of these problems in greater detail at future meetings. Papers will be prepared dealing with the efficient use of manpower and with the steps being taken to improve the Ministry's Employment Service as an aid to mobility of labour. The Council will also have placed before it, when ready, the results of surveys or special enquiries which are being undertaken in connection with the characteristics of the unemployed, labour mobility and the pattern of women's employment.

Overtime

The Minister pointed out in a circulated note that, despite reductions in the normal working week, actual hours being worked were no less than before the war and adult manual workers were now working more overtime than at any time since the war years. Although in some circumstances overtime was an appropriate and flexible way of meeting fluctuations in production, much overtime now being worked was not necessary for this purpose. This could result in the inefficient use of limited manpower resources, reduced pace of working and inflation of labour costs.

The Council agreed that the attention of industry generally should be directed to this problem and noted that the British Employers' Confederation had asked for information from its members. The circumstances which produced unnecessary overtime arose, in the main, at plant level, and management and trade unions should be encouraged to look closely at the reasons for overtime and at the obstacles which prevented the reduction of systematic overtime.

Dismissal procedures

The Minister said in a circulated note that the Government had accepted, with certain reservations, an International Labour Recommendation, the underlying principle of which was that

termination of employment should not take place without a valid reason. The Government had also announced that it proposed to discuss with representatives of employers and trade unions the provision of procedures to give effective safeguards against arbitrary dismissal. The Council agreed that as a first step the Minister should set up a committee to collect further information, to establish what would be the basis of a satisfactory dismissal procedure and to consider the promotion of such procedures in industry.

Ergonomics

The Council considered a further paper on ergonomics. The Minister said that a good deal had already been done to draw attention to the subject, particularly by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research through their series of booklets on the subject. The Ministry of Technology had been asked to ensure that, in any approaches it made to the machine tool industry, the importance of ergonomics in the design of machine tools was not overlooked. The attention of Government Departments responsible for placing contracts would also be drawn to this. The Council agreed that the subject should be included on the agenda of one of the management conferences which the Ministry of Labour organises from time to time.

Sir George Pollock

The Minister thanked Sir George Pollock for his services to the Council since 1954 when he became a member, and the Council joined with the Minister in giving Sir George their best wishes in his forthcoming retirement.

CHANGES IN REGIONAL ORGANISATION

With effect from 1st April 1965 the following changes have taken place in the regional organisation of the Ministry of Labour.

1. The Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Region has been re-named Yorkshire and Humberside Region.

2. Holland, Kesteven and the City of Lincoln have ceased to be part of the former Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Region and have become part of the Midlands Region. This change has involved the transfer of Boston, Bourne, Grantham, Holbeach, Lincoln, Sleaford, Spalding and Stamford Employment Exchanges to Midlands Region.

3. The Soke of Peterborough, which is now incorporated in the new county of Huntingdon and Peterborough, has ceased to be part of Midlands Region and has become part of Eastern and Southern Region. Peterborough Employment Exchange has been transferred to Eastern and Southern Region and its northern and western boundaries have been adjusted to conform with the boundaries of the new county.

4. The boundaries between London and South Eastern and Eastern and Southern Regions have been modified to coincide with the northern and eastern boundaries of the new Greater London Council administrative area. This change has involved the transfer of Hornchurch and Romford Employment Exchanges from Eastern and Southern Region to London and South Eastern Region, and the transfer of Boreham Wood, Buckhurst Hill and Waltham Cross Employment Exchanges from London and South Eastern Region to Eastern and Southern Region.

The necessary complementary changes have been made in the divisional boundaries of H.M. Factory Inspectorate.

TRAINING OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING OFFICERS

The provision of short courses of training for training officers at certain colleges of advanced technology and technical colleges was mentioned in an article in the November 1964 issue of this GAZETTE (page 453). These courses are intended to give people new to training officer duties an appreciation of the scope of the job, and an introduction to the most important skills. The courses are full time. Most of them are four-week sandwich courses, incorporating a period during which the student returns to his firm and does some project work, but some extend to eight weeks.

The following colleges are now offering courses approved under this scheme:—

Bristol College of Science and Technology
Wolverhampton and Staffordshire College of Technology
University of Strathclyde
Nottingham Regional College of Technology
Glamorgan College of Technology
Hendon College of Technology
South Birmingham Technical College
Sunderland Technical College

The Ministry of Labour is prepared to reimburse half the tuition fee to firms in industries not covered by industrial training boards who release staff to attend these courses. Applications for such a grant should be made to the appropriate Regional Office of the Ministry of Labour or to the Ministry of Labour (T.C.2), 32 St. James's Square, London S.W.1. Employers in industries covered by industrial training boards should apply to the secretary of the board for information about financial assistance.

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APPLICATIONS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS

During 1964, 60,762 applications were made for permission to employ foreign workers in Great Britain, an increase of 5,987 over the number made in 1963. The total number of applications allowed was 58,338 of which 47,638 related to permits issued for persons abroad and 10,700 to permission granted to foreign visitors in this country.

The following table analyses by industrial or occupational groups the number of applications granted and refused in 1964 and 1963.

Industrial or occupational group	1964			1963		
	Applications made	Number granted	Number refused	Applications made	Number granted	Number refused
Resident domestic service in private households, hospitals, nursing homes, schools and other institutions	14,984	14,783	201	16,117	15,894	223
Concert, stage, film and variety artists, musicians and other entertainers and film technicians	5,662	5,628	34	6,270	6,226	44
Industry and commerce	14,567	13,960	607	10,017	9,534	483
Hotels and restaurants:						
Domestic workers	3,632	3,530	102	3,231	3,127	104
Others	10,897	9,470	1,427	9,031	7,613	1,418
Nurses	2,853	2,809	44	2,461	2,431	30
Student employees:						
Industry and commerce	7,520	7,511	9	7,123	7,116	7
Hotels and restaurants	647	647	—	525	525	—
TOTALS	60,762	58,338	2,424	54,775	52,466	2,309

The basic conditions which have to be satisfied before permission is given to an employer to engage a foreign worker (other than a student employee for whom special conditions apply) are that the employment is reasonable and necessary, that no suitable British or long resident foreign labour is available, and that the wages and

conditions offered are not less favourable than those commonly accorded to British employees for similar work in the district concerned.

Over half the applications granted were, as in 1963, for work in resident domestic employment, nursing and in the hotel and catering industry. The number granted for industry and commerce increased substantially in 1964 and included professors and teachers coming to universities and schools and skilled and semi-skilled workers in short supply in this country. Permits for foreign student employees who come for a limited period to widen their experience and improve their knowledge of the English language, increased by 500 to 8,158, and included young people from 63 countries.

The nationalities of the workers in respect of whom permission for employment was given during 1964 and 1963 were as follows:

Nationality	1964	1963
Austrian	1,698	1,681
Belgian	416	344
Danish	1,560	1,466
Dutch	2,336	2,167
Finnish	1,400	1,108
French	4,232	3,227
German	7,712	7,861
Greek	702	653
Italian	8,207	6,637
Norwegian	1,183	1,329
Portuguese	1,395	1,094
South African	1,391	1,221
Spanish	10,434	9,287
Swedish	1,650	1,395
Swiss	4,429	4,498
United States citizens	3,851	3,233
Yugoslav	618	531
Other nationalities	4,984	4,567
Stateless	140	167

Under the official arrangement agreed with the Italian Government for the bulk recruitment of workers (which operates outside the individual permit system referred to above) a total of 145 Italian men and women were recruited during 1964. The majority of these workers went to the hotel and catering industry.

EDUCATION IN 1964

The annual Report of the Department of Education and Science has recently been published as a Command Paper (Cmd. 2612) and is obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 9s. 6d. (10s. including postage). Entitled "Education in 1964" it contains two parts: a general review of education, followed by a detailed review of the events during the year. The Report is not concerned with the responsibilities for science of the Secretary of State for Education and Science; nor with those for education of the Secretary of State for Scotland.

In the administrative field the Report describes 1964 as "a year crowded with incident and innovation." The Ministry of Education was absorbed into a new Department of State, with wider responsibilities that included the universities. The Schools Council was established with full backing from all parts of the education service and embarked on a heavy programme of work. A Bill was presented to Parliament to provide new machinery for the determination of teachers' salaries. Throughout the country new schemes of secondary school organisation were being planned, and it was announced that national policy would be on comprehensive lines. The Industrial Training Act became law and the first training boards were established. The colleges of advanced technology prepared for university status. The teacher training colleges were renamed and invited, with universities, to prepare degree courses. A Council for National Academic Awards was created to award degrees to students outside the universities.

The shortage of teachers and the limitations on new educational building continued—and are likely to remain—the subject of anxious thought on the part of all concerned for further educational advance, says the Report. Neither the growth in the teaching force that has taken place, nor the resources that have been channelled into new schools and colleges, have been sufficient both to keep abreast of rising numbers and to meet the desire for higher standards and wider provision in all parts of the service. With the utmost that is likely to be accomplished in the years immediately ahead the pressure on building and staff is likely to continue. The use of the resources that are available, of skilled professional staff and of buildings and equipment must, therefore, be flexible and imaginative and supported by increased use of auxiliary staff and audio-visual aids.

In the educative process itself the year has shown increasing concern with the aims of education and how the devices of curriculum and teaching method and assessment may better serve the interest of pupil and student. Teachers throughout the service are combating the danger, noted by the Hale Committee, "that the student will spend too much of the limited time at his disposal on memorising facts, and will have insufficient time to master the principles underlying his subject and to develop his powers of thought".

Comprehensive schools

Between 1958 and 1963 a bilateral system of secondary education emerged over most of England and Wales. This system has been criticised and in 1964 a number of authorities had departed, or were considering departing, from it. The critics' main target has been segregation at 11-plus, and methods of avoiding it have been adopted or proposed. What might be called the orthodox comprehensive schools can, in practice, differ a good deal among themselves. They can cater for the whole ability range and the whole age range from 11 to 18. The newer variations of the comprehensive idea involve splitting up the age range with a lower and upper school. Both lower and upper schools may continue to be fully comprehensive in ability range, or for the upper school there may be selection—competitively or by parental choice. There is some support for the beheaded comprehensive schools: an age range up to 16 with a sixth form college elsewhere for those staying on.

Wider provision of courses in all types of school, especially inclusion of academic type courses in non-selective schools, has blurred the edges between nominally different types of secondary schools. This has been reflected in the trend to staying-on in modern schools beyond the minimum school-leaving age and in the General Certificate of Education results obtained. In the G.C.E. 1963 summer examinations the modern schools (including all-age schools) were represented by 56,000 candidates at O-level out of 312,000 candidates and by 1,480 candidates at A-level.

Bigger school population

Only a population stable in size and situation over a long time is likely to find a perfect match between the schools and colleges it needs and those which it has, or can, provide. Since the war the population has not been stable either in size or distribution and the consequences for educational planning have been considerable. Economic considerations as well as educational need have determined the rate of school and university building. Resources have been smaller than the education system would have wished and the central authorities have had difficult decisions to make. The rising birthrate, together with the growing loss of young women teachers who marry and have babies, has posed the most stubborn problems in teacher supply. In the next few years the size of classes in secondary schools should continue to fall steadily but the primary schools are likely to be hard pressed. They will encounter the numerous children born in the late 1950's, they are likely to suffer most from the high wastage rates of young women teachers, and they may be expected to gain less than the secondary schools from the growth in the number of graduates. But they should be getting an increasing share of the output from the colleges of education and will benefit from the growing return to full-time or part-time service of married women teachers.

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Buildings

Just as most of the increase in the teaching force has gone to match the growing school population, allowing little over to reduce class sizes, so have many of the new school places been occupied by additional pupils, leaving little over to replace old and unsatisfactory buildings. Old buildings may be structurally sound and well maintained but ideas on the best environment for education have changed. Since 1962 an attempt has been made to find out how much it would cost to bring all schools up to standard. The amount of work required would be formidably large. The Report states that the money value of educational building programmes doubled in less than ten years, and continuous effort has been made to obtain value for money.

Finance

Teachers' salaries are the main element in educational expenditure, and loan charges for buildings and maintenance costs are other considerable items. Educational spending has increased considerably. In 1963-64 total educational spending by public authorities in Great Britain (including school meals and milk) was £1,402 million, compared with £546 million ten years earlier. The gross national product increased only half as fast, so that education increased its share of the total resources from just over 3 per cent. to about 5 per cent. Allowing for the increase in prices over the decade, the actual provision of educational facilities and resources was about 75 per cent. greater in 1963-64 than in 1953-54. About half of this increase is attributed to an increase in the numbers of pupils and students and about half to improvements in the standard of service provided.

Mood of re-appraisal

A mood of re-appraisal in the schools and universities on what is taught, and how it is taught and how it ought to be examined, came in the year in which final arrangements were being made to launch the Certificate of Secondary Education, and the Secondary School Examinations Council was making ready to hand over to the Schools Council for the Curriculum and Examinations. In the secondary schools a complex of factors was pressing educationalists to a re-examination of the curriculum. The pace and direction of change in society itself and the lengthening of school life were among the factors but the need for more school-leavers to possess a leaving certificate, without having followed courses for which they were unsuited, was perhaps the most compelling. Questions were being directed at almost every subject in the syllabus. In the technical colleges some of the current questions had a strong vocational ring. In the year of the Industrial Training Act and the Report on Day Release, questions such as "to what extent should industry determine the content of the curricula or decide which courses should be provided at local colleges" and "where does the specifically educational task of the college shade off into the specifically training task of the employer" were being asked with a new urgency.

The detailed review of the year's events is given in five sections of the Report dealing with the schools; further education; universities (Great Britain); Wales and Monmouthshire; and finance and general.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Bulk Storage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas

A great increase in the use of liquefied petroleum gas, mainly for industrial purposes, has taken place over the last decade in this country, and is continuing, bringing with it problems associated with the safe bulk storage of the gas, particularly at factory sites.

A new booklet, recently issued by the Ministry of Labour, gives general guidance on these problems. Entitled "The Bulk Storage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas at Factories" it is No. 13 in the Safety, Health and Welfare New Series and is obtainable from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 2s. (2s. 4d. including postage). It deals with methods of storage and handling, location, design and installation of storage tanks and equipment, types of hazards and the precautions to be taken.

Although the gas is transported and handled with safety on a large scale several incidents have occurred in recent years involving its uncontrolled escape in considerable quantities, fortunately without very serious consequences. The majority of accidents involving liquefied petroleum gas in the United Kingdom have been associated with the careless use of portable cylinders, or their involvement in fires, and some of these have proved fatal. Our knowledge in this country of more serious accidents has so far been derived mainly from experience in America where large installations have been in use for a considerable time. In an effort to bring about a reduction in the risks involved, the National Fire Protection Association of America compiled two codes of practice, and a similar code of practice has been issued in this country by the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Industry Technical Committee.

The greatest potential hazards are fire and explosion, although these can occur only when flammable concentrations of the gas, mixed with air or oxygen, are ignited. The booklet sets out precautions which would help in eliminating sources of ignition and deals in some detail with methods of fire protection.

Liquefied petroleum gas is not toxic but possesses anaesthetic properties. As a heavier-than-air gas it is liable to accumulate in pits and other confined spaces, displacing the air needed for normal

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Changes in Rates of Wages Coming into Operation during March—continued

Industry	District (see also note at beginning of table)	Date from which change took effect	Classes of workers	Particulars of change
Textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing	Lancs., Yorks., Cheshire and Derbyshire (97)	Working week in which wages are paid during the period 1-5 Mar.	All workers	Introduction of a new wage structure involving termination of the cost-of-living payments. New wage structure now comprised of an aggregated rate, consolidating all previous payments, with additional flat-rate increases of 10s. a week for adult males and 7s. for adult females and proportional amounts for younger workers. Night allowance increased from 7d. to 8d. an hour. Minimum rates after change include: timeworkers—men 21 and over 199s. 11d. a week, women 18 and over 140s. 8d.; pieceworkers—men 21s. 11d., women 151s. 6d.*†
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (97)	1 Mar.	Building trade craftsmen	Increase of 1d. an hour (6s. 4½d. to 6s. 5½d.).
Hosiery finishing	Midlands (various districts) (99)	First pay day after 1 Mar.	All workers	Increase† of 2 per cent. (6 to 8 per cent.) in the cost-of-living bonus paid as a percentage addition on gross wages. Where gross wages exceed £15 a week the increase is limited to 6s.
Footwear manufacture	United Kingdom (except East Lancashire and the Fylde Coast) (117)	First pay day in Mar.	Timeworkers	Increase† in minimum day wage rates of 3s. 6d. a week for men 18½ and over and women 18 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 105s. a week at 15 rising to 212s. 6d. at 21 and over, female workers 105s. at 15 rising to 172s. 6d. at 20 and over.*
			Pieceworkers	Increase† in percentage additions to piecework rates of 8½ per cent., making a total addition of 169½ per cent. for male workers, and of 181½ per cent. for female workers.*
	United Kingdom	First pay day in Mar.	Workers other than pieceworkers employed in industries ancillary to footwear manufacture‡	Increase† in minimum day wage rates of 3s. 6d. a week for men 18½ and over and women 18 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 105s. a week at 15 rising to 212s. 6d. at 21 and over, female workers 105s. at 15 rising to 172s. 6d. at 20 and over.*
			Pieceworkers	Increase† in percentage additions to piecework rates of 8½ per cent., making a total addition of 169½ per cent. for male workers, and of 181½ per cent. for female workers (167 and 179 per cent., respectively, in stiffener section and 188½ and 202½ per cent. in toe puff and heel design and manufacture section).*
	East Lancashire and the Fylde Coast	Pay week preceding first making up day in Mar.	Timeworkers	Increase† in day wage rates of 3s. 6d. a week for men 21 and over and women 20½ and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 105s. a week at 15 rising to 212s. 6d. at 21 and over, female workers 105s. at 15 rising to 177s. 2d. at 20½ and over.*
			Pieceworkers	Increase† in the percentage addition to piecework rates of 4½ per cent. (69½ to 74½ per cent.).*
Monumental masonry	England and Wales	1 Mar.	Craftsmen and labourers	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: craftsmen—London and Merseyside 6s. 7d. an hour, elsewhere 6s. 5½d.; labourers 5s. 8½d., 5s. 7d.
Mastic asphalt manufacture	Great Britain	1 Mar.	Workers other than craftsmen and transport workers	Increase† of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: London 5s. 8½d., Provinces 5s. 7d.
Limestone masonry	Portland	1 Mar.	Craftsmen and labourers	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: craftsmen 6s. 5½d. an hour, labourers 5s. 7d.
Sawmilling	Manchester and district (139)	1 Mar.	Workers employed in sawmills and steam joinery shops	Increase of 1d. an hour for craftsmen, labourers and female workers 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for apprentices, young male labourers and girls. Rates after change include: woodcutting machinists 6s. 5½d. an hour, timber yard labourers 5s. 7d., slingers 5s. 9d., power-driven crane drivers 5s. 10d., fork lift truck drivers—carrying capacity of under 30 cwt. 5s. 8d., 30 cwt. and over 5s. 11d., female labourers 19 and over 4s. 9d.
Exhibition industry	Great Britain (142)	14 Mar.	All workers except electricians and mates	Increase of 6d. an hour. Standard rates after change include: craftsmen 8s. 6d. an hour, labourers 7s. 9d.; other classes of workers—signwriters, show card and ticket writers 8s. 9d., production artists and model makers 8s. 11d.; screen printers—technicians 8s. 6d., printers 8s. 3½d.
Wood box, packing case and wooden container manufacture	England, Wales and Northern Ireland (144)	First full pay week in Mar.	All workers	New national minimum rates fixed, consequent upon a reduction in normal weekly hours*, incorporating an additional increase of 1d. an hour for workers 21 and over. Rates after change include: adult sawyers and woodworkers. Minimum rates after change include: male workers—fully apprenticed tool makers 25 and over 219s. 1d. a week, 21 and under 25, 200s. 4d., semi-skilled workers 20 and over 195s., unskilled workers 20 and over 187s. 6d.; female workers 18 and over 143s. 7d., piecework prices to be such as to yield at least 142s. 5d. for female workers of average ability.
Printing	London (156-157) Manchester	1 Mar.	Workers, other than electricians and engineers, employed in the production of national morning, evening and Sunday newspapers	Consolidation into basic rates of 6s. of the 22s. cost-of-living bonus previously paid, and resulting bonus, now calculated from a base figure of 119 (Jan. 1956 = 100), increased† by 4s. a week (16s. to 20s.) for adult workers, and by proportional amounts for apprentices and juniors.
Penmaking and stationers' sundries manufacture	Birmingham and district (166)	First pay day in Mar.	All workers	Increase† of 3s. 9d. a week for men 20 and over and 2s. 3d. for younger male workers, and of 2s. for women 18 and over and 1s. 6d. for younger female workers. Minimum rates after change include: male workers—fully apprenticed tool makers 25 and over 219s. 1d. a week, 21 and under 25, 200s. 4d., semi-skilled workers 20 and over 195s., unskilled workers 20 and over 187s. 6d.; female workers 18 and over 143s. 7d., piecework prices to be such as to yield at least 142s. 5d. for female workers of average ability.
Building	England and Wales (168-169)	1 Mar.	Building operatives	Increase† of 1d. an hour for craftsmen and labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices, young male labourers, women and girls. Rates after change include: men—London (within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross) and Liverpool district, craftsmen 6s. 7d. an hour, labourers 5s. 8½d., grade A districts 6s. 5½d., 5s. 7d.; women—on craft processes (after 6 months' probation) 5s. 6d., on other than craft processes 4s. 9d.
			Watchmen	Increase† of 6d. a shift. Rates after change: London and Liverpool 34s. 9d. a shift (day or night), other districts 33s. 6d.
	England and Wales (169)	1 Mar.	Road haulage workers	Increase† of 3s. 8d. a week for workers employed on "C" licensed vehicles. Rates after change: motor drivers, London 273s. 8d. to 292s. 8d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, grade 1 districts 270s. 2d. to 287s. 8d., mates and statutory attendants 18 and over 278s. 8d., 273s. 8d., tractor drivers, London only, 291s. 8d.
	Scotland (170-171)	1 Mar.	Building operatives	Increase† of 1d. an hour for craftsmen, labourers and women operatives, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Rates after change include: men—craftsmen 6s. 6½d. an hour, labourers 5s. 8½d.; women—on craft operations (after 6 months' probation) 5s. 8½d., on other than craft operations 5s. 2½d.
			Watchmen	Increase† of 6d. a shift (34s. 3d. to 34s. 9d.) day or night.
	Isle of Man	29 Mar.	Building operatives	Increase of 1d. an hour for craftsmen and labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change include: craftsmen 6s. 5½d. an hour, labourers 5s. 7d.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Work".

† It has also been agreed that there will be flat-rate increases of 7s. 6d. for men, 5s. 3d. for women and proportional amounts for younger workers in March 1966 and March 1967.

‡ Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

§ The industries concerned are cut sole, last, stiffener, toe puff and built heel manufacture, and heel design and manufacture.

Changes in Rates of Wages Coming into Operation during March—continued

Industry	District (see also note at beginning of table)	Date from which change took effect	Classes of workers	Particulars of change
Building and civil engineering construction	England and Wales (251)	1 Mar.	Building and civil engineering operatives employed by local authorities	Increase of 1d. an hour for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Rates after change include: London (within 15 miles of Charing Cross) and Liverpool and district, craftsmen 6s. 7d. an hour, labourers 5s. 8½d., grade A districts 6s. 5½d., 5s. 7d.
	Scotland (254)	1 Mar.	Building and civil engineering operatives employed by local authorities	Increase of 1d. an hour for craftsmen and labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Rates after change include: craftsmen 6s. 6½d. an hour, labourers 5s. 8½d.
Civil engineering construction	Great Britain (172-173)	1 Mar.	Male workers other than watchmen	Increase* of 1d. an hour for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Rates after change include: craftsmen—London super grade and Liverpool grade 6s. 7d. an hour, class 1 districts 6s. 5½d., navies and labourers—London super grade 5s. 8½d., class 1 districts 5s. 7d.†
			Watchmen	Increase of 6d. a shift. Rates after change: London super grade 34s. 9d. a shift (day or night), class 1 districts 33s. 6d.
Demolition	England and Wales (171)	1 Mar.	Male workers	Increase of 1d. an hour for workers 18 and over and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change for labourers: London and Liverpool districts 5s. 8½d. an hour, grade A districts 5s. 7d.
	Scotland (171)	1 Mar.	Male workers	Increase of 1d. an hour (5s. 7½d. to 5s. 8½d.) for workers 18 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Mastic asphalt laying	Great Britain (177)	1 Mar.	Male workers	Increase* of 1d. an hour for adults and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change include: chargehands, London area and Merseyside 7s. 2d. an hour, elsewhere 7s. 0½d., spreaders 6s. 8d., 6s. 6½d., mixermen 6s. 1½d., 6s. 0½d., potmen 6s. 0½d., 5s. 11½d., classified labourers 5s. 9d., 5s. 7½d.
Glazing	England and Wales	1 Mar.	Glaziers and wall liners	Increase in standard rates of wages of 1d. an hour for glaziers and wall liners, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change include: glaziers and wall liners, London and South Eastern area (within 30 miles of Charing Cross) and Liverpool area 6s. 7d. an hour, Hants., Dorset and Isle of Wight, Manchester, Midlands, North Eastern, Yorkshire and West of England and South Wales 6s. 5½d.
Painting	Scotland	1 Mar.	Craftsmen and apprentices	Increase of 1d. an hour (6s. 5½d. to 6s. 6½d.) for craftsmen, and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Patent glazing	England and Wales	1 Mar.	Patent glaziers and assistants employed on outside work	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: London (within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross) and Liverpool and district—patent glaziers 6s. 7d. an hour, assistants 5s. 8½d., grade A districts 6s. 5½d., 5s. 7d.‡
	Scotland	1 Mar.	do.	Increase of 1d. an hour (6s. 5½d. to 6s. 6½d.) for glaziers, 5s. 7½d. to 5s. 8½d. for assistants.‡
Refractory setting and repair	Great Britain	1 Mar.	Firebrick bricklayers and masons, and labourers employed by refractory users (other than those in the employ of the Gas Council and Area Gas Boards)	Increase of 1d. an hour for craftsmen and labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Basic rates after change include: London (within 15 miles of Charing Cross) and Liverpool district, craftsmen 6s. 7d. an hour, labourers 5s. 8½d., Grade A districts 6s. 5½d., 5s. 7d.
Terrazzo and mosaic laying	England and Wales	1 Mar.	Layers, polishers and apprentices	Increase of 1d. an hour for layers and polishers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change include: layers, London and Mersey districts 6s. 8d. an hour, elsewhere 6s. 6½d., polishers—dry 6s. 6d., 6s. 4½d., wet and hand 6s. 5d., 6s. 3½d.
Tile fixing	London	1 Mar.	Craftsmen and apprentices	Increase of 1d. an hour (6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d.) for craftsmen, and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Gas supply	Great Britain	4 Jan. 1 Mar.	Bricklayers and masons when engaged on firebrick work do.	Increase of 1d. an hour. Rates after change: new construction, London 7s. 3d. an hour, Provincial zone A 7s. 1½d., Provincial zone B 7s. 0½d., repair work, 7s. 5d., 7s. 3½d., 7s. 2½d.; chimney work, according to height, 7s. 3d. to 7s. 8d., 7s. 1½d. to 7s. 6½d., 7s. 0½d. to 7s. 5½d.
Road passenger transport (Municipal Undertakings)	Great Britain (excluding Metropolitan area) and Belfast (190)	First full pay period following 16 Feb.	Craftsmen and apprentices	Increase of 5d. an hour for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Minimum hourly rates after change for craftsmen: special group undertakings 6s. 11d. or 7s., group 1, 6s. 10d.
Merchant navy	United Kingdom (200-201)	29 Mar.	Deck and engine-room ratings and ratings in catering depts.	New wages and hours structure introduced, establishing new consolidated basic rates for a 7-day week at sea (or a 5-day week in port §) by way of an addition of 5 per cent. on basic rates as Saturday morning compensation "at sea" (the additional payment of 5 per cent. previously paid as Saturday afternoon compensation remaining), an addition of 20 per cent. on basic rates as compensation for week-end work "at sea", and a flat increase of 30s. a month (or 7s. a week for those on weekly rates of pay) for adult ratings and of 40s. (or 9s. 4d.) for junior ratings; efficient service pay of £5 10s. a month (or 25s. 8d. a week) after 5 years also introduced. New monthly consolidated basic rates with free food in addition (quoting in brackets, where appropriate, the weekly consolidated basic rates for men finding own food) include: able seamen or efficient deck hands £52 17s. 6d. a month (269s. 6d. a week), boatswains £60 to £70 12s. 6d. according to tonnage of vessel (291s. 8d.), boatswains' mates £54 17s. 6d. or £58, carpenters £64 to £75 7s. 6d. (291s. 8d.), assistant carpenters, also joiners £60 to £65 17s. 6d., cleaners and wipers, trimmers of less than 4 months' sea service £49 10s. (240s. 4d.), of 4 months' sea service and over £52 17s. 6d. (267s. 2d.), deck hands (uncertificated) at 18 years of age £40 15s. (208s. 10d.) at 19 £44 17s. 6d. (230s. 5d.) at 20 and over £49 10s. (252s.), donkeymen £58 (291s. 8d.), (230s. 5d.) at 20 and over £65 17s. 6d. to £74 5s., mechanics (formerly senior mechanics) £60, engine-room hands with less than 4 months' service as such £51 12s. 6d. (269s. 6d.), with 4 months' service as such £53 10s. (269s. 6d.), firemen (269s. 6d.), firemen, leading (where carried) £54 7s. 6d., firemen of 4 months' sea service and over as firemen or trimmers £53 10s., firemen for first 4 months' sea service as firemen £51 12s. 6d., firemen stewards £52 17s. 6d., greasers £54 7s. 6d. (274s. 2d.), junior ordinary seamen and engine-room ratings £35 2s. 6d. (208s. 10d.), senior ordinary seamen and engine-room ratings £40 15s. (208s. 10d.), boys, deck and engine-room up to 6 months' sea service £23 (130s. 8d.), over 6 months' sea service £24 10s. (130s. 8d.).†
Wholesale grocery and provisions trade	Scotland (204)	Pay day in week commencing 2 Nov. 1964	All workers	Increase of 9s. or 10s., according to occupation, for men 21 and over, or 8s. 6d. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: warehouse workers, vanguards and mates—male workers 84s. 6d. a week at 16 rising to 214s. at 21, female workers 72s. 6d. to 157s. 6d.; drivers of motor vehicles of carrying capacity of less than 2 tons 216s. 6d., of 2 and under 3 tons 220s. 6d., of 3 and up to and including 5 tons 223s. 6d.‡
Wholesale newspaper distribution	London (207)	First pay day after 1 Mar.	Male workers	Consolidation into basic rates of 6s. of the 22s. cost-of-living bonus previously paid, and resulting bonus, now calculated from a basic figure of 119 (Jan. 1956 = 100), increased* by 4s. a week (16s. to 20s.) for full-time workers 21 and over, and by proportional amounts for other workers. Rates after change, inclusive of bonus, for full-time workers 21 and over: indoor workers and drivers—day staff 301s. a week, night staff 311s.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.

† See also under "Changes in Hours of Work".

‡ Under an agreement between the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Plumbing Trades Union, these workers are paid Building Trade rates but work to Engineering conditions.

§ Week-end working in port is paid at overtime rates, which have also been increased by this agreement.

Changes in Rates of Wages Coming into Operation during March—continued

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District (see also note at beginning of table), Date from which change took effect, Classes of workers, Particulars of change.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF WORK COMING INTO OPERATION DURING MARCH

Table with 5 columns: Industry, District, Date, Classes of workers, Particulars of change.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. † It has also been agreed that there will be further increases of 4 per cent. (on rates as at 31st December 1964) from 16th January 1966 and 15th January 1967, and also that normal weekly hours will be reduced from 42 to 40, without loss of pay, from 29th August 1965.

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES

INDEX FOR 16th MARCH 1965

ALL ITEMS (16th January 1962 = 100) ... 109.9

At 16th March the official retail prices index was 109.9 (prices at 16th January 1962 = 100), compared with 109.5 at 16th February and 105.2 at 17th March 1964.

The index of retail prices measures the change from month to month in the average level of prices of the commodities and services purchased by the great majority of households in the United Kingdom, including practically all wage earners and most small and medium salary earners.

DETAILED FIGURES FOR 16th MARCH 1965

(Prices at 16th January 1962 = 100)

The following table shows, for various groups and sub-groups, the indices at 16th March 1965 on the basis 16th January 1962 = 100.

Table with 2 columns: GROUP AND SUB-GROUP, INDEX FIGURE FOR 16th MARCH 1965 (16th January 1962 = 100)

Table with 2 columns: GROUP AND SUB-GROUP, INDEX FIGURE FOR 16th MARCH 1965 (16th January 1962 = 100). Includes categories I. Food, II. Alcoholic drink, III. Tobacco, IV. Housing, V. Fuel and light, VI. Durable household goods, VII. Clothing and footwear, VIII. Transport and vehicles, IX. Miscellaneous goods, X. Services.

Following are the indices for 16th March on the basis 16th January 1962 = 100 for three sub-divisions of the food group:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Index Value. Includes items like 'Items prices of which are affected by seasonal variations' and 'Other items'.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN THE MONTH

Increases in the average prices of tomatoes, fresh green vegetables and fresh fruit were partly offset by reductions in the average prices of eggs and bacon.

There were falls in the average levels of prices of spirits and wine, and the index for the alcoholic drink group as a whole fell by nearly one-half of 1 per cent. to 111.3, compared with 111.8 in February.

Mainly as a result of higher charges for electricity in some areas, the index for the fuel and light group as a whole rose by about one-half of 1 per cent. to 115.7, compared with 115.1 in February.

The principal change in this group was a rise in the average level of prices of second-hand cars. The index for the transport and vehicles group as a whole rose by nearly one-half of 1 per cent. to 104.6, compared with 104.2 in February.

Mainly as a result of higher prices for some newspapers, the index for the miscellaneous goods group as a whole rose by about one-half of 1 per cent. to 107.9, compared with 107.4 in February.

The principal change in this group was a rise in the average level of charges for dry cleaning, resulting mainly from the re-introduction of normal charges following some temporary seasonal reductions.

In the remaining four groups there was little change in the general level of prices.

ALL ITEMS INDICES, JANUARY 1956 TO MARCH 1965

The following tables show the index figure for "all items" for (Table A) each month from January 1956 to December 1962, taking the average level of prices at 17th January 1956 as 100, and (Table B) each month from January 1962 onwards, taking the average level of prices at 16th January 1962 as 100.

TABLE A.—17th January 1956 = 100

Table with 13 columns: Year, Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Rows for years 1956-1962.

TABLE B.—16th January 1962 = 100

Table with 5 columns: Month, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965. Rows for months January to December.

The figures in Table B can be linked with those in Table A to produce a continuous series of figures showing the change in the level of prices compared with the level at 17th January 1956.

9. The only decision to which I have been referred in which a question arose whether workmen of a contractor were employed in a separate department is a decision of the Umpire's given in 1926 (U.D. 1308/26) on the same provision when it appeared (with minor and immaterial differences) in the Unemployment Insurance Act 1920, section 8(1). In that case the applicants for benefit were employed by a contractor on the erection of screens and other plant at a coal mine. There was a stoppage of work at the coal mine owing to a national trade dispute in the coal mining industry. There was no dispute between the contractor and his workmen but the latter were put off work so as to avert the possibility of trouble with the miners. The Umpire, in allowing the claim for benefit, said "The applicants were employed by a contractor, not by the owners of the colliery, and it is clear therefore that they were employed in a separate 'department'." He went on to hold that the erection of colliery screens, etc., was a branch of work commonly carried on as a separate business in separate premises from coal mining and, though the contractor and the colliery owner here occupied the same premises, they were nevertheless deemed to be separate places of employment for the contractor's workmen and the colliery workmen respectively. At the 'place of employment' of the contractor's workmen there was no trade dispute.

10. That decision is a clear authority in favour of the claimant in the present case. Although the language of section 13(6)(a) is somewhat obscure the underlying purpose of the provision seems to be to secure that where businesses which are commonly run as separate businesses are run in separate departments on the same premises, each of those departments is to be treated as a separate place of employment for the purpose of section 13, and a trade dispute affecting one department will not be held to affect another department merely because they are on the same premises. Electrical contracting is certainly a separate branch of work which is commonly carried on as a separate business in separate premises. Can it be said to have been carried on in a separate department on the Steel Company's premises? The word 'department' does not denote merely a physical or topographical division; it is equally apt to describe an administrative division. The Shorter Oxford Dictionary gives as one of its primary meanings "A separate division of a complex whole, especially of activities or studies". The claimant's branch of work was a separate division of activity, separately organised, and carried on by an independent contractor as a separate undertaking. The Umpire, in Decision 1308/26 referred to above, had no doubt that the workmen of the constructional contractor were employed in a separate department from any department of colliery work. I respectfully agree and it seems to me in the present case the contractor's work may properly be regarded as being carried on in a separate department at the Steel Company's premises. It follows that the claimant was employed in a separate branch of work which is commonly carried on as a separate business in separate premises and which in the present case was carried on in a separate department of the Steel Company's premises; that department is therefore deemed by virtue of section 13(6)(a) to be a separate place of employment.

11. The next question is whether there was a trade dispute at the claimant's "place of employment" (as thus defined). It was suggested before the local tribunal that the Steel Company's action in closing the works completely, and forbidding even independent contractors to continue with their contracts, was a move by the Steel Company to bring pressure upon the craft unions with which it was in dispute (of which the Electrical Trades Union was one) and thus extended the scope of the dispute to one between the Steel Company and the claimant. There is however no evidence to support such a suggestion which is based merely upon conjecture. There is on the contrary direct evidence from the claimant's employer that it would have been wholly impracticable for independent contractors to continue at work when the works were at a standstill and when all the employees of the Steel Company were absent from work. There is ample reason to support the Steel Company's action in requiring contractors to withdraw when the stoppage began without supposing that it was a retaliatory act, and I think it would be wrong to impute that motive without clear evidence, of which there is none. In order to justify disqualification under section 13(1) the insurance officer must show *prima facie* that the stoppage of work by reason of which the claimant lost employment was due to a trade dispute at his place of employment; cf. Decision R(U) 17/52, paragraph 7. In my judgment, the insurance officer has not proved that the trade dispute became extended to the claimant's "place of employment".

12. The appeal of the claimant's Association is allowed.

Decision No. R(U)24/64 (23rd September 1964)

Misconduct—(1) whether suspension of driving licence attributable to misconduct; (2) period of disqualification not affected by reinstatement in employment

A bus driver left his employment when he was disqualified for holding a driving licence for six months on being convicted of an offence concerning the insurance of a private vehicle. His licence was restored after about a month, whereupon he was reinstated in the employment. A local tribunal disqualified him for receiving unemployment benefit, on grounds of misconduct, for the period he was unemployed. Held that the claimant should have been disqualified for six weeks. Firstly, not only was the conviction the most cogent evidence that he had committed the offence, but, since his employment depended on his holding a driving licence, it was at least *prima facie* evidence, though not conclusive evidence, of misconduct relevant to section 13(2)(a) of the 1946 Act. This evidence was not rebutted. Secondly, there were no mitigating circumstances in the nature of the misconduct which justified a reduction in the period of disqualification. The fact of the claimant's reinstatement was not a ground for limiting the disqualification to the period of unemployment. Umpire's Decisions 6279/33 and 1402/38 not followed. Commissioner's Decisions R(U) 27/52, R(U) 24/55, R(U) 7/57 and R(U) 8/57 referred to. The Commissioner observes that where a conviction is founded upon as evidence of misconduct it is generally desirable that official certification should be produced, so as to show precisely what the conviction was for.

Decision of the Commissioner

1. My decision is that the claimant is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit from 13th November 1963 to 9th December 1963 (both dates included), on the ground that he lost his employment through his misconduct, in terms of section 13(2)(a) of the National Insurance Act 1946.

2. The claimant was employed as a 'bus driver, up to and including 12th November 1963. On 14th November 1963 he claimed unemployment benefit. In answer to the usual inquiries, his employers stated that he had left his employment voluntarily, and that the reason given for leaving was "Licence suspended for six months (accident while in charge of private car)". On 27th November 1963 the local insurance officer decided that the claimant was disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit from 13th November 1963 to 24th December 1963—that is, a period of six weeks—because he voluntarily left his employment without just cause. The claimant appealed to the local tribunal against this decision, saying—"I had no other option but leave my employment as my driving licence was suspended for six months". He added that he had appealed against the Court's decision and had his licence restored (after one month) and was now back in his former employment.

3. When the appeal came before the local tribunal, the local insurance officer did not, apparently, seek to support his decision on the basis of "leaving voluntarily", but submitted (a) that the claimant had lost his employment through his misconduct, in terms of section 13(2)(a) of the Act, and (b) that since the claimant had been reinstated in his employment on 10th December 1963, the period of disqualification should terminate on 9th December 1963.

4. The local tribunal accepted these submissions, disallowing benefit—that is to say by virtue of disqualification under section 13(2)(a) of the Act—from 13th November to 9th December 1963. The claimant then appealed to the Commissioner. At his request an oral hearing was allowed; but on the appointed date he failed to attend. The hearing proceeded in his absence.

5. The claimant has at no time clearly specified his grounds of appeal. It is proper, nevertheless, to examine the validity of the decision appealed against.

6. The fact that the claimant in a sense left his employment voluntarily is not inconsistent with a finding that he lost his employment through his misconduct. The claimant, having had his driving licence suspended, was thereby disabled from carrying out the duties of his employment as a 'bus driver. The fact that the claimant realised this, and in effect dismissed himself instead of waiting to be dismissed, does not alter the fact that he "lost his employment" because of the suspension of his driving licence. It is therefore necessary to consider whether the suspension of his driving licence was attributable to "misconduct". It is I think unfortunate that no official certificate or extract of the conviction has been produced in this case. It is in my opinion generally desirable, where the fact of a conviction in Court is founded upon, that an extract conviction or some other form of official certification should be produced, so as to show precisely what the conviction was for. I understand that the conviction in the present case was not for careless or dangerous or drunken driving, but for a contravention of section 201(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1960, which, in short, makes it unlawful for a person to use, or to cause or permit any other person to use, a motor vehicle on a road unless the vehicle is properly insured. This is an offence in respect of which the Court may order disqualification for holding a driving licence—see section 104 of the Road Traffic Act 1960 and 11th Schedule. The fact that the claimant was convicted of this offence by a competent Court is the most cogent evidence that he committed the offence: Decision R(U) 24/55, para. 10. Indeed the claimant does not deny that he did so.

7. A person whose employment depends upon his holding a driving licence should know that conviction for most offences under the Road Traffic Acts may involve suspension, for a period, of his driving licence. In the ordinary case, such a driver may be presumed to know that the loss of the licence will naturally lead to the loss of the employment. The conviction of such a person, in respect of an offence which involves suspension of his driving licence, is therefore *prima facie* evidence, at least, of misconduct relevant to section 13(2)(a) of the National Insurance Act 1946. I say *prima facie* evidence, because I do not think it would be right to exclude the possibility that such a person, albeit properly convicted, might nevertheless be able to satisfy the statutory authorities that his actions throughout were innocent of that element of blameworthiness which the term "misconduct" naturally implies (see Decision R(U) 8/57, para. 6). It is well settled law that misconduct may justify disqualification under section 13(2)(a) of the National Insurance Act 1946 even although it took place outwith working hours, and away from the employers' premises, and in no way in the course of the employment—see, for example, Decisions R(U) 24/55 and R(U) 7/57. In the present case the claimant has not in any way rebutted the *prima facie* evidence of his conviction, and I hold that he lost his employment through his misconduct, and that he incurs disqualification for receiving unemployment benefit in terms of section 13(2)(a).

8. A supplementary question arises as to the period of disqualification. As a rule the period of six weeks' disqualification stated in section 13(2)(a) will be imposed, unless there are mitigating circumstances. Mitigating circumstances in this context mean mitigating circumstances in the nature of the misconduct—see Decision R(U) 27/52 para. 9, and the recent unreported Decision C.U. 44/63, para. 3. No mitigating circumstances in the nature of the misconduct have, in my opinion, been shown in the present case. The local tribunal, however, reduced the period of disqualification from six weeks to one month. This was done, in accordance with the submission of the insurance officer then concerned, not because of any mitigating circumstances, but because the claimant (having had his driving licence restored) was reinstated by his employers after

one month. It appears to have been the practice of the Umpire under the old Unemployment Insurance Acts, in such cases, where reinstatement was known to have taken place in less than six weeks, to limit the period of disqualification to the period of unemployment to the date of reinstatement: see, for example, Umpire's Decisions 6279/33 and 1402/38. It seems to me, with respect, that such a practice may well produce haphazard results, and that in any event it is inconsistent with the principle adopted by the Commissioner in Decisions R(U) 27/52 and C.U. 44/63, above referred to. In my judgment, in the absence of mitigating circumstances in the nature of the misconduct itself, the period of disqualification imposed should have been six weeks, and not a month. But I do not propose, at this date and in the circumstances of the present case, to subject the claimant to any further period of disqualification, and therefore I allow the period determined by the local tribunal to stand.

9. The appeal of the claimant is not allowed.

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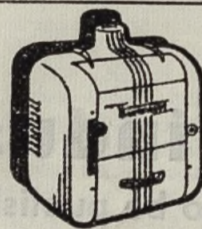
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