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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT in September, though showing a further slight improvement on the whole, continued severely affected by the coal-mining stoppage. In the iron mining, pig iron, iron and steel, tinplate, heavy engineering, shipbuilding, cotton, lace, jute, linen, pottery, and glass bottle industries it was very bad. Among skilled workers in the building trades and in agriculture, however, it continued good generally. The principal improvements recorded were in the pottery and wool textile industries.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 11,900,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 20th September, 1926, was 13·9,* as compared with 14·2* at 23rd August, 1926, and 12·0 at 21st September, 1925. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 13·6 at the end of September 1926, compared with 13·3 at the end of August, 1926, and with 11·4 at the end of September, 1925. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th September, 1926, was approximately 1,582,000, of whom 1,198,000 were men and 295,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 30th August, 1926, it was 1,606,000, of whom 1,205,000 were men and 306,000 were women; and at 28th September, 1925, it was 1,401,000, of whom 1,106,000 were men and 221,000 were women. The figures relating to August, 1926, and September, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during September resulted in an increase of nearly £5,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 70,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of about £200 in those of 4,000 workpeople. These figures do not include the effect of any changes in the rates of wages of coal miners which may have been made on resumption of work, as to which complete statistics are not yet available.

The principal increases in rates of wages during the month affected hosiery workers in the Midlands, whose

* These percentages include coal mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute. In other industries (excluding coal mining) the percentage of unemployment at 20th September was 14·5, as compared with 14·8 at 23rd August.

bonus was raised from 7d. to 8d. on each shilling earned, iron ore miners in Cumberland, iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland, and hosiery bleachers, dyers, etc., in the Midlands. There was a small reduction in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England.

During the nine completed months of 1926 the changes reported to the Department, in the industries for which statistics have been compiled, resulted in net increases amounting to £15,500 in the weekly full-time wages of about 134,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of about £89,000 in those of nearly 900,000 workpeople. These figures are exclusive of the effects of any recent changes in rates of wages in the coal-mining industry. In the corresponding period of 1925 there were net increases of £76,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 830,000 workpeople, and net reductions of over £152,000 in those of nearly 970,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st October the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 74 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. a month ago and 76 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 63, 62 and 72 respectively.

The rise in the index-number at 1st October, as compared with a month earlier, was due to increases in the prices of eggs, milk, coal and gas.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, involved nearly a million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 21 million working days in September. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 108 million up to the end of September.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in September was 16; in addition, 17 disputes which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these 33 disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in September was about 15,000 working days.

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY DISPUTE.

The progress of the dispute in the coal-mining industry was reviewed in the August and September issues of this GAZETTE (pp. 280-3 and 320-1) up to the intimation which the Mining Association made to the Government, on 13th September, that the Association had no power or authority to enter into agreements on behalf of district associations in regard to the terms of employment of the workmen.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation was held on 14th September, when the following resolution was passed:—

"This committee, having assembled in readiness to attend a joint meeting with representatives of the coalowners as proposed by the Government, regret to find that the coalowners still consider themselves entitled to be the sole arbiters of the interests of this country in matters arising from the lock-out of the miners, having refused the advances made by the miners' representatives with a view to settlement, and the invitation of the Government to a joint meeting. The committee are, therefore, left with no option but to request the miners in every area to resist the efforts of the coalowners to secure their defeat, and to await further instructions from the committee pending the decision of the Government upon the refusal of the coalowners to attend such conference."

On 16th September the whole question of the dispute was considered at a meeting of the Cabinet, and on 17th September, after conferences between the Prime Minister and the President of the Mining Association, and between the Prime Minister and other Ministers and officials of the Miners' Federation, the Prime Minister handed to the miners' representatives the following letter:—

"Sir,—On the 3rd September you wrote to us that you desired a conference with the coalowners in the presence of representatives of the Government, in order to seek a settlement of the present dispute; and you stated that you were prepared to enter into a discussion on the basis of a 'reduction in labour costs to meet the immediate needs of the industry.'

"After full consideration we decided that this offer constituted a basis sufficient to enable us to approach the Mining Association and to invite them to attend such a conference as you desired. But the Mining Association have now declined in the most emphatic manner to enter into any discussion with your Federation on the subject of hours and wages, or to make a national agreement with them. It is evidently not within the power of His Majesty's Government to bring about a conference. However, the Mining Association have declared that the coalowners in all districts are willing to observe the main principles that a national agreement would be designed to secure.

"A satisfactory settlement should combine district arrangements with national supervision. If the miners are at length ready to face the economic facts of the industry and restart work on provisional district settlements, His Majesty's Government are prepared to secure by legislation that these principles are properly applied by means of a National Appeal Tribunal.

"We therefore lay before you in broad outline in the enclosed memorandum what we are prepared to do and the limits within which we find ourselves able to act. If your members are prepared to resume work on the basis of district settlements subject to the security afforded by these conditions, and when work has been generally resumed, we shall submit these proposals to Parliament in the form of a Bill.

"We feel it necessary, however, to say that this offer has been made by us out of a sincere desire to arrive at an early settlement, and the Government will naturally expect to receive the views of your executive without delay."

The memorandum accompanying this letter was as follows:—

1. As soon as there has been a general resumption of work through provisional settlements arrived at by local negotiations the Government will pass an Act of Parliament setting up a National Arbitration Tribunal, unless the earlier conclusion of a national agreement renders it unnecessary.

2. Either party to any provisional settlement which provides for working more than the old hours may refer to the Tribunal for review any matter dealt with by such settlement, being a matter of a kind which up to July, 1925, was customarily dealt with by national settlements.

3. The Tribunal shall confirm or modify a provisional settlement in respect of the matter referred to it, and as from the date fixed by the Tribunal every man affected by the Award and employed in any pit which works more than the old hours will be entitled by law to receive wages in accordance with the decision.

The Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation met on 20th and 21st September to consider the proposals for a settlement contained in the Prime Minister's letter, and on the second day they addressed a letter to the Prime Minister covering a memorandum, the full text of which was as follows:—

"The policy announced by the Government on Saturday last has created a new and grave situation, and is likely, unless modified, seriously to prolong the dispute in the coal industry. The Chancellor of the Exchequer no longer ago than 8th September, while not excluding district discussions, affirmed in explicit and emphatic language that the Government adhered to the principle of national negotiations and agreements. In his letter of that date to Mr. Evan Williams he stated, as he had already stated to the officials of the Miners' Federation, that in the view of the Government a settlement

should include a national conference 'to lay down certain broad principles and recommend the practical steps needed to secure an early and universal resumption of work.' He concluded with the following words: 'After prolonged thought His Majesty's Government believe that this is about the best and shortest path that can be found to reach the vital object in view, namely, a businesslike and honourable settlement for a good long time.'

"These words were written on 8th September. The Miners' Federation, which, in response to a request from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to put forward proposals, had already, on 3rd September, informed the Government of its willingness to enter into negotiations for a new national agreement with a view to a reduction in labour costs, attached, as it was bound to do, the utmost importance to them. It would now appear, though the Federation is reluctant to believe it, that it was mistaken in taking the Chancellor's declaration seriously at all. On 17th September the Government completely abandoned the policy which he announced on 8th September, and advanced proposals of a diametrically opposite character. Its latest announcement would involve, if it could be carried out, the entire surrender of the principle of national negotiations and agreements, a principle which the Commission stated (Report, pages 152-3) to be essential, and which was endorsed in the letter of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"Thus the Government now proposes: the miners are to resume work on such terms as the owners in each district may be in a position to dictate. In those districts in which, in accordance with the Commission's recommendations, the hours worked prior to the stoppage are maintained, they are to receive no protection whatever from a national authority, however unreasonable the terms imposed by the owners may be. In the remainder, after the scales have already been weighted against them by district agreements, they are to have an appeal to a national tribunal, the construction of which the Government has not, as yet, thought fit to specify.

"Two months ago, in response to representations from the Mining Association and in defiance of the Commission's Report, the Government passed legislation depriving the mineworkers of their statutory rights to a seven-hour day. Now, in response to representations from the same quarter, and contrary not only to the Commission's Report, but to the Government's own explicit declaration, it is proposed to abandon national negotiations and national agreements. Such a proposal, in sharp contradiction as it is with the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, carries its condemnation on its face. The Miners' Federation is reluctant to believe that it can represent the considered judgment of the Government. It has no desire to enter into useless recriminations, but in the event of the stoppage being prolonged by the attempt to force the mineworkers back into district agreements, the responsibility for its continuance should be placed upon the shoulders of the Government and the mineowners.

"Even now, however, the Federation hopes that wiser counsels may prevail. In spite of what has passed, it adheres to its statement of 3rd September that it is 'prepared to enter into negotiations for a new national agreement with a view to a reduction in labour costs to meet the immediate necessities of the industry.' It must maintain the principle of national negotiations and agreements, because experience has shown that, in the absence of such common agreements governing the industry as a whole, the effect must be, in the words of the Commission, 'to expose the standards of the more efficient and prosperous areas, on which the future of the country rests, to undermining by the weaker areas.' Further, it would point out that the suggestion that a settlement will be accelerated if negotiations are begun in the districts is devoid of foundation. The inevitable result of throwing the task of negotiating terms on to 24 districts without any guidance by a central body must be to multiply points of friction, many of which would not have arisen had the principles to be embodied in any settlement been determined in advance by a national authority.

"The mineworkers are desirous of an honourable settlement. But they will not be coerced into accepting terms which they hold to be unjust, and which the Commission declared to be injurious to the industry. A dictated settlement, such as is desired by the mineowners, will be precarious, insincere, and short-lived. If a genuine and lasting peace is to be achieved, it must rest on a frank recognition of the fact that, whatever the difference between districts, the miners of Great Britain form a single body with common interests, and that they are entitled to insist that those interests shall continue to be protected by their national organisation."

On the same day, 21st September, the Prime Minister and other Ministers conferred with representatives of the miners, and the conference was continued on 22nd September. During the course of these meetings the miners' representatives made the following proposals for a settlement:—

"1. The Miners' Executive are prepared to recommend the miners to accept wages not less than those payable under the terms of the 1921 agreement, as a temporary arrangement for the immediate resumption of work.

"2. The terms of a national wages agreement shall be referred for decision to an independent tribunal to be agreed upon by the parties.

"3. The terms of reference to the tribunal shall be the consideration of, and application to the mining industry of, the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

"4. From the date fixed by the tribunal in respect to the matters referred to it every man affected by the award will be entitled by law to receive wages in accordance with the decision."

Further consideration was given to the dispute at a meeting of the Cabinet on 24th September, and later in the same day the following letter was sent to the Secretary of the Miners' Federation by the Prime Minister's Private Secretary:—

"Dear Sir,—I am desired by the Prime Minister to inform you that both the Coal Committee and the Cabinet have now given close and earnest attention to the proposals you submitted to him on Tuesday night and which you have since made public. While recognising the advance which the proposals indicate, His Majesty's Government do not feel that they afford the means of reaching an early or a lasting settlement of the present dispute.

"In these circumstances I am to say that the Government are not prepared to go beyond the maturely considered proposals conveyed to you in the Prime Minister's letter of the 17th instant. These proposals cannot of course remain open indefinitely, but your Federation are still free to avail themselves of them by taking the practical step of ordering district negotiations to be set on foot, subject to the subsequent review of an independent tribunal where any departure from the old hours is involved."

A delegate conference of the Miners' Federation took place on 29th and 30th September, when a resolution in these terms was carried unanimously:—

"Resolved, that the conference refer to the districts the Report of the executive upon the recent negotiations and the terms of the proposals which the executive have made, and which were accepted and approved by the conference. These proposals having been rejected by the Government, and other proposals offered as terms of settlement, the districts are requested to consider those proposals and report to an adjourned delegate conference to be held on Thursday next, 7th October, in London, when any further action necessary shall be decided upon."

The succeeding days were spent in ascertaining the views of the districts. In most cases voting was by a show of hands, and in a few cases by ballot.

The Committee of the Miners' International met at Ostend on 30th September and 1st October, and a proposal for a general miners' strike was rejected.

On 6th October the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation met, and had before them a letter, dated the same day, addressed to the Secretary of the Federation by the Prime Minister's Private Secretary, the text of which was as follows:—

"Sir,—I am desired by the Prime Minister to draw your attention to the fact that on 17th September the Government made a conditional offer of legislation to your Federation in the hope of hastening the end of the present dispute in the coal-mining industry. This offer was that, as soon as there had been a general resumption of work through provisional district settlements, the Government would introduce a Bill to set up a National Arbitration Tribunal, to review any provisional settlement under which more than seven hours were being worked. It was intimated to you that, since the object of the Government in making this offer was to arrive at an early settlement, they naturally expected to receive the views of your executive without delay.

"On 20th September your Federation sent a communication to the effect that the offer was unacceptable. Nevertheless, on 24th September you were told that, while the proposals could not remain open indefinitely, your Federation are still free to avail themselves of them by taking the practical step of ordering district negotiations to be set on foot." Speaking in the House of Commons on 23rd September, the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer emphasised that the proposals could only remain open for a few more days.

"An answer was expected from your delegate conference on 30th September, and it was with reluctance that the Government extended the period in order that the decision of the conference to consult the districts might be carried out. It is understood that the conference is to reassemble to-morrow and that the views of the districts will then be before them.

"In these circumstances I am to make it clear that the Government cannot consent to any further prolongation of the offer, which has now been before your Federation for nearly three weeks, but must ask the conference to give a definite decision either to accept it or to refuse it. If the offer is accepted by the Miners' Federation, and an immediate and general resumption of work takes place in consequence of it, the Government will introduce the necessary legislation at the earliest possible opportunity. Otherwise the offer, which will then have obviously failed in its primary purpose, must be regarded as withdrawn."

On 7th October the delegate conference of the Miners' Federation met again to receive the reports of the associations with regard to the proposals. It was reported to the conference that the district associations had rejected the Government's proposals by 737,000 votes to 42,000 votes. This decision was subsequently embodied in a formal resolution rejecting the Government's proposals, which was passed unanimously.

The conference then passed the following further resolution by 594,000 votes to 194,000:—

"1. *Safety men.*—All such to be withdrawn from every colliery.

"2. *Embargo.*—That we urge this on all foreign-produced coal.

"3. *Outcrops.*—That the Miners' Federation of Great Britain immediately orders a cessation of this practice.

4. *Levy.*—That a special congress of trade unions be called specifically to deal with this matter.

5. *Propaganda.*—That we send speakers to all 'black' areas, and that Labour M.P.'s be marshalled for a nation-wide campaign.

The central control of the operations to be vested in the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, which shall direct them to the supersession of local barriers where necessary."

It was understood that by passing this resolution the Miners' Federation had reverted to its earlier policy of a national agreement, a seven-hours day, and no reduction in wages, and had withdrawn its offer of 22nd September. The delegate conference adjourned until the following day, 8th October, when it was decided to defer action upon the resolution passed on the previous day with regard to the withdrawal of the safety men, etc., until the district associations had voted upon its terms. The official account of the proceedings stated: "With regard to the resolution moved yesterday by South Wales and adopted by the conference no action will be taken until the districts have voted upon the terms. The conference decided to-day to refer the resolution to the districts for ratification and endorsement. It will be voted upon in the same way as the Government's proposals were voted upon this week, and the decisions of the districts must be returned to the Federation offices by next Thursday [October 14th]."

On 14th October the Executive Committee met to receive the reports of the districts, and on the 15th it was announced that the policy embodied in the resolution had been endorsed by 460,150 votes to 284,336. It was further stated that the Nottingham and Leicester districts had not voted. As regards Leicester, it had been announced previously that on 9th October the Leicestershire Miners' Council had decided to call the dispute off and urge its members to present themselves for work; while on the 11th the Nottingham Miners' Council had decided to take a ballot, not directly on the resolution submitted by the Federation, but as to whether, on the one hand, all the men should cease work once more in support of the Federation's policy, those not ceasing to be disfranchised, or whether, on the other hand, a district settlement should be sought, which might involve severance from the Federation.

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS RECEIVING POOR LAW RELIEF (ENGLAND AND WALES).

A STATEMENT* has been issued by the Ministry of Health showing the number of persons in receipt of Poor Law Relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in June, 1926 (excluding lunatics in county and borough asylums, persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals), and giving some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of relief.

During the quarter the number of persons in receipt of Poor Law Relief was materially affected by the coal mining dispute and by the general strike of workers in the transport, printing, building, iron and steel, and other industries. It rose from 1,222,000 on the 1st May (the smallest number for any Saturday since the 26th September, 1925) to 2,440,600 on the 22nd May, an increase of 99.7 per cent.; it then fell for three weeks, to 2,336,600 on the 12th June, but thereafter again rose, and reached 2,420,700 on the last Saturday of the quarter.

The following Table gives comparative figures for persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in England and Wales for the months of June, 1926, and June, 1925:—

Classes of Persons in receipt of Domiciliary Relief.	England and Wales.			
	Average Numbers.		Average Numbers per 10,000 of the Estimated Population.	
	June, 1926.	June, 1925.	June, 1926.	June, 1925.
1. Persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts (whether in receipt of unemployment benefit or not), and the wives and dependent children of those persons	1,600,000	355,000	411	92
2. Persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, but not so insured, and the wives and dependent children of those persons	39,000	36,000	10	9
Totals of 1 and 2	1,639,000	391,000	421	101
3. All other persons in receipt of domiciliary relief	501,000	499,000	129	129
4. Total number of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief	2,140,000	890,000	550	230

The 1,639,000 persons recorded in Classes 1 and 2 in June, 1926, included 421,000 men, 396,000 women, and 822,000 children.

Statistics relating to the numbers of persons receiving Poor Law Relief in certain districts in September are given on page 385 of this GAZETTE.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY.

On 22nd September, 1926, a new Agreement was adopted by the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry. The parties signatory to the Agreement are, on the employers' side, the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, the National Federation of Plumbers and Domestic Engineers, the National Federation of Slate Merchants, Slaters and Tilers, and the Scottish National Building Trades Federation. On the workers' side the signatories are the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, the National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, the United Operative Plumbers' and Domestic Engineers' Association, the Amalgamated Slaters' and Tilers' Provident Society, the National Amalgamated Operative Street Masons, Paviers and Roadmakers' Society, the Altogether Builders' Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society, the National Builders' Labourers' and Constructional Workers' Society, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, the Building and Monumental Workers' Association of Scotland, the Amalgamated Slaters' Society of Scotland, the Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists, and the Workers' Union.

The Agreement provides primarily that rates of wages, hours of labour, extra wages, overtime, night gangs, and walking, travelling and lodging allowances shall be determined on a national basis, but that other conditions of employment shall be determined on a local or area basis. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Agreement a National Joint Council is to be appointed. The Rules of this Council contain, *inter alia*, a procedure for effecting variations in the conditions of employment specified above. In regard to wages the Council is to review the position at its statutory meeting in January of each year. For this purpose the existing rates of wages, as fixed for the various grades of towns, are assumed to correspond to a cost of living figure of 78. For each variation of 6½ points from this figure, taking the average of the index numbers from January to December, rates of wages shall be varied by ¼d. per hour. Provision is made, however, whereby exceptional or differential rates of wages, having been agreed to by Regional Joint Committees, may be submitted for approval to the National Council. Applications from towns for a variation in their grading are to be referred to a Commission which will make recommendations to the Council.

The Agreement also contains National Working Rules dealing with the conditions of employment specified above. These Rules so far as they concern conditions other than wage rates, may be varied by the Regional Joint Committees, subject to approval by the National Joint Council. On the subject of hours the Rules provide that the working hours shall be 44 per week, except that during the Statutory Summer period they shall be extended to 46½ per week, but that nothing shall prevent employers and operatives in any town or area from maintaining by mutual consent the 44 hours week throughout the year.

An "Addendum Agreement" provides that existing rates of wages shall be stabilised till 1st August, 1927, unless and except to the extent that they may be varied by the Council, for a period not exceeding 12 months following application from Regional Joint Committees for exceptional rates in respect of a defined district. Existing applications for re-grading of towns are to be adjudicated upon, but no further applications will be dealt with till October 1927.

EARNINGS AND HOURS IN THE PAPER, PRINTING, AND WOODWORKING INDUSTRIES.*

In the following Tables particulars are given of the earnings and hours of labour in the paper, printing, and woodworking industries in 1924, as shown by the returns received from employers in response to the general enquiry instituted last year by the Ministry of Labour. The details supplied in the returns relate to four dates in 1924, viz., the weeks ended 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October. The figures given below are subject to slight revision when later returns are included. For an explanation of the scope and nature of the enquiry reference should be made to the article on page 196 of the June issue of this GAZETTE.

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

The number of returns received, giving information regarding earnings, and the average number of workpeople covered, as shown by the average of the numbers in the four weeks specified above, in these groups of industries, are as shown below:—

Industry.	Number of	
	Returns received.	Workpeople covered.†
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.		
Paper making	262	36,757
Wallpaper manufacture	31	3,516
Manufactured stationery	546	23,679
Cardboard-box manufacture	398	16,506
Newspaper and general printing	5,268	153,025
All paper, printing, etc.	6,505	233,483

* Particulars relating to the Textile Industries were given in the June issue of this GAZETTE, to the Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc. Industries in the July issue and to the Iron and Steel, Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Industries in the August and September issues.
† Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

Industry.	Number of	
	Returns received.	Workpeople covered.*
WOODWORKING.		
Furniture manufacture	3,597	65,272
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	1,599	15,745
Packing case, box, etc. manufacture	298	8,998
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	3,956	65,010
Coopering	196	3,386
Basket manufacture	236	2,295
Other woodworking†	985	13,677
All woodworking	10,867	174,383

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

Industry.	Number of workpeople employed in the week ended				Proportion of	
	19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	Males.	Females.
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.					Per cent.	Per cent.
Paper making	36,424	36,581	36,950	37,071	75.0	25.0
Wallpaper	3,686	3,256	3,315	3,809	76.1	23.9
Manufactured stationery	23,127	23,363	23,776	24,449	36.8	63.2
Cardboard box	16,060	16,120	16,633	17,212	23.2	76.8
Newspaper and general printing	150,698	152,598	152,967	155,838	69.2	30.8
All paper, printing, etc.	229,995	231,918	233,641	238,379	63.5	36.5
WOODWORKING.					Per cent.	Per cent.
Furniture	62,343	65,745	66,339	66,659	79.5	20.5
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	14,967	15,989	16,103	15,923	94.6	5.4
Packing case, box, etc.	8,487	8,697	9,309	9,499	86.8	13.2
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	62,120	63,301	66,615	68,004	97.1	2.9
Coopering	3,201	3,230	3,548	3,565	92.1	7.9
Basket	2,223	2,387	2,397	2,173	73.7	26.3
Other woodworking†	13,160	13,661	13,702	14,184	87.2	12.8
All woodworking	166,501	173,010	178,013	180,007	88.8	11.2

II.—AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average actual earnings per head, in the four specified weeks, of the workpeople employed by the firms making returns, together with the average earnings of males and of females, as shown by those returns which gave separate particulars. It should be observed that the workpeople covered by the returns include workers of all ages, including boys, apprentices and other juveniles. Owing to the fact that certain firms were unable to separate the wages paid to males and females respectively, the numbers of males and females for whom particulars are given separately in Sections (B) and (C) of the Table add to less than the total numbers given in Section (A) of the Table.

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

Industry.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average earnings (for time actually worked) in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE.						
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.						
Paper making	36,757	47 8	48 1	48 7	48 9	48 3
Wallpaper	3,516	44 6	45 11	47 1	48 10	45 10
Manufactured stationery	23,679	37 9	38 1	38 1	38 4	38 0
Cardboard box	16,506	31 10	32 10	33 2	34 1	33 0
Newspaper and general printing	153,025	58 4	59 9	60 3	60 2	59 8
All paper, printing, etc.	233,483	52 6	53 8	54 0	54 1	53 7
WOODWORKING.						
Furniture	65,272	49 1	52 4	51 3	51 5	51 1
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	15,745	51 5	54 4	54 9	54 7	53 10
Packing case, box, etc.	8,998	43 3	44 4	45 5	45 8	44 9
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	65,010	48 6	50 2	51 4	51 5	50 5
Coopering, etc.	3,386	50 3	51 4	52 11	52 8	51 10
Basket	2,295	40 10	39 3	38 9	39 11	39 8
Other woodworking†	13,677	48 8	50 6	50 5	50 11	50 2
All woodworking	174,383	48 8	51 0	51 1	51 3	50 6

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
† Including shopfitting, firewood cutting and miscellaneous woodworking.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average earnings (for time actually worked) in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
(B) MALES.						
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.						
Paper making	22,162	56 3	57 0	57 8	57 9	57 2
Wallpaper	2,625	50 6	51 2	53 1	52 11	51 11
Manufactured stationery	7,459	58 5	58 11	59 8	59 10	59 3
Cardboard box	3,146	52 6	54 3	54 7	56 9	54 7
Newspaper and general printing	85,571	73 4	75 4	76 1	76 3	75 3
All paper, printing, etc.	120,963	68 2	70 0	70 8	70 10	69 11
WOODWORKING.						
Furniture	46,867	54 9	58 7	57 4	57 6	57 1
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	13,090	52 8	55 6	56 3	55 9	55 1
Packing case, box, etc.	7,205	46 8	47 7	49 1	49 6	48 3
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	60,877	49 0	50 10	51 11	52 2	51 0
Coopering	2,986	52 0	53 0	54 10	54 10	53 9
Basket	1,451	42 2	44 5	44 11	45 0	44 1
Other woodworking†	11,584	52 8	54 11	54 8	55 3	54 5
All woodworking	144,060	51 4	54 0	54 1	54 4	53 6

Industry.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average hours worked in the week ended				Average Hours worked in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.						
Paper making	19,009	46.3	46.9	47.3	47.2	46.9
Wallpaper	2,466	48.8	47.8	48.3	48.6	48.4
Manufactured stationery	12,547	46.6	47.2	47.0	47.8	47.2
Cardboard box	8,686	43.9	44.8	45.3	46.1	45.1
Newspaper and general printing	83,379	46.7	46.8	46.5	47.0	46.8
All paper, printing, etc.	126,087	46.5	46.8	46.6	47.1	46.7
WOODWORKING.						
Furniture	33,330	44.6	46.0	45.6	46.2	45.6
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	8,377	46.3	47.7	47.2	47.4	47.2
Packing case, box, etc.	5,653	44.2	44.9	46.4	46.1	45.4
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	39,709	44.5	45.4	45.5	45.1	45.1
Coopering	1,594	45.2	45.3	45.3	45.8	45.4
Basket	784	45.8	45.9	45.9	46.5	46.0
Other woodworking†	7,465	46.3	47.0	46.9	46.9	46.8
All woodworking	96,912	44.8	45.9	45.8	45.9	45.6

Industry.	Number of Workpeople covered.*	Average earnings (for time actually worked) in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
(C) FEMALES.						
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.						
Papermaking	7,384	25 1	25 7	25 5	25 11	25 6
Wallpaper	826	26 10	26 9	26 3	25 9	26 4
Manufactured stationery	12,815	25 9	25 10	25 11	26 2	25 11
Cardboard box	10,425	25 0	25 6	25 11	26 3	25 8
Newspaper and general printing	38,023	28 3	28 5	28 9	29 2	28 8
All paper, printing, etc.	69,473	26 11	27 2	27 5	27 10	27 4
WOODWORKING.						
Furniture	12,093	26 5	28 3	27 1	27 1	27 3
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	751	24 2	24 5	24 2	24 5	24 4
Packing case, box, etc.	1,093	24 4	26 1	25 3	25 9	25 5
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	1,814	23 10	24 2	24 10	24 10	24 5
Coopering	257	22 4	27 7	27 10	25 6	25 11
Basket	517	20 5	19 8	19 9	20 6	20 1
Other woodworking†	1,700	23 7	23 5	25 1	24 6	24 2
All woodworking	18,225	25 6	26 10	26 3	26 3	26 2

III.—NORMAL HOURS OF LABOUR.

The following Table shows the proportion of the workpeople employed by firms making returns on this subject, whose normal weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, in the week ended 18th October, 1924, fell within the limits stated, and the average normal hours:—

Industry.	Number of Workpeople covered.	Percentage of employees whose normal weekly hours were					Average weekly normal hours.
		44 or less.	44½ to 46½.	47.	47½ to 48.	Over 48.	
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.							
Paper making	37,353	35.2	3.4	3.8	0.6	48.0	46.8
Wallpaper	3,809	2.9	2.5	...	13.7	78.2	47.7
Manufactured stationery	24,447	3.2	4.5	10.0	2.6	74.5	47.7
Cardboard box	17,198	5.2	12.6	3.7	6.2	70.3	47.4
Newspaper and general printing	155,197	7.2	4.7	1.4	2.0	82.4	47.3
All paper, printing, etc.	238,004	11.0	5.0	2.8	2.3	75.3	47.3
WOODWORKING.							
Furniture	66,510	24.1	11.3	41.0	3.1	7.4	46.7
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing	15,898	7.2	6.5	53.1	1.5	18.0	47.5
Packing case, box, etc.	9,442	8.1	5.7	64.9	0.5	15.9	47.0
Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc.	67,852	34.4	7.4	33.6	2.0	7.9	46.6
Coopering	3,554	3.4	12.5	69.2	1.4	9.4	47.0
Basket	2,112	6.3	2.6	11.4	3.2	49.2	48.2
Other woodworking†	14,148	24.9	12.7	27.3	2.2	14.1	47.1
All woodworking	179,516	25.1	9.2	39.6	2.3	10.1	46.8

In the paper-making industry 14,880 workpeople out of the total of 37,353, were working on continuous shift systems. Of these,

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
† Including shopfitting, firewood cutting, and miscellaneous woodworking.

13,760 were working a system of 3 shifts and 1,120 one of 2 shifts. Of those working the 3-shift system, 4,391 worked 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 5 night shifts in successive weeks, the hours being 8 per shift, except on Saturday, when the great majority worked 6 hours on both the morning and afternoon shifts. In the case of 4,803 workers there were 6 morning, 5 afternoon and 5 night shifts; on Monday to Friday, the hours being 8 per shift, but on Saturday morning 897 worked 12 hours; 1,804, 10 hours; 1,173, 8 hours; and 929, 6 hours. Operatives numbering 3,664 worked, in successive weeks, 6 morning, 5 afternoon, and 6 night shifts of 8 hours, except on Saturday morning and Sunday night, when 6 hours were worked. In addition, 630 persons worked a system of 7 morning, 6 afternoon and 7 night shifts and 260 worked 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 6 night shifts. The operatives on the 2-shift system worked, in the great majority of cases, 6 morning and 5 afternoon shifts, usually of 12 hours on Monday to Friday and 6 to 8 hours on Saturday morning.</

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Proportion of Workpeople on Short Time in the week ended			
		19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July.	18th Oct.
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Paper making ...	33,282	10.4	8.9	7.4	10.1
Wallpaper ...	3,510	4.9	4.4	3.5	3.3
Manufactured stationery ...	21,087	27.9	21.8	18.9	18.5
Cardboard box ...	14,632				
Newspaper and general printing ...	146,790	2.6	3.2	3.1	1.6
All paper, printing, etc.	219,301	5.6	5.3	4.8	4.2
WOODWORKING.		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Furniture ...	60,930	9.4	4.0	4.1	3.1
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing ...	14,377	7.0	3.9	4.5	5.6
Packing case, box, etc. Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc. ...	8,670	28.5	23.7	15.8	18.0
Coopering ...	60,768	6.4	5.0	3.2	4.2
Basket ...	2,711	4.2	5.5	4.0	3.7
Other woodworking† ...	1,899	10.2	6.5	6.4	9.9
	12,035	6.6	4.4	5.6	4.0
All woodworking ...	161,390	8.8	5.5	4.6	4.7

Industry.	Average Number of Hours lost (a) by those who worked less than Full Time and (b) by all Workpeople covered in the week ended			
	19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July.	18th Oct.
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
PAPER, PRINTING, ETC.				
Paper making ...	11.2	1.2	10.5	0.9
Wallpaper ...	10.8	0.5	7.9	0.3
Manufactured stationery ...	9.8	2.7	8.9	1.9
Cardboard box ...				
Newspaper and general printing ...	9.4	0.2	9.2	0.3
All paper, printing, etc.	10.2	0.6	9.3	0.5
WOODWORKING.				
Furniture ...	9.7	0.9	8.5	0.3
Carriage, cart, etc., building and repairing ...	9.3	0.6	9.6	0.4
Packing case, box, etc. Mill-sawing, machine joinery, etc. ...	8.3	2.4	9.8	2.3
Coopering ...	7.8	0.5	6.9	0.3
Basket ...	12.3	0.5	8.6	0.5
Other woodworking† ...	15.7	1.6	15.4	1.0
All woodworking ...	8.9	0.8	8.4	0.5

NUMBER OF PERSONS REGISTERED AT EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN GREAT BRITAIN, APRIL—OCTOBER, 1926.

In the issues of this GAZETTE for October, 1924 (page 353), May, 1925 (page 157), November, 1925 (page 381), and April, 1926 (page 143), statements were published giving the numbers of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain in each week from 7th January, 1921, to 5th April, 1926. In the Table below the series is continued up to the latest date for which figures are available.

Date.	Number.	Date.	Number.
1926.		1926.	
April 12th ...	1,024,389	July 12th ...	1,644,194
19th ...	996,646	19th ...	1,631,268
26th ...	981,877	26th ...	1,605,420
May 3rd† ...	1,105,916	Aug. 2nd ...	1,618,744
10th ...	1,575,899	9th ...	1,594,169
17th ...	1,612,744	16th ...	1,580,520
24th ...	1,597,679	23rd ...	1,558,938
31st ...	1,614,212	30th ...	1,549,759
June 7th ...	1,609,119	Sept. 6th ...	1,559,535
14th ...	1,629,939	13th ...	1,551,924
21st ...	1,634,742	20th ...	1,530,884
28th ...	1,639,776	27th ...	1,527,751
July 5th ...	1,645,070	Oct. 4th ...	1,572,700

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED EX-SERVICE MEN.

KING'S NATIONAL ROLL.

The latest returns show that there are approximately 28,000 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms is approximately 370,000.

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
† Including shopfitting, firewood cutting, and miscellaneous woodworking.
‡ The general strike lasted from May 3rd to May 12th and the dispute in the Coal Mining industry commenced on May 1st. The figures exclude persons who ceased work on account of these disputes.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 28th September, 1926, the number of men in training was 721 and the number awaiting training, 95. Since 1st August, 1919, 99,281 men have terminated training.

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED.

The following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 20th September, 1926, differed from the figures for 23rd August, 1926, to the extent of 1,000 or more. The Table shows the increases and decreases for males and females separately, together with the total net variation for all insured industries.

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 20th September, 1926, as compared with 23rd August, 1926.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pottery, Earthenware etc. ...	- 4,805	- 6,626	- 11,431
Woolen and Worsted ...	- 2,044	- 7,769	- 9,813
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel-Rolling Mills and Forges ...	- 7,975	+ 19	- 7,956
Linen ...	- 1,084	- 2,016	- 3,100
Manufacture of Tin Plates ...	- 2,073	- 359	- 2,432
Shipping Service ...	- 1,965	- 5	- 1,970
Rubber Manufacture ...	- 1,274	- 571	- 1,845
Brick, Tile, etc. Making ...	- 1,360	- 422	- 1,782
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc. Manufacture ...	- 629	- 824	- 1,453
Jute ...	- 159	- 1,288	- 1,447
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades ...	- 478	- 656	- 1,134
Railway Service ...	- 1,036	- 28	- 1,064
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	+ 1,097	- 3	+ 1,094
Railway Carriage, Waggon and Tramcar Building ...	+ 1,203	- 12	+ 1,191
*Other Food Industries ...	+ 30	+ 1,390	+ 1,420
Shipbuilding ...	+ 1,661	+ 18	+ 1,679
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services ...	+ 581	+ 1,220	+ 1,801
Distributive Trades ...	+ 680	+ 1,598	+ 2,278
Cotton ...	+ 2,642	+ 1,286	+ 3,928
Tailoring ...	+ 1,397	+ 3,434	+ 4,831
Building ...	+ 6,075	+ 15	+ 6,090
Net Variation for above industries	- 9,516	- 11,599	- 21,115
Total Net Variation for all insured industries	- 18,797	- 17,388	- 36,185

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR INDIVIDUAL TOWNS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

In recent months a number of manufacturers and distributors, with a view to adjusting their sales activities, have applied to the Ministry of Labour asking to be regularly supplied with tables showing the course of unemployment at regular periods, weekly or monthly, in each important town or area served by an Employment Exchange.

The information desired is regularly collected by the Department, but the general demand is not such as to warrant publication in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE. Manufacturers and others have, however, intimated their willingness to pay for a special service of such information, and, provided that sufficient support is given to afford a reasonable prospect of such service paying its way, the Department is prepared to issue to subscribers only, at regular intervals, a statement, covering about 600 areas in Great Britain, on the following lines:—

Area.	No. of Insured Persons in Area.	No. of Unemployed Persons on Registers at [date] as a percentage of the Insured Population.				Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in the total percentage as compared with	
		Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	A month ago.	Two months ago.

The fees proposed are £5 per annum for a monthly issue, or £20 per annum for a weekly issue. In the great majority of cases, the monthly issue only has been desired, and in such circumstances the weekly issue would not be proceeded with. Applications for this service should be addressed either to the Director of Statistics, Queen Anne's Chambers, 28, Broadway, London, S.W.1, or to H.M. Stationery Office, Princes Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1, and should state whether a weekly or monthly service is desired.

* This group, which includes miscellaneous industries, corresponds with that under the same heading in the Tables on pages 376 to 379.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS: REPORT OF INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE.

THE inter-departmental Committee appointed in May, 1925, "to consider and report whether it is desirable that workers in agriculture should be compulsorily insured against the risks of unemployment, and, if so, on what terms and conditions and in what manner the insurance of agricultural workers can be most effectively provided, either by the inclusion of agriculture within the scope of existing legislation or by means of new legislation" have presented a Majority Report, signed by the Chairman and five other members of the Committee, and a Minority Report, signed by the remaining five members.*

The number of persons employed on agricultural holdings of one acre and upwards, as returned to the respective agricultural Departments in June, 1925, was 925,400, distributed as follows:—

	England and Wales.	Scotland.
Regular workers:		
Males ...	579,413	82,646
Women and girls ...	59,940	19,619
Casual workers:		
Males ...	114,748	10,464
Women and girls ...	49,237	9,333
Total ...	803,338	122,062

Both Reports draw attention to the distinction between regular and casual workers, which is obviously important in connection with the question of unemployment. The Majority Report observes: "The term 'casual worker' cannot be precisely defined. It includes on the one hand those who are employed for no more than a few days in the year on unskilled farm work, while it also includes, on the other hand, skilled agricultural workers, such as hedgers, thatchers, etc., who are regularly employed throughout the year by successive employers. So far as it is possible to classify them, 'casual workers' may be said to fall into four main groups, viz., (a) workers in regular employment but working for more than one employer; (b) workers whose only occupation is agriculture, but who are not employed for the whole year; (c) workers who are employed in agriculture for the greater part of the year and in some other occupation at other times; and (d) workers employed temporarily on seasonal work, such as fruit-picking, pea-picking, hop-picking, etc., who do not seek agricultural employment at other times." The Minority Report makes an even more elaborate classification, distinguishing five classes included under the term "casual worker," which extends from "the aristocrats among agricultural labourers" to those who through age, infirmity, character, or any other cause are only able to secure occasional employment.

The Majority, in their conclusions and recommendations, do not recommend the inclusion of workers in agriculture in Scotland under any scheme of compulsory insurance against the risk of unemployment, principally on the ground that the organisations both of employers and of workers in that country had made strong representations against the extension of the system of unemployment insurance to agriculture in that country. In England and Wales, on the other hand, they conclude that, while the employers are generally hostile to the extension of unemployment insurance to agriculture, the evidence leaves no doubt that the general opinion of the labourers is in its favour.

After careful consideration of the contention that the risk of unemployment in agriculture does not justify the adoption of any measure of insurance against it, the Majority nevertheless conclude that the risk of unemployment in agriculture cannot be ignored, that it exists even under the present unusually favourable conditions, and that it may at any time reach more serious dimensions. They also consider that the extension of unemployment insurance to agriculture is desirable. There is no just cause for its exclusion, and its exclusion is prejudicial to the interests of the industry; the lack of security against the risk of unemployment leads those who have experienced it to discourage their sons from accepting employment in agriculture, and prevents men who have left the land from seeking to return to it.

The Majority are of opinion that the terms and conditions of the present Unemployment Insurance Acts are inapplicable to agriculture and that, therefore, the inclusion of agriculture within the scope of existing legislation would be impracticable. Insurance against the risk of unemployment in agriculture can only be fairly provided by new legislation. The responsibility for the administration of an agricultural scheme should, in their opinion, be entrusted to the Ministry of Agriculture, with such co-operation as the Ministry of Labour would, no doubt, be able and willing to give. The local administration should be entrusted to a body jointly representative of agricultural employers and workers, and it may be considered that the existing Agricultural Wages Committees would be suitable for this purpose, and that their secretaries should be the executive officers, subject to such regulations and conditions as might be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture. There should also be a central board representative of employers and workers, which should at least be advisory and consultative, and might also have certain powers of supervision and control.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 6s. net.

The Minority, in their Report, express the opinion that the immunity from the risk of unemployment which workers in agriculture enjoyed in 1920, when Parliament excepted the industry from the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, continues at present in no lessened degree; and they see no reason why that immunity should not continue. Indeed, they give a number of reasons for believing that the present shortage of agricultural labour will be accentuated in the future. They, therefore, recommend that agriculture should continue to be excepted from the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920. They add that, even if the immunity of agriculture from unemployment had ceased to exist or was not likely to continue, the general provisions of the Act of 1920 should not be applied to agriculture in view of the cost to the industry "and the general opposition of the employers and workers"; while a special scheme (under Section 18 of the Act) could not, in their opinion, be made applicable to agriculture, and the Committee have no data upon which to formulate a separate scheme involving new legislation. "Any such scheme," they consider, "would have to provide for a wide extension of the present Employment Exchanges and offices into rural areas, and would involve a heavy administrative burden on the State or the industry. If the Exchanges and offices were not extended there would be no check, and the situation would be open to abuse. The difficulties of devising and administering a special scheme would be very great, particularly as regards questions of demarcation between that scheme and the general scheme, and as regards the insurance of 'casual workers.'"

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT IN LONDON IN 1925-26.

In their second Annual Report* for the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1926, the London Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment observe that the rate of unemployment in London during the year was comparatively small. As regards juveniles between 14 and 18, the problem in the main was not unemployment. It is estimated in the Report that the rate of unemployment in April, 1925, over the whole body of juveniles between 14 and 18 was less than 3½ per cent. (4½ per cent. between the ages of 14 and 16, and not more than 2½ per cent. between 16 and 18), and there is no indication of any serious deviation from this figure during the year. The problem was rather the small opportunity which the employment available offered for safeguarding the future working life and the outlook generally of juvenile workers.

The Council refer to the increasing success of the work of the local Juvenile Advisory Committees. The Committees hold "open evenings," to which boys and girls and their parents are invited to discuss their problems of employment with the members of the Committee. Visits to employers are paid by officers of the Employment Exchanges; 42,000 such visits were paid in 1925-6, as compared with 26,000 in the previous year. On the whole, employers have expressed their appreciation of the interest taken in their young workpeople; and various instances of co-operation between employers and the Committees are reported. In this connection the Council observe that "visits to employers indicate that they are satisfied with the juveniles submitted to them. Those boys and girls who are engaged are, for the most part, holding their jobs; but the ease with which a change can be made when, as at present, there is no lack of work of a kind is a great temptation to hasty and ill-considered action. This is specially noticeable in messenger, errand, and factory work, in which occupations the offer of a little more money is sufficient inducement to change jobs, and but little regard is paid to the future."

Experience at school conferences and in the daily work of the juvenile departments of the Employment Exchanges has shown the need for greater preparation for the change among boys and girls about to leave school and enter industry. Various local Committees have organised meetings for children leaving school in order that they may be addressed on such subjects as the choice of employment; the change from school life to industrial life; and the value of continued education and membership of a club or similar organisation.

The Council arranged for the collection, through the local Committees, of particulars of vacancies which involved a net working week of 50 or more hours. The majority of cases of excessive hours of employment were found in shops and in small restaurants.

Information obtained by the Council indicated that comparatively few boys and girls engaged in seasonal trades were unemployed.

The Council specially draw attention to the records of placings which appear in Tables appended to the Report. They show that over 40 per cent. of the total placings were in the age-group 14-15, and that over 75 per cent. of the total placings related to those who had been placed not more than twice by the local Committees. The Council observe that, bearing in mind the age at which children leave school and their lack of knowledge of the conditions under which they are required to work, they are gratified to find that the adjustments which must naturally be expected during the early years of industrial life were comparatively few in number, and were being effected on the whole without subjecting juvenile workers to prolonged spells of unemployment.

* The London Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment; Second Annual Report, 1925-26. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED AND WAGES
IN THE RAILWAY SERVICE.

I.—GREAT BRITAIN.

The annual Return* prepared by the Ministry of Transport relating to numbers employed and wages in the railway service in Great Britain has recently been published. The Return shows the total number of persons employed by the railway companies during the week ended 27th March, 1926, and the numbers employed in each of the principal grades, with corresponding figures for the week ended 28th March, 1925. A comparison is also given of the rates of wages, average wages, and average weekly earnings, of selected grades at the same dates.

Numbers employed.—The total number of persons employed† in March of each of the years 1921 to 1926 was as shown below:—

March, 1921	735,870	March, 1924	700,573
" 1922	676,802	" 1925	702,062
" 1923	681,778	" 1926	689,264

These numbers include all persons actually employed in the specified weeks, except staff not directly employed by the companies (e.g., staff employed by contractors). The figures comprise the number of staff receiving salaries or wages for the full week, combined with the equivalent number of full-time workers in cases where employees were paid for less than the complete week.

The numbers employed in some of the principal grades in March, 1926, and March, 1925, were as shown below:—

Grade.	Week ended 27th March, 1926.		Week ended 28th March, 1925.	
	Adults.	Juniors.	Adults.	Juniors.
MALES:—				
Carters and vanguards	18,714	4,434	17,612	4,276
Checkers	11,359	47	11,187	32
Engine cleaners	6,742	2,450	7,684	3,430
Engine drivers and motormen	38,679	...	38,292	...
Firemen and assistant motormen	36,403	2	36,357	2
Guards, goods and passenger	24,654	1	24,955	...
Labourers	28,458	1,524	30,465	1,675
Locomotive shed staff (except labourers)	10,728	267	10,548	318
Officers and clerical staff	72,645	3,305	73,249	3,869
Permanent way men	63,452	136	66,276	204
Porters, goods and passenger	41,586	5,816	42,204	6,231
Shop and artisan staff (excluding supervisory staff, labourers and watchmen)	102,636	13,752	104,453	14,684
Shunters	17,937	4	18,044	11
Signalmen	28,897	...	29,184	...
Supervisory staff	14,954	...	15,178	...
Other grades (excluding those in ancillary businesses)	74,680	6,934	75,605	6,895
Staff employed in ancillary businesses: Dock and quay staff	15,645	298	15,856	263
Other	16,992	1,799	17,300	1,836
TOTAL—MALES	625,161	40,769	634,449	43,726
FEMALES:—				
Clerical and technical staff	8,547	803	8,964	823
Office cleaners and charwomen	3,392	...	3,383	...
Other grades (excluding those in ancillary businesses)	4,207	467	4,378	448
Staff employed in ancillary businesses (hotels, refreshment rooms, laundries, etc.)	5,662	256	5,687	204
TOTAL—FEMALES	21,808	1,526	22,412	1,475
GRAND TOTAL	646,969	42,295	656,861	45,201

The numbers of males employed in each of the principal departments in March, 1926, were as follows:—

Department.	Adults.	Juniors.
Officers, clerical and supervisory staff	98,545	3,382
Traffic department	114,815	7,730
Goods and cartage staff	62,280	7,350
Permanent-way section (conciliation grades)	63,492	136
Locomotive, carriage and wagon department	111,413	4,239
Shop and artisan staff	125,513	15,015
Other departments (excluding ancillary businesses)	16,466	820
Staff in ancillary businesses (docks, hotels, refreshment rooms, etc.)	32,637	2,097

For the purpose of the figures given in the foregoing Tables the classification of adults and juniors is based on the numbers receiving adult and junior rates of pay, respectively.

The total numbers employed by the four principal railway groups were: London, Midland and Scottish, 269,798; London and North Eastern, 201,615; Great Western, 114,649; and Southern, 72,844.

Wages.—The average weekly earnings of certain sections of the male adult staff are shown by the Return to have been as follows:—

* "Railway Companies (Staff)." H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. net.
† Excluding railway employees of the Manchester Ship Canal Co., who numbered 1,461 in March, 1926.

	Week ended	
	27th March, 1926.	28th March, 1925.
Staff entered at salaried rates:— Clerical, supervisory etc. staff (excluding officers and staff entered under ancillary businesses) ...	91 1	91 3
Staff entered at wage rates (excluding staff entered under ancillary businesses):— Conciliation staff ...	67 2	67 4
Shop and artisan staff ...	70 2	69 11

The average weekly salary or wage, and the average weekly earnings, of adult males in each of the principal grades at March, 1926, and March, 1925, are summarised in the following Table. The average salary is calculated on the basis of 6/313ths of the annual salaried rate, including residual bonus, if any. The average wage in the case of staff embraced by conciliation agreements is computed from the basic rate, plus bonus additions, if any, under sliding scale, and in the case of other staff, e.g., mechanics and artisans, from the basic rate, plus the war wage. The average earnings represent salaries or wages, residual bonus (if any), war wage, piece-work earnings, tonnage bonus, payments for overtime, Sunday duty and night duty, commuted allowances, and any other payments for work performed, but exclude compensation allowance, travelling and out-of-pocket expenses, meal and lodging allowances.

Class.	Week ended 27th March, 1926.		Week ended 28th March, 1925.	
	Average weekly salary or wage.	Average weekly earnings.	Average weekly salary or wage.	Average weekly earnings.
Carters	s. d. 52 5	s. d. 58 8	s. d. 53 5	s. d. 58 11
Checkers	54 8	59 1	55 5	59 6
Clerks	81 8	84 3	81 5	84 3
Engine cleaners	47 7	53 3	47 4	52 11
Engine drivers and motormen	87 7	103 10	87 5	102 7
Firemen and assistant motormen	66 4	77 9	65 8	76 5
Guards	64 7	74 6	64 4	73 4
Permanent-way gangers	55 1	62 2	56 0	63 7
Porters (goods staff)	49 10	57 2	50 10	58 11
Porters, grade 2 (traffic dept.)	50 1	53 9	51 1	54 4
Shunters, class 1	65 0	72 0	65 0	72 5
Shunters, class 3	55 0	60 8	55 0	60 6
Signalmen	59 2	68 4	59 4	68 1
Station masters, yard masters, etc.	105 2	112 0	104 9	113 0
Supervisory staff (inspectors and foremen)	95 9	104 0	95 10	103 10
Mechanics and artisans:— Erectors, fitters and turners (loco, carriage, and wagon dept.)	62 10	81 2	62 8	80 5
Carriage and wagon builders and repairers	59 7	80 11	59 6	79 9
Machinists and machinemen (loco, carriage and wagon dept.)	55 3	75 2	55 2	75 3
Smiths (loco, carriage and wagon dept.)	63 8	80 8	63 8	81 6
Labourers (loco, carriage and wagon dept.)	45 10	56 6	45 8	57 6
Labourers (civil engineering)	46 6	53 7	46 4	52 6

The return also shows the standard rates of wages at the two dates for the principal grades of traffic workers.

II.—NORTHERN IRELAND.

The annual statistical return* relating to railway companies situated wholly or partly in Northern Ireland contains a statement showing the number of persons employed in Northern Ireland and the average weekly salary or wage and the average weekly earnings of adult staff in certain selected grades in the weeks ended 27th March, 1926, and 28th March, 1925. The total of the male staff in March 1926 was 6,600, of whom 335 were juniors, and that of the female staff 252. The corresponding totals for March, 1925, were males, 6,997 and females, 273.

The average weekly salary or wage and the average weekly earnings at the two dates, for male adults in a few of the principal grades were as follows:—

Class.	Week ended 27th March, 1926.		Week ended 28th March, 1925.	
	Average weekly salary or wage.	Average weekly earnings.	Average weekly salary or wage.	Average weekly earnings.
Checkers	s. d. 54 8	s. d. 56 6	s. d. 54 7	s. d. 56 1
Clerical staff	80 0	80 10	81 0	82 0
Engine cleaners	43 2†	48 7†	41 0†	48 6†
Engine drivers	86 4	95 3	86 9	96 3
Firemen	66 10	73 7	65 8	74 0
Guards	60 8	66 1	61 0	66 3
Permanent-way gangers	50 11	52 6	51 7	56 5
Platelayers	46 8	48 0	46 2	51 2
Porters (goods dept. staff)	50 8	53 5	50 3	52 8
Porters (traffic dept.)	46 1	49 1	46 3	49 8
Shunters	55 7	59 0	55 8	60 9
Signalmen	54 3	60 4	54 3	60 2
Station masters, yard masters, etc.	91 4	97 1	89 10	95 3
Shop and artisan staff:— Fitters	58 10	62 8	58 7	65 6
Labourers	46 6	48 0	46 2	49 7

* Published by H.M. Stationery Office; price 14s. net.
† Including the wages of junior staff.

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH
BOARD: SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Industrial Fatigue Research Board have issued their sixth annual Report,* the first part of which is devoted to their proceedings during the year ended 31st December, 1925.

The second part of the Report, occupying seven-eighths of the entire volume, is devoted to an analysis of the principal results obtained by the Board's investigators during the whole time since the Board was founded in July, 1918. This is arranged under various subject-headings, viz., scope and methods of investigation; hours of labour, spells, rest-pauses, etc.; other conditions of employment (temperature, humidity, ventilation, lighting, etc.); methods of work (vocational psychology, movement and time study, "team work" and other questions of organisation, posture, etc.); and a number of miscellaneous points. In drawing attention to this analysis, the Board state their conclusions as follows:—

"In the Board's opinion the results disclosed in the analysis are sufficient to show that both the well-being of the worker and productive efficiency can be increased by finding and adopting the most favourable conditions and methods of work. These can be secured in two ways, first by improvement in the conditions affecting the whole body of workers, and, secondly, by dealing with the individual worker. In the former case, where the change is the more easily effected, the results recorded are often small, but... they usually represent the composite effect of a change of conditions upon a large number of operatives, differing in their individual response to the change. The assumption seems, therefore, to be justified that the introduction of any change of conditions, shown in this way to be favourable, would have a similar beneficial effect for the whole of the operatives engaged in the given occupation. When methods affecting the individual workers (such as training) have been adopted, the resulting improvement has naturally been much greater...."

"The Board are convinced that research of the kind on which they have been engaged is now permanently established, for a vast field available for study still remains almost unexplored. As this report goes to press, their view has received confirmation from two authoritative sources, namely, the Royal Commission on the Coal Industry (1925) and the Committee on Industry and Trade, both of whom independently emphasise the importance of this kind of work; whilst further evidence exists in the fact that almost every industrial country contains one or more institutions with functions similar to those of the Board. Indeed, the time is fast approaching when the scientific study of the human factor in industry will no longer be regarded as a praiseworthy attempt to benefit a few individual workers, but will be accepted as the beginning of a movement with limitless possibilities, in which the industries themselves must participate."

NATIONAL COAL TRIMMING
TARIFF.APPOINTMENT OF COURT OF
INVESTIGATION.

DIFFERENCES having arisen between the two sides of the National Coal Trimming Board in connection with the national coal trimming tariff, the Minister of Labour, at the request of the parties, appointed, on 20th September, 1926, a Court of Investigation under the Conciliation Act, 1896, with the following terms of reference:—"To inquire into the respective demands of the ship-owners and trimmers as submitted to the Court, and to make recommendations to the parties thereon."

The members of the Court are Mr. Harold Morris, K.C. (Chairman), Mr. J. T. Clatworthy, Mr. C. T. Cramp, Mr. Lewis Lougher, M.P., and Mr. W. B. Nisbet. Mr. A. B. Valentine, of the Ministry of Labour, has been appointed Clerk to the Court.

The Court held a preliminary meeting on 22nd September and heard evidence from the parties on 5th, 6th and 7th October. The Court then adjourned till 18th October, when the hearing will be continued.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR
CONVENTIONS.

RATIFICATION BY H.M. GOVERNMENT.

THE Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference at Geneva adopted on 5th June, 1925, a draft convention relating to equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards women's compensation for accidents and on 10th June, 1925, a draft convention relating to workmen's compensation for occupational diseases.

The London Gazette for 24th September, 1926, contains the text of two Orders of the Privy Council dated 17th September, 1926, stating that these draft conventions have, in respect of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, obtained the consent of the authority or authorities within whose competence the matters lie, and that such action as is necessary to make the provisions of the draft conventions effective therein has been taken, and ordering that the said conventions should be confirmed and approved, and that formal communication should be made thereof to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. net.

EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING
INDUSTRIES IN THE UNITED
STATES.

THE National Industrial Conference Board of New York (a body composed of representative national and State industrial associations, and organised to provide information and to facilitate discussion and co-operative action on matters affecting industrial development) has published a volume entitled *Wages in the United States*, which gives the results of a recent inquiry into wages in July, 1914, and from 1920 to the first quarter of 1926, in the principal branches of manufacturing industry, as well as in the railway service, public utility services, anthracite mining and building.

So far as the manufacturing industries are concerned, the report is based on an analysis of returns from 1,764 establishments in 25 basic industries, a list of which is given in the Tables below. The total number of persons employed in all establishments covered by the inquiry was 743,227 in January, 1924, equivalent approximately to 20 per cent. of the wage-earners enumerated at the 1919 census of manufactures in these 25 industries.

In all except a few cases, the data include returns from identical establishments throughout the period from 1920 to the present year. For the purpose of comparing present conditions with those preceding the war, it was decided to obtain data for a pre-war month, for which purpose July, 1914, was chosen. It was impossible for some of the establishments furnishing data for the investigation to provide figures for this month; but a large proportion of them were able to do so.

The wage data contained in the report relate to cash payments only, and do not take into consideration the value of such wage equivalents as reduced rents or free lodging, etc. Hourly earnings were obtained by dividing the total weekly pay-roll for each group of wage earners by the number of persons in that group. In computing the average earnings for industry as a whole, the average earnings for each industry were weighted by the number of wage earners in that industry, as reported in the 1919 Census of Manufactures.

Since the middle of 1923, average hourly earnings of all wage earners in the establishments covered by the enquiry have remained almost constant. During this period, they have never exceeded 56.2 cents, nor have they dropped lower than 55.5 cents.

The following Tables show (1) the average hourly and weekly earnings of male unskilled, male skilled and semi-skilled and women workers in the 25 manufacturing industries covered by the report, in the first quarter of 1926, and (2) the percentage increases represented by these earnings over the earnings in the same industries in July, 1914.

(1) Average Earnings in First Quarter of 1926 in 25 Manufacturing Industries.

Industry.	MALE—UNSKILLED.		MALE—SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED.		WOMEN.	
	Average Hourly Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.	Average Hourly Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.	Average Hourly Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.
Iron and Steel	Cents. 49.8	Dollars. 28.01	Cents. 68.9	Dollars. 37.28	Cents. ...	Dollars. ...
Agricultural Implement	47.7	24.46	64.6	32.57	41.8	20.46
Automobile	51.8	27.63	69.2	34.81	42.9	18.71
Electrical Apparatus	47.0	23.06	65.7	31.71	42.1	18.06
Foundry and Machine Shop Products	49.0	24.73	63.8	31.73	36.4	16.30
Foundries	51.0	26.09	67.4	33.98	39.1	17.38
Machines and Machine Tools	47.2	24.23	61.7	31.19	38.0	16.23
Heavy Equipment	49.6	24.68	69.2	35.68	...	...
Hardware and Small Parts	45.2	22.23	58.8	29.20	36.8	16.53
Cotton—North	37.7	19.33	48.9	23.34	36.7	15.55
—South	25.3	13.00	35.2	17.89	28.5	13.55
Hosiery and Knit Goods	37.7	17.47	61.7	29.60	36.7	17.07
Silk	47.5	25.92	59.5	27.89	37.8	16.97
Wool	43.9	20.29	54.2	24.89	43.1	18.51
Leather Tanning and Finishing	49.1	22.90	56.6	26.81	34.0	14.72
Boot and Shoe	40.0	18.98	54.1	24.71	37.6	17.12
Chemical	50.9	27.62	59.8	30.82	43.0	17.52
Paint and Varnish	46.8	21.69	59.0	32.13	32.6	14.74
Paper and Wood Pulp	44.9	23.18	60.5	31.93	35.9	15.97
Paper Products	47.7	23.97	60.9	28.95	39.7	17.71
Printing and Publishing—Book and Job	46.9	22.91	87.5	41.70	39.3	17.88
Printing and Publishing—Newspaper and Periodical	48.2	22.03	95.6	43.61	47.1	20.67
Furniture	43.5	21.52	61.8	30.55	39.6	17.45
Lumber Mfg. and Mill Work	38.0	18.65	60.8	29.13	...	...
Meat Packing	45.1	22.46	55.8	28.04	37.5	17.48
Rubber	53.6	26.78	74.6	33.82	44.5	18.91
Average for all 25 Industries	47.5	24.21	64.2	31.55	39.5	17.35

(2) Percentage Increase in Average Earnings, July, 1914—First quarter, 1926, in the same Industries.

Industry.	MALE—UNSKILLED.		MALE—SKILLED AND SEMI-SKILLED.		WOMEN.	
	Average Hourly Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.	Average Hourly Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.	Average Hourly Earnings.	Average Weekly Earnings.
Iron and Steel ...	142	150	115	94	...	...
Agricultural Implement ...	112	103	127	123	152	129
Automobile ...	154	147	114	114	162	112
Electrical Apparatus ...	114	101	119	115	155	117
Foundry & Machine Shop Products ...	129	127	108	114	164	147
Foundries ...	136	137	133	136	157	163
Machines & Machine Tools ...	113	122	104	110	209	179
Heavy Equipment ...	118	107	117	94	...	...
Hardware & Small Parts ...	126	124	122	123	177	153
Cotton—North ...	124	117	142	118	140	101
South ...	201	169	159	130	174	142
Hosiery and Knit Goods ...	120	78	151	127	135	122
Silk ...	132	106	151	132	154	129
Wool ...	147	117	161	120	175	126
Leather Tanning & Finishing ...	138	119	144	130	128	129
Boot and Shoe ...	117	97	128	93	124	92
Chemical ...	137	121	125	103	244	166
Paint and Varnish ...	63	43	92	97	119	111
Pulp ...	104	98	127	109	149	143
Paper Products ...	140	118	157	130	186	160
Printing and Publishing—Book & Job ...	135	135	122	127	149	145
Do., Newspaper and Periodical ...	69	148	125	112	151	138
Furniture ...	143	176	144	139	166	146
Lumber Mfg. & Mill Work ...	96	79	133	114	...	...
Meat Packing ...	172	120	107	86	207	162
Rubber ...	156	141	162	144	146	115
Average for all 25 Industries ...	134	126	129	123	156	121

In addition to the figures reproduced in the above Tables, the earnings of all males combined and of all wage-earners combined are given in the report, in respect of each of the 25 manufacturing industries. The general averages of these figures are: average nominal hourly earnings in the first quarter of 1926, all males, \$0.604; all wage-earners, \$0.557, representing increases of 132 and 127 per cent. respectively over the earnings in July, 1914. The corresponding figures of weekly earnings are: \$29.92, all males, and \$27.27, all wage-earners, representing increases of 124 and 117 per cent. respectively.

In comparing the post-war with the pre-war earnings given in the Tables, regard should be had to the fact that, according to the figures in the report under review, the average cost-of-living index number for the first quarter of 1926 was 169.4, as compared with 100 in July, 1914. The average general percentage increase in hourly real earnings in the first quarter of 1926 was, therefore, 38 for male unskilled, 35 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 51 for women workers; for all males combined it was 37, and for all wage earners combined, 34. The corresponding percentage increases in weekly real earnings were, 33 for male unskilled, 32 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 30 for women workers; 32 for all males combined and 28 for all wage earners combined.

With regard to the actual hours worked in the 25 manufacturing industries covered by the inquiry, it is stated that the average actual working hours per week in July, 1914, were 52.7 for male unskilled, 50.7 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 50.8 for women workers; for all males combined they were 51.2 and for all wage earners combined 51.5. In the first quarter of 1926, the corresponding figures were: 51.0 for male unskilled, 49.1 for male skilled and semi-skilled, and 43.9 for women workers; for all males combined they were 49.5 and for all wage-earners combined, 48.7. The average nominal working hours in July, 1914, for all wage-earners were 55; in the first quarter of 1926, they were 49.9.

NEW MINISTRY OF CORPORATIONS IN ITALY.

A ROYAL Decree of 2nd July, 1926,* establishes a Ministry of Corporations in Italy, which is to exercise all the functions of organisation, co-ordination and supervision entrusted to the Government by the Act of 3rd April, 1926, on the Regulation of Collective Labour Relations (see this GAZETTE for June, 1926, page 207), and the administrative regulations issued thereunder.

A National Council of Corporations, attached to the new Ministry, is also set up by the same Decree. The Council will be composed of the Minister of Corporations, as President, the Under-Secretary of State for Corporations, the Director-General of Labour in the Ministry of National Economy, two representatives of the Ministry of National Economy, and one representative of each of the other Ministries, not inferior in rank to a Director-General, two representatives each of the legally recognised national confederations of

* Gazzetta Ufficiale, 7th July, 1926. Rome.

industry and agriculture, and one representative of each of the other legally recognised national confederations, one representative of the legally recognised general confederation of employers and one of that of the workers, one representative of the National Institution for the Utilisation of Spare Time, one of the National Institution for Young Fascists and one of the National Institution for Maternity and Infant Welfare. Nominations will be made by Royal Decree; the members will be elected for a period of four years, and will be eligible for re-election.

It is the function of the Council to give advice on all questions relating to the various corporations or associations belonging to those corporations, and on all questions which may be laid before it by the Minister of Corporations.

The Decree came into force on 7th July.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS IN FRANCE IN 1925.*

THE number of collective agreements reported to the French Ministry of Labour as having been signed in 1925 was 126. Of these 25 were in the textile, clothing, etc., industry, 15 in building, 13 in mining, 13 in transport, 11 in food preparation, 10 in the leather trades and 10 in agriculture. The information supplied shows that 54 agreements were concluded between employers' organisations and workers' organisations, 27 between individual employers or unorganised groups of employers and workers' organisations, and one as a result of the formation of a permanent joint committee.

The period of validity provided for in the agreements was in the majority of cases indefinite, although 28 agreements were to remain in force for limited periods ranging from one month to five years. Clauses relating to minimum wages were included in 107 agreements and 25 contained provisions concerning hours of labour. In 10 cases provision was made for the payment of cost-of-living allowances to vary with the changes in the cost-of-living index numbers.

Four agreements provided for the establishment of joint committees for the settlement of all disputes between employers and workpeople.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN FRANCE†: RECENT CHANGES.

FRENCH legislation on workmen's compensation has, during the past twelve months, been modified in the following respects:—(1) The field of application of the Act on agricultural accidents has been extended; (2) the level of the basic wage has been raised; and (3) the rate and duration of benefits applying to certain classes of accident have been increased.

(1) *Accidents in Agriculture.*—An Act of 15th December, 1922 (see this GAZETTE for January, 1923, p. 10), extended the application of industrial accident legislation to agricultural undertakings. This Act has been amended and interpreted by an Act dated 30th April, 1926, which extends liability in industrial accidents not only to agricultural undertakings of all kinds, such as cattle breeding, horse training, stud farms, depôts or places of sale connected with associations, or works, where the agricultural undertaking constitutes the principal establishment, but also to agricultural co-operative societies affiliated to mutual credit funds, mutual insurance funds, mutual credit banks, and farmers' associations. The exception provided for under the Act of 1922 in the case of farmers normally working alone or assisted by members of their families is abolished.

(2) *Increase in the Basic Wage.*—Under the Act of 9th April, 1893, the basic wage for the purpose of calculating compensation was fixed at 2,400 francs, any sum over and above this figure counting as to one-quarter only, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary. In view of the rise in the cost of living and the consequent increase in wages, the basic wage was raised by an Act dated 5th August, 1920, from 2,400 to 4,500 francs. The causes leading to the rise in the basic wage in 1920 having continued to be operative, the nominal wages of workers have increased and benefits are at present assessed on a small portion only of the workers' wages.

With a view to remedying this as far as possible, an Act dated 9th July, 1926, which is to come into force on 1st February, 1927, provides that wages exceeding 8,000 francs shall benefit in full only up to that amount. Any sum over 8,000 francs and not exceeding 18,500 francs shall be effective as to one-quarter thereof only in the assessment of benefits prescribed under Article 3 of the Act of 1893; any sum over and above 18,500 francs shall be effective as to one-eighth only, in the absence of agreements to the contrary specifically raising the effective quota.

(3) *Temporary Benefits for Certain Classes of Accident.*—Retroactive force was given to the Act of 5th August, 1920 (raising the effective assessment basis from 2,400 to 4,500 francs) by an Act dated 15th July, 1922, which has been modified and extended by Acts dated 30th June, 1924, 11th July, 1925, and 30th June, 1926. The effect of these Acts is to provide for adjustments in the scale of compensation for accidents in respect of which the scale in force prior to 5th August, 1920, was applied. The scale for such accidents now ranges from 20 francs a month for a disability of 30-49 per cent. to 100 francs for a disability exceeding 80 per cent.

* Bulletin du Ministère du Travail, April-May-June, 1926. Paris.
† Industrial and Labour Information, 16th August, 1926. International Labour Office, Geneva, and Journal Officiel, Paris, passim.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included ...	74%
Food only ...	63%

FOOD.

At 1st October the average level of retail prices of the principal articles of food was slightly higher than a month earlier. This was mainly due to further seasonal increases in the prices of eggs and milk, which, however, were partly counteracted by decreases in the prices of bread and flour and potatoes.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 63 per cent. above the pre-war level as compared with 62 per cent. a month earlier and 72 per cent. at the beginning of October, 1925. The decrease as compared with a year ago is largely due to the lower prices of butter, eggs and potatoes.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st September and 1st October, 1926:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1/4d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st Oct., 1926, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Sept., 1926.	1st Oct., 1926.	July, 1914.	1st Sept., 1926.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs ...	0 10	1 5 1/2	1 5 1/2	+ 0 7 1/2	...
Thin Flank ...	0 6 1/2	0 9 1/2	0 9 1/2	+ 0 3 1/2	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7 1/2	0 10 1/2	0 10 1/2	+ 0 3	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4 1/2	0 5 1/2	0 5 1/2	+ 0 0 1/2	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10 1/2	1 6 1/2	1 6 1/2	+ 0 8 1/2	...
Breast ...	0 6 1/2	0 10 1/2	0 10 1/2	+ 0 3 1/2	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6 1/2	1 0	1 0	+ 0 5 1/2	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 5 1/2	0 5 1/2	+ 0 1 1/2	...
Bacon (streaky)* ...	0 11 1/2	1 8 1/2	1 8	+ 0 8 1/2	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10 1/2	1 6 1/2	1 6	+ 0 7 1/2	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5 1/2	0 10	0 10	+ 0 4 1/2	...
Tea ...	1 5 1/2	2 5 1/2	2 5 1/2	+ 0 10 1/2	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 3 1/2	0 3 1/2	+ 0 1 1/2	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3 1/2	0 5 1/2	0 5 1/2	+ 0 2 1/2	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2 1/2	1 11	1 11	+ 0 8 1/2	...
Salt ...	1 2 1/2	1 9 1/2	1 9 1/2	+ 0 7 1/2	...
Cheese† ...	0 8 1/2	1 1	1 1	+ 0 4 1/2	...
Margarine ...	0 7	0 8	0 8	+ 0 1	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1 1/2	0 2 1/2	0 2 1/2	+ 0 1 1/2	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4 1/2	0 7	0 7	+ 0 2	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st October, 1926, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Sept., 1926.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	76	73	76	75
Thin Flank ...	47	46	46	45
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	46	39	42	41
Thin Flank ...	12	15	13	12
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	80	81	80	81
Breast ...	60	58	59	60
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	79	68	74	73
Breast ...	27	28	27	26
Bacon (streaky)* ...	80	78	79	80
Fish ...	139	107	123	122
Flour ...	70	73	71	74
Bread ...	73	70	72	74
Tea ...	58	65	61	61
Sugar (granulated) ...	75	66	70	67
Milk ...	78	80	79	68
Butter—				
Fresh ...	55	62	58	58
Salt ...	54	52	53	54
Cheese† ...	49	53	51	51
Margarine ...	18	12	15	15
Eggs (fresh) ...	97	94	95	79
Potatoes ...	50	25	38	45
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	65	62	63	62

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.
† The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st October, 1926, was approximately 50 per cent. Of the total increase about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st October the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged about 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group prices of coal continued to advance and at 1st October the prices, per cwt., averaged about 220 per cent. above those of July, 1914. The prices of gas were raised in many towns as from the beginning of the autumn quarter and at 1st October were, on the average, about 70 per cent. above the pre-war level. The prices of lamp oil, candles and matches at 1st October, were about the same as a month earlier. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st October, as compared with July, 1914, was about 130 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st October is, approximately, 74 per cent.* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. at 1st September and 76 per cent. at the beginning of October, 1926.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1926 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1926.

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

Month.	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)											
	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Jan. ...	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75
Feb. ...	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73
Mar. ...	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	85	76	78	79	68
April ...	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68
May ...	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67
June ...	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68
July ...	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70
Aug. ...	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70
Sept. ...	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72
Oct. ...	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74
Nov. ...	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	...
Dec. ...	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	...

NOTE.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT in September, though showing a further slight improvement on the whole, continued severely affected by the coal-mining stoppage. In the iron-mining, pig iron, iron and steel, tinplate heavy engineering, shipbuilding, cotton, lace, jute, linen, potte y, and glass bottle industries it was very bad. Among skilled workers in the building trades and in agriculture, however, it continued good generally. The principal improvements recorded were in the pottery and wool textile industries.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 1,900,000, and working in practically every industry, except agriculture and private domestic service the percentage unemployed at 20th September, 1926, was 13.9* as compared with 14.2* at 23rd August, 1926, and with 12.0 at 21st September, 1925. For males alone the percentage at 20th September was 14.9, as compared with 15.1 at 23rd August; for females the figure at 20th September was 11.1, as compared with 11.6 at 23rd August. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 13.6 at the end of September, 1926, as compared with 13.3 at the end of August, 1926, and with 11.4 at the end of September, 1925. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th September, 1926, was approximately 1,582,000, of whom 1,198,000 were men and 295,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 30th August, 1926, it was 1,606,000, of whom 1,205,000 were men and 306,000 were women; and at 28th September, 1925, it was 1,401,000, of whom men numbered 1,106,000 and women 221,000. The figures relating to August and September, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute.

The following Table shows, month by month since September, 1925, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) of persons on the registers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Month.	Percentage Unemployed (at or near end of month) among			Numbers registered at Local Offices (Insured and Uninsured).
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
1925.				
September ...	11.4	13.3	8.5	1,401,000
October ...	11.3	12.7	7.7	1,295,000
November ...	11.0	12.2	7.8	1,227,000
December ...	11.0	11.6†	7.3†	1,166,000
1926.				
January ...	10.6	12.1	8.1	1,237,000
February ...	10.4	11.5	7.7	1,169,000
March ...	10.1	10.9	7.1	1,070,000
April ...	10.0	10.1	6.7	1,034,000
May ...	13.2	15.1	12.7	1,675,000
June ...	12.9	15.6	12.3	1,699,000
July ...	13.2	15.3	12.8	1,664,000
August ...	13.3	15.1	11.6	1,606,000
September ...	13.6	14.9	11.1	1,582,000

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal-mining industry the dispute which commenced on 1st May continued throughout September. At iron mines employment remained practically at a standstill. At the mines covered by the returns received there was a decrease of 82.8 per cent. in the number employed as compared with September, 1925. The average number of days worked by the mines that were working was 4.88 in September 1926, 4.79 in August, 1926, and 5.34 in September, 1925. In the West Lothian shale mines employment showed little change compared with the previous month. At limestone quarries in the Clitheroe district and in the Weardale district employment was bad. At slate quarries in North Wales it remained fairly good. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland employment declined and was reported as bad. At chalk quarries it continued very slack. It was again fairly good at china clay quarries and good at tin mines.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—The pig-iron industry continued almost at a standstill, and at the end of September only 5 furnaces were in blast, as compared with 6 in August, and 129 in September, 1925.

In the iron and steel trades employment was still seriously affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry, and continued very bad. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade employment continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of fuel; many mills were still idle and much short time working was reported. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of September, 1926, was 303, as compared with 300 in August, 1926, and 523 in September, 1925.

* These percentages include coal mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentages but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute. In other industries (excluding coal-mining) the percentage of unemployment at 20th September was 14.5 as compared with 14.8 at 23rd August.
† At 21st December.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—In the engineering trade employment continued to be adversely affected by the coal-mining dispute and remained very bad. Much short time was worked, especially in the railway engineering and textile machinery sections. In the electrical engineering section employment showed a slight improvement; but there was a further decline in marine engineering and on motor vehicle work. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment showed a further decline and was very bad, partly owing to the continued dispute in the coal-mining industry and the consequent shortage of materials. In the other metal trades employment continued to be affected adversely by the dispute in the coal-mining industry and was moderate on the whole. It was good in the lock, latch and key trade; fair in the stove and grate, and the needle and fishing tackle trade; moderate in the brasswork, sheet metal, tube, hollow-ware and cutlery trades; and slack or bad in the file, wire, nut and bolt, metallic bedstead, jewellery and plated ware, anvil and vice, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Trades.—In the cotton trade employment continued depressed and was worse than a month earlier, owing in part to bad trade and in part to the scarcity and high price of fuel. The usual September trade holidays were extended in many districts. In the American spinning section not more than half-time working obtained, but in the Egyptian spinning section the operatives were still fairly well employed. The weaving department remained depressed, and showed a further decline. In the wool textile industry employment was slack on the whole, though there was a fairly general improvement, more particularly in the worsted section.

Employment in the hosiery trade showed a slight improvement but was still slack; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it continued fair in the Eastern Counties, but showed a decline in the Macclesfield district; in the lace trade it continued bad, with much unemployment and short time working; in the linen and jute trades employment showed an improvement, but was still bad. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment showed a decline and continued very slack.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trades was affected by seasonal depression and continued slack on the whole; much short-time working was reported, particularly in the wholesale bespoke and ready-made branch, which was adversely affected by the continuance of the coal mining stoppage. In the dress-making and millinery trades employment continued fair on the whole; in the London blouse and light underclothing trade it was reported as fair. In the corset trade there was some decline and employment was quiet, while in the shirt and collar trade it remained fair generally. In the felt-hat trade employment showed a further improvement. In the boot and shoe trades employment was poor on the whole, and there was little general change as compared with either a month or a year earlier.

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

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades showed a slight decline but was generally good with most classes of skilled operatives, and moderate, on the whole with unskilled workers. It was very good with plasterers, good, on the whole, with bricklayers, and carpenters and joiners, and fairly good, in most districts, with masons and slaters. A shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives, principally plasterers and bricklayers, was again reported in some districts. Employment with plumbers remained fair; with painters it declined in most districts and was generally slack; it varied considerably in different centres with tradesmen's labourers, but was moderate on the whole. With brickmakers employment showed an improvement, but some short time was worked. In the Peterborough district, however, employment continued good.

Employment in the furnishing trades and with mill-sawyers continued fair; with coachbuilders it showed a further decline, and was moderate; with coopers and packing case makers it continued bad.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade was moderate on the whole but showed some improvement as compared with the previous month. With letterpress printers it showed a decline and was moderate on the whole; with electrotypers and stereotypers it was very good in London and at Cardiff and fairly good elsewhere; with lithographic printers it showed a slight decline but was fair on the whole. With bookbinders employment also showed some decline.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade showed a further considerable improvement, but much short time was still worked. In the glass trade employment was bad on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales at the end of September the supply of casual labour was about equal to the demand, except in some eastern counties where a shortage of hands for potato lifting and for threshing was experienced. A deficiency of skilled workers was noted in all districts. In Scotland the supply of regular workers was generally sufficient, and casual labour was adequate in most areas. In the fishing industry employment continued slack.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued generally slack; with seamen it remained slack on the whole, but continued fairly active at the liner ports.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 828,523 in branches covered by the returns received, reported 112,782 (or 13.6 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of September, 1926, compared with 13.3 per cent. at the end of August, 1926.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting at end of September, 1926.	Unemployed at end of September, 1926.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Engineering and Ship-building ...	337,912	76,781	22.7	+ 0.8	+ 7.7
Miscellaneous Metal ...	50,417	6,062	12.0	+ 0.1	+ 5.9
Textiles:—					
Cotton ...	55,590	6,128	11.0	+ 0.6	+ 5.8
Other ...	65,839	3,246	4.9	...	+ 0.8
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper ...	105,448†	5,945	5.6	+ 0.4	+ 2.7
Furnishing ...	30,901	2,828	9.2	- 0.3	+ 5.2
Woodworking ...	39,543	4,032	10.2	+ 0.2	+ 4.9
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe ...	81,491	4,656	5.7	- 0.9	+ 0.3
Other Clothing ...	47,595	1,729	3.6	+ 0.7	+ 2.2
Leather ...	5,458	674	12.3	- 1.8	+ 0.6
Glass... ‡	1,186	47	4.0	...	+ 2.5
Tobacco ‡	7,143	654	9.2	- 3.7	- 2.0
Total ...	828,523	112,782	13.6§	+ 0.3	+ 2.2§

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG INSURED WORKPEOPLE.

Division.	Percentage Unemployed at 20th September, 1926.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	8.0	3.9	6.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
South-Eastern ...	5.0	4.1	4.8	...	- 0.1
South-Western ...	8.5	5.0	7.7	- 0.1	- 0.5
Midlands ...	13.0	13.6	13.2	- 1.3	+ 3.4
North-Eastern ...	21.0	14.0	19.6	- 0.4	+ 3.1
North-Western ...	17.3	17.4	17.3	+ 0.2	+ 4.4
Scotland ...	19.8	10.9	17.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.8
Wales ...	21.5	12.0	20.6	- 1.0	- 0.1
Northern Ireland ...	24.9	17.7	22.1	- 1.6	- 2.4
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	14.9	11.1	13.9	- 0.3	+ 1.9

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in September, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Sept., 1926.	September, 1926.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		September, 1926.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.
Iron Mining ...	1,025	4.88	+ 0.09	- 0.46	
Shale " ...	2,637	5.76	- 0.06	- 0.14	
Pig Iron ...	...	Furnaces in Blast ...	Number.	Number.	
		1	1	124	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	...	Mills working ...	+ 3	- 220	
		303			
Iron and Steel ...	31,944	Shifts Worked (one week) ...	Per cent.	Per cent.	
		170,088	- 1.8	- 53.8	

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cotton ...	74,495	- 3.1	125,117	- 5.3	- 14.9	
Woolen ...	62,507	+ 1.2	128,547	+ 1.6	+ 1.3	
Worsted ...	90,452	+ 2.4	167,327	+ 8.9	+ 4.9	
Boot and Shoe ...	51,358	+ 0.3	109,209	- 1.4	+ 1.0	
Pottery ...	10,210	+ 2.2	19,142	+ 29.9	- 16.0	
Brick ...	7,840	+ 6.4	21,052	+ 5.9	- 8.4	

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

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

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

§ Coalmining is not included in the figures for September, 1926, and August, 1926; it is included, however, in those for September, 1925. If coalmining is excluded throughout, the increase in September, 1926, over September, 1925, is 4.9.

|| Comparison is affected by changes in rates of wages in some cases.
¶ Computed as explained in the article on page 83 of the March, 1926, GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

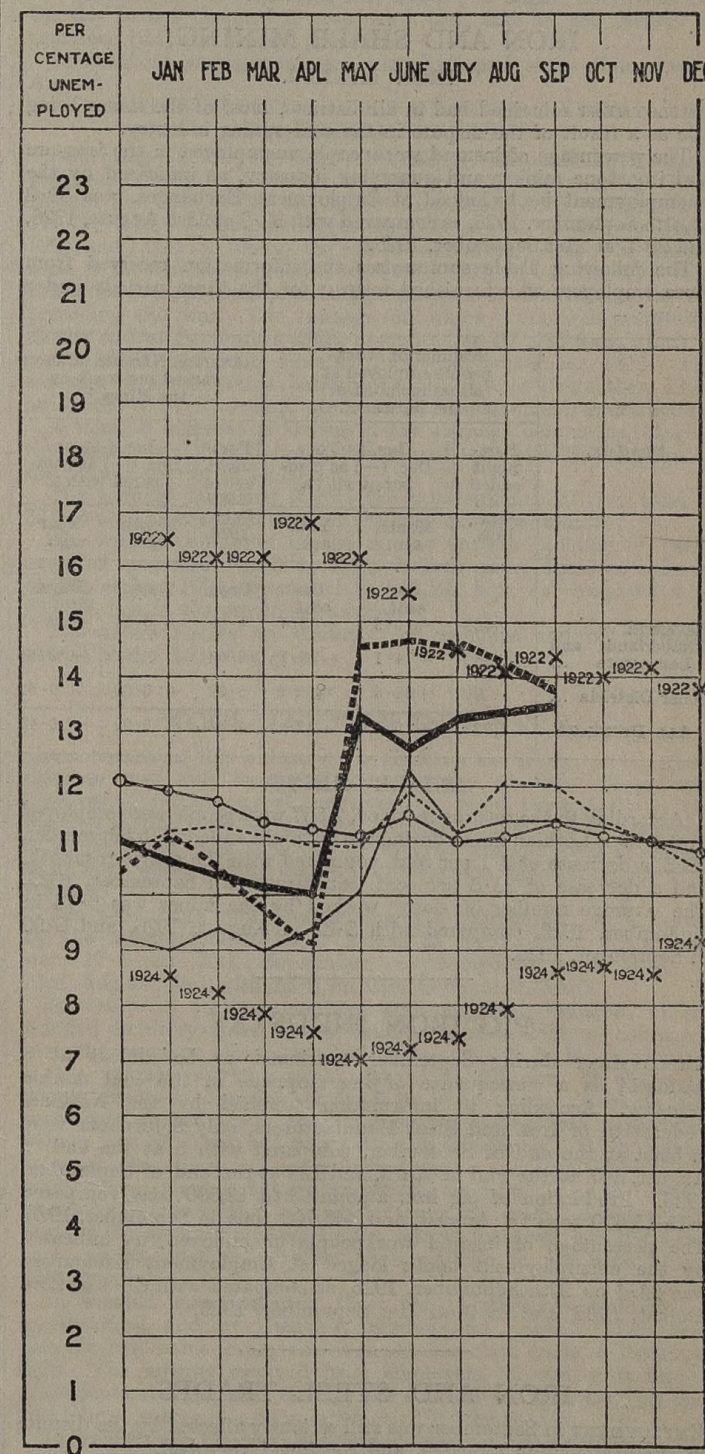
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:—

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

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

(2) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS:—

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1926.
Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1925.



NOTE.

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail, on pages 376 to 379.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

THE stoppage of work in this industry, which began on 1st May, owing to a dispute, continued throughout September. The monthly Table of statistics as to employment in this industry, which was regularly published prior to the dispute, is not therefore available for September. A special article on the subject of the dispute appears on pages 358-9 of this GAZETTE.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad in all districts, most of the mines being idle as a result of the dispute in the coal-mining industry.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron-ore and ironstone mining and quarrying industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 59.2 at 20th September, 1926, as compared with 62.9 at 23rd August, 1926, and 28.6 at 21st September, 1925.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	Fort-night ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
		Per cent.		Days.	Days.	
Cleveland ...	405	- 0.5	-83.4	4.52	+ 0.15	- 0.63
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	560	- 4.1	-75.1	5.04	...	- 0.53
Other Districts ...	60	+ 81.8	-95.2	5.82	+ 0.09	+ 0.52
ALL DISTRICTS	1,025	+ 0.1	-82.8	4.88	+ 0.09	- 0.46

SHALE MINING.

According to the returns received, 2,637 workpeople were employed in the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 25th September, 1926, a decrease of 0.1 per cent. compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 33.8 per cent. compared with September, 1925. The average number of days* worked by the mines was 5.76 in September, 1926, compared with 5.82 in August, 1926, and 5.90 in September, 1925.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during September continued to be almost at a standstill as a consequence of the stoppage in the coal mining industry. According to information supplied by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, only 5 furnaces were in blast at the end of September, compared with 6 at the end of August, 147 at the end of April, and 129 at the end of September, 1925. Production of pig iron amounted to 12,500 tons, compared with 13,600 tons in August, and 448,700 tons in September, 1925. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 64.4 on 20th September, 1926, as compared with 61.4 on 23rd August, 1925, and 25.0 on 21st September, 1925.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in September was still seriously affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry, and continued very bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 50.7 on 20th September, 1926, as compared with 54.7 on 23rd August, 1926, and 26.6 on 21st September, 1925.

According to returns received from firms employing 31,944 workpeople in the week ended 25th September, 1926, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of work-

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

people employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 1.8 per cent. as compared with a month before, and by 53.8 per cent. as compared with a year before.

The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.3 for the selected week in September, 1926, as compared with 5.2 in August, 1926, and 5.3 in September, 1925.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		
					Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.		Per cent.		
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	1,550	+ 14.3	-79.4	8,609	+ 19.0	-79.8
Puddling Forges ...	397	- 41.9	-85.2	1,797	- 43.3	-83.2
Rolling Mills ...	10,748	- 8.0	-59.5	52,421	- 7.2	-59.6
Forging and Pressing...†	1,711	- 13.5	-40.5	7,990	- 19.2	-48.2
Founding ...	7,254	+ 2.4	- 5.8	40,579	+ 3.8	- 5.4
Other Departments ...	4,409	+ 1.4	-40.2	25,002	+ 1.0	-38.8
Mechanics, Labourers...†	5,875	- 0.5	-61.7	33,690	+ 3.2	-60.9
TOTAL ...	31,944	- 3.3	-54.4	170,088	- 1.8	-53.8
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland...†	5,942	- 11.4	-59.9	32,493	- 9.0	-60.0
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	10,759	- 1.6	-41.6	57,573	- 0.4	-39.7
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	970	- 25.8	-48.8	4,674	- 35.3	-53.8
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	3,173	- 0.2	-52.6	15,772	+ 2.0	-52.9
Staffordshire ...	1,943	- 17.6	-64.6	9,762	- 18.7	-66.8
Other Midland Counties	1,677	+ 0.3	-55.8	9,733	+ 13.2	-53.2
Wales and Monmouth	5,999	+ 7.9	-17.4	32,470	+ 11.8	-18.0
Total, England and Wales ...	30,463	- 3.9	-47.8	162,477	- 2.0	-47.6
Scotland ...	1,481	+ 11.6	-87.3	7,611	+ 2.4	-86.9
TOTAL ...	31,944	- 3.3	-54.4	170,088	- 1.8	-53.8

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 95,700 tons in September, 1926, as compared with 52,100 tons in August, 1926, and 640,100 tons in September, 1925.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of fuel; many mills were still idle and much short-time working was reported. At the end of September 303 tinplate and steel sheet mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, compared with 300† in the previous month and with 523 in September, 1925. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 52.7 on 20th September, 1926, as compared with 61.3 on 23rd August, 1926, and with 12.8 on 21st September, 1925.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of September, 1926, at the works covered by the returns received:—

Works.	Number of Works Open		Number of Mills in Operation	
	At end of Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	At end of Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a
		Month ago.		Month ago.
Tinplate ...	43	+ 1†	206	- 6†
Steel Sheet	9	+ 2	97	+ 9
TOTAL ...	52	+ 3†	303	+ 3†

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

† The figures for August, 1926, have been revised.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in September, 1926, amounted to 61,950 tons, or 9,027 tons more than in August, 1926, but 30,497 tons less than in September, 1925.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during September continued to be adversely affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry and remained very bad, showing little change on the whole as compared with the previous month. Much short time was worked, especially in the railway engineering and textile machinery sections. Employment in the electrical engineering section was a little better than in the previous month; but the seasonal decline on motor vehicle work continued, and there was a further falling off in the marine engineering section in which employment remained very depressed. Compared with a year before employment was considerably worse in all sections.

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

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th September, 1926.						
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a
London ...	6,427	408	62	177	2,270	9,344	- 262
South-Eastern ...	2,756	357	147	63	1,139	4,442	- 333
South-Western ...	2,458	82	415	64	1,255	4,274	+ 80
Midlands ...	12,723	1,610	62	1,473	14,867	30,735	- 601
North-Eastern ...	31,604	1,063	9,819	1,938	1,114	45,538	+ 980
North-Western ...	30,648	1,641	265	226	2,398	35,178	+ 280
Scotland ...	18,303	471	4,641	2,024	916	26,355	+ 485
Wales ...	3,228	80	52	142	201	3,703	- 83
Northern Ireland ...	1,823	18	2,223	13	206	4,283	+ 141
GRAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	109,950	5,730	17,686	6,120	24,366	163,852	- 32

Percentages Unemployed at 20th September, 1926.

London ...	7.3	4.4	9.5	7.1	6.6	6.9	- 0.2
South-Eastern ...	3.9	4.2	12.4	4.7	5.6	- 0.4	
South-Western ...	6.8	2.9	6.5	9.3	6.1	- 0.2	
Midlands ...	13.5	6.7	5.9	23.3	16.2	- 0.3	
North-Eastern ...	25.0	13.4	41.2	27.8	10.1	+ 0.5	
North-Western ...	21.9	8.4	21.5	10.0	12.3	+ 0.1	
Scotland ...	21.5	14.1	25.0	33.3	9.0	+ 0.4	
Wales ...	44.4	25.0	18.6	18.4	10.9	+ 0.8	
Northern Ireland ...	24.4	8.6	39.2	43.3	12.6	+ 0.9	
GRAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	17.5	7.5	28.7	23.4	11.3	16.3	
Dicto, Aug., 1926	17.6	7.9	28.5	22.1	11.5	16.3	
Dicto, Sept., 1925	12.4	5.3	23.1	11.4	7.6	11.5	

On the North-East Coast employment continued very bad and showed a further decline on the whole, conditions in marine engineering remaining very bad indeed. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire employment was still bad and some decline was experienced. In Lancashire and Cheshire it remained very bad, but showed an improvement in the electrical section, in which conditions were moderate. In the Birmingham and Coventry district employment was moderate in the electrical section and remained bad in other sections. A further decline was experienced in general engineering and in the motor section, much short time being worked. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district conditions continued bad on the whole.

In London and in the Eastern and Southern Counties employment continued moderate, but showed a slight improvement on the whole. It was fairly good in the electrical section and on aircraft work; while a little improvement was experienced in the motor section in the South-West Division.

In South Wales employment improved a little but was still very bad. In Scotland the decline continued and conditions remained very bad. At Belfast employment was very bad and showed a further decline.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further decline and was very bad during September, partly owing to the continued dispute in the coal mining industry and the consequent shortage of materials. Compared with a year ago there was a considerable decline on the North-East Coast, in Scotland and in Wales; but in London and the South Western and North Western Counties and in Northern Ireland some improvement was shown.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th September, 1926, and the increase or decrease as compared with 23rd August, 1926, and with a year before:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th Sept., 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Percentage Unemployed at 20th Sept., 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with	
		A Month ago.	A Year ago.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
London ...	2,531	+ 327	- 91	20.3	+ 2.6	- 0.8
South-Eastern ...	623	- 75	+ 55	6.3	- 0.8	+ 0.6
South-Western ...	3,369	- 110	- 832	13.4	- 0.4	- 3.3
Midlands ...	48	- 4	- 13	17.1	- 1.5	- 4.7
North-Eastern ...	39,185	- 319	+ 5,697	58.5	- 0.5	+ 8.5
North-Western ...	11,055	+ 660	- 277	33.7	+ 2.0	- 0.9
Scotland ...	30,234	+ 722	+ 7,117	46.8	+ 1.1	+ 11.0
Wales ...	5,934	+ 573	+ 1,515	54.4	+ 5.2	+ 13.9
Northern Ireland ...	6,306	- 95	- 259	33.9	- 0.5	- 1.4
GRAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	99,285	+ 1,679	+ 12,912	41.1	+ 0.7	+ 5.4

On the North-East Coast employment was again very bad. In London employment was bad and worse than during August. On the South Coast it was slack but showed a slight improvement. On the Bristol Channel it was very bad, and on the Mersey it remained bad, and showed a decline.

In Scotland employment was very bad, and worse than during August.

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1926.

According to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns, the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of September, 1926, amounted to 774,797 tons, as compared with 841,338 tons at the end of June, 1926, and 1,009,155 tons at the end of September, 1925. The present total is the lowest recorded since June, 1909, and is 1,115,000 tons below the average tonnage building during the 12 months immediately preceding the war. The tonnage on which work was suspended at the end of September, 1926, amounted to 107,498 tons, which is about 26,000 tons more than at the end of September, 1925. The tonnage of motor ships building at the end of September, 1926, amounted to 54.5 per cent. of the steam tonnage under construction. A marked decrease is shown in the tonnage commenced during the quarter, viz., 68,327 tons as compared with 168,483 tons during the second quarter of 1926.

The tonnage launched during the quarter, viz., 207,741 tons, is 36,016 tons higher than that for the previous three months.

The total horse-power of the marine engines building or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of September, 1926, amounted to 668,191 h.p., as compared with 635,538 h.p. in the previous quarter.

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

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry was slack on the whole, and in some districts was still hampered by shortage of fuel. There was, however, a fairly general improvement, more particularly in the worsted section, due to increased supplies of fuel and to expansion of trade; much short time was still worked, but the spells of absence from work were in many cases shorter than in the last two or three months.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 17.0 on 20th September, as compared with 20.8 on 23rd August, and with 13.2 on 21st September, 1925.

In the wool sorting, combing and preparing branches of the worsted industry there was a definite improvement as compared with the previous month, marked more particularly by an increase in the average working week. About 48 per cent. of the workpeople in these branches covered by the returns received from employers worked short time in the week ended 25th September, with a loss of about 14½ hours each on an average. With worsted spinners, also, there was some improvement, and employment with many firms spinning botany yarns was reported as good; in the worsted spinning section as a whole it was moderate. About 42 per cent. of the spinners covered by the returns received lost 10½ hours each, on an average, in short time working in the week ended 25th September.

In worsted manufacturing there was a distinct improvement at Bradford and at Keighley, Silsden and Leeds. There was also a considerable improvement in the fine cloth trade of Huddersfield. The returns received from employers for the week ended 25th September, showed that 34 per cent. of the weavers* worked short time, with a loss on an average of 10½ hours each.

In woollen spinning and weaving employment was only moderate on the whole, but showed a slight improvement as compared with August. About 33 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns in these departments worked short time in the week ended 25th September, with a loss of 10½ hours* each on the average. In the tweed trade of Huddersfield and the Colne Valley employment was moderate, and somewhat better than in the previous month, and a few mills re-started night shifts. At Leeds and Morley, also, there was some improvement. In the Heavy Woollen District there was a decline at Batley and Birstall, but an improvement at Dewsbury; and in the Yeadon and Guiseley

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

district there was a decline with some firms, and employment was only moderate. Employment in the woollen trade of Stockport continued fair.

In the blanket trade of Dewsbury, Ravensthorpe and Mirfield, employment improved to fairly good, and was better than a year ago; at Witney some short time was still worked, but employment was fair.

In the flannel trade of Rochdale, Saddleworth and Yeading employment was moderate, and rather better than in August.

Employment improved slightly in Scotland; tweed factories were mostly well employed, and some firms were finding difficulty in obtaining skilled workers, particularly in the mending and weaving departments.

There was a distinct improvement in the woollen trade of Mid and North Wales.

In the carpet industry there was not much change in Yorkshire and employment with most firms was bad, with much short time. At Kidderminster the situation improved steadily, as supplies of coal became better; several of the large firms were running five days a week. There was also a slight improvement at Johnstone.

The following Table shows, for the principal districts and departments of the industry, the percentage changes between the week ended 23rd August and that ended 25th September, in the numbers of workpeople employed and in the total wages paid by firms from whom information was received:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th September, 1926.			Total.			
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	223	9	232	348	2	350	582
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	300	223	523	814	368	1,182	1,705
Wool Combing ...	178	99	277	843	905	1,748	2,025
Wool Carding ...	393	77	470	1,184	208	1,392	1,862
Woolen Spinning ...	305	92	397	535	367	902	1,299
Worst Drawing and Spinning ...	271	813	1,084	789	3,793	4,582	5,666
Wool Winding and Warping ...	84	27	111	239	179	418	529
Worst Winding and Warping ...	42	160	202	151	1,165	1,316	1,518
Woolen Weaving ...	135	451	586	170	3,523	3,693	4,279
Worst Waving ...	97	599	696	194	2,861	3,055	3,751
Other Processes ...	585	65	650	1,377	299	1,676	2,326
TOTAL ...	2,613	2,615	5,228	6,644	13,670	20,314	25,542

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
	Wool Sorting ...	-95	-6	-101	-130	-1		-131	-232
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	+20	-27	-7	-52	-68	-120	-127
Wool Combing ...	-20	-45	-65	-199	-220	-419	-484
Wool Carding ...	+47	-23	+24	+20	-19	+1	+25
Woolen Spinning ...	-37	-10	-47	-242	-71	-313	-286
Worst Drawing and Spinning ...	-26	-108	-134	-117	-1,915	-2,232	-2,366
Wool Winding and Warping ...	-1	+5	+4	-78	+60	-18	-14
Worst Winding and Warping ...	+4	-3	+1	-42	-339	-381	-380
Woolen Weaving ...	+34	-70	-36	-318	-319	-637	-673
Worst Waving ...	+39	-121	-82	+34	-1,280	-1,314	-1,396
Other Processes ...	+61	-19	+42	+160	-17	+143	+185
TOTAL ...	+100	-427	-327	-1,232	-4,189	-5,421	-5,748

Districts* :	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
	Wool Sorting ...	41,013	+3.2	97.2	78,264	+12.4		89.4	120.4
Bradford ...	10,367	+2.5	104.2	22,357	+10.0	104.0	114.3
Huddersfield ...	10,398	+0.8	95.2	17,150	+2.5	88.5	98.7
Halifax ...	8,937	+2.0	100.6	15,712	+1.6	96.7	103.0
Leeds ...	9,284	+1.6	98.1	16,424	+8.7	103.0	111.1
Keighley ...	3,392	+2.4	97.3	5,493	+11.9	102.8	102.8
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley etc.) ...	83,391	+2.5	98.3	155,410	+9.3	93.5	103.5
Total, West Riding ...	4,854	+1.4	99.0	8,651	+4.7	95.1	107.3
West of England and Midlands ...	330	-0.6	114.9	624	+1.8	107.3	111.1
Lancs ...	1,877	+2.4	94.6	2,642	+1.6	111.1	111.1
Scotland ...	90,452	+2.4	98.2	167,327	+8.9	93.8	102.8
Total—Worst	90,452	+2.4	98.2	167,327	+8.9	93.8	102.8

Districts* :	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
	Woolen Section: Huddersfield ...	12,603	-0.0	98.6	28,539	+2.3		97.7	107.4
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	12,454	-0.2	100.4	24,893	-3.4	107.4	103.1
Leeds ...	9,053	+2.1	97.2	19,473	+3.5	103.1	101.4
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,990	+1.7	102.3	6,494	-1.9	101.4	102.8
Bradford ...	1,297	+1.3	104.2	2,985	+1.9	102.8	102.3
Total, West Riding ...	38,397	+0.6	99.3	82,384	+0.4	102.3	103.5
Lancs ...	4,942	+3.7	98.5	10,013	+9.1	103.5	113.1
West of England and Midlands ...	4,328	-0.0	104.0	7,755	+2.6	113.1	102.2
Scotland ...	14,724	+1.8	98.0	28,219	+1.8	102.2	70.7
Wales ...	116	+169.8	66.6	176	+175.0	70.7	102.8
Total—Woollen	62,507	+1.2	99.2	128,547	+1.6	102.8	77.3
CARPET SECTION ...	10,866	-0.0	98.3	17,607	-2.3	77.3	96.3
Total—Wool Textile Industry ...	163,825	+1.8	98.3	313,481	+5.1	96.3	

In the worsted section of the industry, taken as a whole, the returns received from employers show that 40 per cent. of their workpeople were on short time in the week ended 25th September, with a loss, on the average, of 11½ hours† each. In the woollen section the

* Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.
† See note * on page 371.

returns show that in the same week nearly 32 per cent. of the workpeople lost about 10½ hours† each on the average. In the carpet section the employers' returns show 52 per cent. on short time to the extent of 9 hours each on the average. The corresponding particulars for overtime were 3 per cent., averaging 6 hours each, in the worsted section and 4½ per cent., averaging 7½ hours each, in the woollen section. There was practically no overtime in the carpet section.

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

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th September, 1926.			Total.			
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	223	9	232	348	2	350	582
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	300	223	523	814	368	1,182	1,705
Wool Combing ...	178	99	277	843	905	1,748	2,025
Wool Carding ...	393	77	470	1,184	208	1,392	1,862
Woolen Spinning ...	305	92	397	535	367	902	1,299
Worst Drawing and Spinning ...	271	813	1,084	789	3,793	4,582	5,666
Wool Winding and Warping ...	84	27	111	239	179	418	529
Worst Winding and Warping ...	42	160	202	151	1,165	1,316	1,518
Woolen Weaving ...	135	451	586	170	3,523	3,693	4,279
Worst Waving ...	97	599	696	194	2,861	3,055	3,751
Other Processes ...	585	65	650	1,377	299	1,676	2,326
TOTAL ...	2,613	2,615	5,228	6,644	13,670	20,314	25,542

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with the 23rd August, 1926:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
	Wool Sorting ...	-95	-6	-101	-130	-1		-131	-232
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	+20	-27	-7	-52	-68	-120	-127
Wool Combing ...	-20	-45	-65	-199	-220	-419	-484
Wool Carding ...	+47	-23	+24	+20	-19	+1	+25
Woolen Spinning ...	-37	-10	-47	-242	-71	-313	-286
Worst Drawing and Spinning ...	-26	-108	-134	-117	-1,915	-2,232	-2,366
Wool Winding and Warping ...	-1	+5	+4	-78	+60	-18	-14
Worst Winding and Warping ...	+4	-3	+1	-42	-339	-381	-380
Woolen Weaving ...	+34	-70	-36	-318	-319	-637	-673
Worst Waving ...	+39	-121	-82	+34	-1,280	-1,314	-1,396
Other Processes ...	+61	-19	+42	+160	-17	+143	+185
TOTAL ...	+100	-427	-327	-1,232	-4,189	-5,421	-5,748

The imports, less re-exports of raw wool (sheep's or lambs'), were 13,878,000 lbs. in September, 1926, compared with 10,984,300 lbs. in August, 1926, and 10,325,000 lbs. in September, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,115,800 lbs. compared with 3,415,300 lbs. in August, 1926, and with 3,225,100 lbs. in September, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 12,314,700 square yards, compared with 16,521,000 square yards in August, 1926, and 12,896,000 square yards in September, 1925.

The exports of blankets were 91,229 pairs, 66,706 pairs and 86,562 pairs in September, 1926, August, 1926, and September, 1925, respectively.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in the cotton industry during September continued depressed and was worse than a month earlier, owing in part to bad trade and in part to the scarcity and high price of fuel. The usual September trade holidays were extended in many districts. In the American spinning section not more than half-time working obtained, but in the Egyptian spinning section the operatives were still fairly well employed. The weaving department remained depressed, and showed a further decline.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 24.2 on the 20th September, 1926, as compared with 23.5 on the 23rd August, 1926, and with 10.0 on the 21st September, 1925.

Employment in the Oldham, Ashton, Stockport and Stalybridge districts continued bad with spinners, and was worse than a year before; the majority of the firms worked half-time or less during the month. With weavers in the Oldham district employment was very slack, and much short time was worked; in the velvet section in particular employment was very bad, and much machinery was idle; with calico and sheeting weavers there was a slight improvement, less short time being worked. In the Bolton district employment was reported as moderate with spinners, but slightly better than a month earlier; in the weaving department it remained bad, but also showed an improvement towards the end of the month. At Leigh employment in the spinning department continued good. At Rochdale the depression continued; while at Bury there was a decline, and employment was very bad.

In all the principal weaving districts employment, with few exceptions, showed no signs of improvement, the situation being due to a combination of bad trade and the high price of fuel. At Blackburn and Burnley employment continued very bad; at both centres many firms extended the stoppage at the regular September holidays, and some stopped for shorter or longer periods during the rest of the month, owing to lack of orders and dearth of fuel. At Nelson the position was worse, much under-employment in various forms being reported. At Darwen there was a slight improvement towards the end of the month, but employment remained very bad, with much unemployment and under-employment. A slight improvement was also reported at Preston at the beginning of the month, but employment remained poor. At Accrington under-employment prevailed to a serious extent, owing partly to shortage of fuel and partly to trade depression. At Padiham employment was bad, and worse than in August. At Todmorden scarcely 50 per cent. of full employment was available.

In Yorkshire employment generally continued bad, and showed a decline, taking the county as a whole; but longer hours were worked at Brighouse owing to improved coal supplies.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing ...	11,029	-0.9	-5.1	16,509	-3.9	-11.5
Spinning ...	19,755	-1.9	-3.8	32,244	-2.1	-10.6
Weaving ...	30,039	-3.8	-11.7	48,777	-6.2	-18.7
Other ...	7,356	-1.1	-5.0	17,195	-2.9	-10.8
Not Specified ...	6,316	-9.3	-10.2	10,392	-15.8	-21.0
TOTAL ...	74,495	-3.1	-8.0	125,117	-5.3	-14.9

DISTRICTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Ashton ...	4,688	-1.3	-2.9	6,154	-6.9	-21.0
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	8,397	-5.7	-7.0	14,406	-9.4	-10.4
Oldham ...	8,160	+2.2	-3.0	13,534	-5.6	-20.4
Bolton and Leigh ...	10,506	-4.1	-2.5	19,222	+0.9	-0.5
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	7,144	-2.0	-9.8	10,370	-6.6	-29.0
Manchester ...	4,882	+6.6	-2.1	7,606	+8.4	-13.9
Preston and Chorley ...	6,183	+0.4	-8.9	10,304	+3.0	-13.2
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	7,125	-15.3	-19.9	11,602	-27.5	-25.6
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	8,506	+8.2	-7.6	17,288	+8.1	-13.6
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,719	-25.1	-27.3	4,273	-22.5	-24.5
Yorkshire Towns ...	3,721	-3.9	-5.9	6,593	-5.0	-0.2
Other Districts ...	2,464	-1.1	+2.1	3,765	+1.1	-0.2
TOTAL ...	74,495	-3.1	-8.0	125,117	-5.3	-14.9

Returns from firms employing 72,450 workpeople in the week ended 25th September showed that about 30 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 18 hours on the average.

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

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Register at 20th September, 1926.			Total.			
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	515	1,625	2,140	2,183	10,913	13,096	15,236
Spinning ...	2,424	1,6					

In Scotland, taken as a whole, there was an improvement. Employment was fairly good at Kilmarnock and at Maybole, and quiet at Edinburgh, where a decline was reported. At other centres it was generally only moderate.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of employment exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 20th September, 1926.

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th September, 1926.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	127	15	142	133	39	172	314
Rough Stuff Department	347	12	359	252	5	257	616
Clicking Department	744	4	748	943	13	956	1,704
Closing Department	18	752	770	23	1,517	1,540	2,310
Making Department	1,873	40	1,913	1,347	56	1,403	3,316
Finishing Department	1,120	325	1,445	1,069	296	1,365	2,810
Slipper Making	193	25	218	260	455	715	933
Clog Making	34	1	35	2	...	2	37
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	429	6	435	27	4	31	466
TOTAL	4,885	1,180	6,065	4,056	2,385	6,441	12,506

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd August, 1926.

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	+ 9	- 11	- 2	- 2	- 8	- 10	- 12
Rough Stuff Department	- 6	+ 6	...	- 46	- 22	- 68	- 68
Clicking Department	- 70	- 3	- 73	+ 4	- 2	+ 2	- 71
Closing Department	- 2	- 34	- 36	+ 11	- 165	- 154	- 190
Making Department	- 142	- 21	- 163	+ 104	- 11	+ 93	- 70
Finishing Department	+ 33	- 37	- 4	+ 99	- 49	+ 50	+ 46
Slipper Making	+ 19	+ 5	+ 24	- 315	- 62	- 377	- 353
Clog Making	+ 5	- 1	+ 4	- 2	...	- 2	+ 2
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	...	...	...	+ 2	+ 3	+ 5	+ 5
TOTAL	- 154	- 96	- 250	- 145	- 316	- 461	- 711

The exports of boots and shoes in September, 1926, amounted to 119,842 dozen pairs, or 4,430 dozen pairs less than in August, 1926, and 2,226 dozen pairs less than in September, 1925.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade during September was moderate on the whole. It was still adversely affected by the coal-mining dispute, but in several districts, where a sufficient supply of fuel was available, full time was worked and employment was better than in August.

In the letterpress printing trade, employment was moderate on the whole, and showed a further slight decline. It was again reported as slack at Glasgow and bad at Manchester and Birmingham, but, in the latter city, there was some improvement on the previous month. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was very good in London and at Cardiff and fairly good elsewhere, although short time was reported at Birmingham and Bristol.

Employment in the lithographic printing trade remained fair on the whole, but showed a slight decline compared with August. With lithographic artists employment was moderate in London and slack at Manchester, and worse than a month before at both centres.

Employment in the bookbinding trade was slightly worse than in August and was also worse than a year before. The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 5.8 at 20th September, compared with 5.9 at 23rd August and 4.2 at 21st September, 1925. In the paper and paper board industry, the percentage was 7.5 at 20th September, compared with 9.1 at 23rd August and 6.7 at 21st September, 1925. In the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery trades, the percentage was 6.0 at 20th September, compared with 6.1 at 23rd August and 5.3 at 21st September, 1925.

The following Table summarises the returns received from Trade Unions and shows the percentages unemployed among their members at the end of September, 1926, August, 1926, and September, 1925:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1926.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Sept., 1926.	August, 1926.	Sept., 1925.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	41,528	5.5	4.5	2.3	+ 1.0	+ 3.2
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	18,309	5.4	5.2	2.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.7
Midland and Eastern Counties.	12,755	2.9	3.2	1.8	- 0.3	+ 1.1
Scotland	7,739	5.5	5.9	2.3	- 0.4	+ 3.2
Other Districts	12,768	4.1	3.8	2.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
Total	93,099	5.0	4.5	2.3	+ 0.5	+ 2.7
Lithographic Printing	10,449	3.8	3.4	2.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.2
Bookbinding	23,020	4.8	4.3	3.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.8

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during September showed a slight decline, but was generally good with most classes of skilled operatives and moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers; it was again affected in some districts by a shortage of materials due to the continued stoppage in the coal mining industry. Employment was not so good as a year ago.

As regards individual occupations employment continued very good generally with plasterers, good, on the whole, with bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and fairly good, in most districts, with masons and slaters. A shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives, principally plasterers and bricklayers, was again reported in some districts. Employment with plumbers remained fair; with painters it declined in most districts and was generally slack; it varied considerably in different centres with tradesmen's labourers but was moderate, on the whole.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 20th September, 1926, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with September, 1925:—

	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1925.	Total Number Unemployed at 20th Sept., 1926.	Number included in Previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with	
					A Month ago.	A Year ago.*
OCCUPATIONS.						
Carpenters	114,030	5,994	470	5.3	+ 0.4	+ 3.1
Bricklayers	65,120	3,012	473	4.6	+ 0.4	+ 3.3
Masons	23,840	1,347	127	5.7	+ 0.5	+ 2.9
Slaters	5,510	506	38	5.8	+ 0.7	+ 2.2
Plasterers	17,880	297	26	1.7	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Painters	108,590	15,358	532	14.1	+ 4.2	+ 2.0
Plumbers	28,610	2,309	122	8.1	- 0.4	+ 2.0
Labourers to above...	229,210	29,509	1,963	12.9	+ 0.3	+ 2.3
All other occupations	161,530	23,196	1,786	14.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.7
Total	754,120	81,328	5,537	10.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.3
DIVISIONS.						
London	157,290	15,180	45	9.7	+ 1.9	+ 0.5
South-Eastern	116,280	5,173	36	4.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
South-Western	92,510	6,790	143	7.3	+ 0.4	+ 3.8
Midlands	84,350	9,512	1,696	11.3	+ 0.1	+ 3.8
North-Eastern	96,650	14,447	1,764	14.9	+ 0.6	+ 4.9
North-Western	97,120	13,229	1,092	13.6	+ 0.7	+ 3.5
Scotland	69,440	7,620	331	11.0	+ 0.8	+ 1.7
Wales	26,900	5,141	414	19.1	+ 1.1	+ 7.4
Northern Ireland	13,480	4,236	16	31.4	+ 1.3	+ 6.4
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	754,120	81,328	5,537	10.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.3

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 139 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 15,868,000, show that in September, 1926, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £5,666,100, as compared with £3,343,700 in August, 1926, and £5,656,500 in September, 1925. Of the total for September, 1926, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,755,800, factories and workshops for £323,900, shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £501,600, and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,084,800.

For figures for the quarter ended September, 1926, in comparison with the corresponding quarter of 1925, see page 384.

* From July, 1923, to September, 1925, the only available occupational figures for the numbers insured were derived from estimates framed in 1922, but except in the case of carpenters and plumbers among skilled operatives, the present ratios in the main differ only slightly from those used in the past two years.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during September showed an improvement as compared with the previous month but continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of fuel, and some short time was worked. In the Peterborough district, however, employment continued good. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.8 at 20th September, 1926, as compared with 21.0 at 23rd August, 1926, and 6.5 at 21st September, 1925.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	1,708	- 1.4	- 0.9	4,146	- 4.9	- 5.9
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	4,859	+ 9.1	- 4.9	13,639	+ 9.1	+ 0.4
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,187	+ 5.7	- 28.8	3,021	+ 6.0	- 32.7
Scotland	86	+ 38.7	- 55.4	246	+ 40.6	- 51.8
TOTAL	7,840	+ 6.4	- 9.8	21,052	+ 5.9	- 8.4

Returns from employers relative to short time working showed that of 7,212 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 473, or 6½ per cent., were working on an average 20 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th September, 1926.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during September showed a further considerable improvement, but much short time was still worked.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 30.7 at 20th September, 1926, as compared with 46.2 at 23rd August, 1926, and with 15.5 at 21st September, 1925.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture	1,246	+ 18.2	- 16.0	2,496	+ 35.4	- 9.7
Earthenware Manufacture	7,123	+ 26.3	- 17.3	12,991	+ 33.4	- 20.8
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,841	+ 10.7	- 2.2	3,655	+ 15.8	+ 0.9
TOTAL	10,210	+ 22.2	- 14.8	19,142	+ 29.9	- 16.0
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire	8,100	+ 26.4	- 11.4	13,858	+ 32.5	- 14.5
Other Districts	2,110	+ 8.5	- 25.7	5,284	+ 23.4	- 19.6
TOTAL	10,210	+ 22.2	- 14.8	19,142	+ 29.9	- 16.0

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 9,291 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 3,778, or 41 per cent., were working on an average about 12 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th September, 1926.

SEAMEN.

DURING September employment remained slack on the whole, but showed a marked improvement on August. It continued fairly active at the liner ports, but the coal-mining stoppage had an adverse effect at the coal exporting centres. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 20th September, 1926, was 19.0, compared with 20.5 at 23rd August, 1926, and 18.5 at 21st September, 1925.

The demand for men on the Thames was fairly good, but there was a decline in the latter part of September. It was very slack on the Tyne, and quiet on the Wear. The demand on the Tees improved in the first half of September, but declined later, being described as very poor at the end of the month. At Hull it was fairly active until the end of the month, when a falling-off occurred. The demand at Southampton was fairly brisk throughout September. At Bristol it remained moderate on the whole, and at Avonmouth it was moderate to fair. At Newport the demand was generally very slack, and at Cardiff it was fairly good on the whole. It continued quiet to fair at Swansea. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand was good in the first half of the month, but declined somewhat afterwards. It was fairly brisk at Manchester. On the Clyde the demand was fair at the commencement of September.

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

but it gradually declined subsequently. It was quiet on the whole at Leith, and moderate at Belfast until the middle of the month, when a decline set in.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Sept., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Nine months ended	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Sept., 1926.	Sept., 1925.
ENGLAND & WALES:					
Liverpool†	14,543	+ 1,236	- 880	107,328	114,153
Manchester	1,572	+ 239	+ 578	8,570	7,607
London	12,152	+ 388	+ 3,168	85,454	72,320
Southampton	13,472	+ 3,442	+ 1,335	94,127	88,514
Tyne Ports	813	- 164	- 1,575	12,496	18,213
Sunderland	176	+ 68	- 94	1,666	2,570
Middlesbrough	448	+ 116	...	3,114	3,517
Hull	1,897	+ 6	+ 393	13,121	13,440
Bristol‡	1,605	+ 181	+ 562	10,341	9,808
Newport, Mon.	201	+ 232	+ 313	5,390	7,101
Cardiff §	1,153	+ 280	- 1,301	14,823	22,165
Swansea	427	- 99	- 128	6,286	5,905
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	378	- 12	- 51	3,135	3,247
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	328	+ 108	...	2,796	3,191
Glasgow	4,632	+ 1,306	+ 1,252	28,059	27,747
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	285	+ 94	+ 59	1,495	1,580
TOTAL for above Ports	54,088	+ 6,957	+ 3,005	398,181	401,078

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during September was still generally slack. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service, 31.8 per cent. were unemployed at 20th September, 1926, as compared with 32.2 per cent. at 23rd August, 1926, and with 30.7 per cent. at 21st September, 1925.

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

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
4th September, 1926	4,312	1,583	5,895	7,100	12,995
11th " "	4,660	2,095	6,755	7,392	14,147
18th " "	5,284	1,887	7,171	7,728	14,899
25th " "	5,478	1,768	7,246	8,156	15,402
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th September, 1926	4,934	1,833	6,767	7,594	14,361
Average for Aug., 1926	4,550	1,570	6		

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 20th September, 1926 (exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute), and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

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

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

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

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

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

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 379 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

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

Each of these Tables gives an analysis of the figures, distinguishing between persons who are wholly unemployed (in the sense that they are definitely without a job) and those who are temporarily stopped or suspended from the service of an employer. The figures under the heading "temporary stoppages" include those persons recorded as unemployed on the date of the return who were either on short time or were otherwise stood off or suspended on the definite understanding that they were to return to their former employment within a period of six weeks from the date of suspension. In cases where there was no definite prospect of return within six weeks the individuals have been included in the statistics as "wholly unemployed." The only exception to this rule arises in the small number of cases where, although the expectation of resumption within the six weeks' period was not realised, a definite date for resumption of work had nevertheless been fixed. In such cases the individuals concerned have been included under the heading "temporary stoppages." The figures given in the grand total columns in both Tables are strictly comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1925.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH SEPTEMBER, 1926.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.						GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.					
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED.			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			
Fishing	4,879	52	4,931	112	12	124	4,991	64	5,055	4,960	63	5,023
Mining —												
Coal Mining*	106,962	623	107,585	...	...	...	106,962	623	107,585	106,921	623	107,544
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	2,820	...	2,820	6,764	3	6,767	9,584	3	9,587	9,547	3	9,550
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	1,222	1	1,223	52	...	52	1,274	1	1,275	1,274	1	1,275
Stone Quarrying and Mining	3,200	13	3,213	2,402	2	2,404	5,602	15	5,617	5,185	15	5,200
Slate Quarrying and Mining	229	1	230	8	...	8	217	1	218	217	1	218
Other Mining and Quarrying	2,203	40	2,243	1,165	80	1,245	3,368	120	3,488	3,243	117	3,360
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	661	19	680	255	8	263	916	27	943	893	27	920
Non-Metallic Mining Products —												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	3,614	14	3,628	4,791	1	4,792	8,405	15	8,420	8,404	15	8,419
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	2,034	70	2,104	884	40	924	2,918	110	3,028	2,906	110	3,016
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	872	28	900	285	13	298	1,157	41	1,198	1,065	41	1,106
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	6,141	902	7,043	6,663	1,018	7,681	12,804	1,920	14,724	12,539	1,919	14,458
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	3,347	3,846	7,193	6,424	8,884	15,308	9,771	12,730	22,501	9,736	12,726	22,462
Glass Trades —												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	2,044	306	2,350	1,660	158	1,818	3,704	464	4,168	3,696	464	4,160
Glass Bottle Making	3,001	213	3,214	3,020	376	3,396	6,021	589	6,610	6,016	589	6,605
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. —												
Chemicals Manufacture	7,101	690	7,791	3,629	259	3,888	10,730	949	11,679	10,566	946	11,512
Explosives Manufacture	1,349	601	1,950	286	385	671	1,635	986	2,621	1,628	986	2,614
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	655	187	842	113	51	164	768	238	1,006	767	238	1,005
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	3,964	1,018	4,982	1,528	168	1,696	5,492	1,186	6,678	5,475	1,168	6,643
Metal Manufacture —												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	4,584	28	4,612	11,993	8	12,001	16,577	36	16,613	16,573	36	16,609
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	30,822	284	31,106	69,979	376	70,355	100,801	660	101,461	100,755	660	101,415
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	4,667	208	4,875	2,832	64	2,896	7,499	272	7,771	7,427	272	7,699
Manufacture of Tin Plates	2,071	173	2,244	1,344	12,590	13,934	1,517	14,834	15,316	1,517	14,833	
Iron and Steel Tube Making	2,505	124	2,629	6,260	36	6,296	8,765	160	8,925	8,760	160	8,920
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	1,942	339	2,281	3,432	255	3,687	5,374	594	5,968	5,369	594	5,963
Engineering, etc. —												
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	66,212	1,548	67,760	41,287	903	42,190	107,499	2,451	109,950	105,681	2,446	108,127
Electrical Engineering	3,830	738	4,568	856	306	1,162	4,686	1,044	5,730	4,669	1,043	5,712
Marine Engineering, etc.	16,255	40	16,295	1,371	20	1,391	17,626	80	17,686	15,404	59	15,463
Constructional Engineering	3,801	50	3,851	2,241	28	2,269	6,042	78	6,120	6,029	78	6,107
Construction and Repair of Vehicles —												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	18,138	1,382	19,520	4,187	659	4,846	22,325	2,041	24,366	22,121	2,039	24,160
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	2,250	158	2,408	886	107	993	3,136	265	3,401	3,067	265	3,332
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	4,217	41	4,258	7,814	21	7,835	12,031	62	12,093	12,009	62	12,071

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	95,574	228	95,802	3,465	18	3,483	99,039	246	99,285	92,744	235	92,979
Metal Trades —												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	7,610	477	8,087	8,248	410	8,658	15,858	887	16,745	15,729	887	16,616
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	1,228	36	1,264	109	1	110	1,337	37	1,374	1,310	37	1,347
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	3,524	1,826	5,350	333	299	632	3,857	2,125	5,982	3,841	2,125	5,966
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	2,618	738	3,356	4,909	383	5,292	7,527	1,121	8,648	7,510	1,121	8,631
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	1,467	974	2,441	1,974	1,025	2,999	3,441	1,999	5,440	3,440	1,999	5,439
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	1,852	794	2,646	596	714	1,310	2,448	1,508	3,956	2,440	1,508	3,948
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	291	14	305	60	2	62	351	16	367	349	16	365
Other Metal Industries	2,092	1,234	3,326	953	560	1,513	3,045	1,794	4,839	3,020	1,792	4,812
	10,137	5,094	15,231	5,096	3,215	8,311	15,233	8,309	23,542	15,061	8,306	23,367
Textile Trades —												
Cotton	9,543	13,652	23,195	38,274	78,086	116,360	47,817	91,738	139,555	47,809	91,725	139,534
Woolen and Worsted	5,462	5,711	11,173	12,230	20,415	32,645	17,692	43,818	17,549	26,039	43,588	
Silk	783	1,024	1,807	1,048	3,188	4,236	1,831	4,212	6,043	1,831	4,212	6,043
Linen	4,699	10,315	15,014	1,949	5,360	7,309	6,648	15,675	22,323	1,112	3,373	4,485
Jute	1,795	2,350	4,145	1,093	3,201	4,294	2,888	5,551	8,439	2,887	5,551	8,438
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	694	1,422	2,116	333	861	1,194	1,027	2,283	3,310	830	1,876	2,706
Hosiery	792	3,521	4,313	1,395	8,539	9,934	2,187	12,607	14,247	2,154	11,903	14,057
Lace	630	401	1,031	1,065	1,209	2,274	1,695	1,610	3,305	1,695	1,609	3,304
Carpet Manufacture	524	588	1,112	1,029	2,280	3,309	1,553	2,868	4,421	1,553	2,865	4,418
Other Textile Industries	952	2,438	3,390	573	1,812	2,385	1,525	4,250	5,775	1,408	3,723	5,131
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	4,052	1,367	5,419	14,500	4,363	18,863	18,552	5,730	24,282	17,855	5,279	23,134
Leather and Leather Goods —												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	2,395	458	2,853	1,428	317	1,745	3,823	775	4,598	3,820	774	4,594
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	1,266	574	1,840	392	337	729	1,658	911	2,569	1,627	909	2,536
Clothing Trades —												
Tailoring	6,316	5,065	11,381	2,612	15,000	17,612	8,928	20,065	28,993	8,248	19,722	27,970
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	596	3,467	4,063	82	2,339	2,421	678	5,806	6,484	655	5,500	6,155
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	490	1,021	1,511	192	218	410	682	1,239	1,921	679	1,236	1,915
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	446	2,337	2,783	79	3,151	3,230	525	5,488	6,013	368	3,497	3,865
Other Dress Industries	601	469	1,070	225	487	712	826	956	1,782	818	954	1,772
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,444	2,270	9,714	5,646	3,137	8,783	13,090	5,407	18,497	12,878	5,393	18,271
Food, Drink and Tobacco —												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making	7,884	2,549	10,433	520	551	1,071	8,404	3,100	11,504	7,680	2,933	10,613
Grain Milling	1,906	160	2,066	252	90	342	2,158	250	2,408	2,054	240	2,294
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	1,670	2,184	3,854	344	3,563	3,907	2,014	5,74				

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.												GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH SEPT., 1926.			
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1925.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH SEPTEMBER, 1926.						INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.				23RD AUG., 1926.	21ST SEPT., 1925.	22ND SEPT., 1924.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
Fishing	25,710	880	26,590	19.0	5.9	18.5	0.4	1.4	0.5	19.4	7.3	19.0	+ 1.3	+ 7.7	+ 7.8	19.1
Mining:—																
Coal Mining*	1,231,900	8,550	1,240,450	8.7	7.3	8.7	...	...	...	8.7	7.3	8.7	- 0.1	- 14.9	+ 0.5	8.7
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	16,150	40	16,190	17.5	...	17.4	41.8	7.5	41.8	59.3	7.5	59.2	- 3.7	+ 30.6	+ 32.7	59.4
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	5,350	40	5,390	22.8	2.5	22.7	1.0	...	...	23.8	2.5	23.7	+ 6.2	+ 11.8	+ 6.5	23.7
Stone Quarrying and Mining	38,650	280	38,930	8.3	4.6	8.3	6.2	0.8	6.1	14.5	5.4	14.4	- 1.5	+ 7.8	+ 9.4	13.7
Slate Quarrying and Mining	10,730	10	10,740	1.9	10.0	2.0	0.1	...	...	10.0	2.0	10.0	- 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.7	2.0
Other Mining and Quarrying	19,330	1,580	20,910	11.4	2.5	10.7	6.0	5.1	6.0	17.4	7.6	16.7	- 1.0	+ 9.5	+ 10.2	16.4
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	14,220	180	14,400	4.6	10.6	4.7	1.8	4.4	1.8	6.4	15.0	6.5	- 0.4	+ 3.2	+ 2.1	6.4
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—																
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,600	120	11,720	31.2	11.7	31.0	41.3	0.8	40.8	72.5	12.5	71.8	- 0.4	+ 55.0	+ 62.5	71.8
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	12,810	910	13,720	15.9	7.7	15.3	6.9	4.4	6.8	22.8	12.1	22.1	+ 0.6	+ 6.5	+ 8.9	22.1
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	17,570	780	18,350	5.0	3.6	4.9	1.6	1.7	1.6	6.6	5.3	6.5	- 0.5	+ 2.0	- 0.3	6.2
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	70,710	7,800	78,510	8.7	11.6	9.0	9.4	13.0	9.8	18.1	24.6	18.8	- 2.2	+ 12.3	+ 10.2	18.7
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	34,320	39,050	73,370	9.8	9.8	9.8	18.7	22.8	20.9	28.5	32.6	30.7	- 15.5	+ 15.2	+ 19.2	30.7
Glass Trades:—																
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	20,880	5,300	26,180	9.8	5.8	9.0	7.9	3.0	6.9	17.7	8.8	15.9	+ 0.2	+ 5.0	+ 2.0	15.9
Glass Bottle Making	16,700	2,320	19,020	18.0	9.2	16.9	18.1	16.2	17.9	36.1	25.4	34.8	...	+ 11.0	+ 12.5	34.8
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:—																
Chemicals Manufacture	75,320	21,580	96,900	9.4	3.2	8.0	4.8	1.2	4.1	14.2	4.4	12.1	- 0.2	+ 2.5	+ 2.9	12.0
Explosives Manufacture	13,020	5,500	18,520	10.4	10.9	10.5	2.2	7.0	3.7	12.6	17.9	14.2	- 1.1	+ 6.1	+ 6.4	14.1
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	12,900	3,810	16,710	5.1	4.9	5.0	0.9	1.3	1.0	6.0	6.2	6.0	- 0.1	+ 1.2	+ 1.1	6.0
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	58,940	21,590	80,530	6.7	4.7	6.2	2.6	0.8	2.1	9.3	5.5	8.3	- 1.0	+ 1.5	+ 0.1	8.3
Metal Manufacture:—																
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	25,500	280	25,780	18.0	10.0	17.9	47.0	2.9	46.5	65.0	12.9	64.4	+ 3.0	+ 39.4	+ 48.7	64.4
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	195,110	5,020	200,130	15.8	5.7	15.5	35.9	7.4	35.2	51.7	13.1	50.7	- 4.0	+ 24.1	+ 25.0	50.7
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	38,680	3,530	42,210	12.1	5.9	11.5	7.3	1.8	6.9	19.4	7.7	18.4	- 0.5	+ 7.2	+ 6.7	18.4
Manufacture of Tin Plates	23,850	4,320	28,170	8.7	4.0	8.0	47.1	31.1	44.7	55.8	35.1	52.7	- 8.6	+ 39.9	+ 49.0	52.7
Iron and Steel Tube Making	26,340	1,550	27,890	9.5	8.0	9.4	23.8	2.3	22.6	33.3	10.3	32.0	+ 1.9	+ 14.9	+ 16.0	32.0
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	20,640	4,260	24,900	9.4	8.0	9.2	16.6	5.9	14.8	26.0	13.9	24.0	- 0.6	+ 8.7	+ 10.7	24.0
Engineering, etc.:—																
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	583,590	43,690	627,280	11.3	3.5	10.8	7.1	2.1	6.7	18.4	5.6	17.5	...	+ 5.1	+ 2.5	17.4
Electrical Engineering	61,320	15,400	76,720	6.2	4.8	6.0	1.4	1.2	1.6	7.6	6.8	7.5	- 0.4	+ 2.2	+ 2.3	7.5
Marine Engineering, etc.	60,670	1,050	61,720	26.8	3.8	26.4	2.3	1.9	2.3	29.1	5.7	28.7	+ 0.2	+ 5.6	+ 11.8	27.6
Constructional Engineering	25,110	2,020	26,130	15.1	4.9	14.7	9.0	2.7	8.7	24.1	7.6	23.4	+ 1.3	+ 12.0	+ 9.8	23.4
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—																
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	193,300	21,540	214,840	9.4	6.4	9.1	2.1	3.1	2.2	11.5	9.5	11.3	- 0.2	+ 3.7	+ 0.6	11.3
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	21,700	2,930	24,630	10.4	5.4	9.8	4.1	3.6	4.0	14.5	9.0	13.8	+ 0.2	+ 3.0	+ 1.3	13.7
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building	54,810	1,440	56,250	7.7	2.8	7.6	14.3	1.5	13.9	22.0	4.3	21.5	+ 2.1	+ 14.6	+ 14.5	21.6
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	238,360	3,340	241,700	40.1	6.8	39.6	1.4	0.6	1.5	41.5	7.4	41.1	+ 0.7	+ 5.4	+ 10.6	41.7
Metal Trades:—																
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	77,990	7,970	85,960	9.8	6.0	9.5	10.6	5.1	10.1	20.4	11.1	19.6	+ 0.3	+ 8.8	+ 7.0	19.6
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	11,670	990	12,660	10.5	3.6	10.0	1.0	0.1	0.9	11.5	3.7	10.9	- 4.0	+ 4.3	+ 2.5	10.9
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	50,940	30,410	81,350	6.9	6.0	6.6	0.7	1.0	0.8	7.6	7.0	7.4	...	+ 1.7	+ 0.3	7.3
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	24,380	9,460	33,840	10.7	7.8	9.9	20.2	4.0	15.7	30.9	11.8	25.6	+ 0.7	+ 13.5	+ 10.4	25.5
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	15,130	11,920	27,050	9.7	8.2	9.0	13.0	8.6	11.1	22.7	16.8	20.1	- 5.4	+ 7.0	+ 3.9	20.1
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	18,680	11,690	30,370	9.9	6.8	8.7	3.2	6.1	4.3	13.1	12.9	13.0	- 1.3	+ 1.4	- 3.8	13.0
Other Metal Industries	7,080	520	7,600	4.1	2.7	4.0	0.9	0.4	0.8	5.0	3.1	4.8	- 1.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.8	4.8
Textile Trades:—																
Cotton	208,770	367,950	576,720	4.6	3.7	4.0	18.3	21.2	20.2	22.9	24.9	24.2	+ 0.7	+ 14.2	+ 9.9	24.2
Woolen and Worsted	107,340	150,360	257,700	5.1	3.8	4.3	11.4	13.6	12.7	16.5	17.4	17.0	- 3.8	+ 3.8	+ 9.3	17.0
Silk	18,470	28,420	46,890	4.2	3.6	3.9	5.7	11.2	9.0	9.9	14.8	12.9	- 1.6	+ 5.7	+ 7.4	12.9
Linen	27,110	59,510	86,620	17.3	17.3	17.3	7.2	9.0	8.5	24.5	25.8	25.8	- 3.6	- 5.3	+ 15.1	27.7
Jute	13,750	28,430	42,180	13.1	8.3	9.8	7.9	11.2	10.2	21.0	19.5	20.0	- 3.4	+ 6.7	+ 10.0	20.0
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	7,370	13,450	20,820	9.4	10.6	10.2	4.5	6.4	5.7	13.9	17.0	15.9	+ 0.1	- 2.6	- 1.8	15.4
Hosiery	22,200	75,500	97,700	3.6	4.7	4.4	6.3	11.3	10.2	9.9	16.0	14.6	- 0.5	+ 5.4	+ 7.0	14.5
Lace	7,980	11,480	19,460	7.9	3.5	5.3	13.3	10.5	11.7	21.2	14.0	17.0	- 4.9	- 4.1	- 0.7	17.0
Carpet Manufacture	10,790	15,460	26,250	4.9	3.8	4.2	9.5	14.8	12.6	14.4	18.6	16.8	- 3.7	+ 3.3	+ 9.9	16.8
Other Textile Industries	13,970	31,280	45,250	6.8	7.8	7.5	4.1	5.8	5.3	10.9	13.6	12.8	- 0.3	+ 2.1	+ 1.8	12.5
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	85,120	34,070	119,190	4.8	4.0	4.5	17.0	12.8	15.9	21.8	16.8	20.4	- 0.3	+ 5.1	+ 7.4	21.2
Leather and Leather Goods:—																
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	34,060	8,650	42,710	7.0	5.3	6.7	4.2	3.7	4.1	11.2	9.0	10.8	- 1.7	- 1.2	+ 0.6	10.8
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	13,830	12,750	26,580	9.2	4.5	6.9	2.8	2.6	2.8	12.0	7.1	9.7	- 0.3	+ 0.7	- 0.5	9.6
Clothing Trades:—																
Tailoring	67,800	128,140	195,940	9.3	4.0	6.8	3.9	11.7	9.0	13.2	15.7	14.8	+ 2.5	+ 1.5	+ 3.2	14.6
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	11,820	93,640	105,460	5.0	3.7	3.9	0.7	2.5	2.2	5.7	6.2	6.1	- 0.8	- 0.7	- 1.8	5.9
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	13,340	20,860	34,200	3.7	4.9	4.4	1.4	1.0	1.2	5.1	5.9	5.6	- 1.1	- 2.0	- 5.2	5.6
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	8,100	66,110	74,210	5.5	3.5	3.8	1.0	4.8	4.3	6.5	8.3	8.1	- 0.5	+ 0.4	- 0.6	7.1
Other Dress Industries	10,510	17,990	28,500	5.7	2.6	3.0	2.2	2.7	2.5	7.9	5.3	6.3	...	- 2.6	- 4.8	6.2
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	92,940	51,890	144,830	8.0	4.4	6.7	6.1	6.0	6.1	14.1	10.4					

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 27th September, 1926. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Registers at 27th September, 1926.*				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 30th Aug. 1926.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division ...	101,447	19,462	7,632	128,541	+ 853
South-Eastern Division ...	29,328	6,291	3,989	39,608	+ 3,933
Brighton ...	1,324	276	302	1,902	+ 216
Chatham ...	1,442	225	547	2,214	+ 266
Ipwich ...	2,340	273	156	2,766	+ 82
Norwich ...	2,284	753	173	3,213	+ 119
Rest of South-Eastern	21,938	4,764	2,811	29,513	+ 3,250
South-Western Division ...	48,154	7,116	4,673	59,943	+ 1,820
Bristol ...	10,972	1,899	974	13,845	+ 311
Plymouth ...	4,333	512	535	5,380	+ 215
Portsmouth ...	4,577	519	527	5,623	+ 445
Reading ...	1,052	84	193	1,329	+ 141
Derby ...	3,989	485	531	4,996	+ 611
Southampton ...	1,054	84	173	1,311	+ 250
Swindon ...	22,186	3,533	1,740	27,459	+ 153
Rest of South-Western	...	...	...	...	...
Midlands Division ...	149,686	52,006	10,402	212,094	- 25,200
Birmingham ...	26,179	11,879	1,389	39,447	- 1,973
Coventry ...	4,907	1,123	149	6,179	- 61
Grady Heath ...	4,159	725	139	5,023	- 456
Derby ...	2,940	974	408	4,322	- 403
Leicester ...	5,568	3,297	608	9,473	- 1,177
Northampton ...	1,707	481	171	2,359	+ 362
Nottingham ...	7,714	3,499	690	11,903	- 1,957
Smethwick ...	3,968	1,031	234	5,233	+ 398
Stoke-on-Trent ...	11,332	6,939	1,200	19,471	- 8,623
Walsall ...	4,505	1,051	419	5,975	- 964
West Bromwich ...	3,989	720	208	4,917	- 238
Wolverhampton ...	5,003	949	373	6,325	- 836
Rest of Midlands ...	68,235	19,338	4,756	92,329	- 9,292
North-Eastern Division ...	316,528	51,792	20,224	388,544	- 1,202
Barnsley ...	2,910	616	141	3,667	- 327
Bradford ...	9,267	5,914	684	15,865	- 2,775
Darlington ...	4,152	212	248	4,612	- 104
Dewsbury ...	1,508	317	831	2,656	+ 101
Doncaster ...	1,315	260	400	1,975	+ 439
Gateshead ...	10,146	1,053	1,150	12,349	+ 530
Grimsby ...	3,602	247	343	4,192	+ 863
Halifax ...	3,341	2,209	183	5,733	+ 148
Hartlepool ...	10,969	203	477	11,649	+ 152
Huddersfield ...	5,781	2,345	355	8,481	+ 356
Hull ...	10,676	828	123	11,627	+ 17
Leeds ...	17,118	9,096	1,339	27,553	+ 2,367
Lincoln ...	2,251	340	123	2,714	+ 50
Middlesbrough ...	22,008	539	1,389	23,936	+ 780
Newcastle-on-Tyne... Rotherham ...	16,843 7,501	2,116 281	1,160 443	20,119 8,225	+ 780 + 356
Sheffield ...	31,497	3,155	1,900	36,552	+ 1,769
South Shields ...	10,008	529	791	11,328	+ 44
Stockton-on-Tees ...	9,315	235	470	10,020	+ 17
Sunderland ...	20,365	1,147	921	22,433	+ 552
York ...	1,763	204	118	2,085	+ 181
Rest of North-Eastern	116,192	19,005	6,432	141,629	- 2,494
North-Western Division ...	225,281	103,863	21,037	350,181	- 1,405
Accrington ...	6,800	4,205	533	11,538	- 2,067
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	3,581	2,317	303	6,201	- 2,578
Barrow ...	5,412	194	297	5,903	+ 96
Birkenhead ...	5,438	357	344	6,139	+ 91
Blackburn ...	5,880	8,079	802	14,761	+ 601
Blackpool ...	1,153	324	139	1,616	+ 514
Bolton ...	6,501	2,583	512	9,596	+ 1,537
Burnley ...	4,603	5,747	279	10,629	+ 352
Bury ...	2,325	2,126	173	4,624	+ 72
Chorley ...	1,613	1,318	205	3,136	+ 40
Liverpool ...	43,950	5,284	4,044	53,278	+ 142
Manchester ...	23,189	8,585	2,473	34,247	- 83
Nelson ...	1,712	1,082	82	2,876	+ 1,599
Oldham ...	10,773	7,601	772	19,146	+ 577
Preston ...	4,716	4,465	333	9,514	+ 438
Rochdale ...	4,463	3,609	493	8,565	+ 554
St. Helens ...	4,747	548	663	6,958	+ 1,053
Salford ...	8,796	3,390	1,129	13,315	+ 862
Stockport ...	3,448	3,503	412	7,363	+ 1,078
Warrington ...	3,459	330	339	4,128	+ 943
Wigan ...	5,923	4,247	548	10,718	+ 587
Rest of North-Western	66,799	33,969	6,162	106,930	- 483
Scotland Division ...	175,096	32,100	12,944	220,140	+ 2,697
Aberdeen ...	4,647	714	400	5,761	- 88
Dydebank ...	2,984	229	186	3,399	- 96
Dundee ...	5,729	3,030	502	9,261	- 258
Edinburgh ...	12,688	2,330	1,118	16,136	+ 517
Glasgow ...	64,824	9,344	4,756	78,924	+ 1,219
Greenock ...	10,286	760	319	11,365	+ 329
Motherwell ...	8,118	308	423	8,849	- 111
Paisley ...	3,298	427	384	4,109	- 26
Rest of Scotland	62,522	14,958	4,856	82,336	+ 3,649
Wales Division ...	116,461	6,318	5,921	128,700	- 3,504
Cardiff ...	12,384	1,417	852	14,653	+ 863
Llanelli ...	6,515	472	399	7,386	+ 1,382
Newport ...	14,362	856	796	16,014	+ 7,293
Swansea ...	8,793	371	889	10,053	+ 377
Rest of Wales	74,407	3,202	2,985	80,594	- 10,655
Northern Ireland ...	36,394	16,142	1,395	53,931	- 2,049
Belfast ...	25,017	9,464	773	35,254	- 1,388
Londonderry ...	1,914	892	71	2,877	- 45
Lurgan ...	618	575	29	1,222	- 92
Lisburn ...	480	569	52	1,101	- 270
Newry ...	951	479	27	1,457	- 38
Rest of Northern Ireland	7,414	4,163	443	12,020	- 216
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1,198,375	295,090	88,217	1,581,682	- 24,057

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

On page 376 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives figures relating to the 20th September, 1926, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 5 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 5) and including lines 1 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained.

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed — Special Schemes ...	2,011	10	205	4	2,230
2. Claims admitted or under consideration ...	1,058,611	23,000	256,422	18,207	1,356,240
3. Claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	79,104	1,023	10,084	489	90,700
4. Insured non-claimants on main file ...	11,487	1,429	1,752	1,233	15,901
5. Uninsured persons on Register ...	9,856	18,816	15,307	24,064	68,043
6. Two months' file ...	73,500	5,276	41,168	4,204	123,948
Persons on Register (lines 2-5) ...	1,159,058	44,268	283,565	43,993	1,530,884
Books Lodged (lines 1-4 and 6) ...	1,224,513	30,738	309,631	24,137	1,589,019

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted for decision to the Local Employment Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople. The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of these Committees in Great Britain during the period 9th August to 13th September, 1926:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications considered by Committees during period ...	341,818	60,367	402,185
Applications admitted by Committees during period:—			
(a) For 12 weeks ...	68,067	4,963	73,030
(b) For less than 12 weeks ...	232,202	38,786	270,988
Applications definitely recommended for disallowance during period:—			
General Conditions:—			
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	2,189	1,006	3,195
Insurable employment not likely to be available ...	1,499	381	1,880
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	15,183	2,444	17,627
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not willing to accept suitable employment ...	10,367	4,334	14,701
Special Conditions:—			
Single persons residing with relatives ...	6,527	3,027	9,554
Married women who could look for support from their husbands ...	...	3,202	3,202
Married men who could look for support from their wives ...	288	...	288
Working short-time but earning sufficient for maintenance ...	3,516	1,306	4,822
Aliens ...	11	1	12
Total definitely recommended for disallowance ...	39,580	15,701	55,281
Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time ...	1,969	917	2,886

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

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

	Four weeks ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Four weeks ended 28th Aug., 1926.	Four weeks ended 26th Sept., 1925.
Contributions (Receipts):—			
By Employers ...	£ 1,090,000	£ 1,060,000	£ 1,410,000
Employed Persons ...	950,000	950,000	1,260,000
Service Departments (Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry) ...	30,000	10,000	20,000
Exchequer ...	800,000	780,000	960,000
Total ...	2,870,000	2,780,000	3,650,000
Payments:—			
Benefit ...	4,360,000	4,460,000	3,590,000
Other Payments* ...	370,000	380,000	410,000
Total ...	4,730,000	4,840,000	4,000,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding ...	16,470,000†	14,570,000†	7,935,000‡

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

† Excludes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 31st December, 1925, amounts to £32,431 8s. 3d.

‡ Includes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 30th June, 1925, amounted to £24,277 17s. 1d., the matter not being settled at this stage.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in September in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £5,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 70,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of about £200 in the weekly wages of 4,000 workpeople.

These figures, and also those shown in the next column relating to the changes in wages in the first nine months of the year, do not include the effect of the terms under which a considerable number of coal miners have resumed work. Complete statistics as to changes in rates of wages which may have resulted from such terms are not yet available.

The groups of industries principally affected were as follows:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Metal ...	7,500	2,500	£ 320	£ 80
Textile ...	55,000	...	3,950	...
Other ...	8,750	1,500	680	130
Total ...	71,250	4,000	4,950	210

The principal changes in the metal group affected workpeople employed in the iron and steel industries. Iron puddlers and millmen and iron and steel sheet millmen in the West of Scotland had their wages increased by 2½ per cent. on standard rates (equivalent to rather over 1½ per cent. on current rates), and there was a small increase in the wages of tonnage workers employed at blastfurnaces in West Cumberland and North Lancashire. Laminated spring makers at Sheffield received an increase of 1s. per week. The principal body of workpeople affected by a reduction were iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England, whose wages were reduced by ½ per cent. on standard rates.

In the textile group the principal change was an increase, amounting to 1d. on each shilling earned, in the bonus paid to hosiery workers in the Midland Counties. Workpeople employed in the hosiery bleaching, dyeing and finishing industries in the same area also received increases, amounting in the case of adult timeworkers to ½d. or ¾d. per hour.

Among the changes affecting workpeople employed in other industrial groups, there were increases in the wages of iron ore

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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
FISHING.				
Fishing	Lowestoft ...	10 Sept.	Crews of sailing fishing smacks ...	Increase of 6s. per week for third hands, of 4s. per week for deck hands, and of 2s. per week for cooks.
MINING AND QUARRYING.				
Iron Mining	Cumberland...	13 Sept.	Workpeople employed at iron ore mines.	Increase of 2d. per shift in the bargain price, of 1½d. per shift for winding enginemen, of 1d. per shift for other underground and surface workers, and of ½d. per shift for boys under 16 years; also temporary

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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.				
Pig Iron Manufacture.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Sept.	Keepers, slagers, fillers, enginemen, etc., employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase* of 2 per cent. on output bonus earnings, making the percentage payable 47½ in the Workington Area and 42½ in the Furness Area.†
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	North of England ...	6 Sept.	Iron puddlers ...	Special decrease of ½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 44½ per cent. above the standard.
	West of Scotland ...	27 Sept.	Iron millmen ...	Special decrease of ½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 42 per cent. above the standard.
			Iron puddlers and millmen ...	Increase* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 52½ per cent. above the standard.
			Iron and steel sheet millmen ...	Increase* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 60 per cent. above the standard.
ENGINEERING, SHIP-BUILDING AND OTHER METAL INDUSTRIES.				
Engineering, etc.	Lerwick ...	Sept.	Workpeople employed in engineering, shiprepairing, etc.	Decrease of 1½d. per hour for tradesmen and of 1d. per hour for labourers. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 1½d.; labourers, 9d.
Ferriery	Liverpool and Birkenhead.	1 Sept.	Ferriers ...	Increase of 2s. per week. Rates after change: ferriers, 72s. 6d.; doormen, 70s. 6d.
Laminated Spring Manufacture.	Sheffield ...	1st full pay after 18 Sept.	Laminated spring fitters and vice-men, smiths and strikers.	Increase of 1s. per week in flat rate bonus, making bonus 8s. per week.
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.				
Cotton Industry	Lancashire (excluding Bolton District), Cheshire and Derbyshire.	1 Sept.	Apprentices employed in card and blowing rooms.	Rates adopted of 14s. 8d. per week during the first twelve months of apprenticeship and 18s. per week during the second twelve months, subject to current advance of 95 per cent.
Hosiery Manufacture.	Various districts in Midland Counties.	Pay day in week beginning 27 Sept.	All classes of workpeople employed in the manufacture of hosiery (except dyers, trimmers, finishers, etc.).	Bonus of 7d. in the shilling on earnings increased to 8d. in the shilling.
			Timeworkers:— Dyers, scourers, and trimmers	Increase of ¼d. per hour for those 21 and over, ¼d. per hour for those 18 and under 21, and ¼d. per hour for those 14 and under 18 years. Rates after change: dyers and scourers—14 years, 3½d., increasing to 8½d. at 18 and to 1s. 3d. at 21 and over.
Hosiery Bleaching, Dyeing, and Finishing.	Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Derby and Hinckley.	Pay day in week ending 25 Sept.	Other workers (except auxiliary workers at Nottingham).	Increase of ¼d. per hour for menders and for male and female auxiliary workers 18 years and over, and proportionate increase for auxiliary workers under 18. Rates after change: auxiliary workers (Leicester, Loughborough, and Hinckley): men 18 to 21, 10d.; 21 and over, 1s. 2d.; women 18 and over, 9d.; qualified menders, 11d.
			Pieceworkers:— Trimmers (other than web and jersey trimmers). Web trimmers and jersey trimmers. Dyers, scourers, menders, and other pieceworkers.	Bonus of 50 per cent. on list prices increased to 60 per cent. Bonus of 32½ per cent. on list prices increased to 40 per cent. Increase of 1s. in the £.
CLOTHING INDUSTRIES.				
Retail Bespoke Tailoring.	Northern Ireland ...	20 Sept.	Certain classes of workpeople ...	Re-definition of areas for the purpose of the application of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, resulting in decreases in Urban Areas outside the County Boroughs of Belfast and Londonderry as follows:— ¼d. per hour for male workers (except those 15 and under 16 years, for whom the decrease was ½d.) in Urban Areas with a population of 2,000 and upwards; ¼d. to 1d. per hour for female workers in Urban Areas with a population of 4,000 and upwards. Minimum hourly time rates for adult workers:—Males with 4 years' apprenticeship, 1s. 3½d., 1s. 2½d.; other males 1s. 0½d., 1s. 0½d.; females employed as coat makers, etc., 9½d., 8½d.; female machinists, etc., 8½d., 7½d.; other females, 6½d., 5½d.† General minimum piece rates fixed on a log basis under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923.
			Workpeople remunerated on the log system of payment.	Scale of general minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, starting at 1½d. per hour during the first year and increasing to 5½d. per hour during the fourth year.
			Male learners ...	General minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Act cancelled.
Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Northern Ireland ...	27 Sept.	Male indentured apprentices (other than apprentices under indentures registered prior to 27 September, 1925).	General minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Act cancelled.
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES.				
Baking and Confectionery Trades.	Various towns in Yorkshire.**	Pay day in week ending 25 Sept.	Adult male workers (other than those employed by Co-operative Societies).	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 68s. 6d.; doughmakers and ovenmen, 63s. 6d.; tablehands, 58s. 6d.
			Adult workers ...	Increase of 3s. per week. Rates after change in ordinary bakeries: forehands, 68s.; singlehands and secondhands, 66s.; tablehands, 64s.
			Youths and deliverers under 21 ...	Increase of 6d. per week. Rates after change in ordinary bakeries: forehands, 68s.; singlehands and secondhands, 66s.; tablehands, 64s.
WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE INDUSTRIES.				
Furniture Manufacture.	High Wycombe ...	Pay day in week ending 25 Sept.	Women timeworkers ...	Increase of ¼d. per hour (10d. to 10½d.).
			Labourers ...	Increase of ¼d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 2d.).
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Manufacture.	Great Britain ...	23 Aug.	Male and female indentured apprentices and male and female workers under 21 years of age who have completed an indentured apprenticeship (other than those who were indentured and registered before 23 August, 1926).	Minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts cancelled. (See p. 353 of September GAZETTE.)
PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.				
Paper Manufacture.	Dartford, Maidstone, Ashford, Laverstoke, Wells and Totnes.	1 May	Workpeople employed in hand-made paper mills.	Increase of 6d. per "day's work" for vatmen and 4d. per "day's work" for couchers and layers. Rates after change per "day's work":—vatmen, 11s. 10d.; couchers, 11s. 6d.; layers, 9s. 8d.

* Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

† The percentage addition to the day and tonnage basis rates remained at 16 in accordance with the arrangement made in October, 1925.

‡ This decrease is the remainder of the special reduction of 3 per cent. agreed upon in March 1926 (see page 225 of the June GAZETTE).

§ Under cost-of-living sliding scale arrangements.

¶ Viz., Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Ilkeston, Derby, Hinckley and Coventry Districts.

* The higher rate applies to Belfast and Londonderry, and the lower rate to all other districts.

** Barnsley, Bradford, Bridlington, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Sheffield, and Wakefield

†† A "day's work" is a quantity of paper which varies according to the different sizes.

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

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Changes. (Decreases in italics.)
BUILDING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.				
Building	Manchester, Salford, and District.	*	Plasterers and plasterers' labourers	See footnote *.
	Norwich ...	Aug. 1 Sept.	Plasterers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.).†
	Portsmouth ...		Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.
Asphalte Working.	Inverness ...	1 Sept.	Masons, joiners, slaters and plumbers.	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d.).
	Liverpool, Birkenhead and District.	1 May†	Plumbers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour for asphaltes, etc., and ¼d. per hour for potmen and labourers. Rates after change: asphaltes, etc., 1s. 9½d.; potmen, 1s. 5d.; tradesmen's labourers, 1s. 4½d.; general labourers, 1s. 4d.
TRANSPORT.				
Railway-Owned Canals.	Great Britain ...	1st full pay after 1 Sept.	Adult male workers employed on railway-owned canals (excluding supervisory and shop staff).	Various occupations classified under a new Grading Scheme, and standard rates fixed for each grade in (a) rural areas, (b) industrial areas, (c) London; current rates in excess of standard rates to be subject to the cost-of-living sliding scale applicable to Conciliation Grades, current rates below standard rates to be raised to standard with effect from the date mentioned, and new entrants to be paid standard rates. Trip rates, bonuses, etc., to be discontinued, except as provided for by agreement, and conditions of service (including 48-hour week) applicable to Conciliation Grades (other than trainmen) extended to all grades (except certain lock-keepers). Standard rates include the following: labourers, (a) 38s.; (b) 41s.; (c) 44s.; boatmen, (a) 46s.; (b) 49s.; (c) 52s.
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.				
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities.	Norwich ...	1st pay day after 1 Sept.	Manual workers employed in non-trading and water departments.	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for labourers scavengers and refuse collectors, 51s. per week.
	Ayrshire (Ayr District).	13 Sept.	Road surfacemen employed by County Council.	Increase of 1s. per week (45s. to 46s.).
	Lanarkshire (Middle Ward).	1 Sept.	Manual workers employed by County Council (excluding carters and masons).	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for road surfacemen and scavengers, 51s. per week.

* At the termination of a strike of plasterers and plasterers' labourers, which lasted from 19th June to 23rd August, it was agreed, *inter alia*, that rates of wages prevailing for such workpeople prior to the stoppage should be observed. There is no formal agreement embodying these rates and the Employers' Association does not recognise any specific rates for such workpeople, but it is understood that the majority of plasterers are paid 1s. 10d. and plasterers' labourers 1s. 3½d. per hour, and these are the rates recognised by the trade unions concerned.

† The increase took effect under an agreement made between certain employers of plasterers and the local branch of the National Association of Plasterers, etc. ‡ In the case of one important firm the increase did not take effect until September, following a dispute involving stoppage of work.

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

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN OCTOBER, 1926.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in October; all the changes referred to are increases:—Blastfurnace workers in Cleveland; iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands; workpeople employed in paper box and paper bag making (under Trade Board Orders); workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage industry (under Trade Board Order); brush and broom makers (under Trade Board Order); wholesale textile warehouse workers at Manchester; waterworks employees in London and various provincial districts.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

The following Table shows the results of recent ascertainment of selling prices of pig iron and manufactured iron and steel in certain districts:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.
Pig Iron:	1926.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cumberland ... (Hematis mixed numbers).	May-June	76 6½	+ 1 3	- 8 4½
	July-Aug.	77 2½	+ 1 3½	- 8 7½
	July-Aug.	76 2½	- 1 0	- 7 8½
Lincolnshire ...	July-Aug.	78 0½	+ 1 6	- 2 6½
	July-Aug.	77 3½	+ 1 0½	- 4 0½
Nottinghamshire ...	Apr.-June	66 11½	+ 2 0½	- 0 5½
	Jan.-Mar.	64 3½	- 1 8½	- 15 4½
North Staffordshire ...	Apr.-June	67 6½	+ 3 2½	- 9 9
	Apr.-June	71 1½	+ 2 0	- 10 6½
Northamptonshire ...	Apr.-June	60 5	+ 1 4½	- 9 1½
	Apr.-June	77 6	- 0 4	- 10 10
Manufactured Iron: (Bars and angles).	May-June	220 1½	- 8 8½	- 29 0½
	July-Aug.	232 0½	+ 11 10½	- 21 5½
	May-June	229 2½	- 1 11	- 9 2
West of Scotland ... (Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops, and rods).	July-Aug.	236 1½	+ 6 10½	- 0 8½
	July-Aug.	236 1½	+ 6 10½	- 0 8½
Steel: South-West Wales ... (Steel tin bars).	Apr.-June	120 8½	+ 0 4½	- 20 8½
	Mar.-May	136 10½	+ 3 5½	- 9 11½

The variations in prices indicated in the above Table resulted, as regards the price of Cumberland pig iron, in increases varying from ¼d. to 1½d. per shift in June, in the wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland, followed by reductions of

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

similar amounts in July, and further increases varying from ¼d. to 1½d. per shift in August and from 1d. to 3d. per shift in September. There was also an increase of ¼d. or ½d. per shift in the wages of West Cumberland limestone quarrymen in September. The Cumberland ascertainment also resulted in increases in the wages of blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire, the increase amounting to 1½ per cent. in July, and a further 2 per cent. in September on the output bonus earnings of keepers, slagers and certain other classes of men. In Lincolnshire the wages of ironstone miners and blastfurnacemen were increased by 1½ per cent. on standard rates. The Nottinghamshire ascertainment for January-March warranted a reduction in the wages of blastfurnacemen in that area, but this was not enforced. The ascertainment for April-June in that district warranted an increase of 2½ per cent., but, as the reductions due under previous ascertainment had not been enforced, this increase did not operate. The North Staffordshire ascertainment resulted in an increase of 2½ per cent. on standard rates of blastfurnacemen, but this was only applied to men on tonnage rates. The ascertainment for Northamptonshire warranted an increase of 1½ per cent. on standard rates of blastfurnacemen in that county, but this did not operate owing to reductions due under previous ascertainment having been waived. In the case of iron ore miners in Furness, and blastfurnacemen in the West of Scotland, no change was made as a result of the above ascertainment. As regards manufactured iron, the North of England ascertainment warranted a reduction of 5 per cent. on standard rates for iron puddlers and millmen in August and an increase of a similar percentage in September, but by agreement these changes were not put into operation. In the West of Scotland no change resulted from the May-June ascertainment, but there was an increase of 2½ per cent. on standard rates for iron puddlers and millmen and iron and steel sheet millmen in September as a result of the July-August ascertainment. In the case of Siemens steel workers in South West Wales the ascertainment warranted no change; but the South Wales and Monmouthshire ascertainment resulted in an increase of 1½ per cent. on the standard rates of blastfurnacemen and of workpeople in steel melting shops and iron and steel rolling mills in that area.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

(1) COAL-MINING DISPUTE.

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, involved nearly a million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 21 million working days during September. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute, from 1st May up to 30th September, was about 108 million. Special articles on the subject of this dispute appear on pages 280-3 of the GAZETTE for August, on pages 320-1 of the issue for September and on pages 358-9 of the current issue.

(2) OTHER DISPUTES.

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

Month.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
September, 1926	17	16	33	2,000	15,000
August, 1926	19	16	35	2,000	18,000
September, 1925	33	36	69	44,000	413,000

Causes.—Of the 16 disputes beginning in September, ten arose on wages questions and six on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of eight new disputes and of nine old disputes. Of these disputes, four were settled in favour of the workpeople, six in favour of the employers, and seven were compromised. In the case of three other disputes, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1925 AND 1926.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first nine months of 1926, as compared with the corresponding period of 1925.

Groups of Industries.	January to Sept., 1925.			January to Sept., 1926.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
General Strike	...	...	...	1	1,580,000	15,000,000
Mining and Quarrying	133	112,000	2,372,000	50	1,094,000	109,220,000
Brick, Glass, Pottery, etc.	11	1,000	4,000	5	3,000	43,000
Engineering	14	6,000	36,000	15	3,000	63,000
Shipbuilding	18	4,000	27,000	5	1,000	4,000
Other Metal	35	5,000	58,000	35	10,000	145,000
Textile	47	171,000	3,167,000	27	16,000	183,000
Clothing	21	3,000	21,000	9	1,000	8,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	17	3,000	16,000	15	1,000	5,000
Woodworking and Furnishing	22	4,000	53,000	12	2,000	34,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	9	17,000	70,000	3	1,000	42,000
Building, Decorating, etc.	42	5,000	72,000	33	3,000	30,000
Transport	36	20,000	44,000	35	21,000	159,000
Public Administration Services	19	2,000	13,000	8	1,000	29,000
Other	28	24,000	119,000	12	1,000	19,000
Total	452	377,000	6,072,000	265	2,738,000†	124,984,000

[The usual tabular statement of principal disputes is omitted, as, apart from the coal-mining stoppage, there were no disputes in September involving large numbers of workpeople.]

* 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.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, not very considerable, except in the mining and quarrying group in 1926, when about 44,000 workpeople were involved in more than one dispute, and in the case of industries involved in the General Strike in May.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

RETURNS have been received from 139 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed during the third quarter of 1926. The summarised figures for the quarter are given in the Table below, together with similar figures as to plans passed by the same Authorities during the corresponding quarter of 1925.

District and Aggregate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received.	Estimated Cost of Buildings for which plans were approved in the 139 towns from which returns have been received.					
	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses, and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings and Additions and Alterations to Existing Buildings.	TOTAL.
(a) THIRD QUARTER OF 1926.						
ENGLAND AND WALES—Northern Counties (917,000)	452,100	26,900	69,000	19,800	61,900	629,700
Yorkshire (2,334,000)	1,059,500	157,000	165,000	281,200	198,700	1,861,400
Lancashire and Cheshire (3,035,000)	1,432,200	70,500	152,300	153,900	238,900	2,047,800
North and West-Midland Counties (2,910,000)	1,171,700	313,800	242,600	117,100	300,400	2,145,600
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (641,000)	605,000	8,900	58,100	47,800	136,800	856,600
Outer London* (1,831,000)	1,985,100	100,100	227,000	59,400	220,000	2,591,600
South-Eastern Counties (949,000)	660,800	31,900	120,300	4,200	119,900	937,100
South-Western Counties (433,000)	234,600	9,600	46,700	1,400	56,600	348,900
Wales and Monmouthshire (671,000)	407,300	9,300	84,100	23,800	32,600	557,100
SCOTLAND (2,147,000)	1,981,600	121,900	107,100	142,300	283,600	2,636,500
TOTAL (15,868,000)	9,989,900	849,900	1,272,200	850,900	1,649,400	14,612,300
(b) THIRD QUARTER OF 1925.						
ENGLAND AND WALES—Northern Counties (917,000)	304,100	28,500	37,900	63,700	106,100	540,300
Yorkshire (2,334,000)	1,205,800	72,200	178,000	37,100	224,400	1,717,500
Lancashire and Cheshire (3,035,000)	1,484,100	83,500	324,300	158,400	214,500	2,264,800
North and West-Midland Counties (2,910,000)	1,846,300	251,200	138,900	131,800	479,500	2,847,700
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (641,000)	523,000	38,400	79,700	24,700	82,000	747,800
Outer London* (1,831,000)	2,525,700	41,700	184,600	104,600	307,300	3,163,900
South-Eastern Counties (949,000)	548,900	48,600	31,200	3,900	153,900	786,500
South-Western Counties (433,000)	394,200	5,600	22,300	7,300	64,500	493,900
Wales and Monmouthshire (671,000)	446,000	8,200	97,900	47,100	51,600	650,800
SCOTLAND (2,147,000)	654,100	62,300	53,800	492,100	248,700	1,511,000
TOTAL (15,868,000)	9,932,200	640,200	1,148,600	1,070,700	1,932,500	14,724,200

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland granted during September, 1926, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted in Sept., 1926.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in Sept., 1926.	Total Departures.	
		1922 to Sept., 1925.	Jan.-Sept., 1926.		1922 to Sept., 1925.	Jan.-Sept., 1926.
To Australia	2,941	82,153†	23,027†	3,314	78,689	25,660†
„ New Zealand	883	25,626†	7,315†	1,178	22,625	8,375†
„ Canada:						
Dominion of Canada	978	21,389†	18,470†	1,278	21,489	17,205
Province of Ontario	...	1,367	...	...	1,356	...
South Africa	30	167	248	8	79	122
Minor Schemes	192	5,582	921	195	4,939	742
Total	5,024	136,284†	49,981†	5,973	129,177	52,104†

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

* Particulars are not available for the London County Council Area. † Revised figures.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during September, 1926, was 47. Five deaths* were reported during the month, three due to lead poisoning, one due to anthrax and one due to epitheliomatous ulceration. In addition, five cases of lead poisoning among house painters (including one death) and one case among house plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during September, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Aniline Poisoning ... 3
Smelting of Metals ... 1	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.
Plumbing and Soldering ...	Wool
Shipbreaking	Handling of Horsehair ... 3
Printing 1	Handling and Sorting of
Tinning of Metals	Hides and Skins ... 1
Other Contact with	Other Industries ... 1
Molten Lead 1	TOTAL, ANTHRAX 5
White and Red Lead	
Works 1	(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS
Pottery† 2	ULCERATION.
Vitreous Enamelling ... 1	Pitch 3
Electric Accumulator	Tar 2
Works 1	Oil 7
Paint and Colour Works ... 1	TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS
Indiarubber Works ... 1	ULCERATION 12
Coach and Car Painting ...	(e) CASES OF CHROME
Shipbuilding	ULCERATION.
Paint used in Other	Manufacture of Bichro-
Industries 2	mates
Other Industries 2	Dyeing and Finishing ... 8
TOTAL OF ABOVE 14	Chrome Tanning
HOUSE PAINTING 5	Other Industries 5
HOUSE PLUMBING 1	TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION 13

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during September, 1926, was 97, as compared with 98 in the previous month and with 198 in September, 1925. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 31 in September, 1926, as compared with 44 in the previous month, and with 46 a year ago.

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued):
Brakemen and Goods	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages,
Guards 1	Motors, Aircraft
Engine Drivers 1	Other Metal Trades
Firemen 1	Shipbuilding 3
Guards (Passenger)	Wood 3
Permanent-Way Men ... 5	Gas 4
Porters 1	Electric Generating Stations 1
Shunters 2	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc. ... 2
Mechanics 5	Chemicals, etc.
Labourers 1	Food and Drink 4
Miscellaneous 3	Paper, Printing, etc. ... 1
Contractors' Servants ...	Tanning, Currying, etc. ... 3
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 20	Rubber Trades
	Other Non-Textile Industries
MINES.	Leads
Underground 14	Barnsley District
Surface 6	Sheffield
TOTAL, MINES 20	Hull District
	North Staffordshire
QUARRIES OVER 20 feet deep 9	Nottingham District ... 1,044
	Leicester 191
	Wolverhampton
	Birmingham 285
	Bristol District 415
	Cardiff and Swansea ... 674
	TOTAL, "Other Districts" 607
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	TOTAL, "Other Districts" 607
Cotton 1	
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	TOTAL, Districts in Eng-
Other Textiles 3	land and Wales 574
Textile Bleaching and	
Dyeing	SCOTLAND.
Metal Extracting and Re-	Glasgow District
fining	Paisley and Greenock
Metal Conversion, including	District
Rolling Mills and Tube	Edinburgh
Making 2	Dunfermline
Metal Founding 1	line
Engineering and Machine	Aberdeen
Making 4	Coatbridge and Airdrie
Boiler Making and Con-	... ..
structional Engineering ...	TOTAL for the above
	Scottish Districts
	9,704
	TOTAL for above 31 Dis-
	tricts in Sept., 1926. 125,977

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

† The persons affected in the Pottery industry were females.

‡ In addition to these cases reported under the Act, one case (fatal) of anthrax among dock labourers was reported.

§ Revised figure.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in September, 1926, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 1,070,669, or 3.0 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 43.7 per cent. more than in September, 1925. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 598, 617 and 418‡ per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in September, 1926, was 909,366, a decrease of 3.4 per cent. as compared with August, but an increase of 46.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 161,303, a decrease of 0.2 per cent. as compared with August, but an increase of 28.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in September numbered 125,977 or 0.8 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 2.5 per cent. more than in September, 1925. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 944,692, or 3.4 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 51.8 per cent. more than a year ago.

Twenty areas showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in September, as compared with the previous month, including Nottingham (195 per 10,000) and North Staffordshire (153 per 10,000); while ten areas showed small increases. Compared with September, 1925, all except three areas showed increases, the most noteworthy being Wigan (1,275 per 10,000), Barnsley (1,261 per 10,000), Newcastle (836 per 10,000) and Nottingham (763 per 10,000); the only considerable decrease was in West Ham (111 per 10,000).

Selected Urban Areas.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in September, 1926.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	8,828	7,132	15,960	192	+ 2	...
North District ...	10,289	19,773	30,062	292	+ 5	+ 17
Central District ...	2,255	2,675	4,930	367	- 3	- 27
East District ...	10,054	62,475	72,529	1,113	- 56	+ 110
South District ...	19,290	74,844	94,134	480	- 8	+ 15
TOTAL, Metropolis ...	50,716	166,899	217,615	472	- 10	+ 25
West Ham	4,569	51,778	56,347	735	- 46	- 111
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,672	71,441	74,113	1,462	+ 14	+ 836
Stockton and Tees						
District	1,221	21,086	22,307	803	+ 8	+ 288
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,202	10,723	14,925	188	- 3	+ 38
Wigan District ...	1,879	69,434	71,313	1,564	- 31	+ 1,275
Manchester District	9,067	41,606	50,673	483	- 10	+ 130
Liverpool District	9,833	58,234	68,067	542	+ 7	+ 29
Bradford District ...	1,876	7,066	8,942	241	- 72	+ 58
Halifax and Hudders-						
field ...						

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*				Latest figures available.	
	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	Rise.	Date.
UNITED KINGDOM ...	80	62	62	67	63	1st Oct.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czechoslovakia ...	72	88	100	110	59	July
Denmark ...	72	52	48	58	58	July
Egypt (Cairo)†	1,005	868	916	1,007	1,016	Aug.
France (Paris)‡	197	221	260	321	487	Aug.
France (other towns)‡	212§	249§	300§	351§	423	May
Germany ...	...	...	...	...	54	July
Holland (The Hague)	...	396	408	502	560	Aug.
Italy (Milan)	392	482	469	527	496	June
Italy (Rome)	...	418	148	160	96	Aug.
Norway ...	133	72	82	90	86	July
Spain (Madrid)†	73	65	72	82	63	July
Spain (Barcelona)†	79	60	59	69	57	Sept.
Sweden†	57	66	70	69	57	Aug.
Switzerland ...	39	44	40	59	54	July
UNITED STATES ...	48	64	49†	56	57	Aug. Sept.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.						
Australia ...	38	37	34	41	47	Sept.
Canada ...	60	48	51	52	52	Sept.
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	85†	82	85	88	74	July
"European" do ...	44	42	48	51	48	Sept.
Irish Free State ...	16	16	17	20	16	July
New Zealand ...						
South Africa ...						

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.¶	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.¶				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	Rise.	Date.
UNITED KINGDOM	A,B,C,D,E	84	69	70	73	74	1st Oct.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	266	329	393	409	584	Sept.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	600	589	641	593	June
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	99	104	114	119	84	July
Estonia (Tallinn) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	990	1,032	1,094	1,090	Aug.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	1,018	990	1,032	1,094	385	2nd qr.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	189**	231**	267**	301**	42	Sept.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	516	933	1,225	1,372	1,631	Apr.
Greece (Athens) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	...	...
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	87†	74†	73†	79†	74	Mar.
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	388	387	412	498	552	Aug.
Italy (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	450	449	495	448	June
Luxemburg ...	A,C,D	259	340	381	415	586	Aug.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	155†	139†	151†	161†	118	June
Poland (Warsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	90	74	71	76	72	July
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	...	...	...	...	68	Aug.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	67†	70†	69†	74†	75	June
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &c.							
Australia ...	A,B	43**	56**	48**	55**	56	1st qr.
Canada ...	A,B,D	46	46	44	46	49	Sept.
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	65	53	57	57	55	Sept.
"European" do ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	...	...	60	July
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	85†	80	83	88	82	July
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	59§	58§	60§	63§	61	July
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	35	30	32	33	30	July

* Exemptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Amsterdam, Spain, South Africa, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and light are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exemptions to this are: Amsterdam, 1911-1913; France, Poland, Australia and South Africa, average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, Hungary, average, 1913-1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Poland, January, 1914.

** Figure for 3rd Quarter.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 368-369 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office. (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in September.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges at the end of September (2nd October), was 11,649 (7,191 men and 4,458 women). At the end of August, the corresponding total was 8,578 and in September, 1925, 11,127. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 10,475 (5,820 for men and 4,655 for women), as compared with 11,416 at the end of August and 11,388 in September, 1925. During the last week of September, the Exchanges succeeded in placing 31,609 persons in situations, including 8,433 dock workers at seaports, and, in addition, found employment for 2,525 foreign immigrants.

GERMANY.†

Employment in August.—The Reichsarbeitsblatt states that the various statistical returns give, on the whole, a favourable impression of the development of the labour market in August, and that this would appear to be the result not merely of purely seasonal causes but also of a slight recovery in industrial conditions generally.

The returns from statutory health insurance societies revealed a further slight increase in membership during August. On 1st September the societies making returns had a total membership of 13,446,723 as compared with 13,361,636 on 1st August—an increase of 0.6 per cent.

Returns relating to unemployment were submitted by 40 national trade unions with an aggregate membership of 3,401,806. Of these 567,541, or 16.7 per cent., were out of work on 28th August as compared with 17.7 per cent. at the end of July and 4.3 per cent. in August, 1925. A further 511,685, or 15 per cent., were working short time on 28th August, as against 16.6 per cent. in July and 6.9 per cent., in August, 1925.

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

UNIONS.	Membership reported on at end of August, 1926.	Percentage Totally Unemployed at end of Month.		
		August, 1926.	July, 1926.	August, 1925.
All Unions making Returns ...	3,401,806	16.7	17.7	4.3
Porcelain (S.D.) ...	31,892	14.6	17.5	3.3
Glass (S.D.) ...	34,830	19.2	19.2	1.8
Metal (S.D.) ...	640,300	20.9	21.7	4.5
(H.D.) ...	78,699	11.0	12.5	5.4
Textile (S.D.) ...	282,338	16.5	18.4	3.0
(C.) ...	69,217	11.0	15.0	0.9
Clothing (S.D.) ...	70,456	32.1	33.0	6.7
Boot and shoe (S.D.) ...	72,499	28.2	28.9	5.0
Food, tobacco, etc. (S.D.) ...	50,043	15.2	16.1	7.4
Food and drink (S.D.) ...	67,071	5.3	5.6	2.4
Tobacco (S.D.) ...	53,991	17.2	20.1	7.6
Woodworking (S.D.) ...	266,831	27.2	28.9	4.2
Printing (S.D.) ...	76,110	8.2	7.9	1.4
Bookbinding (S.D.) ...	50,300	17.6	16.3	3.0
Building (S.D.) ...	321,970	17.4	19.7	4.8
Carpenters (S.D.) ...	84,077	18.4	20.3	5.2
Transport (S.D.) ...	264,744	8.5	8.7	4.3
Factory workers (trades not distinguished) (S.D.) ...	2,26,298	15.1	14.8	4.8
Engine drivers and firemen (S.D.) ...	45,954	12.7	13.9	5.2
Factory and transport (C.) ...	51,257	10.6	14.4	5.6
Municipal and State workers (S.D.) ...	186,505	1.7	1.8	0.7

Figures relating to the number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment are available for 15th September, on which date the total was 1,483,623. On 1st September the corresponding figure was 1,548,127, and on 15th September, 1,603,700.

At the end of August the unemployment exchanges making returns had 2,147,056 persons on the "live register," as against 2,251,121 at the end of July. The number of vacant situations at the end of August was 31,185, as compared with 34,272 at the end of July. There were thus in August, on an average, 688 applicants for each 100 vacancies registered at the Exchanges, as compared with 657 in July.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in August.—According to the issue of Statistische Nachrichten (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th September, 1926, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in Austria was 150,935 at the end of August,

* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 8th October, 1926. Paris.
† Reichsarbeitsblatt, 1st October, 1926. Berlin.
‡ "Members" of these societies are persons under obligation to pay insurance premiums. During unemployment they are relieved of this obligation; hence paying members are assumed to be in employment.

as compared with 152,485 at the end of the preceding month, and 116,365 at the end of August, 1925. In Vienna alone there were 86,454 persons in receipt of benefit at the middle of September and 83,716 at the end of August.

BELGIUM.*

Unemployment in August.—Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 146 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 592,156, show that 7,268 (1.2 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month. Both in the preceding month and in August, 1925, the percentage was 0.9. In addition, 16,531 members were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment in August numbered 285,101, or 1.6 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 1.29, and in August, 1925, 1.80.

POLAND.†

Unemployment in June.—According to reports furnished to the Central Statistical Office by the Polish Ministry of Labour, approximately 290,617 persons were unemployed throughout the country on 26th June as compared with 303,720 on 1st June. The improvement in the labour market during the month is due to the increased numbers employed in the building industry, on public works undertaken by the States and Communes, in agriculture and forestry work, and in the mining, textile and metal industries, whilst a number of workers (about 2,300) have emigrated, most of whom went to France.

DENMARK.‡

Unemployment in August.—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 269,563 workpeople, 17.7 per cent. were unemployed on 27th August, 1926, as against 17.4 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 9.8 per cent. at the end of August, 1925.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in August.—According to information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, out of 14,686 members of trade unions making returns, 20.3 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of August. The corresponding figure for 31st July, was 18.8 per cent. and that for 31st August, 1925, 10.1 per cent.

SWEDEN.§

Unemployment in August.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st August, 1926, was 8.2, as compared with 8.5 on 31st July, and 7.6 on 31st August, 1926.

SWITZERLAND.

Unemployment in August.—On 31st August, 1926, the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 11,818, as compared with 11,013 at the end of July and 9,895 at the end of August, 1925. Offers of situations made by employers on these dates numbered 1,969, 1,876 and 2,498 respectively. There were thus on an average 600 applications for each 100 vacancies on 31st August, as compared with 587 on 31st July and 396 on 31st August, 1925.

Unemployment among Insured Workers, 30th June, 1926.¶—Returns from 58 subsidised unemployment funds show that out of an aggregate membership of 157,230, 2.4 per cent. were totally unemployed and 3.7 per cent. partially so on the last day of June. These figures are computed at quarterly intervals. On 31st March, the corresponding percentages were 2.7 and 2.4.

UNITED STATES.**

Employment in August.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in August, based on returns from 10,180 establishments in 54 industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 2,996,995 persons employed in August as against 2,964,973 in July, an increase of 1.0 per cent. The aggregate wages paid for August show an increase of 3.5 per cent. as compared with July, and the average earnings an increase of 2.7 per cent.

Index Number of Employment, August.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for August, 1926, is 90.7, as compared with 89.8 in July, and 89.9 in August, 1925.

CANADA.

Employment in September.††—For 1st September, 1926, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,799 firms, with an aggregate of 859,738 upon their pay rolls. On 1st August, the same firms reported 855,002 employed and the total for September thus shows an increase of 4,736 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st September, 1926, is 104.9, as compared with 104.2 at the beginning of the preceding month and 96.6 on 1st September, 1925.

Trade Union Unemployment in August.‡‡—On 31st August, 1926, 2.5 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 2.3 at the end of July and 4.4 per cent. in August, 1925.

* Revue du Travail, 30th September, 1926. Brussels.
† Statystyka Pracy, July, 1926. Warsaw.
‡ Statistiska Efterretninger, 17th September, 1926. Copenhagen.
§ Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.
¶ Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen, September, 1926. Berne.
** Ibid., August, 1926.
†† Employment in Selected Industries, August, 1926. Washington.
‡‡ The September Employment Situation, 1926. Ottawa.
‡‡ Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour. Ottawa.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-26.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

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

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 2931/26. (3/9/26.) Sections 8 (2) of the Principal Act and 7 (1) (iv) (as Amended)—Employment left Voluntarily—Not unable to obtain Suitable Employment.

GENERAL CLERK CHOSE £20 AND IMMEDIATE TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT TO ALTERNATIVE OF 3 MONTHS' NOTICE—LEFT VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT JUST CAUSE.

In furtherance of a policy of staff reduction the applicant's firm offered him the alternative of three months' notice of dismissal, or £20 and immediate termination of his appointment. He accepted the £20, and accordingly terminated his employment on the 30th June, 1926. He lodged a claim for unemployment benefit on 2nd July, which was disallowed on the ground that he was not unable to obtain suitable employment.

The applicant, who was a general clerk, stated that his wages were £2 7s. 6d. per week, and his conditions of service entitled him to one month's notice to terminate his appointment. The firm gave him £20 in lieu of a month's notice and of the bonus due to him from Christmas, 1925, to June, 1926. He chose the money because he would have more opportunity of seeking other employment.

Recommended by the Court of Referees, by a majority, that the claim should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant left his employment voluntarily on the 30th June, but that, in view of the circumstances, he was justified in leaving and acted reasonably in accepting the £20. This amount was, however, compensation in lieu of wages, and he was not, therefore, unemployed from the 1st July to 31st July. After 31st July he was unable to obtain suitable employment. The Chairman dissented from the view of the majority of the Court. In his opinion, the applicant was not unable to obtain suitable employment, having, in fact, elected to take a monetary payment instead of a three months' extension of his employment, and his claim should therefore be disallowed for a period of six weeks.

The Insurance Officer did not concur in the recommendation of the majority of the Court. He agreed with the Chairman that the applicant had the offer of three additional months' work, which he refused. He accordingly referred the case to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

Decision.—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed for six weeks from 30th June."

"I agree with the Chairman of the Court of Referees that, as the applicant had the opportunity of remaining at work for a further three months, he left voluntarily, and in my opinion he does not show just cause for leaving."

Case No. 3142/26. (9/9/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—LABOURERS WORKED AS PUMPSMEN ON HAND PUMP DURING STOPPAGE—LOST EMPLOYMENT WHEN MECHANICAL PUMP INSTALLED—BELONGED TO MINERS' FEDERATION, BUT NOT GIVEN NOTICE PRIOR TO GENERAL STOPPAGE—LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT NOT DUE TO TRADE DISPUTE.

The applicants, who were registered as labourers, were employed as pumpmen at a colliery after the normal work of the colliery had been stopped in consequence of the national dispute in the mining industry. They lost their employment on the 23rd July, 1926, however, when the hand pump upon which they were engaged was replaced by a mechanical pump, and their claims for unemployment benefit were disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicants admitted that they were members of the Miners' Federation, but they did not receive the fortnight's notice, similar to that given to other colliery workers, which preceded the general stoppage on the 30th April.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that the applicants, through the Miners' Federation, were interested in and participating in the dispute.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He pointed out that the men became unemployed because of the installation of the mechanical pump, and he therefore held the view that the loss of employment was not due to a

* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given prior to 31st December, 1924, have been published in pamphlet form and later embodied in bound volumes, and either separate pamphlets or bound volumes may be purchased through any bookseller or direct from H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given subsequent to December, 1924, are printed in pamphlet form and may be obtained as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All inquiries and applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

trade dispute. He referred the case to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

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

"The applicants lost their employment owing to the instalment of a mechanical pump, and not by reason of the stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute."

Case No. 3304/26. (15/9/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—DRAWER LOST EMPLOYMENT WHEN STOPPAGE BEGAN—SUBSEQUENTLY MEDICALLY CERTIFIED AS UNSUITED TO PIT WORK—INTENDED NOT TO RETURN TO MINES—EMPLOYMENT LOST OWING TO STOPPAGE, AND DISQUALIFIED SO LONG AS STOPPAGE CONTINUED.

The applicant lost his employment at a colliery on the 30th April, 1926, when a stoppage of work occurred at the mines in consequence of the national mining dispute. Subsequently he was in receipt of health insurance benefit, but was certified on the 25th June as fit for light work. He lodged a claim for unemployment benefit, which was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicant stated that he was last employed as a colliery drawer, but did not intend to go back to the mines owing to ill-health. He produced a medical certificate dated 23rd August, which indicated that he was unsuited for work in the pits owing to hernia following an old appendicitis operation.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed. The Court were convinced by the medical certificates produced that the applicant was unable to do pit work and was therefore not affected by the dispute.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. In his opinion Decisions No. 2273/26* and 2573/26* applied in this case.

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

"As the applicant lost employment by reason of the stoppage of work at the colliery he is disqualified so long as the stoppage of work continues, notwithstanding that he may have no intention of returning to the work at the colliery after the settlement of the dispute."

Case No. 3510/26. (25/9/26.) Section 8 (5) of the Principal Act—In receipt of Old Age Pension.

WIDOWS', ORPHANS' AND OLD AGE CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT, 1925—BARGEMAN, 70 YEARS OF AGE, IN RECEIPT OF OLD AGE PENSION UNDER SECTION 20 (1), DISQUALIFIED UNDER SECTION 8 (5) OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT, 1920.

The applicant, a bargeman, 70 years of age, lost his employment on the 24th July, 1926, and made a claim for unemployment benefit two days later, which was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (5) of the principal Act on the ground that he was in receipt of an old age pension. He stated that he had been in receipt of the pension for about a month.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed, in view of the fact that the applicant was in receipt of a pension which he had had since 26th July.

The Insurance Officer formally disagreed with the Court's recommendation and referred the case to the Umpire, for the purpose of obtaining an authoritative decision as to whether a person who was in receipt of an old age pension under Section 20 (1) of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, was disqualified under Section 8 (5) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

The Umpire gave the following decision:—

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

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees. "It is, in my opinion, quite clear that by Section 8 (5) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, the applicant is disqualified for benefit whilst he is in receipt of the pension to which he is entitled under Section 20 (1) of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925."

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

SUPERVISING STAFF—STAMPING DEPARTMENT, INLAND REVENUE.—Inland Revenue Stamping Department Superintendents' Association v. Board of Inland Revenue. Difference.—Salary scales and leave—Claim for revision. Decision.—The Court awarded increased annual basic scales of pay to the following grades:—

Third Class Superintendents	... ..	£210—£10—£250
Second "	"	£260—£10—£300
First "	"	£320—£15—£400
Inspectors	... ..	£425—£20—£525

Factory allowances and overtime to be continued. The claim for an increase in the periods of leave was disallowed. Operative from 1st August, 1926. Issued 16th September, 1926. (1244.)

* Not published. Both are decisions to disallow applicants who lost employment on the 30th April, and subsequently declared their intention of leaving the pits on grounds of ill-health.

EX-SOLDIER CLERKS (WAR OFFICE).—Association of Ex-Soldier (War Office) Clerks v. War Office. Difference.—Assimilation terms. Decision.—The Court decided against the claim generally but allowed that any Class B Clerk, now in Grade B, who on 1st April, 1923, held, or prior thereto had held an appointment as an acting Class A Clerk, and who on 1st April, 1923, had been at the maximum of the old scale for Class B Clerks for not less than two years or not less than four years, should be granted one or two increments respectively, such increments to have effect as from 1st July, 1926. Issued 18th September, 1926. (1245.)

CHIEF WAREHOUSE SUPERVISORS, WAREHOUSE SUPERVISORS AND ASSISTANT WAREHOUSE SUPERVISORS—H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.—Civil Service Confederation v. H.M. Stationery Office. Difference.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. Decision.—The Court awarded the following annual basic scales of pay for London:—

Assistant Warehouse Supervisors	... ..	£140—£5—£160
Warehouse Supervisors	... ..	£160—£7½—£210
Chief Warehouse Supervisors	... ..	£210—£10—£260

These scales are subject to a 5 per cent. reduction for Edinburgh and Belfast, and a 10 per cent. reduction for Manchester. Operative as from 1st August, 1926. Issued 29th September, 1926. (1246.)

ASSISTANT EXAMINERS OF PAPER AND OFFICE REQUISITES, H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. H.M. Stationery Office. Difference.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. Decision.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 29th September, 1926. (1247.)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS, LABORATORY, H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.—Institution of Professional Civil Servants v. H.M. Stationery Office. Difference.—Salary scales—Claim for increase. Decision.—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 29th September, 1926. (1248.)

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

LOCAL AUTHORITIES: LONDON.—L.C.C. Ship and Shop Stewards Joint Committee v. London County Council. Claim that an additional holiday of 6 working days with pay, should be granted to employees in the Main Drainage Service who work under Trade Awards. Board of Arbitration consisting of Mr. B. A. Cohen, K.C. (Chairman), Sir Allan M. Smith, K.B.E. (Employers' Representative) and Mr. J. J. Mallon, J.P. (Workpeople's Representative) appointed under Section 2 (2) (c) of the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Award.—Claim conceded. Dated 30th September, 1926.

(C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

[There were no cases under this heading during September.]

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Drift Net Mending Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order E (4), dated 30th September, 1926, confirming general minimum time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers and a general minimum piece rate for female homeworkers and specifying the 4th October, 1926, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.B.S. (16), dated the 15th September, 1926, confirming certain minimum rates of wages as fixed for male and female workers and the cancellation of certain other minimum rates of wages in their application to a class of male workers in the Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade in Northern Ireland and specifying the 27th September, 1926, as the effective date.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.T.R.B. (22 and 23), dated the 8th September, 1926, confirming minimum rates of wages as fixed and as varied for male and female workers in the Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Northern Ireland and specifying the 20th September, 1926, as the date from which these rates become effective.

II.—CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FIGURE.

Higher wage rates have become operative as from the 1st October 1926, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates of wages now applicable are those appropriate to the "Cost of Living" figure of 72 and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below copies of which may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d.:

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain), D (32), col. 2. D (33), col. 1. D (34), col. 3.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain), M (39), (40) and (41), col. 10.

Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain), P (13), col. 8.

Paper Box Trade Board (Great Britain), B (11), col. 3.

Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade Board (Great Britain), I (17), col. 5.

III.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board (England and Wales).

Proposal R.B. (L) 1, dated 8th September, 1926, to fix and vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in the Area comprising the City of London and the Metropolitan Police Area. Objection period expires 7th November, 1926.

Proposal R.B. (E) 1, dated 11th September, 1926, to fix and vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in the Area comprising the Counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex (excluding that part which lies within the Metropolitan Police District), Huntingdonshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. Objection period expires 10th November, 1926.

Proposal R.B. (S.E.) 1, dated 13th September, 1926, to fix and vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in the Area comprising the Counties of Kent and Surrey. Objection period expires 10th November, 1926.

Proposal R.B. (N.W.) 1, dated 16th September, 1926, to fix and vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in the Area comprising the Counties of Anglesey, Carnarvonshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire. Objection period expires 14th November, 1926.

Jute Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal J (42), dated 30th September, 1926, to vary minimum rate of wages for male and female workers. Objection period expires 28th November, 1926.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Lifting of Heavy Weights: Draft Regulations.

THE Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 21st September, 1926, that he proposes to make new Regulations under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in substitution for the Regulations dated 27th July, 1925, for the lifting by hand of heavy weights in the manufacture, dyeing or finishing of woollen or worsted textiles.

Copies of the Draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, London, S.W.1., and any objections with respect to them by or on behalf of any persons affected must be sent to the Secretary of State within 30 days from the date of the notice.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.—Methods of statistics of collective agreements. Studies and Reports, Series N. (Statistics), No. 11. International Labour Office. (Geneva; price 10d.)

DIRECTORY.—International Labour Directory, 1925. Part II, Employers' Organisations. Part IV, Workers' Organisations. Part V, Ex-service men's Organisations. Part VII Miscellaneous International Organisations. International Labour Office. (Geneva; price 3s., 2s., 6d., and 6d. respectively.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1925. Part I, General. (H.C. 138; price 9d.)

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—Sixth Annual Report of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board to 31st December, 1925 (including analysis of published work). Medical Research Council. (S.O. publication; price 3s.) (See page 365.)

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE.—Bibliography of industrial hygiene. Vol. II, of No. 2, June, 1926. International Labour Office (Geneva: price 1 Swiss franc). This bibliography of recent publications on industrial hygiene, appearing in quarterly parts, includes English publications. Sections are devoted to vocational guidance, scientific management, welfare, and accidents.

MERCANTILE MARINE.—Statistics relating to health and mortality in the mercantile marine. Report of the Sub-Committee of the Permanent Consultative Committee on Official Statistics. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—Statement showing the number of persons in England and Wales in receipt of Poor Law Relief, in the quarter ending in June, 1925, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief. Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 3d.) (See page 359.)

RAILWAY STAFF.—Railway Companies (Staff). Return showing (1) the number of persons employed by the several railway companies of Great Britain during the week ended 27th March, 1926, and (2) a comparison of the rates of pay, and also of the average weekly salary or wage and the average weekly earnings, of certain selected grades during the weeks ended 28th March, 1925, and 27th March, 1926. (S.O. publication; price 3s.) (See page 364.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on agricultural unemployment insurance. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Scottish Office. (S.O. publication; price 6s.) (See page 363.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, SEPTEMBER, 1926.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Devonport: Portland Cement: Cement Marketing Co., London, S.W.; Ship Canal Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd., Ellesmere Port, near Birkenhead.—Construction of Offices: Wakeham Bros., Ltd., Plymouth. Ernesettle (Plymouth): Cast Iron Pipes, etc.: Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., near Chesterfield.—Pembroke Dock: Pipework: Stanton Iron Works Co., Ltd., near Nottingham.—Rosyth: Painting Tanks: R. Bowran & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Shotley: Central Heating: E. Deane & Beal, Ltd., London, E.C.—H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Tumblers for Dredgers: W. Shaw & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Buoys, Conversion of: Gas Accumulator Co. (United Kingdom) Ltd., Brentford.—Cable, Electric: British Insulated Cables, Helsby; Enfield Cable Works, Brimsdown; St. Helens Cable & Rubber Co., Ltd., Slough; General Electric Co., Southampton; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; W. T. Glover & Co., Manchester.—Caps, Valve Protecting: Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—Cloth, Cleaning: The Fairlea Mill Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot; A. Worsley & Sons, Ltd., Bury.—Compressor, Secondary: G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow; Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—Davits and Fittings, Tubular: J. Broadfoot & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Deadlights: J. & J. Woods, Ltd., Rainhill, nr. Liverpool.—Diethyldiphenylurea: The British Dyestuff Corporation, Ltd., Manchester.—Fans, Ship: Newton Dynamo Works, Taunton.—Fans, Table: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—Flour: W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Buchanans Flour Mills, Ltd., Liverpool; J. & A. Robinson, Ltd., London.—Forges, Portable Folding: New Alldays & Onions, Ltd., Birmingham.—Gear, Firehearth: Carron Co., Falkirk; Darwin Yeardeley & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; W. Green & Co. (Ecclesfield), Ltd., Sheffield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield; C. Portway & Son, Halstead, Essex; Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge; H. Wilson & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—Gearing, Spare Cruising: Power Plant Co., Ltd., West Drayton, Middlesex.—Gloves, Leather, Various: North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Newcastle; Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade; E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton.—Gunmetal Articles, Miscellaneous: Carron Co., Falkirk; T. Pemberton & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; E. Barber & Co., Ltd., London, N.; Ogden & Lawson, Workington; Shipham & Co., Ltd., Hull.—Heating Installation, Hot Water: Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—Heating Plant: Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—Hides, Leather and Leather Goods: C. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle; Barrowfield Leather Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton; J. Conyers & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—Lamp Fittings: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lathe, Combination Turret: H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lead, Red: Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester.—Lead, White: The Brimsdown Lead Co., Ltd., Middlesex; A. Ferguson & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Linoleum and Cork Carpet: The Corticene Floor Covering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Michael Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Machine, Drilling and Tapping, &c.: H. W. Kearns & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Mains, Pneumatic: Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—Nails, etc., Copper: T. Bradley, Birmingham; Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; Harrison & Cook, Birmingham; D. Powis & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Worcester.—Oil, Light Shale: Scottish Oil Agency, Ltd., Glasgow.—Oil, Lubricating: Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Oils, Linseed: Dixon & Cardus, Ltd., Southampton; Prices Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Smith Bros. & Co., London, E.; Younghusband, Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—Oxygen Plant: G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow.—Panels, W/T: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.—Piping, Voice: Wm. Mills, Ltd., Birmingham.—Plant, Mechanical Hydraulic: Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—Plugs and Sockets: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Mx.—Plywood: W. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—Purchases, Torpedo Handling: Wharton Crane & Hoist Co., Ltd., Stockport.—Shafting, Brackets, etc.: Ransomes & Marles Bearing Co., Ltd., Newark-on-Trent.—Shoes, Gymnasium: The Greengate & Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., Salford; The North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Soap, Soft: Peter Lunt & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—Starters and Resistances: Watford Electric Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Watford.—Steel Blooms: D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield.—Table, Rolling: Vickers, Ltd., Barrow.—Tiles: The Campbell Tile Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; The Malkin Tile Works Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Maw & Co., Ltd., Ironbridge, Salop.—Timber, English: R. Batcheller & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone; Bowerman & Sons, Ltd., Bridgwater; C. R. Claridge, Exeter; C. Miles & Sons, Stamford; R. Mulford, Ltd., Basingstoke; G. Randle & Son, Ltd., Bridgwater; W. J. Taylor & Sons, Ltd., Bath; E. C. White & Son, Ltd., Basingstoke.—Wood Goods, Manufactured: Burley & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool; R. Charnley & Sons, Ulverston; C. W. Clinch & Son, Newbury; E. & A. Coward, Ulverston; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsed; J. B. Latham & Co., London, S.E.; G. P. Lloyd & Penhale, Ltd., Cardiff; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; The Staveley Wood Turning Co., Kendal; H. Wells, Reading; C. White, London, E.

WAR OFFICE.

Acetylene Gas: Allen Liveridge, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Ballast:** W. R. Cunis, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cable, Electric:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Chassis, 6-wheeled:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cloth, Bedford Drab Mixture:** Atkinson Bros. (Rodley), Ltd., Leeds; Glendinning Bros., Ltd., Huddersfield; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield.—**Cloth, Blue, Pilot No. 4, 54-in.:** Cloth, Blue, Tartan, No. 2, 56-in.: Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield.—**Cloth, Blue, No. 2, 56-in.:** A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—**Cloth, Blue, No. 1, 58-in.:** Cloth, Blue, No. 4, 56-in.: J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Leeds.—**Cloth, Scarlet, No. 3, 56-in.:** Cloth, Scarlet, No. 4, 56-in.: T. & H. Harper, Ltd., Bradford.—**Cloth, Scarlet, No. 3, 56-in.:** J. Harper & Sons, Bradford.—**Coats, Great:** L. Silberston, London, E.—**Coats, Great:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, London and Swindon; J. Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Copper, Ingot:** Brandeis & Goldschmidt & Co., London, E.C.—**Curtains, Sand-fly, G.S.:** Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.; Thos. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Drums, Cable No. 9, and Stands:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**E.L. Fittings:** Cable Accessories Co., Ltd., Tividale, Staffs.—**Engine Spares:** Armstrong, Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Flannelette:** J. Wilkinson (Manchester & Nelson), Ltd., Nelson; W. N. Berry & Sons, Earby.—**Generating Set:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Grinding, Wheels:** B. R. Rowland & Co., Ltd., Reddish, near Stockport.—**Jacking Gear for Trailers:** Weybridge Works Engr. Co., Ltd., Weybridge.—**Lathes:** Denham's Engr. Co., Ltd., Holmwood; Smith & Coventry, Ltd., Manchester.—**Lead, Pig:** The British Metal Corp., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Mercury Arc Rectifier Equipment:** The Hewitt Electric Co., Ltd., Hershaw, Surrey.—**Oil, Lubricating, Mineral, Motor, extra heavy:** Oil, Lubricating, Mineral, Steam Cylinder, Heavy: Frank How & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Overalls, Combination:** E. Greenwood & Co., Hebdon Bridge; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, S.W.; Wallis & Lennell, Kettering; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, London and Swindon.—**Pails, Slop, Enamelled:** Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Paint, Ground-in-Oil, Black Vegetable, and Zinc Oxide:** International Paint & Composition Co., Ltd., Felling-on-Tyne.—**Pipes and Fittings:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Rutherglen and Birmingham.—**Plates, Dinner, G.S.:** W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; John Steventon & Sons, Ltd., Burslem.—**Repairs to W.D. Vessels:** Glengall Ironworks, Ltd., Millwall; Charlton & Co., Ltd., Grimsby.—**Saddlery:** Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, London, S.E.—**Sanitary Appliances:** John Slater (Stoke), Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Serge, S.D.:** Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset.—**Silk Cloth:** Ireland & Wishart, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Wilman & Sons, Ltd., Hadfield.—**Soda, Crystals, Caustic and Ash:** Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich.—**Stable Fittings:** Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Steel, Angles, Rounds, etc.:** District Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Smethwick.—**Steel Billets:** The Darlington Forge, Ltd., Darlington; Industrial Steels, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel Bars, Medium Tensile:** Park Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—**Switches, E.L.:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton and Wembley.—**Tents, Store:** T. Black & Sons (Greenock), Ltd., Greenock; C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; T. Dobbin & Co., London, E.—**Trestles, Iron, for Table Tops:** Douglass Bros., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne.—**Trucks, Power-driven:** Greenwood & Batley, Ltd., Leeds.—**Wrought Iron:** Raine & Co., Ltd., Derwenthaugh-on-Tyne.—**Zinc Ingot:** H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Works Services: Building Works and Services:** Glazing work at Woolwich, Enfield and Waltham Abbey: W. H. Heywood & Co., Ltd., Huddersfield; Mellows & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Paragon Glazing Co., London, S.W. Stable Blocks, Weedon, Bosworth & Wakefield, Daventry. Warrant Officers and Married Soldiers' Quarters at York: W. Tune, Osgodby. Operation and X-Ray Block, Holywood Barracks, Belfast: Thos. McKee & Sons, Ltd., Belfast. Improvements to Huts at Reed Hall, Colchester: Hutton & Son, Birch, nr. Colchester. Newcastle, Fenham Barracks, Married Quarter: Mr. J. R. Surtees, Bernfieldside, Blackhill, Co. Durham. Lichfield, Whittington Barracks, Bath House: Wm. Sharp & Sons, Barton-under-Needwood, Burton-on-Trent. Warley, Repairs to Parade Ground: Myall Bros., Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. Feltham, M.T. Depot, Improvements to Regimental Institute: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. North Aldershot, Lynchford Road, Bathrooms to 12 Married Soldiers' Quarters: W. Tanner & Sons, Aldershot. Portsmouth, Cambridge Barracks, Annexes for Baths and W.C.'s to Married Quarters: F. Bevis, Portsmouth, Didoct, Foxhall Camp, Remaking Road: J. Perkins & Son, Ltd., Bristol. Exeter, Topsham Barracks, Construction of Football Ground: Woodman & Son, Exeter. Beverley, Erection of Sergeants' Mess: H. & F. Pape, Ladygate, Beverley. Catterick, 30 yds. Range: A. & S. Wheeler, London, W.C.2. Catterick, Conversion of Officers' Mess to Grocery Shop: G. R. Wade & Son, Richmond, Yorks. Newcastle-on-Tyne, Miniature Rifle Range: G. R. Wade & Son, Richmond, Yorks. Sheffield, Hillsborough Barracks, Periodical Services: C. J. Else & Co., Matlock. Spurn Point, Dredging: The Jarroo Dredging & Salvage Co., Jarroo-on-Tyne. Installations: Gravesend Barracks, Electric Light: Burch & Verture, Aldershot.

AIR MINISTRY.

Accumulators: The Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Aircraft:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge, Surrey.—**Aircraft, Fitting of Parachutes to:** Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge, Surrey.—**Aircraft, Fitting of Engine in:** Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning of:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes,

Middlesex; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft Spares:** Armstrong, Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Dalmuir, Glasgow; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware, Middlesex; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Geo. Parnall & Co., Bristol; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight; Short Bros. (Rochester & Bedford), Ltd., Rochester, Kent; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Woolston, Southampton; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircscrews:** Aircscrew Company, Weybridge.—**Aircscrews and Cases:** Aircscrew Co., Weybridge; D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Arms, Training:** Monarch Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ash, English:** Montagu L. Meyer, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Benzol:** National Benzole Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bomb Carriers:** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Heating Installation (Hawkinge): Barrett & Wright, Ltd., London, E.C. Heating Installation (Castle Bromwich): Brightside Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Heating Installation (Wittering): Heywood & Bryett, London, S.E. Hospital Lifts (Halton): J. Stannah, London, S.E. Internal Wiring (Suttons Farm): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Married Quarters (Gosport): John Hunt, Ltd., Gosport. Operation. Block (Worthy Down): H. G. Ross, Netley Abbey. Petrol Storages (North Weald): Simmons & Hawker, London, W.C. Pipework for Generators (Abu Sueir): Mirlees, Bickerton & Day, Hazel Grove near Stockport. Steel framework (Croydon): Wright, Anderson & Co., Gateshead-on-Tyne. Underground Cable (Flowerdown & Worthy Down): Walshams, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cable, Kite Balloon:** J. & E. Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Coal, House (Donbristle and Leuchars):** Bruce Lindsay Bros., Leith; J. H. Gilman & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coal, House (Various Stations):** J. H. Gilman & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coats, Waterproof:** Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich.—**Coke, Furnace (Pulham Airship Station):** Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Crossley 30-cwt. Chassis:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Gorton, Manchester.—**Delco Ignition Spares, Repair of:** Delco Remy & Hyatt, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Duralumin:** James Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Nechells, Birmingham.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Armstrong, Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Conversion of:** Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft (Drawings for complete fuel injection system):** E.L.S. Engines, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul of:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reduction to Spares:** Gillett Stephen, Ltd., Bookham, Surrey.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of:** Gillett Stephen, Ltd., Bookham, Surrey.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of Spares:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares:** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engine Aircraft, Test Benches:** Armstrong, Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Engine Aircraft, Test on:** Armstrong, Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Parkhead, Glasgow.—**Flexible Drives (Mark VI) and Spares:** Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Fluid Disinfectant:** Jeyes Sanitary Compounds, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Forgings, Magnesium Alloy:** Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Parkhead, Glasgow.—**Fuel Pumps and Injector (Test apparatus):** E.L.S. Engines, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Lamps, Navigation and Identification:** Howes & Burley, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Magnetos and Spares:** Scintilla, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Mahogany:** Howard Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; James Latham, Ltd., London, E.C.; William Oliver & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Masts, Bentwood, Telescopic, 30 ft.:** The McGruer Hollow Spar Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Mattresses, Officers:** The Bayswater Bedding Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Oil, Lubricating, Extra heavy:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Racks, Storage, Steel:** G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sheets, Barrack:** C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Sparking Plugs:** Robinhood Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Telephone-Telegraph Installations (Persian Gulf):** Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Timber (Kidbrooke):** Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Transmitters:** Gambrell Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tyres:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts; Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Erdington, Birmingham.

POST OFFICE.

Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing: Glasgow-Paisley: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Caerphilly-Hengoed: Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Conduits—Laying:** Glasgow (Western): A. Duncan, Glasgow. Godalming-Haslemere: Hurstmoor (Sussex): W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. City of London; Rainham (Kent); Sunbury-on-Thames; Teynsham and Bethersden (Kent); Seal (Kent): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Hull-Immingham-Grimsby (Sections III and IV): W. P. & G. P. Hayes, Grappenhall, near Warrington. Hull-Immingham-Grimsby (Section V); Biddenden, Sissinghurst (Kent) and Frant (Sussex); Tonypandy-Pentre (Rhonda); St. Helens (Warrington Side) and Rainford (Lancs); Malone: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Great Harwood (Lancs): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Leeds (Camp Road and Wade Lane): J. F. Hodge, Rednal, Birmingham. Newmarket; Tonbridge (Kent); Snodland, Stroud and Gillingham (Kent): H. Collingridge, London, W.C. Hull-Immingham-Grimsby (Sections I and II): J. McLaren, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Manchester (Openshaw-West Gorton): W. Turner (Ardwick), Ltd., Manchester. Cooden (Sussex): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Glossop (Derbyshire); Douglas

(I. of M.): Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Dringhouses and Fulford (Yorks): J. W. Thornley & Sons, Farnworth, near Bolton. Liverpool (Mill St., Tithebarn St., and Great Crosshall St.); Liverpool (Old Swan, Green Lane): J. E. Turner, Heywood, Lancs. Kingston-Molesey: T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Chichester and Singleton (Sussex): J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Wembley (Barn Hill); Brixton (Lothian Road-Wiltshire Road): H. Farrow, London, N.W. Newbridge (Mon.): J. Hengoed; J. Hengoed-Bargoed: G. F. Leadbeter, Newport (Mon.). Lytham (Lancs): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton.—**Switchgear—E.H.T., D.C.:** Rugby Radio Station: General Electric Co., Ltd., Witton, Birmingham.—**New Road and Footpaths, etc.—Constructing:** Skegness Beam Wireless Station: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Grimsby Beam Wireless Station: E. E. Jeavons & Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Carlisle: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. East Finchley: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines.—**Streatham; Tottenham: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Wemley-super-Mare: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Colne (Lancs):** Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C. Droydsden Industrial Co-operative Society, Ltd. (Manchester); United Dairies, Ltd. (W. 2); W. Crawford & Sons, Ltd. (Liverpool); International Combustion, Ltd. (W.C. 2); Barrow, Hepburn & Gale (S.E. 1); Castner-Kellner Alkali Co., Ltd. (Runcorn); Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Telephone Repeater Station—2-wire Repeater Equipment—Installation, etc.:** Catterick; Leeds: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Peel-Connor Telephone Works (General Electric Co., Ltd.), Coventry; Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, N.; Sterling Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.—**Apparatus, Testing, Protective and Miscellaneous:** Walter Jones & Co., London, S.E.; Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; L. Weekes (Luton), Ltd., Luton.—**Apparatus, Mail Bag Exchanging:** J. T. Davis, Ltd., London, E.—**Ashby-de-la-Zouch P.O.:** T. Orton & Son, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.—**Battery Stores:** Accumulators of Woking, Ltd., Woking; Tudor Accumulator Co., Ltd., Dukinfield.—**Cable, Various:** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancs; Connolly's (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Peel-Connor Telephone Works, Ltd.), Coventry; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Castings, Joint Box:** General Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Arlesley, Beds.—**Chains, Bicycle:** Brampton Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cleaners, vacuum:** Pulvo Engineering Co., London, W.C.—**Coils, Loading, to Encase:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Containers for Mailbags:** W. Goodyear & Sons, Ltd., Dudley.—**Cords for Telephones:** Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Free Wheels for Bicycles:** Villiers Engineering Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Ironwork, telegraphic:** Bert Birks & Co., Cradley Heath, Staffs.—**Jars, Glass:** Forster's Glass Co., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Labels, Metal:** E. Rudd & Co., Birmingham.—**Lamps:** A. C. Cossor, Ltd., London, N.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Machines, Stamp Vending, Cases, Cast Iron, for:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Materials, Miscellaneous, for Clothing, Uniform:** Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Wm. Hughes & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Rags, White:** S. J. Green, Liverpool; W. C. Jones, Manchester.—**Seals, Lead:** Dunham, White & Co., Ltd., London, E.; London Die Casting Foundry, Ltd., London, N.—**Signs, Call Office:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Sleeves, Jointing:** C. M. Powell Bros., Birmingham.—**Wire, Cadmium Copper:** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakmoor; Richard Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; F. Smith & Co., Salford.—**Wire, Copper, Enamelled and Silk Covered:** Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., New Sawley, Derbyshire.—**Wadhurst P.O.:** Luck Bros., Ltd., Wadhurst.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Carbons: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Dunstable.—**Cloth, Tracing:** B. J. Hall & Co., Ltd., Cheshire; Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Envelopes:** McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton, Bucks.—**Ink, Duplicating:** Ellams Duplicator Co., Ltd., Bushey.—**Paper of various descriptions:** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; Ellangowan Paper Co., Ltd., Milngavie, near Glasgow; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Bitton, near Bristol; Guard Bridge Paper Co., Ltd., Guard Bridge, Fife; London Paper Mills, Ltd., Dartford, Kent; National Paper and Pulp Co., Ltd., High Wycombe, Bucks; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet, Kent; Ryburndale Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ripponden, near Halifax.—**Pencils:** British Pens, Ltd., Keswick; F. Chambers & Co., Ltd., Stapleford, Notts; Eagle Pencil Co., London, N.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.:** Account Book Binding, Div. I (1926), London: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Account Book Binding, Div. II (1926), London: Barclay & Fry, Ltd., London, S.E. Account Book Binding, Div. III (1926), London: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Account Book Binding, Div. X (1926), London: Burrup, Mathieson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Account Book Binding, Div. I (1926), Manchester: Abel Heywood & Son, Ltd., Manchester. Printing Calendars for Prisons, Liverpool: C. Tinsling & Co., Ltd., Liverpool. 150,000 Books Med. 40 (Revised) (Ministry of Health): Henry Blacklock & Co., Ltd., Manchester.

65,500 British Industries Fair Foreign Booklet: J. Corah & Sons, Loughborough, Leicestershire. 7,700 Tax Inspectors' Diaries, 1927: W. P. Griffith & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 907 Ledger Books "U. 45," Post Office: Tee & Whiten & J. Mead, Ltd., London, S.E. 30,000 Motor Licences R.F. 1,000, Ministry of Transport: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. 8,000 Books P. 1038 (Post Office): Willmer Bros. & Co., Ltd., Birkenhead. 27,000,000 A/cs. Form 455 (Ministry of Labour): J. Worrall, Ltd., Oldham, Lancs.—**Tags, India:** G. Hughes & Co., London, N.—**Toilet Rolls:** Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Axleboxes: Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Newton-le-Willows, Lancs.; Patent Axlebox & Foundry Co., Wolverhampton.—**Axles:** J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—**Block-making Machines:** Winget, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Brake Materials:** The Westinghouse Brake & Saxby Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Brake Spares:** Consolidated B. & E. Co., London, S.W.—**Cable:** W. T. Henley's Tele. Wks. Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**"Celotex":** Celotex, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Chassis, etc.:** The Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Clothing:** Chamberlins, Ltd., c/o Messrs. Belham Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Coal:** Watts, Watts & Co., London, E.C.—**Coal Tar:** J. E. C. Lord (Manchester), Ltd., Weaste, Manchester.—**Collars:** Staveley Coal & Iron Co., near Chesterfield.—**Concrete Mixer, etc.:** Goodwin, Barsby & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Conduit:** Key Eng. Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Braithwaite & Co., London, S.W.—**Corrosive Sublimite:** May & Baker, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Coupler Spares:** Leeds Forge Co., Leeds.—**Crane and Accessories:** Grafton & Co., Bedford.—**Doors and Windows:** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Engines:** Petters, Ltd., Yeovil.—**Expanded Metal and Cutters:** Wm. Jacks & Co., London, E.C.—**Fans, Ceiling:** Metro-Vick Supplies, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Fencing:** Bayliss, Jones & Bayliss, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Glasses:** Pilkington Bros., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Ironmongery:** V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Ironwork, etc.:** Blake Boiler Wgn. & Eng. Co., Darlington.—**Laboratory Apparatus:** F. E. Becker & Co., London, E.C.—**Lathes:** Ward, Haggas & Smith, London, S.W.—**Launch:** Philip & Sons, Ltd., Dartmouth.—**Lead, etc.:** Walkers, Parker & Co., London, S.E.—**Loco. Spares:** Kitson & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Medical Requisites:** Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Metal:** Phosphor Bronze Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Meters, etc.:** Tylors (Water & Sanitary), Ltd., London, N.—**Motor Rollers and Spares:** Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Oil:** C. C. Wakefield & Co., London, E.C.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paints:** Red Hand Composition, Ltd., London, E.C.; Torbay Paint Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paper:** The Carrongrove Paper Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Ellangowan Paper Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Olives Paper Mills Co., Woolfold, near Bury; North of Ireland Paper Mill Co., Ballyclare, Co. Antrim.—**Pipes, etc.:** Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow; Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak, Birmingham.—**Poles, etc.:** Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.; Br. Mannesmann Tube, Newport, Mon.—**Publications:** A. Brown & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Quinine:** Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—**Rails and Fishplates:** The United Steel Co., Workington.—**Road Roller:** Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester.—**Sera:** Parke, Davis & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Sheets:** Wolverhampton C.I. Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port.—**Signalling Materials:** Tyer & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Spares for Engine:** Mirlees, Bickerton & Day, Haze, near Stockport.—**Stationery:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Bennett & Wood, Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.—**Steel:** P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Sheet Piling:** Br. Steel Piling Co., London, S.W.—**Steelwork:** A. Findlay & Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Motherwell Bridge & Eng. Co., Motherwell; Orr, Watt & Co., Ltd., Motherwell; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Armstrong Constn. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Horseley Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Switchgear:** Ferguson, Pailin, Ltd., Higher Openshaw, Manchester; A. Reynolle & Co., Hebburn-on-Tyne; Metropolitan-Vickers Elec. Export Co., Trafford Park, Manchester.—**Tents:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tiles, etc.:** Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., London, E.C.—**Timber:** C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—**Tipping Boxes:** Cammell, Laird & Co., Nottingham.—**Tubes:** Yorkshire Copper Wks., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tyres:** Monk Bridge Iron & Steel Co., Leeds.—**Wagons:** The Birmingham Rly. Carr. & Wagon Co., Ltd., Smethwick.—**Waste:** E. Illingworth & Co., Bradford; Redmayne & Isherwood, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Water Columns:** Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock.—**Wheels and Axles:** R. Y. Pickering Co., Ltd., Wislaw.—**Windows:** Crittall Mfg. Co., Ltd., Braintree.—**Wireless Apparatus:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Marconi's Wireless Tel. Co., London, W.C.—**Wire, etc.:** The British Insul. Cables, London, W.C.—**Yacht:** J. S. White & Co., Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight.

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