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Where appropriate, lists of items under the headings shown in CAPITALS will be found on the pages indicated.

Wages, Retail Prices, Disputes, etc., in 1953

DURING 1953 there was an increase in the average level of weekly rates of wages of about 3 per cent., compared with about 6 per cent. during the previous year and 11 per cent. in 1951. The current index of weekly wage rates, based on June, 1947=100, was 138 at the end of December, 1953, as compared with 134 a year earlier. It is estimated that about 9 million workpeople received increases in wages amounting at the end of the year to nearly £2½ million a week. At the end of the year there were, however, a number of important wage claims outstanding. There were very few changes in normal weekly hours of work in 1953.

The average level of retail prices, as measured by the interim index, rose by only 1 per cent. during the year. Apart from seasonal variations, there was little change in the average level of food prices, taken as a whole, and the only groups showing any marked increases were those covering rent and rates, fuel and light, and services. There was a slight rise in the average prices of clothing, but the average levels of prices for household durable goods and miscellaneous goods fell.

Stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes caused the loss of nearly 2,200,000 working days during 1953 at the establishments where the disputes occurred. This was about 400,000 more than in the previous year. The number of workpeople involved in these stoppages was about 1,350,000, which was about 900,000 more than the figure in 1952. Nearly one-half of the total number of working days lost in 1953 were lost in the one-day stoppage of engineering workers on 2nd December.

Rates of Wages

The index number which measures the movement from month to month in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages in the principal industries and services in the United Kingdom rose by 4 points or about 3 per cent. during 1953.

The increase of about 3 per cent. compares with 6 per cent. in 1952, 11 per cent. in 1951, 4 per cent. in 1950, between 1½ and 2 per cent. in 1949, and 4 per cent. in 1948.

The following Table shows the index numbers of weekly rates of wages (on the basis of 30th June, 1947 = 100) at the end of 1952 and of each month of 1953:—

Date (end of month)	Men	Women	Juveniles	All Workers
1952				
December	132	138	143	134
1953				
January	132	138	143	134
February	134	138	144	135
March	134	139	145	135
April	134	139	145	135
May	134	139	145	135
June	134	139	145	135
July	134	140	146	136
August	135	141	147	136
September	135	141	148	137
October	135	142	149	137
November	136	143	149	137
December	136	143	149	138

The above indices relate to changes in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages but are not a measure of changes in actual weekly earnings. In April and October, 1953, enquiries were made by the Department as to the actual earnings of manual wage-earners employed in manufacturing industries generally, and in a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries in the United Kingdom. In April, 1953, the level of average weekly earnings in these industries, expressed as an index number on the basis of April, 1947 = 100, was 152. For these same industries the index of rates of wages at April, 1953, was 136 (135 for all industries and services—as in the Table above). The results of the October, 1953, enquiry into weekly earnings are not yet available.

that a systematic examination has been carried out during 1953 of the whole of the surviving emergency legislation and gives a list of the 76 Defence Regulations which were to be wholly revoked in the twelve months ending 10th December, 1953. Details of partial revocations are also given in an appendix to the Memorandum.

Copies of the Orders in Council referred to in this article can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net each (3½d. post free), except *S.I.* 1953 No. 1768 and *S.I.* 1953 No. 1769, price 3d. net each (4½d. post free).

CONTINUANCE OF TEMPORARY LEGISLATION

The continuance of certain Acts, and of the enactments amending or affecting these Acts, in so far as they are in force and are temporary in their duration, is provided for in the Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1953,* which received the Royal Assent on 18th December.

The Acts concerned include the Aliens Restriction (Amendment) Act, 1919, the Cotton Manufacturing Industry (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1934, the Road Traffic Act, 1934, the Population (Statistics) Act, 1938, the Prevention of Violence (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1939, the Education (Exemptions) (Scotland) Act, 1947, the Tenancy of Shops (Scotland) Act, 1949, the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1951, and the Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1952. These Acts were due to expire on 31st December, 1953, and are now continued, wholly or in part, until 31st December, 1954. The sections of the Cotton Manufacturing Industry (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1934, that are continued are those which make temporary provisions enabling the Minister of Labour and National Service to make an Order giving statutory effect to rates of wages agreed between representative organisations of employers and workers in the weaving section of the cotton manufacturing industry (see the issues of this GAZETTE for May, July, and August, 1934, pages 157, 231 and 271).

Other Acts continued in force are the Rent of Furnished Houses Control (Scotland) Act, 1943, the Furnished Houses (Rent Control) Act, 1946, and Part II of the Licensing Act, 1953. These Acts were due to expire on 31st March, 1954, and now continue in force until 31st March, 1955.

DISABLED PERSONS NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The National Advisory Council on the Employment of the Disabled, which was established in 1944 under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, has been reconstituted by the Minister of Labour and National Service for a further period of three years ending 31st December, 1956. The Council was established to advise and assist the Minister in matters relating to the employment, undertaking of work on their own account, or training, of disabled persons (see the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1945, page 3).

The following persons have been appointed by the Minister as members of the reconstituted Council:—Chairman: Sir Brunel Cohen, K.B.E. Employers' representatives: Mr. E. M. Amphlett, M.C.; Dr. A. B. Badger, M.A., Ph.D.; Brig. J. A. Barraclough, C.M.G., D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.; Mr. I. R. Broad; and Mr. E. DeAth, C.B.E., D.C.M. Workers' representatives: Mr. C. Bartlett; Mr. T. Eccles; Mr. G. H. Lowthian, M.B.E.; Mr. A. McAndrews; and Mr. G. Middleton, C.B.E. Other members: Sir Bertram Chimes, C.B.E., J.P.; Mr. H. Adams Clarke; Mr. W. H. Crews, J.P.; Dr. J. J. R. Duthie, M.B., M.R.C.P.; Mr. P. N. G. Edge, D.S.C.; Alderman I. J. Hayward, J.P.; The Hon. J. Holland-Hibbert; Dr. Maxwell Jones, M.D., M.R.C.P.(E), D.P.M.; Mr. H. H. Norris, M.B.E.; Brig. J. A. Oliver, C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D.; Mrs. L. Parsons; Sir Harry Platt, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S.; Mr. J. C. Poole, C.B.E., M.C.; Mrs. A. G. Pym; Squadron Leader W. Simpson, O.B.E., D.F.C.; Dr. D. Stewart, M.D., F.R.C.P.(E); Lt. Commander G. W. Style, D.S.C., R.N.; Dr. R. R. Trail, C.B.E., M.C., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.; Air Chief-Commandant Dame Katherine Trefusis-Forbes, D.B.E.; and Lt.-Col. C. S. Woodward, J.P. The Secretary of the Council is Mr. G. C. H. Slater, Ministry of Labour and National Service, 32/33 St. James's Square, London, S.W.1.

A list of the members of the Council as previously constituted was published in the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1951 (page 145).

STATISTICS OF PNEUMOCONIOSIS

The Ministry of Fuel and Power have issued a Digest of Pneumoconiosis Statistics, 1952. The Digest relates to the mining and quarrying industries and contains various statistical Tables analysing the numbers of medical boardings and diagnoses under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946, for each of the industries, and, in the case of coal mining, for each National Coal Board Area, together with statistics of employment of persons

* 2 Eliz. 2 Ch. 9. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net 4½d. post free).

suffering from pneumoconiosis. Copies of the Digest may be had on application to the Ministry of Fuel and Power, Safety and Health Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

COURTS OF INQUIRY INTO WAGE DISPUTES IN ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING

The Minister of Labour has announced the appointment of Courts of Inquiry in connection with the wage disputes in the engineering and shipbuilding industries. The Courts are to enquire into and to report separately on the causes and circumstances of the disputes in each of the two industries, but the members of the Court are the same in each case. The Chairman is the Right Honourable Lord Justice Morris (Sir John William Morris, C.B.E., M.C.) and the members are Mr. C. J. Geddes, C.B.E., Sir Harold Gibson Howitt, G.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., J.P., Mr. H. Lloyd Williams, D.S.O., M.C., and Sir Robert John Sinclair, K.C.B., K.B.E.

The Courts commenced their hearings in public in London on Friday, 8th January.

EARNINGS IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1953

The Statistical Statement of the costs of production, proceeds and profit or loss of collieries in Great Britain for the third quarter of 1953 has been published by the National Coal Board. The statistics relate to the deep mines worked by the Board and exclude those relating to opencast workings and mines licensed in accordance with Section 36 of the Coal Industry Nationalization Act. In the third quarter of 1953 licensed mines produced about 0.9 per cent. of the total quantity of deep-mined saleable coal.

Earnings in the Third Quarter of 1953

	Cash Earnings		Value of Allowances in Kind		Total	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Average Earnings (All Ages):						
(i) Per Man-shift worked—						
At the Face	54	6-9	2	0-3	56	7-2
All Underground	47	0-4	1	10-4	48	10-8
Surface	31	5-6	1	6-9	33	0-5
All Workers	43	4-4	1	9-7	45	2-1
(ii) Per Wage-earner per Week—						
At the Face	234	8	8	8	243	4
All Underground	214	10	8	7	223	5
Surface	162	11	8	2	171	1
All Workers	203	9	8	6	212	3

Statistics of earnings are given in the Statement for each of the 20 wage districts in Great Britain. The average earnings in the quarter per man-shift worked, including the value of allowances in kind, for workers of all ages ranged from 40s. 9-1d. in Somerset and 41s. 6-0d. in North Staffordshire to 50s. 7-2d. in Kent and 51s. 4-4d. in Nottinghamshire. The average earnings per wage-earner per week ranged from 183s. 11d. in Shropshire and 192s. 7d. in North Staffordshire to 236s. 11d. in North Derbyshire and 238s. 2d. in Nottinghamshire.

The estimated average earnings, including the value of allowances in kind, for all adult male workers 21 years of age and over in Great Britain during the third quarter of 1953 amounted to 47s. 6d. per man-shift worked and 223s. 10d. per week.

BAKING INDUSTRY (HOURS OF WORK) BILL

A Bill to restrict night work in the baking industry has been presented to Parliament by the Minister of Labour and National Service and received its first reading in the House of Commons on 16th December, 1953. The text of the Bill, which is entitled the Baking Industry (Hours of Work) Bill, has been published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d. net (7½d. post free).

The Bill is based on the recommendations made in the Report of the Rees Committee (see the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1951, page 391). It embodies also the results of subsequent discussions between the Ministry of Labour and National Service and employers' organisations and trade unions in the baking industry. The Government's acceptance in principle of the recommendations of the Committee and intention to introduce legislation was announced by the Minister of Labour and National Service in the House of Commons on 24th July, 1952 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1952, page 271).

The Bill applies to persons employed in any undertaking carried on by way of trade or for the purpose of gain under a contract of service or of apprenticeship in the manufacture of bread or flour confectionery or on work incidental to such manufacture. It does not apply to master bakers and foremen or to women and

young persons employed as bakery workers in factories. The Minister may by Order exempt employers covered by a voluntary collective agreement if he is satisfied that the terms of that agreement make the application of the provisions of the Bill unnecessary.

In general, the provisions of the Bill require bakery employers to choose between two alternatives. Under the first alternative employment is prohibited between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. (4 a.m. in the case of preparatory workers). Under the second, night work may take place, but an individual worker may not be employed for more than 26 weeks in any one year between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. Under either system special exceptions are allowed to meet the requirements of the week-end trade and of public holidays, and to deal with emergencies arising from accident, illness or breakdown of machinery. A section of the Bill makes provision for enforcement of the proposed restrictions by the Wages Inspectorate of the Ministry of Labour and National Service under powers similar to those provided under the Wages Councils Acts.

The Bill, which does not apply to Northern Ireland, may be brought into operation by Order of the Minister on 1st January, 1957; otherwise its provisions are to come into operation on 1st January, 1958.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Unemployment Benefit and Compensation for Loss of Remuneration

The National Insurance Advisory Committee have been asked to report on the preliminary draft of the National Insurance (Unemployment and Sickness Benefit) Amendment Regulations, 1953, which amend the rule for deciding whether a person can be paid unemployment benefit in addition to compensation for loss of salary or wages following the termination of his employment.

Under the existing rule a person can receive unemployment benefit if his compensation for loss of salary or wages during the first 13 weeks does not exceed two-thirds of his previous wages less two-thirds of his unemployment benefit including any allowances. The new rule provides that unemployment benefit can be received so long as the compensation is not more than two-thirds of his previous earnings less the standard rate of unemployment benefit disregarding any allowances for wife and children or other dependants.

Copies of the draft Regulations can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3½d. post free).

Reciprocal Arrangements with Australia

On 4th December Her Majesty's Counsellors of State on behalf of Her Majesty in Council made the National Insurance (Reciprocal Agreement with Australia) Order, 1953. This Order, which came into force on 7th January, 1954, gives effect in England, Wales and Scotland to those provisions (set out in the Schedule to the Order) of the agreement made on 8th June, 1953, between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth of Australia which provide for reciprocity in relation to the National Insurance Acts, 1946 to 1953 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for June, page 202). The Order also modifies those Acts in their application to cases affected by such provisions of the agreement.

The agreement will enable persons who go from this country to Australia to receive additional payments under the Australian scheme to supplement any retirement pension or widows' benefits for which they qualified in this country. Reciprocal arrangements previously made enabled such persons to receive the United Kingdom benefits in Australia. People who come from Australia to this country will, under the agreement, be treated as if they had been insured under the National Insurance schemes while they were in Australia so as to help them to qualify for National Insurance benefits.

On 14th December the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, in conjunction with the Treasury, made the Family Allowances (Australia Reciprocal Arrangements) Regulations, 1953. These Regulations came into operation on 7th January, 1954, and give effect in Great Britain to the Reciprocal Arrangements (set out in the Schedule to the Regulations) made on 3rd June, 1953, between the Minister of National Insurance (now the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance) and the Minister of State for Social Services in Australia. They also modify the Family Allowances Acts, 1945 and 1952, in their application to persons affected by the Arrangements. The effect of these agreed arrangements is to ensure that families going from one country to the other will be able to qualify for family allowances in the other country as soon as they arrive there.

Copies of the Order (*S.I.* 1953 No. 1772) and of the Regulations (*S.I.* 1953 No. 1842) can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price, respectively, 6d. and 3d. net (7½d. and 4½d. post free).

Reciprocal Agreement with Denmark

A reciprocal agreement between Great Britain and Denmark relating to industrial injuries insurance was signed by the Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the Danish Ambassador on 15th December.

The agreement provides for benefits awarded under the industrial injuries insurance schemes in Great Britain and Denmark to be paid in either country. It also determines which country's scheme is to

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apply when a national of one country is employed in the other country. The agreement will come into force after it has been ratified by both countries.

Third Interim Report by Government Actuary on National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946

The Third Interim Report by the Government Actuary on the operation of the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946, has been presented to Parliament and published as a House of Commons Paper (No. 27, Session 1953-54) by H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d. net (7½d. post free).

The Report, which relates to the year ended 31st March, 1952, refers to increased expenditure from the Industrial Injuries Fund incurred during this period as a result of the provisions of the National Insurance Act, 1951, the Workmen's Compensation (Supplementation) Act, 1951, and the Pneumoconiosis and Bysinosis Benefit Act, 1951. The legislative provisions regarding the income of the Fund were not affected by these Acts. The Family Allowances and National Insurance Act, 1952, which increased the main rates of benefit, and also the rates of contributions for men and boys, under the Industrial Injuries Act, did not come into operation during the period under review.

Sections of the Report deal respectively with the Industrial Injuries Fund, the numbers insured under the Industrial Injuries Act, injury benefit, disablement benefit, special hardship allowances, and death benefit. The Accounts of the Industrial Injuries Fund for the financial year 1951-52 have already been published (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1953, page 123) and the present Report contains a summary Table of income and expenditure, with comparable figures for 1950-51 and for the period 5th July, 1948, to 31st March, 1950. The rise of nearly £2½ millions in expenditure in 1951-52 compared with 1950-51 was, the Government Actuary states, due mainly to the steady increase in the expenditure on disablement benefit. The estimated average number of persons insured for industrial injuries during 1951 was 20½ millions, the same figure as that for the previous year, the proportion of insured men to women being almost exactly two to one. The total number of awards of injury benefit made in respect of claims arising in 1951 was provisionally estimated at 760,000, including as separate awards those cases (amounting to about three per cent. of the total) in which payment of benefit was revived because of the recurrence of incapacity within the injury benefit period. An analysis, according to age and sex, of the incidence and duration of new awards of injury benefit in 1951 showed that about five per cent. of insured men and one per cent. of insured women receive injury benefit in the course of a year, for average

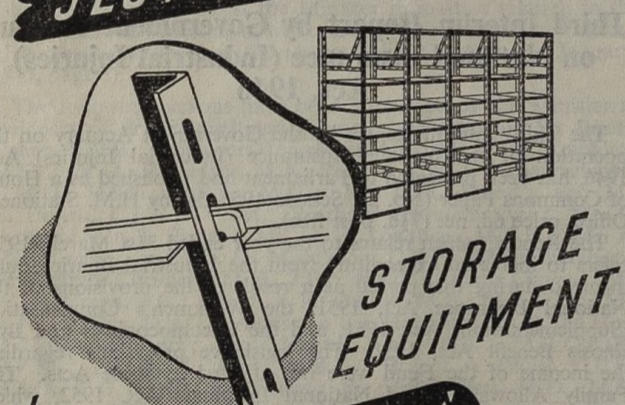
periods of about four and five weeks respectively. These results, it is stated, do not differ substantially from those obtained by the similar analysis carried out for 1950.

The Report points out that the greater part of the cost of the industrial injuries insurance scheme will ultimately consist of expenditure on disablement benefit and that the course of this expenditure depends primarily on the increase from year to year in the number of disablement pensions in payment. The Report quotes statistics, furnished by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, for the calendar year 1951. These figures, which the Government Actuary regards as being more reliable than any previously available, show that the total number of disablement pensions in payment at 31st December, 1950, in respect of all cases other than pneumoconiosis, was 48,300 and that the number rose to 65,800 at 31st December, 1951. Large numbers of these pensions were still, at 31st December, 1951, being paid on the basis of provisional assessments. The number of awards of pension other than for pneumoconiosis is also shown by the figures to increase appreciably from year to year, and other statistical evidence supports the inference that the numbers of awards are rising, although available information is insufficient to compute a rate of increase. The number of pensions in payment for pneumoconiosis was 13,900 at 31st December, 1951, compared with 10,600 at 31st December, 1950; the number of awards made in 1951 was 3,600 and the number of cessations was 300. The Government Actuary estimates that, of 86,000 claims to disablement benefit made in 1951, seven out of nine were successful and that the proportion of insured persons receiving awards was 3.3 per thousand. These estimates include as successful claims those which resulted in the payment of a gratuity as well as those in which a pension was awarded.

There was a rapid growth in expenditure on special hardship allowances during 1951. At the end of the year approximately 40,000 allowances were in payment at an average rate of just under 19s. a week, representing an annual expenditure of nearly £2 millions or about 40 per cent. of expenditure on the basic disablement benefit during the financial year 1951-52.

The number of pensions and allowances in payment by way of industrial death benefit to widows and other dependants is, the Report states, steadily increasing. The expenditure shown in the 1951-52 Accounts was over 50 per cent. greater than the previous year's figure. At the end of 1950 there were about 4,600 pensions and 2,300 allowances in payment; by the end of 1951 the numbers had increased to about 6,400 and 5,900 respectively, the latter figure including allowances to 2,700 children under the provisions of the 1951 Act.

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

123rd Session of Governing Body

The 123rd Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office was held in Geneva from 18th to 28th November, 1953, under the Chairmanship of Mr. A. M. Malik, Government representative of Pakistan. The United Kingdom Government was represented by Sir Guildhaume Myrddin-Evans, K.C.M.G., C.B., Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour and National Service. Also from the United Kingdom were Sir Richard Snedden, C.B.E., General Manager of the Shipping Federation, Chairman of the International Standing Committee and Member of the General Purposes Committee and Council of the British Employers' Confederation, and Mr. Alfred Roberts, C.B.E., Member of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress and General Secretary of the Amalgamated Association of Card, Blowing and Ring Room Operatives.

The following paragraphs give particulars of some of the more important matters dealt with by the Governing Body.

Agenda of the 38th (1955) Session of the International Labour Conference

The Governing Body finally fixed the agenda of the 38th (1955) Session of the International Labour Conference. In addition to the three standing items (Report of the Director-General; Financial and Budgetary Questions; and Information and Reports on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations) and three items (Vocational Rehabilitation of the Disabled; Migrant Workers (Under-developed Countries) and Penal Sanctions for Breaches of Contract of Employment) which are likely to be carried forward for second discussion from the 37th (1954) Session of the Conference, the Governing Body selected two further items from among those to which it gave preliminary consideration at its 122nd Session (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1953, page 237). The two items added to the agenda were:—Welfare Facilities; and Vocational Training in Agriculture.

Report of the ad hoc Committee on Forced Labour

Following the preliminary consideration given to this report at its 122nd Session, the Governing Body considered the action which the International Labour Organisation might take on the recommendations of the ad hoc Committee. The Governing Body recalled that at its 122nd Session it had decided to support the ad hoc Committee's recommendation that an appeal should be addressed to Governments which maintained or might maintain a system of forced labour of a political type that they re-examine their laws and administrative practices in the light of the increasing desire of the peoples of the world "to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights and in the dignity and worth of the human person". The Governing Body decided to reaffirm the importance which it attached to this matter. With regard to forced labour of an economic type, the Governing Body took the following decisions:—to make appeals to Governments with a view to obtaining more widespread application, both in metropolitan countries and in non-metropolitan territories, of the Forced Labour Convention of 1930 and other relevant International Labour Conventions; to instruct the International Labour Office to prepare a five-yearly report, which is now due, on the working of the Forced Labour Convention, with a view to enabling the Governing Body to consider the possibility of the suppression of forced labour in all its forms without a further transitional period, or some further limitation of the transitional exceptions allowed by the Convention; to affirm the willingness of the International Labour Organisation to continue its efforts towards the abolition of forced labour practices of an economic character, including practices not envisaged when the existing instruments were adopted; and to request the Director-General to continue his consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on those aspects of the matter not dealt with in the foregoing proposals and to keep the Governing Body informed.

Freedom of Association

The Governing Body had before it two reports from its Committee on Freedom of Association, which is charged with the duty of giving preliminary consideration to complaints alleging infringements of trade union rights. After considering the first report, which proposed changes in the Committee's procedure, the Governing Body agreed to certain changes designed to improve the quality and completeness of the written evidence available to the Committee on the cases which come before it and to make it possible for the Committee to discharge its task more expeditiously. The other report, which was adopted by the Governing Body, dealt with individual complaints. In regard to seven of the complaints the Committee decided that it would not refer them to the Governments concerned, and that no action should be taken on them; it also recommended that, subject to certain observations made in its report, five cases on which it had received observations from the Governments should be dismissed. The remaining case was a complaint by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions against the Government of Poland. The Committee noted that the complaint contained precise allegations that the situation in Poland was incompatible with the principle of freedom of association and that the Government of Poland had refused to reply to the complaint. In these circumstances the Committee

recommended that the case merited further examination by the Governing Body.

European Regional Conference

The Governing Body decided to convene a European Regional Conference towards the end of 1954, the exact date to be settled at a later session. An invitation to attend the Conference will be extended to all European States Members of the Organisation. The agenda of the Conference will comprise: Report of the Director-General; the role of employers and workers in programmes to raise productivity; methods of financing social security benefits; and the age of retirement.

The Council of Europe

The Governing Body, as decided at its 122nd Session, gave further consideration to a memorandum prepared by the Secretariat-General of the Council of Europe on the role of the Council of Europe in the social field. The Governing Body noted that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe had not yet been called upon to take a final decision on this question and emphasised that in these circumstances the opinion of the Governing Body must necessarily be of a tentative nature. The Director-General was instructed to convey certain comments to the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe with a view to their being brought to the attention of the Committee of Ministers and the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe. The comments included references to the following points: the importance attached by the International Labour Organisation to the principle that labour problems should, so far as practicable, be dealt with in collaboration by the Governments, employers and workers concerned; the need to prevent duplication and overlapping in the activities of international organisations; the need for the International Labour Organisation and the Council of Europe to bear in mind, in taking action on problems of common concern, the different though complementary roles which each could play in the solution of these problems; the fact that the relationship agreement between the two organisations provided a basis on which complementary action could be taken on such problems and that the agreement provided for each organisation to refer to the other problems which it considered could be most appropriately dealt with by that organisation; and a reaffirmation of the willingness of the International Labour Organisation to give all possible assistance to the Council of Europe in securing on a regional basis a larger measure of common approach than can be obtained on a wider international basis.

Industrial Committees

The Governing Body had before it the report of a Sub-Committee of its Committee on Industrial Committees which had been set up to undertake a general review of the activities of the Industrial Committees of the International Labour Organisation. On the basis of the Sub-Committee's report the Governing Body decided to place a limit on the size of the Industrial Committees. The maximum sizes of the Committees will be as follows: The Inland Transport Committee, 25 members; the Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works, the Chemical Industries, the Iron and Steel, the Metal Trades and the Textiles Committee, 20 members each; the Coal Mines, and the Petroleum Committee, 15 members each. It was also decided that in view of these limitations the Governing Body should undertake a periodical review of the membership of all Industrial Committees. The Sub-Committee had also undertaken a review of the structure, functions and size of the Advisory Committee on Salaried Employees and Professional Workers. As proposed by the Sub-Committee, the Governing Body decided that the structure and functions of the Committee should remain unchanged and that its size should not exceed 20 members. The membership of the Committee will be reviewed at the same time and in the same manner as the membership of the Industrial Committees. Another decision taken by the Governing Body was to adopt an important new paragraph concerning the conclusions of Industrial Committees for inclusion in the "Document for the Guidance of Industrial Committees" which is issued to representatives attending sessions of the Committees.

Conditions of Employment in the Fishing Industry

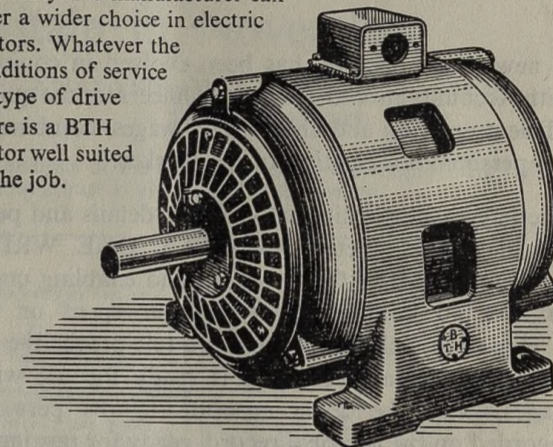
The Governing Body had before it the replies of a number of Governments to a questionnaire issued by the International Labour Office, in pursuance of a decision taken at an earlier session concerning the possibility of establishing an International Fishermen's Code by means of Conventions or Recommendations similar to those already adopted by the International Labour Conference in regard to merchant seamen. The Governing Body decided to set up a Committee of 12 experts to examine a small number of the subjects referred to in the questionnaire with a view to determining their suitability and ripeness for the adoption of international regulations. The subjects selected were: Minimum age on entry; medical examination on entry and periodically thereafter; articles of agreement; and accident insurance. The Committee will be convened in the spring of 1954.

Other Matters

Other matters dealt with by the Governing Body included:—the record of the Asian Regional Conference held in Tokyo from 14th to 25th September, 1953, and the record of the Asian Maritime Conference held in Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, from 5th to 14th October, 1953 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, page 387); a number of financial and administrative questions; and the reports of various meetings and committees.

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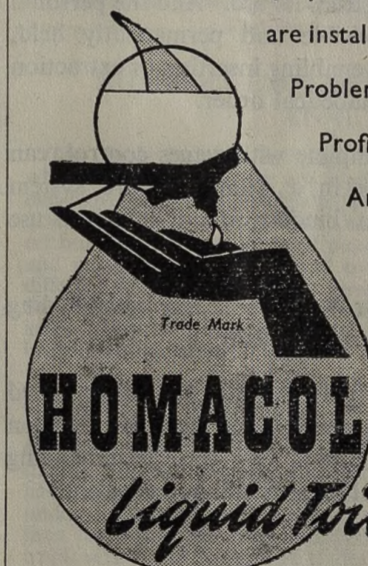
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NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

(Thousands)

Table with columns for Industry, Males (End-Nov., 1952-1953), Females (End-Nov., 1952-1953), and Total (End-Nov., 1952-1953). Rows include Mining, Non-Metalliferous Mining Products, Chemicals and Allied Trades, Metal Manufacture, Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods, Vehicles, Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc., Textiles, Leather, Clothing, Food, Drink and Tobacco, and Other Drink Industries.

Numbers Employed in Great Britain: Industrial Analysis—continued

(Thousands)

Table with columns for Industry, Males (End-Nov., 1952-1953), Females (End-Nov., 1952-1953), and Total (End-Nov., 1952-1953). Rows include Manufactures of Wood and Cork, Paper and Printing, Other Manufacturing Industries, Building and Contracting, Gas, Electricity and Water, Transport and Communication, Distributive Trades, and Miscellaneous Services.

SHORT-TIME AND OVERTIME IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, monthly employment returns are collected by the Ministry of Labour and National Service from employers with more than ten workpeople in manufacturing industries, and once a quarter the regular monthly figures for all manufacturing industries, other than shipbuilding and ship-repairing, are supplemented by particulars about short-time and overtime. These additional particulars relate to operatives only (i.e., they exclude administrative, technical and clerical staffs). Employers are asked to supply this additional information in respect of the pay weeks to which the quarterly returns relate, the details being as follows: (a) the number stood off for the whole week; (b) the number who were on short-time, but worked part of the week and the approximate total number of man-hours lost; and (c) the number who worked overtime during the week and the approximate total number of man-hours of overtime actually worked.

A summary of the information thus obtained in November, 1953, is given in the Table below, separate figures being given for each of the "Orders" of the Standard Industrial Classification which, together, cover the manufacturing group of industries, and also for a number of industries within the Orders. For the purpose of the Table the numbers stood off for the whole week are deemed to have been on short-time to the extent of 45 hours each. The figures of short-time and overtime relate only to those establishments which gave this information on their returns, and for this reason, together with the qualifications referred to above, the figures do not purport to show the total numbers on short-time or overtime in the week in question. The figures in the second column are estimates of the total numbers of operatives at all establishments from which returns were received, including those which reported no short-time or overtime working.

Operatives on Short-time or Overtime in week ended 28th November, 1953 (at establishments which rendered returns)

Table with columns for Industry, Operatives on Short-time (Number, Aggregate number of hours lost, Average number of hours lost), and Operatives on Overtime (Number, Aggregate number of hours of overtime, Average number of hours of overtime worked). Rows include Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products, Chemicals and Allied Trades, Metal Manufacture, Engineering and Electrical Goods, Vehicles, Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc., Textiles, Leather, Clothing, Food, Drink and Tobacco, Paper and Printing, and Other Manufacturing Industries.

Numbers Unemployed: Industrial Analysis—continued

Main table showing unemployment statistics for Great Britain and United Kingdom by industry. Columns include Industry, Wholly unemployed (casuals), Temporarily stopped, Total, and United Kingdom (all classes) with sub-columns for Males and Females.

* The totals include unemployed casual workers (3,929 males and 309 females in Great Britain and 5,274 males and 329 females in the United Kingdom).

Placing Work of the Employment Exchanges

The Table below shows for the four-week periods ended 21st October and 18th November, 1953, the numbers of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges and other Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain, together with the numbers remaining unfilled at the end of each period. The figures include placings, etc., by the Youth Employment Offices of certain Local Authorities.

Table showing placement statistics for four-week periods ended 21st October and 18th November, 1953. Columns include Placings and Vacancies Unfilled for Men aged 18 and over, Boys under 18, and Girls under 18.

Exchanges. The figures are therefore not comparable with the percentage rates of engagements given in the "Labour Turnover" Table on the next page, which relate to engagements of all kinds during the period in question.

The figures of vacancies unfilled represent the numbers of vacancies notified by employers to Employment Exchanges and remaining unfilled at the specified dates. They do not purport to represent the total number of vacancies which require to be filled, and they probably fall short of the total number for several reasons. In the first place, vacancies in employments which are excepted from the provisions of the Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952 (which came into operation on 25th February, 1952) may be filled by direct engagement of workpeople without notifying the Employment Exchanges. Secondly, employers who do use the Employment Exchange system may, in certain circumstances (e.g., when they require large numbers of additional workpeople, or where labour of the kind they require is scarce), have a "Standing Order" with the Employment Exchange to submit all suitable applicants to them without "notifying" any specific number of vacancies, and the vacancies remaining unfilled in such cases will not be included in the figures. Nevertheless, comparison of the figures for various dates provides some indication of the change in the demand for labour.

The figures of vacancies filled relate only to those vacancies which were filled by applicants submitted by Employment Exchanges, i.e., they do not include engagements of workpeople by employers that were made without the assistance of Employment

The next Table shows the numbers of vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 18th November, 1953, in each of the industry "Orders" of the Standard Industrial Classification and in certain selected industries within the Orders, together with the number of vacancies remaining unfilled at 18th November, 1953.

Table showing the number of vacancies filled and remaining unfilled by industry group during four weeks ended 18th November, 1953. Columns include Industry Group, Placings during four weeks, and Number of Vacancies remaining unfilled, with sub-columns for Men, Boys, Women, and Girls under 18.

The following Table gives a Regional analysis of the numbers, 1953, and of the numbers of notified vacancies remaining unfilled of vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 18th November, 1953, at the end of the period:—

Table showing regional analysis of placement statistics for 1953. Columns include Region, Men 18 and over, Boys under 18, Women 18 and over, Girls under 18, and Total, with sub-columns for Placings and Vacancies Unfilled.

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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

Since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, the under-mentioned Statutory Instruments,* relating to matters with which the Ministry of Labour and National Service are concerned, either directly or indirectly, have been published in the series of *Statutory Instruments*. The list also includes certain regulations, etc., published in the series of *Statutory Rules and Orders of Northern Ireland*, additional to those contained in the lists appearing in previous issues of the GAZETTE. The price of each Instrument, etc., unless otherwise indicated, is 2d. net (3½d. post free).

The Keg and Drum Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1762; price 4d. net, 5½d. post free), dated 3rd December; The Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1783; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free), dated 4th December; The Flax and Hemp Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1806; price 6d. net, 7½d. post free), dated 8th December; The Tin Box Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1819; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free), dated 10th December; The Cotton Waste Reclamation Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1835), dated 14th December; The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1880; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free), dated 21st December; The Fur Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1912; price 4d. net, 5½d. post free), dated 22nd December; The Road Haulage Wages Council Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1930; price 4d. net, 5½d. post free), dated 31st December. These Orders were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 32.

The Wages Regulation (Industrial and Staff Canteen Undertakings) (Amendment) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1929; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free), made on 31st December by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Catering Wages Act, 1943.—See page 32.

The Iron and Steel (Compensation to Officers and Servants) (No. 1) Regulations, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1848; price 6d. net, 7½d. post free), made on 16th December by the Minister of Supply under the Iron and Steel Act, 1953. These Regulations came into operation on 31st December. They provide for payment by the Iron and Steel Holding and Realisation Agency of compensation to persons who were officers or servants of the iron and steel companies when they came into public ownership under the Iron and Steel Act, 1949, and who have suffered or suffer loss of employment or loss or diminution of emoluments or pension rights in consequence of the companies' coming into public ownership. (The date of the general transfer to public ownership was 15th February, 1951.)

The Iron and Steel (Compensation to Officers and Servants) (No. 2) Regulations, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1849; price 6d. net, 7½d. post free), made on 16th December by the Minister of Supply under the Iron and Steel Act, 1953. These Regulations, which came into operation on 31st December, provide for the payment by the Iron and Steel Holding and Realisation Agency of compensation to persons who on 13th July, 1953, were officers or servants of companies which on that day became subsidiaries of the Agency, or were officers or servants of the Iron and Steel Corporation of Great Britain immediately before 13th July, 1953, and who suffer financial loss by reason of the denationalisation of the iron and steel industry.

The Supplies and Services (Continuance) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1767), made on 4th December by the Counsellors of State on behalf of Her Majesty in Council under the Supplies and Services (Transitional Powers) Act, 1945.—See page 7.

(i) *The Emergency Laws (Continuance) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1768; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free); (ii) The Emergency Laws (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Isle of Man) Order in Council, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1769; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free); (iii) The Emergency Laws (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Colonies, etc.) Order in Council, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1770). These Orders were made on 4th December by the Counsellors of State on behalf of Her Majesty in Council (i) under the Emergency Laws (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1947, and (ii) and (iii) under the Emergency Laws (Transitional Provisions) Act, 1946, as amended by subsequent legislation.—See page 7.*

(i) *The Registered Designs (Extension of Period of Emergency) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1774); (ii) The Patents (Extension of Period of Emergency) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1775). These Orders were made on 4th December by the Counsellors of State on behalf of Her Majesty in Council (i) under the Registered Designs Act, 1949, and (ii) under the Patents Act, 1949.—See page 7.*

The National Insurance (Reciprocal Agreement with Australia) Order, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1772; price 6d. net, 7½d. post free), made on 4th December by the Counsellors of State on behalf of Her Majesty in Council under the National Insurance Act, 1946.—See page 9.

The Family Allowances (Australia Reciprocal Arrangements) Regulations, 1953 (S.I. 1953 No. 1842; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free), made on 14th December by the Minister of Pensions and National

* See footnote * in second column on next page.

Insurance, in conjunction with the Treasury, under the Family Allowances Act, 1945.—See page 9.

The Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1953 (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland, 1953, No. 150; price 3d. net, 4½d. post free), made on 9th November by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945 (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 445).

The National Insurance (Contributions) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1953 (S.R. & O. 1953 No. 157; price 4d. net, 5½d. post free), made on 25th November by the National Insurance Joint Authority and the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance, under the National Insurance Acts (Northern Ireland), 1946 to 1953. The Regulations came into operation on 30th November and are similar in scope to the corresponding Regulations made in Great Britain (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1953, page 386).

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED*

(Note.—The prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage.)

Accidents.—*How they happen, and How to prevent them at Factories, Docks, Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction.* Vol. 18 (New Series). January, 1954. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 1s. (1s. 1½d.).

Careers.—*Careers for Men and Women Series.* No. 39: *Social Work. A Detailed Description of Qualifications, Training and Professional Opportunities.* Revised May, 1953. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 7½d.).

Coal.—*Quarterly Statistical Statement of the costs of Production, Proceeds and Profit or Loss of Collieries for the third quarter of 1953.* December, 1953. National Coal Board. Price 5d. (6½d.).—See page 8.

Emergency Legislation.—*Continuance of Emergency Legislation. Explanatory Memorandum.* Cmd. 8990. Price 4d. (5½d.).—See page 7.

Health.—*Report of the Minister of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1952. Part II. On the State of the Public Health, being the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer for the year 1952.* Cmd. 9009. Ministry of Health. Price 6s. 6d. (6s. 10d.).

International Labour Conference.—*Report by the Delegates of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and*

* See footnote * in next column.

Northern Ireland. 36th Session, Geneva, June, 1953. Cmd. 9023. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 7½d.).—See page 12.

National Insurance.—*National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946. Third Interim Report by the Government Actuary for the Year ended 31st March, 1952.* H.C.27. Price 6d. (7½d.).—See page 9.

Road Haulage.—*First Report of the Road Haulage Disposal Board for the six months ended 28th November, 1953.* H.C. 25. Price 6d. (7½d.).

* Copies of official publications (including Orders, Regulations, etc.) referred to in this GAZETTE may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown below or through any bookseller.

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Communications with regard to the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts. (Telephone: Colindale 7000.)

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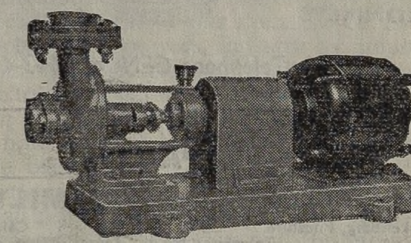


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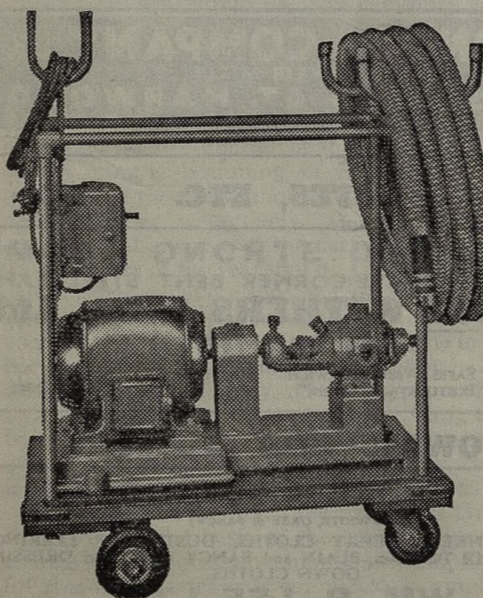
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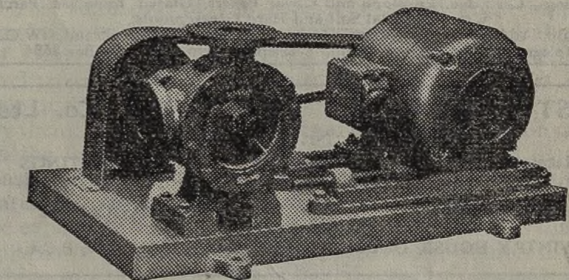
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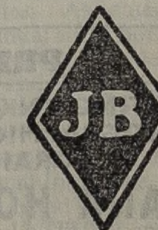
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