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EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, DISPUTES, AND PRICES IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT.

DURING August employment continued bad on the whole. An improvement was, however, reported in many industries, and particularly in pig iron, tinplate and sheet steel manufacture, and in the glass trades. In the brick and pottery trades, in agriculture and in the building trades employment generally was fairly good.

The percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received was 16·5 at the end of August compared with 16·7 at the end of July; the percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act fell from 14·8 at 29th July to 13·15 at 26th August. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 26th August was approximately 1,573,000, of whom 1,190,000 were men, 275,000 were women, and the remainder were boys and girls. In this connection it should be noted that at that date about 209,000 persons who were wholly unemployed had exhausted their unemployment benefit, of whom 104,000 had ceased to register at the Exchanges. At 29th July the number on the Live Register was 1,780,000, of whom 1,351,000 were men and 317,000 were women.

In addition to those unemployed, 218,600 males and 189,200 females were registered as working systematic short time at 26th August in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At 29th July the corresponding figures were 278,000 males and 256,000 females. There were also 13,600 persons working systematic short time whose unemployment benefit was exhausted.

The number of vacancies notified by employers to Exchanges and unfilled at the end of August was 21,000, of which 4,500 were for men and 14,400 for women, compared with 25,000 at the end of July.

WAGES.

Changes in rates of wages reported as having come into operation in August in the industries for which statistics are compiled by the Department affected nearly 3,160,000 workpeople, of whom 3,070,000 sustained decreases, while nearly 90,000 received increases. The net effect of all the changes was a reduction in weekly full-time wages of about £690,000.

The principal groups of workpeople affected by reductions included building trade operatives, whose wages were reduced by 1d. per hour in most of the towns in Great Britain; coal miners, for whom there was a further decrease in most of the coalfields of 6d. per shift in the case of those 16 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift in the case of those under 16; men employed in the engineering and various metal trades, in which the reductions amounted to 3s. per week for timeworkers and 7½ per cent. for pieceworkers, and dock labourers, whose wages were reduced by 2s. per day. Other important reductions affected workpeople in the heavy chemical, salt, soap and candle, coachbuilding, coopering, tanning and currying, cocoa and chocolate, confectionery, and seed-crushing trades and those employed by

tramway undertakings. The increases affected chiefly hosiery workers in the Midlands, and men employed on civil engineering construction works.

Since the beginning of 1921, changes in rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of over £3,550,000 in the weekly wages of over 6,000,000 workpeople, and a net increase of about £73,000 in the wages of 320,000 workpeople.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in August was 62. In addition, 43 disputes which began before August were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress at any time in August (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 26,000, as compared with 1,127,000 in the previous month, and 86,000 in August, 1920. The magnitude of the figure for July was due, of course, to the national stoppage in the coal mining industry, which remained unsettled until the beginning of July. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during August was over 200,000 working days, as compared with 6,300,000 days in July, 1921, and with nearly 900,000 days in August, 1920.

The estimated aggregate duration of all the 477 disputes reported during the first eight months of the present year was approximately 84,000,000 working days. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was approximately 1,680,000. In the corresponding period of 1920 the number of disputes reported was 1,367, involving approximately 690,000 workpeople, and resulting in an aggregate loss of about 8,300,000 working days.

RETAIL PRICES.

At 1st September the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light, and miscellaneous items) was about 120 per cent. above that of July, 1914. The corresponding figure for 2nd August was 122 per cent. The decrease in the percentage between the two dates is mainly due to reductions in the prices of certain articles of food, and in the prices of clothing and coal. For further particulars reference should be made to the article on page 462.

The statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

A special article appears on pages 452 to 455 dealing with recent criticisms of these statistics by a Joint Committee representing the Trades Union Congress, the Labour Party, the Co-operative Union, and other labour organisations.

LABOUR COMMITTEE ON THE COST OF LIVING.

CRITICISMS OF MINISTRY OF LABOUR STATISTICS.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for August (page 392) a summary was given of a Report recently issued by a Joint Committee appointed by the Trades Union Congress, the Labour Party, the Co-operative Union and other labour organisations to investigate the cost of living. A section of that Report is devoted to a "Criticism of the Ministry of Labour's Retail Prices Index Number," based on the results of an investigation by the Joint Committee into the increase in the cost of living between 1914 and September, 1920; and the Committee arrive at the conclusion that the Ministry of Labour index number at the latter date was 28 points too low. The Joint Committee's Report has now been examined by the Department, and it is proposed here to offer some reply to the criticisms which it contains, so far as this can be done on the basis of the evidence published by the Committee.

The percentages of increase arrived at by this Department (and published in the LABOUR GAZETTE for 1st September, 1920, and by the Joint Committee for September, 1920 (the exact date is not specified), are as shown below:—

Group of Items.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to September, 1920, as computed by:—	
	Ministry of Labour.	Labour Joint Committee.
Food	167	176
Clothing	330	330*
Rent and Rates	35	43
Fuel and Light	135	198
Other Items	130	270†
All Items	161	189

The differences shown are ascribed by the Joint Committee partly to the under-statement by the Ministry of Labour of the increase in the prices of certain items, and partly to the "over-weighting" of rents and rates and the "under-weighting" of clothing and "other items" by the Ministry of Labour in calculating the percentage increase for "all items."

In the following paragraphs the discrepancies revealed, as shown in the foregoing Table, are dealt with separately for each of the main groups of items, special attention being given to the details on which the Committee's charges as to the under-statement of increases in prices and incorrect "weighting" are based.

FOOD.

The average increase in food prices is computed by the Joint Committee to have been 176 per cent. between July, 1914, and September, 1920, as compared with the figure of 167 per cent. arrived at by the Ministry of Labour. For the purpose of this calculation the Committee take the average price of 10½ pints of fresh milk in 1914 as having been 1s. 4d., i.e., 3d. a quart (page 22 of their Report). Returns, however, collected in 1914 by the Department as to the price of milk in 500 different places show that, while in many places the price was 3d. a quart, in many others, including a considerable number of the larger towns, the usual price was 4d. Taking the country as a whole, the average price was about 3½d. a quart, not 3d. as taken by the Joint Committee, and if 3½d. had been taken instead of 3d. the Joint Committee's figure for expenditure on milk in 1914 would have been 1s. 7d. instead of 1s. 4d. On this account the Joint Committee's budget for food in 1914 is 3d. too low, and, to that extent, the increase in food prices which occurred between 1914 and 1920 is exaggerated by the Committee's figures.

According to the figures given in the Joint Committee's Table, condensed milk bought in September, 1920, for 9½d. could be bought in 1914 for 1½d. This is contrary to common knowledge, and indeed the contention is refuted by information given, on the authority of the Co-operative Union, in an Appendix to the Report itself, where on page 135 the prices of condensed milk are given as 6d. and 6½d. per tin for 1914, and 1s. 4½d. per tin for September, 1920. The increase shown by these figures accords with that registered by the Ministry of Labour. The increase was thus nearer 164 per cent. than the 533 per cent. indicated by the Joint Committee's figures. One of the two figures, 1½d. or 9½d., is obviously incorrect. The mistake is probably due to a slip of the pen, for the inclusion of the figures in the Committee's total (on page 22 of their Report) precludes the possibility of its being a printer's error. Assuming that the mistake is in the 1½d., and that the expenditure in 1920 was 9½d., it may be calculated that the corresponding figure for 1914 should be 3½d. instead of 1½d. Here again, the use of the 1½d. instead of 3½d. reduces the Joint Committee's 1914 food budget, and correspondingly exaggerates the increase between 1914 and 1920.

For currants and raisins and for egg substitutes the Committee have omitted to enter in their Table any figures for the expenditure upon these items in 1914 corresponding to that shown for 1920. The Table as it stands makes it appear that in 1914 the average working-class family obtained weekly, free of charge, a little over half a pound of currants and raisins and a small quantity of egg substitute. That, of course, was not the case, and the omission to state any figure must therefore be rectified. Returns collected by the Ministry show that the average price of currants had risen by about 165 per cent. and that of raisins

by about 180 per cent. between July, 1914, and September, 1920, so that 3d. would appear to be a fair entry for currants and raisins in 1914. For egg substitute the cost in 1914, corresponding to 1½d. in September, 1920, would have been between ½d. and 1d. By thus entering currants and raisins and egg substitutes as having been obtained free of charge in 1914, the Joint Committee still further exaggerate the aggregate increase in food prices which occurred between 1914 and 1920.

With these points cleared up, a corrected calculation can be made, from the Joint Committee's own data, for the percentage increase in food prices between 1914 and September, 1920. If the Joint Committee's 1914 column be increased by 3d. for fresh milk, 2d. for condensed milk, 3d. for currants and raisins, and ½d. or 1d. for egg substitutes, the total becomes 22s. 8½d. or 22s. 9d. for 1914 instead of 22s. The increase from this expenditure to that of 60s. 8d. in September, 1920, is approximately 167 per cent., instead of the 176 per cent. arrived at by the Joint Committee. This 167 per cent. is identical with the increase arrived at by the Ministry of Labour for food prices.

CLOTHING.

The Joint Committee do not criticise the Ministry of Labour's ascertainment of the percentage increase in the cost of clothing, which, indeed, they say "harmonises with the results of our own enquiry," but they contend that the "weight" assigned by the Ministry to clothing under-estimates the proportion of expenditure allocated to clothing in the average working-class budget.

This contention, however, is due to a misconception, in the minds of the Committee, of the precise significance of the "weights" used by the Department. The Committee state that the family budgets which they collected show an expenditure of 19-51 per cent. in respect of clothing in 1920. They also refer to the budgets obtained in 1919 by the Committee on Police Service, which showed an expenditure of over 13 per cent. on clothing, and they state that the Ministry of Labour's system of "weighting," based on pre-war expenditure, allows only 12 per cent. This is true, but the Committee has overlooked the fact that when the price of one item increases disproportionately to the price of the remaining items (as is the case with clothing), the proportion which that item forms of the total expenditure at the later date increases also. If the Joint Committee had made the calculation necessary to yield an appropriate basis of comparison they would have seen that the Ministry of Labour allocation of "weights" gives a distribution of expenditure for September, 1920, in which the expenditure on clothing comprises about 19 per cent. of the total expenditure, as compared with 19-51 per cent. taken by the Joint Committee. The two totals are not exactly comparable, owing to differences between the two compilations in the make-up of the total budget and the clothing group, but they are sufficiently comparable to provide an indication that the Joint Committee's complaint of inadequate "weighting" is unfounded. If the evidence of the Police budgets were accepted, it would go to show that both the Joint Committee's clothing item and that of the Ministry of Labour were too large, and, therefore, that both the Joint Committee and the Ministry of Labour index numbers were too high. The Police budgets, however, are inadmissible for this purpose, since it is clear that the expenditure on clothing in many of the budgets represented a standard which had been depressed below the pre-war level, in consequence of the fact that the increases in the pay of the Police, between July, 1914, and the spring of 1919, had not been wholly commensurate with the rise in retail prices.

RENTS.

The Joint Committee have two criticisms to make in regard to the Ministry's estimate for the increase in working-class rents: first, that the percentage by which rents were actually increased is understated by the Ministry (page 28); and second, that an undue "weight" is given to rent as an item in 1920 family expenditure, and that the increase in the cost of living is thereby minimised (pages 17 and 19).

As regards the first of these points, the Joint Committee in their Report (page 28) arrive at 7s. 11d. as the average rent (including rates) of a "standard family" in September, 1920, as indicated by the "budgets" which they collected. On the supposition that the maximum legal increase in rents (averaging about 43 per cent. at that time) had been universally imposed, the Joint Committee reduce this figure in appropriate ratio, and thereby arrive at an estimated pre-war average rent of 5s. 6½d. On what volume of information the assumption that effect had already been given to the whole of the legally permitted increase of 43 per cent. was based is not stated, but a figure which implies that within one month of the earliest possible date at which the provisions of the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act of 1920, permitting certain increases in rents, could have been put into force by the house-owners, the rents of all working-class houses had been put up to the legally permitted maximum, would seem to require some considerable substantiation. On this point it may be recalled that the Act did not receive the Royal Assent until 2nd July, 1920, and that house-owners were required to give four clear weeks' notice in writing, in a prescribed form, of their intention to impose the permitted increases (other than those in respect of increased rates), before these could become operative. The Ministry of Labour is in possession of a large volume of evidence as a result of special enquiries that were made, at the time, of Property Owners' Associations, Trades Councils and Tenants' Associations in a large number of towns, from which it is clear that in a considerable proportion of cases the permitted increases were not imposed

until after 1st September, 1920; and from this data it was estimated that at 1st September, 1920, rents, including rates, of working-class dwellings had increased on the average by about 35 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. Before this percentage could reasonably be rejected, much more substantiation of the Committee's conclusion would be required than is contained in the phrase "The information we have received goes to show that this figure (43 per cent.) had on the whole been reached" (page 28 of their Report). Had the Committee adopted in their calculation the percentage increase arrived at by the Ministry of Labour, instead of assuming the maximum legal increase, their ascertained rent of 7s. 11d. for September, 1920, would have given them a corresponding pre-war rent of 5s. 10d. The results of the investigations made by Lord Sumner's Committee on the Cost of Living in 1918 indicate that this would have been a much more likely figure than the Joint Committee's 5s. 6½d. The Sumner Report gave an average pre-war rent of 5s. 7d. for unskilled workmen's families, 6s. 3d. for families in the semi-skilled class, and 7s. 3d. for those in the skilled class. Even if the figure of 7s. 3d. (the inclusion of which would give a figure higher than that adopted either by the Joint Committee or by the Ministry of Labour) is disregarded, the other two figures yield a mean of 5s. 11d. This figure of 5s. 11d., as also the figure of 5s. 10d. arrived at by applying the Ministry of Labour's percentage increase to the Joint Committee's ascertained 1920 expenditure on rent as stated above, are both nearer to the Ministry's estimate of about 6s. than they are to the Joint Committee's estimate of 5s. 6½d.

The Joint Committee's contention that the pre-war "weight" used by this Ministry for rent is too high, so far as it depends on the substitution of this sum of 5s. 6½d. for the 6s. used by this Ministry, is thus seen to rest on an assumption, in support of which no evidence is produced in the Report, that the whole of the maximum permitted increase in rents (averaging 43 per cent.) had actually been imposed in every case by 1st September, 1920. The Ministry of Labour, in the absence of proof to the contrary, sees no reason to question its ascertainment of 35 per cent. as the increase of working-class rents between July, 1914, and September, 1920, and if this figure is correct the average rent shown in the Joint Committee's budgets for September, 1920, lends substantial support to the "weight" used by this Ministry for rent. The further contention of the Committee (page 17 of the Report) that the procedure of the Ministry of Labour is faulty in that it applies the same weight to rent and rates in 1920 as in 1914, and thereby unduly reduces the cost of living index number, implies a misunderstanding of the true purpose and use of "weights," which is dealt with in a later section of this article.

FUEL AND LIGHT.

In the "fuel and light" group the conclusions of the Joint Committee as to the movement of prices agree closely with those of the Ministry of Labour except as regards the price of coal, for which the Committee arrive at an increase of 225 per cent. between July, 1914, and September, 1920, compared with 145 per cent. as calculated by this Department. This difference is due mainly to the fact that the Committee have put the 1914 price too low, viz., at 10½d. to 1s. per cwt. The Board of Trade Report on Cost of Living in 1912 showed that the predominant prices in October, 1912, as ascertained by exhaustive enquiries in 93 of the principal industrial towns, were 1s. to 1s. 3d. per cwt. Regular returns as to the price of coal have been received by the Department from its local correspondents since early in the war; returns of pre-war prices have also been collected direct from retailers; and, in addition, information as to pre-war prices in a large number of towns has been obtained from the Coal Mines Department. Although the prices charged varied greatly in different places, according to the distance from the coalfields and to other circumstances, the average price, for the whole country, is shown by this information to have been about 1s. 2d. per cwt. in 1914.

As regards "weighting," the Report again confuses the "weights" employed, applicable to a particular reference date, with the distribution of expenditure at subsequent dates, and the statements on pages 29 and 30 of the Report that lamp-oil, candles, and matches are under-weighted in the Ministry of Labour statistics, and that this is the more serious in that these commodities have increased in price more than the other items in the "fuel and light" group, are the outcome of this confusion. The same misunderstanding has led the Committee to calculate a general average by a method which is arithmetically inadmissible. In Table X, on page 30, they compute an average increase for the fuel and light group by applying to the percentage increases on 1914 prices "weights" proportionate to 1920 expenditure, and consequently arrive at a result (198 per cent.) which is incorrect. The following Table shows how the arithmetic should be done in order to obtain a correct average increase:—

	Committee's ascertainment of Expenditure, September, 1920.	Committee's statement of Increase since July, 1914.	Corresponding Expenditure, July, 1914.*
	s. d.	Per cent.	s. d.
Coal	4 6	225	1 4½
Gas	1 7½	88	10½
Oil, Candles, Fire-wood, Matches.	1 2½	250	4½
Total	7 4	—	2 7½

Increase from July, 1914 (2s. 7½d.) to Sept., 1920 (7s. 4d.) = 183 %.

* Computed (by the Ministry of Labour) from the figures in the two preceding columns.

The average increase between the two dates is seen to be 183 per cent., not 198 per cent., as computed by the Committee.

This error of 15 points arises even if the Joint Committee's prices are accepted, but, as has been remarked above, the Committee's figures for the price of coal in July, 1914, are inaccurate. When a further correction is made on this account a calculation from the Joint Committee's data yields an index number for the fuel and light group not materially different from that arrived at by the Ministry of Labour.

OTHER ITEMS.

The Joint Committee's first criticism of the "other items" group in the Ministry of Labour's calculations is that it is given too little weight in the household budget, since the Ministry gives to "other items" a weight equivalent to 4 per cent., whereas the Sumner Committee's 1914 budget allows 11 per cent., and the Joint Committee's standard budget (for 1920) allocates 14-9 per cent. of the total expenditure to "other items" (page 19 of the Report).

In the first place it may be observed that the Joint Committee have again made an invalid comparison between 1914 "weights" and 1920 expenditure. Table XIV, on page 33 of their Report shows that the "weight" used for "other items" in their own calculations is 11-64 per cent., and not the 14-9 per cent. referred to on page 19. They have also overlooked the fact that the Ministry of Labour statistics do not profess to include all other items. The weight of ½ (out of 12½) for the Ministry's miscellaneous group relates to those other items which are included. It should be observed that the inclusion in the statistics of only a selection of the items coming under miscellaneous household expenditure neither minimises or inflates the index number, provided that the average increase in the prices of the articles excluded, taken as a whole, is not widely different from that of the items included within the scope of the statistics.

The inclusion in "other items" of only a selection of the innumerable miscellaneous items of household expenditure is necessitated by the fact that in the construction of a satisfactory index number only articles of which the changes in price can be definitely ascertained, and which are also of general and recurring use, can be taken into account. The Joint Committee, in seeking to include in their index a figure representing each and every item upon which a working-class family may spend a few odd shillings or pence in the year have themselves encountered this difficulty. They state (page 31) that "though we have made estimates of the rise which took place between July, 1914, and September, 1920, in the prices of household renewals and cleaning materials, we do not pretend that we can form any estimate of the rise in the remaining miscellaneous articles and forms of expenditure which fall into the general group of 'other items.'" They thereupon have resort to a method of calculating the average increase in the price of "other items" which will not bear examination. They take the expenditure in 1914 estimated by the Sumner Committee for insurance, fares, and sundries, reduce the total of these items to allow for the smaller family in the Joint Committee's standard budget, and regard the result as being expenditure in 1914 on "other items" comparable, more or less, with the Joint Committee's Budget expenditure of 17s. 3d. in 1920. But in the Sumner Report the term "sundries" included oil, candles, matches and firewood, which the Joint Committee have already included elsewhere (i.e., in the Fuel and Light Group), and the remainder of the Sumner Committee group of "sundries" consisted of cleaning materials only; while, on the other hand, the "other items" group in the Joint Committee's Report includes expenditure on many things entirely excluded from the Sumner Committee's calculations. In other words, the Committee have taken the expenditure on a certain group of items in 1914, as estimated by the Sumner Committee, compared it with the expenditure on a different and larger group of items in 1920, as shown by their own budgets, and have drawn from the comparison the completely fallacious conclusion that the average prices of the articles in their own "other items" group had increased in that ratio. In this way the Joint Committee arrive at a figure of 270 per cent. as the average increase in the prices of "other items," and they proceed to use this figure in the calculation of their final index number in preference to the figure of 130 per cent. arrived at by this Department by the more valid method of comparing the price of each item, in 1920, with the corresponding price of the same item in 1914.

In the circumstances, any further consideration of whether the increase of 130 per cent. for the "other items" group in the Ministry of Labour calculations requires modification in the light of the Joint Committee's Report would seem to be unnecessary.

THE COMMITTEE'S CRITICISM OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR "WEIGHTS."

References have been made above, in dealing with the various groups of items, to the Committee's misconception of the nature and purpose of the system of "weighting" used by this Department (as by statisticians generally) in calculating its final index number. This feature of their Report, however, calls for further comment.

The methods employed in the construction of the Ministry of Labour index number were fully explained in the LABOUR GAZETTE for February last. The explanation there published is too lengthy to be reproduced in full, but it may be briefly stated that if between any two dates the percentage increases in the prices of different articles show wide variations, it is necessary, in attempting to calculate the average increase, to make allowance for the varying importance of the different items

* Excluding boot repairs. † Including boot repairs. ‡ 8½c in original.

in working-class family expenditure. This is done by multiplying the percentage increase for each item by a number (technically known as a "weight") representing the proportionate expenditure allotted to that item in the family "budget," and by dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers or "weights." Thus, in the Ministry of Labour index number, the percentage increase for food is multiplied by 7½, that for rent by 2, clothing by 1½, fuel and light by 1, and "other items included" by ½; the results being added together and then divided by 12½ (the sum of the weights) to obtain the final percentage for "all items."

The Joint Committee criticise the Department for using "weights" for this purpose based on 1914 expenditure instead of 1920 expenditure. For example, they say (on page 17 of their Report) :—

"The average working-class family does not devote as large a proportion of its expenditure to rent and rates today as it did before the War. To apply the same 'weight' to rent and rates in 1920 as in 1914 is, therefore, tantamount to minimising the effect of the higher percentage increases in other items of family expenditure, and results in actually reducing the cost of living 'index number' of the Ministry of Labour."

Again they say (on page 21) :—

"The Ministry of Labour adopted in 1920 the same 'weights' for the five groups of items into which family expenditure is analysed as they did in 1914. The 'weights' in our investigation have been varied according to the actual expenditure on each of the groups of items in 1914 and 1920 respectively."

As regards the first of these paragraphs, it may be pointed out that the Ministry of Labour index number is designed to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living in working-class families. This is always quite definitely stated in the LABOUR GAZETTE (see page 462), and for the purpose of such a calculation it is necessary that the weights used (to which the percentage increases are applied) should be based on the pre-war budget. If they were based on 1920 budgets the effect would be to show the increase in the cost, not of the pre-war standard of living, but of a differently constituted standard.

As regards the second of the two paragraphs quoted, the Committee's criticism is the outcome of a confusion of thought which has led to a failure to recognise that if the percentage increases in the prices of various items between 1914 and 1920 have been ascertained, and it is desired to combine these percentages into one general average, there can only be one set of "weights" (or multipliers) employed in the process of making the calculation, and no question of "varying" the weights can arise in such a case.* Moreover, a simple arithmetical experiment will be sufficient to show that if the percentage increases which are to be averaged are percentages of the 1914 prices (as in the case of the Ministry of Labour index number), the correct result can only be obtained by using weights proportionate to 1914 expenditure. That this is so may actually be seen from the procedure of the Committee. For example, in Table XV., on page 33 of their Report, they show their own "weights," thus :—

	Joint Committee, July, 1914.	Joint Committee, September, 1920.
Food	54.89	52.41
Clothing	13.62	19.51
Rent and Rates	13.72	6.84
Fuel and Light	6.13	6.34
Other Items	11.64	14.90
	100.00	100.00

In Table XIV. on the same page they also show the construction of their own index number, thus :—

	Weights.	Percentage Increases.	
Food	54.89	176	+ 100 = 96.60
Clothing	13.62	313	+ 100 = 42.63
Rent and Rates	13.72	43	+ 100 = 5.90
Fuel and Light	6.13	198	+ 100 = 12.14
Other Items	11.64	270	+ 100 = 31.43
			188.70
			= 189 approx.

It will be seen that the weights here used by the Joint Committee are the 1914 "weights" from Table XV., and not the 1920 "weights." If the latter had been used, a different percentage would have been obtained. The contention, advanced in the Report, that because expenditure on rent and rates formed a smaller part of the total expenditure in 1920 than in 1914 the use of 1914 weights is necessarily invalid, is thus refuted by the Joint Committee's own procedure in Table XIV.

The same misconception forms the basis of other criticisms of the Ministry of Labour statistics contained in the Report. Thus, on page 17, Table II. purports to give a comparison of "weights" based on the Committee's investigation and the "weights" of the Ministry of Labour, in which, for example, the proportion of income spent on clothing is set down by the Joint Committee as 19.51 per cent., as against the 12 per cent. taken by the Ministry of Labour, and the proportion allotted to rent and rates by the Joint Committee is 6.84 per cent., as compared with 16 per cent. in the Ministry of Labour "weights." Although it is not so stated in the Table, the Joint Committee's

* This is not intended to imply that a system of varying or sliding weights may not be appropriate in some other cases in the calculation of index numbers.

figures relate to the distribution of working-class expenditure in September, 1920, as calculated by the Committee on the basis of 629 budgets of expenditure which they collected for the purpose, whereas the Ministry of Labour "weights" which they quote relate to the proportions of expenditure allocated to the same items in 1914. Notwithstanding this vital difference in the dates to which the respective figures relate, the Report asserts that "the serious differences between the two sets of figures clearly call for some explanation, for if we are right in our conclusions the Ministry of Labour is wrong." The explanation of the "serious differences" observed by the Committee lies, of course, in the fact that one set of figures relates to 1914, whereas the other relates to 1920, and in view of the very different percentages of increase which had occurred in the cost of these items between 1914 and 1920, it would be surprising if they did not show serious differences. Indeed, the Joint Committee's own figures for July, 1914, and September, 1920, as shown in Table XV. (page 33 of their Report), quoted above, show differences similar to those in Table II., which form the basis of the Committee's comments. If the Ministry of Labour figures for July, 1914, had been compared with the Committee's figures for the same date it would have been seen that the differences revealed were much smaller.

That the Joint Committee's comments in the passage quoted from page 17 are due not to an accidental oversight, but to a failure to understand the meaning and purpose of the weighting system used in statistical computations of this kind, is further revealed in Table XVI., on page 33, in which the Committee take an average weekly family expenditure of £5 15s. 9d. in September, 1920, and show how it would be allocated on the basis of the Ministry of Labour 1914 "weights," without making the necessary allowance for the varying increases in the prices of different commodities between 1914 and September, 1920. After making this calculation, which produces an expenditure of 18s. 6d. a week on rent and rates, the Committee say: "We do not think it can be seriously contended that out of a working-class family expenditure of £5 15s. 9d. in September, 1920, the sum of 18s. 6d. per week was on the average devoted to rent and rates." The Ministry of Labour, however, has never advanced such a contention, and a calculation such as is here made by the Committee involves an inaccurate and misleading use of the Ministry of Labour weights for a purpose for which they are not intended and in a manner in which they would not be used by this Department.

How slight is the foundation for a charge that the Department's "weights" are seriously defective may be judged from the fact that even if the "weights" used by the Committee in obtaining their final index number (as shown on page 33 of their Report) were substituted for those used by the Department, the Ministry of Labour index number for 1st September, 1920, would be affected only to the extent of 4 points (i.e., 161 would become 165). As indicated above, however, the Committee's "weights" are inapplicable for the purpose of an index number designed to measure changes in the cost of maintaining a pre-war standard.

SUMMARY.

It has been shown above that, as regards the Joint Committee's allegation that the increases in the prices of certain items of expenditure between July, 1914, and September, 1920, were understated by this Ministry, miscalculations by the Committee rather than under-statements by this Department are responsible for the discrepancies between the results of the respective calculations. In the case of food, the Committee's final percentage of increase has been inflated as a result of the under-statement of the 1914 cost of fresh milk, condensed milk, currants and raisins and egg substitute. For rent and rates, the Committee's percentage depends on an assumption, which is invalidated by evidence collected by this Department, that the maximum increase in rents permissible under the Act of July, 1920, had in all cases been actually put into operation by September of that year. In the fuel and light group the pre-war price of coal is under-stated, and the percentage increase arrived at by the Committee for the whole group is over-stated owing to an error in the calculation. For the "other items" group the Committee's high percentage of increase has been obtained by comparing family expenditure on a particular group of items in 1920, as computed by the Committee, with an estimate, made by a different Committee, of family expenditure on a differently constituted and non-comparable group of items in 1914. It has also been shown that the Committee's criticisms of the Ministry of Labour "weights" are due in part to a misunderstanding of the purpose and correct use of "weights" in the calculation of index numbers, and, in part, to a failure to appreciate the purpose which this Department's index number is designed to serve as a measure of the increase in the cost of maintaining a pre-war standard of living.

As has frequently been stated by the Department, the Ministry of Labour index number is designed to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. The measurement of factors of such complexity as those which are involved in this definition could never, of course, be so precise as to justify an assertion that the average percentage increase for the United Kingdom as a whole could be computed with accuracy to a decimal point or even to a single integer. For this reason the Department is always careful to express the results of its computations as being "about ... per cent.," and it is important that it should be understood that from the nature of the problem no greater degree of precision could be attained than is suggested by such a phrase. For the reasons which have been

adduced above, however, the Department is unable to accept an unqualified assertion that its index number is either too low or too high by 28 points, or indeed by any number of points approaching this magnitude.

It may be added that the time is no doubt approaching when it will become desirable that a fresh calculation should be introduced, designed to measure the changes in the cost of maintaining a post-war standard of living, instead of a pre-war standard. It should be realised, however, that the new series of index numbers which would be produced by such a calculation, though they might (and no doubt would) differ slightly from those published on the basis of a pre-war standard, would do so not because of inaccuracies in the figures hitherto published, but because they would be designed to measure something substantially different from that which has hitherto been measured by the existing numbers. Before such a series of calculations could be instituted, a new and comprehensive enquiry into the distribution of working-class family expenditure would be required, and it would obviously be inappropriate that if such an enquiry were intended to form the basis of an index number to serve for a period of years to come, it should be undertaken during the prevalence of the present abnormal conditions. In the meantime, it seems necessary that the Department should draw the special attention of all who are interested in its retail prices index number to the carefully worded definition which is always published in conjunction with the figures, in every issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE (see page 462 of this issue), and to the desirability of bearing this definition in mind when the question of the accuracy of the calculations is under consideration.

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1921.

PRELIMINARY Reports* on the Census of Population taken on 19th June show that 37,885,242 persons were enumerated in England and Wales and 4,882,288 in Scotland. A comparison between these totals and those for each previous Census since 1871 is given in the following Table :—

Year.	England and Wales.			Scotland.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1871	11,058,934	11,653,332	22,712,266	1,603,143	1,756,875	3,360,018
1881	12,639,902	13,334,537	25,974,439	1,799,475	1,836,098	3,735,573
1891	14,052,901	14,949,624	29,002,525	1,942,717	2,062,930	4,025,647
1901	15,728,613	16,799,230	32,527,843	2,173,755	2,295,243	4,475,103
1911	17,445,698	18,624,884	36,070,582	2,308,239	2,452,065	4,760,304
1921	18,082,220	19,803,022	37,885,242	2,546,403	2,535,885	4,882,288

The decennial rates of increase from 1911 to 1921—4.93 per cent. in England and Wales and 2.5 per cent. in Scotland—are the lowest recorded since the first Census was taken in 1801. In the previous decade the rates of increase were 10.89 and 6.5 per cent. respectively.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

The population of England and Wales is returned as 18,082,220 males and 19,803,022 females, equivalent to a proportion of 1,095 females to 1,000 males.

The geographical distribution of the population shows that 30,034,385 persons, or 79.3 per cent. of the total, were enumerated in county boroughs, municipal boroughs and urban districts, and 7,850,857, or 20.7 per cent. in rural districts.

In the following table the population is given for towns with over 100,000 persons, together with the percentage increase or decrease since 1911.

Town.	Population 1921.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1911.	Town.	Population 1921.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1911.
London (City and Administrative County)	4,483,249	- 0.9	Sunderland	159,100	+ 5.3
Birmingham	919,438	+ 9.4	Swansea	157,561	+ 9.4
Liverpool	803,118	+ 6.5	Tottenham	146,695	+ 6.8
Manchester	730,551	+ 2.3	Birkenhead	145,592	+ 11.3
Sheffield	490,724	+ 6.6	Oldham	145,001	- 1.7
Leeds	458,320	+ 2.2	East Ham	143,304	+ 7.4
Bristol	377,061	+ 5.6	Brighton	142,427	+ 8.5
West Ham	300,905	+ 4.1	Middlesbrough	131,103	+ 9.3
Kingston-upon-Hull	287,013	+ 3.2	Derby	129,836	+ 5.2
Bradford	285,979	+ 0.9	Leyton	128,432	+ 3.0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	274,955	+ 3.1	Coventry	128,205	+ 20.6
Nottingham	262,558	+ 1.1	Walthamstow	127,441	+ 2.3
Portsmouth	247,343	+ 5.9	Blackburn	126,630	- 4.8
Stoke-on-Trent	240,440	+ 2.5	Gateshead	124,514	+ 6.5
Leices. er	234,190	+ 3.1	Stockport	123,515	+ 2.9
Salford	234,150	+ 1.2	Norwich	120,653	- 1.3
Plymouth	209,857	+ 1.2	Preston	117,426	+ 0.3
Cardif	200,262	+ 9.9	South Shields	116,667	+ 7.4
Croydon	190,577	+ 12.6	Huddersfield	110,120	+ 2.1
Bolton	178,578	- 1.2	Southend-on-Sea	106,021	+ 50.0
Willesden	165,669	+ 7.4	Burnley	103,175	- 3.4
Rhondda	162,729	+ 6.5	St. Helens	102,676	+ 6.3
Southampton	160,997	+ 11.6	Wolverhampton	102,373	+ 7.4

* England and Wales: Cmd. 1485. Price 1s. net. Scotland: Cmd. 1473. Price 1s. 6d. net.

The population of Greater London is returned as 7,476,168, an increase of 5.1 per cent. compared with 1911. This total includes 4,483,249 persons in the Administrative County and the City of London and 2,992,919 in the Outer Ring.* The latter figure includes 300,905 in West Ham, 190,877 in Croydon, 165,669 in Willesden, 146,695 in Tottenham, 143,304 in East Ham, 128,432 in Leyton, and 127,441 in Walthamstow.

SCOTLAND.

The population of Scotland was returned as 2,348,403 males and 2,533,885 females, equivalent to a proportion of 1,079 females to 1,000 males.

The towns with a population of over 100,000 are Glasgow (1,034,069), Edinburgh (420,281), Dundee (168,217), and Aberdeen (158,969). Compared with 1911, there was an increase of 2.5 per cent. in Glasgow, and decreases of 0.9 per cent. in Edinburgh, 4.6 per cent. in Dundee, and 3.0 per cent. in Aberdeen.

The number of persons enumerated in Glasgow represents 21.2 per cent. of the total population of Scotland. Since 1911 the boundaries of the burgh have been considerably extended, this being indicated by the fact that in 1911 the population within the old boundaries was 784,496, and that within the area now covered by the burgh 1,008,487.

MINIMUM RATE OF WAGES IN AGRICULTURE.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1920 (page 479), and February, 1921 (page 62), particulars were given of the minimum rates of wages fixed by the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales for male and female workers in agriculture. Under an Order recently issued by the Board these rates have been reduced as from 5th September, 1921.

In the case of adult male workers the new minimum rates for ordinary labourers represent a reduction in 35 counties of 4s. per week, whilst in other counties the reduction varies from 4s. 6d. to 6s. per week. The rates for overtime have also been reduced, and are now 1s. 1d. or 1s. 1½d. per hour on week-days and 1s. 3½d. or 1s. 4d. on Sundays. The following Table shows the minimum rates fixed by the new Order for ordinary labourers of 21 years of age and over. It should be noted that these rates are inclusive of the value of allowances of board and lodging, cottage, milk and potatoes, where these are provided by the employer :—

Minimum Rate per week.	Counties.
s. d.	
47 0	Cheshire.
44 6	Durham and Northumberland.
44 0	Glamorgan and Monmouth.
43 0	Yorkshire.
42 6	Lincolnshire and Middlesex.
42 0	Anglesey, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Brecon, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Cornwall, Cumberland, Denbigh, Derbyshire, Devonshire, Dorset, Essex, Flint, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Merioneth, Montgomery, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Pembroke, Radnor, Rutland, Shropshire, Somerset, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Westmorland, Wiltshire and Worcestershire.

The weekly hours of labour in respect of which these rates are payable are 50 in summer and 48 in winter, except in Cheshire, where they are 54 all the year round.

In 34 counties the minimum rates are the same for all classes of workers, but in the remaining counties special minimum rates are fixed for horsemen, cattlemen, shepherds, &c., payable in respect of hours ranging from 50 to 63 per week in summer and from 48 to 63 in winter. These rates now range from 48s. for under-horsemen in Gloucestershire, stockmen, team-men, carters and shepherds in Merioneth and Montgomery, to 56s. for horsemen, cattlemen and shepherds in Cumberland and Westmorland. In Essex a special minimum rate of 46s. is fixed for men engaged in market gardening.

In the case of male workers under 21 years of age the minimum rates now fixed are as follows :—

Age.	Minimum Weekly Rates in			
	Northumberland, Durham, Glamorgan and Monmouth.	Yorkshire.	Lincolnshire and Middlesex.	Other Counties.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
20 and under 21 years	41 0	40 0	40 0	39 0
" " 20	38 6	37 6	37 0	37 0
" " 19	36 0	35 0	35 0	35 0
" " 18	28 0	28 0	28 0	28 0
" " 17	23 6	22 6	22 0	22 0
" " 16	19 0	18 6	18 6	18 0
" " 15	14 6	15 0	14 0	14 0
Under 14 years	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0

* Greater London corresponds with the area covered by the City of London and Metropolitan Police districts. The Outer Ring is that portion of Greater London which lies outside the County of London.
† Except Cheshire, where higher rates are payable in respect of a week of 54 hours. In Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness the rate for boys of 14 and under 15 years is 15s.

In a few counties higher rates have been fixed for youths and boys employed as cattlemen, horsemen, shepherds, &c.

The minimum rates fixed for women and girls formerly ranged from 3d. per hour for those under 14 years to 8d. per hour for those of 18 years and over in all counties except Yorkshire, where the range was 3d. to 10d. Under the new Order the rates range from 2½d. to 7d., except in Yorkshire, where they are 3d. to 8d. The hours of labour in respect of which these rates are payable are 8 or 8½ per day. The overtime rates have also been reduced. In the case of women of 18 years and over the rates are now 10d. per hour on week-days and 1s. on Sundays, in place of 1s. 0½d. and 1s. 3d. respectively, in Yorkshire, and 9d. and 10½d. in place of 10d. and 1s. in other counties.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES.

DURING the five weeks ending 3rd September there have been reported to the Department nine meetings of Joint Industrial Councils; a number of meetings of District Councils and various Sub-Committees have also been held.

WAGES AGREEMENTS.

An agreement has now been reached for a reduction in wages in the *Chemical Trade* (see *LABOUR GAZETTE* for August, page 383), the agreement providing for a reduction of 1½d. per hour as from the first pay day in August, and a further ½d. per hour from the 1st October for both day and shift men; the wages so reduced were stabilised until the end of this year. By an agreement effected at a meeting of the Trade Joint Council for *Government Engineering Establishments* on 22nd August, the wages of women are to be reduced by 5s. 6d. per week; a further meeting is to be held in October to consider the amount of a further reduction. The Yorkshire Area Council of the *Freestone Quarrying Industry*, after several meetings, agreed on 11th August that the amount of reduction due under the sliding scale agreement was ½d. per hour for skilled men until 16th September, and thereafter another ½d. per hour reduction; labourers' rates were to be reduced by 2d. per hour from 15th September. As a result of three meetings of the West of England District Council of the *National Wool (and Allied) Textile Industrial Council*, an agreement involving a reduction in wages was reached on 18th August. The basis of the agreement is an award by Mr. E. H. C. Wethered, dated 10th April, 1920, in which the rates for the various classes of operatives engaged on time and piece work are scheduled. After prolonged negotiations, it was agreed that the time and piece rates scheduled in the award, less 10 per cent., and a cost of living figure of 115 per cent., should be regarded as the basis; that the cost of living figure of 115 per cent. and subsequent figures should be increased or decreased by 2½ per cent. for each change of five points in the cost of living index figure, adjustments to be made after the quarterly meeting of the Industrial Council, to take effect the next full week after the meeting. No alteration is to be made for less than five points change in the cost of living, and the balance of points is to be carried forward to the next quarter. It was further agreed that, in fixing time rates, the nearest sixpence to the amount should be taken as standard rate, and that six months' notice on either side should be given of any desire to amend the scheme. The reduction of 10 per cent. came into operation for the week ending 12th August.

By the award of an arbitrator appointed under the Industrial Courts Act on a reference from the District Council for the *South Wales and Monmouthshire Local Authorities Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers)*, wages are to be reduced by 4d. per hour in four equal instalments, viz., 1d. from 15th August, 1d. from 12th September, 1d. from 10th October, and 1d. from 14th November. The agreement arrived at by the *Electricity Supply National Council* has been adopted by the District Council for the South Coast Area.

In addition, wages have been under consideration by the joint bodies representing the following trades:—*Printing, Soap and Candle Manufacture, and Furniture Warehousing and Removing*; overtime rates have been considered by the Joint Industrial Council for the *Hosiery Industry*.

OTHER TOPICS.

The question of a greater measure of short time or accelerated discharges to meet the situation which has arisen at Woolwich Arsenal was discussed by the *War Office Industrial Council*. The de-watering of Tin Mines in the *Tin Mining Industry* was discussed by the Tin Mining Council; unemployment was also discussed, and the Council received a deputation from the Redruth and Camborne District Committee. The National Council for the Administrative and Legal Departments of the *Civil Service*, at a meeting convened on 4th August at the request of the Staff Side, had under consideration (1) the progress of reorganisation; (2) the Report of the Committee on the Appointment of Ex-Service Men to the Civil Service; (3) the scope of the Council as regards Civil Servants drawing salaries of over £500 per year.

The Convening Committee of the Association of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees has considered items for the Agenda for the next meeting of the Association, to be held on 20th September.

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE 53rd Annual Trades Union Congress of the United Kingdom was held at Cardiff on the 5th September and the five following days. The Congress was presided over by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, Mr. E. L. Poulton, O.B.E., J.P. An analysis by groups of trades of the composition of the Congress is given below:—

Groups of Trades.	1920*			1921*		
	Number of Organisations.	Number of Delegates.	Number of Members.	Number of Organisations.	Number of Delegates.	Number of Members.
Building	14	40	375,341	11	44	403,743
Mining and Quarrying	8	213	941,415	6	161	936,872
Metal, Engineering and Ship building	43	143	963,601	38	141	978,908
Textile	25†	146	588,821	22†	104	603,794
Clothing	8	32	259,493	9	31	230,493
Railway Service	3	24	625,100	3	23	616,196
Other Transport	17	59	336,563	16	54	334,282
Agriculture and Fishing	2	12	131,000	2	12	131,000
Printing, Paper etc.	13	36	179,482	12	36	196,450
Woodworking and Furnishing	9	15	95,781	7	13	101,974
Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	3	18	101,000	4	26	217,500
Miscellaneous	33	67	279,118	28	47	237,650
General Labour	8	122	1,412,134	5	111	1,211,893
Employees of Public Authorities	9	23	185,958	7	20	188,388
Total	195	955	6,494,707	170	823	6,389,123

The number of organisations represented showed a considerable decline, due to amalgamations. The total membership represented showed a decrease of rather more than 100,000 (or 1.6 per cent.), chiefly owing to a decline in the membership of General Labour Unions. The increase in the group of Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc., is due to the inclusion of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, which was formed at the beginning of 1921 by the joining of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and Allied Workers (which was not represented at the previous Congress) with the National Union of Warehouse and General Workers (which was included under General Labour).

The question of unemployment naturally received a considerable amount of attention from Congress. A composite resolution on unemployment, which embodied the main points of the many resolutions on the Agenda, was moved by the chairman of the Congress. The view was expressed that it was the duty of the State to provide work or adequate maintenance for every willing worker, and while the action of those Boards of Guardians who had made an endeavour adequately to relieve the necessities of the unemployed was approved, the opinion was expressed that the burden of unemployment, due mainly to the war, should not be imposed upon the ratepayers. The resolution asked that Parliament should immediately be summoned to introduce schemes of work and to remove the inequalities of rating obtaining in the London area. The resolution finally instructed the new General Council to co-operate with the political side of the labour movement in action to secure these objects. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gosling, and was carried unanimously. Speeches were made in the course of the debate by Messrs. Bevin, J. Jones, M.P., Ben Turner, Clynes, M.P., and Ben Tillet, M.P.

The retail price statistics published by the Ministry of Labour were adversely criticised, and a resolution was passed calling attention to the discrepancy existing between them and those prepared by the Labour Joint Committee.† The resolution also condemned attempts made by firms, and in some cases by industries, to withhold relevant information required by Government Committees set up to inquire into profits, and viewed with great apprehension the continued growth of trusts and combines.

Foreign affairs received some attention. A resolution was passed expressing satisfaction that the President of the United States was calling an international Conference to discuss disarmament, and a further resolution asked for adequate direct representation of labour on the Council of the League of Nations. Sympathy with the Russian people was also expressed by the Congress, and the General Council was empowered "to use the whole power of organised British labour" to induce the Government to furnish medical supplies, means of transport, raw material and money credits.

Among the matters referred to the General Council for action was that of co-operating in the scheme put forward in the report of a Trade Union Committee of Enquiry on educational facilities for Trade Unionists. The Council was also instructed to take immediately all steps necessary to safeguard the interests of trade unionists "denied the right to work" in the Belfast area. It

* The figures for 1920 have been revised since their publication in the *LABOUR GAZETTE* for September, 1920. Those for 1921 are provisional and subject to slight correction.

† In some of the textile, etc., trades not only are amalgamated associations represented as such, but the branch associations of which they consist send separate delegates. These branch associations have not been reckoned as separate organisations.

‡ An Account of the Report of the Labour Joint Committee was given in the August issue of the *LABOUR GAZETTE* at page 392. See also the special article on pages 452 to 455 dealing with the criticisms of the Ministry of Labour Statistics, made by the Labour Joint Committee.

was empowered, in conjunction with the National Union of Clerks and other unions, to set up a Joint Board to deal with matters affecting conditions of employment in Trade Union offices, and was instructed to report to Congress on the possibility and desirability of fixing a minimum wage for all workers.

Certain matters of importance appearing on the Agenda regarding the internal organisation of the Trade Union movement gave rise to discussion, but not to action. A resolution for the central control of industrial disputes, brought forward jointly by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the General Workers' Union, was the subject of heated controversy. It was opposed by representatives of the Miners' Federation, the National Union of Railwaymen, and the Boilermakers' Society, and was defeated by a large majority. The dispute between the National Union of Railwaymen and the Amalgamated Engineering Union on the organisation of railway shopmen, and a proposed amendment of the rules of the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators was discussed, but in both cases a decision was avoided. The demand for an inquiry into the failure of the Triple Alliance to act during the coal dispute was withdrawn, and no discussion took place, on the ground that the General Council would be in a position to take action upon such matters in the future.

The arrangement of the Parliamentary Committee that the work and machinery of the Women's Trade Union League should in future be taken over by the Women's Department of the General Council was approved, as was also the proposed constitution of the National Joint Council, a body representing the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, the Executive Committee of the Labour Party, and the Parliamentary Party*; but the recommendation in favour of a full-time paid chairman for the Council was withdrawn. In the election of the General Council for the year 1921-1922, a misunderstanding occurred as to the methods of voting, and it was decided to conduct an entirely new election by post. Until this election is completed the old Parliamentary Committee will continue to function.

TRADE UNION CONFERENCES.

MINERS' FEDERATION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE Annual Delegate Conference of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain was held at Llandudno on 17th, 18th and 19th August. The recent coal dispute was the principal topic of discussion, and Mr. Herbert Smith, the acting President, attributed the gradual failure of the Federation since the last Annual Conference to the fact that the economic power of the industry was less strong in peace than in war. He compared the present position with that existing a year ago, when the miners were declining to work the Mining Industry Act, because it embodied the principle of district regulation of wages, and was a departure from the methods of unification established under control. The districts had now given a unanimous decision in favour of working the Act, and they were parties to an agreement which definitely established district arrangements.

The Presidential address and the report of the Executive (which was unanimously approved) both dealt with the action of the Triple Alliance in the dispute. Mr. Smith was of opinion that the Federation made two mistakes; the Alliance was not given the opportunity of fighting on the wages question, the one issue its members had in common; and secondly, the withdrawal of the safety men aroused resentment. The Executive's report attributed the inaction of the Alliance to the political implications of the pool and the possibility of a general election taking place on this issue. The opinion was also expressed that the Alliance could not function until each party was affected simultaneously by the same question or had similar claims maturing at the same time—and that this contingency was unlikely to arise.

Resolutions were carried urging the passing of legislation on the lines of the Holman Gregory Report on Workmen's Compensation, in support of the nationalisation of the coal mining industry, declaring the necessity for pit head baths, and in favour of the introduction of a fortnight's holiday with pay. It was decided that certain other demands for a maximum working week of five shifts, for a national six hour working day, and for the abolition of the piecework system, should stand over for the present owing to the economic position of the industry.

Internal organisation also came under discussion. Proposals for a complete revision of the rules of the Federation, and that a bare majority, instead of the present two-thirds, of members taking part in a ballot vote should be the determining factor in declaring or cancelling a strike, were remitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. It was decided in addition that the districts should consider the question of reverting to a part-time presidency, Mr. Herbert Smith to remain acting President in the meantime. Mr. W. P. Richardson, of Durham, was appointed Treasurer, and the new Executive was constituted as follows:—Messrs. Frank Hall (Derbyshire), T. H. Cann and Peter Lee (Durham), C. Thompson (Cokemen and enginemen), H. Dack (Cleveland), A. Hassell (small districts), S. Walsh, M.P., and T. Brown (Lancashire and Cheshire), Wm. Johnson and S. Finney, M.P. (Midland Federation), Wm. Straker (Northumberland), G. A. Spencer, M.P. (Nottinghamshire), J. Sullivan and A. Clark (Scotland), E. Morrell, T. Richards, N. Ablett and A. J. Cook (South Wales), and S. Roebuck and J. Potts (Yorkshire).

* See *LABOUR GAZETTE*, July, 1921, page 340.

† For a summary of the provisions of this Report, see *LABOUR GAZETTE*, July, 1920, p. 355.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF GENERAL WORKERS.

Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P., presided at the Annual Conference of this body at Blackpool on 18th August. His opening address dealt mainly with the coal dispute, and, in common with recent speeches by other trade union leaders, emphasised a belief in the futility of strike action at the present time.

Resolutions were passed charging the Government with failure to take action to prevent the industrial depression and to deal adequately with relief of the unemployed, and also signifying disapproval of their foreign policy.

Resolutions were also carried advocating the eventual formation of one large union for all workers, and pledging the Conference to support the efforts of the agricultural workers' unions to maintain the Agricultural Wages Board. Mr. Clynes was re-elected President, and Mr. T. W. Bell, Vice-President. The rest of the proceedings were conducted in private.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES.

This Federation held its Annual Conference at Perth on 17th August. Apart from the presidential address of Mr. Hicks, proceedings were conducted in private. The President stated his view that the Wages and Conditions Council established last March should decide such questions as dilution, payment by results and the length of the working week, and emphasised the need for safeguarding hours as well as wages.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION.

The Conference of this Association was held in London on 29th and 30th August. A resolution was carried to the effect that the utility and future existence of Industrial Councils depended on the wholehearted co-operation of employees and employers, and on the honourable observance by both parties of the decisions arrived at. A report on the negotiations for complete amalgamation with the Workers' Union, the National Union of General Workers and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour was submitted.

OTHER CONFERENCES.

Other Conferences held during August included that of the National Federation of Colliery Enginemen and Boilermen on 23rd August, at which it was decided to take a ballot of members on the question of remaining affiliated to the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and that of the Scottish Union of Mine Workers on 12th August. The Conference of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers was held on 15th and 16th August, and decided "to inaugurate a movement for the abolition of night work."

RAILWAYS ACT, 1921.

THIS Act, which received Royal Assent on 19th August, deals with the reorganisation of the railways and their regulation after the expiry on 14th August, 1921, of the period of Government control.

Parts I. and II. of the Act deal with the amalgamation and re-arrangement of the existing railway companies into six groups, and with the regulations under which these groups are to work. Part III. is concerned with railway charges, and provides for the establishment, to deal with such matters, of a Railway Rates Tribunal consisting of three members; an experienced lawyer to act as chairman, and two other members, one with experience in commercial affairs and the other with experience in railway business. Whenever it is considered necessary for the purpose of dealing with any particular case, the Minister of Transport has power to add to the tribunal two other members, selected, one from a "general panel" and one from a "railway panel." The "general panel" is to consist of 36 persons, 22 being nominated by the President of the Board of Trade to represent trading interests, 12 being nominated by the Ministry of Labour "after consultation with such bodies as he may consider most representative of the interests of labour and of the passengers upon the railways," and 2 being nominated by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to represent agricultural and horticultural interests.

Part V. of the Act deals with light railways, and Part VI. with various general questions not covered by any of the other sections.

Part IV. of the Act (§§62-67) is concerned with wages and conditions of service, and Section 66 defines the grades of railway servants who are included within the scope of this part of the Act.

Section 62 provides that the Central and National Wages Boards shall be continued at least until 1st January, 1924, i.e., a year later than was originally provided for in the Bill.* During this period all questions relating to rates of pay, hours of duty, etc., shall, in default of agreement, be referred to the Central Wages Board, or, on appeal, to the National Wages Board.

The Central Wages Board is to be composed of 8 representatives of the railway companies and 8 representatives of the railway employees, the latter to be appointed by the railway trade unions as follows: 4 by the National Union of Railwaymen, 2 by the Associated Society of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen, and 2 by the Railway Clerks' Association. Under the same section the National Wages Board is to be composed of 6 representatives of the railway companies, 6 representatives of the railway employees, 2 to be appointed by each of the three unions mentioned above, and 4 representatives of the users of railways, 1 each to be nominated by the Parliamentary

* For a summary of the original proposals, see *LABOUR GAZETTE*, June, 1921, p. 224.

Committee of the Trades Union Congress, the Co-operative Union, the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, and the Federation of British Industries. An independent chairman is to be nominated by the Minister of Labour.

Section 63 provides for the establishment, for each railway company affected, of one or more councils consisting of officers of the railway company and representatives of the men employed by the company elected by those men. The constitution and function of these councils are to follow the lines laid down in paragraph 16 of the Report of the Reconstruction Committee on the Relations between Employers and Employed, and Section 65 provides that they may be further defined and regulated by a committee consisting of 6 representatives of the General Managers' Committee of the Railway Clearing House and 6 representatives of the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and the Railway Clerks' Association.

Provision has also been made for the establishment for each railway company affected, of a conference of an equal number of representatives of the Company, and of the members of the police force of that Company, to which all questions of wages, hours and conditions of service of the police shall be referred with an appeal to a Central Conference. In the event of disagreement between the two sides of the Central Conference, which is to consist of representatives of the companies and the police force, elected from the conferences of the separate railways, an independent chairman shall be appointed with power to give binding decisions. The chairman is to be selected by mutual agreement, or, failing agreement, to be nominated by the Minister of Labour.

The Irish railways are exempt from the provisions of the Act, except for the return of certain statistics, arrangements for which had already been made, but an Act, entitled the Irish Railways (Settlement of Claims) Act, has been passed which provides for the composition and distribution of all claims which might have been made by the Irish railway companies to the Minister of Transport on the expiry of the period of Government control, for compensation under the Regulation of the Forces Act, 1871, and under the Ministry of Transport Act, 1919.

NUMBER OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

A RETURN* recently prepared by the Ministry of Transport shows the number of persons employed by the several railway companies in the United Kingdom in the week ended 19th March, 1921. The figures relate to all persons employed during the week in question other than (a) staff serving with the colours, (b) employees paid for time equivalent to less than three days in the week, (c) staff not directly employed by the companies. Details are given as to the numbers employed in each of the principal grades for fifty-seven companies, together with totals for the United Kingdom including those employed by smaller companies and in the railway clearing houses. The numbers are shown separately for males and females, sub-divided into adults and juniors (under 18 years of age). A comparison is also given with the particulars obtained at the last census of railway employees taken at the end of December, 1913, though it is pointed out that in regard to certain grades the comparison is vitiated to some extent by re-grading and by the effects of the introduction of the eight-hour day in 1919.

The total staff employed in the week ended 19th March was 766,381, of whom 3,022 were employed in clearing houses. As the latter class were not included in the census of 31st December, 1913, they are deducted from the total, leaving 763,359, compared with 639,323 in 1913—an increase of 19.4 per cent. A summary of the numbers employed in the principal grades in 1921 is given in the following Table:—

Grade.	Numbers Employed.†		
	Great Britain.	Ireland.	Total.
Mechanics and Artisans	114,730	3,714	118,444
Engine drivers, Firemen and Cleaners ..	93,662	3,313	96,965
Clerks	90,333	3,040	93,373‡
Permanent Way Men	68,377	6,133	74,510
Porters (Goods and Passenger)	56,373	4,077	60,450
Labourers	44,878	2,283	47,161
Signalmen	30,736	1,216	31,952
Guards (Goods and Passenger)	27,169	630	27,849
Shunters	19,081	442	19,523
Carters and Vanguarders	17,673	96	17,769
Checkers	12,734	523	13,257
Other Grades	160,134	4,994	165,128
Total	735,870	30,511	766,381§

CORN PRODUCTION ACTS (REPEAL) ACT, 1921.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1921 (page 339), an account was given of the announcement by the Minister of Agriculture of the Government's intention to repeal, as from 1st October next, the Corn Production Acts, 1917 and 1920, and of the Bill

* Cmd. 1494. Price 2d. net.

† Excluding 1,415 employees of the Manchester Ship Canal Company.

‡ Including 12,006 females.

§ Including 28,435 females.

which was subsequently introduced into the House of Commons, and which, after considerable alteration and amendment in respect of Section 4, received Royal Assent on 19th August.

The first Section of the Act provides for the repeal of the Corn Production Acts, 1917 and 1920. The second Section deals with the payments to be made to occupiers of land in respect of crops of the current year, and the third Section allots a sum of one million pounds in order to set up a special fund for promoting agricultural development. The fourth Section deals with the relations between employers and employed in agriculture after the abolition on 30th September of the National Wages Board which, under the Corn Production Acts, had powers to fix minimum wages, etc. The original proposals* in the first draft of the Bill for the establishment of voluntary joint councils of employers and workmen were considerably modified during the various discussions on the Bill. It is finally provided that in place of the Agricultural Wages Board and District Wages Committees there shall be set up in various districts quasi-statutory Conciliation Committees to deal with wages, hours and conditions of employment. Provision is made for some continuity between the old district wages committees and the new joint conciliation committees, by constituting the representative members of the former as provisional or interim conciliation committees. Each such committee will consist of representatives of employers and workmen in agriculture, and each side will have one collective vote on any question. The agreements at which they arrive will be enforceable at law after confirmation by the Minister of Agriculture and advertisement in the districts to which they apply. There will be no central board and no appointed members to act as umpires between the two sides, but a committee may appoint an independent chairman, who will not, however, have the power to vote, except in respect to any particular matter as the committee may determine.

Scotland is excluded from the operation of the clause, with the exception of sub-section (1), which gives power to the Minister of Agriculture for England and Wales and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland to form voluntary conciliation committees.

The following is the full text of Section 4:—

Whereas it is expedient that local joint conciliation committees representative of persons (whether owners or occupiers of agricultural land) employing workmen in agriculture and of such workmen should without delay be formed by agreement throughout Great Britain for the purpose of dealing with wages or hours or conditions of employment: Now, therefore—

(1) The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries as respects England and Wales, and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland as respects Scotland, shall have power to take such steps as they think best calculated to secure the voluntary formation and continuance of such committees.

(2) The persons who are at the date of the passing of this Act members of a district wages committee for any area as representatives of persons employing workmen in agriculture or of workmen engaged in agriculture shall, until the expiration of two years from that date or until a joint conciliation committee is formed, whichever first happens, be a joint conciliation committee for the purpose of dealing with the matters aforesaid within any part of the said area for which a joint conciliation committee does not exist, and any vacancy occurring among those representatives shall be filled by the appointment of a member by which the organisation representing employers or workmen by which the vacating member was nominated. An organisation by which any person who is a member of a district wages committee at the date of the passing of this Act was nominated as such may, at any time before the first day of December, nineteen hundred and twenty-one, appoint another person to act in the place of that person as a member of the joint conciliation committee.

(3) Any joint conciliation committee which has agreed upon a rate of wages for any class of persons employed in agriculture in the district or any part of the district for which the committee is special (except the members of the class for which on account of special circumstances exemption is provided by the agreement), and has agreed as to the period, whether a specified period or a period terminable by notice, during which the rate is to operate, may, if the committee so desires, submit the agreement to the Minister for confirmation, and the Minister may confirm the agreement and cause particulars of the agreed rate, and the agreed period and the date (being such date subsequent to the date of the advertisement as the Minister may determine) from which the rate is to operate to be advertised in the district to which it applies, in such manner as the Minister may think fit, with a view to bringing the terms thereof, as far as practicable, to the knowledge of the persons affected.

(4) Where any rate of wages has been so agreed, confirmed, and advertised, and so long as the agreement is in operation, it shall be an implied term of every contract for the employment after the specified date of a workman of any class to which the agreement applies (having regard to any exemptions provided by the agreement) that the employer shall pay to that workman wages at not less than the rate payable under the agreement, provided that wages shall not be recoverable under this subsection unless proceedings for such recovery shall have been commenced before the expiration of three months after the date when the workman left the employment, and a person shall not be entitled to recover under this subsection wages for more than three months or for such longer period not exceeding one year

* For the full text of Clause 4, as originally drafted, see LABOUR GAZETTE, June, 1921, page 339.
† The issue of the Wages Board Gazette (price 2d. net) for September 1, 1921, contains a short explanatory memorandum of this section of the Act.

as the court in which proceedings are taken for the recovery of the wages shall consider just.

(5) Where any rate of wages has been agreed by a committee and been duly confirmed and advertised as aforesaid, nothing in any contract for the employment of a workman in agriculture shall operate to deprive the workman of his right to receive wages at that rate, except—

(a) where the committee, or a sub-committee thereof, is satisfied that the contract for payment of wages at a lower rate was, having regard to any special circumstances affecting the workman or to the special terms of the contract, fair and reasonable, and issue a certificate accordingly; or

(b) where, on an application by either an employer or a workman for such a certificate the committee or sub-committee have failed to agree with respect to the matter, and the court, in which proceedings are taken for the recovery of wages at the rate agreed by the committee is so satisfied as aforesaid;

and then only to the extent to which the committee or sub-committee certifies or the court determines that the wages payable to the workman should be at some lower rate than the rate so agreed by the committee.

(6) A joint conciliation committee may appoint an independent person to act as chairman without the power to vote except in respect of any particular matter in respect of which the committee agrees that the chairman shall have the power to vote.

(7) The representatives of employers and workmen on a joint conciliation committee shall, respectively, have one collective vote on any question.

(8) This section, except sub-section (1) thereof, shall not apply to Scotland.

(9) In this section:—

(a) The expression "agriculture" includes dairy-farming and the use of land as grazing, meadow, or pasture-land, or orchard, or osier-land, or for market gardens or nursery grounds, but not woodland or woodland nurseries, and the expression "agricultural" shall be construed accordingly;

(b) The expression "workmen" includes boys, women, and girls;

(c) The expression "employment" means employment under a contract of service or apprenticeship, and the expressions "employ" and "employer" shall be construed accordingly.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

NATIONAL SCHEME.

Up to and including the 31st August 27,844 employers have enrolled under the National Scheme, and their names are inscribed on the King's National Roll. The undertakings given by these employers cover 302,427 disabled ex-Service men.

The following statement gives particulars of the number of Local Authorities in Great Britain, of the categories referred to below, who have enrolled under the scheme, and whose names are accordingly entered on the King's Roll:—

Authority.	No. on Roll.	No. not on Roll.	Total.
ENGLAND AND WALES.			
LONDON—			
Metropolitan Boroughs	26	2	28
Corporation of the City of London	1	—	1
County Council	1	—	1
Boards of Guardians	15	16	31
Total	43	18	61
PROVINCES—			
County Boroughs	76	6	82
Town Councils	141	105	246
County Councils	31	31	62
Boards of Guardians	93	522	615
Urban District Councils	348	451	799
Rural District Councils	117	532	649
Total	806	1,647	2,453
SCOTLAND (excluding Parish Councils).			
Town Councils	54	149	203
County Councils	7	26	33
County District Committees	8	91	99
Total	69	266	335
Total for Great Britain	918	1,931	2,849

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At the 6th of September the number of men in training was 22,673. Since 1st August, 1919, 39,210 men have terminated training. The number of men awaiting training on 6th September was 20,824. At the end of July the number of men in training was 22,936. The following Table shows how they were dis-

tributed among the chief trades in which training is given under the scheme:—

Trade.	Number in Training.
Building	4,326
Furniture	2,467
Tailoring	2,393
Vehicle Building	1,916
Commercial	1,473
Gold, Silver and Allied Trades	1,380
Engineering—General and Electrical	1,331
Motor Driving and Mechanics	1,137
Boot and Shoe	909
Rural Handicrafts	774
Distributive Trades	697
Manual Instructors	570
Other Trades	3,563
Total in training	22,936

INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to August 31st, 1921, 44,457 apprentices had been accepted for training with 17,706 employers, as compared with 44,385 apprentices with 17,673 employers on July 27th. Of the 72 apprentices accepted during the five weeks ending August 31st, the largest numbers were under the General Scheme (25) and under Engineering (21). The apprentices rejected up to August 31st numbered 2,134, compared with 2,121 on July 27th. Of those accepted, 30,418 terminated training and 14,039 were still in training; the corresponding numbers on July 27th were 28,710 and 15,675 respectively. The number of apprentices who have received institutional training has increased during the five weeks from 1,413 to 1,458.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

The number of disabled ex-Service men registered for employment at the Employment Exchanges on 26th August, 1921 was 20,347 (including 4,550 in Ireland), as compared with 21,702 on July 29th, 1921. The number of non-disabled ex-Service men on the Live Register at 26th August, 1921, was 405,399 (including 14,865 in Ireland). On 29th July, 1921, the number was 437,583.

OVERSEA SETTLEMENT.

A CONFERENCE to consider the question of State-Aided Empire Settlement was held at the Colonial Office on the 29th and 31st January, and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd February, 1921, between representatives of His Majesty's Government and representatives of the Governments of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, and New Zealand. The object of the conference was to formulate proposals for the settlement of this question for consideration at the conference of Prime Ministers and representatives of the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and India, which was held in June, July, and August, 1921. Certain proposals were submitted by Lt.-Col. Amery, M.P., as Chairman of the Overseas Settlement Committee, and were approved by the conference.

The following extracts from the minutes of the conference indicate the scope of the proposals:—

(1) His Majesty's Government to co-operate with the Overseas Governments in a comprehensive policy of Empire land settlement and Empire-directed migration extending over a period of years, and to this end to contribute up to a maximum of £2,000,000 a year in any year.

(2) His Majesty's Government to assign normally about half its total contribution, namely, £1,000,000, to land settlement. In view, however, of its commitments in respect of the free passage scheme for ex-Service men and women and other kindred expenditure arising out of the special conditions of the post-war situation, the amount available for land settlement for the financial years 1921-2 and 1922-3 will probably not exceed £750,000.

(3) His Majesty's Government to assign the balance of its contribution to assisted passages, including, if necessary, outfit and landing money allowances.

(4) If the Dominion would prefer in lieu of a joint contribution to assist passages some alternative scheme for the assistance of settlers generally, or for land settlement, His Majesty's Government to consider the allocation to such scheme of the amount it would otherwise have contributed to assisted passages in respect of settlers proceeding to that Dominion.

(5) In view of the commitments of His Majesty's Government to its ex-Service men up to the end of 1922, and of the arrangements already made by other Governments for their own schemes of assisted passages, it is not contemplated that the general scheme for assisted passages referred to above should come into operation before the middle of 1922 or the beginning of 1923.

The conference passed a resolution recommending these proposals for consideration at the conference of Prime Ministers of the Empire. Resolutions were also adopted as follows:—

(1) That in cases where money for expenses overseas is advanced to settlers from Government funds, the money should be paid to the oversea representative in this country on the

* For the full text of the proposals and other resolutions and proceedings, see "Summary of Proceedings and Documents" of the Conference of Prime Ministers and representatives of the United Kingdom, the Dominions and India held in June, July and August, 1921. (Cmd. 1474: price 9d. net.)

settlers' account, and transmitted overseas for payment to the settlers on arrival.

(2) That the bonus system, *i.e.*, the system of recruiting settlers by means of per caput bonus payments to third parties should be abolished as from 1st July, 1921.

(3) That it is desirable, in order to emphasise the distinction between the movement of British subjects within the Empire and emigration to or immigration from foreign countries, that such expressions as "oversea settlement," "Empire settlement," or "British settlement," and "oversea settlers," or "British settlers" should be used in connection with the movement of British subjects within the Empire in preference to "emigration" or "immigration," and "emigrants" or "immigrants," these latter expressions being confined to movements to and from countries outside the Empire.

At the conference of Prime Ministers and representatives of the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and India, these proposals and resolutions were considered by a special committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The following resolutions were finally adopted by the full conference:—

(1) The conference having satisfied itself that the proposals embodied in the report of the conference on State-Aided Empire Settlement are sound in principle, and that the several Dominions are prepared, subject to Parliamentary sanction and to the necessary financial arrangements being made, to co-operate effectively with the United Kingdom for the development of schemes based on these proposals but adapted to the particular circumstances and conditions of each Dominion, approves the aforesaid report. The South African representatives wish to make it clear that the limited field for white labour in South Africa will preclude co-operation by the Union Government on the lines contemplated by the other Dominions.

(2) The conference expresses the hope that the Government of the United Kingdom will at the earliest possible moment secure the necessary powers to enable it to carry out its part in any scheme of co-operation which may subsequently be agreed on, preferably in the form of an Act which will make clear that the policy of co-operation now adopted is intended to be permanent.

(3) The conference recommends to the Governments of the several Dominions that they shall consider how far the existing legislation on the subject of land settlement, soldier settlement, and immigration, may require any modification or expansion in order to secure effective co-operation; and should work out, for discussion with the Government of the United Kingdom, such proposals as may appear to them most practicable and best suited to their interests and circumstances.

PROFIT-SHARING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1920.

The Report on Profit-Sharing and Labour Co-partnership in the United Kingdom*, prepared by the Intelligence and Statistics Department of the Ministry of Labour in 1919, gave an account of the progress of the profit-sharing system in this country up to that date, and of the results of schemes in operation in 1918: and in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1920, supplementary particulars were given showing the working of such schemes in 1919. Enquiries have again been made this year, relating to the working of such schemes in 1920.

So far as is known to the Department, 49 schemes of Profit-Sharing or Co-partnership were started in the year 1919, and 40 in 1920, by far the largest totals hitherto recorded. Of the 49 started in 1919, 5 have since been abandoned. Since the close of the year 1920, however, as is usual in times of bad trade, the number of such schemes started has fallen very considerably; up to the 30th June of this year the introduction of only 3 schemes has been reported to the Department.

Returns received show that at the 30th June, 1921, 205 firms, with an aggregate of 300,195 workpeople in their constant employment, were practising systems of profit-sharing or labour co-partnership. Of these 205 firms, 6 were reported to have two schemes each, so that the total number of schemes of profit-sharing in operation at the above date was 211. In addition to the firms referred to above, 2 firms have schemes which are at the moment in abeyance; while 19 other firms are known to have practised profit-sharing within recent years, but no information is available to show whether these schemes are still in operation.

Of the 205 firms practising profit-sharing at the 30th June, 1921, 33 (employing 37,089 workpeople) were gas companies; 29 (employing 84,852 workpeople) were in the engineering, shipbuilding, and metal trades; 29 (employing 28,142 workpeople) were merchants, warehousemen, retail traders, etc.; and 25 (employing 47,236 workpeople) were in the textile trades. The remainder were distributed among a great variety of different trades.

It should be remarked that the figures quoted above tend to overstate the numbers of workpeople who are effectively employed under profit-sharing conditions, since in a number of schemes profit-sharing is restricted to certain classes of employees, or is enjoyed only by those employees who choose to deposit savings with the employing firm or to take up shares in the undertaking.

* Cmd. 544; price 1s. net.

Information has been collected by the Department relating to the bonuses paid under profit-sharing arrangements during the year 1920. Of the 211 profit-sharing schemes in operation at the 30th June, 1921, a considerable number are schemes recently introduced, whose first bonus would not be paid until after 1920. A further proportion consists of schemes of such a nature that the amount of the bonus, and the proportion which it bears to earnings, cannot be stated. Statistics of bonuses can, however, be given for 151 schemes: these are summarised in the following Table:—

[In a number of schemes included in the statistics the bonus consists of interest, varying with the profits, paid on savings deposited by employees, and the amount of the bonus is therefore limited by the extent to which employees use the firm's deposit fund. The figures in italics in this, and in the succeeding Table, show the result of excluding such schemes from the statistics.]

Ratio of Bonus to Earnings.	No. of Schemes to which particulars relate.	Average No. of Permanent Employees*	No. of Employees participating in Bonus paid in 1920.	Amount of Bonus paid in 1920. £
Nil	32	32,605	29,207†	Nil.
Under 2 per cent. ..	13	19,057	5,759	16,471
	9	5,319	4,190	12,196
2 and under 4 per cent. {	16	48,496	16,535	65,185
	15	16,839	11,795	49,824
4 " " 6 " " ..	15	5,719	3,530	24,897
6 " " 8 " " ..	13	6,300	5,259	50,600
8 " " 10 " " ..	5	6,613	1,592	31,280
10 " " 12 " " ..	12	15,680	9,571	126,563
12 " " 16 " " ..	10	8,357	8,069	126,253
16 " " 20 " " ..	6	5,453	3,316	71,443
20 per cent. or over ..	13	8,723	6,211	210,824
Ratio not stated ..	16	44,274	20,531	361,194
	10	30,848	14,540	339,956
Total	151	199,777	109,580	1,084,715
	140	130,986	97,280	1,043,851

The following Table shows the results of these 151 schemes classified according to trades:—

Trades.	No. of Schemes.	No. of Employees participating.†	Average Amount of Bonus per head.‡	Average Ratio of Bonus to Earnings.‡
Agriculture	7	1,767	£ s. d. 12 0 1	Per cent. 17.2
Engineering, shipbuilding, and metal trades	16	17,773	8 1 11	5.4
Food and drink (manufacture) ..	12	11,679	10 12 10	8.7
	11	4,489	16 4 8	18.5
Textile trades	9	3,303	19 0 0	20.7
	20	12,334	16 0 0	13.6
Paper making	18	11,519	16 14 9	18.6
Printing, bookbinding, and stationery manufacture. ..	4	686	9 8 8	12.0
	12	2,992	28 0 2	21.2
Chemicals, soap, oil, paint, etc. (manufacture)	9	8,207	36 11 11	10.4
	8	8,107	37 0 1	10.4
Gas Companies	31	28,403	2 0 9	1.0
Insurance Companies	2	14,027	0 12 0	0.2
Merchants, warehousemen, and retail traders	20	7,209	14 15 4	12.9
Other businesses	19	11,483	7 6 4	8.4
	17	6,878	12 5 6	6.0
Totals	151	109,580	9 17 11	6.3
	140	97,280	10 14 7	6.7

It will be observed that, as regards the 151 schemes for which statistics can be given, 109,580 employees participated, or were entitled to participate, in bonuses in 1920. Of these, however, 29,207 were employed under 32 schemes which failed to pay a bonus. The bonuses paid represented an aggregate addition to earnings of over one million pounds, or £9 17s. 11d. per head; the average ratio of bonus to earnings being 6.3 per cent. These figures represent a very considerable increase when compared with those for 1919, in which year the results of 116 schemes yielded an average amount of £4 18s. 10d. per head, and an average addition to earnings of 4.9 per cent. It should be noted that the figures now given relate to the bonuses paid or credited in 1920; and that, in the great majority of cases, the bonuses so paid were based on the profits either of the year 1919 or of a financial year ending at or before the 30th June, 1920, and are not, therefore, seriously affected by the depression in trade which began in the latter half of 1920.

Of the 32 schemes which failed to pay a bonus in 1920, 18 were gas companies' schemes: this industry also accounted for 6 of the 13 schemes which paid a bonus of less than 2 per cent. on earn-

* Casual or seasonal workers are rarely eligible for profit sharing bonus, except in some gas companies' schemes, and then only on certain conditions. The aggregate maximum number of casual workers employed by the firms making returns was 6,252.

† *i.e.*, the number entitled to participate, if any bonus had been paid.

‡ Including, where the bonus was *nil*, the number entitled to participate.

§ Calculated on the number of employees participating, including, where the bonus was *nil*, the number entitled to participate.

|| Taking into account the schemes in which the bonus was *nil*, but excluding (necessarily) those in which the ratio of bonus to earnings cannot be stated.

ings. Under the schemes in force in gas companies the bonus is generally regulated by a sliding scale, and varies inversely with the price of gas. The reason for the low rate of bonus under these schemes is referred to on page 29 of the Report on Profit-Sharing and Labour Co-partnership in the United Kingdom. (Cmd. 544.)

The low rate of bonus in the insurance group is due to the absence of bonus in one large company.

In the group of schemes which paid a bonus of from 2 to 4 per cent. on earnings, nearly 90 per cent. of those who participated were employed by two large undertakings, one of which pays a bonus only to such of its employees as deposit savings with the firm, the bonus consisting of a supplementary rate of interest on such deposits.

The high rate of bonus per head paid in the chemical, soap, etc., trades is very largely due to one firm, which distributed over a quarter of a million pounds as bonus during the year. The percentage on earnings, however, that this amount represented has not been reported to the Department: accordingly the figures for this firm are excluded from the calculation as to ratio of bonus to earnings; and the resulting figure of 10.4 per cent., therefore, does not reflect the results of this scheme.

As in the previous year, a high average rate of bonus was paid by firms engaged in printing, bookbinding, and stationery manufacture. In this group the largest undertaking from which a return was received paid a bonus at the rate of 30 per cent. on earnings, or over £40 per head. The high rate of bonus in the agricultural group is also largely due to one scheme, covering over 1,000 workpeople, in which a bonus at the rate of 25 per cent. on earnings was paid. Among firms in the group comprising food and drink manufacture one paid a bonus to over 1,500 workpeople of 30 per cent. on earnings, or £31 per head.

COAL MINING.

Under the terms of settlement of the recent coal mining dispute it is provided that, subject to the payment of certain minimum rates, wages in any district shall consist of (a) the standard wages for the district, plus (b) a percentage on basis rates which is to be periodically adjusted in accordance with the proceeds of the industry in such district during a previous period. The sum to be applied in payment of wages above the standard wages is a fixed percentage of the surplus of the proceeds of the industry, after deducting (i) costs of production, including standard wages, and (ii) "standard profits," equivalent to 17 per cent. of the cost of standard wages. Further particulars of these terms may be found in the article on pages 336-7 of the LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1921.

OCCUPIED POPULATION OF GERMANY: OFFICIAL ESTIMATE.*

The new German official statistical periodical, *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, contains the results of an attempt which has been made to estimate the distribution of the population of present-day Germany by occupations at the end of 1920 on the basis of the 1907 census of occupations and on the published results of the general population census taken on 8th October, 1919.

For the purpose of the estimate "Germany" has been taken to include certain areas the future of which is not yet definitely decided. It thus includes Germany as at 4th August, 1914, less Alsace-Lorraine, the districts of East and West Prussia, Posen and Silesia, the first zone of Schleswig-Holstein and the Eupen-Malmédy region. The latest pre-war census of occupations was taken in 1907, and the data collected have been combined with those of the census of 8th October, 1919, the latter being used especially for age and sex distribution. Allowance has also been made for the fact that, at the date of the 1919 census, the majority of German prisoners of war had not yet returned. The increase in the population between 8th October, 1919, and 31st December, 1920, due to immigration and to surplus of births over deaths, has also been taken into account.

The results of the calculation appear in the first Table below. The percentages given for 1907 are based upon the census of that year and refer to the old Germany. The comparison shows a slight shifting of the population from agricultural to industrial occupations, and an increase in the proportion of civil servants. The figures in the Table include manual and non-manual workers and persons working on their own account, but not dependants and servants living with their employers. Among this last group there was a marked reduction between 1907 and 1920. In the earlier year the total of the group formed 51.5 per cent. of the total population, whereas in 1920 it was only 45.9 per cent. The decrease is probably only temporary, having been caused mainly by war conditions, *i.e.*, the increased employment of women and the fall in the birth rate.

* *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, 20th January, 1921, Berlin, and the *International Labour Review*, July-August, 1921, Geneva.

Group.	Occupied Persons, including Persons of Independent Means, &c.				Corresponding Percentage 12th June, 1907.
	31st December, 1920.				
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Per Cent.	
Agriculture and Forestry	5,551,919	5,156,271	10,708,190	31.6	33.4
Mining and Industry Trade, commerce, etc.	10,390,339	2,502,819	12,893,158	38.1	38.0
Domestic service* and various trades	2,876,285	1,100,777	3,977,072	11.7	11.8
Public services (excluding Army and Navy) and Professions	178,375	382,375	560,750	1.7	1.6
Total of occupied persons	1,516,187	336,027	1,852,214	5.4	3.7
Persons of independent means, or of no specified occupations	20,513,115	9,478,269	29,991,384	88.5	88.5
Total	1,783,749	2,108,857	3,892,606	11.5	11.5
	22,296,864	11,587,126	33,883,990	100.0	100.0

The second table given herewith shows the number of persons engaged in the first three occupation groups, distinguishing employers and persons working independently from employed. In order to obtain these figures, the proportions of the 1907 census have been applied to the estimates for the end of 1920.

Occupation.	Employers and Persons Working on their own Account, December, 1920.		Employed Persons, 31st Dec., 1920.			
	Men.	Women.	Non-Manual Workers.		Manual Workers.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Agriculture and Forestry	2,200,339	366,095	88,831	20,625	3,181,249	4,769,551
Mining and Industry Trade, Commerce, etc.	1,704,016	568,140	706,543	75,085	7,979,780	1,859,594
Total	865,765	291,706	480,341	93,666	1,530,189	715,605
Total	4,851,620	1,225,941	1,275,715	189,276	12,691,218	7,344,650

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN GERMANY.

SPECIAL ALLOWANCES FOR LONG UNEMPLOYMENT.†

The Reichstag on 2nd June decided to grant a special single payment to persons who have been out of work for more than twenty-six weeks. Regulations have been issued for Berlin in accordance with which an unemployed person of either sex between 16 and 21 years of age will receive 300 marks; persons over 21 years 400 marks if living in lodgings and 500 marks if in their own home; married persons 600 marks, plus 50 marks for each child up to a maximum of 800 marks.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS, BASLE.

The Tenth International Co-operative Congress, held at Basle on 22nd to 25th August, was attended by over 400 delegates, representing some twenty-three countries. The assembly considered that future commercial treaties should be inspired by co-operative ideals and not by a spirit of competition, competition and war being denounced in all their forms. The extension of co-operative principles, coupled with pacifist propaganda, was declared to be an essential factor in the problem of world peace. A further resolution was in favour of the establishment, under the League of Nations, of an international statistical section, which should collect and publish data as to the production, sources of supply and requirements of each separate State, in order to make possible the equitable international distribution of all raw materials and food-stuffs, while monopolies and "trusts" should be under international control. The principle of an International Co-operative Bank was approved.

A proposal by M. V. Serwy (Belgium) that co-operators and trade unionists should seek to establish sustained and friendly relations, and by agreements, collective contracts, conciliation and arbitration secure an equilibrium as between production and distribution, was carried unanimously. A suggestion that consumers' co-operative societies should be directly represented in the International Labour Organisation and on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office was approved with similar unanimity.

Discussion as to the share which the International Co-operative Alliance should have in the control of an International Wholesale Society revealed fundamental differences of opinion, and no conclusion was reached.

* Includes servants not living with their employers: those living with their employers are classed with dependants and do not appear in the table.

† *Sociale Praxis*, 10th August, 1921.

STATISTICS OF RETAIL PRICES.

RETAIL PRICES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

STATISTICS FOR 1st SEPTEMBER, 1921.

SUMMARY: AVERAGE INCREASES SINCE JULY, 1914.

All Items 120%
Food only 125%

FOOD.

At 1st September the average increase since July, 1914, in the cost of the pre-war working-class dietary was about 125 per cent., compared with 126 per cent. at 2nd August. During the month there was a fall in the price of potatoes and a further decline in the price of meat, and there were also reductions in the average prices of flour, bread and fish. On the other hand, there were upward movements in the average prices of eggs, butter, cheese and margarine.

In the following Table is given a comparison of average prices of the articles of food included in these statistics in July, 1914, on 2nd August, 1921, and on 1st September, 1921:—

Article	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated).			Average Inc. (+) or Decrease (-) at 1st Sept., 1921, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	2nd August, 1921.	1st Sept., 1921.	July, 1914.	2nd August, 1921.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs	0 9½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 1 1½	- 0 0½
Thin Flank .. .	0 6½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 0 8½	- 0 0½
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	1 2	1 1½	+ 0 6½	- 0 0½
Thin Flank .. .	0 4½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 0 3½	- 0 0½
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	2 0½	1 11½	+ 1 1½	- 0 0½
Breast	0 6½	1 3½	1 2½	+ 0 8	- 0 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	1 2½	1 2½	+ 0 7½	- 0 0½
Breast	0 4	0 6	0 6	+ 0 2	—
Bacon (streaky)* ..	0 11½	2 3½	2 3½	+ 1 4	—
Flour	0 10½	2 0½	2 0	+ 1 1½	- 0 0½
Bread	0 5½	1 1½	1 1½	+ 0 7½	- 0 0½
Tea	1 6½	2 6½	2 6½	+ 1 0	—
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 2	0 7	0 7	+ 0 5	—
Milk	0 3½	0 8	0 8	+ 0 4½	—
Butter—					
Fresh	1 2½	2 6½	2 7	+ 1 4½	+ 0 0½
Salt	1 2	2 5½	2 6	+ 1 4	+ 0 0½
Cheese (Canadian or U.S.)*	0 8½	1 5½	1 6	+ 0 9½	+ 0 0½
Margarine	0 7½	0 9	0 9½	+ 0 2	+ 0 0½
Eggs (fresh)	0 1½	0 3	0 3½	+ 0 2½	+ 0 0½
Potatoes	0 4½	1 1½	0 11½	+ 0 7	- 0 1½

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st September in relation to the prices of July, 1914, and 2nd August, 1921:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st September, 1921, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding figure for United Kingdom at 2nd August, 1921.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	134	136	135	138
Thin Flank .. .	131	132	131	139
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	94	87	90	94
Thin Flank .. .	68	73	71	75
Mutton, British—				
Legs	129	134	131	138
Breast	126	118	122	134
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	111	108	109	114
Breast	41	45	43	45
Bacon (streaky)* ..	152	133	143	144
Fish	116	100	108	128
Flour	121	131	126	131
Bread	128	128	128	131
Tea	61	67	64	64
Sugar (granulated) ..	248	235	241	239
Milk	129	138	134	131
Butter—				
Fresh	119	120	115	113
Salt	113	114	114	107
Cheese (Canadian or U.S.)* ..	105	105	105	103
Margarine	30	27	29	25
Eggs (fresh)	201	183	192	157
Potatoes	159	126	143	173
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase).	126	124	125	126

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the Returns quote the price for another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, special enquiries have been made into the increases which have taken effect under the operation of the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920, including the increases of 10 per cent. on net rents which became permissible, at the earliest, on 2nd July. The results of these enquiries show that the average increase in the rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st September, 1921, was between 50 and 55 per cent. Of the total increase about one-half is accounted for by increases in rates and water charges, and one-third is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Act falling within the remaining one-sixth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st September the level of retail prices of clothing, quality for quality, taking goods of the kind purchased by the working classes, averaged about 170 per cent. higher than in July, 1914, as compared with about 180 per cent. at 2nd August. The reductions recorded during August were distributed over all the items of clothing included in the statistics.

In the fuel and light group, the average increase in the retail prices of coal since July, 1914, was between 150 and 155 per cent. at 1st September. For gas the increase was 110 per cent., for lamp oil 120 per cent., and for candles (cheap kinds) 110 per cent. Matches show a much greater increase. The last three items have, however, relatively small influence on the average movement in the fuel and light group, in which the average increase at 1st September is estimated at about between 140 and 145 per cent., as compared with about 150 per cent. at 2nd August.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (estimated at an average of about 110 per cent.), the resultant figure for 1st September, 1921, is about 120 per cent.* as compared with 122 per cent. for 2nd August.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1921 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not. Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics at the beginning of each month from January, 1915, to the present time:—

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

Month (beginning of)	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January ..	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165
February ..	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151
March ..	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141
April ..	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	135
May ..	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128
June ..	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119
July ..	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119
August ..	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122
September ..	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120
October ..	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	—
November ..	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	—
December ..	35	65	85	120	125	169	—

NOTE.—The criticisms of these statistics which were published in the Report of the Labour Joint Committee on Cost of Living are dealt with in a special article on pages 452-5 of this issue.

* If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, the average increase at 1st September, 1921, was about 6 per cent. less.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following paragraphs and in the Summary Table are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information in each country, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

FRANCE (PARIS).*

The index number representing the general level of retail prices of food, fuel and lighting in August was 3.6 per cent. higher than in the preceding month, and 21.7 per cent. above that for July, 1914. In both cases the computation of the movement of the general prices level is based on the pre-war budget of a typical Parisian family of the working class.

BELGIUM.†

The index number of the cost of food required by families whose incomes (in 1910) fell below 5 francs per day, at the prices prevailing on 15th July, 1921, was 310 per cent. greater than on 15th April, 1914. The corresponding expenditure by families whose incomes ranged from 5 to 8 francs showed an increase of 305 per cent., while in the highest income class (8 francs and over) the rise was 509 per cent. In the computation of the general index number allowance is made for the relative expenditure upon the various items of food entering into the dietary of the standard families considered.

The general level (unweighted) of retail prices of food and other necessities on 15th July, 1921, as computed from returns of retail prices in 59 localities, shows a decrease of 1.3 per cent. as compared with 15th June, 1921, but an increase of 27.9 per cent. as compared with April, 1914.

ITALY.

Milan.‡

The weekly cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living in Milan in the case of a family consisting of five persons, at the prices current in August, 1921, shows, as regards food alone, an increase of 2.5 per cent. when compared with the preceding month, and an increase of 41.8 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. The total family expenditure (including also the cost of clothing, rent and heating and lighting) shows in August an increase of 1.5 per cent. as compared with July, and is 401 per cent. higher than in 1914.

Florence.§

The index number representing the weekly expenditure of a family consisting of five persons in Florence, at the prices current in August, 1921, shows, as regards food alone, an increase of 3.3 per cent. when compared with the preceding month, and an increase of 365 per cent. when compared with the first half of 1914. The total family expenditure in August, including also the cost of clothing, rent and heating, lighting, etc., shows an increase of 1.9 per cent. as compared with July, and an increase of 336 per cent. as compared with the pre-war figure.

HOLLAND (AMSTERDAM)¶

The index number representing the total food bill of working-class families in Amsterdam, calculated at the prices current in August, shows a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, but an increase of 84 per cent. as compared with 1913.

GERMANY.††

According to the official index number representing the cost of necessities assumed to be required by a family of five persons in August, 1921, an increase of 8.5 per cent. is reported as compared with the cost in the preceding month, and of 945 per cent. as compared with 1913-14. The standard budget of this family includes food, the rent of two rooms and a kitchen, and the cost of fuel and light.

NORWAY.**

The official index number representing the expenditure of a family upon food at the prices prevailing in August shows an increase of 0.7 per cent. as compared with the preceding month and of 197 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. The figures are based upon the cost of maintaining the standard of living of an average urban family which had (in 1914) an income of about £83 per annum.

DENMARK.†††

The half-yearly computation of the Danish Statistical Department as to the effect of the rise in prices upon the cost of family

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the General Statistical Department of France.
† *Revue du Travail*, August, 1921. Brussels.
‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Municipal Labour Office, Milan.
§ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Municipal Statistical Office, Florence.

¶ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Municipal Statistical Office of Amsterdam.
†† Information supplied through the courtesy of the German Federal Statistical Department.

** Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Central Statistical Bureau, Christiania.
†† *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 16th August, 1921.

maintenance in Copenhagen has now been brought down to July, 1921. At the prices prevailing in July, 1914, the total sum required by a working-class family of five persons, to meet the cost of food, clothing, rent, fuel, lighting, taxation, etc. (such requirements being ascertained by an enquiry carried out in 1909), was 10 per cent. less than at the date of the preceding computation (January, 1921), but 137 per cent. greater than in July, 1914. For food alone the decrease was 14 per cent. as compared with January, 1921, and the increase as compared with July, 1914, was 136 per cent.

CANADA.*

The estimated weekly expenditure upon food by a family of five in August, 1921, as computed from returns of retail prices prevailing in 60 towns in the Dominion, shows an increase of 1.8 per cent. when compared with that of the preceding month, and an increase of 54 per cent. upon the expenditure in July, 1914. The total expenditure upon food, fuel, lighting and rent combined shows an increase of 1.8 per cent. as compared with that for July, and a rise of 55 per cent. as compared with the cost in July, 1914.

AUSTRALIA.

According to information furnished by the Office of the High Commissioner for Australia, the general level of retail food prices for the month of July shows a decrease of 2.1 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 61 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. The index numbers are based on the weighted averages for thirty towns in the Commonwealth.

NEW ZEALAND.†

The index number of retail prices of food in August, based on returns relating to 25 representative towns in New Zealand, shows a decrease of 0.7 per cent. when compared with that for the preceding month, but is 63 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. In the computation of the general index numbers regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in consumption before the war.

INDIA (BOMBAY).‡

The most recent available report published by the Bombay Labour Office shows an increase of 2.9 per cent. in retail food prices in July as compared with July, 1914. If fuel and lighting, clothing and house rent be also taken into consideration, in addition to food, the general level of retail prices in July shows an increase of 2.3 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and of 77 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. In the computation of the general index numbers, regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in consumption.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Government Statistician of New Zealand.
‡ Information furnished by the Director of the Bombay Labour Office.

FOOD PRICES—GENERAL SUMMARY.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.

Country.	Percentage Increase in Retail Food Prices since July, 1914.					Latest figures available.	
	July, 1916.	July, 1917.	July, 1918.	July, 1919.	July, 1920.	Rise.	Date.
UNITED KINGDOM ..	61	104	110	109	158	Per cent. 125*	1921. Sept.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium .. .. .	..	..	..	..	359	310	July
Denmark	46	66	87	112	153	136	July
Finland .. .. .	..	..	..	..	882	1,178	July
France (Paris)† ..	32	83	106	161	273	217	August
.. (other Towns)‡	42§	84§	144§	188§	288§	263	2nd Qr.
Germany¶ .. .. .	..	..	..	..	742	945	August
Holland (Amsterdam)¶	..	42	76	110	117	84	August
Italy (Rome)	11	37	103	106	218	309	June
.. (Milan) .. .. .	..	..	225	210	345	418	August
.. (Florence)	47	84	198	178	313	365	August
Norway	60	114¶	179	189	219	197	August
Sweden†	42	81	168	210	197	132	July
Switzerland‡ .. ..	..	..	..	..	138	145	114
United States	9	43	64	86	115	52	August
OVERSEAS DOMINIANS							
Australia	30	26	31	47	94	61	July
Canada	14	57	75	86	127	54	August
India (Bombay) .. .	..	..	..	..	88	74	July
New Zealand	19	27	39	44	67	63	August
South Africa	16	28	34	39	97	39	July

* It should be noted that the figures for the United Kingdom relate to Food only. For all items the increase is 120 per cent. (See p. 462). † The increases shown are for families of the lowest income class; in July the increase for all working-class families ranged from 305 to 310 per cent. ‡ Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. § Figures for 3rd Quarter. ¶ Includes rent, fuel, and lighting. †† Figures for August.

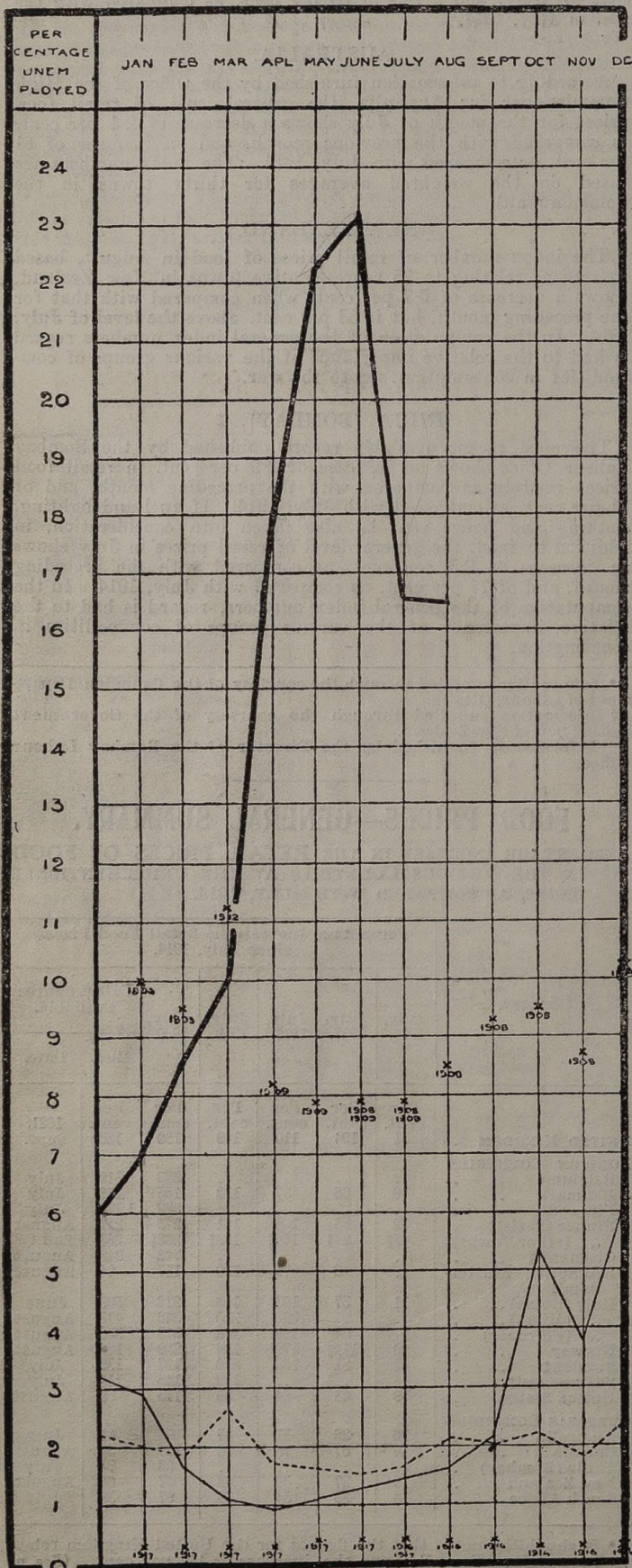
EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.*

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1921. — Thin Curve = 1920.
-----Dotted Curve = Mean of 1911-20.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1891-1920.



* The Chart is based on Returns furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick, or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given on page 465.

EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY FOR AUGUST.

DURING August employment, on the whole, continued bad. An improvement was, however, reported in many industries, notably pig iron, tin plate and steel sheet manufacture, and the glass trades, but much short time was still reported.

In the brick and pottery trades, in agriculture, and in the building and construction of works trades employment generally was fairly good. The textile trades continued very depressed.

The percentage unemployed among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received was 16.5 at the end of August, compared with 16.7 at the end of July and 23.1* at the end of June.

Among the workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act, numbering over 12,000,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 26th August, 1921, was 13.15. At 29th July it was 14.8, and at 24th June 17.8.* For males alone the percentage claiming benefit was 14.44 at 26th August, as compared with 16.2 at 29th July; for females the corresponding figures were 9.76 and 11.23.

The number of workpeople on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges at 26th August was approximately 1,573,000, of whom men numbered 1,190,000 and women 275,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 29th July was 1,780,000, of whom 1,351,000 were men and 317,000 were women. Some unemployed persons in occupations not covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act do not register at the Employment Exchanges. Further, at 26th August about 209,000 persons who were wholly unemployed had exhausted their rights to unemployment benefit, of whom about 104,000 had ceased to register for employment. The Live Register figures, therefore, do not fully indicate the total numbers unemployed.

In addition to those totally unemployed, large numbers of workpeople were registered as working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At 26th August these numbered 407,789, of whom 218,595 were males and 189,194 females; the corresponding numbers for the end of July were 534,000 (278,000 males and 256,000 females). There were also 13,600 persons working systematic short time whose unemployment benefit was exhausted.

The total number of vacancies notified to the Employment Exchanges and unfilled at 26th August was 21,000, of which 4,500 were for men and 14,400 for women; the corresponding number at 29th July was 25,000, of which 5,000 were for men and 16,700 for women.

Employment at coal mines was slack on the whole, and showed some decline on the previous month. There was an increase of 6.6 per cent. in the number of persons employed, but the number of days worked by the mines covered by the returns averaged only 4.77 per week in the fortnight ended 27th August, 1921, as compared with 5.56 days in the fortnight ended 23rd July, 1921. As compared with August, 1920, there was a decrease of 8.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed. Work was resumed at some iron mines, but the majority still remained closed; in the shale mining industry the number of persons working was only about half that working a year ago. At tin mines employment was very bad, little work being done; it was also bad at lead and zinc mines. In quarrying, employment, taken as a whole, was fair.

In the pig iron industry there was some recovery, and 42 furnaces were reported to be in blast as compared with 14 a month ago. There was a further recovery in the tinplate trades, 320 mills being in operation as compared with 262 a month ago; a year ago the number of mills working was 510. Employment in the iron and steel trades was still bad, but showed an improvement on the previous month. In the engineering trades employment was bad, notwithstanding a slight improvement, and it was bad on the whole in the other metal trades. In the shipbuilding trade there was an improvement towards the end of the month, but the settlement of the ship joiners' strike took place too late in the month to have much effect on the numbers unemployed in August.

In the cotton trade employment was slack, but an improvement was reported, especially in the weaving section. There was little change in the woollen and worsted trades, three days a week being the average time worked, while the number of workpeople employed was 25 per cent. less than a year ago. Employment in

* In calculating the Trade Union percentage for June the coal mining industry has been excluded, owing to the dispute. If coal miners were included, on the basis of the numbers unemployed immediately before the dispute, the general percentage would be reduced to 21.2. The unemployment insurance figures, on the other hand, include coal mining, those miners who were entitled to unemployment benefit under the Act being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 1,419,530 reported 234,864 (or 16.5 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of August, 1921, compared with 16.7 per cent. at the end of July, 1921, and 1.6 per cent. at the end of August, 1920.

Trade.	Member-ship at end of Aug. 1921.	Unemployed at end of Aug. 1921.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building†	72,710	4,175	5.7	- 1.5	+ 5.4
Coal Mining	139,844	26,418	18.9	+ 4.1	+18.8
Engineering and Ship- building.	512,620	133,859	26.1	- 2.0	+23.6
Miscellaneous Metal ..	65,977	13,231	20.1	- 1.2	+19.4
Textiles:—					
Cotton	82,417	6,022	7.3†	—	+ 5.8
Woollen and Worsted	11,889	1,035	8.7	- 1.6	+ 3.3
Other	124,757	15,221	12.2	- 0.2	+10.9
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	101,144	8,814	8.7	+ 1.3	+ 7.4
Furnishing	39,372	4,055	10.3	- 1.7	+ 8.2
Woodworking	55,737	4,986	8.9	+ 0.6	+ 8.1
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe	79,475	5,076	6.4	- 0.3	+ 4.8
Other Clothing	75,947	5,688	7.5	+ 0.7	+ 5.9
Leather	11,463	1,232	10.7	- 2.9	+ 4.4
Glass	1,356	93	6.9	- 3.3	+ 6.9
Pottery	40,000	3,000	7.5	- 5.0	+ 7.4
Tobacco‡	4,822	1,949	40.4	- 1.2	+35.5
Total	1,419,530	234,864	16.5	- 0.2	+14.9

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

(a) MINING AND OTHER METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Aug., 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining	524,589	4.77	-0.79	-0.90
Iron	1,788	4.57	||	-1.31
Shale	2,905	6.00	..	+0.03
Pig Iron	—	Furnaces in Blast. 42	No. +28	No. -236
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	—	Mills Working 320	+58	-190
Iron and Steel	76,922	Shifts Worked (one week). 388,041	Per cent. +17.9	Per cent. -41.9

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number Employed.		Wages Paid.	
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. †
Textiles:—				
Cotton	82,106	+ 5.8	£ 173,271	+10.2
Woollen	12,212	+ 3.9	22,757	+ 1.4
Worsted	22,912	+ 0.6	42,981	+ 2.6
Linen	15,101	+82.5	23,083	+84.8
Jute	4,705	- 7.1	7,529	-20.0
Hosiery	13,716	+ 3.3	26,399	+ 6.0
Lace	3,360	+ 9.6	6,406	+13.2
Other Textiles	13,126	+ 1.8	24,297	+ 1.1
Bleaching, etc.	20,463	+ 1.7	53,556	+ 8.6
Total Textiles	187,701	+ 7.4	380,389	+ 8.4
Boot and Shoe	50,815	+ 2.2	121,294	+ 5.4
Shirt and Collar	9,073	+ 1.7	13,305	+ 5.7
Readymade Tailoring ..	16,679	+ 1.8	28,796	+12.3
Paper	11,785	+ 0.2	32,929	+ 4.7
Printing and Book-binding.	12,688	- 1.3	41,423	- 1.6
Pottery	12,532	+ 3.2	31,439	+ 5.4
Glass	7,758	+67.5	23,278	+93.7
Brick	6,853	+ 6.9	23,187	+ 9.6
Cement	8,916	+ 5.9	35,082	+ 8.4
Food Preparation	57,442	+ 2.9	137,240	- 1.5
Grand Total	382,240	+ 5.6	868,362	+ 6.9

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short time working.

† The percentage is based on returns relating to carpenters and plumbers. ‡ In addition to those totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."

§ The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.

|| Most of the iron mines were closed during July. ¶ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

the linen trade, in spite of a great improvement, was still very bad; it was also bad in the jute, silk, lace, carpet, bleaching, dyeing and finishing trades. The hosiery trade showed slight signs of recovery, and the improvement of the previous month was maintained. In the ready-made tailoring trade employment continued slack, although rather better than a month ago; in the bespoke section employment in London declined and was moderate. In the dressmaking trade in London there was a slight decline, but with milliners it continued fair; in the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades it was slack. In the corset trade the slight improvement reported last month was maintained, but there was still a considerable amount of short time. In the shirt and collar trade there was a further slight improvement, but employment was still slack, and in the felt hat trade it was bad generally.

In the leather trades employment was slightly better than a month ago, although short time was worked in most sections. In the boot and shoe trades it continued slack, but there was some improvement on a month ago.

Employment in the paper, printing and bookbinding trades continued bad generally, and in some districts was worse than in July. Short time was again very prevalent in the three trades.

In the brick trades full employment was reported in most of the principal districts; in the cement trades it continued fair, and was rather better than a month ago.

In the building trades employment showed a slight general improvement, although from some centres a decline was reported. It was good generally with plasterers, fairly good in most districts with bricklayers, and dull with carpenters and joiners. It was reported as moderate with masons in Scotland, but painters continued slack on the whole. In the woodworking and furnishing trades employment remained bad generally, with a tendency to decline. With coopers, however, it was fairly good, and moderate with wheelwrights and smiths.

In the pottery trades employment was fairly good in England, being generally better than in July; in Scotland it continued bad. In the glass trades there was a great improvement as compared with July, but employment was still bad. In the food preparation trades employment was fair on the whole; much short time was, however, still reported.

In agriculture throughout the greater part of the country the harvest had been practically secured by the end of the month, and the supply of labour was generally sufficient for all requirements.

Employment with dock labourers continued slack on the whole; with fishermen it was generally fair, and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. With seamen the improvement noted last month did not continue, and employment was generally slack.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts of 1920 and 1921 is estimated at about 12,200,000. Of these 1,603,369,* or 13.15 per cent., were totally unemployed at 26th August, 1921, as compared with 14.80 per cent. at 29th July.

In addition, at 26th August, 407,789 persons, or 3.35 per cent. of the total number of insured persons, were working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts. The percentage at 29th July was 4.38.

A summary of the principal figures for unemployment insurance is given below. Detailed particulars for the principal industries will be found on pages 476 and 477.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated Number Insured ..	8,829,320	3,361,470	12,190,790
Total Unemployed*nt.			
Number of Unemployment Books lodged at 26th August, 1921 ..	1,275,244	328,125	1,603,369
Percentage of all Insured	14.44	9.76	13.15
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage compared with 29th July	-1.71	-1.47	-1.65
Short Time.			
Number of Books lodged at 26th August, 1921	218,595	189,194	407,789
Percentage of all Insured	2.48	5.63	3.35
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage compared with 29th July	-0.67	-1.98	-1.03

* Including 447 persons in receipt of out-of-work donation

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date.]

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during August declined, and was slack on the whole; large numbers of workers were unemployed, and many of the remainder worked short time.

In the Oldham district employment was reported as good, and it was fair and better than in July in South Wales and Monmouthshire, but elsewhere employment generally was worse than in the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.7 at 26th August, as compared with 8.1 at 29th July.

Of the 524,589 workpeople included in the Returns, 103,477 (or 19.7 per cent.) were employed at pits working 12 days* during the fortnight to which the Returns relate, and a further 89,144 (or 17.0 per cent.) at pits working 11 days or more, but less than 12 days. The average number of days worked by the pits (4.77)* showed a decrease of 0.79 as compared with last month, and of 0.90 as compared with August, 1920.

District.	No. of Workpeople employed at mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the mines.*			
	Fortnight ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Fortnight ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.		
				Per cent.	Days.	
Northumberland ..	49,945	+ 0.7	- 0.5	4.50	- 0.99	- 0.90
Durham ..	92,375	+ 5.3	+ 12.8	4.51	- 0.66	- 1.03
Cumberland ..	6,490	+ 1.5	+ 2.7	4.43	- 1.36	- 1.47
South Yorkshire ..	46,893	+ 2.0	+ 0.6	5.03	- 0.85	- 0.67
West Yorkshire ..	25,479	+ 2.3	+ 1.5	4.71	- 1.17	- 1.10
Lanc. and Cheshire ..	46,157	+ 3.9	+ 6.4	4.49	- 1.22	- 1.42
Derbyshire ..	26,062	+ 3.3	+ 3.8	5.04	- 0.31	- 0.80
Notts. and Leicester ..	34,094	+ 7.7	+ 4.9	4.52	- 0.98	- 1.08
Staffordshire ..	30,088	+ 1.6	+ 1.0	4.24	- 1.50	- 1.65
Worc., War. and Salop ..	10,628	+ 6.6	+ 1.1	5.01	- 0.58	- 0.91
Glouc. and Somerset ..	5,465	+ 5.5	+ 7.8	4.54	- 1.29	- 1.46
North Wales ..	5,640	+ 3.9	+ 12.4	5.24	- 0.63	- 0.22
South Wales ..	105,541	+ 14.4	+ 13.0	5.57	- 0.15	- 0.38
England and Wales ..	484,857	+ 5.8	+ 7.1	4.83	- 0.76	- 0.91
West Scotland ..	18,495	+ 12.8	+ 16.2	4.15	- 0.96	- 0.52
Lothians ..	2,357	+ 16.3	+ 6.7	4.88	+ 0.27	- 0.05
Fife ..	18,388	+ 24.1	+ 24.9	3.93	- 1.60	- 1.24
Scotland ..	39,240	+ 18.1	+ 20.0	4.09	- 1.18	- 0.84
Ireland ..	492	+ 2.9	+ 2.1	4.15	- 1.35	- 1.35
United Kingdom ..	524,589	+ 6.6	+ 8.2	4.77	- 0.79	- 0.90

The output of coal in Great Britain in the four weeks ended 27th August was provisionally returned to the Board of Trade at 4,102,300 tons. In the four weeks ended 30th July it was 4,592,500 tons, and in the four weeks ended 28th August, 1920, it was 4,590,600 tons.

The exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel in August, 1921, amounted to 3,295,644 tons, or 2,439,124 tons more than in July, 1921, but 2,777,219 tons less than in August, 1913.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

WORK was resumed at some iron mines during August, but the majority of mines still remained closed owing to depression in trade. In the shale mining industry, also, some mines were still closed. Very little work was done at tin mines during the month, while at lead and zinc mines employment generally was bad.

Employment at quarries, taken as a whole, was fair, but in a few cases work was hindered to some extent by bad weather. Employment improved somewhat at quarries producing limestone for blast furnaces, iron and steel works, etc., but much short time was still worked at these quarries.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received from mines and open works employing 1,788 workpeople during the fortnight ended 27th August show a decrease of 89.3 per cent. in the total number of work-

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

people employed as compared with August of last year. The majority of iron mines remained closed during August, but at those mines which were working, the average number of days worked per week* showed a decrease of 1.31 as compared with a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fortnight ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a year ago.	Fortnight ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a year ago.	Days.
Cleveland ..	845	- 87.4	4.35	- 1.63	
Cumberland and Lancs.	388	- 82.3	5.67	- 0.33	
Other Districts ..	555	- 88.8	4.15	- 1.49	
ALL DISTRICTS ..	1,788	- 89.3	4.57	- 1.31	

Shale.—Returns received from firms employing 2,005 workpeople during the fortnight ended 27th August show an increase of 1.8 per cent. in the number employed as compared with July, and a decrease of 55.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago. A number of shale mines still remained closed in August. At those mines which were working, the average number of days worked per week by the mines was 6.00 as compared with the same figure in the previous month, and with 5.97 in August, 1920.*

Tin.—Very little work was done at tin mines during August, and employment remained very bad.

Lead and Zinc.—Employment generally remained slack at lead and zinc mines, and lead mines in the Lanarkshire district were affected by a prolonged dispute.

QUARRYING.

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

District.	No. of Workpeople employed at Quarries included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Quarries working.*			
	Fortnight ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Fortnight ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a Month ago.		
				Per cent.	Days.	
Limestone ..	2,760	+ 35.5	- 32.3	5.20	+ 0.08	- 0.57
Sandstone ..	1,222	- 6.6	+ 6.4	5.12	+ 0.18	- 0.38
Granite ..	1,904	- 0.1	+ 8.7	5.79	+ 0.36	+ 0.01
Basalt ..	4,604	+ 1.4	+ 7.0	6.75	- 0.20	- 0.09
Basalt ..	970	- 2.5	+ 6.4	5.62	- 0.04	- 0.04
Whinstone ..	184	+ 1.7	- 14.4	5.21	- 0.57	- 0.37
Total ..	11,644	+ 7.0	- 7.1	5.54	- 0.02	- 0.19

Limestone.—Employment, though somewhat better than in the previous month, was still very slack on the whole at quarries producing limestone for blast furnaces, iron and steel and chemical works; a large amount of short time was again worked, and a few quarries were still reported closed. At quarries producing limestone for cement employment was good, whilst at other quarries it was fair generally.

Sandstone.—Employment at sandstone quarries showed considerable variations as between different districts, but taken as a whole was only moderate.

Granite (road materials, setts, etc.).—Employment was good on the whole at quarries producing granite for roadmaking, but remained generally slack at those producing granite for sett-making and monumental work, etc.

Slate.—Slate quarrymen were fairly well employed during August.

Basalt and Whinstone (road materials).—Employment at basalt quarries was good, taken as a whole, during August. At whinstone quarries it was good in the west of Scotland, but only fair in the east of Scotland.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry showed some recovery during August. At the end of the month 42 furnaces were in blast at those works covered by the returns received, as compared with 14 in the previous month and with 278 in August, 1920. Of these furnaces fourteen were in the Cleveland district, three in Cumberland, four in Yorkshire, nine in Derbyshire, one in Lincolnshire, four in Staffordshire, and seven in Scotland.

The production of pig-iron in August, 1921, as returned to the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 93,600 tons, as compared with 10,200 tons in July, and 752,400 tons in August, 1920.

The imports of iron ore in August, 1921, amounted to 36,997 tons, or 22,140 tons more than in July, 1921, but 490,016 tons less than in August, 1913.

The exports of pig-iron in August, 1921, amounted to 5,092 tons, or 5,026 tons less than in July, 1921, and 96,751 tons less than in August, 1913.

* See note * at foot of previous column.

IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works, though still bad, showed an improvement on the whole as compared with the previous month. A number of works were reported to have been reopened during August, particularly in Scotland, but in the Northumberland and Durham district there was a decline. According to returns received from firms employing 76,922 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 27th August, 1921 (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, multiplied by the number of shifts during which work was carried on), showed an increase of 17.9 per cent. on the previous month, but a decrease of 41.9 per cent. on a year ago.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*				
	Week ended 27th August, 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Week ended 27th August, 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	
							Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ..	7,960	+ 28.3	- 46.5		43,059	+ 38.4	- 48.7
Crucible Furnaces ..	277	+ 35.1	- 49.7		868	+ 25.6	- 71.1
Bessemer Converters ..	617	+ 70.9	- 42.8		2,459	+ 40.0	- 52.7
Puddling Forges ..	4,698	+ 6.1	- 41.2		18,317	+ 6.9	- 54.4
Rolling Mills ..	24,184	+ 7.8	- 40.1		110,276	+ 7.0	- 47.4
Forging and Pressing ..	3,419	+ 20.6	- 29.9		15,658	+ 21.3	- 41.5
Founding ..	9,461	+ 12.0	- 25.3		53,692	+ 10.6	- 28.0
Other Departments ..	8,232	+ 6.9	- 31.6		43,414	+ 9.7	- 37.6
Mechanics, Labourers ..	18,074	+ 33.0	- 32.5		99,798	+ 35.2	- 35.2
Total ..	76,922	+ 16.2	- 36.6		388,041	+ 17.9	- 41.9
DISTRICTS.							
Northumberland and Durham ..	6,490	- 32.3	- 43.3		32,343	- 35.8	- 48.4
Cleveland ..	9,999	+ 7.3	- 23.7		54,554	+ 5.4	- 26.2
Sheffield and Rotherham ..	19,889	+ 2.9	- 32.9		101,335	+ 4.1	- 39.2
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ..	3,810	+ 18.7	- 8.1		19,485	+ 10.6	- 16.2
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ..	4,836	+ 5.3	- 55.4		25,212	+ 4.4	- 56.3
Staffordshire ..	6,226	+ 3.3	- 34.6		30,348	+ 0.8	- 41.1
Other Midland Counties ..	3,504	+ 32.1	- 29.4		17,176	+ 47.3	- 38.3
Wales and Monmouth ..	7,926	+ 15.4	- 45.9		36,524	+ 31.9	- 52.7
Total, England and Wales ..	62,680	+ 1.8	- 33.3		316,977	+ 2.0	- 41.4
Scotland ..	14,242	+ 209.9	- 37.8		71,064	+ 286.4	- 44.1
Total ..	76,922	+ 16.2	- 36.6		388,041	+ 17.9	- 41.9

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 432,600 tons in August, 1921, compared with 117,200 tons in the previous month and with 709,200 tons in August, 1920.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

THESE industries showed a further recovery during August, and at the end of the month 320 mills were reported to be working as compared with 262 in the previous month and 510 a year ago.

The number of workpeople unemployed as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges was 10,923 at 26th August, as compared with 17,593 at 29th July. In addition there were 519 claimants for benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, compared with 954 on 29th July.

The following Table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of August, 1921:—

Works.	Number of Works open.		Number of Mills in operation.	
	At end of Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	At end of Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Tinplate ..	48	+ 9	226	+ 49
Steel Sheet ..	11	+ 2	94	+ 9
TOTAL ..	59	+ 11	320	+ 58

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in August, 1921, amounted to 18,940 tons, or 7,422 tons more than in July, 1921, but 74,935 tons less than in August, 1913.

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is to be taken of time lost by individuals, owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown was actually worked by all the men employed.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades continued bad, the settlement of the shipjoiners' dispute (see page 481) taking place too late in the month to have much effect upon the general percentage unemployed at 26th August. At the end of the month, however, a noticeable improvement was reported from some districts.

The following Table* shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 26th August, 1921:—

Division.	Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 26th Aug., 1921.	Percentage of Unemployment at 26th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 29th July, 1921.
London ..	4,668	31.14	- 12.31
Northern Counties ..	28,858	37.69	- 0.62
North-Western ..	14,326	30.20	- 1.22
Yorkshire ..	5,878	40.95	- 6.60
East Midlands ..	748	28.23	- 7.54
West Midlands ..	139	8.74	- 1.64
S. Midlands and Eastern ..	1,227	23.24	- 2.23
S. E. Counties ..	935	18.31	+ 1.31
South-Western ..	8,254	24.99	+ 2.50
Wales ..	5,907	36.99	- 2.62
Scotland ..	28,913	28.28	+ 0.02
Ireland ..	10,071	32.39	+ 4.39
UNITED KINGDOM ..	107,897	31.14	- 1.62
Males ..	107,175	31.51	- 1.64
Females ..	722	11.50	- 0.06

The percentage of persons claiming unemployment insurance in respect of time lost owing to systematic short time was 2.3 at 26th August, compared with 2.6 at 29th July.

Employment on the Tyne was again bad, although some improvement was reported at Wallsend, Jarrow, and Elswick. On the Wear it remained bad, and was stated to be worse than in July. Following on the termination of the shipjoiners' dispute, however, several yards were reopened. The joiners' resumption was also responsible for increased activity on the Tees, holidays being curtailed. At the majority of the East Coast ports employment remained slack. On the South Coast, however, an improvement was reported. At the Bristol Channel ports employment was still bad and short time was prevalent, but on the Mersey an improvement was experienced, employment being described as moderate. Short time continued to be worked at Barrow.

On the Clyde employment remained bad generally for all classes of workpeople except joiners, although some yards were reported to have resumed full time at the end of the month. At Aberdeen and Dundee employment was again bad, and worse than in the previous month. A further decline was reported from Belfast, where employment, particularly for unskilled labour, was again very bad. It continued very bad at Cork.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was again bad on the whole during August, but showed a slight improvement on the previous month.

The following Table* shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 26th August, 1921:—

Division.	Number of Unemployment Books remaining lodged at 26th Aug., 1921.	Percentage of Unemployment at 26th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 29th July, 1921.
London ..	27,646	18.41	- 1.41
Northern Counties ..	24,181	23.64	- 1.45
North-Western ..	39,740	17.73	- 1.88
Yorkshire ..	24,286	17.11	- 8.78
East Midlands ..	14,073	21.55	- 2.34
West Midlands ..	45,809	27.57	- 1.67
S. Midlands and Eastern ..	15,691	20.99	- 1.69
S. E. Counties ..	6,700	17.61	- 0.30
South-Western ..	7,397	12.85	- 1.00
Wales ..	5,274	17.38	- 2.43
Scotland ..	40,571	22.23	- 3.33
Ireland ..	5,921	19.36	+ 1.23
UNITED KINGDOM ..	257,489	20.36	- 2.60
Males ..	245,341	21.09	- 2.64
Females ..	12,148	11.97	- 2.22

The proportion of persons claiming unemployment insurance benefit in respect of days of work lost owing to systematic short time was 4.9 per cent. of the insured workpeople at 26th August, compared with 5.6 per cent. at 29th July.

At the majority of the principal centres employment remained

* Owing to changes in the industrial classification of a number of insured persons, consequent upon the operation of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as from 8th November, 1920, the figures in this Table are not strictly comparable with those in issues of the LABOUR GAZETTE prior to that of December, 1920.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in Dundee and the surrounding districts continued bad during August and showed a decline as compared with the previous month, particularly in the weaving section of the trade.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.6 at 26th August, as compared with 14.2 at 29th July. In addition 45.8 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 62.9 per cent. at 29th July.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.*		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Preparing	1,412	+ 5.0	2,110	- 1.4	-49.6	
Spinning	1,545	+ 2.3	2,237	- 6.9	-51.1	
Weaving	1,104	- 26.0	1,838	- 39.6	-61.6	
Other and not specified	644	- 9.9	1,344	- 26.5	-63.8	
Total	4,705	- 7.1	7,529	- 20.0	-56.4	

The exports of jute yarn of British manufacture were 2,119,000 lbs. in August, 1921, compared with 1,875,100 lbs. in July, 1921, and 2,304,200 lbs. in August, 1913.

The exports of jute piece goods of British manufacture, including jute carpets and rugs, were 6,701,400 square yards in August, 1921, compared with 5,973,700 square yards in July, 1921, and 13,645,200 linear yards in August, 1913.

HOSIERY TRADE.

THE improvement in employment in this trade was maintained during August, and the industry on the whole showed slight signs of recovery, although considerable short time continued to be worked.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the hosiery trade, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.6 at 26th August, as compared with 12.6 at 29th July. In addition, 5.2 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 7.4 per cent. at 29th July.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns showing the numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 27th August as compared with the previous month and a year ago:—

District.	Workpeople.		Earnings.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.*		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Leicester	6,516	+ 2.5	13,797	- 1.5	-24.9	
Leicester County Dist.	1,603	+ 5.9	3,088	+ 15.3	-29.7	
Notts and Derbyshire ..	3,645	+ 0.9	5,960	+ 10.3	-38.4	
Scotland	1,639	+ 8.9	3,053	+ 30.3	-39.9	
Other Districts	313	+ 6.8	501	+ 6.8	- 9.6	
Total, United Kingdom	13,716	+ 3.3	26,399	+ 6.0	-30.7	

Of 11,356 workpeople employed by firms making reports as to short time, about 28 per cent. were losing, on the average, nearly 16 hours a week.

In the Leicestershire districts the improvement reported in July was maintained. In Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire employment was bad, but on the whole improved slightly on the previous month.

In Scotland there was a marked improvement, but half of the employees were losing, on an average, about 17 hours a week.

The exports of cotton hosiery in August, 1921, amounted to 40,938 dozen pairs, as compared with 37,872 dozen pairs in July, 1921, and 71,657 dozen pairs in August, 1913.

The exports of woollen hosiery in August, 1921, amounted to 106,121 dozen pairs, as compared with 83,122 dozen pairs in July, 1921, and 217,465 dozen pairs in August, 1913.

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in this trade, though still slack, showed a further slight improvement, but was much below the level of a year ago. Short time was prevalent, and of 2,500 workpeople covered by the

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

Returns received relating to short-time working, about 68 per cent. worked, on the average, 16 hours per week less than full time in the week ended 27th August.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.0 at 26th August, as compared with 21.0 at 29th July. In addition, 10.3 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 26th August, as compared with 13.5 per cent. at 29th July.

At Nottingham employment continued bad, although a slight improvement was reported, particularly in the plain net section. Returns received from employers relating to short time show that about three-quarters of the operatives covered by the Returns were on short time, the average loss of time being about 10 hours per week.

At Long Eaton employment was bad, very little improvement being noticeable as compared with the previous month. Several firms were closed down throughout the month, and a large proportion of the operatives remaining in employment were on short time, and were working, on the average, about 16 hours per week less than full time. Employment was bad generally in Scotland also, a large amount of short time being worked. According to the Returns received, over 50 per cent. of the workpeople were working 18 hours less than full time on an average.

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

Branches.	Total Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
Levers	917	+ 5.2	1,827	+ 9.7	-36.7	
Curtain	1,186	+ 2.8	2,658	+ 6.8	-14.5	
Plain Net	689	+23.3	902	+44.3	-65.4	
Others	568	+12.3	1,019	+15.8	-24.0	
Total	3,360	+ 9.6	6,406	+13.2	-35.6	

Districts.	Total Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
Nottingham City	1,475	+ 5.7	2,743	+11.1	-32.2	
Long Eaton and other outlying Districts	1,001	+19.3	1,668	+24.1	-54.3	
Other English Districts	884	+ 5.4	1,995	+ 8.1	-11.1	
Scotland	884	+ 5.4	1,995	+ 8.1	-11.1	
Total	3,360	+ 9.6	6,406	+13.2	-35.6	

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment, though still bad in August, showed some improvement on the previous month. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.7 at 26th August, as compared with 7.1 at 29th July. In addition 14.4 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 16.7 per cent. at 29th July.

The following Table summarises information received from employers who furnished returns relating to numbers employed and wages paid:—

BRANCHES.	Total Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.*		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Throwing	668	+ 6.9	825	+ 5.1	-27.0	
Spinning	1,746	- 0.5	2,910	+ 6.5	-48.0	
Weaving	1,539	+ 4.4	2,217	+ 6.2	-39.5	
Other	954	+ 2.1	1,930	- 0.5	-14.0	
Not specified	361	+ 2.8	646	-	-40.2	
Total	5,268	+ 2.5	8,528	+ 4.1	-37.8	

DISTRICTS.	Total Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.*		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	2,025	+ 8.6	3,478	+10.8	-41.2	
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	1,161	-11.1	1,865	- 7.5	-42.7	
Eastern Counties	1,276	+ 2.7	2,188	+ 2.1	-23.5	
Other Districts, including Scotland	806	+11.2	997	+11.3	-40.8	
Total	5,268	+ 2.5	8,528	+ 4.1	-37.8	

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

Reports received from certain firms relating to short time showed that 84 per cent. of their workpeople worked short time to the extent of 13 hours each, on the average, during the week ended 27th August.

In the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton districts employment was reported as bad, and worse than a month ago. Nearly 80 per cent. of the operatives reported upon worked about 17 hours a week less than full time. In the Lancashire and West Riding districts employment was also bad, though better than a month ago, 90 per cent. of the operatives covered by the returns working on an average 15 hours less than full time. In Norfolk employment was reported as fair, but in Suffolk and Essex it still remained slack.

The following Table summarises the statistics of imports (less re-exports) of raw and thrown silk, spun silk yarn and broadstuffs and the exports of spun silk yarn and silk broadstuffs in August, 1921, in comparison with July, 1921, and August, 1913:—

Description.	August, 1921.	July, 1921.	August, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A month ago.	August, 1913.
Imports (less Re-exports)					
Raw Silk lb.	4,116	23,048	117,266	- 18,932	- 113,140
Thrown Silk lb.	—*	2,304	39,141	—	—
Spun Silk Yarn lb.	25,557	45,296	50,996	- 19,739	- 25,439
Silk Broadstuffs	2,973†	4,404†	8,480‡	- 1,431	—
Exports of British Manufacture:					
Spun Silk Yarn lb.	15,621	8,748	118,176	+ 6,873	- 102,556
Silk Broadstuffs	254†	220†	1,128‡	+ 34	—

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

THE improvement in these trades reported in July was maintained during August, and in some districts, particularly in Ireland, which had not been affected by the improvement in July, employment was better than in the previous month. It was, however, still bad on the whole, and short time continued to be worked in all districts. Returns received from firms employing about 17,500 workpeople showed that in the week ended 27th August approximately three-quarters of these employees were working, on the average, 19 hours per week less than full time.

The percentage of workers unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.7 at 26th August, as compared with 12.5 at 29th July. In addition, 15.7 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working, as compared with 23.4 per cent. at 29th July.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns as to numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 27th August, 1921, as compared with July, 1921, and August, 1920:—

Trades.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.‡		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.‡	
Bleaching	1,979	+13.0	4,401	+21.8	-35.8	
Printing	683	+ 7.1	2,074	+11.9	-41.8	
Dyeing	10,883	- 0.4	30,503	- 5.8	-44.1	
Trimming, Finishing, and other Departments	6,521	+ 1.5	15,522	- 1.0	-35.6	
Not specified	397	+ 6.4	1,196	+12.2	-21.9	
Total	20,463	+ 1.7	53,656	- 1.6	-40.7	

Districts:	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.‡		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.‡	
Yorkshire	10,294	- 1.1	28,574	- 8.6	-45.0	
Lancashire	6,777	+ 4.5	18,861	+11.1	-38.8	
Scotland	1,188	- 1.3	2,669	- 6.4	-34.2	
Ireland	479	+64.0	933	+71.8	-33.0	
Other Districts	1,725	+ 0.3	4,689	- 1.8	-17.4	
Total	20,463	+ 1.7	53,656	- 1.6	-40.7	

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the carpet trade during August continued bad on the whole, but there was a slight improvement in some districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the carpet and rug trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.8 at 26th August, as compared with 10.6 at 29th July. In addition, 8.6 per cent. of the work-

* The quantity of Thrown Silk imported in August, 1921, was 121 lbs. and the quantity of re-exports was 528 lbs.

† Thousands of square yards.

‡ Thousands of linear yards.

§ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

people were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 10.7 per cent. at 29th July.

Returns received from firms employing 7,858 workpeople in the week ending 26th August, and paying £15,769 in wages, showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 10.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 5.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 21.0* per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 24 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns worked short time during the month, their loss of time averaging 21 hours per week.

FELT HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the felt hat trade continued bad generally, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. Trade unions with a membership of 5,136 at Denton, Stockport, Bredbury, Bury and Hyde reported that 4.4 per cent. of the members were unemployed at the end of August compared with 3.6 per cent. at the end of July, and that practically all the members employed were working short time.

Employment at Denton was still bad. At Stockport it continued very bad and was worse than in the previous month. In Warwickshire employment was fairly good, but showed a decline as compared with July.

TAILORING TRADES.

BESPOKE.

LONDON.—Employment during August in the bespoke branch of the tailoring trade declined, but was moderate on the whole. Returns from firms paying £11,534 to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor) during the four weeks ended 27th August showed a decrease of 25.6 per cent. as compared with last month, but an increase of 0.6* per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment in Leeds was fair. In the majority of places in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, however, tailors were badly employed. Employment in Bristol was very bad. There was still much unemployment in the North and West Midlands counties, and short time continued general to a much greater extent than is usual at this time of year. Workpeople were fairly well employed in the Devon and Cornwall districts. Employment in Scotland was very slack. In Ireland employment was better in the south than in the north.

READY MADE.

During August employment continued slack, but was, on the whole, rather better than in July, although much worse than a year ago. Over three-fifths of those reported upon for short time purposes lost, on an average, over 18 hours per week.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 27th August, as compared with July, 1921, and August, 1920:—

District.	Number of Indoor Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Indoor Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.*		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.*	
Leeds	4,271	+11.5	7,175	+ 38.5	+ 27.2	
Manchester	1,906	+ 1.5	3,302	+ 17.2	- 53.0	
Other places in Yorks.	2,194	- 2.1	3,516	+ 9.4	- 28.3	
Lancs. and Cheshire	1,104	- 3.2	1,569	+ 45.3	- 31.7	
Bristol	1,602	+ 1.2	2,377	+ 11.6	- 26.1	
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	1,596	- 2.4	2,514	- 10.8	- 19.0	
South Midland and Eastern Counties ..	1,869	- 4.2	4,697	- 3.4	- 15.3	
London	897	- 4.7	1,722	+ 10.8	- 31.1	
Glasgow	1,240	- 2.7	1,924	- 3.6	- 15.1	
Rest of United Kingdom	1,240	- 2.7	1,924	- 3.6	- 15.1	
Total, United Kingdom	16,679	+ 1.8	28,796	+ 12.3	- 29.3	

In Leeds an improvement was shown, but over two-thirds of the workpeople were only working half-time. At Oldham employment was moderate, but in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire generally it continued bad. In Bristol two days per week, on an average, were lost by the workpeople covered by the returns. Employment in the North and West Midlands was bad on the whole, except at Sheffield. At Birmingham considerable numbers were still unemployed. Employment in London was bad. In the South Midlands and Eastern Counties employment continued slack. Half time was worked at most factories in Devon and Cornwall. Employment declined at Glasgow. In Ireland employment was not so good as last month, except at Cork, where it remained fairly steady.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during August in the shirt and collar trade showed a further very slight improvement, but was still slack. Short time working continued fairly general; more than one-half of the workpeople covered by the returns received worked, on an average, about 18 hours per week less than full time. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns relating to the numbers employed and wages paid:—

District.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*		Per cent.
				Per cent.	Per cent.	
London	1,806	- 18	2,934	+ 76	-30.8	
Manchester	1,580	+ 4.7	2,209	+ 3.3	-37.9	
Rest of Yorks., Lancs. and Cheshire.	1,039	+ 0.3	1,387	+12.0	- 3.9	
South Western Counties.	1,277	+ 0.5	1,523	+ 6.2	-39.0	
Rest of England and Wales	539	+ 8.0	722	+17.8	-31.1	
Glasgow	1,694	-12.0	2,912	+ 0.4	- 7.4	
Londonderry	486	+16.0	718	+ 9.6	-17.3	
Belfast	282	- 2.1	355	+16.4	- 9.9	
Rest of Ireland	370	+ 1.4	545	- 4.6	-26.3	
Total, United Kingdom ..	9,073	+ 1.7	13,305	+ 5.7	-25.8	

Employment in London was slack. In the Yorkshire, Cheshire and Lancashire districts short time was worked to an average extent of about a day and a half by nearly one-sixth of the workpeople. In the Manchester district over three-fourths of the operatives lost, on an average, about 20 hours per week. Employment in the South-Western Counties was very slack generally. A slight improvement took place in the remaining parts of England and Wales; the number of workpeople on short time fell from over four-fifths to less than two-fifths, while the average number of hours lost decreased from 21 per week to about 14. At Glasgow the slight improvement which began in July was maintained, although many workpeople were still on short time. Employment in Londonderry was slightly better, and there was a little less short time in Belfast. In other parts of Ireland employment was about the same as in the previous month.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

EMPLOYMENT in the dressmaking trade in London on the whole showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. Returns from retail firms (chiefly in the West End) employing 721 workpeople in the week ended 27th August showed a decrease of 9.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with July, and of 8.7 per cent. compared with August, 1920.

Employment with milliners in the West End continued fair, and no short time was reported.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, ETC., TRADES.

In London employment was still rather slack, one-third of the workpeople reported upon with reference to short time worked, on an average, between 10 and 11 hours per week less than full time. Returns from firms employing 2,525 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 27th August showed an increase of 8.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with July, and a decrease of 14.0 per cent. compared with August, 1920.

In Manchester employment was moderate in the mantle trade, short time being reported, and was again bad in the costume and skirt trade.

Employment in Glasgow was again slack in the mantle trade.

CORSET TRADE.

The slight improvement noted in the previous month was maintained in August, but again considerable short time was reported. Of the operatives covered by the returns received relating to short time nearly 90 per cent. lost an average of 18 hours per week. Returns from firms employing 4,626 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 27th August showed an increase of 5.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with July, and a decrease of 18.1 per cent. compared with August, 1920.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in August was slightly better than a month ago, although short time was still worked in most sections. With harness makers, horse collar makers, gig and brown saddlers, and female leather workers at Walsall employment was reported as very bad, and worse in most cases than a month ago, 90 per cent. or more of the workers being on short time. Trade Unions with 11,463 members reported 10.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 15.6 per cent. at the end of July, and 6.3 per cent. in August, 1920.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the *Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.3 at 26th August, as compared with 12.6 at 29th July. In addition, 2.5 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 3.7 per cent. at 29th July.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

DURING August employment in this trade continued slack, although it showed some improvement as compared with a month earlier. In many districts short time was still being worked, and there was considerable unemployment.

The percentage of workpeople in boot, shoe, and slipper making and repairing establishments unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.4 at 26th August, as compared with 12.2 at 29th July. In addition, 2.7 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 26th August, as compared with 4.6 at 29th July.

Returns relating to short time were received from firms employing 32,920 workpeople. Forty per cent. of these were on short time, the average loss of time being about 12 hours a week.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns regarding numbers employed and wages paid:—

District.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*		Per cent.
				Per cent.	Per cent.	
England and Wales:—						
London	1,876	+ 1.3	4,518	+ 0.8	- 3.0	
Leicester	9,806	+ 2.0	23,058	+ 2.7	-16.9	
Leicester Country District	2,660	+ 2.3	6,842	+ 10.5	+ 17.0	
Northampton	7,079	- 0.8	18,638	+ 6.7	- 1.5	
Northampton Country District	7,128	+ 4.1	17,475	+ 11.3	+ 1.5	
Kettering	2,807	+ 1.6	7,634	+ 5.4	+ 0.3	
Stafford and District	2,365	- 1.1	5,759	+ 2.0	-16.0	
Norwich and District	3,254	+ 5.8	6,824	+ 5.7	-30.9	
Bristol and District	646	+ 10.8	1,412	+ 15.4	-22.3	
Kingswood	1,292	+ 10.6	3,142	+ 30.6	+ 0.3	
Leeds and District	1,454	+ 1.0	3,303	- 3.4	-17.0	
Lancashire (mainly Rosendale Valley)	3,573	+ 3.9	8,432	+ 0.8	-22.7	
Birmingham and District	949	+ 2.8	2,061	+ 5.8	- 7.3	
Other parts of England and Wales	2,706	- 1.4	5,068	+ 3.8	-28.6	
England and Wales	47,595	+ 2.2	114,166	+ 5.8	-10.7	
Ireland	2,685	+ 1.6	5,964	- 2.1	-17.3	
Rest of Ireland	535	+ 4.9	1,164	+ 6.2	- 8.2	
United Kingdom	50,815	+ 2.2	121,294	+ 5.4	-11.1	

At Leicester employment was still slack, with much short time, though there was some improvement on the preceding month. At Hinckley there was also some improvement. At Northampton employment still continued bad, short time being general. At Wellingborough and Kettering employment was fair, showing an improvement on last month; in both cases, however, short time was being worked. At Rushden there was an improvement on July; there was a decrease in the numbers unemployed, and short time was worked in a few factories only.

At Stafford employment was slack. At Norwich conditions were slightly better than during last month, though employment was still very slack. At Bristol there was a slight improvement in the heavy boot trade, while at Kingswood there was a distinct improvement on the previous month. At all these places, however, short time was being worked.

At Street employment was still very bad, the trade union operatives working little more than about half-time. At Leeds employment remained slack. At Manchester employment, in spite of a slight improvement, was still bad, the operatives working about three days a week.

In Scotland employment continued slack on the whole. At Glasgow employment was bad, and worse than last month. At Kilmarnock there was no change from July, when employment was described as fair, while at Aberdeen a further slight improvement was reported.

The exports of boots and shoes in August, 1921, amounted to 37,253 dozen pairs, or 10,790 dozen pairs more than in July, 1921, but 110,530 dozen pairs less than in August, 1913.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

IN these trades employment remained bad generally during August, and in most branches was not so good as in the previous month. Returns were received from Trade Unions covering 95,109 workpeople, of whom 9.5 per cent. were stated to be unemployed at the end of August (exclusive of considerable numbers on short time), as compared with 9.8 per cent. at the end of July and 1.4 per cent. in August, 1920.

Mill Sawing and Machining.—Employment declined to bad in this trade during August. Short time was general, the centres most affected being Bristol, Birmingham, London, Grantham, Nottingham and Glasgow and district.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the saw milling and machine woodworking trades, as indicated by the unemploy-

ment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th August was 13.5, as compared with 15.2 at 29th July. In addition 2.1 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 26th August, compared with 2.6 at 29th July.

Furnishing.—In this trade there was a slight decline during the month, employment being bad on the whole. Short time was worked in most districts, and was general at Birmingham, Manchester, Nottingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow and London and district.

Coach Building.—Employment was bad on the whole during August, being slightly worse than the previous month, but a small improvement was reported at Coventry. The decline was mainly due to great slackness in wagon and railway carriage building, especially at Birmingham and Nottingham. Much short time was reported, Bradford, Barrow, Birmingham, Bristol, Crewe, Derby and Nottingham being specially affected.

Coopering.—Employment was fairly good in this trade during August, showing a slight improvement on a month ago, except in the Glasgow district and in the wet section of the trade at Liverpool, where it was reported as bad. Some short time was worked at Birmingham, and in Glasgow and district.

Miscellaneous.—Employment continued bad in the brushmaking trade during August. Much short time was worked, being general in London and Lincoln, and in Nottingham most of the workpeople were on half time. With basket makers employment was again bad. Short time was reported in London and Bradford. Employment with packing case makers showed a tendency to decline during the month. Short time was worked at most centres, and was general at Bradford, Liverpool, Manchester and Nottingham.

With wheelwrights and smiths employment was moderate, showing a slight improvement on the previous month, except at Grant-ham and Lincoln, where it was reported as bad, short time being general at both centres.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK.

THE improvement in the brick trade was maintained throughout August and full employment was reported in most of the principal districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick and tile and cement trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th August, was 10.6, as compared with 15.1 at 29th July. In addition, 0.3 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 0.9 per cent. at 29th July.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 27th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*		Per cent.
				Per cent.	Per cent.	
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,998	+ 8.8	6,704	+14.2	- 9.8	
Midlands and Eastern Counties	2,480	+ 3.3	8,131	+ 3.8	+ 8.6	
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,291	+ 6.8	4,776	+ 5.6	- 5.1	
Other Districts	1,084	+12.3	3,576	+22.0	+ 5.7	
Total	6,853	+ 6.9	23,187	+ 9.6	- 0.6	

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment during August continued fair on the whole, and showed an improvement. Returns from firms employing 8,916 workpeople in the week ended 27th August, 1921, showed an increase of 5.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 8.4 per cent. in the total amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. Compared with August, 1920, there was a decrease of 12.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 14.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades during August showed a slight improvement, on the whole, as compared with the previous month, though a decline was reported from some centres. Reports of short time working and shortage of materials were received from several towns. Some overtime was worked at a few centres, chiefly in connection with housing schemes. Of the geographical divisions shown in the Table given below, London, Scotland and Ireland showed the most marked improvement, but the percentage unemployed in every division continued high, and was considerably above that for a year ago.

Employment was good generally with plasterers, a shortage of labour being reported in some districts; fairly good in most districts with bricklayers, and dull with carpenters and joiners. It was reported as moderate with masons in Scotland, being

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

somewhat better than in July. Painters continued slack on the whole, but a slight improvement was noticeable. It was generally quiet with plumbers. The percentage of unemployed for labourers and navvies continued very high, although there was some improvement on the previous month.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople claiming unemployment benefit at 26th August, 1921, and the increase or decrease in the percentage as compared with 29th July:—

Occupations.	Number of Unemployment Books Remaining Lodged at 26th Aug., 1921.	Percentage Unemployed at 26th Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 29th July, 1921.	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters	11,765	7.99	- 0.58	
Bricklayers	2,982	4.78	- 0.61	
Masons	1,886	6.92	- 0.56	
Plasterers	317	1.74	- 0.74	
Painters	15,930	11.84	- 2.06	
Plumbers	3,568	7.61	- 0.73	
Other skilled occupations	7,057	10.36	- 0.41	
Navvies	16,936	14.27	- 1.51	
Labourers	82,810	20.40	- 2.10	
All Occupations	143,250	13.92	- 1.48	
Divisions.				
London	30,392	14.84	- 2.41	
Northern Counties	6,100	11.62	- 1.38	
North Western	17,608	12.91	+ 0.18	
Yorkshire	8,580	10.95	- 1.68	
East Midlands	4,076	12.00	- 1.02	
West Midlands	11,702	17.04	- 0.31	
South Midlands and Eastern	11,545	11.67	- 1.39	
South Eastern Counties	8,010	12.04	- 1.15	
South Western	12,622	12.47	- 0.73	
Wales	6,619	12.94	- 1.28	
Scotland	11,088	11.86	- 3.38	
Ireland	15,008	33.96	- 2.89	
United Kingdom	143,250	13.92	- 1.48	
Males	142,810	14.00	- 1.49	
Females	440	4.54	- 0.51	

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper, printing and bookbinding trades during August continued bad generally, and in some districts was worse than in the previous month. Short time was again largely worked in all three trades, but was not quite so prevalent as in July.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the printing, publishing and bookbinding trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.7 at 26th August as compared with 8.5 at 29th July. In addition, 1.5 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time working at 26th August, as compared with 1.7 per cent. at 29th July. With letterpress printers employment was generally very slack in London, and worse than in July, and although some overtime was worked by a considerable number of compositors, others were on short time or totally unemployed; in the provinces, also, employment was very slack, and a good deal of short time was worked. In the lithographic printing trade employment continued bad, and short time was worked in most districts. Returns received by the Department relating to nearly 7,400 workpeople in the letterpress and lithographic printing trades showed that slightly over one-third of these workpeople worked, on an average, nearly 9 hours per week short of full time.

Employment in the bookbinding trade was bad, and worse than in the previous month. Of over 3,900 workpeople covered by returns received, over 40 per cent. were working, on an average, nearly 15 hours per week short time.

In the paper trade employment was generally bad, and in some districts was reported as worse than in July. Over 37 per cent. of the workpeople covered by returns received were working, on an average, about 18 hours per week short time.

The following Table summarises the returns from Trade Unions relating to unemployment in August:—

Occupations.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug., 1921.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Aug., 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1920.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Printing	77,693	7.5	7.0	1.5	+ 0.5	+ 6.0
Bookbinding	14,850	9.3	7.1	0.6	+ 2.2	+ 8.7

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns of the number of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid:—

Description.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	Per cent.	Per cent.
Paper	11,785	+ 0.2	- 13.0	32,929	+ 4.7	- 23.7		
Printing	8,400	- 2.2	- 11.2	31,936	- 3.2	- 6.7		
Bookbinding	4,286	+ 0.6	- 11.1	9,487	+ 4.2	- 18.8		
Total	24,471	- 0.6	- 12.1	74,352	+ 1.1	- 16.5		

The following Table shows the imports of wood pulp and paper, and the exports of paper in August, 1921, in comparison with July, 1921, and August, 1913 :-

Description.	Aug., 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A month ago.	Aug., 1913.
Imports:					
Wood pulp for paper making	101,689	55,971	80,140	+ 45,718	+ 21,549
Paper	696,303	522,724	1,151,897	+ 173,579	- 455,594
Exports of paper	84,957	94,616	280,171	- 9,659	- 195,214

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades during August continued to be fairly good; it was generally better than a month ago in England, but, though slightly better than a month ago, was still bad in Scotland. The improvement in England was most marked in the earthenware section.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.1 at 26th August, as compared with 12.6 at 29th July. In addition, 0.4 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 26th August, as compared with 0.6 per cent. at 29th July.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished Returns as to numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 27th August, 1921, as compared with July, 1921, and August, 1920 :-

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ..	1,517	- 2.1	- 1.6	4,323	- 2.0	- 1.4		
Earthenware Manufacture ..	9,487	+ 5.2	- 2.5	23,555	+ 9.3	- 3.8		
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,528	- 3.5	- 8.7	3,561	- 7.8	- 13.9		
Total	12,532	+ 3.2	- 3.2	31,439	+ 5.4	- 4.8		
DISTRICTS.								
Potteries	9,687	+ 1.2	+ 0.7	24,015	+ 3.3	+ 0.4		
Other Districts	2,845	+ 10.7	- 14.4	7,424	+ 12.9	- 18.4		
Total	12,532	+ 3.2	- 3.2	31,439	+ 5.4	- 4.8		

Of nearly 11,500 workpeople covered by the Returns received from employers relating to short-time working, nearly 10 per cent. worked, on the average, 18 hours per week short of full time during the week ended 27th August.

The exports of china, earthenware and pottery in August, 1921, amounted to 135,386 cwts., or 19,334 cwts. more than in July, 1921, but 193,382 cwts. less than in August, 1913.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades during August was still bad, but there was a great improvement on the previous month.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the Glass Trades (excluding optical and scientific glassware), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.6 at 26th August, as compared with 31.0 at 29th July. In addition, 3.4 per cent. of the workpeople were claiming benefit in respect of systematic short-time working at 26th August, as compared with 5.2 per cent. at 29th July.

Employment with glass bottle makers was much better than during the preceding month. Flint glass cutters and flint glass makers at Birmingham reported employment as fair, but with plate glass bevellers employment was slack, and worse than a month ago. Pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear reported

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

employment as still slack, but there was a slight improvement on the previous month.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to numbers employed and wages paid in the week ended 27th August, 1921, as compared with the previous month, and with July, 1920 :-

Branches.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	Per cent.	Per cent.
Glass, Bottle	5,127	+ 93.0	- 31.6	16,004	+ 123.0	- 40.1		
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	2,074	+ 31.5	- 19.8	5,752	+ 54.4	- 26.4		
Other Branches	557	+ 39.3	- 25.4	1,522	+ 36.6	- 19.9		
Total	7,758	+ 67.5	- 28.3	23,278	+ 93.7	- 36.1		
Districts.								
North of England	323	+ 13.3	- 61.5	956	+ 46.0	- 65.9		
Yorkshire	3,287	+ 67.1	- 21.3	10,453	+ 98.1	- 22.8		
Lancashire	806	+ 67.2	- 52.3	2,280	+ 82.2	- 55.3		
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	835	+ 11.5	- 12.1	2,341	+ 15.9	- 19.2		
Scotland	936	+ 52.0	- 17.0	2,544	+ 68.2	- 35.2		
Other parts of the United Kingdom	1,571	+ 57.1	- 23.1	4,694	+ 89.1	- 32.7		
Total	7,758	+ 67.5	- 28.3	23,278	+ 93.7	- 36.1		

Returns from firms employing 5,673 workpeople showed that in the week ended 27th August nearly 13 per cent. of these employees were working, on the average, 9 hours less than full time.

The exports of glass bottles during August, 1921, amounted to 19,641 gross, or 5,125 gross more than in July, 1921, but 49,824 gross less than in August, 1913.

The exports of all other manufactures of glass during August, 1921, amounted to 13,427 cwts., or 5,456 cwts. less than in July, 1921, and 59,041 cwts. less than in August, 1913.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the food preparation trades during August was fair on the whole, but much short time was reported.

In the sugar refining industry employment was fair, and in the cocoa, chocolate, and sugar confectionery trade there was a slight increase in the numbers employed, though nearly 20 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were reported to be working eight hours a week less than full time. A few firms reported a little overtime. In the biscuit and cake-making trades there was a slight increase in the numbers employed, but nearly 25 per cent. of the workers were working seven hours per week short of full time. In the jam and marmalade section of the trade a considerable amount of overtime was reported by several firms. In the bacon-curing and preserved meat trade employment was fair. In the pickle and sauce-making trade employment remained slack.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns relating to the numbers employed and wages paid :-

Trade.	Number of Workpeople.				Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Aug. 1921.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	Per cent.	Per cent.
Sugar Refining, etc. ..	6,399	- 0.4	- 1.8	22,237	- 17.1	- 6.6		
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ..	25,404	+ 3.6	- 0.5	56,541	+ 2.3	- 5.9		
Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ..	15,204	+ 4.1	- 9.2	34,501	+ 4.0	- 5.8		
Jams, Marmalade, etc. ..	6,898	+ 1.8	+ 9.9	15,478	+ 0.4	+ 7.1		
Bacon and Preserved Meats	2,934	+ 1.9	- 3.0	7,284	- 1.3	+ 2.8		
Pickles and Sauces, etc.	603	- 1.8	- 10.0	1,199	- 3.2	- 11.3		
Total	57,442	+ 2.9	- 2.3	137,240	- 1.5	- 4.3		

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT was fair on the whole, and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month.

The number of fishermen whose unemployment books were lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th August was 3,224, as compared with 5,457 at 29th July.

East, South and West Coasts.—At Hull employment was still bad, though there was some improvement on the previous month. At Grimsby it was fair and better than in July; employment

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

among fish dock labourers and fish curers being good. At Lowestoft employment was fair, and better than the previous month. In the Devon and Cornwall district employment was slack generally. At Cardiff it showed an improvement.

Scotland.—Employment continued fair at Aberdeen and showed a slight improvement. At Peterhead it was moderate, and slightly worse towards the end of the month. At Fraserburgh employment was fair, and at Macduff it was good and better than in July.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of fish landed in the United Kingdom in August, 1921, as compared with August, 1920 :-

Description.	Quantity of fish landed.		Value.	
	August, 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with Aug., 1920.	August, 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with Aug., 1920.
Fish (other than shell) :-				
England and Wales ..	994,476	- 113,882	1,267,519	- 406,833
Scotland	863,639	- 11,426	548,025	- 212,080
Ireland	53,561	- 4,101	25,904	- 13,073
Total	1,911,676	- 134,409	1,839,448	- 632,086
Shell Fish				
Total			47,421	- 1,513
Total			1,886,869	- 633,599

AGRICULTURE.*

ENGLAND AND WALES.

DURING August there was a considerable rainfall in the North and West, and the corn harvest in these districts was somewhat delayed in consequence; throughout the greater part of the country, however, the harvest had been practically secured by the end of the month. The supply of labour was generally sufficient for all requirements. Little unemployment was reported among regular agricultural workers, and in some districts in the Northern counties and in parts of South Wales there was a small demand for more skilled men. There was an ample supply of casual labour for the corn harvest, fruit picking, etc., and in a few districts some unemployment was reported.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during August continued slack on the whole. The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the canal, river, harbour, dock and wharf service, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 26th August, was 24.0, as compared with 27.1 at 29th July.

London.—Employment in London continued moderate generally, being about the same as in the previous month, but much worse than a year ago.

The following Table shows the average daily number of labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in each week of the month :-

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.			
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.	
Week ended—				
6th Aug., 1921 ..	5,753	2,154	7,907	7,221
13th " ..	5,426	2,467	7,893	7,443
20th " ..	5,176	2,533	7,709	7,333
27th " ..	5,415	2,807	8,222	7,038
Average for 4 weeks ended 27th Aug., 1921	5,429	2,502	7,931	7,261
Average for July, 1921	6,001	2,393	8,394	7,599
Average for Aug., 1920	8,815	2,722	11,067	7,722

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in August was 1,278, as compared with 1,247 in July and 1,738 in August, 1920.

East Coast.—Employment with tugboatmen on the Tyne and Wear was fair, and better than in the previous month. With transport workers it was bad and worse than in July, but at Blyth, whilst still slack, there was a slight improvement compared with a month ago. With steam-packet men employment was fair, and showed some improvement on July. Employment continued fair at Ipswich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft and King's Lynn; at Hull it was still very slack, though slightly better than in the previous month.

* Based on information supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Southern and Western Ports.—Employment at Plymouth and the Bristol Channel ports declined during August and was very slack. On the Mersey employment was bad, and worse than a month ago. The average weekly number of dock labourers employed at Liverpool during the four weeks ended 29th August was 11,383, compared with 13,217 in the five weeks ended 1st August, 1921, and with 13,394 in the corresponding period of last year.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow and Dundee employment continued bad, but at Leith it was good and better than a month ago. Employment improved slightly at Belfast, and at Cork, Limerick and Waterford continued fair and about the same as in the previous month.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT among seamen during August was generally slack, but showed, on the whole, a slight improvement as compared with the previous month. Many ships continued to be laid up at the ports, and there were in all districts large surpluses of ratings for whom no engagements were available.

The percentage of seamen unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 21.1 at 26th August as compared with 26.8 at 29th July.

On the Thames the demand was slack for the first half of the month, and declined again at the end after an improvement in the third week; a considerable number of men were unable to obtain berths.

Employment on the Tyne was moderate during the month, and a large number of men were unemployed. On the Tees the demand for seamen was very small, the inactivity being ascribed to the high cost of bunkers. There was also considerable stagnation on the Wear.

At Hull employment was slack, a revival in the middle of the month being followed by a decline. At Grimsby the demand for men continued to be insignificant.

Employment at Southampton was moderate; many of those who signed on were re-engagements, and the number of unemployed remained large.

At Bristol the demand was poor and declined at the end of the month, but at Avonmouth employment showed some improvement, though it was still only moderate on the whole.

There was considerable unemployment at the South Wales ports. At Cardiff and Newport employment was dull for the greater part of the month, with a temporary improvement during the middle period.

In the foreign-going trade at Liverpool a moderate demand in the first week was succeeded by a decline, but at the end of the month conditions were somewhat better.

On the Clyde employment, which varied from fair to moderate in the first two weeks, declined considerably in the third week, but afterwards showed some revival; a large number of men, however, were unable to obtain employment. At Dundee and Leith employment, after being very slack, showed a slight improvement at the end of the month.

At Belfast an improvement was recorded in the middle of the month, but it was not maintained, and employment at the end of the month was described as dull.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports during August :-

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	Aug., 1921.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Eight months ended		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Aug., 1921.	Aug., 1920.	Aug., 1913.
ENGLAND & WALES:						
<i>East Coast—</i>						
Tyne Ports	2,125	+ 74	+ 49	10,265	15,126	
Sunderland	272	+ 33	+ 63	1,202	2,204	
Middlesbrough	174	- 171	- 464	2,376	4,194	
Hull	1,356	- 280	- 259	8,537	10,374	
Grimsby	23	+ 23	+ 51	49	165	
<i>Bristol Channel—</i>						
Bristol	864	- 277	..	6,754	9,152	
Newport, Mon.	964	+ 340	+ 203	3,814	7,159	
Cardiff	3,187	+ 195	- 368	13,911	23,944	
Swansea	766	+ 317	+ 414	3,220	3,002	
<i>Other Ports—</i>						
Liverpool	12,449	+ 241	+ 614	65,779	96,103	
London	6,326	+ 41	- 1,720	32,278	63,284	
Southampton	7,291	+ 633	+ 274	49,428	37,076	
SCOTLAND:						
Leith	340	- 135	- 208	2,466	3,222	
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Granton	151	+ 8	- 54	634	1,618	
Glasgow	2,462	- 262	+ 132	15,650	18,183	
IRELAND:						
Dublin	98	- 33	+ 98	922	614	
Belfast	263	- 21	+ 36	1,771	2,729	
Total	39,111	+ 726	- 1,367	259,056	298,159	

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

STATISTICS from Employment Exchanges during the four weeks ended 26th August showed that the average weekly decrease in the number of workpeople on the Live Register was 52,000, compared with a weekly decrease of 80,000 during July. The number remaining on the Live Register at 26th August was 1,572,792. The decrease (208,043) during August was common to all departments, men accounting for 160,935, women for 42,444, and juveniles for 4,664. The average weekly number of applications from workpeople during the four weeks ended 26th August was 135,873, compared with a weekly average of 130,058 during the five weeks ended 29th July.

It should be noted, however, that at 26th August 104,000 of those persons who had exhausted their right to Unemployment benefit had allowed their registration for work to lapse.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 26th August, 1921 :-

Week ended	Applications by		Vacancies Filled.	Applications outstanding at end of week.	
	Workpeople.	Employers.		From Workpeople (Live Register.)	From Employers.
29th July, 1921	128,289	18,542	16,154	1,780,835	24,636
5th Aug., 1921	113,607	16,100	13,480	1,730,570	23,263
12th " "	140,824	16,804	15,136	1,686,919	22,504
19th " "	147,704	17,729	14,836	1,642,508	22,110
26th " "	141,357	15,424	14,087	1,572,792	21,120
Total (4 weeks)	543,492	66,057	57,539	—	—

Of the total number of workpeople on the Live Register at 26th August, 1,190,390 were men, 60,681 were boys, 274,981 were women, and 46,740 were girls. Of the 21,120 vacancies unfilled, 4,514 were for men, 14,387 were for women, and 2,219 for juveniles. The daily average number of vacancies notified and vacancies filled decreased by 6.4 per cent. and 5.7 per cent. respectively, as compared with the previous period.

Details of the figures given in the preceding paragraphs are not yet available, but the outstanding features of the work of the Employment Exchanges during the four weeks ended August 5th, 1921, are dealt with below :-

Applications from Workpeople.—The daily average number of applications from workpeople (20,899) during the four weeks ended 5th August showed a decrease of 1,726, or 7.6 per cent., compared with last month. Of this daily average men accounted for 14,146, women for 4,451, and juveniles for 2,322—decreases of 10.3 per cent. and 8.7 per cent. respectively in the case of men and women, and an increase of 16.5 per cent. in the case of juveniles.

Compared with last month, the number of applications from men declined in most of the principal trade groups, the only occupations in which increases occurred being commercial and clerical and dress (including boots and shoes). The largest decreases were:—Textiles (41.9 per cent.), engineering and ironfounding (20.9 per cent.), miscellaneous metal trades (19.4 per cent.), the transport trades (15.2 per cent.), and building and construction of works (13.5 per cent.). In the case of women, all important industries showed a decrease, the principal being in textiles (53.3 per cent.), engineering and ironfounding (24.5 per cent.), miscellaneous metal trades (13.0 per cent.), and domestic service (10.9 per cent.).

Of the total applications from men, 19.1 per cent. were in engineering and ironfounding, 15.0 per cent. in building and construction of works, and 11.5 per cent. in the transport trades, while general labourers accounted for 9.1 per cent. Of the total applications from women, domestic service accounted for 25.6 per cent. and textile trades for 13.3 per cent.

Vacancies Notified.—The average daily number of vacancies notified by employers during the four weeks ended 5th August was 2,993, as compared with 2,825 during the preceding period. Of this daily average, 1,338 were for men, 1,190 for women, and 465 for juveniles—increases of 2.4 per cent. in the case of men, 6.9 per cent. in the case of women and 14.8 per cent. in the case of juveniles, compared with the previous month. The principal increases in the number of vacancies notified were in engineering and ironfounding (28.1 per cent.), the transport trades (10.1 per cent.) and building and construction of works (8.5 per cent.). There were decreases in the number of vacancies notified for men in miscellaneous metal trades, commercial and clerical occupations, dress (including boots and shoes) and general labourers.

Of the total vacancies notified for men, 40.8 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 6.1 per cent. in engineering and ironfounding and 18.1 per cent. for general labourers.

There was an increase of 10.1 per cent. in the number of vacancies notified for women in domestic service, but there were decreases in the case of textiles, dress (including boots and shoes), food, tobacco, drink and lodgings, and agriculture.

Of the total vacancies notified for women, 18,873, or 69.0 per cent., were in domestic service.

Vacancies Filled.—The average daily number of vacancies filled during the period ended 5th August was 2,389, as compared with 2,331 during the previous period, and 2,805 during the corresponding period a year ago. Compared with last month, the average daily number of vacancies filled by men remained unchanged, while in the case of women and juveniles there were increases of 1.7 per cent. and 12.9 per cent. respectively.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified during the period was 79.8 per cent., as compared with 82.5 per cent. during the previous period. Of the total vacancies filled by men, 41.4 per cent. were in building and construction of works, while engineering and ironfounding accounted for 5.9 per cent. and general labourers for 19.1 per cent. In the women's department, domestic service accounted for 63.5 per cent. of the total vacancies filled.

In the men's department, there were slight increases in the number of vacancies filled in building and construction of works, engineering and ironfounding, construction of vehicles, domestic service and the transport trades, while vacancies filled in miscellaneous metal trades and commercial and clerical occupations decreased by 47.4 per cent. and 55.8 per cent. respectively. There was an increase of 5.1 per cent. in the number of vacancies filled by women in domestic service, while decreases occurred in the case of commercial and clerical occupations, agriculture and dress (including boots and shoes).

Juveniles.—With reference to juveniles, 28,022 applications were received from boys, and 4,794 vacancies were notified for boys. Of the vacancies notified, 4,037, or 84.2 per cent., were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by boys, 34.3 per cent. were in the transport trades, 12.4 per cent. in engineering and ironfounding and 8.0 per cent. in commercial and clerical occupations. The number of applications received from girls was 25,397. The number of vacancies notified was 5,915, of which number 4,609, or 77.9 per cent., were filled. Of the total vacancies filled, domestic service accounted for 34.0 per cent., the transport trades for 11.1 per cent., and commercial and clerical occupations for 9.7 per cent.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for boys among the more important trade groups was greatest in engineering and ironfounding (92.3 per cent.), commercial occupations (89.9 per cent.), general labourers (85.0 per cent.), and the transport trades (83.8 per cent.). In the case of girls, the percentages were: Transport trades (87.1), food, tobacco, drink and lodging occupations (85.1) and commercial occupations (83.9).

Of the total vacancies (8,646) filled by juveniles, 1,519, or 17.6 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The following Table shows, for men and for women, the number of applications from workpeople, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 5th August and the number remaining on the Live Registers. It should be noted that the number on the Live Registers of Employment Exchanges does not include persons on short time :-

Group of Trades.*	Men.			
	Applications from workpeople.	Live Register.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Building	42,645	106,384	4,908	4,122
Construction of Works	6,109	20,255	7,664	7,659
Engineering and Ironfounding	62,226	303,514	1,886	1,667
Shipbuilding	21,599	93,732	1,243	1,065
Construction of Vehicles	2,086	8,182	267	181
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	15,404	128,264	258	232
Domestic Service	4,225	13,209	1,013	877
Commercial and Clerical	6,796	22,087	622	523
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	37,453	134,372	1,741	1,574
Agriculture	2,247	6,807	1,156	1,128
Textiles	7,304	33,117	163	196
Dress (including Boots and Shoes)	6,115	20,739	300	256
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodgings	3,699	14,011	332	274
General Labourers	29,636	125,684	5,585	5,441
All other Trades	74,808	238,908	3,632	3,241
Total	325,352	1,269,265	30,770	28,435
Group of Trades.*	Women.			
	Applications from workpeople.	Live Register.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Engineering and Ironfounding	3,204	22,969	129	102
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	3,548	17,625	237	213
Domestic Service:—				
Resident domestic servants	5,580	5,142	7,797	3,518
Non-resident domestic servants	7,019	10,210	3,848	2,396
Other domestic offices and services	13,464	27,002	7,228	5,425
Commercial and Clerical	5,130	15,304	980	784
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	2,889	10,128	449	392
Agriculture	856	712	568	531
Textiles	13,673	59,059	735	585
Dress (including Boots and Shoes)	11,862	35,488	2,026	1,457
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodgings	4,132	12,574	545	467
General Labourers	2,427	8,391	105	90
All other Trades	28,198	81,296	2,718	1,886
Total	101,912	306,930	27,365	17,846

* Casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers) are excluded from this Table and from all other figures above except those in the first three paragraphs. The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations during the period of four weeks ended 5th August was 2,813.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 464-465 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see pp. xxiv—xxvi and 8-20 of the Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics, Cd. 5415 of 1911, also "International Labour Review," January, 1921, issued by the International Labour Office.]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in August.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" at Employment Exchanges at the end of August was 20,238 (13,546 men and 6,692 women). The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled was 5,446 (2,722 men and 2,724 women). The Exchanges succeeded during the last week in August in placing 24,014 persons in situations (19,233 men and 4,781 women), and in addition employed was found for 340 foreign immigrants.

Out-of-Work Benefit in August.—According to the latest returns, on 2nd September 9 departmental and 128 municipal unemployment funds were in operation, the total number of persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit being 27,634 (19,210 men and 8,424 women). Of this total, 18,611 were resident in the Seine Department, including 9,706 in Paris.

GERMANY.

Employment in July.—The Reichs-Arbeitsblatt for 31st August reports as follows:—

The improvement in the labour market reported in the two preceding months was maintained in July. This was due partly to weather conditions (which were favourable for seasonal trades), partly to the good demand for harvest workers, and partly to the fall in the exchange value of the mark, as the result of reparation payments to the Entente. . . . The impression is gained, however, that the highest point of the curve has been attained, if not already passed, and from certain localities reports have been received of discharges of untrained workers and of women.

The number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of out-of-work donation declined from 315,458 on 1st July to 269,424 on 1st August, or by 14.6 per cent.; among men the decrease amounted to 15.6 per cent., and among women to 11.1 per cent.

Returns from trade unions also point to decreased unemployment during July. Out of a total of 5,711,084 members covered by the returns, 143,375, or 2.5 per cent., were out of work at the end of the month, as compared with 3.0 per cent. at the end of June, and 6.0 per cent. in July, 1920.

Unions.	Membership reported at end of July, 1921.	Percentage of Membership Unemployed.		
		July, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1920.
All Unions making Returns	5,711,084	2.5	3.0	6.0
PRINCIPAL UNIONS.—				
Building trade workers	464,247	2.4	3.1	3.9
Painters (Soc. Dem.)	51,302	0.5	0.9	7.4
Metal workers (Soc. Dem.)	1,349,639	3.2	3.8	4.0
" (Christian)	214,448	1.8	2.3	1.8
" (Hirsch-Daucker)	105,285	1.2	1.5	0.8
Textile workers (Soc. Dem.)	554,705	1.6	2.6	17.0
" (Christian)	98,870	0.9	1.6	10.0
Clothing workers	108,942	1.8	1.1	—
Boot and shoe makers (Soc. Dem.)	77,004	2.5	2.5	18.9
Transport workers (Soc. Dem.)	555,646	2.2	2.8	3.8
Printers	67,813	1.5	1.7	4.8
Bookbinders	78,627	3.2	3.4	5.2
Saddlers and bagmakers (Soc. Dem.)	33,813	7.9	8.6	23.8
Wood workers (Soc. Dem.)	350,108	3.9	4.4	10.4
" (Christian)	35,790	0.4	0.4	2.2
Glass workers (Soc. Dem.)	62,329	1.2	3.7	3.3
Porcelain workers	57,393	2.5	3.2	2.7
Bakers and confectioners (Soc. Dem.)	67,279	5.7	7.1	10.9
Brewery and corn-mill workers	72,357	1.1	1.4	2.2
Tobacco workers	77,258	3.5	3.4	9.1
Enginemen and stokers	30,568	2.0	0.5	2.5
Factory workers (irrespective of trade)	564,031	2.1	2.7	2.9
Factory and transport workers (Christian)	109,864	2.9	1.3	1.7
Municipal and State workers	266,337	2.2	1.7	1.8

The improvement is also reflected in the returns both of the Employment Exchanges and the sickness insurance societies. The former show that 151 applicants were registered for every 100 vacancies in July, as compared with 169 in June, the improvement being more marked in the case of men than of women. As regards sickness insurance societies, an aggregate membership of 12,697,256 was recorded by 6,508 of these bodies on 1st August, showing an increase of 0.4 per cent. over the corresponding total for 1st July. "Members" are those persons whose premiums for compulsory insurance against sickness were being paid, and who were, therefore, assumed to be in employment.

* Journal Officiel, 3rd September, 1921.

BELGIUM.*

Unemployment in June and July.—Returns relating to June were received by the Belgian Ministry of Industry, Labour and Supplies from 2,158 unemployment funds, with an aggregate membership of 669,268. On the last working day of the month 153,231 of these, or 22.9 per cent. of the total, were out of work. The corresponding percentage for the previous month was 32.3. The aggregate days of unemployment in June numbered 2,168,203, as compared with 2,610,877 in May.

Employment Exchange returns are available for a later period. During July 15,257 applications for employment were reported, as compared with 15,912 applications in June, while offers of situations numbered 8,951 (8,806 in June). For every 100 situations registered as vacant there were thus 170 applications, as against 181 in June.

ITALY.

Unemployment in August.—According to a report forwarded by H.M. Commercial Secretary at Rome the total number of persons unemployed in Italy on the 1st August was 413,747, an increase of more than 25,000 as compared with the total for 1st July. In addition, 213,379 persons were working short time. The province reporting the greatest number of persons out of work was Lombardy, with a total of 91,603; in Veneto the total was 89,026, in Piedmont 65,154, Emilia 51,899, Tuscany 37,459, Liguria 24,767, Apulia 19,706, and Sicily 15,498.

SWITZERLAND.†

Unemployment in July and August.—According to figures compiled by the Central Employment Department from returns supplied by Employment Exchanges throughout Switzerland, the number of applications for employment and of vacancies on the "live register" of the Exchanges, and the number of persons partially employed on the dates shown, were as follows:—

Date.	Applications.	Vacancies.	Partially Unemployed.
4 July	54,039	1,117	76,116
18 July	52,255	1,016	76,822
8 August	55,605	811	79,888

Taking July as a whole, 574 applications for employment were registered for each 100 vacancies for men, and 312 for each 100 for women; in June the figures were 453 and 274 respectively, so that the figures for the more recent month show an increase in both cases.

HOLLAND (AMSTERDAM).

Unemployment in July.—A statement issued by the Amsterdam Municipal Statistical Bureau shows that the percentage of members of trade unions affiliated to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund in that city who were out of work in July was 20.9, as compared with 23.4 in June, and 19.0 in July, 1920. These figures include diamond workers, of whom 86.5 per cent. were unemployed in July, 90.5 per cent. in June, and 68.9 per cent. in July, 1920.

NORWAY.‡

Unemployment in June.—The percentage of members reported as unemployed at the end of June in certain trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics was 17.1, as compared with 16.1 in May and 0.7 in June, 1920.

	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1920.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1920.
Bricklayers and Masons (Christiania)	917	918	873	3.3	3.8	3.2
Carpenters	1,130	1,213	1,450	15.9	20.9	0.5
Painters (Christiania)	598	589	711	—	—	—
Metal Workers	9,091	9,558	9,702	21.0	17.9	0.6
Foot and Shoe Makers	863	890	861	12.8	14.5	—
Printers	2,539	2,586	2,525	9.0	9.7	0.4
Bookbinders	845	860	845	26.4	27.6	0.7
Cabinetmakers	720	760	607	33.1	30.8	2.6
Bakers	550	550	580	6.2	5.8	1.4
Total	17,308	17,924	18,254	17.1	16.1	0.7

* Revue du Travail, August, 1921. Brussels.

† Eidgenössisches Arbeitsamt. Monats-Bericht, July, 1921. Berne.

‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

SWEDEN.*

Unemployment in June and July.—The percentage unemployed among members of Swedish Trade Unions both on 31st July and on 30th June was 27.9, as compared with 25.3 in May and 3.4 on 1st July, 1920.

Full particulars, however, are not available for the latest date, and the following Table relates to the end of June.

Unions.	Membership reporting on 30th June, 1921.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		30th June, 1921.	31st May, 1921.	1st July, 1920.
All Unions making Returns ..	145,365	27.9	25.3	3.4
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Blast furnacemen	10,541	34.1	21.8	0.4
Foundrymen, etc. .. .	2,710	46.0	30.7	2.0
Engineering workers .. .	32,633	31.6	26.2	3.6
Electrical workers .. .	4,288	25.3	22.6	3.4
Textile workers .. .	4,484	28.3	29.8	0.3
Clothing workers .. .	2,113	11.8	12.2	1.5
Boot, shoe and leather workers ..	5,444	29.8	25.6	0.2
Brewery workers .. .	2,680	3.8	5.0	0.2
Tobacco workers .. .	4,069	3.9	7.7	0.8
Sawmill workers .. .	11,831	43.0	43.4	1.4
Woodworkers .. .	8,300	31.1	30.6	6.3
Municipal workers .. .	5,904	1.3	1.7	0.3
General and factory workers (trades not specified)	22,001	39.7	39.6	9.3
Commercial employees .. .	6,715	9.1	9.7	2.1

Taking July as a whole, 574 applications for employment were registered for each 100 vacancies for men, and 312 for each 100 for women; in June the figures were 453.3 and 274 respectively, by workpeople. This figure shows an increase over that for the preceding month (258), and a considerably greater one over the corresponding figure (94) reported for July, 1920.

DENMARK.†

Unemployment in August.—Out of a total of 287,043 workpeople covered by the returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange, 17.7 per cent. were unemployed on 26th August, as compared with 16.7 per cent. at the end of July, and 2.4 per cent. at the end of August, 1920.

Trades.	Number of Workpeople included in Returns for 30th August, 1921.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		26th August, 1921.	30th July, 1921.	27th August, 1921.
Copenhagen:—				
Building trades .. .	12,293	31.9	30.0	6.0
Other industries .. .	63,210	23.3	22.2	3.1
Commercial employment ..	11,112	6.0	5.9	0.7
General labourers (trades not specified) .. .	31,290	15.4	14.7	1.1
Total .. .	117,905	20.5	19.6	2.6
Provinces:—				
Building trades .. .	20,858	24.8	22.4	4.2
Other industries .. .	56,761	20.2	18.8	3.3
Commercial employment ..	9,349	6.2	4.5	1.0
General labourers (trades not specified) .. .	82,170	10.6	11.5	1.2
Total .. .	169,138	15.4	14.8	2.2
Grand Total .. .	287,043	17.7	16.7	2.4

CANADA.

Unemployment in June:—Returns relating to unemployment in June were received by the Canadian Department of Labour from 1,511 labour organisations, with a total membership of 181,552. For all trades reporting 13.15 per cent. of the members were unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 15.46 per cent. in April and 2.14 per cent. in June, 1920.

Group of Trades.	Membership reporting on 30th June, 1921.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.		
		June, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1920.
All trades reporting .. .	181,552	13.15	15.46	2.14
PRINCIPAL UNIONS.				
Building and construction .. .	25,006	13.44	15.82	4.28
Mining, quarrying and refining of ores .. .	11,354	16.83	13.15	0.38
Metals, machinery and conveyances ..	13,605	25.23	29.59	2.00
Textiles, carpets and cordage .. .	3,484	2.32	1.88	0.02
Clothing and laundering .. .	7,033	68.55	61.41	1.84
Food, tobacco and liquors .. .	2,710	23.32	8.37	7.00
Leather, boots, shoes and rubbers ..	2,788	1.97	18.34	3.98
Steam railways .. .	61,803	7.48	10.86	1.79
Trams and electric railways .. .	9,693	0.31	0.34	0.05
Seafaring, etc. .. .	2,844	4.04	8.13	3.05
Teamsters and chauffeurs .. .	1,419	0.99	3.23	0.23
Pulp, paper and fibre .. .	3,780	0.00	4.59	0.00
Printing, publishing and paper goods ..	7,396	2.27	3.16	1.14
Lumber working and logging .. .	6,562	53.34	42.23	..

* Sociala Meddelanden, No. 9, 1921, and information supplied through the courtesy of the Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm.
† Statistiske Efterretninger, 6th September, 1921.
‡ The Labour Gazette, August, 1921 Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

Employment in August.—The bulletin of the Employment Service of Canada for 15th August publishes a report based on returns relating to the two-week period ended 30th July received by the Canadian Department of Labour from 5,198 firms, with a total pay-roll of 628,830 persons. This total represents a slight decrease amounting to less than one per cent. in the numbers employed by the same firms during the previous fortnight. As compared with the corresponding period of 1920 the numbers employed show a decrease of 17.6 per cent.

UNITED STATES.*

Employment in July.—The following tabular statements showing the volume of employment in representative establishments in thirteen manufacturing industries, and in bituminous coal-mining in the United States in July, 1921, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) July, 1920, are compiled from reports received by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics:—

(a) July, 1921, as compared with June, 1921.

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.		Earnings.†	
		June, 1921.	July, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.
Coal mining (bituminous) ..	96	23,353	22,989	£ 296,343	£ 270,430
Iron and steel .. .	118	115,411	100,778	1,060,173	801,363
Railway and tram-car building and repairing ..	59	39,335	38,378	556,254	473,532
Automobiles .. .	45	76,734	79,064	545,851	546,374
Cotton manufacturing ..	60	58,313	59,254	211,664	208,895
Cotton finishing .. .	16	12,389	12,266	57,658	56,633
Hosiery and underwear ..	64	27,628	26,677	95,705	86,573
Woolen .. .	51	50,609	50,713	246,782	237,945
Silk .. .	47	18,965	19,272	175,870	170,997
Men's ready-made clothing .. .	45	25,998	28,314	164,336	186,952
Boots and shoes .. .	85	57,600	59,385	278,421	277,136
Cigars .. .	57	16,434	15,918	66,503	62,446
Leather .. .	35	11,701	12,138	55,773	58,819
Paper .. .	56	20,344	20,810	103,568	105,964

The figures in the above table show that there were increases in the number of persons employed in July in eight industries, and decreases in six. The greatest increase, 8.9 per cent., appears in men's ready-made clothing. A decrease of 12.7 per cent. in iron and steel is the greatest shown. Four industries show an increase and ten a decrease in the aggregate earnings. The most important increase, 13.8 per cent., appears in men's ready-made clothing, and a decrease of 24.4 per cent. is reported for iron and steel.

(b) July, 1921, as compared with July, 1920.

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.		Earnings.†	
		July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.
Coal mining (bituminous) ..	99	25,796	23,043	£ 397,175	£ 271,590
Iron and steel .. .	118	189,770	101,638	2,850,818	814,629
Railway and tram-car building and repairing ..	62	65,386	44,282	850,479	547,351
Automobiles .. .	49	126,997	80,188	903,258	553,333
Cotton manufacturing ..	61	59,818	59,574	290,911	209,662
Cotton finishing .. .	16	12,339	12,266	68,424	56,633
Hosiery and underwear ..	63	31,664	25,691	125,329	82,559
Woolen .. .	51	24,647	50,713	134,576	237,945
Silk .. .	47	19,840	19,272	180,854	170,997
Men's ready-made clothing .. .	45	31,070	29,732	207,315	194,167
Boots and shoes .. .	82	60,578	59,253	301,847	277,548
Cigars .. .	57	16,226	15,335	71,261	63,326
Leather .. .	35	14,909	12,138	83,163	65,819
Paper .. .	57	33,564	21,725	204,960	109,799

A comparison of the figures for July, 1921, with those for July, 1920, shows that there were decreases in twelve of the fourteen industries in the number of persons employed in July, 1921. The two increases are 105.8 per cent. in woolen, and 0.7 per cent. in cigars. The great increase reported for the woolen industry for July, 1921, over July, 1920, is due to the recovery from short-time operations of all mills last year. The largest decrease reported, 46.4 per cent., appears in iron and steel. Thirteen of the fourteen industries show a decrease in the aggregate earnings. The most important, 71.4 per cent., appears in iron and steel.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Office of Labour Statistics, Washington.
† The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of coal mining, the iron and steel, railway and tram-car building and repairing, and silk industries, and for one week in other industries.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in August, was 62, as compared with 40 in the previous month, and 139 in August, 1920. In these new disputes about 15,000 workpeople were directly involved, and 1,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition to the numbers involved in new disputes, nearly 10,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 43 other disputes which began before August and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of new and old disputes in progress in August was thus 105, involving about 26,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during August of over 200,000 working days.

The following Table classifies the disputes by groups of trades:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Disputes in progress in August.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in August.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in August.
	Started before 1st Aug.	Started in Aug.	Total.		
Building .. .	8	13	21	4,000	30,000
Mining & Quarrying ..	6	11	17	7,000	23,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	19	9	28	7,000	101,000
Other Trades .. .	10	29	39	8,000	59,000
Total, August, 1921 ..	43	62	105	26,000	213,000
Total, July, 1921 ..	54	40	94	1,127,000	6,327,000†
Total, August, 1920 ..	123	139	262	86,000	885,000

Causes.—Of the 62 new disputes, 34, directly involving nearly 3,000 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 17, directly involving about 5,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 6, directly involving about 1,000 workpeople, on

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN AUGUST, 1921.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute Began or Ended.		Cause or Object.§	Result.¶
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡	Began.	Ended.		
BUILDING TRADES:—						
Building trades workpeople—Belfast .. .	1,500	..	1 Jan.	6 Aug.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Modified reduction accepted.
Building trades workpeople—Falmouth, Truro, Penzance, Camborne, Redruth and Launceston .. .	550	..	6 Aug.	..	Dispute arising out of proposed reduction in wages.	..
MINING AND QUARRYING:—						
Coal miners—Castleford (near) ..	3,300	..	22 Aug.	23 Aug.	Refusal of employers to make up to district day rate the earnings of certain men in alleged abnormal places.	Settlement effected.
METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING TRADES:—						
Shipyards joiners and carpenters—Great Britain .. .	10,000||	..	1 Dec. 1920.	22 Aug. 1921.	Against proposed withdrawal of special advance in wages of 12s per week granted in April, 1920.	Of the special advance, 6s. per week to be withdrawn immediately and 3s. per week as from 1st October; the remaining 3s. per week to be subject of negotiations in December. (See also p. 489.)
Steel and galvanized sheet workers, sheet millmen, and tinplate workers—Swansea (near) ..	1,385	286	25 July 1921.	6 Aug.	Against proposed reduction in maintenance staff.	Question referred to a neutral committee which upheld employers' proposals.
Engineers, patternmakers, boiler-makers, etc.—Dublin .. .	650	..	30 July	..	Against proposed reduction in wages.	..
OTHER TRADES:—						
Rope and twine makers, fitters, smiths, engine drivers, etc.—Liverpool .. .	550**	..	2 May	..	Against proposed reduction in wages.	..
Paper cutters, news, book and stationery packers, warehousemen, clerks, etc.—London .. .	1,200	..	16 Aug.	16 Aug.	Against application to a certain factory of reduced rates of wages payable in stationery works, employees claiming that the factory be classed as a printing works.	Printing trade rates reverted to pending arbitration.
Employees of co-operative societies—North East Lancashire ..	450**	..	25 July††	20 Aug.††	Against reductions in wages proposed by larger and smaller co-operative societies respectively.	Agreements reached involving modified reductions in wages; some of the strikers replaced by other workpeople.
Salt workers—Lancashire, Cheshire, and Worcestershire ..	3,000	..	15 Aug.	30 Aug.	Against proposed reduction in wages.	Reduction to take effect by two instalments, in August and October respectively; no further reduction to be made in 1921. (See also p. 498.)

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.
† Inclusive of days lost at collieries in July, subsequent to the date of settlement of the national dispute, in consequence of delays in restarting.
‡ In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute during the year are counted once only in the statement of the number of workpeople involved.
§ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
¶ Estimated number of shipyard joiners and carpenters originally involved, a number of whom obtained work in other trades during the course of the dispute. Considerable numbers of other shipyard workers were reported to have been rendered idle as a result of the dispute, but the information available is insufficient to enable an approximate estimate of their total number to be given.
‡ In certain districts the workpeople remained out for a few days after this date.
** Estimated number.
†† In the case of some societies the dispute lasted only a few days.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics (see Note in next column) the changes in rates of wages arranged to come into operation in August affected nearly 3,160,000 workpeople, of whom 3,070,000 sustained decreases, amounting to over £696,000 per week, and 87,000 received increases, amounting to £7,000 per week. The groups of trades principally affected are shown below:—

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Building and Allied Trades	10,000	350,000	£ 1,050	£ 63,600
Mining and Quarrying ..	1,000	743,000	50	96,200
Metal	16,000	1,472,000	1,500	393,400
Transport (excluding Tramways) .. .	—	156,000	—	73,500
Chemical .. .	—	87,000	—	18,900
Public Utility Services* ..	—	120,000	—	27,700
Other .. .	60,000	143,000	4,400	23,200
Total .. .	87,000	3,071,000	7,000	696,500

In the building trade both skilled men and labourers in most towns in Great Britain sustained a reduction of 1d. per hour under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale. The principal bodies of workpeople not affected were skilled tradesmen at Liverpool and Birkenhead, plumbers at certain large towns in Yorkshire and the Midlands, and painters and labourers at the large Scottish towns, in all of which cases wages remained unaltered during August. In the case of men employed on civil engineering construction works wages were increased by ½d. per hour, under a cost-of-living sliding scale.

Coal miners in all districts, except Yorkshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Cannock Chase, Derbyshire, and Warwickshire, sustained a further decrease of 6d. per shift in the case of those 16 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift in the case of those under 16, under the arrangements embodied in the National Agreement of last July.

In the iron and steel trades the workpeople affected by reductions in August included steel melters, whose wages were reduced by 27½ per cent. on standard rates (equivalent to 10 or 11 per cent. on current rates), iron puddlers and millmen in the Midlands, whose wages were reduced by 80 per cent. on standard rates (over 26 per cent. on current rates), and Siemens steel workers in South Wales, for whom there was a reduction of 40 per cent. on standard rates (19 per cent. on current rates). Other important reductions affected workpeople in the various branches of the Sheffield steel trades and iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England and West of Scotland. Adult male timeworkers and pieceworkers in the engineering, etc., trades sustained further decreases of 3s. per week, or 7½ per cent., whilst women and girls in these trades had their wages reduced by amounts varying from 3s. to 1s. per week. There were decreases of 6s. per week on time rates and 15 per cent. on piece rates in the case of railway shopmen.

The principal reduction in the transport trades affected dock labourers, whose wages were reduced by 2s. per day or 1s. per half-day at all ports. Coal trimmers sustained a decrease of 10 per cent. on their tonnage rates.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921.

[NOTE.—The following Table relates mainly to changes which came into operation in August, with effect either from that month or from earlier dates. Certain earlier changes, however, of which particulars were received during August, are also included. The weekly rates quoted are in respect of a full ordinary working week and do not take into account the effect of short time working.]

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change, (Decreases in italics.)
Building	LONDON AND DISTRICTS:— London and Districts within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross; also Grays, Purfleet, Epsom and Watford	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons and marble masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters and tilers, plumbers, plasterers, painters, scaffolders, timbermen and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters and tilers and plasterers, 2s. 1d.; masons (fitters), marble masons and spindle and four-cutter machinists, 2s. 2d.; plumbers, 2s. 1½d.; painters, 2s.; marble polishers, 1s. 11d.; scaffolders and timbermen, 1s. 10d.; labourers, 1s. 9d.
			Electric and steam derrick drivers, travelling and overhead crane drivers and portable and stationary engine drivers Boiler attendants and crane signalmen	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: electric derrick drivers, 2s.; steam derrick drivers, 1s. 11½d.; crane drivers, 1s. 10½d.; engine drivers, 1s. 10d. Decrease of 2d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 9d.).
		1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: masons (fitters), 2s. 1½d.; other tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; plasterers' labourers and scaffolders, 1s. 10d.; labourers, 1s. 9d.
	NORTHERN COUNTIES:— Certain towns in the North-Eastern Counties†	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: masons (fitters), 2s. 1½d.; other tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; plasterers' labourers and scaffolders, 1s. 10d.; labourers, 1s. 9d.

* Including the employees of tramway and omnibus, and gas, water and electricity undertakings; and of Port, Harbour and River and other Public Authorities. Building trade operatives, transport workers, etc., directly employed by such Authorities are also included in this group.
† Including Birtley, Blyth, Chester-le-Street, Darlington, Durham, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Hebburn, Hexham, Jarrow, Middlesbrough, Morpeth, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Seaham Harbour, Stanley, Stockton, Sunderland, Tynemouth, Wallsend, Whiteburn and Whitley Bay.

Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals and salt had a reduction of 1½d. per hour. In the drug and fine chemical trades there were decreases of 7s. and 6s. per week for men and women respectively; and in the soap and candle trades of 2s. per week for all adult workers.

The principal group of workpeople included under Public Utility Services were tramway workers, whose wages were reduced by 3s. per week in the case of those 18 years of age and over, and 1s. 6d. per week in the case of those under 18. Other important groups of workpeople affected by reductions in wages during August included cocoa and chocolate confectionery makers, seed crushers and oil millers, coachbuilders, coopers, furniture trade operatives in London, and tanners and curriers.

The principal increases in rates of wages in August took effect under "cost-of-living" sliding scales, and affected, in addition to civil engineering workpeople (mentioned above), hosiery workers in the Midlands, and bakers employed by certain firms in London.

Of the changes taking effect in August, 8, affecting 33,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration; 87, affecting 791,000 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales, and the remaining 180 changes, affecting 2,334,000 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, or took effect as the result of Orders under the Trade Board Acts. In 14 cases, involving 765,000 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppages of work.

Changes taking effect in January—August, 1921.

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Building & Allied Trades	3,500	436,000	£ 1,300	£ 248,100
Mining and Quarrying ..	3,500	1,273,000	650	1,224,600
Iron and Steel Smelting and Manufacture ..	2,000	238,000	350	330,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding .. .	3,500	1,316,000	950	453,300
Other Metal Trades ..	6,500	266,000	1,700	116,000
Textile .. .	6,500	899,000	350	548,000
Clothing .. .	246,000	58,000	56,700	15,000
Transport (excluding Tramways) .. .	13,000	881,000	3,300	362,600
Chemical, Glass, Brick, Pottery, &c. .. .	1,500	223,000	300	79,700
Other Miscellaneous Trades .. .	25,000	298,000	4,700	107,700
Public Utility Services* ..	11,000	275,000	2,700	70,000
Total .. .	322,000	6,163,000	73,200	3,555,000

Hours of Labour.

Only two changes in hours of labour were reported in August, particulars of which are given on page 503.

[NOTE.—The statistics given above are exclusive of changes affecting Government employees, domestic servants, agricultural labourers, shop assistants, and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics.]

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change, (Decreases in italics.)
Building (continued)	Certain towns in the North-Eastern Counties*	25 Aug.	Plumbers .. .	Decrease of 1d. per hour (2s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.).
			Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (1s. 10d. to 1s. 9d.).
			Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 5d. per hour adopted.†
	Ambleside, Grasmere, Kendal, Langdale, Penrith and Windermere	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 9d.
			Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 5d. per hour adopted.†
	Bishop Auckland, Consett, Blackhill, Annfield Plain, Ebbw Vale, Leadgate, Medomsley, Stanley and Shotley Bridge	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).
			Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 9d. per hour adopted.†
	West Cumberland (including Cleator Moor, Distington, Egremont, Harrington, Maryport, Whitehaven and Workington)	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 0½d. to 1s. 11½d.).
			Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 7½d. per hour adopted.†
	YORKSHIRE— Certain towns in Yorkshire;— Grade A .. .	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 9d.
			Grade B .. .	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 11½d.; labourers, 1s. 7½d.
			Grade C .. .	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 9d.; labourers, 1s. 5d.
	Calder Valley, Castleford, Huddersfield, Hull, Mexborough, Pontefract and Pudsey Northallerton and District	1 Aug.	Plumbers .. .	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).
			Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, slaters and labourers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 9d.; labourers, 1s. 5d.
	Todmorden .. .	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).
Plumbers .. .			Decrease of 1d. per hour (2s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.).	
Whitby .. .	1 Aug.	Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 9d. per hour adopted.†	
		Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: plumbers, 2s.; other tradesmen, 1s. 11½d.; labourers, 1s. 7½d.	
LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE— Certain towns in Lancashire and Cheshire;— Grade A .. .	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).	
		Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 9d. per hour adopted.†	
Grade B .. .	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 0½d. to 1s. 11½d.).	
		Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 7½d. per hour adopted.†	
Certain towns in Lancashire and Cheshire‡	1 Aug.	Plumbers .. .	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).	
		Plumbers .. .	Decrease of 1d. per hour (2s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.).	
Liverpool and Birkenhead Districts	1 Aug.	Scaffolders, labourers and navvies ..	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: scaffolders, 1s. 10d.; bricklayers', masons', slaters' and plasterers' labourers, 1s. 9d.; general labourers and navvies, 1s. 9d.	
		Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 0½d. to 1s. 11½d.).	
Macclesfield .. .	1 Aug.	Labourers† .. .	Uniform rate of 1s. 7½d. per hour adopted.†	

* Including Blaydon, Blyth, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Hexham, Jarrow, Middlesbrough, Morpeth, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Stockton, Sunderland, Thornaby and Wallsend.
† The rates for all classes of builders' labourers were reduced by 1d. per hour on 1st August, but in consequence of a recommendation of the National Wages and Conditions Council issued on 10th August, the rates were adjusted as from 1st August at an amount which involved a reduction of only ½d. per hour for tradesmen's labourers, and no reduction in the case of other labourers.

‡ Grade A.—Barnsley, Batley, Bingley, Birstall, Bradford, Brighouse, Calder Valley, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Colne Valley, Crosshills, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Gomersal, Guiseley, Halifax, Harrogate, Hebden Bridge, Heckmondwike, Holmfirth, Horbury, Huddersfield, Hull, Ilkley, Keighley, Leeds, Liversedge, Mexborough, Mirfield, Morley, Normanton, Ossett, Penistone, Pontefract, Pudsey, Rawdon, Rotherham, Selby, Sheffield, Shipley, Sowerby Bridge, Stocksbridge, Wakefield, Wombwell, and Yeading.

Grade B.—Barnoldswick, Beverley, Bridlington, Goole, Hornsea, Scarborough, Skipton and York.

Grade C.—Driffield, Kirby Moorside, Malton, Norton, and Wetherby.

§ Grade A.—Accrington, Adlington, Alderley Edge, Altrincham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Atherton, Bacup, Barrow, Birkdale, Bispham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Blackrod, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chester, Chorley, Church, Cleveleys, Clitheroe, Colne, Dalton-in-Furness, Darwen, Denton, Droylesden, Eccles, Farnworth, Fleetwood, Frodsham, Great Harwood, Haslingden, Helys, Heywood, Horwich, Hyde, Lancaster, Leigh, Leyland, Littleborough, Longridge, Lymm, Lytham, Manchester, Middleton, Morecambe, Mossley, Nelson, Ormskirk, Oswaldtwistle, Oldham, Padiham, Pendlebury, Poulton, Preston, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall, Rishton, Rochdale, Runcorn, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, St. Helens, Saddleworth, Sale, Salford, Shaw, Southport, Stalybridge, Stockport, Swinton, Thornton, Tytlesley, Walkden, Warrington, Westhoughton, Whalley, Whitefield, Widnes, Wigan and Wilmslow.

Grade B.—Askam, Broughton, Congleton, Conisford, Grange-over-Sands, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Millom, Nantwich, Northwich, Sandbach, Tarporley, Ulverston, Winsford and Over.

|| Adlington, Barrow, Bispham, Blackpool, Blackrod, Chester, Chorley, Cleveleys, Dalton-in-Furness, Fleetwood, Frodsham, Helys, Lancaster, Leyland, Longridge, Lymm, Lytham, Morecambe, Poulton, Runcorn, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, St. Helens, Thornton, Westhoughton, Widnes and Wigan.

¶ Viz., Accrington, Blackburn, Burnley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Great Harwood, Haslingden, Nelson, Padiham, Rawtenstall, and Rishton.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes entries for Midlands and Eastern Counties, Southern Counties, and Wales and Monmouthshire.

* Grade A.—Alfreton, Belper, Bilston, Birmingham, Blackheath, Chesterfield, Coalville, Coventry, Derby, Ilkeston, Kenilworth, Leicester, Lincoln, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Mansfield, Nottingham, Nuneaton, Oldbury, Ripley, Sutton Coldfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, West Bromwich, Willenhall, and Wolverhampton.
† Grade B.—Atherstone, Bewdley, Boston, Brierley Hill, Bromsgrove, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Coseley, Darlaston, Dudley, Gainsborough, Gornal, Grantham, Kidderminster, Knowle, Leamington, Lichfield, Louth, Malvern, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray, Northampton, Old Hill, Peterborough, Redditch, Retford, Rugby, Ruzeley, Sedgley, Shrewsbury, Skegness, Sleaford, Southwell, Stamford, Stratford-on-Avon, Stourbridge, Stourport, Stratford-on-Avon, Swadlowcote, Swanwick, Tamworth, Walsall, Warwick, Wednesbury, Wellington, Worcester, and Worksop.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Classes of Workpeople, Particulars of change. Includes entries for Southern Counties, Building (continued), and Wales and Monmouthshire.

* Grade A.—Abingdon, Addlestone, Amersham, Ascot, Ashford (Middlesex), Banbury, Beaconsfield, Bournemouth, Bracknell, Brighton, Byfleet, Chalfont, Chesham, Christchurch, Creborne, Eastbourne, Eastleigh, Egham, Eton, Gerrard's Cross, Goring, Gosport, Guildford, Henley, Hove, Laleham, Maidenhead, Marlow, Oxford, Poole, Portsmouth, Reading, Southampton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunningdale, Sunninghill, Tilehurst, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Wallingford, Windsor, Winkfield, Woking, Wokingham, and Wycombe.
† Grade B.—Arundel, Ashford (Kent), Aylesbury, Bagshot, Basingstoke, Bexhill, Bicester, Blechley, Bognor, Broadstairs, Brockenhurst, Buckingham, Burgess Hill, Camberley, Canterbury, Chatham, Chichester, Chippenham, Cranleigh, Crawley, Deal, Dover, East Grinstead, Fareham, Farningdon, Faversham, Fenny Stratford, Folkestone, Gillingham, Godalming, Hailsham, Haslemere, Hastings, Havant, Herne Bay, Horsham, Hythe, Lambourn, Liphook, Littlehampton, Lymington, Lyndhurst, Maidstone, Margate, Milford, Milton Regis, Newbury, New Milton, Newport Pagnell, Oxted, Pangbourne, Petworth, Ramsgate, Redhill, Reigate, Rochester, Sandgate, St. Leonards, Sevenoaks, Sittingbourne, Strood, Stony Stratford, Stow-on-the-Wold, Walmer, Wantage, Wendover, Westerham, Westgate, Whitstable, Winchester, Winslow, Wolverton, Woodstock, and Worthing.
‡ Grade C.—Andover, Ardingley, Bishops Cleeve, Farnham, Godstone, Hawkhurst, Haywards Heath, Horley, Isle of Wight, Lingfield, Liss, Petersfield, Rye, Smallfield, Staplehurst, Steep, and Turners Hill.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES (including Works of Construction)—continued.				
Building (continued)	Haverfordwest	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 8d.; labourers, 1s. 4d.
	Hawarden, Broughton, Connah's Quay, Higher Kinnerton, Queensferry and Shotton	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and painters	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).
	SCOTLAND:— Certain towns in Scotland†	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Uniform rate of 1s. 9d. per hour adopted.*
	Arbroath	1 Aug.	Masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 6d.
	Bathgate, Armadale, Harthill, Uphall and Whitburn	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 6d.
	Buckie, Cullen, Elgin, Forres and Nairn	1 Aug.	Masons	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10d.).
	Greenock, Gourock and Port Glasgow	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.).
	Irvine	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 6d.
	Kirkwall	7 Aug.	Joiners	Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.).
	Leslie and Markinch District	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 5d.
	Leven, Methil, Buckhaven, Kennoway, Wemyss and Windygates	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons, joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 7d.
	Montrose	1 Aug.	Bricklayers, masons and labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 2s.; labourers, 1s. 6d.
Gasfitting	Birmingham and District	1 Aug.	Gas fitters	Decrease of 1½d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 0½d.).
Works of Construction	Great Britain†	1st pay after 17 Aug.	Men employed on civil engineering constructional works	Increase, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ½d. per hour. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: London, 1s. 7d.; other centres, 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 6½d.
	Manchester, Salford and District	1 Aug.	Tile, mosaic and faience fixers Decorative glassworkers Wood and stone carvers employed in architectural shops	Decrease of 1d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 1d.). Decrease of 1d. per hour (2s. 0½d. to 1s. 11½d.). Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: wood carvers, 2s. 5d.; stone carvers, 2s. 7d.
Other Building	London	5 Aug.	Asphalte workers	Decrease of 1d. per hour, and sliding scale method of determining wages adopted, under which wages are regulated in accordance with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc. Rates after change: spreaders, 1s. 8d.; portmen and labourers, 1s. 5d.
	MINING AND QUARRYING.			
Coal Mining	Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Lancashire, Cheshire, Shropshire, North and South Staffordshire, Bristol, Forest of Dean, Somersetshire, North Wales, South Wales and Monmouthshire, Kent and Scotland	1 Aug.	Workpeople (both underground and surface) employed in or about coal mines, other than those workpeople whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Decreases of 6d. per shift for workpeople 15 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift for those under 16.
	Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Somerset, Kent and South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Aug.	Colliery clerks	Decreases of 6d. per day for clerks 16 years of age and over, and of 3d. per day for those under 16.
	Lancashire and Cheshire	1 Aug.	Colliery clerks	Decrease of 2s. per day.
Ore and By-Products Manufacture	Great Britain (excluding Yorkshire and Derbyshire)‡	1 Aug.	Cokemen and by-product workers employed at or near coal mines	Decreases of 6d. per shift for workpeople 16 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift for those under 16.
Fireclay, Ganister, etc. Mining	South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire	1 Aug.	Fireclay miners and surface workers	Decreases of 6d. per shift for workpeople 18 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift for those under 18.
	Scotland	1 Aug.	Miners and surface workers at fireclay, ganister and silica mines	Decreases of 6d. per shift for workpeople 13 years of age and over, and of 3d. per shift for those under 18.
Shale Mining	Scotland	24 Aug.	Workpeople employed in and about shale mines and oil works	Increase of 20 per cent on earnings, previously granted, withdrawn, and a further decrease of 1s. per day for workpeople 16 years of age and over, and of 6d. per day for those under 16. Minimum day rate after change for miners, 10s.
	Cleveland	25 July	Ironstone miners, etc.	Bonuses of 2s. per day and 20 per cent. on earnings, previously granted, withdrawn, and percentage above standard increased by 18.7 to 123.7 (subject to a minimum rate after change of 8s. per day for lower paid dotal workers).
Ironstone Mining	North Lincolnshire	7 Aug.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 80½ per cent. on the standard of 1909, leaving wages 124 per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift.

* The rates for all classes of builders' labourers were reduced by 1d. per hour on 1st August, but in consequence of a recommendation of the National Wages and Conditions Council issued on 10th August, the rates were adjusted as from 1st August at an amount which involved a reduction of only ½d. per hour for tradesmen's labourers, and no reduction in the case of other labourers.

† Grade A.—Airdrie, Alloa, Alva, Ayr, Barrhead, Bellshill, Bridge of Weir, Clydebank, Coatbridge, Dumbarton, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow Grangemouth, Haddington, Hamilton, Johnstone, Kilmaolm, Kilmarnock, Kilmacaldy, Lanark, Larbert, Largs, Leith, Motherwell, Neilston, Newmains, Paisley, Pencaitland, Perth, Renfrew, Stenhousemuir, Stirling, Uddingston and Wishaw.

‡ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board for Great Britain.

§ The decreases shown above form the second instalment of the reductions which were arranged to come into operation under the terms of the National Agreement of July (see pp. 336-337 of the July LABOUR GAZETTE).

¶ The decreases given above apply to workpeople at plants connected with collieries whose wages in the past have been regulated by movements in the coal-mining industry. The decreases do not apply to workpeople at plants (e.g., those connected with blast furnaces in Cleveland) whose wages are regulated by changes arranged in some industry other than coal mining.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
MINING AND QUARRYING—(continued).				
Gypsum Mining	Gotham, Cropwell Bishop, Thrumpton, Newark-on-Trent and Chellaston	Aug. *	Gypsum miners, millhands and stone dressers	Increase, under "cost of living" scale, of 3d. in the £ on earnings. Rates after change: millhands and stone dressers at Gotham and Thrumpton, 6s. per week, less 2s. 4d. in the £ on earnings; day-workers at Cropwell Bishop, 60s. per week, less 2s. 4d. in the £ on earnings.
	China Clay Mining	South Devon and Mid and North Cornwall	4 July	China clay workers	Decrease of 3d. per hour for timeworkers, and an equivalent decrease for pieceworkers. Minimum rate after change 1s. 3d. per hour.
Quarrying	West and South Durham	25 July	Limestone quarrymen	Bonuses of 2s. per day and 20 per cent. on earnings previously granted withdrawn, and percentage above standard increased by 18.7 to 123.7 (subject to a minimum rate after change of 8s. per day for lower paid dotal workers). Decrease of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen, 2s.; labourers, 1s. 6d. per hour.
	Northumberland and Durham	8 Aug.	Freestone quarrymen, labourers, etc.	Decrease of 3d. per hour for timeworkers and of an equivalent amount for pieceworkers.
	Certain districts in Yorkshire (including Bradford, Halifax, Brighouse, Huddersfield and Elland Districts)	1 July † 29 July	Freestone quarryworkers, etc.	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen, 2s. 0½d.; labourers, 1s. 9½d. per hour.
	Morley and District	22 July	Freestone, sandstone, etc., quarryworkers	Decreases of 3d. per hour for quarrymen, and of 4d. per hour for labourers. Rates after change: quarrymen, 1s. 9d.; labourers, 1s. 6d. per hour.
	Clitheroe and District	11 Aug.	Limestone quarrymen, etc.	Decrease of 10 per cent. Rates after change: quarrymen, 1s. 6d.; labourers (special), 1s. 3d.; labourers, 1s. 2d. per hour.
	Rosendale and Whitworth Valley Districts	1 Aug.	Quarrymen, masons, loco and engine drivers, rope-runners, sidingmen, cranedrivers, machinemen, sawyers, platelayers and labourers	Decrease of 2d. per hour for timeworkers and of 8 per cent. for pieceworkers. Rates after change: quarrymen and masons, 1s. 11d.; crane drivers, 1s. 8d.; sawyers, 1s. 7d.; and labourers, 1s. 6d. per hour.
	Macclesfield and District	12 Aug.	Quarrymen, rockgetters, sawyers and labourers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen and rockgetters, 1s. 10d.; sawyers, 1s. 9d.; and labourers, 1s. 5d. per hour.
	Derbyshire (including Rowsley, Matlock, Whatstandwell, Tansley and Darley Dale Districts)	1 Aug.	Gritstone quarryworkers:— Stone cutters, stone sawyers, blacksmiths, engine drivers and labourers	Decreases of 2d. per hour for skilled men, and of 2½d. per hour for labourers. Rates after change: stone cutters, stone sawyers, blacksmiths and engine drivers, 1s. 9d.; labourers, 1s. 5½d. per hour.
	Olee Hill District	3 Aug.	Roadstone quarrymen, setmakers, stone breakers, labourers, etc.	Decreases on total earnings of 5 per cent. for timeworkers, and of 7½ per cent. for pieceworkers. A new scale of rates adopted for boys under 18, starting work after 3rd August, 1921, as follows:—3s. per day at 14 years; 3s. 6d. per day at 15 years; 4s. per day at 16 years; 4s. 6d. per day at 17 years; 5s. per day at 18 years; 6s. per day at 19 years; 7s. per day at 20 years; 8s. per day at 21 years, and at 18 years, adults' minimum wage.
	Cornwall	1 Aug.	Granite masons	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rate after change: 1s. 7½d. per hour.
Conway District	1 Aug.	Quarrymen, etc.	Decrease of 10 per cent.	
West of Scotland	8 Aug.	Quarryworkers, setmakers, kerb-dressers, luggers, breakers, cutters and labourers	Decrease of 10 per cent. Minimum rates after change: setmakers and kerb-dressers, 1s. 9d.; cutters and luggers, 1s. 7d.; and labourers 1s. 5½d. per hour.	
East of Scotland (excluding Midland West Lothian).	1 April 19 Aug. 28 July	Quarryworkers, setmakers, kerb-dressers, luggers, breakers, cutters and labourers	Further decrease of 5 per cent.	
North of Scotland (Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire)	28 July	Granite quarryworkers	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers, and of 1s. per ton for setmakers (pieceworkers).	
IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE.				
Pig Iron Manufacture	North Lincolnshire	7 Aug.	Blastfurnacemen	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 80½ per cent. on the standard of 1909, leaving wages 124 per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift.
	Cleveland	18 July	Non-scale men employed at blastfurnaces.	Decrease of 12s. 6d. per week.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	North Lincolnshire	1 July	Bricklayers' labourers employed at blastfurnaces and in iron and steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 36.25 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 93.5 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change: pattern-makers, 44s.; boiler-smiths, 43s.; fitters, turners, smiths, electricians and armature winders, 42s.; machinemen (millers, borers, planers, etc.), 30s. to 38s.; strikers, 30s. and 32s. 6d. (after 1 year) plus, in each case, the percentage addition of 93.5 and a tonnage bonus.
	North Lincolnshire	1 Aug.	Bricklayers and bricklayers' labourers employed at blastfurnaces and in iron and steel works	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10d.).
	Workpeople employed in steel smelting shops:— Steel melters, pitmen, gas producers, charge wheelers, etc.	1 Aug.		Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, 2s. 1d., plus 2d. per hour for dirty work; bricklayers' labourers, 1s. 9d. per hour.
England and Scotland	7 Aug.	Semi-skilled workers and labourers Men not on a 47-hour week Men on a 47-hour week	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 27½ per cent. on the standard of 1905, leaving melters' wages 138½ per cent. (basic process) and 113½ per cent. (acid process) above the standard. Total advance in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased, under sliding scale, by 1/12 (about 14½ per cent.), making a total decrease in real advances of about 27 per cent. since 1st May, 1921.	

* This increase took effect on dates varying from 18th August to 26th August.

† At Brighouse the decrease took effect from 20th June.

‡ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)		
IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE —(continued).						
Iron and Steel Manufacture (continued)	North of England ...	1 Aug.	Iron puddlers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 47½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton, plus 12s. per cent.		
		1 Aug.	Iron and steel millmen ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 47½ per cent. on standard rates.		
		7 Aug.	Semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., in puddling forges and rolling mills— Men not on a 47-hour week ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 27½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 138½ per cent. above the standard.		
			Men on a 47-hour week ...	Total advance in wages, between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased, under sliding scale, by 1½ (about 14½ per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 27 per cent. since 1st May, 1921.		
		3 July	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works:— Engineers, electricians, strikers, motor attendants, arc lamp trimmers, boilermakers and patternmakers	Total advances in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased by 1½ (about 12½ per cent.), and made subject to further fluctuations on a scale parallel with the steel smelters' sliding scale, on a basis of a movement of 1½ per cent. under this scale being equivalent to one hundred and fifty-second (1½) part of total war advances.		
		7 Aug.	Bricklayers' labourers ...	Total advances in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased, under sliding scale, by 1½ (about 14½ per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 27 per cent. since 1st May, 1921.		
		19 June	Bricklayers' labourers ...	Total advances in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased by 1½ (about 12½ per cent.), and made subject to further fluctuations on a scale parallel with the steel smelters' sliding scale, on a basis of a movement of 1½ per cent. under this scale being equivalent to one hundred and fifty-second (1½) part of total war advances.		
		7 Aug.	Bricklayers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 9s. 0.46d. per week (1½ of total war advances). Rate after change, 1s. 6.18d. per hour.		
		7 Aug.	Bricklayers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 9s. 0.46d. per week (1½ of total war advances). Rate after change, 1s. 10.79d. per hour.		
		Tees-side ...	7 Aug.	Workpeople engaged in the rolling mills and production departments at iron and steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 27½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 138½ per cent. above the standard.	
		North East Coast ...	7 Aug.	Gas producer firemen, etc. ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 27½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 138½ per cent. above the standard. Rate after change: 5s. per shift, plus tonnage bonus, plus 138½ per cent.	
		Iron and Steel Manufacture (continued)	Sheffield ...	1 July	Bricklayers' labourers employed in steel works	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10d.).
				1 Aug.	Carpenters and joiners, bricklayers and bricklayers' labourers employed in steel works	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 2s. 1d.; labourers, 1s. 9d. per hour.
				28 Aug.	Workpeople employed in heavy rolling mills, forges, press-shops, electric furnaces and Siemens' departments:— Shiftworkers paid upon tonnage or piecework basis Shiftworkers paid upon part datal and part tonnage basis Shiftworkers, 18 years and over, paid datal wages	Decrease of 17½ per cent. on tonnage or net piecework prices. Decrease of 17½ per cent. on datal and tonnage earnings (excluding war bonus). Consolidated war bonus previously granted decreased by 1s. 2d. per shift (8s. 8d. to 7s. 6d.) for men 18 years and over, and by 7d. per shift for boys and youths under 18.
				15 July	Daymen, 21 years and over, working a 47-hour week	Decrease of 3s. per week.* Further decrease of 3s. per week.*
15 Aug.	Workpeople (including potmakers) in crucible steel shops:— Shiftworkers paid upon part datal and part tonnage basis Shiftworkers paid datal wages			Consolidated war bonus reduced by 1s. 2d. per shift for men (7s. 6d. per shift, plus 17½ per cent. upon datal and tonnage earnings, to 6s. 4d. per shift, plus 17½ per cent. upon datal and tonnage earnings), and by 7d. per shift for boys and youths under 18. Consolidated war bonus reduced by 1s. 2d. per shift (8s. 8d. to 7s. 6d. per shift) for men, 18 years and over, and by 7d. per shift for youths.		
15 July	Daymen on 47 hour week.			Decrease of 3s. per week.*† Further decrease of 3s. per week.*†		
15 Aug.	Workpeople employed in hire rolling mills, forges and tilting shops:— Shiftworkers, 18 years and over, paid upon tonnage or piecework basis Shiftworkers, 18 years and over, paid upon part datal and part tonnage basis Shiftworkers, 18 years and over, paid datal wages			Decrease of 17½ per cent. on tonnage or net piecework pieces. Decrease of 17½ per cent. on datal and tonnage earnings (excluding war bonus). Consolidated war bonus, previously granted, decreased by 1s. 2d. per shift (8s. 8d. to 7s. 6d.).		
2 Aug.	Dayworkers, working a 47-hour week, and in receipt of a war bonus of 39s. 6d. plus 12½ per cent.			Decrease of 6s. per week, leaving a war advance of 35s. 6d. per week, plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings.*		
Midlands (including parts of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire)	8 Aug.			Iron puddlers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 80 per cent. on standard rates, leaving the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton, plus 122½ per cent.	
				Iron and steel millmen ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 80 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 122½ per cent. above the standard.	
		Other classes ...	War bonus reduced, under sliding scale, by 10s. per week for men, by 5s. per week for youths, 18 to 21 years of age, and by 2s. 6d. per week for boys under 18.			
England and Wales ...	8 Aug.	Steel sheet millmen, etc. ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 80 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 127½ per cent. above the standard.			

* These decreases are subject to the bonus of 12½ per cent.
† In some cases the decrease did not take effect in two stages, but by one reduction of 6s., from 2nd August.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)			
IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE —(continued).							
Iron and Steel Manufacture (continued)	South Wales and Monmouthshire	7 Aug.	Engineers and other skilled craftsmen employed in iron and steel works	Decrease from a rate of 117s. 4d. to a rate of 90s. per week. Rates after change: Doublais Cardiff Works, 92s. 6d.; other-works, 90s. per week. Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10d.).			
		1 July	Bricklayers' labourers employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, 2s. 1d.; bricklayers' labourers, 1s. 9d. per hour.			
		1 Aug.	Bricklayers and bricklayers' labourers employed at blast-furnaces and in iron and steel works	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 40 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 70 per cent. above the standard, plus an additional 10 per cent. to those with base earnings of not more than 30s. per week; workpeople whose base earnings are slightly in excess of this amount to receive an adjustment of such an amount in proportion to the 10 per cent. addition to make their total earnings not less than those of men with a base rate of 30s. per week.			
		7 Aug.	Workpeople, excluding maintenance men, engaged in Siemens' steel manufacture	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 40 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 70 per cent. above the standard, plus an additional 10 per cent. to those with base earnings of not more than 30s. per week; workpeople whose base earnings are slightly in excess of this amount to receive an adjustment of such an amount in proportion to the 10 per cent. addition to make their total earnings not less than those of men with a base rate of 30s. per week.			
		1 Aug.	Iron puddlers ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 42½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton, plus 130 per cent.			
		1 Aug.	Iron millmen ...	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 42½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 130 per cent. above the standard.			
		1 Aug.	Mechanics, etc., employed in puddling forges and rolling mills whose wages are not regulated by sliding scale arrangements	Decrease of 3s. per week, leaving a total advance over pre-war rates of 35s. 6d. per week, plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings.			
		7 Aug.	Steel millmen (including forge and tyre millmen), gas producermen, charge wheelers, engine-men, crane-men and firemen, etc.	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 27½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 138½ per cent. above the standard.			
		7 Aug.	Semi-skilled workers and labourers ...	Total advances in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased, under sliding scale, by 1½ (about 14½ per cent.), making a total decrease in war advances of about 27 per cent. since 1st May, 1921.			
		Iron and Steel Manufacture (continued)	West of Scotland	26 June	Bricklayers' labourers in steel works	Total advances in wages between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, decreased by 1½ (about 12½ per cent.), and made subject to further fluctuations on a scale parallel with the steel smelters' sliding scale, on a basis of a movement of 1½ per cent. under this scale, being equivalent to one hundred and fifty-second (1½) part of total war advances.	
7 Aug.	Bricklayers' labourers in steel works			Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2.03d. per hour (1½ of total war advances). Rate after change: 1s. 4.89d. per hour.			
1 Aug.	Bricklayers and joiners employed in steel works			Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, 2s. 4d.; joiners, 2s. 1d. per hour.			
15 Aug.	Engineers, boilermakers, smiths, hammermen, patternmakers, electricians, etc., engaged on the maintenance, upkeep and running of steel plants and mills (men, 21 years and over, whose wages are not regulated by sliding scale arrangements)			Decrease of 3s. per week, leaving a total advance over pre-war rates of 35s. 6d. per week, plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings.			
ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.							
Engineering, Boiler-making, Foundry and Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Trades	United Kingdom (excluding Swansea and certain other districts in South Wales and Monmouthshire)*			15 Aug.	Males employed in the engineering, boilermaking and foundry trades (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in some other industry)	Timeworkers (excluding apprentices): Decrease of 3s. per week or 3d. per hour for men 21 years of age and over, and for labourers under 21 years who received a corresponding increase under Decision No. 180 of the Industrial Court. Pieceworkers: Decrease of 7½ per cent. or its equivalent (as determined by Decision No. 180A) on piecework prices.†	
				Great Britain ...	1 Aug.	Women and girls employed in federated engineering works	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1s. per week for those 14 years of age, of 1s. 6d. for those 15 years, of 2s. for those 16 years, of 2s. 6d. for those 17 years, and of 3s. per week for those 18 years and over. Rates after change (inclusive of bonus): 13s. 8d. per week at 14 years, 17s. 2d. at 15 years, 20s. 8d. at 16 years, 24s. 10d. at 17 years, 29s. at 18 years, 30s. 4d. at 19 years, 31s. 8d. at 20 years, and 35s. per week at 21 years and over.‡
				Great Britain ...	15 Aug. §	Male workers employed in the shops of railway companies, including electrical workers other than those in the London district	Timeworkers: Decrease of 6s. per week or 1½d. per hour for all workers 21 years of age and over, and for labourers under 21 years who are in receipt of the full rate for labourers, and who previously received the same advances as men 21 years and over. Pieceworkers: Decrease of 15 per cent. on present list or net piecework prices.†
				Great Britain ...	2 to 27 Aug. ¶	Joiners (except apprentices) employed in shipbuilding and ship repairing yards, and also those in engineering establishments in which wages usually move in correspondence with those in shipyards	Decrease of 6s. per full ordinary week (or an equivalent decrease per hour or per day), i.e., withdrawal of half of the special net advance of 12s. per full ordinary week, or pro rata according to the number of hours actually worked, granted under the agreement of April, 1920.**

* The change took effect under an agreement arrived at between the Engineering and National Employers' Federations and the various trade unions concerned, but it has been reported that the reduction was also generally applied by non-federated firms, the principal exception being Belfast, where a similar reduction had already been made.
† The decreases are subject to the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. granted to timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively (thus making the decreases of 3s. or 6s. in the case of timeworkers 3s. 4½d. or 6s. 9d. per week respectively).
‡ The above decreases took effect under an arrangement made by the Engineering and National Employers' Federations. No trade union was a party to this arrangement, but it is understood that, while higher rates may be paid in individual cases, the rates named above are generally in operation, so far as members of the Federations are concerned.
§ In the case of electrical workers the decrease was to operate from the first full pay after 22 August.
¶ As regards ship joiners, the districts affected included the North-East Coast, Hull, Thames, Southampton, Cowes, Mersey, Barrow, Clyde and the East of Scotland; the principal districts in which men in engineering establishments were affected were the North-East Coast, Barrow and the Clyde.
‡ Which ever day work was resumed after the dispute.
** The special advance referred to in the above decrease were not subject to the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings. The decreases previously arranged for all classes of adult male shipyard workers, totalling 6s. per week or 1½d. per hour plus the bonus of 12½ per cent. (see page 310 of June GAZETTE and p. 366 of July GAZETTE), took effect at the same time as the above decrease in the case of ship joiners, who were not previously at work owing to a trade dispute.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES—(continued).				
Engineering, Boiler-making, Foundry and Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Trades (continued)	Federated Districts (including North-East Coast, Hull, Cowes, Birkenhead, Clyde and East of Scotland)	15 Aug.	Fitters, turners, etc., employed in shipyards whose wages have in the past been regulated by movements in the engineering trade	Decrease of 3s. per week or 3d. per hour for timeworkers, and of 7½ per cent. or its equivalent on piecework prices for pieceworkers.*
	London District	1st full pay after 19 May †	Workpeople employed by railway companies engaged solely in electricity generating stations and sub-stations and on high tension cables between generating stations and sub-stations (but excluding electrical fitters, armature winders, plumber-joiners, etc., engaged on the installation of new plant and other similar work ordinarily done by electrical contractors)	Increases of varying amounts resulting from the adoption of the schedule of consolidated rates of wages (based on a cost of living figure of 150 per cent. above pre-war level) agreed to by the District Council No. 10 (Greater London Area) of the Electricity Supply Industry; such rates being subject to a deduction of 4d. per hour in respect of special privileges of railway workers (cheaper travelling facilities, etc.). (See Decisions Nos. 648 and 649 on p. 324 of the JUNE LABOUR GAZETTE.) Decrease of 3s. 4½d. per week.
	Barry, Cardiff, Newport, Penarth, Port Talbot, Swansea and Sharpness	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the ship repairing trade:— Timeworkers (including fitters, turners, smiths, copper-smiths, electricians, painters, plumbers, joiners, woodcutting machinists, labourers, etc.) Pieceworkers (including platers, riveters, caulkers, drillers and shipwrights)	Decrease of 3s. per week in war wages. Rates after change: fitters, turners, smiths, copper-smiths, electricians, painters, plumbers and joiners, 65s., plus war wage of 32s. per week. Decrease of 4s. 7½d. per week in war wages.
	Cardiff and Barry	1 Aug.	Fitters, turners, smiths, pattern-makers, ironmoulders, coremakers, brassfounders, etc. Smiths' strikers, dressers, and cupola men Labourers	Decrease of 4s. per week. Rates after change: brassfounders, 98s.; fitters, turners, smiths, ironmoulders and coremakers, 96s. Decrease of 3s. 6d. per week (87s. to 83s. 6d.). Decrease of 3s. 3d. per week (82s. to 78s. 9d.).
OTHER METAL TRADES.				
Light Castings, etc., Manufacture	Great Britain †	1 Aug.	Adult males employed in light castings and stove and grate manufacture	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.*
	Walsall	27 Aug.	Male workers employed in the malleable ironfounding trade	Decrease of 2s. per week for timeworkers and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers. Percentage additions for pieceworkers after change †: cupola-men, 65 per cent.; crucible-work or tub men, 70 per cent.; buckle work, 75 per cent.
Malleable Ironfounding	Willenhall and District	15 Aug.	Adult males employed in the malleable ironfounding trade	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.*
Tinplate, etc., Manufacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire	7 Aug.	Workpeople employed in tinplate manufacture (except maintenance craftsmen)	Percentage addition to weekly base earnings** reduced, under sliding scale, from 85 per cent. to 45 per cent.
Galvanising of Iron and Steel Sheets	England and Wales (certain firms †)	8 Aug.	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing)	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 80 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 127½ per cent. above the standard.
	Brighouse, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Halifax, Rotherham and Sheffield Districts	15 Aug.	Adult males employed in the brassfounding and finishing trades	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.*
Brass Trades	Birmingham and District	Pay day in week beginning 22 Aug.	Men, 21 years of age and over, employed in the brass trade	Increase, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Weekly rates after change: Dressers—grade C, 72s. 7d.; grade D, 80s. 6d. Polishers—grade C, 72s. 7d. Casters—principal hands, 95s. 11d.; moulders, 81s. 7d.
	Aberdeen	15 July	Males, 21 years of age and over, employed in the brassfounding trade	Increase, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Weekly rates after change: 18 years, 38s. 1d.; 19 years, 43s. 1d.; 20 years, 48s. 1d. Decrease of 3s. per week.*
	Birmingham District (including Dudley)	Pay day in week beginning 22 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the hearth furniture and bedstead mount making trades	Further decrease of 3s. per week.* Increase, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour.
Tube Manufacture	Glasgow, Airdrie and Coatbridge	1 Aug.	Workpeople (except fitters, turners, bricklayers and joiners) employed in tube manufacture	Decreases, under sliding scale, of 8½d. per week for adult males, of 6½d. per week for those 18 years to 21 years of age, and of 2½d. per week for boys under 18 years.
Wire Manufacture	Great Britain †	15 Aug.	Skilled iron and steel wire drawers	Bonus, previously paid, of 107½ per cent. on earnings up to £2 per week reduced to 100 per cent., and bonus, previously paid, of 47½ per cent. on earnings over £2 per week reduced to 40 per cent.
Sheet Metal Working, etc.	Great Britain	15 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the sheet metal working and gas meter making trades	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. (or its equivalent) on piecework prices for pieceworkers.*
	Belfast	Week-ending 20 Aug.	Males employed in the sheet metal working trade	Decrease of 3s. per week.*

* The decreases are subject to the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. granted to timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively (thus making the total decrease in the case of timeworkers 3s. 4½d. per week).
† The new rates were not put into general operation until 1st August, but retrospective payment was made as from the date shown.
‡ The change applied only to those 21 years of age and over, except in the case of unskilled labourers 18 years and over who are not covered by agreements as to probational period of training.
§ Shift workers are to be paid 1d. per hour over ordinary rates.
|| The change resulted from an agreement made between the National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation and the Joint Committee of Light Metal Trades Unions.
¶ At certain firms, engaged on higher classes of work, the percentages are 10 points higher.
** Inclusive of the 25 per cent. "special bonus" consolidated into base rates as from July, 1920.
†† Belonging to the Galvanising Conciliation Board.
‡‡ The change took effect under an arrangement made between the Iron and Steel Wire Manufacturers' Association and the Trades Unions concerned.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
OTHER METAL TRADES—(continued).				
Tool Manufacture	Sheffield	2 or 8 Aug.	Males employed in the edge tool (heavy and light), joiners' tools, bit and auger, spade, fork, shovel, machine knife, soythe, sickle, hook, wool shear, saw and hammer trades (excluding machine knife and soythe grinders)	Decreases of 7s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, of 4s. per week for youths 18 years to 21 years, and of 2s. per week for youths under 18 years.
	Sheffield	8 July	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of engineers' tools (spanners, wrenches, lifting jacks, taps, dies, etc.)	Decrease of 17½ per cent. in war bonus for timeworkers and pieceworkers.
Optical Instrument Making	London*	1st pay day after 13 Aug.	Males employed in the optical instrument making trade:— Timeworkers	Decrease of 3d. per hour for men 22 years of age and over, and of a proportionate amount for workers under the standard age. Minimum hourly rates after change: skilled men in metal section, 1s. 11d.; proof plate polishers, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 1d.; machine polishers, 1s. 10d. or 1s. 10½d.; edgers, smoothers and prism millers, 1s. 9½d.; roughers, 1s. 8½d.
			Pieceworkers	Decrease of 4 per cent. on current piece prices.
Farriery	Derby	11 July	Farriers	Decrease of 1d. per hour.
	Leicester	11 July	Farriers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: freemen, 1s. 8½d.; doormen, 1s. 8d.
	Nottingham	4 July	Farriers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: freemen, 1s. 8½d.; doormen, 1s. 8d.
	Wolverhampton	1 July	Farriers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: freemen, 1s. 10½d.; doormen, 1s. 10d.
	Reading	8 Aug.	Farriers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: freemen, 1s. 7½d.; doormen, 1s. 6½d.
	Kirkcaldy	1 Aug.	Farriers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: freemen, 1s. 11d.; doormen or drivers, 1s. 10½d.; advanced apprentices, 1s. 7d.
Nail Manufacture	Glasgow, Wishaw and Stirling Districts	13 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the nail making trade:— Males, 21 years of age and over	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers, and of 7½ per cent. for pieceworkers.†
			Females	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week for those 18 years of age and over, and of 9d. per week for those under 18 years.
Railway Carriage and Wagon Building, etc.	Great Britain †	1 Aug.	Adult males employed in the railway wagon building and repairing trades	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers, and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers.†
	Certain firms in the Birmingham District, and at Bristol, Gloucester, etc.‡	15 Aug.	Adult males employed in the railway carriage and wagon building and repairing trades	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers, and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.†
Structural Engineering, etc.	England (excluding Bristol and West of England)	Pay beginning 29 May Pay beginning 31 July	Steelwork erectors	Decrease of 1½d. per hour for men who received the special advance of 2½d. per hour in 1920.‡
	Bristol and West of England and South Wales ¶	Pay beginning 5 June	Steelwork erectors	Further decrease of ½d. per hour for men who received the special advance of 2½d. per hour in 1920.‡
Bobbin Making	Motherwell	15 Aug.	Men employed on structural engineering and bridge building	Decrease of 13d. per hour for men who received the special advance of 2½d. per hour.
	England and Wales**	1st pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bobbin making industry	Decrease of 3s. per week for men who received the special advance of 2½d. per hour; and a uniform rate adopted for erectors of 1s. 1½d. per hour, plus war wages of 26s. 6d. per week, and bonus of 12½ per cent.
Electric Cable Making	Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Essex, Hertford, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Sussex	Pay day in week-ending 20 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the electric cable making industry	Decreases of 3s. 11d. per week for males 21 years of age and over, of from 11½d. to 3s. 11d. per week for those 14 to 20 years, of 2s. 6d. per week for females 18 years and over, and of 1s. per week for girls 14 to 17 years of age.††
	Great Britain other than above counties	Pay day in week-ending 20 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the electric cable making industry	Decreases of 4s. per week for males 21 years of age and over, of from 1s. to 4s. per week for those 14 to 20 years, of 2s. 6d. per week for females 18 years and over, and of 1s. per week for girls 14 to 17 years of age.††
Steel Casement and Sash Window Making	Birmingham, Bristol, Chester, Sheffield and Glasgow	15 Aug.	Adult males employed in the steel casement and sash window making trades	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers (except apprentices), and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.†
	Great Britain †	15 Aug.	Adult males employed in the scale, beam and weighing machine making trade	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers, and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.†
Weighing Machine, etc., Making	Birmingham, Dudley, Sedgley, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton	13 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the safe making trade	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers, and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers.†

* The decreases took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Optical Instrument Manufacturing Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee.
† The decreases are subject to the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. granted to time-workers and piece workers respectively (thus making the total decrease in the case of time-workers 3s. 4½d. per week).
‡ The change took effect under an agreement made between the Associated Railway Wagon Builders and Repairers and the trade unions concerned.
§ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at between the Engineering and National Employers' Federations and the trade unions concerned.
¶ Particulars of these decreases and the rates after the changes were published on p. 426 of the August GAZETTE; but it should be noted that the decreases applied only in cases where the special advance of 2½d. per hour had been given.
** The changes were embodied in agreements made between the Bridge Building and Constructional Engineering Employers' Association, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union.
†† The changes took effect under an agreement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Bobbin and Shuttle Making Industry.
‡‡ Corresponding reductions were made in the amounts which are fixed as those to be earned by piece-workers of average ability. It has been reported that, as from 17th September, wages have been increased by amounts similar to the above decreases.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
OTHER METAL TRADES—(continued).				
Harness Furniture Making	Walsall District	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the harness furniture making trade	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 5 per cent. Rates after change—Time-workers: adult males, 11d. to 1s. 1d., plus 40 per cent.; females, 4½d. to 6d., plus 35 per cent. Pieceworkers, percentages above price lists: bit, spur and stirrup forgers and filers, general filers, electro-plate burnishers, bobbers and moppers, 70 per cent.; brass dressers, 60 per cent.; brass platers, 75 per cent.; hame and clip forgers, 97½ per cent.; hame filers, 102½ per cent.; tong platers, 85 per cent.; silver platers, 90 per cent.
Coil Spring Manufacture	Sheffield	1 Aug.	Coil spring workers	Decreases of 8s. per week (flat rate) for pieceworkers, and of 6s. per week, plus 12½ per cent. for timeworkers.
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	Birmingham and Midland District (including West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Oldbury, Wolverhampton, Walsall and Coventry)	15 Aug.	Adult males employed in miscellaneous metal trades; including axle, bridge building and constructional engineering, cycle, drop forging and stamping, metal rolling (brass and copper tube, sheets, wire, etc.), roll making, small arms, small tool, spring, tank, welded and welded tube, etc.	Decrease of 3s. per week for timeworkers, and of 7½ per cent. on present list or net piecework prices for pieceworkers.†
TEXTILE TRADES.				
Cotton Industry	Mansfield and Sutton-in-Ashfield	17 June	Cotton doublers	Decrease of 60 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 110 per cent. above the standard for pieceworkers and 85 per cent. above the standard for timeworkers.
	Bradford and Shipley	Week-ending 23 July	Mechanics and mechanics' labourers employed in textile mills and dyeworks	Decreases of 3s. 5½d. per week for mechanics and of 3s. 4½d. per week for labourers. Rates after change for mechanics: 8s. 5½d. or 8s. 5d.
		Week-ending 15 Aug.		Decreases of 3s. 5½d. per week for mechanics and of 3s. 4½d. per week for labourers. Rates after change for mechanics: 8s. or 8s. 11½d.
Rosendale Valley	First making up day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and felt industry	Decrease of 6s. per week for adult male and female dayworkers, and proportionate decreases for juniors and pieceworkers. Minimum rate after change for males, 6s.	
Woollen and Worsted Industry	West of England District (including Stroud, Trowbridge, Frome, Westbury, Chippenham, Bath, Chipping Norton, Wellington, South Devon, North Tawton and Witney)	5 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry	Decrease of 10 per cent. in minimum weekly time rates and piecework basis time rates; and sliding scale adopted whereby wages are adjusted in accordance with the Ministry of Labour Index Number of retail prices, etc. Minimum weekly rates after change for time-workers: males, 21 years and over, wool sorters with not less than 5 years' experience and other men in Class A§ with not less than 4 years' experience in that class, 6s.; men in Class B§ with not less than 3 years' experience in that class, 5s. 6d.; men in Class C§ with not less than 1 year's experience, 5s.; men in Class D§, 4s. 6d.; Class A§, engine drivers, 6s. 6d.; stokers, 6s. and 5s. for Class B§ and Class C§, respectively; boys, 14s. 6d. at 14½ years, increasing to 27s. at 18 years, and to 44s. at 21 years. Females, 18 years of age and over: wool sorters with not less than 5 years' experience and other women in Class A|| with not less than 4 years' experience in that class, 3s. 6d.; women in class B|| with not less than 3 years' experience in that class, 3s. 6d.; and women in Class C||, 29s.; girls, 13s. at 14½ years, increasing to 26s. at 18 years.
	Wales	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the flannel industry	"Cost of living" wage reduced to 105 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, and to 84 per cent. for pieceworkers. Minimum time rates after change (including "cost of living" wage): men 21 years and over, 5s. 7d.; stokers, 5s. 11d.; tuners, 6s. 11d.; wool sorters, 5s. 4d.; women 19 years and over, 2s. 6d.
	Dundee	15 July 15 Aug.	Mechanics, joiners, and other semi-skilled and unskilled allied workers (including enginemen and firemen) employed in the jute industry.	Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: joiners, 1s. 7½d., plus 12½ per cent.; mechanics, 1s. 7d., plus 12½ per cent.; enginemen and firemen, 1s. 6½d. Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: joiners, 1s. 6½d., plus 12½ per cent.; mechanics, 1s. 6½d., plus 12½ per cent.; enginemen and firemen, 1s. 5½d.

* In the case of workpeople employed in the drop forging and stamping trades the above change, together with the previous reduction as from 15th July, was merged with the reduction of 15 per cent. arranged in March, 1921.
† The decreases are subject to the bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. granted to timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively (thus making the total decrease in the case of timeworkers 3s. 4½d. per week).
‡ The rates mentioned are based on a week of 48 hours (except those for engine drivers and stokers which are based on a week not exceeding 55 hours), and are subject to a proportionate deduction where the normal week is less.
§ Class A.—Blacksmiths, carding engineers, carpenters, dyers, electricians, engineers, masons, mechanics, painters, spinners (in charge of pair of mules), tuners, and worsted spinning overlookers.
¶ Class B.—Cuttermen, menders, millmen, undertuners, warehousemen, wappers, blanket and pattern weavers, wool sorters (with less than 5 years' experience), wool washers and yarn spinners.
‡ Class C.—Beamers, blanket raisers, blenders, blowers and crabbers, carbonisers, cloth washers, comb minders, condenser minders, cutter minders, dyers' labourers, fettlers, garnetters, gig raisers, mechanics' mates, millmen's labourers, packers, pinsetters, pressmen, potters and rollers, shrinkers, teasers, tenterers, tuners' labourers, twisterson, warehousemen's jobbers, wool scourers and yarnmen.
§ Class D.—Carters, jobbers, yarn jobbers and other unskilled workers not specified above.
|| Class A.—Menders, public knitters, wappers weavers and yarn spinners.
¶ Class B.—Buriers, comb drawers, comb minders, condenser minders, cutter girls, doublers, feeders, inkers and pickers, piecers, tyers-on, winders, wool sorters (with less than 5 years' experience), worsted minders, worsted doublers, worsted spinne and yarn women.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
TEXTILE TRADES—(continued).				
Linen Manufacture (continued)	Belfast and the North of Ireland	18 July	Workpeople employed in the linen weaving industry:— Males	Decreases of 8s. per week for skilled workers, and of 6s. per week for other workers, and a further decrease of ½ per cent. on the reduced rates. Rates after change for timeworkers: tenters and power loom yarn dressers, 74s.; slashers, 69s. 6d.; mounters, 65s.
			Women and juniors	Decreases of 5s. per week for women 18 years of age and over, and of 4s. per week for workers under 18, and a further decrease of 7½ per cent. on the reduced rates.
Hosiery Industry	Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley and Coventry Districts	Pay day in week beginning 22 Aug.	All classes of workpeople employed in the manufacture of hosiery (except dyers, trimmers, finishers, etc.)	Bonus of 1s. in the shilling on earnings increased, under "cost of living" sliding scale, to 1s. 1d. in the shilling.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	Macclesfield	Pay day in week ending 20 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the silk dyeing and finishing industry:— Males	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 4s. 2d. per week for workers 22½ years of age and over, and of from 3s. to 1s. per week (according to age) for workers under 22½ years. Rates after change for permanent males: 20s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 38s. 6d. at 18 years, to 55s. 6d. at 21 years, to 61s. at 22 years, and to 63s. 2d. at 22½ years and over. Decrease of 3s. per week for adults and scale of minimum rates adopted for juniors under 18 years of age. Minimum rates after change: 14s. 2d. at 14 years, increasing to 16s. 6d. at 15 years, 19s. 3d. at 16 years, 25s. 8d. at 17 years, and to 33s. at 18 years and over.
			Females	"Cost of living" wage reduced, under sliding scale, from 91 per cent. to 87 per cent. on basic wages, the flat rate bonus of 20s. per week previously granted being paid in addition to this bonus.
Machine calico printers	London	1st pay day after 6 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the cloth-working trade	Decreases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 11d. per week. Rates after change: dampers, sheet end, 47s. 3d.; bout end, 60s. 3d.; foremen, 75s. 4d.; table-hands, stock-keepers, carmen, front packers and foremen examiners, 75s. 4d.; pattern hands, 75s. 6d.; pressmen's mates, back packers, and assistant examiners, 66s.; examiners and rollers and measurers, 72s. 10d.; press setters, 80s. 1d.; cutlers, 47s. 6d.
			CLOTHING TRADES.	
Boot and Shoe Repairing	Great Britain	2 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the boot and shoe repairing trade	Revised scale of minimum piece rates fixed, under Trade Boards Acts, for hand sewn and riveted work, and for bespoke hand sewn, pegged and riveted work. (See p. 443 of August GAZETTE)
	Bath	2 Aug.	Tailors and tailoresses	Decreases of 2d. and 1d. per "log" hour in first and second class shops, respectively. Rates after change per "log" hour: males, 11d.; females, 7d.
Tailoring	Bradford	22 Aug.	Tailors (log workers)	Decrease of 7½ per cent., leaving wages 130 per cent. over pre-war rates. Rates after change: 1st class shops, 5½d., plus 130 per cent.; 2nd class shops, 6d., plus 130 per cent.
	Huddersfield	1st pay day in Aug.	Tailors and tailoresses:— Men 24 years and over Men, 21 to 24 years, with 5 years' experience Women, 18 to 20 years, with 4 years' experience Women, 20 years and over, with 6 years' experience	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. 8d.). Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.). Decrease of 1d. per hour (11½d. to 10½d.). Decrease of 1½d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 11½d.) for those 20 to 22 years, and of 3d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 0½d.) for those 22 years and over.
Tailoring	Kendal	8 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bespoke tailoring trade	Decrease of about 15 per cent. on gross earnings, leaving wages 120 per cent. above pre-war rates.
	Macclesfield	17 Aug.	Tailors	Decrease of 3d. per "log" hour. Rate after change per "log" hour, 1s. 1d.
Tailoring	Manchester	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bespoke tailoring trade:— Log workers	Decreases of 2d. and 1½d. per "log" hour for males and females respectively. Rates after change per "log" hour: males: No. 1 shops, 1s. 1d.; No. 2 shops, 1s.; females, 10½d.
			Pieceworkers	Decreases of 12½ per cent. and 10 per cent. on existing rates for males and females respectively.
Tailoring	Newcastle-on-Tyne and District*	1st pay day in Aug.	Timeworkers: Males	Decreases of 9s., 6s., and 1s. per week for grades 1, 2, 3 respectively. Rates after change: Grade 1, 82s.; Grade 2, 78s.; Grade 3, 76s.
			Females	Decreases of 2s. 6d. per week for classes A and B, and of 2s. 1d. per week for class C. Rates after change: Class A, 50s.; class B 43s.; class C, 37s.
Tailoring	Nottingham†	8 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bespoke tailoring trade	Decreases of 1d. and 3d. per "log" hour for males and females respectively. Rates after change per "log" hour for males, 1st class shops, 1s. 1d.; 2nd class shops, 1s.
	Oxford	9 July	Tailors	Decrease of 15 per cent. on existing rates for divisional workers.
Tailoring	Newport	4 July	Tailors and tailoresses	Decrease of 1½d. per "log" hour. Rates after change per "log" hour: frock, dress coats, etc., 1s. 0½d.; lounge coats, 11½d.; sports coats with belts, pleats, or yoke, 11d.; vests, trousers and knickers, 10½d.; stock work, 8½d.
			Tailors and tailoresses	Decrease of 2d. per "log" hour (1s. 1d. to 11d.).

* Including Jarrow, Gateshead, South Shields, Durham, and Hexham.
† The change took effect under an agreement made between the Nottingham and District Merchant Tailors' Association and the Amalgamated Tailors and Garment Workers' Union.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)			
Laundrying	Bolton, Bradford, Burnley, Dewsbury, Great Harwood, Huddersfield, Hyde, Langley Mill, Leeds, Manchester, Nelson and Sheffield	1st pay day after 13 Aug.	CLOTHING TRADES—(continued).				
			Female laundry workers employed by Co-operative Societies	New scale of minimum rates adopted, resulting in decreases of 1s. per week for those 14 and 15 years, of 2s. per week for those 19 and 20, of 3s. per week for those of 21 years, and an increase of 2s. per week to those of 17. For workers of 16 and 18 years, the rates remained unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 15s. at 14 years, increasing to 32s. at 18, and to 41s. at 21 years.			
			Female learners engaged in the retail branch of the dressmaking and women's light clothing trades:— Commencing at under 15 years of age	Decrease under Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour in general minimum time rate for those under 14 years, and during first six months employment for those commencing at 14 but under 15 years, and of 1d. per hour thereafter up to and including fifth year of employment. Minimum rates after change: under 14, 13d.; 14 and under 15, 13d. in first six months, increasing to 4d. during fourth six months, 7d. during eighth six months, and to 9d. during sixth year. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)			
			Commencing at 15 years of age or over	Scales of minimum hourly time rates previously fixed under Trade Boards Acts cancelled, and new scales fixed, starting at rates varying from 13d. for those commencing at 15 and under 17 years, to 3d. for those commencing at 19 years and over, and increasing (in the case of those commencing at 15 years) every six months to 7d. during sixth six months and thereafter with each year to 9d. during fifth year; for those commencing at later ages the rate of 9d. is reached by varying periodical increases after 3 years' employment. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)			
			Workpeople employed in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trades:—				
			Males:—				
			Cutters employed wholly or mainly in cutting with not less than 5 years' experience	Minimum time rate and piecework basis time rate fixed under Trade Boards Acts at 1s. 6d. and 1s. 8d. per hour respectively. (See p. 506.)			
			Others	Scale of minimum hourly time rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts starting at 2½d. at under 15 years of age, 3½d. at 15 and under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 7d. at 18 to 19 years, 11½d. at 21 to 22 years, and to 1s. 13d. at 22 years and over, and piecework basis time rate fixed at 1s. 3½d. for all workers. (See p. 506.)			
			Females (other than learners):—				
			Employed in the factory branch	Minimum hourly time rate and piecework basis time rate fixed under Trade Boards Acts at 8d. and 9d. respectively. (See p. 506.)			
Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trades.	Scotland	8 Aug.	Employed in branches other than the factory branch	Minimum hourly time rates and piecework basis time rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts at 8½d. and 9½d. respectively for workers other than homeworkers, and at 8d. and 9d. respectively for homeworkers employed in the areas of the County Boroughs of the Cities of Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Londonderry; and at 8d. and 9d. respectively for all workers in other areas. (See p. 506.)			
			Female learners:—				
			Employed in the factory branch	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts vary according to age of commencing and length of employment from 8s. 5d. to 29s. 1d. (See p. 506.)			
			Employed in branches other than the factory branch	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts varying according to age of commencing and length of employment from 5s. to 27s. for those employed in the areas of the County Boroughs of the Cities of Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Londonderry, and from 4s. to 21s. 6d. for those employed in other areas. (See p. 506.)			
			All workers	Overtime rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts for all time worked in excess of 48 hours per week (9 hours on any day other than Saturday, and 5 hours on Saturday). (See p. 506.)			
			Female learners employed in the hat, cap and millinery trades (except those employed in the wholesale cloth, hat and cap making branch):— Commencing at under 15 years	Decrease under Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour in general minimum time rate for those under 14 years, and of 1d. or 1½d. (according to length of employment) for those commencing at 14 but under 15 years of age. Minimum rates after change: under 14 years, 13d.; 14 and under 15, 13d. during first six months, increasing to 7d. during eighth six months. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)			
			Commencing at 15 years or over	Scales of minimum hourly time rates previously fixed under Trade Boards Acts cancelled, and new scales fixed, starting at rates varying from 13d. for those commencing at 15 years and under 17 years, to 3d. for those commencing at 19 years and over, and increasing (in the case of those commencing at 15 years) each six months to 7d. during sixth six months; for those commencing at 17 years and over a rate of 8d. is reached by varying periodical increases, after 2 years' employment. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)			
			Hat and Cap Manufacture	Scotland	8 Aug.		

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)						
Hat and Cap Manufacture (continued)	Ireland	2 Aug.	CLOTHING TRADES—(continued).							
			Female learners employed in the hat, cap and millinery trades:— Employed in the areas of the County Boroughs of the Cities of Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Londonderry	Minimum time rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts at 5s. per week for those under 14 years of age, and scale of minimum weekly time rates fixed for those 14 years of age and over, starting at 5s., 6s. or 7s. during first six or three months' employment (according to age), and increasing according to age of commencing and length of employment to 27s. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)						
			Employed in all other areas	Minimum time rate fixed under Trade Boards Acts at 4s. per week for those under 14 years of age, and scale of minimum weekly time rates fixed for those 14 years of age and over, starting at 4s., 4s. 9d. or 5s. 6d. during first six or three months' employment, and increasing according to age of commencing and length of employment, to 21s. 6d. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)						
				Minimum piece rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts for those engaged in nickelling handkerchiefs, household linens, blouses and under-clothing, and in top sewing of french corners on handkerchiefs. (See p. 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.)						
			Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade	Ireland	8 Aug.					
						Female workers employed in the linen and cotton embroidery trade				
						TRANSPORT TRADES.	Great Britain*	4 Aug.†		
									Dock labourers and other workers (except coal trimmers other than at Glasgow, and coal tipplers) employed in actual handling of cargoes in or on a ship, quay, warehouse, or craft [See separate entry for lightermen, etc., in London]	Decreases of 2s. per day of 8 hours, or 1s. per half-day for time workers; pieceworkers' earnings to be reduced by corresponding amounts. Minimum daily rates after change for timeworkers: larger ports, 14s. 8s.; smaller ports, 13s. 8s.
									Workpeople employed by master lightermen and barge owners:—	
									Lightermen in rough goods trade	Decrease of 12s. per week. Rate after change, 96s. per week.
Other lightermen and watchmen	Decreases of 2s. per day, of 1s. 1d. per "short" night, and of 2s. 3d. per "long" night. Rates after change, 14s. per day; 7s. 11d. per "short" night; 15s. 6d. per "long" night.									
Apprentices	Decreases varying from 1s. to 1s. 8d. per day, from 7d. to 1s. 1d. per "short" night, and from 11d. to 1s. 8d. per "long" night. Rates after change: Third year—7s. per day, 4s. 1d. per "short" night, 6s. 6d. per "long" night; seventh year—11s. 7d. per day, 7s. 5d. per "short" night, and 11s. 6d. per "long" night.									
Foremen, leading hands, roadmen and wharf hands, and other weekly employees; also tug masters, mates, drivers and firemen	Decrease of 12s. per week for all men who received an increase of 28s. per week or more in May, 1920.									
Crews of sailing barges	Decrease of 30 per cent. on tariff of 1912 (as amended in February, 1921), making rates 130 per cent. above list, also war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week previously granted to mates withdrawn.									
Coal trimmers	Decrease of 10 per cent. on National tariff rates of 16th August, 1920.									
Coal tipplers, teamers, weighers, hoistmen and boxmen	Uniform minimum wage of 80s. per week adopted, as compared with a previous minimum varying, with different ports, from 80s. to 94s. 10d. (in South Wales).†									
Lightermen	Decrease of 2d. per ton on old rates, and 5 per cent. on rates of articles not carried by the ton.									
Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc., Labour	London	4 Aug.†								
			Employees of Tramway Undertakings	(For particulars of these decreases, see under Public Utility Services, p. 502.)						
			Workpeople employed in the Road Transport Industry	Decreases of 2s. per week for one-horse carters, of 1s. per week for steam wagon steers, and of 3s. per week for petrol wagon drivers of lorries, 2 tons and over. Rates after change: one-horse drivers, coal carters, petrol wagon assistants or loaders and stable or garage hands, 64s.; two-horse drivers, 69s.; steam wagon drivers, 77s.; petrol wagon steers, 66s.; petrol wagon drivers (2 tons and over), 74s.; petrol wagon drivers (under 2 tons), 67s. per week.						
			Road Transport Industry	Various ports in Great Britain	1 Aug.					
						Various ports in England and Wales‡				
						Tyne				
						Great Britain	(See p. 502)			
						Manchester and District (including Littleborough, Middleton, Ashton, Stalybridge and Mossley)				
						Road Transport Industry	Great Britain	10 Aug.		

* The decreases took effect under an agreement made by the National Joint Council for Dock Labour. Under the terms of the same agreement a further reduction of 1s. per day is to take effect from 5th January, 1922.

† In the case of permanent men, the decrease was to operate in the first week wholly worked in August. At Aberdeen the decreases for pieceworkers took effect from later dates in August.

‡ At Middlesbrough the decrease was 1s. 10d. per day, or 11s. for a six-day week. For permanent employees the decrease was usually 11s. per week; foremen, stevedores, checkers and timekeepers at Liverpool sustained a decrease of 12s. 6d. or 15s. per week.

§ The classification of ports is as follows:—Larger ports: Aberdeen, Ardrossan, Avonmouth, Ayr, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Birkenhead, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Chatham, Dundee, Falmouth, Glasgow, Greenock, Hartlepool, Humber Ports, Ipswich, Irvine, King's Lynn, Lancaster, Leith, Liverpool, Llanelly, London, Lowestoft, Manchester, Maryport, Middlesbrough, Newport, Penarth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Port Talbot, Preston, Queenborough, Rochester, Sharpness, Southampton, Stockton, Sunderland, Sutton Bridge, Swansea, Troon, Tyne Area, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wisbech, Workington and Yarmouth. Smaller ports: Alloa, Arbroath, Aberystwith, Banff, Barnstaple, Berwick, Bridgwater, Carlisle, Carnarvon, Chester, Colchester, Cowes, Dumfries, Exeter, Exmouth, Faversham, Fraserburgh, Hayle, Inverness, Isle of Man Ports, Kirkcaldy, Kirkwall, Lerwick, Montrose, Newhaven, Padstow, Penzance, Peterhead, Poole, Ramsgate, Scarborough, Scilly Isles, Stornoway, Teignmouth, Torquay, Whitby, Whitstable, Wick and Wigtown. At Boston and Gloucester the lower rate applies for general cargo workers and the higher rate for timber, grain, minerals, oilcake, etc., workers. At the principal ports at which differential rates exist, the new minimum daily rates for some of the leading classes of time workers are as follows:—London: Dockers and stevedores (except those on timber work) employed by ocean shipowners and master stevedores, 15s. 6d.; deal porters employed by the Port of London Authority, 9s. 3d. (per half day); other men employed by the Port of London Authority and public wharfingers, 14s.; men employed by short sea traders: shipwork, 15s. 6d.; quaywork, 14s. Liverpool: Dockers and porters, 14s.; coal heavers, 17s. 8d.; timberworkers, 15s.; stevedores, 16s.; riggers, 14s. 6d. Glasgow: Iron ore men and coal trimmers, 15s. 8d.; general cargo men, 14s. Middlesbrough (on basis of six full days per week): Stevedores, 16s. 2d.; slingers and crane-men, 15s. 10d.; hatchwaymen, 12s. 10d. Hartlepool: Stevedores and pitwoodmen, 14s.; iron ore men, 15s. 4d. Hull: Ordinary labourers, warehousemen, casual lightermen and prop carriers, 14s.; fillers (grain and seed), 14s. 8d.; fillers (mineral), 15s. 5d.; pitch workers, 16s. Bristol: General cargo, timber workers and bargemen, 14s.; grain workers, 14s. or 14s. 6d.; boiler scalers and shore donkeymen, 15s.; deck hands, engine-room hands and riggers, 14s.

¶ The decrease took effect under an agreement made by the National Joint Trimming Committee. The agreement applied generally to the coal exporting centres where the men work on a tonnage basis (including the North-East Coast, the Humber and South Wales ports); it did not apply, however, to Glasgow, where time rates are paid.

‡ The terms of settlement were embodied in an agreement made between representatives of the Railway Companies, Dock and Port Authorities, the National Transport Workers' Federation and the National Union of Railwaymen, and applied to the principal ports exporting coal, except Immingham. Under the terms of this agreement the bonus of 50 per cent., previously granted on all agreed piecework and tonnage rates was to remain until the first full pay in September, when it was reduced to 45 per cent., to be further reduced to 40 per cent. in October, 35 per cent. in November and 25 per cent. in December. At Immingham, where the minimum rate is on a shift basis, the minimum was reduced by 1s. per half day shift or 2s. per 8 hour shift, 176s. per cent. being paid on basis rates as previously.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
TRANSPORT TRADES—(continued).				
Road Transport Industry (continued)	London	13 May	Carters* principally engaged in the tipcart or clearance work, etc., in connection with building operations road making, and constructional work in general, and on contracts for Local Authorities	Decrease of 4s. per week for men 21 years and over and for youths under 21 doing men's work, and of 2s. per week for other youths.
	Leicester and District	5 Aug.	Carters, motormen, etc.	Decrease of 4s. per week. Rate after change: one-horse carters, 60s. per week.
	Scotland (except Forfarshire)	1st pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the road transport industry	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 2s. per week for those 18 years of age and over and of 1s. per week for those under 18. Rates after change: Aberdeen, one-horse carters, 64s.; Edinburgh and Leith, one-horse carters, 63s. 6d.; two-horse carters, 68s. 6d.; motor drivers, 75s. 6d.; Kirkcaldy, one-horse carters, 62s. 6d.; Kirkcaldy, one-horse carters, 63s. 6d.; two-horse carters, 69s. 6d.; Paisley, one-horse carters, 66s. 6d.
FISHING.				
Fishing	Hartlepool	11 Aug.	Crews of trawlers:— Skippers	Rates adopted of 1½ shares of 14 shares of nett earnings, plus bonus of £50 if vessel grosses £5,500 in 6 months, and 8s. per day harbour pay.
			Mates	Rates adopted of 1½ shares of 14 shares of nett earnings, and 7s. per day harbour pay.
			1st engineers	Rates adopted of 13s. 6d. per day sea pay, and 11s. per day harbour pay, plus 3d. in £ on nett earnings.
Fishing	Lowestoft	1 Aug.	2nd engineers	Rates adopted of 12s. per day sea pay, and 9s. 6d. per day harbour pay, plus 3d. in £ on nett earnings.
			Boatswains	Rates adopted of 9s. 6d. per day sea pay, and 7s. per day harbour pay, plus 4d. in £ on nett earnings.
			Trimmers, deck hands and cooks	Rates adopted of 9s. 6d. per day sea pay, and 7s. per day harbour pay, plus 2d. in £ on nett earnings.
Fishing	Great Yarmouth	13 Aug.	Crews of trawlers:— Chief engineers and third hands	Decrease of 10s. per week. Rates after change: chief engineers, steam trawlers, 75s.; drifter trawlers, 70s.; third hands (all vessels), 70s.
			Deck hands and trimmers	Decreases of 7s. and 9s. per week for steam and drifter trawlers and sailing and motor trawlers respectively. Rates after change: steam and drifter, 48s.; sailing and motor, 46s.
			Cooks	Decreases of 5s. and 7s. per week for steam and drifter trawlers and sailing and motor trawlers respectively. Rates after change: steam and drifter, 40s.; sailing and motor, 28s.
Fishing	Great Yarmouth	13 Aug.	Packers	Decreases of 1s. 6d. and 1s. per day for steam and drifter trawlers and sailing trawlers respectively. Rates after change: steam, 7s.; drifter, 6s.; sailing, 4s.
			Crews of trawlers	Maximum weekly rates adopted of 45s. plus 4d. in £ on nett earnings for chief engineers, 40s. plus 4d. in £ for third hands, 40s. plus 3d. in £ for second engineers, 40s. plus 2d. in £ for trimmers, 35s. plus 2d. in £ for deckhands, and 35s. plus 1d. in £ for cooks; packers to receive a maximum of 8s. per man per trip.
			FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING TRADES.	
Furniture Manufacture	London	1 Aug.	Timeworkers:— Cabinet makers, chairmakers, gluers, crampers-up, woodcutting machinists and upholsterers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: spindle and four cutter machinists, 2s. 1½d.; others, 2s. 0½d.
			French polishers (male), japanners, and chair shapers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 2s.
			French polishers (female)	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 1s. 2½d.
			Upholstresses	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¾d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 1s. 1d.
			Packers and porters (wholesale trade)	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour or 3s. 11d. per week. Minimum rates after change: packers, 1s. 7d. per hour or 69s. 1d. per week; porters, 1s. 5½d. per hour or 63s. 1d. per week.
			Operatives employed in the carpet and blind section	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 1s. 11½d.
			Learners, improvers and apprentices	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 53 per cent. for those who have previously received advances pro rata to those granted from time to time to journeymen.
			Pieceworkers:— Upholsterers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, in total of agreed percentages payable on basic rates from 116.5 per cent. to 104.16 per cent., except for those employed by certain firms (see p. 315 of the Labour Gazette for June), for whom the percentages payable are 10 per cent. plus 10 per cent. plus 104.16 per cent. (calculated cumulatively).
			Operatives employed in the white enamelled (deal) section	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 5½ per cent. on present rates.
			Cabinet makers, chairmakers, carvers, machinists, upholsterers and french polishers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: 2s. per hour; carvers and spindle moulders who are all-round machinists, receive 1d. per hour extra.
Cabinet makers, upholsterers and french polishers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11d. to 1s. 10½d.).			
Cabinet makers, upholsterers and french polishers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 11½d. to 1s. 10½d.).			

* Employed by members of the Metropolitan and Home Counties Road Transport Contractors' Association.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING TRADES—(continued)				
Furniture Manufacture (continued)	Manchester, Salford, Altrincham and Stockport Districts	1 Aug.	Wholesale and retail trades:— Cabinet makers, chairmakers, carvers, upholsterers, male polishers, machinists (with 4 years' experience), and mattress makers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 0½d.).
			Labourers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour (1s. 10d. to 1s. 8½d.).
			Upholstresses	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¾d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 1½d.).
			Female polishers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¾d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 2½d.).
			Glassworkers	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: bevelers, silverers and cutters, 2s. 0½d.; brilliant cutters, 2s. 1½d.; fitters, 1s. 10½d.; packers, 1s. 9½d.
			Journeymen employed in furniture manufacture	Increase, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¾d. per hour. Rates after change: those engaged on skilled processes, 1s. 10d.; Windsor, cane and cheap rush-bottom chairmakers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 9d.
			Cabinet makers, carvers, chairmakers, upholsterers, french polishers, and women	Decreases of 2d. per hour for men (1s. 11d. to 1s. 9d.), and of 1d. per hour for women (11d. to 10d.).
			Male blind makers	Decrease of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: bench hands, 1s. 10½d.; fitters, 1s. 9½d.; fitters' mates, 1s. 6½d.
			Picture frame makers	Decreases of 2d. per hour for male workers, Grade A; and corresponding reductions for other workers, and sliding scale method of determining wages adopted under which wages are regulated in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices, etc. Rates after change: males 21 years and over: Grade A occupations* 78s. 4d.; Grade B,* 72s. 5d.; Grade C,* 70s. 7d.; Grade D,* 62s. 3d.; females 19 years and over: Grade A occupations,* 40s. 7d.; Grade B,* 38s. 11d.; Grade C,* 37s. 4d.; Grade D,* 33s. 6d.
			Packing case makers	Decreases of 3s. per week for timeworkers and of 7½ per cent. for pieceworkers.
Packing Case making	Decreases of 7s. per week for those 21 years of age and over, of 4s. per week for those 18 and under 21 years, and of 2s. per week for those under 18 years. Rate after change for men 21 and over, 1s. 7½d. per hour.			
Packing Case making	Sheffield	2 Aug.	Labourers employed in sawmills (pieceworkers)	Decrease of 12½ per cent. on existing rates.
			Machinists, sawyers etc., employed in sawmills	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: planing and moulding machinists, saw sharpeners and wood turners, 1s. 10d.; band and circular sawyers, 1s. 9½d.; horizontal sawyers, 1s. 9d.; deal frame sawyers, 1s. 8½d.
			Men employed in the vehicle-building and wheelwright trades by members of the National Employers' Association of Vehicle Builders	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: bodymakers, wheelwrights, coach joiners and finishers, smiths, painters, trimmers, mounters, general machinists and sawyers, Group A, 1s. 10½d.; Group B, 1s. 9½d.; Group C, 1s. 7d.; Group D, 1s. 6d.; coachfitters, Group A, 1s. 9½d.; Group B, 1s. 8½d.; Group C, 1s. 6d.; vicemen, Group A, 1s. 5½d.; Group B, 1s. 5d.; Group C, 1s. 4d.; hammermen or strikers, and brush hands, Groups A and B, 1s. 3½d.; Group C, 1s. 3d.
Mill Sawing	Liverpool	1 Aug.	Enginemmen, firemen, cranemen and labourers employed in sawmills	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rate after change for labourers, 1s. 7½d.
			Workpeople employed in sawmills and timber yards	Decrease of ¾d. per hour. Rates after change: sawyers and machinists, 1s. 8½d.; deal carriers and labourers, 1s. 5½d.
			Deal carriers employed in timber yards	Decrease of 12½ per cent. for timeworkers and of 10 per cent. on list prices for pieceworkers. Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 10d. to 1s. 9d.).
Coopering	Cardiff, Newport and Swansea	15 July	Coopers	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers (leaving piece rates generally 115 per cent. above pre-war rates). Rates after change: London, 2s. 2d.; Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Swansea, Wolverhampton, Dundee, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow, Greenock, Leith, Paisley, Livingston and Belfast, 2s. 1d.; other districts, 2s.
			Men employed in the vehicle-building and wheelwright trades by members of the National Employers' Association of Vehicle Builders	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: bodymakers, wheelwrights, coach joiners and finishers, smiths, painters, trimmers, mounters, general machinists and sawyers, Group A, 1s. 10½d.; Group B, 1s. 9½d.; Group C, 1s. 7d.; Group D, 1s. 6d.; coachfitters, Group A, 1s. 9½d.; Group B, 1s. 8½d.; Group C, 1s. 6d.; vicemen, Group A, 1s. 5½d.; Group B, 1s. 5d.; Group C, 1s. 4d.; hammermen or strikers, and brush hands, Groups A and B, 1s. 3½d.; Group C, 1s. 3d.
			Men employed in the vehicle-building and wheelwright trades by members of the Liverpool, Bootle, Birkenhead and Districts Master Wheelwrights' Association	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: wheelwrights, smiths, etc., 1s. 11d.; brush hands and hammermen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 3½d.

* Males:—Grade A occupations: polishers, fitters, strainers, oval workers, bronzers, gilders, compo. mounters, glass cutters, joiners, mount cutters, mitre sawyers, veneer layers, whiteners, and spindle workers (large); Grade B: fitters (ordinary), spindle workers (small), compo. makers, pressmen, and stock-keepers (moulding); Grade C: other stock-keepers; Grade D: packers, cleaners, errands, general labourers and gluers-up. Females:—Grade A occupations: polishers, compo. mounters, glass-cutters and bronzers; Grade B: fitters, oval workers, picture mounters and bronze preparers; Grade C: mount cutters' fixers, stainers, mount binders, passepartout, compo. pressers; Grade D: sorters, packers, sizers, drummers and gluers-up.

† Including Blyth, Dunston, Jarrow, Newcastle, North and South Shields, and Tyne Dock.
‡ The change took effect under a resolution passed by the Joint Industrial Council of the Cooperage Industry.
§ The towns included in each group are as follows:—Group A.—Alverthorpe, Ainsworth, Altrincham, Ashton, Accrington, Aberdare, Aston, Birmingham, Burnley, Bury, Bromley Cross, Barnsley, Basford, Batley, Bingley, Birstall, Blackburn, Bradford, Bristol, Cardiff, Crewe, Cheadle, Carlton, Cleckheaton, Chesterfield, Chorlton, Chorley, Colwyn Bay, Denton, Dewsbury, Didsbury, Dudley, Droylsden, Erdington, Fleetwood, Gateshead, Glossop, Great Crosby, Gildersome, Gaisley, Greenfield, Great Harwood, Hadfield, Handforth, Handsworth, Hazel Grove, Heywood, Higher Ince, Hindley, Hollingworth, Hyde, Halifax, Haslingden, Huddersfield, Heckmondwike, Hull, Keighley, Long Eaton, Luddensfoot, Littleborough, Leigh, Leeds, Leicester, Llandudno, Manchester, Middleton, Monkwearmouth, Mossley, Morley, Mytholmroyd, Monmouth, Merthyr, Newport (Mon.), Newcastle, North Shields, Nottingham, Nantmanton, Oldbury, Ossett, Oldham, Pemberton, Prescot, Pontyfridd, Preston, Rawdon, Rotherham, Rochdale, Reddish, Radcliffe, Sowerby Bridge, Salford, Shipley, Sale, Smethwick, South Shields, Sunderland, Stalybridge, Stratford, St. Helens, Swansea, Tipton, Wallasey, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Werneth, on-Avon, Sutton Coldfield, Sheffield, Southport, St. Helens, Swansea, Tipton, Wallasey, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Werneth, Warrington, Wigan, Wilmslow, Wakefield, Yeadox. Group B.—Alhwick, Bacup, Barrow, Bishop Auckland, Blyth, Biggleswade, Bridgwater, Bournemouth, Brighouse, Burnley, Cheltenham, Chester-le-Street, Church, Colne, Congresbury, Derby, Darlington, Darwen, Durham, Earlestown, Gloucester, Grantham, Hartlepool, Houghton, le-Springs, Huntingdon, Kidderminster, Kettering, Lincoln, Longwood, Loughboro', Lytham, Mansfield, Middlesbrough, Minsley, Morpeth, Newark, Nelson, Newton-le-Willows, Northampton, Padiham, Rawtenstall, Ripon, St. Anne's, Shirehampton, Shrewsbury, Stamford, Southampton, Stockton-on-Tees, Scarborough, Sandbach, Thornaby, Thurstone, Warwick, Weston super Mare, Wylam, Windle, Wombwell, Wigston Magna, Yarm, York, Yeovil. Group C.—Caerphilly, Chester, Clayton West, Denby Dale, Evesham, Holmfirth, Kirkheaton, Knutsford, Llandebie, Llandilo, Llanelli, Llantrisant, Maryport, Meltham, Mornistown, Nantwich, Penrith, Penrith, Porth, Redditch, Rhondda, Ross, Skelmanthorpe, Slaithwaite, Upholland, Whalley, Whitehaven, Worcester, Workeston. Group D.—Alsager, Ammanford, Bolton by Bowland, Chatburn, Garstang, Gisburn, Gorseinon, Heanor and District, Lancaster, Maiton, Morecambe, Rainford, Retford, Selby.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING TRADES—				
Vehicle Building (continued)	Glasgow and towns within a radius of 25 miles* (except those with a population of less than 5,000)	1 Aug.	Skilled tradesmen (including coach vicemen) in the vehicle-building and wheelwright trades	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: body-makers, cartwrights, finishers, carriage-makers, wheelers, smiths and general machinists: minimum, 1s. 10½d.; standard (commercial work), 2s. 0½d.; painters and trimmers, minimum, 1s. 10½d.; standard (commercial work), 2s.; coach vicemen, minimum, 1s. 9d.; standard (commercial work), 1s. 10½d.; coach work, 3d. per hour more than rates shown for standard (commercial work).
	Dundee and District	1 Aug.	Semi-skilled and unskilled grades in the above trades	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3d. per hour. Minimum and standard rates after change respectively: vicemen, 1s. 5½d., 1s. 6½d.; hammermen and brush hands, 1s. 4d., 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 2d., 1s. 3d.
	London and certain other districts†	1st full pay day after 21 Aug.	Men employed in the vehicle-building and wheelwright trades	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 3d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: body-makers, carriage makers, wheelwrights, cartwrights, smiths, painters and trimmers, 1s. 11d.; vicemen, 1s. 9½d.; brush hands and hammermen, 1s. 7d.
	Edinburgh ...	1st full pay day after 21 Aug.	Men employed in the vehicle-building and wheelwright trades	Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 3d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: woodworkers, smiths, painters and trimmers, 1s. 10½d.; fitters, mounters and coach vicemen, 1s. 9½d.; brush hands, 1s. 4½d.
GLASS, BRICK, CHEMICAL, ETC., TRADES.‡				
Glass Working.	Birmingham, Glasgow, London, Manchester, Stourbridge, Sheffield, Warrington and Tisbury	25 July	Flint glass ware makers ...	Decrease of 6d. per move.
	Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead	12 Aug.	Flint glass cutters, intaglio workers and engravers	Decrease of 6s. per week.
Glass Bottle Manufacture	Barnsley, Conisbro', Mexborough and Swinton	5 Aug.	Lead light glaziers, glass painters, etc.	Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. to 1s. 10d.).
	United Kingdom	Pay week after 1st pay day in Aug.	Founders, teazers, packers, carters, labourers, firemen, and general workers employed in glass bottle manufacture	Decreases of 2d. per hour for men 18 years of age and over, of 1d. per hour for boys under 18 years and for women, and proportionate decreases for pieceworkers.
Cement Manufacture	England and Wales ...	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the cement trade (except bricklayers, joiners, and other skilled tradesmen)	Decreases for day-workers of 3d. per hour for men 18 years of age and over, of 3d. per hour for youths under 18 years and for women, and proportionate decreases for piece and shift workers.
	United Kingdom	1st pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of heavy chemicals, salt, etc. (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades)	Decrease of 1½d. per hour for time-workers and proportionate decreases for piece-workers. Minimum rates after change for time-workers: day labourers, 1s. 3½d.; shift-workers, 1s. 5½d.
Chemical Manufacture	United Kingdom	1st pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in drug and fine chemical manufacture:— Males 21 years of age and over ...	Decrease of 7s. per week. Minimum rates after change: Class I, occupations, 68s.; Class II, 63s.; Class III, 58s.
	United Kingdom	1st pay day in Aug.	Males under 21 years ...	Decreases of from 1s. to 8s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: under 15 years, 15s.; 15 to 16 years, 20s.; 16 to 17 years, 25s.; 17 to 18 years, 30s.; 18 to 19 years, 35s.; 19 to 20 years, 40s.; 20 to 21 years, 45s.
	United Kingdom	1st pay day in Aug.	Females 18 years of age and over	Decrease of 6s. per week. Minimum rates after change: Class I, occupations, 39s.; Class II, 37s.; Class III, 34s. 6d.; Class IV, 31s. 6d.
	United Kingdom	1st pay day in Aug.	Females under 18 years ...	Decreases of from 2s. to 5s. per week. Minimum rates after change: under 15 years, 12s. 6d.; 15 to 16 years, 16s. 6d.; 16 to 17 years, 20s. 6d.; 17 to 18 years, 24s. 6d.
Explosives Manufacture	Plymouth	24 June	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of chemical fertilizers:— Timeworkers ...	Decrease of 2½d. per hour for adults (1s. 6d. to 1s. 3½d.) and of 2s. per week for boys under 13.
	Plymouth	24 June	Shiftworkers ...	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per shift.
	Plymouth	24 June	Pieceworkers ...	Decrease of 12½ per cent. on existing rates.
Explosives Manufacture	Great Britain ...	15 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the explosives trade:— Male timeworkers 21 years of age and over, youths under 21 years doing men's work, and all pieceworkers	Decrease of 3s. per week (leaving a total minimum wage advance of 33s. 6d. per week, plus 12½ per cent. for those 21 years of age and over).
	Great Britain ...	1 Aug.	Females ...	Decreases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1s. per week for those of 14 years, of 1s. 6d. per week for those of 15 years, of 2s. per week for those of 16 years, of 2s. 6d. per week for those of 17 years, and of 3s. per week for those 18 years of age and over.
Soap and Candle Manufacture	Great Britain	3rd pay week in Aug.	Workpeople employed in soap and candle manufacture	Decrease of 2s. per week for workers 18 years of age and over, and proportionate decreases for juveniles. Minimum rates after change:—men 21 years and over: larger industrial centres, 65s.; Port Sunlight and Bromborough Pool, 72s.; other centres, 63s.; women 18 years and over: larger industrial centres, 35s. 6d.; other centres, 32s.

* Airdrie, Alexandria, Barrhead, Bellshill, Cambuslang, Clydebank, Coatbridge, Dumbarton, Dunoon, Falkirk, Greenock, Kilmarnock, Kirkintilloch, Larkhall, Milngavie, Motherwell, Paisley, Port Glasgow, Renfrew, Rothesay, Rutherglen, Shettleston, Strathaven, and Wishaw.
 † The towns affected besides London included the following, against each of which is inserted in brackets the new minimum rate for skilled grades: Biggleswade (1s. 3½d.), Chester (1s. 8d.), Derby (1s. 10½d.), Dover (1s. 9d.), Godalming (1s. 8d.), Guildford (1s. 8d.), Huddersfield (1s. 10½d.), Ipswich (1s. 8d.), Leicester (1s. 10½d.), Liverpool (1s. 11d.), Manchester (1s. 10½d.), Norwich (1s. 10d.), Oldham (1s. 10½d.), Plymouth (1s. 9d.). Maximum rates have been defined for Liverpool, Manchester and Oldham, which are now 2s. 3d. for Liverpool and 2s. 2d. for the other two towns.
 ‡ Rates varying from 3½d. to 5d. (4d. for most skilled men) in excess of the minimum rates are paid by certain firms, mainly in the West End.
 § The rates generally paid are 2d. per hour in excess of the above minimum rates.
 ¶ The decreases took effect under an agreement arrived at by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Cement Manufacturing Industry.
 ¶ The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Soap and Candle Trades Joint Industrial Council.
 * At Port Sunlight a rate of 38s. is paid after 1 year's service.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES.				
Baking and Confectionery Trades.	London (Metropolitan and City Police Area)	25 June	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades by members of the Incorporated Society of Principal Wholesale and Retail Bakers, Ltd., and by Co-operative Societies	Decreases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male bakers and confectioners, 2s. per week for allied workers, 1s. 3d. per week for adult females, 9d. per week for juveniles, and 5d. per day for jobbers. Minimum rates after change for adult male bakers and confectioners: forehands, 75s. 6d., 79s. 6d., or 83s. 6d.; singlehands, 71s. 6d.; secondhands and doughmakers, 69s. 6d., 73s. 6d., 75s. 6d.; ovenmen, machine minders, etc., 70s. 6d.; tablehands, 67s. 6d.
	London (Metropolitan and City Police Area)	27 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades by members of the Incorporated Society of Principal Wholesale and Retail Bakers, Ltd., and by Co-operative Societies	Increases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 2s. 6d. per week to adult male bakers and confectioners, 2s. per week to allied workers, 1s. 3d. per week to adult females, 9d. per week to juveniles, and 5d. per day to jobbers. Minimum rates after change for adult male bakers and confectioners: forehands, 78s. 82s., or 86s.; singlehands, 74s.; secondhands and doughmakers, 72s., 76s., or 78s.; ovenmen, machine minders, etc., 73s.; tablehands, 70s.
	Certain towns in Yorkshire*	25 July	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades by Co-operative Societies	Decrease of 4s. per week. Rates after change: males 21 and over: forehands, chergemen and secondhands, 81s.; tablehands and secondhands, 81s.; doughmakers, 78s.; bread packers, 66s.; tin greasers, cleaners, and other general workers, 61s.; jobbers (per full day), 12s. 8d. Adult females: forehands, 54s.; secondhands, 51s. 9d.; skilled workers, 46s. 11d.; unskilled workers, 41s.
	Manchester, Salford and surrounding districts†	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades	Decreases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 4s. per week for adult males, of 2s. 8d. per week for adult females and boys, and of 1s. 9d. per week for girls. Rates after change: adult males, forehands and ovenmen, 81s.; assistant ovenmen, or platers, secondhands and doughmakers, 78s.; other adult bakers, 76s.; firemen and stokers, 70s.; bread packers, 66s.; tin greasers, cleaners, and other general workers, 61s.; jobbers (per full day), 12s. 8d. Adult females: forehands, 54s.; secondhands, 52s.; other adult bakers, 50s. 8d.; bread packers, 44s.; tin greasers, cleaners, and other general workers, 40s. 8d.
Cocoa and Chocolate Manufacture	Birmingham and Midland District‡	13 Aug.	Males employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades	Decrease of 3s. per week for tablehands, platers and singlehands, and new scale of rates adopted for other workers. Minimum rates after change: foremen, 78s. or 73s.; doughmakers, singlehands and secondhands, 72s.; platers, 70s.; tablehands, 68s.
	Macclesfield, Leek, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Congleton, Crewe, Winnington, Sandbach and Potteries District (including Stoke-on-Trent, Burslem, Fenton, Hanley, Longton and Tunstall)	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the bread baking and confectionery trades	Decreases of 5s. per week for men 21 years of age and over; of 2s. 6d. per week for youths over 18 and for women, and of 1s. 3d. per week for youths and girls under 18 years. Minimum rates after change for adult males: forehands, 84s. or 81s.; singlehands, 79s.; secondhands, 77s.; machine-men, mixers, and ovenmen (where specially employed), 79s.; tablehands, 75s.
Seed Crushing Industry	Great Britain	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of cocoa and chocolate confectionery:— Males 21 years and over ...	Decreases of 2s. 6d. per week for timeworkers and of 25 per cent. of the advance granted in August, 1920, for pieceworkers. Minimum rates after change: dayworkers, 65s.; shiftworkers, 71s.
	Great Britain	1 Aug.	Males under 21 years ...	Decreases of from 6d. to 2s. 3d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 13s. 6d. under 15 years, increasing to 37s. 6d. at 18, and to 54s. 6d. at 20 years.
Milk Distributive Trade	Great Britain ...	1st pay day in Aug.	Females other than learners ...	Decreases of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 13s. 6d. under 15 years, increasing to 22s. 9d. at 16 years, and to 37s. 6d. at 18 years and over.
	Ireland ...	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the seed crushing and oil milling industry (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in the engineering and other trades)	Decreases of 3s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, and of 1s. 6d. per week for women and youths.
Milk Distributive Trade	Great Britain ...	1st pay day in Aug.	Workpeople employed in the milk distributive trade**:— Males: Clerks ...	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts, starting at 14s., 17s., and 18s. 6d. in Scales A, B and C†† respectively at under 15 years of age; 19s., 22s. 6d., and 25s. at 15 but under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 48s. 6d., 59s. 6d., and 65s. at 19 years and over.
	Ireland ...	1 Aug.	Roundsmen and shop assistants	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts, starting at 11s. 6d., 15s. 9d., and 15s. in Scales A, B and C†† respectively at under 15 years of age, 15s. 6d., 18s. 9d., and 20s. 6d. at 15 but under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 40s., 49s., and 53s. 3d. at 19 years of age and over.

* Viz., Bradford, Barnsley, Batley, Doncaster, Dewsbury, Hull, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hebden Bridge, Harrogate, Keighley, Leeds, Pontefract, Rotherham, Sheffield, Wakefield and York.
 † Including Manchester, Salford, Stockport, Didsbury, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Stretford, Urmston, Flixton, Irlam and Cadishead, Barton, Patricroft, Eccles, Swinton, Pendlebury, Prestwich, Middleton, Oldham, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Walkden, Hyde, Denton, Royton, Shaw, Crompton and Glossop.
 ‡ The rates for males are for day work, and operatives required to start work between 12 midnight and 6 a.m. are paid a special premium of 10s. per week for adults and 6s. 8d. per week for juveniles.
 § Including Brierley Hill, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Coventry, Darlaston, Dudley, Leamington, Rugby, Smethwick, Walsall, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Willenhall and Wolverhampton.
 ¶ The rates quoted are for day work; 1s. per night extra is added for each night worked, making 6s. per week extra on continuous night work.
 ¶ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee for the Cocoa, Chocolate, Sugar Confectionery and Jam Industries.
 ** See page 443 of August LABOUR GAZETTE.
 †† Scale A rates apply to areas administered by Rural District Councils, excluding any town or village with a population of 5,000 or more as returned at the last census.
 †† Scale B rates apply to all areas other than those specified in Scales A and C.
 †† Scale C rates apply to the areas of the County Boroughs of Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Londonderry and Waterford, and to the Dublin Metropolitan Police District, comprising the City of Dublin, the townships of Blackrock, Dalkey, Kingstown, Pembroke, Rathmines and Rathgar, and part of Killiney and Ballybrack.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued)

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES—(continued).				
Milk Distributive Trade (continued)	Ireland	1 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the milk distributive trade (contd.):— Males (contd.):— Other workers	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts, starting at 11s., 13s. 3d., and 14s. 9d. in Scales A, B and C* respectively at under 15 years of age, 15s., 17s. 9d., and 19s. 6d. at 15 but under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 38s. 3d., 46s. 9d., and 51s. at 19 years and over.
			Females:— Clerks	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts, starting at 10s., 11s. 6d., and 12s. 6d. in Scales A, B and C* respectively at under 15 years of age; 12s. 6d., 15s., and 16s. 6d. at 15 but under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 32s. 6d., 39s. 6d., and 43s. 6d. at 19 years and over.
			Roundswomen and shop assistants	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts, starting at 9s., 9s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. in Scales A, B and C* respectively at under 15 years of age, 10s. 3d., 12s. 6d., and 13s. 9d. at 15 but under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 25s. 9d., 32s. 6d., and 35s. 6d. at 19 years and over.
			Other workers	Scale of minimum weekly rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts, starting at 9s., 9s., and 9s. 9d. in Scales A, B and C* respectively at under 15 years, 10s. 3d., 12s., and 13s. at 15 but under 16 years, and increasing with each year of age to 25s. 3d., 31s., and 34s. 3d. at 19 years and over.
Basket Making	London	4 July	All workers	Overtime rates fixed under Trade Boards Acts for all time worked in excess of 48 hours per week.
			Basket makers employed on agricultural and market garden work	Decrease of 25 per cent. on existing rates.
			Workpeople employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades, and in hat leather manufacture:— Able-bodied men, 21 years of age and over:—	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers, and of 5 per cent. for pieceworkers. Basic hourly time rates after change for (a) skilled, (b) semi-skilled, and (c) unskilled men respectively—London district (within a 17-mile radius of Charing Cross) and Scotland: a, 1s. 7d.; b, 1s. 5d.; c, 1s. 3d.; London district (outside 17-mile radius of Charing Cross): a, 1s. 5d.; b, 1s. 3d.; c, 1s. 1d.; Lancashire district: a, 1s. 6d.; b, 1s. 4d.; c, 1s. 2d.; Yorkshire and North-Eastern Counties: a, 1s. 6d.; b, 1s. 4d.; c, 1s. 2d.; Northamptonshire and surrounding counties: a, 1s. 5d.; b, 1s. 3d.; c, 1s. 1d.; Walsall and Birmingham: a, 1s. 7d.; Worcester and Warwick: a, 1s. 5d.; b, 1s. 3d.; c, 1s. 1d.; hat leather workers: a, 1s. 5d.; b, 1s. 3d.; c, 1s. 1d.; Rural and remote districts: a, 1s. 4d.; b, 1s. 2d.; c, 1s.
			Women and youths	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers and equivalent decreases for pieceworkers.
Saddlers and collar makers	Decrease of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: saddlers, 1s. 8d.; collar makers, 1s. 10d.			
Saddlery, etc., Manufacture	Newcastle, Sunderland, and Durham Birmingham, Walsall, and District	1 Aug. 29 Aug.	Horse collar makers	Decrease of 25 per cent. in bonus payable on list of 1917, leaving wages 100 per cent. above the list.
			Workpeople employed in the manufacture of umbrellas and sunshades:— Cutters, framemakers, repairers and finishers	New scale of minimum rates adopted resulting in decreases of from 3d. to 2d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 1st year, 3d.; 4th year, 8d.; 7th year, 1s. 4d.; after seven years, 1s. 7d.
			Machinists and tippers	New scale of minimum rates adopted resulting in decreases of 3d. per hour for those in first, second and third six months, and third year in the trade (the rate for fourth six months in the trade remaining unchanged), and of 1d. per hour for those in fourth year in trade and those with over four years' experience. Piecework basis time rate reduced from 11d. to 10d. per hour. Minimum time rates after change: 1st six months, 2d.; 4th six months, 4d.; 4th year, 7d.; after 4 years, 9d.
			Boxers, ironers and tassellers	Decrease of 1d. per hour for those in their fourth year and after 4th year in the trade, the rates for those with less experience remaining unchanged. Minimum time rates after change: 1st six months, 2d.; 4th six months, 4d.; 4th year, 6d.; after 4 years, 8d.
Other Trades and Occupations	London, Manchester and Glasgow Districts	1st pay day after 8 Aug.	Packers and porters	New scale of minimum rates adopted resulting in decreases of 2d. per hour for those 18 to 19 years of age, 2d. for those 19 to 20, and 1d. per hour for those over 20 years, the rates for those under 18 years remaining unchanged. Minimum time rates after change: 14-15 years, 4d.; 16-17 years, 6d.; 18-19 years, 8d.; 20-21 years, 1s.; over 21 years, 1s. 2d.

* Scale A rates apply to areas administered by Rural District Councils, excluding any town or village with a population of 5,000 or more as returned at the last census. Scale B rates apply to all areas other than those specified in Scales A and C. Scale C rates apply to the areas of the County Boroughs of Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Londonderry and Waterford, and to the Dublin Metropolitan Police District, comprising the City of Dublin, the townships of Blackrock, Dalkey, Kingstown, Pembroke, Rathmines and Rathgar, and part of Killiney and Ballybrack. † The change took effect under an arrangement made between the Leather Producers' Association for England, Scotland and Wales, and the National Leather Trades Federation. ‡ Members of the United Society of Leather Producers.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued)

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES—(continued).				
Other Trades and Occupations (continued)	London	1st pay after 6 Aug.	Workpeople employed in the export packing trade	Decreases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 3s. 4d. per week for foremen, 2s. 10d. per week for charge hands, 2s. 8d. per week for bale packers (front men) and case packers (back men) and case packers' assistants, 2s. 5d. per week for receivers, 2s. 7d. per week for porters, and proportionate decreases for apprentices and boys. Rates after change: foremen, 92s. 8d.; charge hands, 79s. 8d.; bale packers (front men) and case packers, 75s. 4d.; bale packers (back men) and case packers' assistants, 70s. 6d.; receivers, 67s. 7d.; porters, 65s. 5d.
			Co-operative employees:— Distributive	Decreases of 3s. 6d. per week for males 21 years of age and over, of 2s. 6d. per week for females 21 years of age and over, of 1s. 9d. per week for juniors between 18 and 20 years, and of 1s. per week for juniors under 18 years of age. Minimum rates after change for Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Districts: men: skilled, 21 years 80s. 6d., 24 years 86s. 6d.; unskilled, 21 years 78s. 6d., 24 years 84s. 6d.; skilled women, 21 years and over, 51s.; juniors: males, 20s. at 14 years, increasing to 40s. 3d. at 18 years, and to 50s. 3d. at 20 years; females: 20s. at 14 years, increasing to 35s. 3d. at 18 years, and to 42s. 3d. at 20 years.
			Productive	Decrease of 4½ per cent. on rates paid previous to the increase granted as from July, 1920, leaving rates 8½ per cent. above these rates.
			Co-operative employees:— Male assistants (21 years and over)	Decreases of 5s. and 4s. per week for those under 23 years and 23 years and over respectively. Minimum rates after change: 21 years, 67s.; 22 years, 72s.; 23 years, 76s.
Other Trades and Occupations (continued)	Yorkshire, part of Lancashire, Cheshire, North Wales, and parts of North Staffordshire, North Derbyshire and Westmorland	1st pay day after 20 Aug.	Female assistants (21 years and over)	Decrease of 5s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 45s.
			Junior male assistants	Decreases varying according to age of from 2s. to 4s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 years, 16s.; 16, 21s.; 18, 37s.; 20 years, 49s.
			Junior female assistants	Decreases varying according to age of from 1s. to 5s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 years, 16s.; 16, 21s.; 18, 31s.; 20 years, 41s.
			Branch managers	Decrease of 4s. per week in minimum rate. Minimum rate after change, 83s., with graduated scale according to sales.
			Branch manageresses	Decrease of 5s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 53s.; buyers, 6s. extra.
			Male clerks	Decrease of 6s. per week for those under 23 years of age, and for charge clerks, and of 4s. 6d. for those 23 years and over. Minimum rates after change: charge clerks, 82s.; others, 21 years, 67s.; 22 years, 72s.; 23 years, 80s.
			Female clerks	Decrease of 4s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 21 years, 46s.; 22 years, 50s.
			Dressmakers and milliners	Decreases varying according to age of from 1s. to 5s. per week, the rate for those 21 and over remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: 14 years, 16s.; 16, 21s.; 18, 31s.; 21 years, 45s.
			Skilled warehousemen	Decreases of 4s. per week for head warehousemen, and of 5s. per week for others. Minimum rates after change: head warehousemen, 83s.; others, 21 years 67s., 22 years 72s.
			Porters, caretakers, etc.	Decrease of 5s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 67s.
Butchers employed by Co-operative Societies:—	South Yorkshire	Pay day between 8 and 13 Aug.	Managers	Minimum weekly rate adopted of 90s. for those taking less than £60 per week, plus 1s. for each additional £10 takings up to £150 per week, and 1s. for each additional £20 takings from £150 to £300 per week, after which special arrangements to be made.
			First hands in pork making-up department and slaughtermen	Minimum weekly rate of 97s. 6d. adopted.
Other workers	Scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, starting at 14s. at 14 years, and increasing with each year of age to 19s. at 16 years, 37s. at 18 years, and to 70s. at 21 years and over; second hands and first hands to receive 75s. and 80s. per week respectively.			

* The change took effect under a Decision of the Industrial Court to which the Co-operative Union, Ltd., Northern Section, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers were parties. The Societies classified according to their respective districts are as follows:—No. 1 District.—North Northumberland District.—Amble, Ashington, Belside, Bedlington, Blyth, Broomhill, Cambolis, Guide Post, Hedgeley, Newbiggin by-the-Sea, New Delaval, Newsham, Pegswood, Radcliffe, Togston Terrace and Broomhill, Tweedside and Widdrington. No. 2 District.—South Northumberland.—Backworth, Coxlodge and Fawdon, Cramlington, Newcastle-Tyne, North Shields, St. Anthony's, Seaton Delaval, Seghill, Shiremoor, Walker on Tyne, Wallsend and Willington Quay and Howden. No. 3 District.—Cumberland and Westmorland.—Aspatria, Broughton Moor, Carlisle, Cleator Moor, Egremont, Maryport, Penrith, and Workington. No. 4 District.—West Durham and South Northumberland.—Allendale, Blaydon, Burnopfield, Coanwood, Consett, Esh-Winning, Fourstones, Newbrough, Greenhead, Haltwhistle, Leadgate, Swalwell, Tantobie, Throokley, West Wylam and Prudhoe. No. 5 District.—East Durham.—Birtley, Bolton, Chester-le-Street, Craghead and Holmside, Felling, Gateshead, Haswell, Hebburn, Jarrow, Marsden, Murton, Pelton Fell, Ryhope and Silksworth, Seaham Harbour, South Hetton, South Shields, Sunderland, Tyne Dock, West Pelton and Windy Nook. No. 6 District.—South Durham.—Bishop Auckland, Brandon, Eysbothies, Cornforth, Coxhoe, Crook, Easington Lane, Hetton Downs, Low Moorley, Newbottle, New Brancepeth, Pitlington, Stanhope and Weardale, Station Town, Tow Law, Tudhoe Colliery, West Cornforth and Welington. No. 7 District.—South Durham and North Riding of Yorkshire.—Darlington, East Cleveland, Guisbrough, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Skelton and Stockton-on-Tees. † The decreases shown apply to Districts Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7. In the case of No. 3 District the advances arranged to operate as from July, 1920, were not generally paid in full, and under the terms of Decision No. 684 of the Industrial Court (see p. 505), the present decreases were to bear the same proportion to the full decreases as the increases granted as from July, 1920, bore to the full increases arranged.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Tramways Undertakings	Great Britain* ...	First full pay period in Aug.	Workpeople in the employment of tramways undertakings (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in some other industry)	<i>Sliding scale method of determining wages adopted, under which wages are regulated in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index numbers of retail prices. The first adjustment under the scale resulted in a decrease of 3s. per week for workpeople 18 years of age and over, and of 1s. 6d. per week for those under 18 years.*</i>
	Home Counties† ...	July and Aug.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed at waterworks undertakings	<i>Decreases in the minimum rates of 5s. 6d. per week for those in Grade C areas; and of 4s. 6d. per week for those in Grade A areas. Rates after change for areas C, B and A respectively:—Labourers, 62s. 9d., 58s., and 53s. 3d.; joiners, 64s. 6d., 60s., and 55s. 6d.; meter readers, 65s. 6d., 61s., and 56s. 6d.; meter readers and repairers, 70s. 6d., 64s., and 59s. 6d.; stokers, 67s., 60s., and 55s. 6d.; turncocks, service layers of communication pipes and engine drivers, 72s., 65s., and 60s. 6d.†</i>
	Richmond ...	23 July	Able-bodied male manual workers employed at waterworks	<i>Decrease in the minimum rates of 6s. per week. Rates after change: labourers, 65s. 2d. to 72s.; stokers and engine drivers, 74s.; turncocks, 69s. to 73s. per week.</i>
	Romford ...	9 July	Able-bodied male manual workers employed at waterworks	<i>Minimum weekly rates adopted of 55s. for labourers, and of from 65s. to 70s. per week for other classes.</i>
Waterworks Undertakings	London (Metropolitan Water Board)	1st pay after 5 Aug.	Metropolitan Water Board's employees (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in some other industry)	<i>Decreases, in "cost of living" bonus, of 2s. 4½d. per week for men 21 years and over, and for youths, 18 to 21 years, doing men's work; and of 1s. 1½d. per week for other youths 18 to 21 years of age. Total bonuses after change: men, 41s. 1½d. per week; youths, 35s. 1½d. (doing men's work) and 29s. 4½d. per week (on other work). Rates after change exclusive of "cost of living" bonuses: trenchmen, 28s. to 29s.; joiners, 29s. to 35s.; stokers, 32s. to 35s.; enginemen—drivers, 37s. to 40s.; assistant drivers, 32s. to 35s.; cleaners, 29s. to 31s.; general labourers, 28s. per week. (See Decision No. 679 on p. 505.)</i>
	South Wales and Monmouthshire‡	15 Aug.	Workpeople employed at waterworks undertakings (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in some other industry)	<i>Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: working foremen and water-fitters, 2s.; meter readers and mains service layers, 1s. 11d.; turncocks and waste inspectors, 1s. 10d.; semi-skilled labourers, water fitters' helpers and drain flushers, 1s. 9½d.; ordinary labourers, 1s. 9d. per hour.</i>
Gas Undertakings	Birmingham, Smethwick, Walsall and West Bromwich	1 Aug.	Gas fitters (fully qualified) employed in Corporation Gas Departments	<i>Decrease of 1½d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s. 0½d.).</i>
	Administrative County of London §	1st pay day in Aug.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities	<i>Decreases, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼ths or ½ths of the original bonuses of 160 per cent. on the first 30s. of basic rates, of 70 per cent. on next 50s. of basic rates, and of 45 per cent. on any amount of basic rates in excess of 80s. per week, fixed by the District Joint Industrial Council. Rates after change (including amended bonuses). Adult males:—Grade A (base rate of 30s. per week): wood block cleaners, messengers, bath, lavatory, chapel and messroom attendants, gatekeepers, scavengers, pickers and rag sorters, flagmen (steam rollers), mark keepers, watchmen, lamp-lighters, etc., 72s. 6d. or 72s. 9d. Grade B (base rate of 32s.): wharfmen, yardmen, dust collectors, labourers (ordinary and parks, cemetery and depot labourers), carmen, gulleymen, stablemen, gardeners, etc., 76s. 3d. Grade C (base rate of 34s.): tar sprayers, scavenging ganoers, asphalters, refuse destructor trimmers, propagating gardeners, groundsmen, rammermen, stokers, etc., 79s. 4d. Grade D (base rate of 36s.): clinker foremen, sewer-men, brick and flint-making plant gangers and timekeepers, 82s. 1d. or 82s. 5d. Grade E (base rate of 38s.): sewer gangers, assistant horsekeepers, motor drivers (capable of doing running repairs) and steam roller drivers, 85s. 1d. or 85s. 7d. Grade F (base rate of 40s.): wharfkeepers, foremen—sewermen, horsekeepers and refuse destructor charge hands, 89s. per week. Women (base rate of 6d. per hour or 23s. 6d. per week), 1s. 2½d. per hour or 57s. 1d. per week.¶</i>
Local Authority Services	City of London ...	1st pay in Aug.	Manual workers employed in Public Health Department	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼ths of the original bonuses of 160 per cent. on the first 30s. of basic rates, etc.**</i>
	Lewisham, Leyton (U.D.C.), Steyne and Stoke Newington	1st pay in Aug.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼ths of the original bonus of 160 per cent. on first 30s. of basic rates, etc.**</i>

* The decrease took effect as a result of a recommendation by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Tramways Industry. It was provided that in the case of any undertaking where the total war wage increase of 40s. (exclusive of basis rate increase) was not being paid, no reduction in wages was to be made until the rate of increase is equal to the current general increase obtaining in the industry. It is known that the decrease did not take effect in the case of the following Municipal Undertakings:—Colchester, Erith, Glasgow, Gloucester, Great Yarmouth, Lancaster, Leicester, Rotherham, West Ham and York. In the case of Paisley, the reduction is to take effect in three stages, viz., 1s. per week in September, 1s. per week in October, and a further 1s. per week in November.

† The decreases described took effect as a result of a recommendation by the Home Counties District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry. The following undertakings are known to have followed the recommendation:—Grade A.—Eastbourne (pumping station employees). Grade B.—Ashford, Dorking, Newhaven and Seaford, Redhill, Sevenoaks and Southall. Grade C.—Brighton, Eastbourne (distributing staff), Folkestone and Wafford.

‡ The decrease took effect as a result of a recommendation by the South Wales and Monmouthshire District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry in the following localities:—Cardiff, Llanelly, Neath (Corporation and R.D.C. Undertakings), Aberdare, Mountain Ash and Pontypridd and Rhonda Valley Districts.

§ Including the London County Council and the Borough Councils of Battersea, Chelsea, Deptford, Fulham, Greenwich, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, Lambeth, Southwark and Wandsworth.

¶ Including the Westminster City Council and the Borough Council of Kensington.

** The rates quoted are those recognised by a majority of the Councils concerned, but it is known that in a few cases slightly higher or lower rates are being paid. A reduction of ¼ths (in lieu of ½ths) was made in May at Westminster and Kensington, leaving only ½ths reduction to be made, in connection with the current adjustment, to bring the wages into line with those generally paid under the District Joint Industrial Council's scheme.

*** The Council adopted the cost of living sliding scale arrangement recommended by the London District Joint Industrial Council (see above for further particulars) for its non-trading departments' employees, but applied it to their own grades with basic rates, arranged by local agreement, of different amounts from those quoted above.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Local Authority Services (continued)	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Darlington, Chester-le-Street, and certain other Authorities in Northumberland and Durham*	1st pay in Aug.†	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of 1d. per hour. [Particulars of the minimum rates previously in force are given on p. 318 of the June LABOUR GAZETTE.]</i>
	Wallsend ...	1st pay in Aug.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in Corporation non-trading departments	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼d. per hour.</i>
	Various Authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire‡	1st full pay in Aug.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in non-trading departments of local authorities	<i>Decrease of 1d. per hour. [Particulars of the minimum rates previously in force are given on p. 374 of the July LABOUR GAZETTE.]</i>
	Hull ...	11 Aug.	Drivers, depot men and boy helpers engaged in night soil and refuse collection, ambulance attendants, drivers and disinfectors, drainage attendants, rat catchers, hospital lodgekeepers and porters, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers	<i>Decreases of 3s. per week for boy helpers and of 4s. 6d. per week for other classes. Rates after change: drivers and depot men, 77s. 9d. and 73s. 10d. (min.); boy helpers, 44s. 6d. and 34s.; ambulance attendants, drivers and disinfectors, 95s. 10d., 85s. 10d., and 75s. 10d.; labourers, 73s. 10d. per week.</i>
	Leeds ...	1 July	Paviors and street masons employed in the Highways and Permanent Ways Department	<i>Decrease of 2d. per hour (2s. 2d. to 2s.).</i>
	York ...	1 Aug.	Manual workers employed by Corporation	<i>Increase of 1d. per hour (2s. to 2s. 1d.).</i>
	Middlesex (County Council)	1st pay day in Aug.	Adult male manual workers employed in non-trading departments	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼ths of the original bonus of 160 per cent. on minimum basic rates.</i>
	Hanwell (U.D.C.) ...	5 Aug.	Council employees ...	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼ths of the original bonus of 160 per cent. on a minimum basic rate of 26s. per week.</i>
	Ilford (U.D.C.) ...	1 Aug.	Manual workers employed in non-trading departments	<i>Decrease, under "cost of living" sliding scale, of ¼ths of the original bonus of 160 per cent. on minimum basic rates.</i>
	Gloucestershire, Somersetshire and Wiltshire§	First pay day after 1 Aug.¶	Able-bodied manual workers employed in non-trading departments	<i>Decreases in minimum rates fixed, under Area Grading Scheme, of 3s. 6d. per week for Grade A districts, 3s. per week for Grade B I., B II., and C I. districts, of 2s. per week for Grade C II. districts, and of 1s. per week for Grade D districts. Minimum rates after change: Grades A., 66s. 6d.; B I., 62s.; B II., 59s.; C I., 54s.; C II., 51s.; and D, 46s.</i>
S. Wales (including Cardiganshire, Radnorshire, Pembrokeshire, Carmarthen-shire, Brecknock-shire and Glamorganshire) and Monmouthshire**	15 Aug.	Able-bodied male manual workers employed in non-trading departments	<i>Decrease of 1d. per hour for men who received the advances granted in August, 1920, and January, 1921. Rates after change: working gangers, 2s. per hour; central yardmen, quarrymen, engine motor lorry, steam motor and steam roller drivers, 1s. 11d.; pipe layers and propagators, 1s. 10½d.; horse drivers, tar mixers and scarifiers, 1s. 10d.; ashmen, drain flushers, drivers' helpers, grave diggers, sanitary inspectors' helpers and semi-skilled labourers, 1s. 9½d.; fumigators, gully cleaners, lamplighters, sweepers and ordinary labourers, 1s. 9d. per hour. (See Award on p. 505.)</i>	

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING AUGUST, 1921.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change.
Quarrying	Clitheroe and District	11 Aug.	Limestone quarrymen ...	<i>Increase of ½ hours per day (42½ to 47 per week)††</i>
Local Authority Services	York ...	4 Aug.	Corporation employees ...	<i>Working hours changed from 47 per week all the year round to 48 per week for a period of 39 weeks and 44 per week for the remaining 13 weeks††</i>

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN SEPTEMBER.

The following bodies of workpeople are included among those for whom reductions in wages have been reported to the Department as having been agreed to take effect in September:—Building trade operatives in Great Britain generally; coal miners‡‡ in most districts; heating and domestic engineers; flax spinners in the North of Ireland; jute workers; coal tippers; agricultural labourers; stationery and envelope makers; flour millers; tanners and curriers; workpeople in wholesale textile warehouses in London; workpeople employed by gas and electricity undertakings; manual workers employed by local authorities in the East Midlands and South Wales and Monmouthshire.

* The Authorities included, so far as known to the Department, and their respective Grades are as follows:—Grade A.—Corporations of Newcastle-on-Tyne and Darlington; Urban District Councils of Chester-le-Street, Hebburn, Newburn and Longbenton; Rural District Councils of Easington, Houghton-le-Spring and South Shields. Grade B.—Urban District Councils of Hetton and Willington, Rural District Council of Sedgfield. In some cases the minimum rates adopted are slightly different from the Grade minima.

† At Hebburn and Hetton the change took effect from 1st September.

‡ The reductions took effect generally from the date shown, as a result of recommendations made by the West Riding of Yorkshire Joint Industrial Council. The authorities which are reported to have adopted the new minimum rates recommended and their respective grades are as follows:—Grade A.—Huddersfield, Rotherham and Wakefield. Grade B.—Bingley, Castleford, Elland, Harrogate, Keighley, Mirfield, Normanton, Rothwell, Skipton and Todmorden. Grade C.—Ardwickle Street, Bolton-upon-Deane, Darfield, Holmthorpe, Goley, Whitwood and Yeadon. Grade D.—Keighley (Rural) and Kiveton Park. In the case of Wakefield (Grade A), the decrease takes effect in instalments of ¼d. per hour, spread over a period of three months; at Todmorden and Bingley, Grade B rates were adopted only for certain classes of workpeople.

§ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

¶ The decreases took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for the Western Division. The authorities which are reported to have adopted the new minimum rates recommended by the Council and their respective grades are as follows:—Grade A.—Bristol. Grade B I.—Gloucester, Taunton, Warmley R.D.C. (part of area). Grade B II.—Yeovil. Grade C I.—Chippenham, Warmley R.D.C. (part of area). Grade C II.—Wellington. Grade D.—Rural District Councils of Chard, Highworth, Keynsham, Mere, Northleach and Wincanton.

** In some cases the new minimum rates were adopted in July.

‡‡ Including Aberavon, Abertillery, Aberdare, Abercarn, Abersychan, Barry, Bedwas and Machen, Bedwellty, Blaenavon, Bridgend, Cardiff, Glamorgan (County Council), Gelligaer, Glyncoerwg, Llantrisant and Llantwit Vayre, Monmouth (County Council), Merthyr Tydfil, Maesteg, Margam, Mountain Ash, Newport, Neath (Corporation and R.D.C.), Nantyglo and Blaia, Pontypridd, Pontardawe, Rhymney, Risca, Rhondda, Swansea, Tredegar, Vaynor and Penderyn.

†† See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

‡‡ In the Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire area coal miners are reported to have received an increase in September.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.*

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment during August, 1921, was 155, as compared with 131 in the previous month and 232 a year ago.

The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops— (continued):	
Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	1	Non-Textile—continued:	
Engine Drivers ...	1	Gas ...	4
Firemen ...	1	Wood ...	1
Guards (Passenger) ...	1	Clay, Stone, etc. ...	2
Permanent Waymen ...	7	Chemicals ...	2
Porters ...	1	Laundries ...	2
Shunters ...	2	Food ...	3
Mechanics ...	3	Drink ...	2
Labourers ...	...	Paper, Printing, etc. ...	1
Miscellaneous ...	7	Other Non-Textile Industries ...	10
Contractors' Servants ...	2		
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ...	25	TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ...	41
MINES.		ACCIDENTS REPORTED UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5—	
Underground ...	59	Docks, Wharves and Quays ...	8
Surface ...	9	Warehouses ...	2
TOTAL, MINES ...	68	Buildings to which Act applies ...	8
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep ...		TOTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5 ...	18
Factories and Workshops.		Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 ...	
Textile—			
Cotton ...	...	
Wool and Worsted ...	1	Total (excluding Seamen) ...	155
Other Textiles ...	1		
Non-Textile—			
Extraction of Metals ...	1		
Conversion of Metals ...	2		
Founding of Metals ...	2		
Marine, Locomotive, and Motor Engineering ...	3		
Ship and Boat Building ...	6		

* Based on Home Office and Ministry of Transport returns.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases* of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during August, 1921, was 25. One death due to lead poisoning in indiarubber works was reported, and one due to anthrax. One fatal case of lead poisoning among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during August, but notification of these cases is not obligatory. The cases of poisoning and anthrax are analysed below:—

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.		(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.	
Among Operatives engaged in—			
Smelting of Metals ...	5	Mercurial Poisoning—	
Plumbing and Soldering ...	...	Barometer and Thermometer Making ...	...
Printing ...	2	Other Industries ...	...
File Cutting and Hardening ...	...	Phosphorus Poisoning ...	...
Tinning of Metals ...	...	Arsenic Poisoning ...	...
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	...	Toxic Jaundice—	
White and Red Lead Works ...	...	Arseniuretted Hydrogen Gas ...	...
†Pottery ...	...	Other ...	...
Vitreous Enamelling ...	1	Epitheliomatous Ulceration—	
Electric Accumulator Works ...	4	Paraffin ...	...
Paint and Colour Works	3	Pitch ...	1
Indiarubber Works ...	1	Tar ...	...
Coach and Car Painting	2	Chrome Ulceration ...	...
Shipbuilding ...	...	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF POISONING ...	1
Paint used in other Industries ...	1	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—	
Other Industries ...	2	Wool ...	...
TOTAL OF ABOVE... ...	23	Handling of Horsehair ...	...
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING ...	1	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ...	...
		Other Industries ...	1
		TOTAL ANTHRAX ...	1

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

† Both persons affected in the Pottery industry were females.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons relieved on one day in August, 1921, in the 31 selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 306 per 10,000 of the population, showing an increase of 1 per 10,000 on the previous month, and of 172 per 10,000 on a year ago.

Compared with July, the total number relieved increased by 2,176 (or 0.4 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief increased by 991 (or 0.9 per cent.), and the number of outdoor recipients increased by 1,185 (or 0.3 per cent.). Ten districts showed decreases, and twenty-one districts showed increases. The greatest changes were decreases in the Sheffield district (334 per 10,000), and in the Cardiff and Swansea district (127 per 10,000).

Compared with August, 1920, the total number relieved increased by 307,319 (or 129.1 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief increased by 11,450 (or 10.9 per cent.), while the number of outdoor recipients increased by 295,869 (or 223.1 per cent.). Every district showed an increase, the greatest being in the Sheffield district (817 per 10,000), in the Stockton and Tees district (505 per 10,000), in the Birmingham district (435 per 10,000), and in the East Metropolitan district (426 per 10,000). Eleven districts showed increases ranging from 102 to 331 per 10,000, and sixteen showed increases ranging from 13 to 72 per 10,000 of population.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Number of persons in receipt of poor-law relief on one day in August, 1921.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
<i>Metropolis.</i>						
West District ..	8,596	5,736	14,322	178	+ 4	+ 56
North District ..	10,137	17,812	27,949	282	+ 15	+132
Central District ..	2,655	2,126	4,781	376	+ 14	+102
East District ..	9,543	32,818	42,361	652	+ 52	+426
South District ..	18,653	48,805	67,458	348	+ 30	+190
TOTAL, Metropolis ..	49,574	107,297	156,871	348	+ 25	+185
West Ham ..	4,073	36,105	40,178	487	+ 36	+331
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District ..	2,271	10,120	12,391	241	+ 17	+111
Stockton and Tees District ..	1,056	15,954	17,010	636	– 95	+505
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ..	3,524	3,651	7,175	85	– 1	+ 20
Wigan District ..	1,646	7,622	9,268	202	– 3	+ 71
Manchester District ..	8,172	24,713	32,885	306	+ 2	+199
Liverpool District ..	9,679	21,886	31,565	264	+ 24	+109
Bradford District ..	1,757	5,123	6,880	182	+ 35	+104
Hullifield and Huddersfield ..	1,140	3,948	5,088	130	+ 26	+ 62
Leeds District ..	2,197	5,028	7,225	147	– 7	+ 55
Barnsley District ..	841	4,611	5,452	160	– 7	+ 27
Sheffield District ..	2,635	45,127	47,762	921	– 334	+817
Hull District ..	1,701	11,452	13,153	391	+ 17	+208
North Staffordshire ..	1,685	4,463	6,148	145	– 12	+ 25
Nottingham District ..	1,961	4,900	6,861	139	+ 3	+129
Leicester District ..	1,115	2,313	3,428	141	+ 10	+ 37
Wolverhampton District ..	2,980	22,810	25,790	357	+ 21	+252
Birmingham District ..	6,477	40,060	46,537	538	+ 70	+435
Bristol District ..	2,553	3,456	6,009	150	+ 10	+ 28
Cardiff and Swansea ..	2,138	13,732	15,870	330	–127	+179
TOTAL "Other Districts" ..	55,523	250,999	306,522	294	– 11	+179
SCOTLAND.†						
Glasgow District ..	4,109	20,042	24,151	249	– 2	+ 52
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	708	2,410	3,118	156	+ 2	+ 35
Edinburgh & Leith Dist.	1,507	4,877	6,384	157	+ 6	+ 30
Dundee and Dunfermline	690	2,361	3,021	149	– 3	+ 30
Aberdeen ..	454	2,028	2,482	144	+ 2	+ 13
Coatbridge and Airdrie ..	333	2,344	2,677	248	+ 5	+ 72
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts ..	7,771	34,062	41,833	203	+ 1	+ 42
TOTAL for above 31 Dis-	116,946	428,463	545,409	306	+ 1	+172

* These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

‡ The numbers included for the Sheffield Union do not cover changes which have taken place since 23rd July, 1921.

OFFICIAL NOTICES, ETC.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

Building and Allied Trades.

PAINTERS—ALTON AND DISTRICT.—Alton Master Builders' Association v. National Builders' Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society; National Painters' Society. Decision—A rate of 1s. 8d. an hour be paid to the workers concerned from the date of the operatives resuming work to 1st August, 1921; 1s. 7d. an hour from 1st August to 1st September, 1921; and 1s. 6½d. an hour from and after 1st September, 1921. Issued 15th August, 1921. (680)

MASONS—ELGIN AND DISTRICT.—Building and Monumental Workers' Association of Scotland v. Elgin and District Master Masons' Association. Decision—A reduction of 2d. an hour on rate of 1s. 11d. agreed in August, 1920. New rate of 1s. 9d. an hour shall operate from 1st September, 1921, and be subject to variation every six months at 1st February and 1st August, according to changes in the official cost of living index number. The present practice in the district as regards working hours to remain undisturbed. Lodging allowance to be dealt with by agreement between the parties concerned. Claim for double time for holidays not established. Issued 26th August, 1921. (683)

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and other Metal Trades.

RAILWAY ELECTRICAL WORKERS—LONDON DISTRICT.—National Union of Railwaymen; Electrical Trades Union v. Negotiating Committee of Railway General Managers. Decision—The rates of electrical fitters, electricians, electrical wiremen, plumber joiners, armature winders and their assistant mates are not altered by decision 648 or 649 of the Court. Issued 19th August, 1921. (681)

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

CHEMICAL WORKERS.—Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association v. Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union; National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks; National Federation of Women Workers; National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers; National Union of General Workers; Workers' Union; National Drug and Chemical Union. Decision—In substitution of the rates payable under the agreement dated 7th March, 1921, there shall be paid the following:—Men aged 21 years and over: Classes I., II. and III., 68s., 65s., 58s. a week respectively. Women aged 18 years and over: Classes I., II., III. and IV., 39s., 37s., 34s. 6d., 31s. 6d. a week respectively. Males under 15 years of age, 15s. a week; males 15 to 20 years, 20s. to 45s. a week; females under 15 years of age, 12s. 6d. a week; females 15 to 17 years, 16s. 6d. to 24s. 6d. a week. Effective from first pay day in August, 1921. Issued 3rd August, 1921. (677)

CHEMICAL PLUMBERS—ROYAL NAVAL CORDITE FACTORY, HOLTON HEATH.—United Operative Plumbers' and Domestic Engineers' Association v. Admiralty. Decision—Those men who on engagement were promised the London rate are entitled to be paid 2s. 5½d. per hour as from 31st July, 1920. Men engaged locally, to whom no express promise was made, are not entitled to any increase on their present rates. Issued 4th August, 1921. (678)

Public Utility Services.

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD v. National Union of Waterworks Employees; National Union of General Workers; National Union of Corporation Workers; Workers' Union; National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motor-men and Electrical Workers; Municipal Employees' Association; National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Decision—The terms of the Court's decision, No. 411 of 26th July, 1920, shall be revised to the extent that as from the beginning of the first pay period following date of issue the war bonus payable shall be 41s. 1½d. a week, and such bonus shall vary with the official index number of the cost of living in accordance with the scheme recommended by the Joint Industrial Council. Issued 5th August, 1921. (679)

BRICKLAYERS, GAS INDUSTRY—GLASGOW DISTRICT.—Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers v. Federation of Gas Employers (Scotland). Decision—The claim that bricklayers employed in gas undertakings in the Glasgow district should be paid the rate of wages agreed to be paid in Scottish steel works (and already paid by Glasgow Corporation Gas Department) is not established. Issued 22nd August, 1921. (682)

Miscellaneous Trades.

CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES—NORTHERN SECTION.—National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers v. Co-operative Union, Limited, Northern Section. Decision—The Court decides that a reduction in wages shall be made as follows:—Adult males, 7s. a week; adult females, 5s. a week; juniors 18 to 20 years of age, 3s. 6d. a week; juniors under 18,

2s. a week. Workers on piece or time rates: 8½ per cent. (1d. in 1s.) on the rates payable prior to 2nd November, 1920, leaving 4½ per cent. (½d. in 1s.) still payable on such rates. Reduction to be made as to one-half from 4th July, 1921, and in full from 5th September, 1921. These reductions will take full effect only in the case of those societies that granted in full the advances provided by the agreement of 2nd November, 1920. In cases where full advances were not granted the reductions to bear the same proportion to the full reduction as the advances granted bore to the full advance. Issued 26th August, 1921. (684)

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

Public Utility Services.

MUNICIPAL WORKERS: SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE.—The two sides of the Provincial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers) for South Wales and Monmouthshire. Difference—Proposal made to reduce wages by 4d. per hour. Arbitrator—Mr. F. H. McLeod, C.B. Award—It was decided that there should be a reduction of 4d. by four equal instalments, viz.: 1d. from 15th August; 1d. from 12th September; 1d. from 10th October; and 1d. from 14th November. These reductions would leave the wages of the ordinary labourer as from 14th November at £3 10s. 6d. per week of 47 hours, or the same amount as before the award of August, 1920 (see LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1920, page 519). The reductions are only to apply to men who received advances of August, 1920, and January, 1921, respectively. Some men may have received the August, 1920, advance and not that of January, 1921. In the case of these men the two first instalments of the reduction only should take effect. Issued 8th August, 1921. (I.R. 112/73.)

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Building and Allied Trades.

CARPENTERS: BOURNEMOUTH.—National Federation of Building Trade Operatives v. Bournemouth and District Master Builders' Association (representing Messrs. J. & A. Steane). Difference—As to the employment of three carpenters whose membership of the Union had lapsed owing to non-payment of arrears of subscriptions. Agreement—It was decided that two of the men had been re-employed by the firm on the understanding that they would renew their Union membership, and that the firm should see that this undertaking was carried out. Agreed 22nd August, 1921. (I.R. 1952.)

YARDMEN, ASPHALTE TRADE: LONDON.—National Union of General Workers v. Val de Travers Asphalt Paving Company, Limited, London. Difference—As to a proposed reduction by 1d. per hour of the wages of the men concerned. Agreement—The wages of the yardmen should be adjusted to conform with the terms of an agreement operative as from and including the 5th August, 1921, providing for the regulation of wages of asphalters by a sliding scale dependent on the cost of living. Agreed 31st August, 1921. (I.R. 2022.)

Mining and Quarrying.

QUARRY WORKERS AND SETT-MAKERS: WEST OF SCOTLAND.—National Amalgamated Union of Quarry Workers and Sett-makers and the West of Scotland Quarry Masters' Association. Difference—Proposal by the employers for a general 10 per cent. reduction in wages. Agreement—It was decided (1) that the old Bill of Prices, less 10 per cent., should remain in operation until 31st March, 1922, and (2) that work should be resumed on 5th August. Agreed 4th August, 1921. (I.R. 1169.)

Engineering Trades.

PATTERNMAKERS: STAFFORD.—United Patternmakers' Association and the Amalgamated Engineering Union v. W. H. Dorman and Co., Ltd., Engine Specialists, Stafford. Difference—As to a reduction from £6 1s. 6d. to £4 11s. 6d. in the wages of pattern-makers. Agreement—A rate of 50s., plus 26s. 6d., plus 12½ per cent., should be paid to the men concerned. It was agreed that the wages question could again be raised when trade conditions improved. It was decided that a certain man who had come from a distance to take up a job offered by the firm should be paid his fare home and a week's wages in lieu of notice, in order to give preference of employment to the firm's original employees. Agreed 16th August, 1921. (I.R. 1951.)

Transport Trades.

ROAD TRANSPORT WORKERS: PLYMOUTH.—Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union v. Plymouth and District Road Transport Employers' Association. Difference—As to a proposed reduction of wages. Agreement—It was decided that the Association should withdraw the demand for a reduction in wages until the "Class B" rate for Single Horse Drivers was reduced to 62s. or less per week, under the general agreement made on the 24th June, 1921, between the National Road Transport Employers'

Federation and the National Transport Workers' Federation. Agreed 3rd August, 1921. (I.R. 1177/18.)

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

UPHOLSTERERS: LONDON.—Amalgamated Union of Upholsterers v. Barratt and Lovegrove, London. Difference—As to the dismissal of four employees, on the grounds of alleged low output. Agreement—A task times list for work undertaken by the firm was agreed to, to operate for twelve months from the date of agreement. Any question arising in the future should be subject to joint negotiations, and no strike or lock-out should take place until fourteen days' notice has been given by either side. Signed 12th August, 1921. (I.R. 1306/4.)

BLIND MAKERS: LONDON DISTRICT.—Amalgamated Union of Upholsterers v. Association of Blind Makers. Difference—As to a proposed reduction of wages. Agreement—The wages of bench hands, fixers and fixers' mates should be reduced by 1½d. per hour, the new rates being 1s. 10½d., 1s. 9½d. and 1s. 6½d. per hour respectively. The wages of women should remain at 1s. per hour. The working hours should be as follows:—From March to July, 50 per week; from August to October, 48 per week; and from November to February, 42 per week. Overtime should be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter for the first two hours, time and a half for the next two hours and double time thereafter. Work on Saturday afternoons should be paid for at the rate of time and a half for the first two hours and double time thereafter until recognised starting time on Monday morning. Bank Holidays and Christmas Day should count the same as Sundays. Men sent to country jobs and not returning the same day should be allowed expenses at the rate of 5s. per night. Men sent to jobs 12 miles and over from the terminal station, as per "A.B.C." Railway Guide, should be allowed 1s. 6d. per day. Effective as regards new rates as from the first pay day following 20th August. These new rates should remain in operation for six months from that date, at the end of which period joint negotiations should be opened with a view to a further revision of wages. Signed 13th August, 1921. (I.R. 1852.)

Chemical Trades.

CHEMICAL WORKERS: GREAT BRITAIN.—Chemical Employers' Federation v. Unions comprising the Workers' Side of the Chemical Trade Joint Industrial Council. Difference—As to a proposed reduction of wages. Agreement—The wages of the workpeople concerned should be reduced by 1½d. per hour as from the 1st August and by a further ½d. per hour as from the 1st October. No further alteration of wages should take place until 1st January, 1922. Agreed 26th August, 1921. (I.R. 457/4.)

Public Utility Services.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WORKER: CHELMSFORD.—Electrical Trades Union v. Chelmsford Electricity Supply Corporation, Limited. Difference—Refusal of the Union to work with one of their members whose subscriptions were in arrear. Agreement—The matter was adjusted by the man concerned agreeing to meet the requirements of the Union. Agreed 16th August, 1921. (I.R. 140/31.)

UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Settlement by a Conciliation Committee.

Leather Trades.

HIDE AND SKIN WORKERS: BELFAST.—National Amalgamated Union of Labour v. Belfast Hide and Skin Merchants' Association. Difference—Application for a reduction in wages of 10s. per week for members of the Union employed by the Association. Chairman of Committee—Mr. W. G. Turner. Agreement—Reduction of 6s. per week from first pay day after 1st July, 1921, with sliding scale reductions or increases of 1s. per week for every five points fall or rise, respectively, in the Ministry of Labour Cost of Living Figures; the first of such reductions or increases to take place on the first pay day following 1st November, 1921, and to be based on the average for July, August, and September, 1921. The sliding scale variation is to be effected automatically from a basis of 100 per cent. above the pre-war cost of living. Agreed 29th June, 1921. (I.R. 600/7; I.B. 933.)

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

ORDERS.

ORDERS confirming minimum rates of wages, as fixed and/or as varied by the following Trade Boards, have been made by the Minister of Labour under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918. —

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Ireland).

The Minister has made an Order, dated 17th August, 1921, confirming general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers, and general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for female learners, as fixed by the Board, and has specified 19th August, 1921, as the date from which these rates should be effective.

For the purposes of the overtime rates, the normal number of hours of work in the trade has been declared to be 48 in any week, 9 on any day other than Saturday, and 5 on Saturday.

Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Minister has made an Order, dated 29th August, 1921, confirming minimum rates of wages, as fixed and as varied by the Trade Board, for male and female apprentices in the cigar section of the trade, and has specified 1st September, 1921, as the date from which these rates should be effective.

NOTICES OF PRO OSAL.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL to fix and/or to vary minimum rates of wages have been issued by the following Trade Boards:—

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 19th August, 1921, to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers, and to fix general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

The proposed general minimum time-rates for female pan hands, other than female pan-setting learners, are: (a) 8½d. per hour for workers employed on (i.) all cocoa and all other fibre brooms and banisters of any length (except whisk and Piasava brooms and banisters), (ii.) bass heads, up to 12 in. stock, 30 knots round; (b) 1s. per hour for workers employed on (i.) broomheads up to 11½ in., stock and banisters up to 8½ in. blade, middles made up of all fibre or fibre and drafts mixed up to 3½ in., and outsides of any material up to and including 3½ in., (ii.) banisters (whisk) up to 7½ in. blade made with Common Venetian tops (imported as tops), (iii.) sweeps' brushes up to and including 5 in. head and toy hearth brushes up to and including 3½ in., made with fibre, fibre and drafts, drafts only or china below 3 in.; (c) 1s. 4½d. per hour for workers employed on work other than that specified in (a) or (b) while the general minimum time-rates for female pan-setting learners varies from 4d. per hour to three-quarters of the piece-rate for the work on which the learner is engaged.

The proposed piece-work basis time-rates for workers specified under (a) and (b) in the preceding paragraph are 9½d. and 1s. 1½d. per hour respectively.

General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 23rd August, 1921, to fix general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, guaranteed time-rates and overtime rates for female workers and general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed for female workers of 18 years of age and over are: (a) 7½d. per hour for workers engaged in the waste paper and paper stock materials section of the trade, (b) 8½d. per hour for workers engaged in the woollen rag or woollen and worsted waste materials section of the trade, (c) 7d. per hour for workers engaged in all sections of trade specified in the notice, other than those under (a) and (b). Lower rates are proposed for younger workers in each case.

The proposed guaranteed time-rates for female piece-workers are the same as the proposed general minimum time-rates and the proposed piece-work basis time-rates for female workers of all ages referred to under (a), (b) and (c) above are 8½d., 9½d. and 8d. per hour respectively.

For male workers of 21 years of age and over, the proposed general minimum time-rates are (a) 1s. 1½d. per hour for workers engaged in the collecting, sorting, grading or breaking of scrap iron or other scrap metal where the collecting, sorting or grading of other waste materials is not carried out to a substantial extent in connection therewith, (b) 1s. per hour for workers employed in any other branch of the trade specified in the notice.

The Board propose to declare the normal number of hours of work in the trade to be 48 in any week, 8½ on any day other than Saturday, and 4½ on Saturday.

Grocery and Provisions Trade Board (England and Wales).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 7th September, 1921, to fix general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

The rates per week proposed for (i) porters, are (A) 48s., (B) 55s., and (C) 56s. 6d. for male workers of 24 years of age and upwards, and (A) 31s. 6d., (B) 36s., and (C) 37s. for female workers of 23 years of age and upwards; (ii) shop assistants and all other workers, except porters (excluding vehicle workers, persons employed in commercial travelling and charwomen), (A) 51s., (B) 61s., and (C) 63s. for male workers of 25 years of age and upwards, and (A) 33s., (B) 39s. 6d., and (C) 41s. for female workers of 24 years of age and upwards. The rates referred to under (A) are for workers employed in municipal boroughs and rural and urban districts, with a population of less than 10,000, other than areas within the Metropolitan Police District; the rates under (B) for workers employed in areas other than those referred to under (A) and (C); and the rates under (C) for workers employed in the City of London and the Metropolitan Police District. Lower rates are proposed for younger workers in every case.

Grocery and Provisions Trade Board (Scotland).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 12th August, 1921, to fix general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The rates per week proposed for workers of 25 years of age and over (i) for porters and workers (other than charwomen) employed in cleaning, removing goods, loading or unloading or in delivery by hand, are (A) 52s. and (B) 47s. for male workers,

and (A) 36s. and (B) 32s. for female workers; (ii) for all other workers, except persons employed in commercial travelling, charwomen and workers (other than van-salesmen) employed in outdoor delivery work by horse, motor, steam or oil-driven vehicles, garaging, horse or motor keeping, cleaning vehicles, stable work, (A) 57s. 6d. and (B) 52s. for male workers, and (A) 40s. and (B) 36s. for female workers. The rates referred to under (A) are for workers employed in (a) all royal, parliamentary or police burghs, (b) all places which are special drainage, lighting, scavenging or water districts, the boundaries of which have been defined, which in the case of both (a) and (b) have a population of 5,000 or over; the rates under (B) for workers employed in all other parts of Scotland.

Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 17th August, 1921 (the Minister having given his consent) to vary general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, guaranteed time-rates and overtime rates for female workers employed in Great Britain, excluding the administrative county of Cornwall and the Orkney and Shetland Islands, and to vary overtime rates for female workers employed in the administrative county of Cornwall and the Orkney and Shetland Islands.

The general minimum time-rate and guaranteed time-rate per week of 48 hours proposed for workers of 18 years of age and over are 30s. and 25s. respectively, with lower rates in both cases for younger workers. Special rates are proposed also in both cases for workers of 16 and under 18 years of age who have had less than six months' experience and for workers of 18 years of age and over who have had less than 12 months' experience in the trade.

The piece-work basis time-rate proposed for female workers of all ages is 9d. per hour.

For female workers specially employed for emergency work or whose employment is of a casual nature, general minimum time-rates of 7½d. and 8d. per hour are proposed for workers under 18 years of age and workers of 18 years of age and over respectively, and a piece-work basis time-rate of 9½d. per hour is proposed for workers of all ages in this class.

With the exception of certain guaranteed time-rates for piece-workers under 16 years of age, all the rates as now proposed show reductions on the rates at present in operation.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland).

The Board have issued Notices of Proposal, dated 25th August, 1921, to vary (a) general minimum time-rate and general minimum piece-rates for female workers engaged on thread drawing, drawn thread work, hand embroidery (excluding sparring) and sparring; (b) general minimum time-rates for female workers engaged on clipping; and (c) general minimum piece-rates for female workers engaged on dicing and German embroidery on household linens.

The general minimum time-rates per hour proposed for female workers engaged on (a) thread drawing, (b) drawn thread work, and (c) sparring are 4½d., 3½d., and 5d. respectively, provided that in the case of chain-stitched tamboured handkerchiefs the proposed rate is 3½d. per hour; whilst the general minimum time-rates proposed for female workers engaged on clipping and hand embroidery (excluding sparring) are 5d. and 3½d. per hour respectively.

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

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 15th August, 1921, to fix general minimum time rates for certain classes of male and female workers.

For male workers the proposed general minimum time-rates per hour are (a) for lappers who have served an apprenticeship of 5 years, 1s. 5d. or 1s. 3½d., and for measurers and sample makers who have served an apprenticeship of 5 years, 1s. 5½d. or 1s. 3¾d., according to the area in which employed; (b) for workers employed on Swiss embroidery machines, having not less than six months' experience in this branch of the trade, 1s. 1d., 1s. 2½d. and 1s. 4d., according to the type of machine on which engaged.

The general minimum time-rates per hour proposed for female workers under 18 years of age, other than learners, range from 2½d. to 7½d., and for female learners from 2½d. to 6¾d., according to age at commencement of employment and period of service.

Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 11th August, 1921 (the Minister having given his consent), to vary general minimum time-rates, piecework basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The general minimum time-rates proposed for male and female workers of 21 years of age and over range from 1s. 9d. to 1s. 3d. per hour, and from 11½d. to 8d. per hour respectively, according to experience and the type of work on which engaged, with special rates for (a) workers who enter the trade under 21 years of age and on reaching 21 years have completed less than the specified period of experience, and (b) workers who enter the trade for the first time at or over the age of 21 years. The rates proposed for male and female workers under 21 years of age engaged in learning one or more specified operations range from 18s. 6d. and 15s. per week of 48 hours respectively for workers of 15 and under 16 years to 50s. and 31s. 6d. per week for workers of 20 and under 21 years, and for male workers employed as porters or labourers from 11d. per hour for those of 18 and under 19 years to 1s. 1d. per hour for those of 20 and under 21 years.

The Board also propose that the piecework basis time-rates shall be 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates set out in Parts I. and II. of the Notice.

All of the proposed general minimum time-rates are less than the rates at present in operation for the same classes of workers.

Sugar, Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 15th August, 1921, to vary general minimum time-rates, piecework basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

For all male workers and for female workers engaged on certain specific operations the proposed general minimum time-rates per week of 48 hours range from 12s. for workers under 15 years of age to 54s. for workers of 24 years of age and upwards, and those to whose employment the general minimum time rate of 53s. per week at present applies, while the piecework basis time-rate proposed for these classes of workers is 1s. 4d. per hour. For all other female workers the proposed general minimum time-rates per week of 48 hours range from 12s. for workers under 15 years of age to 30s. for workers of 18 years of age and upwards, and those to whose employment the general minimum time-rate of 34s. per week at present applies, and the proposed piecework basis time-rate is 9d. per hour.

Special minimum time-rates are proposed for workers who enter the trade for the first time at the age of 15 years or over, and who cannot suitably be employed on piecework.

All of the proposed rates are less than the appropriate rates now operative in the trade.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 18th August, 1921 (the Minister having given his consent), to vary general minimum time-rates and piecework basis time-rates for certain classes of male workers and to fix overtime rates for male and female workers.

For male workers who have completed not less than four years' apprenticeship or learnership in the trade, and who are employed in the making up of (a) military dress uniforms (excluding khaki); (b) naval frock and dress uniforms; (c) scarlet hunt coats, melton and faced cloth hunt coats (but excluding red flannel coats), and white doeskin breeches; (d) frock and dress coats; and (e) court and diplomatic garments; general minimum time-rates of 1s. 8½d. and 1s. 9d. per hour, and piecework basis time-rates of 1s. 10d. and 1s. 10½d. per hour, are proposed, according to the district in which employed.

For the purposes of the overtime rates the Board propose to declare the normal number of hours of work in the trade to be 48 in any week, 9 on any weekday (other than Saturday) and 5 on Saturday.

Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Board have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 11th August, 1921, to vary general minimum time-rates, piecework basis time-rates and overtime rates for male and female workers.

The proposed general minimum time-rates and piecework basis time-rates per week of 48 hours are (i) for male workers (a) of 21 years of age and upwards employed as knife or press hands, 64s. and 80s. respectively; (b) all others of 21 years of age and upwards, 56s. and 70s. respectively, with lower rates for younger workers; (ii) for female workers of 18 years of age and upwards 32s. and 40s. respectively, with lower rates for younger workers.

All of the proposed rates are lower than the appropriate rates at present in operation.

Further particulars regarding these minimum rates of wages proposed or fixed and varied by the Trade Boards may be obtained from the Secretary of the Trade Board concerned at 7-11, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4, in the case of Trade Boards in Great Britain, and at 21, Parliament Street, Dublin, in the case of Trade Boards in Ireland.

Objections to the proposed rates, which should be in writing and signed by the person making the same (adding his or her full name and address), may be lodged with the Trade Board issuing the notice, within two months from the day following the date of the Notice of Proposal, and should be sent to the Secretary of the Trade Board at the appropriate address as set out above.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire appointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit are published by H.M. Stationery Office. The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

CASE No. 678, SECTION 7 (1) (ii) CONTINUOUSLY UNEMPLOYED—SYSTEMATIC SHORT-TIME WORKERS—ANNUAL BEANFEAST FELL IN PLAY PERIOD—CONTINUITY NOT BROKEN BY DISALLOWANCE FOR BEANFEAST DAY.

The applicant, whose case was taken as a test case affecting a large number of workpeople at Woolwich Arsenal, had been working under a system of short time, viz., five weeks work in every six weeks, and in respect of the week during which they were unemployed they had been in receipt of unemployment benefit. On Saturday, July 9th, which in the present case fell in the play week, the Arsenal closed down for the annual beanfeast in

which the workmen participated. It appeared that the beanfeast day was a customary holiday, and the claims of the workpeople were disallowed on the ground that July 9th was not a day of unemployment and therefore the period July 4th to July 8th being a period of only five days' unemployment was not a continuous period of unemployment within the meaning of Section 7 (2) (b) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as amended by the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1921, which as regards this provision came into force on the 30th June. As already stated the workmen had been in receipt of unemployment benefit for the weeks of unemployment which had occurred some time prior to the 30th June, but in view of the fact that the provisions of the 1921 Act (No. 2) required signatures on six continuous days before the applicant could establish continuity of unemployment with periods of unemployment under the 1920 Act, the claim in respect of the five days, viz., 4th to 8th July inclusive, was disallowed on the ground that continuity of unemployment had not been established. It appeared from the evidence before the Court of Referees that the workpeople were paid a sum equivalent to the day's wages in respect of July 9th, but it was established that throughout the year they had contributed a small amount towards payment for holidays. Accordingly this payment could not be regarded as wages but could be considered to be in the nature of a repayment to a small extent of the subscriptions already paid by the workmen.

Recommended that the claim for benefit should be allowed as the Court of Referees considered that July 9th should not be regarded as a day of employment for the men who were suspended from work on July 9th and accordingly benefit should be payable for that week.

The Insurance Officer declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees, as he was of opinion that the beanfeast day was a customary holiday and that in view of previous Umpires' decisions benefit could not be paid in respect of any day which was a customary holiday.

Decision: "On the facts before me my decision is that the claim should be allowed excepting in respect of July 9th."

"There is no rule clearly laid down in the statute as to the interpretation to be placed upon the continuity rules contained in Section 7 (2) (b) in connection with a holiday of this kind. In the circumstances it should not be so interpreted as to lead to an obviously anomalous result. In cases of systematic short time, the occurrence of the holiday should not be regarded as interrupting the continuity of unemployment when there would have been continuity if the day had not been a holiday. In my judgment, however, benefit should not be paid in respect of July 9th."

CASE NO. 795.—SECTION 8 (1) TRADE DISPUTE: COTTON OPERATIVES UNEMPLOYED: TRADE DISPUTE AND SHORTAGE OF COAL.

The applicant in this case has been employed as a weaver in the cotton trade, and the claim was taken as a test case representing a large number of claims by operatives employed in all branches of the industry.

The circumstances under which these claims were made and contested were briefly as follows:—

Under the terms of the wages agreements arrived at by the employers' and operatives' organisations in the cotton trade on May 6th and 7th, 1920, it was provided that with the advances of wages then given the rates of wages should remain unchanged for a period of twelve months, and that at the expiration of such twelve months either side desiring an alteration should give to the other side one month's notice of the desired alteration.

On the 7th May, 1921, the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations and the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association (who were the two employers' associations who were parties to the wages agreements referred to) formally sent to the operatives' organisations concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the agreements, one month's notice of a reduction in the wages of the workpeople employed in the departments represented by them.

Several joint meetings afterwards took place between the representatives of the two employers' organisations and the representatives of the various operatives' amalgamations, when the operatives' representatives stated that they could not agree to the employers' proposed reduction in wages, and on May 26th a circular was sent out to the members of the two employers' associations acquainting them of the facts, and asking them to post up notices in their mills informing the workpeople that the reduction of wages proposed by the employers would take effect after the making-up prior to the pay-day in the week ending June 4th, 1921.

Whilst in some districts and in some departments of the mills no notice is required to be given to terminate the contracts of service, in other districts and other departments a notice of seven days—and, in a few instances, of a longer period—is required for the termination of contracts of employment. At the desire of the operatives' representatives, a joint conference was held on May 27th between representatives of the two employers' associations and representatives of all the operatives' organisations concerned, to consider the question of a reduction in wages, and at such conference the operatives' representatives asked that, in the event of no settlement of the wages question being arrived at, all notices should terminate on Saturday, June 4th, 1921, irrespective of the making-up days at the individual mills. This was agreed to, and the operatives' representatives said they were willing to agree that the notice which had been issued by the employers' associations should be accepted as a legal notice, and a

memorandum to this effect was signed by the officials of the various associations.

As no settlement of the wages question had been arrived at, the mills ceased work on Saturday noon, June 4th.

The wages dispute was ultimately settled on Friday, June 24th, 1921, and it was arranged that work should be resumed on and after Monday, June 27th.

It happens, however, that the dispute in the mining industry had been in progress all this time and at many mills there was difficulty about the supply of coal before the dispute had come to a head. There had also been depression of trade which in some cases had led to a complete stoppage of work for long periods, but in most cases to short time working. The result was that in a great many cases the applicants had not actually been at work on June 4th. In some cases they had not actually worked for several weeks. It appeared, however, that where work was stopped for lack of coal, the employees were not given notices to terminate contracts of service on that account. There was no formal making and terminating of engagements when the obtaining of a supply of coal enabled work to be carried on for a few days or a week or more as the case might be.

In the particular case which was the subject of the decision below, the mill ceased working prior to 6th May, and remained closed until 18th May, when it again re-opened and ran three days, i.e., up to and including 20th May on a small stock of coal. It was contended, on behalf of the applicants, that they lost employment by reason of shortage of coal, and not by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute.

Recommended that the claim for benefit should be disallowed on the ground that the applicants had lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute.

Decisions in the same sense were given by nearly all the Courts of Referees in cases in which the mills were at work at any time after May 6th, i.e., on or after the date when the employers' federation gave the month's notice to the operatives' federation of the termination of the wages agreement. This decision was based upon the analogy of Decision No. 2898 (O.W.D.).

The operatives' associations appealed to the Umpire, who, after an oral hearing, gave the following decision.

Decision:—On the facts before me my decision is that the claim should be allowed.

As a general rule, decision No. 2898 (O.W.D.) may be taken as laying down the principle to be applied when there is a coincidence of a trade dispute and some other cause producing a stoppage of work. I am not satisfied, however, that the sending of the month's notice by the employers' association to the workmen's associations to terminate the existing agreement governing wages in the industry can be regarded as analogous to the handing in of notices to terminate employment as in case No. 2898.

On the other hand it does not appear to me that in the conditions prevailing in the present case, there was any date precisely analogous to the date of handing in strike notices on that occasion, neither is there any precise date analogous to that on which the breakdown of machinery occurred.

It was in the week ending May 28th, however, that it became evident that a stoppage of work was likely to occur and the employers' association decided to advise their members to post notices at the mills announcing a change of wages to take effect on June 6th. It was also agreed with the workmen's associations that this should be accepted as notice to terminate employment on and after June 4th.

In consequence of trade depression and shortage of coal some of the mills had already ceased working entirely before the week in question, and in such cases it must be held that employment was lost for reasons other than the trade dispute. Where work was done, however, in the week ending May 28th, or the following week, whether full time or only part time, the employees must be held to have lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute.

In the present case all work ceased before the week in question and benefit may be allowed.

CASE NO. 916.—SECTION 8 (1) TRADE DISPUTE: MINER RESERVIST RECALLED TO COLOURS: REGULARLY ENGAGED IN ANOTHER OCCUPATION: DISQUALIFICATION REMOVED.

The applicant, a miner, lost his employment owing to the general stoppage of work in the coal mining industry on the 1st April, and, being an Army Reservist, was recalled to the Colours on the 11th April and again transferred to the Reserve on the 4th June. He resumed work at the mines on the 4th July, when the general resumption of work took place. He claimed benefit for the period between 4th June and 4th July, contending that his services with the colours had removed the disqualification imposed under Section 8 (1) on the 1st April.

Recommended that the claim for benefit should be allowed on the ground that the applicant had during the stoppage of work during the trade dispute become regularly engaged in some other occupation. The Court of Referees was of opinion that in view of the provisions of Section 41 of the Act the applicant's service in the Army could be regarded as employment. The Chairman, however, dissented. He was of opinion that the applicant was not entitled to benefit as he could not be considered to have become regularly engaged in some other occupation whilst mobilised in the Army, more especially in view of the fact that he would be disentitled to benefit originally owing to stoppage of work in the first instance. The Insurance Officer

declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees. In his opinion the temporary employment with the Services could not be regarded as coming within the meaning of Section 8 (1) of the Act. It is not the occupation which he usually followed, nor could it be regarded as some occupation in which he has been regularly engaged.

Decision:—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim should be allowed."

"The applicant, in my judgment, has become regularly engaged in another occupation subsequent to his loss of employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute."

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1901-20, etc.

(a) Manufacture of Certain Compounds of Lead.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for August (p. 396) an account was given of an amended issue of certain draft regulations under section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in respect of the manufacture of certain compounds of lead, namely, any carbonate, acetate, sulphate or nitrate of lead. The Secretary of State for the Home Department gave notice, on the 2nd September, that these draft regulations had been made definitive on the 23rd August, to come into force on 1st October, 1921, and to apply to all factories and workshops, or parts thereof (other than laboratories), in which the said manufacture was carried on.

Copies of the regulations can be purchased through any bookseller, or directly from H.M. Stationery Office.

(b) Manufacture of Celluloid and Articles wholly or partly Made of Celluloid.

In pursuance of Section 80 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, the Secretary of State for the Home Department gave notice, on 30th August, 1921, that he has amended the draft regulations for the manufacture of celluloid and articles wholly or partly made of celluloid, which were issued in May, 1914, and that he proposes to make regulations in accordance with the amended draft. A number of objections to the original draft regulations had been under consideration when the outbreak of war caused further action to be postponed.

Copies of the draft regulations, as amended, may be obtained on application to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

(c) Departmental Committee to Inquire into the Use of Lead Paints.

The Home Secretary, on 30th August, appointed a Committee consisting of the following members:—Major the Right Hon. Sir Henry Norman, Bt., M.P. (chairman), Gerald Bellhouse, Esq., C.B.E., O. T. Kauffman, Esq., M.D., A. Munby, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., A. Scott, Esq., F.R.S., D.Sc., and H. C. Weller, Esq. This Committee is to re-examine, more particularly in the light of the further information which has become available since the inquiries of the Departmental Committees appointed in 1911, the question of the danger from the use of lead paints to workers in the painting trades, and the comparative efficiency and cost, and the effect on the health of the workers, of paints containing lead and leadless paints respectively; and to advise whether any modification of the conclusions and recommendations of those Committees have become necessary.

Mr. C. W. Price, of the Home Office, is appointed secretary to the Committee.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

Correspondence regarding the Washington Convention "Concerning the Employment of Women before and after Childbirth."

The following correspondence, explaining why the above Convention has not been ratified by the British Government, has been communicated by the Secretary of the Cabinet to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations. The Secretary-General has in turn communicated the correspondence to the Director of the International Labour Office.

Ministry of Labour, Montagu House,
Whitehall, London, S.W. 1,
18th August, 1921.

SIR,

I am directed by the Minister of Labour to refer to the draft Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth, which was adopted at the first meeting of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation held at Washington in November, 1919.

After a full consideration of all the circumstances of the case, His Majesty's Government have reluctantly come to the conclusion that this draft Convention cannot be ratified, for reasons which are given at length in the accompanying copy of a letter from the Ministry of Health.

I am to request that you will be so good as to convey to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations the decision as to non-ratification and to acquaint him of the reasons which have

moved H.M. Government to take the decision as set out in the above-mentioned letter.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
(Signed) J. E. MASTERTON SMITH.
(Secretary of Ministry of Labour.)

The Secretary, Offices of the Cabinet,
2, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W. 1.

(ENCLOSURE.)

Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 1.
12th August, 1921.

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to Article 3 (b) and (c) of the Draft Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth which was adopted at the first meeting of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation held at Washington in November, 1919.

2. The Draft Convention provides that a woman employed in a commercial or industrial undertaking should have the right to leave her work on production of a medical certificate that her confinement will probably take place within six weeks, and that she should not be permitted to work during the six weeks following her confinement. While absent from work in these circumstances she should be paid benefits sufficient for the full and healthy maintenance of herself and her child, and in addition she should receive free attendance by a doctor or certified midwife. It provides further that nursing mothers should be allowed half an hour twice a day during their working hours to nurse their babies.

3. The women who would be entitled to these benefits are, for practical purposes, the same as those who come within the scope of the British National Health Insurance scheme, with the exception that the Convention would exclude about 30,000 domestic servants and agricultural labourers who are included in the National Health Insurance Scheme and would include about 15,000 women, such as teachers and non-manual workers earning over £250 per annum, who are excepted from the insurance scheme.

4. The National Health Insurance Acts of Great Britain provide benefits in respect of maternity in excess of those provided by any other country except Australia, New Zealand, and, possibly, British Columbia. Under those Acts every employed married woman is entitled, subject to contributions, to a maternity benefit of £4 on confinement. A single woman receives a maternity benefit of £2, and the uninsured wife of every insured man receives £2. The total sums so paid amount to £2,250,000 per annum, of which the State contributes £500,000. In addition, sickness benefit at the rate of 12s. a week is paid to employed women while incapable of work during pregnancy and after confinement, except during the period of four weeks immediately following confinement, which is covered by the maternity benefit. Further, an insured woman who gives up work about the time of her marriage is entitled to a modified sickness benefit and to one maternity benefit (the cost of which is about £250,000 a year in the aggregate) on her confinement within two years of her marriage. Employed women are also entitled to medical benefit, i.e., medical attendance and treatment, including medicines, but such benefit does not include the right to medical attendance in respect of confinement.

5. The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, provides that an occupier of a factory or workshop shall not knowingly allow a woman or girl to be employed therein within four weeks after she has given birth to a child.

6. Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, the Government encourages and aids financially schemes of local authorities and voluntary agencies for protecting the health of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five. The schemes include, among others, the following services which are designed to secure to mothers the benefits contemplated by the Convention:—

Ante-natal clinics, home visiting of expectant mothers, the services of a midwife and in emergencies of a doctor, accommodation at a maternity home, hospital treatment of complications arising after parturition, accommodation at a convalescent home, and the supply of milk when needed. In addition, infant welfare centres are available for consultation on matters affecting the health of the child, supplemented by treatment centres, hospital provision, and day nurseries.

The benefits of these services, which are provided free or at small cost according to circumstances, are not confined to a single class of insured person but are intended to be available to all who are in need of them.

7. From this outline it will be seen that this country has already in force a policy aiming at the same results as the Convention. The adoption of the specific proposals made in the Convention would lead to serious administrative difficulties in adjustments with present arrangements, and would have the result of conferring further benefits restricted to a limited class for which considerable provision has already been made. From the point of view of health, it is believed that the benefits now provided in this country are in some respects in advance of those proposed in the Convention, and that the true line of advance is the systematic expansion and development of these benefits as experience suggests and finance permits.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

(Signed) L. G. BROOK.

(Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Health.)

The Secretary, the Ministry of Labour,
Montagu House, London, S.W. 1.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING AUGUST.

[All the Official Publications (distinguished as Cd., Cmd., H.L., H.C. or S.O. publication) may be purchased through any bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2, and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W. 1; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.]

UNITED KINGDOM.

CENSUS.—(1) *Census of England and Wales, 1921. Preliminary report, including tables of the population.* Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 1485: price 1s.] (2) *Preliminary report on the thirteenth census of Scotland.* [Cmd. 1473: price 1s. 6d.] (See above, p. 455.)

CHILD WELFARE.—*Minutes of evidence taken before the Departmental Committee appointed to enquire into the practice of living-in on canal boats, and Report of the Committee.* Ministry of Health. [S.O. publications: price 12s. 6d., 9d.]

EDUCATION.—*Report of the Board of Education for the year 1919-1920.* [Cmd. 1451: price 1s.]

EX-SERVICE MEN.—(1) *Reports upon openings in industry suitable for disabled sailors and soldiers, No. XXXI. Clog making and repairing.* M.5. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication: price 2d.] XXXI. (2) *Statement of Ex-Service men employed in Government offices on 1st June, 1921.* Treasury. [Cmd. 1441: price 1d.]

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.—(1) *Reports of the Committees appointed to investigate the staffing and methods of work of the Board of Trade, the Department of Overseas Trade, and the National Savings Committee.* [Cmd. 1461: price 6d.] (2) *Staffs employed in Government Departments on 1st June, 1921.* Treasury. [Cmd. 1445: price 1d.]

HOUSING.—*Report of the departmental committee on the high cost of building working-class dwellings.* Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 1447: price 1s.] (2) *Report of Committee of inquiry into the high cost of building working-class dwellings in Scotland.* Scottish Board of Health. [Cmd. 1411: price 3d.]

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.—*Conference of prime ministers and representatives of the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and India, held in June, July, and August, 1921. Summary of proceedings and documents.* [Cmd. 1474: price 9d.] (See above, p. 459.)

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE.—*Second report of the departmental committee on lighting in factories and workshops.* Home Office. [Cmd. 1418: price 1d.]

MINING.—(1) *Final report of the departmental committee on spontaneous combustion of coal in mines.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. [Cmd. 1417: price 1s. 6d.] (See above, p. 000.) (2) *Statistical summary of coal output for the three months ended 31st March, 1921.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. [Cmd. 1466: price 1d.]

NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—(1) *Report from the select committee on estimates.* [H.C. 203: price 1d.] (2) *Report from the select committee on publications and debates.* [H.C. 217: price 9d.] (3) *Third report from the committee on public accounts.* [H.C. 212: price 2d.] (4) *Total expenditure under certain Acts of Parliament.* Treasury. [H.C. 189: price 2d.]

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—*National Health Insurance Fund accounts, receipts and payments for the year ended 31st December, 1917, and 31st December, 1918. (Appendix.)* Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 1484: price 2d.]

PUBLIC HEALTH.—(1) *Second annual report of the Ministry of Health, 1920-1921.* Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 1446: price 2s.] (2) *Second report of the Welsh consultative council on medical and allied services in Wales.* Ministry of Health. [Cmd. 1448: price 9d.]

RAILWAYS.—*Return showing the number of persons employed by the several railway companies of the United Kingdom during the week ended 19th March, 1921.* Ministry of Transport. [Cmd. 1494: price 2d.]

TELEPHONE SERVICE.—*Report from the select committee on the telephone service, together with the proceedings of the committee and minutes of evidence.* [H.C. 191: price 4s.]

DOMINIONS AND FOREIGN.—*Reports.*—(1) *Falkland Islands.* Report No. 1076 for 1919. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 6d.] (2) *India.* (a) *Statement exhibiting the moral and material progress and condition of India during the year 1920.* India Office. [H.C. 202: price 2s. 6d.] (b) *Statistical abstract relating to British India from 1909-10 to 1918-19.* India Office. [Cmd. 1425: price 2s.] (3) *Morocco.* Report on trade, industry and finance, May, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 2s.] (4) *Nyasaland.* Report No. 1075 for 1919-20. Colonial Office. [S.O. publication: price 6d.]

(5) *Palestine.* An interim report on the civil administration of Palestine during the period 1st July, 1920-30th June, 1921. Foreign Office. [Cmd. 1499: price 3d.] (6) *Roumania.* Report on economic conditions, April, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 2s. 9d.] (7) *Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom.* Report on economic and industrial conditions, April, 1921. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 1s.] (8) *Syria.* Report on trade for the year 1920. Department of Overseas Trade. [S.O. publication: price 6d.] (9) *Tanganyika Territory.* Report covering the period from the Armistice to the end of 1920. [Cmd. 1428: price 1s. 6d.]

BRITISH DOMINIONS AND INDIA.

CANADA.—(1) *Monthly bulletin of agricultural statistics, June, 1921.* Dominion Bureau of Statistics. [Ottawa: Thomas Mulvey.] (2) *Monthly bulletin of agricultural statistics, July, 1921.* Dominion Bureau of Statistics. [Ottawa: F. A. Acland, King's Printer.] (3) *The Labour Gazette, July, 1921.* Apprenticeship in Canada, decisions of the United States Railroad Labour Board, etc. Department of Labour. [Ottawa: F. A. Acland.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*Unemployment Insurance.* Difficulties of unemployment insurance; assisted schemes in European countries; Australian measures; American opinion, etc. Board of Trade [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, 1921.]

INDIA.—*Monthly statistics of cotton spinning and weaving in Indian mills, April and May, 1921.* Department of Statistics. (2) *Return showing the wholesale and retail prices of certain staple cereals, pulses, oilseeds, sugar (raw), salt, etc., in India by districts for the fortnights ending the 31st May and 15th June, 1921.* Department of Statistics. (3) *Statistics of British India, Vol. V. Education, 1919-20.* Department of Statistics. [Calcutta: Superintendent, Government Printing.]

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—(1) *Quarterly abstract of Union Statistics, July, 1921.* Office of Census and Statistics. [Johannesburg: Argus Printing Co., Ltd.] (2) *Statistics of population No. 3, 1918. Statistics of the population of the Union, 1918, and previous years, including vital and health statistics for the year 1918 and previous years.* Office of Census and Statistics. [Pretoria: Government Printing and Stationery Office, 1921.] (3) *The South African Journal of Industries, August, 1921.* Compressed air in the sugar-cane industry, output of mines, etc. Department of Mines and Industries. [Pretoria: Government Printing and Stationery Office.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—(1) *International crop report and agricultural statistics, (a) July, 1921, Part II. Production, (b) Part III. Trade and Stocks. (c) August, 1921. Part I. Prices.* International Institute of Agriculture, Bureau of Statistics. [Rome: Printing Office of International Institute.] (2) *International Labour Review, (a) May-June, 1921. Social legislation in Austria, the Swedish Act (1913) on Pensions, Insurance, the industrial training of disabled men in the United Kingdom, etc. (b) July-August, 1921. The International Labour Office and the protection of children; war and industrial diseases, etc. International Labour Office. [Geneva.] (3) *Official Bulletin.* (a) 20th July, 1921. Vol. IV., No. 3. Reform of constitution of governing body, etc. (b) 3rd August, 1921. Vol. IV., No. 5. The Franco-Italian Labour Treaty; labour legislation arising out of the International Labour Conference; etc. (c) 10th August, 1921. Vol. IV., No. 6. The convention concerning unemployment. The League of Nations Union (Great Britain), etc. International Labour Office. [Geneva.]*

AUSTRIA.—(1) *Mitteilungen der Statistischen Zentral Kommission.* No. 7, 1921. Cost of living in principal towns in June and July, 1921. Central Statistical Commission. [Vienna.] (2) *Ämtliche Nachrichten.* 1st August, 1921. Text of law of 17th June, 1921, as to rights and duties of agricultural employers and workpeople. Department for Social Administration, Insurance, etc. [Vienna.]

BELGIUM.—*Revue du Travail.* July and August, 1921. Employment in May and June and operations of Employment Exchanges in June and July, retail prices in June and July, summary of work of employment exchanges, 1897-1920, labour disputes during July. Ministry of Industry, Labour and Supplies. [Brussels.]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.—*Rapports de l'Office de Statistique de la République Tchécoslovaque.* No. 18, 1920. Exports, November, 1920, etc. Statistical Office. [Prague.]

DENMARK.—(1) *Statistiske Efterretninger.* 5th, 16th and 19th August, 1921. Wages in 1st quarter of 1920, final census returns for February, 1921, retail prices July, 1921. [Copenhagen.] (2) *Statistiske Meddelelser.* Miscellaneous Statistics of Denmark, Series IV., Volume 60. Statistics of Crops, 1919;

industrial production, 1919; house rents in November, 1919. Statistical Office. [Copenhagen.] (3) *Den Offentlige Arbejdsansvning i Danmark.* April, 1921. Activities of Employment Exchanges during the second quarter of 1921. Directorate of Employment Exchanges. [Copenhagen.]

FINLAND.—(1) *Statistisk Årsbok, 1920.* Statistical Year Book of Finland. [Helsingfors.] (2) *Social Tidsskrift, No. 7, 1921.* Wages in agriculture in the year 1919-20; labour disputes, 1920; retail prices, June, 1921. Department for Social Affairs. [Helsingfors.]

FRANCE.—*Journal Officiel (daily).* Issues from 29th July-29th August (inclusive). [Paris.]

GERMANY.—(1) *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, 30th July, 15th August, 1921.* Employment in June, employment exchanges statistics for 19th July and 4th August, new collective agreements, retail prices in July. Ministry of Labour. [Berlin.] (2) *Reichs-Gesetzblatt.* Nos. 42-55 and 60-77 (inclusive). Federal Bulletin of Laws. [Berlin.] (3) *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger (daily).* Issues from 28th July-27th August (inclusive). [Berlin.]

HOLLAND.—(1) *Overzicht van de Verslagen der Kamers van Arbeid over 1919.* Reports of Chambers of Labour for 1919. Ministry of Labour. [The Hague.] (2) *Jaarverslag van den Rijksdienst der Werkloosheidsverzekering en Arbeidsbemiddeling over 1918.* Annual report on Employment Exchanges for 1918. Department of Unemployment Insurance, etc. [The Hague.] (3) *Handleiding voor Gemeentebesturen bij de Uitvoering van het Werkloosheidsbesluit, 1917.* Collection of regulations, instructions, forms, etc., as to grant of subsidies to unemployment funds. Department of Unemployment Insurance, etc. [The Hague.]

ITALY.—(1) *Bollettino del Lavoro e della Previdenza Sociale, May and June, 1921.* State of employment in April, statistics of unemployment, March, 1919 to April, 1921; labour disputes during 1st Quarter, 1921; changes in wages and hours of labour; retail prices in April and May; recent collective agreements and recent legislation. Ministry of Labour and Social Thrift. [Rome.] (2) *Bollettino della Emigrazione.* June-July, 1921. Studies, reports, statistics and enactments relating to emigration. General Commission on Emigration. [Rome.] (3) *Gazzetta Ufficiale (daily).* Issues from 25th July to 25th August (inclusive). [Rome.]

MEXICO.—(1) *Cronica Mensual del Departamento del Trabajo, June, 1921.* Cost of food, 1916-1920; cost of a working class dwelling house, 1914-1920; wages, 1920. Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour. [Mexico.] (2) *Gaceta Mensual del Departamento del Trabajo, May, 1921.* Accident insurance, emigration, immigration; conciliation, and arbitration. Ministry of Labour. [Mexico.] (3) *Boletín de Industria Comercio y Trabajo.* April, May, June, 1920. Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour. [Mexico.]

NORWAY.—(1) *Norges Offisielle Statistik.* *Norges Jernbaner: Beretning for Aret 1 Juli, 1919-30 Juni, 1920.* Railway statistics for year ending 1920. (2) *Statistisk Aarbok, 1920.* Statistical Year Book, 1920. Workpeople's insurance (accident, sickness, unemployment); trade union unemployment statistics, January, 1918-December, 1920; employment exchanges, 1918-1920; collective agreements, 1915-1919; trade unions, 1919; wages of agricultural labourers, 1915-1920, and general wages, 1920; strikes and lock-outs, 1915-1920; cost of living. (3) *Norges Bergverksdrift, 1918.* Mines and works in connection with mines, 1918. (4) *Meddelelser fra det Statistiske Centralbyrå, Nos. 5, 6 and 7, 1921.* Cost of living and retail prices, April, May, June. Employment Exchanges in April. Central Statistical Bureau. [Christiania.] (5) *Norsk Lovtidende, Nos. 34-36, 1921.* Norwegian Gazette of Laws. [Christiania.]

ROUMANIA.—(1) *Correspondance Economique.* May, June and July, 1921. Official bulletin of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. [Bucharest.] (2) *Bulletin Statistique, No. 6-7.* Average wages of agricultural workers in Bessarabia in 1920,

retail prices in Roumania, 1914-1920. Ministry of Industry and Commerce. [Bucharest.]

SPAIN.—*Boletín del Instituto de Reformas Sociales.* June, 1921. Retail prices of food in May; labour disputes in April, statistics of industrial accidents in 1919. Institute of Social Reforms. [Madrid.]

SWEDEN.—(1) *Sociala Meddelanden.* No. 8, 1921. Unemployment at end of May, employment exchanges in June, wages in 1920 in various trades, recent collective agreements, industrial accidents, 1906-1917, retail prices and cost of living. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm.] (2) *Sveriges Officiella Statistik.* (a) *Allmän Sparbanksstatistik ar 1919.* Savings bank statistics, 1919 (b) *Arbetsinställelser i Sverige ar, 1920.* Labour disputes in Sweden during 1920. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm.]

SWITZERLAND.—(1) *Feuille Fédérale et Recueil des Lois Suisses (weekly).* Issues from 27th July-24th August (inclusive). [Berne.] (2) *Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt.* 11th August. Weekly report of unemployment statistics. Central Employment Exchange. [Berne.] (3) *Preisbericht.* No. 9, 1921. Retail prices of food and other necessities in 32 communes on 30th April-30th July, 1921. Federal Statistical Bureau. [Berne.] (4) *Berichte der Kantonsregierungen über den Vollzug des Bundesgesetzes betreffend die Arbeit in den Fabriken, 1919 und 1920.* Report of the Cantonal Governments concerning the execution of the Federal Factory Law during 1919 and 1920. Federal Department of Public Economy. [Aarau.] (5) *Eidgenössisches Arbeitsamt.* July, 1921. *Monats-Bericht.* Monthly report on unemployment. [Berne.]

UNITED STATES.—(a) *Federal.* (1) *Employment in selected industries in June, 1921.* Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics. (2) *Wholesale prices in June.* Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics. (3) *Changes in retail prices of food in the United States.* (a) July 19; (b) 1st August, 1921. Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics. [Washington.] (4) *Industrial Poisoning in making coal-tar dyes and dye intermediates.* Bulletin No. 230. Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics. [Washington:] Government Printing Office, 1921.] (5) *State Commissions for the study and revision of child-welfare laws.* Outline for index of existing legislation affecting child welfare; compilations and summaries of State laws; recommendations for uniform laws, etc. Bureau Publication No. 71. Addenda to above dated May 1st, 1921. Department of Labour, Children's Bureau. (6) *Infant-welfare work in Europe. An account of recent experiences in Great Britain, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany and Italy.* Community Child-Welfare Series No. 1. Bureau publication No. 76. Department of Labour, Children's Bureau. (7) *Standards of legal protection for children born out of wedlock. A report of regional conferences held under the auspices of the U.S. Children's Bureau and the Inter-City Conference on Illegitimacy, 1920.* Conference Series No. 3. Bureau Publication No. 77. Department of Labour, Children's Bureau. (8) *Probation in Children's Courts.* Dependent, defective and delinquent classes, Series No. 11. Bureau Publication No. 80. Department of Labour, Children's Bureau. [Washington:] Government Printing Office, 1921.] (9) *Regulations 46 relating to tax on employment of child labour under the Revenue Act of 1918 (approved February 24th, 1919).* Revised May, 1921. Treasury Department, United States Internal Revenue. [Washington:] Government Printing Office.]

(b) *States.* MASSACHUSETTS.—*Report of the Department of Labour and Industries, 1920.* Establishment of the department, reports of the Director of Industrial Safety, Board of Conciliation and Arbitration, Minimum Wage Commission, and of the Directors of Standards and Statistics. [Boston:] Wright & Potter Printing Co.]

—NEW YORK STATE.—*Proceedings of the Fifth Industrial Safety Congress.* Held under the auspices of the State Industrial Commission. [Albany, New York:] Industrial Commission.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, AUGUST, 1921.

ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.)

Aluminium: The British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London. Condensed Milk, Unsweetened: Nestlé & Anglo Swiss Condensed Milk Co., London.—Conduit Tubing and Accessories: Barton & Sons, Ltd., Walsall; Birch, I., & Sons, Ltd., Walsall; Brotherton Ediswan Tubes and Conduits, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Credenta Conduits Co., Ltd., Birmingham; General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Perfecta Seamless Steel Tube Conduit Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Cotton Shorts: Lane, F., London.—Cotton Vests and Knicker Drawers: Morley, J. & R., London.—Coats, Waterproof, Officers: Green & Emanuel, Ltd., Manchester.—Electric Welding Scheme: Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., Loughborough; British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—Electric Fuses: Weekes, L., Ltd., Luton.—Electric Lighting Installation:

Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., London.—Electro Plate: Barker Bros. (Silversmiths), Ltd., Birmingham.—Hexagon Turret Lathe: Herbert, A., Ltd., Coventry.—Jam: Crosse & Blackwell Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London; Pink, E. & T., Ltd., London; Robertson, J., & Sons, Manufacturers, Ltd., London.—Knives: Atkinson Bros., Ltd., Sheffield; Brookes & Crookes, Ltd., Sheffield; Boswell, Hatfield & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Clarke, J., & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; Fenton, J., & Sons, Sheffield; Long & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Mills, F., Ltd., Sheffield; Maleham & Yeoman, Sheffield; Turner, T., & Co., Sheffield.—Machine, Drilling, etc.: Kearns, H. W., & Co., Manchester.—Machine Planing, Motor Driven: Scriven & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—Macintoshes for Chief Petty Officers, etc.: Birnbaum, B., & Son, Ltd., London.—Medical Comforts: Brand & Co., Ltd., London; Crosse & Blackwell Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London; Morton, C. & E., Ltd., London.—Overcoats, Seamens': Camass, S., & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—Pepper: Harker, G., & Co., Ltd., London; Maconochie Bros., Ltd., London.—

Soft Soap Substitute: Palmer & Co., Ltd., London.—**Traveller, electric 10-ton:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Carlisle.—**Travellers, electric 10-ton and 3-ton:** Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Tea, blended:** British & Benington's, Ltd., London; Brooke Bond & Co., Ltd., London.—**Test Weights for Cranes:** Fielding & Platt, Ltd., Gloucester.—**Turntables for Railways:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Carlisle.—**Valves:** J. Broadfoot & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Haywood-Tyler & Co., Ltd., London; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland.—**Vests and Drawers, Summer:** J. & R. Morley, London.—**Vinegar:** Champion & Slee, Ltd., London; Hill, Evans & Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Wall Crane:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Carlisle.—**Wrought Iron Water Tubes and Fittings:** J. Knowles (Wednesbury), Ltd., Wednesbury; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.

ADMIRALTY.

(CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.)

Laying Oil Main at Old Kilpatrick and Dainottar, Glasgow: Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Reconstruction of No. 1 Store at Devonport, North Yard:** Wakeham Brothers, Plymouth.—**Naval Establishments Abroad—Cast Iron Pipes, etc.:** Stanton Iron Works Co., near Nottingham. Cast Iron Pipes, Filters, Valves, etc.: Cochrane & Co., Ltd., near Dudley, Worcester. Explosives: Explosives and Chemical Products, Ltd., London. E.C. Two Oil Tanks: Clayton, Son & Co., Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds.

WAR OFFICE.

Aiguillettes: C. Toye & Sons, Ltd., London.—**Brushes, Horse:** D. Hayward, Ltd., Bloxwich.—**Clothing, Miscellaneous:** John Hammond & Co., Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Cloth, Silk:** E. Wilman & Sons, Pudsey.—**Corrugated Steel Sheets:** John Summers & Sons, Ltd., Shotton.—**Cylinders, Iron:** Baldwins, Ltd., London, E.—**Electric Cells:** Siemens Bros., Woolwich; General Electric Co., London, W.C.—**Flannelette:** J. C. Hamer, Ltd., Radcliffe.—**Glasses, Drinking:** Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Brierley Hill.—**Glue, Best Town Made:** Sheppy Glue and Chemical Works, Ltd., Queensborough.—**Lead, Sheet:** Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Linoleum:** Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Linseed Oil, Boiled:** Younghusband, Barnes & Co., Rotherhithe.—**Lithage Paint, Lead, Red:** Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Lockers, Metal, and Brackets:** Estler Bros., Victoria Docks.—**Locomotive Boiler:** The Yorkshire Engine Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Machine, Drilling, Boring and Tapping and Studding:** Asquith, Ltd., Halifax.—**Manhole Covers and Spares:** Forth and Clyde and Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Motor Lorries, Reconditioned:** Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Motor Chassis:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby and London.—**Motor Spares:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; Dennis Bros., Guildford; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby; Vauxhall Motors, Ltd., Luton.—**Mudguards:** Thomas Marshall & Sons, Leeds.—**Nuts:** Newall & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil, Lubricating:** All's Well Oil Co., Ltd., St. Leonards; London Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.—**Oil, Petroleum, Fuel:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., United Kingdom; The British Petroleum Co., Ltd., London.—**Paint, Prepared:** Lewis Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Burrell & Co., Ltd., Millwall, E.; Naylor Bros., London, Ltd., Slough, Bucks.—**Paint, Dry, Lead Colour:** Brimsdown Lead Coy., Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex.—**Pig Iron:** Barrow Haematite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Pneumatic Covers:** Burnett Motor Tyre Co., Trowbridge; David Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon.—**Reconditioning Vehicles:** International Motors, Ltd., London, W.—**Repairs and Renewals to Watercraft:** Adous, Ltd., Brightlingsea; Hawthorne & Co., Ltd., Leith; Peter Hancock & Sons, Milford Haven.—**Roofing Felt:** Permanite, Ltd., London, E.; F. McNeill & Co., London, E. (Poplar).—**Saddletrees, Repair to:** D. Mason & Sons, Birmingham, and/or Walsall.—**Safes, Iron:** Messrs. J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Shoes, Canvas:** New Liverpool Rubber Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Slates, Asbestos and Accessories:** British Fibro-Cement Works, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Soda Crystals:** United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Soft Soap (Potash):** Peter Lunt & Co., Liverpool.—**Steel Rivets:** Monks, Hall & Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Steel Roof Trusses:** E. C. & J. Keary, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steel, Round:** Whitehead Iron and Steel Co., Tredegar.—**Tables, Messroom:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London.—**White Lead:** Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Zinc Oxide, L.R.:** Fenner & Alder & Co., Ltd., Millwall and Poplar; Foster, Mason & Harvey, Ltd., Bermondsey.—**Zinc Oxide (Lead Free):** Taylor Bros. & Cox, Ltd. (Agents for Landore Zinc Works), near Swansea.—**Periodical Services, Works, Artificers:** Hamilton: J. Brown, Hamilton. Ashton-under-Lyne: T. Carr, Halifax. Bury: T. Carr, Halifax. Lincoln Area: Chitham & Co., Leicester. Manchester: G. Dobson & Son, Manchester. Liverpool: J. Gourley, Manchester. Shrewsbury: W. H. Jones & Sons, Abergale. Rhyl Hutments: W. H. Jones & Sons, Abergale. Halifax: R. Leake & Sons, Normanton. Barry: Jos. Thomas & Son, Cardiff. Cardiff: Jos. Thomas & Son, Car-

diff.—**Building Works:** Canterbury: F. Holdsworth, Shipley. Shorncliffe: F. Holdsworth, Shipley. St. John's Wood Barracks: A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London.

AIR MINISTRY.

Acoustical Apparatus: Holland, Hannan & Cubitts, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Accumulators:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Aeroplane Spares:** Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aero Wheels, etc.:** The Palmer Tyre Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Air Cooling Plant:** Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Aircraft Spares:** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Aircraft Spare Parts:** The British Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; G. Parnall & Co., Bristol; G. Parnall & Co., Bristol.—**Battery Booster:** Lancashire Dynamo Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Bins, Ash:** Sheet Iron Workers, Ltd., Cradley.—**Brushes, Sweeping, Platform:** Phoenix Brush Co., Bermondsey, S.E.—**Cement, Portland:** Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Chains, P. & M. & Crossley Vehicles:** Brampton Bros., Ltd., Manchester.—**Cord, Elastic:** M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Electrical Wiring:** F. G. Minter, London, W.—**Engine Test Benches:** Peter Hooker, Ltd., Walthamstow.—**Engines, Repair of:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Extension to Switchboards:** Ferguson, Pailin, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Gymnasia Belts:** D. Power & Son, London, W.—**Improvements to and Removal of Lighthouses:** Gas Accumulator (U.K.) Co., Ltd., Brentford.—**Lathes, Reconditioning:** Drummond Bros., Guildford.—**Milling Cutters:** Brooke Tool Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Birmingham; George Walker & Sons, Birmingham; Selson Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Rowland Small Tool Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Petrol Tanks, Undershields for:** Severn Engineering Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Proofing, Cotton Fabric:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings:** Andover: H. G. Ross, Netley. Farnborough: T. H. Jones, Farnborough. Martlesham Heath: Cubitt & Gotts, Ipswich. Uxbridge and Ruislip: T. W. Heath, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Re-roofing Huts:** A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Research Work on Aircraft:** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Roller Bearings:** British Timken, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Roller Spares:** Barford & Perkins, Peterborough.—**Valves, Wireless:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Wire Wheels (Crossley):** Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd., Birmingham.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Peel Conner Telephone Works, Coventry; Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic:** Enfield, Ediswan Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton.—**Castings, Joint Box:** McDowall, Steven & Co., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Cells, Secondary:** Pritchett and Gold and E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Clothing, Uniform:** J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., London, E., S.E., and Swindon, Wilts.—**Clothing, Waterproof:** C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Composition, Stamping:** T. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Covers, Tyre for Motor Cars:** David Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville; Dorington Sanitary Pipe and Fire Brick Co., Ltd., Moira, Ashby-le-Zouch; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Springfield and St. Helens.—**Fittings, Electric Light:** Engineering and Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.—**Headresses:** E. Altman, Ltd., Aldershot; J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; C. Owen & Co. (Bow), Ltd., London, E.—**Lamps, Tungsten:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; English Electric and Siemens Supplies, Ltd., Preston; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Machines, Stamp Vending:** British Stamp and Ticket Automatic Delivery Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Motors, Electric:** B.K.B. Electric Motors, Ltd., Luton.—**Pipes, Wrought Iron:** J. Spencer & Co., Wednesbury.—**Plugs, Cable, Distribution:** British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Spirit, Motor:** Carless, Capel and Leonard, London, E.—**String:** I. N. Lyons, Ltd., London, E.—**Wire, Bronze:** Elliott's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Copper, Enamelled and Silk Covered:** Conollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester.—**Wire, Copper, Soft, Strand:** Enfield Ediswan Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; H. W. Smith & Sons, Ltd., Lydbrook, Glos.—**Laying Conduits:** Openshaw-Clayton: Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., Birmingham. Bristol (Central South): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., Birmingham. Kensal-road: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., Westminster, S.W. Stocksbridge-Oughtibridge: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Birmingham (South): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Tiverton: G. Percy Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Hebburn and Jarrow: G. Percy Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Stanmore-Chesham (Sec. III.): G. Percy Trentham, Ltd., Birmingham. Manchester, High Street (2nd Sec.): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton.—**Low Tension Switchgear, Cables, Connections, etc.:** Post Office Savings Bank Sub-Station: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in, and Jointing Cable:** Purley-New Oxted: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Portsmouth-Ryde: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Portsmouth-Shedfield: Callenders Cable and Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Manchester-Hyde-Glossop: W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester.—**Motor Generators:** Post Office Savings Bank Sub-Station: The British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby.—**Power Plant:** Guildford Telephonic Repeater Station: General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton, Birmingham.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Swansea: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Batteries: Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

Charging Machines: English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Ringing Machines: Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford. Sketty: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Batteries: Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Charging Machine: English Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Ringing Dynamotors: The Small Electric Motors Co., Beckenham. Ilford: Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Stoke, Coventry.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Axes: Messrs. W. G. Birkinshaw & Co., Wolverhampton.—**Blankets:** Messrs. J. Walker & Sons, Yorks.—**Block Machines, etc.:** Messrs. Winget, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Boilers:** Messrs. The Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Lancashire; Messrs. J. Neilson & Son, Ltd., Glasgow; Messrs. Cochran & Co. (Annan), Ltd., Annan, Scotland; Messrs. J. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight.—**Boiler Tubes:** Messrs. The Chesterfield Tube Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Bolts and Nuts:** The Phoenix Bolt and Nut Co., Birmingham.—**Boring Plant:** Messrs. C. Isler & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bridges:** The Leeds Metal Exchange Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Bridge-work:** The Horseley Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd., Staffs; Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Blasting Powder:** Messrs. W. H. Wakefield & Co., Kendal.—**Bridge Meggers, etc.:** The Gen. Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Cable, etc.:** Messrs. W. T. Henley's Tel. Wks. Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**C.I. Pipes:** Messrs. Cochran & Co., Middlesbrough-on-Tees.—**Cement:** The Cement Marketing Co., London, E.C.—**Clothing:** Messrs. Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds & Co., London, S.W.; Messrs. D. Gurteen & Sons, Haverhill; Messrs. C. & J. Webb, London, E.—**Copper Ingots:** The British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Copper Plates:** Messrs. Williams, Foster & Co. and Pascoe, Grenfell & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Copper Line Wire, etc.:** Messrs. Elliott's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Copper Tubes:** The Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Coupler Spares:** The A.B.C. Coupler and Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Dog Spikes:** The Phoenix Bolt and Nut Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Drill, Khaki:** Messrs. Fothergill & Harvey, Manchester; Messrs. J. H. Greenhow & Co., Manchester.—**Drill (Cotton and Khaki):** Messrs. J. Booth & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Electrical Materials:** The Br. Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Electric Meters:** Messrs. Landis & Gyr, Ltd., Middlesex.—**Electrically Driven Transporters:** Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Enamel:** Messrs. L. Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Endless Rope Gears:** Messrs. D. Bridge & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Engine Spares:** Messrs. Kitson & Co., Leeds.—**Engine:** Messrs. J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Expanded Metal:** Messrs. Wm. Jacks & Co., London, E.C.—**Fuze:** Messrs. Bickford & Co., Ltd., Cornwall.—**Gas Engine Plant:** Major Tulloch, London, S.W.—**Gutters, etc.:** Messrs. J. Lysaght, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hinges:** Messrs. V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Hospital Equipment:** Messrs. Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Howitzer:** The War Department, Woolwich.—**Iron Chain, etc.:** Messrs. E. Baylie and Co., Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Lamps:** Messrs. Linley & Co., London, E.C.—**Lathe, etc.:** Messrs. Fairbairn, Lawson, Combe & Barbour, Leeds.—**Leather Equipment:** Messrs. Barrow, Hepburn & Sale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Lifts, etc.:** The General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Light Railway Track, etc.:** Messrs. Wm. Jones, London, E.C.—**Locomotive Spare Parts:** The Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Lancashire.—**Mild Steel, etc.:** Messrs. P. & W. Maclellan, Glasgow.—**Motor Car:** Belsize Motors, Ltd., St. James's.—**Motor Lorries and Trailers:** The Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Oil:** The Anglo-American Oil Co., London, E.C.; Messrs. C. C. Wakefield & Co., London, E.C.; The Vacuum Oil Co., London, S.W.—**Oil Engine:** The Agricultural and General Engineers, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Paint:** The Torbay Paint Co., London, E.C.—**Paper:** Messrs. C. Baker & Co., London, E.C.—**Patent Metal:** Messrs. J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pig Iron:** The Carron Co., Glasgow.—**Portable Trampoline, etc.:** Messrs. R. Hudson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Printing Machine, etc.:** Messrs. Harrild & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pumps, etc.:** Messrs. Duke & Ockenden, Ltd., Littlehampton.—**Rice:** Messrs. Jas. Anderson & Co., London, E.C.—**Serum:** The Lister Institute, London, S.W.—**Sewerage Fittings:** Messrs. Doulton & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sheets:** Messrs. T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Shirts:** Messrs. Hobson & Sons, London, W.—**Signalling Material:** Messrs. Tyer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Sleepers, Boards, etc.:** Messrs. C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—**Spades, etc.:** The Stockton Heath Forge, London, E.C.—**Spades, Ranges, etc.:** Messrs. V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Springs:** Messrs. Turton Bros. & Matthews, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Stationery:** Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London, E.C.—**Steel Tubes:** The Talbot Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Steelwork:** The Horseley Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd., Staffs.—**Steel Plates, etc.:** Messrs. F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel Pipes, etc.:** Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Surgical Instruments:** Messrs. Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Surveying and Drawing Materials:** Messrs. W. F. Stanley & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Telephone (Spare Parts):** Messrs. Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tents:** Messrs. T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tent:** Messrs. Leadbetter Bros., Dundee; Boase Spinning Co., Dundee.—**Tools:** Messrs. Buck & Hickman, Ltd., London, E.—**Train Lighting Spares:** Messrs. J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tyres and Springs:** Messrs. Steel, Peech & Tozer, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Tyres:** Messrs. Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Wagons:** The Metropolitan Carriage and Wagon and Finance Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; The Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Co., Ltd., Gloucester.—**Weighing Machines:** Messrs. W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wheels and Axles:** Messrs. Taylor Bros. & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**White Brass:** The Manganese

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