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Thirty-Eighth Session of the International Labour Conference

THE Thirty-Eighth Session of the International Labour Conference was held in Geneva from 1st June to 23rd June, 1955. Her Majesty's Government was represented by Sir Guildhaume Myrddin-Evans, K.C.M.G., C.B., Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour and National Service, and United Kingdom Government representative on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and Sir Archibald Harrison, C.B.E., Solicitor, Ministry of Labour and National Service, with Mr. G. C. Veysey, C.B., Under-Secretary, Ministry of Labour and National Service, as substitute delegate and adviser. Sir Richard Snedden, C.B.E., Chairman of the International Standing Committee and Member of the General Purposes Committee and Council, British Employers' Confederation, and Member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, was appointed to represent the United Kingdom employers. Sir Alfred Roberts, C.B.E., Member of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, General Secretary of the Amalgamated Association of Card, Blowing and Ring Room Operatives, and Member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, was appointed to represent the United Kingdom workers. The Conference unanimously elected as its President Mr. Garcia Oldini, Government delegate of Chile.

Delegations attended the Conference from 74 countries and territories—the highest number ever recorded.

Employers' representatives from the U.S.S.R. and certain other Countries

Considerable discussion took place about the status of the delegates and advisers nominated to represent employers from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other Eastern European countries. The majority of the Employers' group formally dissociated themselves from these delegates and advisers and objected to their recognition as employers' representatives at the Conference on the ground that their appointment was contrary to the tripartite principle on which the International Labour Organisation was based.

After debate the Conference rejected, by 106 votes to 43 with 58 abstentions, a proposal to give the representatives concerned the status of full members on the various committees dealing with technical items. It decided, however, by 92 votes to 49 with 66 abstentions, that they should be

given seats as deputy members on the committees on which they wished to sit. (Under the Standing Orders of the Conference, deputy members of committees may not normally vote but otherwise have the same rights as full members.)

Applications for admission to the Organisation

The Conference had before it an application by the East German Authorities for admission to membership of the International Labour Organisation. Consideration of this was deferred at the request of the applicants. The application for membership by the Rumanian Government which was before the last session of the Conference was not pursued at this session.

Report of the Director-General

The Director-General's Report to the Conference had as its main theme labour-management relations in the developing industrial society. It dealt also with the changing pattern of economic activity and employment and with the work of the International Labour Organisation with special reference to that theme. A total of 148 speakers took part in the discussion of the Report at plenary sittings of the Conference.

Speech by the Minister of Labour and National Service

The Minister of Labour and National Service, the Rt. Hon. Sir Walter Monckton, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., M.C., Q.C., M.P., attended the Conference and spoke on 17th June during the debate on the Director-General's Report.

The Minister first welcomed the attendance at the Conference of tripartite observer delegations from seven British colonial territories—Barbados, the Gold Coast, Jamaica, Malta, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Singapore—and expressed the hope that the experience gained by the delegations would stand them in good stead in the future.

Dealing with the main theme of the Director-General's Report, the Minister emphasised that present economic circumstances made the smooth functioning of industry more important than ever to the United Kingdom. The establishment of good relations between the two sides of industry was not just some theoretically desirable goal but one of the keys to the national prosperity. Labour-management relations had

two separate but complementary aspects—" industrial relations ", which covered collective bargaining about wages and conditions of employment and the settlement of disputes, and " human relations ", by which was meant the relations between man and man ; in the case of industry, relations between management and workpeople. The first of these involved organisation of employers and workers, while the second did not necessarily depend upon formal organisation.

In the field of industrial relations the basic policy of the United Kingdom Government was to rely upon voluntary methods and to keep State direction to the minimum. While the Government did accept a responsibility for giving a lead to management and employees and for encouraging the development of sound relations between them, the ultimate responsibility in these matters must rest upon industry itself. Over the past hundred years there had been a steady development both of joint arrangements for settling disputes and of collective agreements concerning wages and conditions of employment. This development was a very significant feature of the British system. The Government itself assisted by providing conciliation and arbitration services which could be called upon when necessary. " We do not claim for a moment ", the Minister said, " that our system is perfect, but we do believe that if it is fully developed in all industries and operated in a spirit of co-operation and goodwill and if there is a sense of responsibility on both sides, it will go a long way toward producing harmonious relations between employers and workpeople ". The extent and significance of recent difficulties in the United Kingdom should not be exaggerated. The railway strike had caused serious loss and hardship which everyone must deeply regret, but at the same time it had shown that even the most difficult issues could ultimately be resolved by patient discussion and exchange of views—a process which formed the basis of industrial democracy.

Turning to human relations, the Minister recalled that there had been widespread discussion in the past few years about the human problems of industry and many techniques had been developed for dealing with them. But one thing was certain. The carrot and the stick could no longer be regarded as the only driving forces on which industry should rely. It was necessary to give closer attention to the motives underlying the conduct and attitudes of men and women, and to recognise that the conditions of freedom and dignity laid down in the Declaration of Philadelphia applied within the workplace just as much as outside it. " We must understand ", the Minister said, " that a man brings more to a factory than the work of his hands. He brings a part of his life—he lives it there—and he should be able to enjoy rights and satisfactions in that working life just as he does in his life as a citizen ". The study of those rights and satisfactions and the most effective means of securing them should be a major task of the International Labour Organisation in the years ahead.

The Minister went on to suggest that the main object of a human relations policy should be the creation of confidence between management and workpeople and that this was an issue which concerned all industry, whether publicly or privately owned. He enumerated five basic elements necessary for the establishment of good human relations. First, the payment of fair wages and observance of good conditions, including those relating to safety, health and welfare. Second, adequate supervision and control ; for example, to ensure an even flow of work. Third, the provision of information both about the general economic position and about the activities of the particular business ; while the former was important, the latter had a far greater impact on the workpeople and the supply of full information about such matters as production plans and progress and the disposal of profits could go a long way towards making the workpeople feel themselves a part of the enterprise. This in turn required the perfection of the art of communication. The fourth point concerned joint consultation, as a method of exchanging ideas and building up confidence between management and workpeople. Lastly, management must recognise the outstanding importance of the human factor and must base their human relations policy upon that recognition. They must in fact provide leadership and make the workpeople conscious of that leadership. Thus would be provided the life-blood required to vitalise labour techniques and to enable them to create the mutual confidence leading to the establishment of good human relations.

Dealing particularly with labour-management relations in underdeveloped territories, the Minister expressed his confidence that with patience and sound guidance the methods of collective bargaining familiar in older industrial societies could be made to work in less developed countries too. The problems created by unfamiliarity with industrial life, by illiteracy and by unsuitable leadership were very real and there was no single or simple solution. But understanding could come through training and experience and in British territories this was assisted by the appointment of advisers from the United Kingdom, by courses provided by the Trades Union Congress and by other means. The object was to help the workers to manage their affairs in the way in which trade unions in the United Kingdom had found to be best.

A related feature of the Government's policy was to encourage the setting up of Consultative Committees and Councils at the level of the undertaking. These provided an easy introduction to more formal procedure and in some territories had already achieved considerable success. Useful experience could also be gained by negotiation on statutory wages councils presided over by independent chairmen. It had been found that this assisted in the process of evolution to full collective bargaining. The objective in British territories was to guide the people to self-government in industry as well as to self-government within the Commonwealth.

The Minister concluded by expressing his satisfaction at having been able to speak at as many as four sessions of the International Labour Conference, his profound belief in the International Labour Organisation and his hope that it would flourish and develop its good work more and more in the future.

Finance

The Conference approved a net expenditure budget of 7,395,729 United States dollars for 1956. This compares with 6,745,196 dollars for 1955. It also approved a scale of contributions for States members under which the United Kingdom will pay 676,474 dollars as compared with 844,625 dollars in 1955.

Application of Conventions and Recommendations

The Conference adopted unanimously the report of its Committee reviewing the manner in which States Members were carrying out their obligations under the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation in regard to the application of Conventions and Recommendations. As in previous years, the Committee's report was based on the preliminary examination carried out by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations. In addition to much detailed information about the position in particular countries, the report contained general comments on the submission by Governments of reports on ratified Conventions and on unratified Conventions and Recommendations, the application of Conventions in non-metropolitan territories, and the submission to the competent authorities of Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the Conference. While expressing general satisfaction with the position, the Committee strongly urged those Governments which were not fully carrying out their obligations under the Constitution to make every effort to do so in future.

Vocational Rehabilitation of the Disabled

The Conference adopted unanimously a Recommendation on this subject, which had already been discussed at the 37th Session last year. The Recommendation, which is in ten parts, requires vocational rehabilitation services to be made available to all disabled persons whatever the origin and nature of their disability and whatever their age provided they can be prepared for, and have reasonable prospects of securing and retaining, suitable employment.

It lays down principles and methods of vocational guidance, vocational training and placing of disabled persons and deals with the administrative organisation of vocational rehabilitation services, including the co-ordination of action by public and private bodies and the setting up of representative advisory committees. Measures are recommended for enabling disabled persons to make full use of vocational rehabilitation services both by the provision of financial assistance and by other means. There are provisions requiring the closest co-operation between the bodies responsible for medical treatment and those responsible for vocational rehabilitation, and suggesting methods whereby employment opportunities for disabled persons can be widened.

Other sections deal with the employment under sheltered conditions of those disabled persons who cannot be made fit for competitive employment, and with special measures which should be taken for disabled children and young persons. The Recommendation concludes by stipulating that vocational rehabilitation services should be adapted to the particular needs and circumstances of each country and should be developed progressively in the light of these needs and circumstances and in accordance with the principles laid down ; this progressive development should have certain specified objectives and should be promoted with the help, where desired, of the International Labour Office.

The Conference also adopted unanimously a Resolution expressing particular interest in the improvement of the living and working conditions of war-disabled persons and inviting Governments and interested organisations to increase their efforts, within the framework of national legislation and in the light of the principles of the Recommendation mentioned above, to assist such persons to return to a normal occupation.

Migrant Workers (Under-developed Countries)

Following its first discussion of this subject at last year's session, the Conference adopted, by 161 votes to 18 with 36 abstentions, a Recommendation concerning the protection of migrant workers in under-developed countries and territories.

The Recommendation first defines the term " migrant worker " and the countries and territories to which it applies. It then lays down a number of detailed provisions for the protection of migrant workers and their families during their outward and return journeys and prior to the period of their employment ; these deal with such matters as transport facilities, free medical examination, acclimatisation, the right to repatriation in certain circumstances at the employer's expense, employment contracts and placing for employment. Measures are also recommended to discourage migratory movements when these are considered undesirable in the interests of the migrant workers themselves and of the communities and countries of their origin.

Another section of the Recommendation deals with the protection of migrant workers during the period of their employment and lays down that as a general policy every effort should be made to assure to migrant workers working and living conditions as favourable as those provided for other workers engaged in the same employment and to apply to them, as to such other workers, the standards of protection set out in the Recommendation. These standards relate to housing ; the fixing and protection of wages ; admission to skilled jobs without discrimination ; right of association and freedom for all lawful trade union activities ; the supply of consumer goods ; social security, industrial safety and hygiene ; maintenance of contact between migrant workers and their areas of origin ; and arrangements to ensure their material, intellectual, and moral welfare.

Finally, the Recommendation requires that, except where this is clearly against the interest of the migrant workers themselves and

their families or of the economies of the countries or territories concerned, the general policy should be to seek the stabilisation of the workers and their families in or near the centres of their employment by all appropriate measures ; certain specific arrangements are suggested for this purpose.

Penal Sanctions for Breaches of Contract of Employment

As a result of its second discussion on this subject, the Conference adopted, by 206 votes to 1 with 4 abstentions, a Convention concerning the abolition of penal sanctions for breaches of contract of employment by indigenous workers.

The Convention provides that in any country where there exists any such penal sanction, as defined in the Penal Sanctions (Indigenous Workers) Convention, 1939, the competent authority must take action for its abolition either by an appropriate measure of immediate application or, if that is not considered practicable, by progressive measures which must in any event ensure abolition not later than one year from the date of ratification by the country concerned. As regards penal sanctions for breaches of contract of employment not covered by the above definition, it is laid down that any such sanctions which do not apply to non-indigenous workers must be abolished for indigenous workers.

The Conference also adopted, by 148 votes to 1 with 4 abstentions, a Resolution favouring a wider review of the whole question of penal sanctions for breaches of contract of employment with a view to their total abolition and inviting the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to have a report prepared concerning the imposition of such sanctions on any workers, whether indigenous or not, so that it can consider the desirability of placing on the agenda of a future Conference session the question of adopting an instrument of wider scope than the present Conventions.

Vocational Training in Agriculture

After holding a first discussion on this subject, the Conference unanimously adopted a number of conclusions on which to base a Recommendation and decided to place the question on the agenda of its next session with a view to a final decision. In the meantime the conclusions will be the subject of further consultation with Governments.

The conclusions adopted suggest that the objectives of vocational training in agriculture should be clearly formulated in each country and they set out a number of specific objectives for the guidance of Governments and interested bodies. Proposals are made about the nature and scope of training, including the part to be played by systems of fundamental education. There are detailed provisions dealing with various methods and types of training, including training in agricultural technical schools, apprenticeship schemes, agricultural instruction in secondary schools, short courses, training on the farm and the work of extension services. Other matters covered in this section are the part to be played by farm and other interested organisations, the importance of appropriate training for teachers and rural leaders and the selection and provision of suitable teaching aids and materials. The encouragement of international exchanges is recommended where possible. The conclusions finally suggest various forms of national action to be

undertaken in regard to training programmes ; these include action by public authorities and other appropriate bodies to ensure that vocational training is organised in an effective, systematic and co-ordinated programme.

Welfare Facilities for Workers

The Conference adopted, by 139 votes to 31 with one abstention, conclusions proposing that a Recommendation should be formulated on this subject with a view to further consultation with Governments. It decided to place the question on the agenda of its next session so that a final decision could be reached after a second discussion.

The scope of the proposed Recommendation, which may be implemented by either public or voluntary action, covers feeding and rest facilities in or near the undertakings, recreation facilities (excluding holiday facilities), and transportation facilities to and from work where ordinary public transport is inadequate or impracticable. It would apply to manual and non-manual workers employed in public or private undertakings, excluding workers in agriculture and sea transport ; it is proposed that the question of welfare facilities for agricultural workers should be referred to the Permanent Agricultural Committee of the International Labour Organisation for consideration.

As regards feeding facilities, the conclusions recommend the setting up and operation of canteens in certain cases, and the provision of suitable information and advice on the subject by the competent authority or some other appropriate body. Other requirements in this section deal with the provision of buffets and trolleys, messroom facilities and mobile canteens, and special measures for shift workers and workers in isolated localities.

Under the heading of " Rest Facilities " there are requirements dealing with the provision in certain circumstances of seats and of suitably equipped rest rooms. The provision of recreation facilities is to be encouraged where necessary by appropriate measures. Other sections deal with the management and financing of feeding and recreation facilities. The section relating to transport facilities suggests amongst other things that undertakings should themselves provide transport for their workers if adequate and practicable facilities cannot be made available in any other way.

Resolutions

On the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter, the Conference adopted unanimously a Resolution reaffirming its faith in the aims and purposes of the United Nations and pledging the full co-operation of the International Labour Organisation in the further development of co-ordinated international action for the implementation of common objectives. Resolutions were also adopted concerning the protection of trade union rights ; the peaceful uses of atomic energy ; disarmament and the use of the resources which would be set free by a reduction in armament expenditure ; the part-time employment of women and the employment of older women ; the employment of women having dependent young children ; labour-management relations ; and the improvement of the protection of labour and industrial safety.

SUMMARY OF THE MONTHLY STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics of the month. Further details and analyses will be found on pages 245 to 264.

Employment

It is estimated that the number of persons in civil employment in Great Britain rose during May by 45,000 (7,000 males and 38,000 females), the number at the end of the month being 22,852,000. The basic industries (mining, gas, electricity and water supply, transport, agriculture and fishing) showed an increase of 19,000 and other industries and services an increase of 26,000. The total working population, including H.M. Forces, the unemployed, and men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment, is estimated to have increased by 13,000 from 23,836,000 to 23,849,000.

Unemployment

The number of persons registered as wholly unemployed at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain fell from 198,807 to 180,517 between 16th May and 13th June, 1955, and the numbers registered as temporarily stopped rose from 24,836 to 30,026. In the two classes combined there was a fall of 5,892 among males and 7,208 among females.

Rates of Wages

The index of weekly rates of wages, based on June, 1947 (taken as 100) remained unchanged in June at 152. The changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during June resulted in an increase estimated at £184,000 in the weekly full-time wages of

about 736,000 workpeople. The principal increases affected domestic and similar grades of staff employed in hospitals and allied institutions, workpeople employed in the iron and steel industry, the wool textile industry in Yorkshire and hosiery manufacture in the Midlands, and certain workers in conciliation grades employed on British Railways.

Retail Prices

At 14th June, 1955, the retail prices index was 150 (prices at 17th June, 1947 = 100), compared with 147 at 17th May, and with 142 at 15th June, 1954. The rise in the index during the month was due mainly to the fact that in many areas the stocks of old potatoes had become exhausted exceptionally early and had been replaced by new potatoes at higher prices. In addition, there were increases in the average prices of some other food items, including cooking apples and eggs, and in rail and road passenger fares. Among the few items which showed decreases in prices were tomatoes and cabbage.

Industrial Disputes

The number of workers involved during June in stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 98,000. The aggregate time lost during the month at the establishments where the stoppages occurred was about 1,327,000 working days. The number of stoppages which began in the month was 146, and, in addition, 16 stoppages which began before June were still in progress at the beginning of the month.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE FOR 1954

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Labour and National Service for 1954 has recently been published.* It gives a concise account of the work of the Ministry during the year under four main heads, namely, Man-Power, the Services of the Ministry, Industrial Relations and International Labour Relations, and a final chapter describes the organisation of the Ministry. The Report contains much statistical information and the text is supplemented by a series of appendices and a number of charts and photographs.

Because of the wide variety of subjects dealt with it is not practicable here to summarise the Report, but reproduced below is the text of the Introduction, which reveals the nature of its contents and the general trends in some of the matters with which the Ministry is concerned:—

In many respects 1954 was a record year. The level of the working population rose in November to 23,910,000, the highest ever recorded in peace-time. Unemployment in November and December was the lowest in these months since the war. There was a notable rise in productivity. But the number of working days lost through stoppages of work due to industrial disputes also rose and was the highest in any year since 1945.

The pattern of man-power distribution was very similar to that of 1953. The numbers in H.M. Forces fell; compared with the previous year 6,000 fewer men were posted under the National Service Acts, and of those liable for National Service nearly 5,000 fewer enlisted on a Regular Service engagement. The expansion in civil employment was most marked in the manufacturing industries, chiefly engineering and the vehicles group, in retail distribution and in building and contracting. There was, as in 1953, a fall in the numbers employed in the basic industries.

Another indication of the pressure of full employment on man-power resources was the amount of overtime worked in manufacturing industries; this was the highest recorded in any year since 1945.

The level of earnings rose. So, too, did weekly rates of wages and retail prices: the rise in the average of the former slightly outstripped that of the latter, being 4½ per cent. compared with 4 per cent.; in both cases the rise was greater than in 1953 but less than in 1952.

The main preoccupations of the Ministry during the year were with the need to ease shortages of man-power, promote industrial peace and further safeguard the health and safety of workers. Throughout the activities directed towards these aims could be traced the twin threads of concern with the well-being of the individual workers, as an end desirable in itself, and of the endeavour to contribute to the higher production and productivity so essential to the national economy.

To ease shortages of labour, the Ministry encouraged the extension of part-time working and continued the recruitment of

* Cmd. 9522. H.M. Stationery Office; price 5s. net (5s. 3d. including postage).

foreign workers. In their placing work the employment services sought to reduce to a minimum the periods elapsing between spells of employment and to ensure that workers becoming available were placed in jobs where they could, and would, use to the utmost their abilities, skills and experience. A system of labour preferences was used to indicate jobs of particular national importance in order that suitable labour becoming available might, if possible, be guided into them. In circumstances of such full employment it was easier to place on their merits the classes of workers on whose behalf the employment services make special efforts—ex-Regular Service men without experience in civilian employment, older workers seeking re-engagement and disabled persons. In all, nearly 3,111,000 applicants for employment were placed during the year—over 2½ million by the Employment Exchange Service, roughly half a million by the Youth Employment Service and about 15,500 by the Appointments Service. Of this total, nearly 115,000 were disabled persons, and statistics show that the numbers of vacancies filled by workers over 41 years of age were higher in the second half of 1954 than in the corresponding period of 1953. About 16.5 per cent. of the placings were in jobs given first preference because of their national importance. In December, when only 256,000 persons were registered as unemployed, the pressure of the demand for labour had yielded only slightly to seasonal influences, and there were still over 338,000 unfilled vacancies on the books of the Employment Exchanges.

The comparative scarcity of young people between 15 and 18 years of age in the working population underlined the importance of the vocational guidance, placing, and follow-up of progress work carried out by the Youth Employment Service, and of the encouragement given by the Service, at both national and local levels, to industries and firms to develop systematic recruitment and training schemes for young workers. Careers advice on an individual basis was given to 492,000 boys and girls during the year, 240,000 were placed in their first job, and follow-up action was taken in respect of 514,000. Ten new national schemes of recruitment and training were agreed by the industries concerned.

Industrial rehabilitation courses were provided for about 8,900 men and 1,300 women. In March, a new Industrial Rehabilitation Unit was opened for research and development purposes at Waddon, near Croydon. Facilities for the training and employment of severely disabled persons under sheltered conditions were increased slightly, both through the higher numbers employed by Remploy Limited and through additional provision in other specialised workshops.

Due, probably, to the high level of employment, applications for vocational training from able-bodied men and women fell during the year and 60 per cent. of those entering courses were disabled persons. Of the 6,700 trainees who completed vocational training courses in 1954, over 96 per cent. were placed in their training trades.

Although there was an increase in the number of days lost through stoppages at work due to industrial disputes, the only national stoppage was a one-day token strike in the electrical contracting industry. Claims for higher wages were made in most industries and, in the majority, were settled in a constitutional way by the industries themselves. In the disputes that arose during the year, over wages and other matters, the services of the Ministry's Conciliation Officers were invoked and settlement was reached in over 250 instances. Roughly 300 cases were settled by arbitration; and Courts of Inquiry were appointed by the Minister to report on the causes and circumstances of disputes in the engineering, shipbuilding, omnibus and railway industries and in the London docks.

Problems on which the advice of the Ministry's Personnel Management Advisory Service was sought included the reduction of labour turnover, the introduction of incentive schemes and of work study, the development of training, and many matters concerning the organisation and functioning of personnel departments. There were signs that the campaign for the promotion of good human relations in industry was beginning to bear fruit.

In pursuance of the Government's general policy of abolishing war-time emergency measures, those relating to the granting of exemptions from the provisions of the Factories Acts were modified during the year. With a view to making fresh progress in reducing the number of accidents in factories, the National Joint Advisory Council set up an Industrial Safety Sub-Committee to examine possible ways and report thereon. In November, the Minister announced that a Standing Industrial Health Advisory Committee would be appointed to advise on ways of developing the industrial health services.

Special enquiries undertaken in 1954, or continued from 1953, were concerned with ascertaining the effects of National Service on the employment of young men, obtaining up-to-date information about household expenditure, and estimating the extent and type of shift working in industry. Reports on the first two enquiries were not available by the end of the year. In the third, the information showed that over half of the workers covered by the enquiry were in establishments with shift working but that only 12 per cent. were on shift work, and of these only about one-sixth were on double-day shift working. The Committee of Inquiry into the Training of Supervisors set up in 1953 issued its Report in July, 1954; it expressed the view that much more needed to be done towards the training of supervisors, both within industry and outside it.

The Ministry again made a major contribution to the work of the International Labour Organisation and took part in the activities of other international bodies operating in the labour and social field.



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DISABLED PERSONS

Services for Disabled Persons

The services provided for disabled persons in this country by Government Departments, local authorities and voluntary organisations are described in an illustrated book entitled "Services for the Disabled", recently published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 4s. 6d. net (4s. 9d. including postage). The book has been produced under the auspices of the Standing Committee on the Rehabilitation and Resettlement of Disabled Persons, and contains a historical introduction outlining the development of these services from 1890 (when provision was first made for the compulsory education of blind and deaf children) up to the passing of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, the National Health Service and the National Insurance Acts, 1946, and the National Assistance Act, 1948. Other sections of the book deal with medical services, employment services, national insurance and national assistance. A separate chapter is devoted to the problems of certain special categories of disabled persons, including disabled ex-Service men, disabled coal miners, the blind, the tuberculous, the epileptic, the paraplegic, the deaf and the mentally handicapped. Appendices to the book give details of the main voluntary organisations interested in the welfare of disabled persons.

Training and Employment of Blind Persons

During the year ended 31st March, 1954, County Councils and County Borough Councils in England and Wales and County Councils and Councils of Large Burghs in Scotland expended the sum of £752,000 on the provision of employment for some 3,915 workers in the 69 workshops for the blind. Grants totalling approximately £364,000 were payable by the Ministry of Labour and National Service in respect of this expenditure.

The cost to the Ministry of Labour and National Service of providing training for some 352 adult blind persons in these workshops during the year ended 31st March, 1954, totalled about £94,000.

An analysis of the accounts of workshops for the blind for the year ended 31st March, 1954, shows that the value of goods made by the blind workers totalled £1,986,000. The corresponding figure for the previous year was £1,970,000 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1954, page 227).

BOOKLET ON THE SERVICES AND CIVILIAN LIFE

A booklet entitled "The Services and Your Career" has been issued by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. It gives an account of the work of the Advisory Council on the Relationship between Employment in the Services and Civilian Life. The Advisory Council was set up in 1950 to advise the Minister of Labour and National Service and the Minister of Defence jointly on the best means of securing a relationship between Service and civilian life which would provide, for men and women, the opportunity of a continuous career through the Services and industry.

The booklet is addressed to young men and women who are thinking of joining the Regular Navy, Army or Air Force and also to Regulars who are considering whether to extend their service. It contains information about education and training in the Services, the training facilities available to ex-Regulars after leaving the Services, the readiness of employers and trade unions to help the ex-Regular to re-settle in civilian life, and about some special opportunities for ex-Regulars in the public services. The booklet says that most ex-Regulars can be placed in a suitable job without any difficulty. Those who cannot be placed may be trained for a variety of occupations under the Government Vocational Training Scheme, or may qualify, if suitable, for a course under the Business Training Scheme which is designed to fit ex-Regulars for employment on the executive side of industry or commerce.

Copies of the booklet can be obtained free from any Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Control of Dust by Water Infusion

The Ministry of Fuel and Power have recently issued a booklet entitled "Water Infusion; a Means of Dust Control". It describes, with diagrams and illustrations, the apparatus and the method of water infusion used for the control and suppression of dust in the South Western Division of the National Coal Board. The booklet contains also notes on the historical development of medical knowledge of dust diseases (for which the general term "pneumoconiosis" is now used) and of measures taken against these diseases, and on the origin of the now widely used system of water infusion.

An introductory note says that the suppression of dust is considered of such importance, not only in safeguarding health but also in reducing the hazards of explosion and fire which arise from depositions of airborne dust, that instructional pamphlets are being prepared to widen knowledge of dust control measures and improve the application of such measures. There are several methods of approach, the pamphlet says, to the problem of suppressing dust and Divisional Dust Prevention Committees, which meet under the chairmanship of the Divisional Inspector of Mines, are to produce booklets relating to those aspects of the work on which they have most experience. The first subject chosen for the South Western committee was water infusion.

Where TIME is important

A Brief Statement to Business Men Regarding Control of Time Recorders and Electric Clocks

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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY: RUBBER PROOFED GARMENT MAKING INDUSTRY

The Minister of Labour and National Service has appointed a Commission of Inquiry under the Wages Councils Act, 1945, on a joint application for the establishment of a Wages Council in the rubber proofed garment making industry. The Commission consists of three independent members, two representatives of employers and two representatives of workers. The independent members are Professor H. S. Kirkaldy, M.A., LL.B. (Chairman), Mr. F. Popplewell, O.B.E. (Deputy Chairman), and Miss E. Hesling, O.B.E., LL.B. The representatives of employers are Captain C. Birchall and Mr. D. K. Rollit, O.B.E. The representatives of workers are Mr. G. H. Lowthian, M.B.E., and Mr. L. T. Wright. The representatives of employers and workers are persons who, in the opinion of the Minister, are not connected with, or likely to be affected by, the matters to be inquired into by the Commission.

The Commission may recommend the establishment of a Wages Council if they are of the opinion that the existing voluntary machinery is not, and cannot by improvement be made, adequate, or that the machinery is likely to cease to exist or be adequate, and that as a result a reasonable standard of remuneration among the workers concerned will not be maintained. The Commission are required to consider not only the workers specified in their terms of reference, but also any others who in their opinion are engaged in work which is complementary, subsidiary or closely allied to the work performed by those workers.

The Commission will publish in the London and Edinburgh Gazettes a notice stating the question which it is their duty to consider and will specify a period within which representations may be made to them. The Secretary of the Commission is Mr. W. R. B. Robinson, Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1, to whom communications concerning the Inquiry should be addressed.

The Report of a previous Commission of Inquiry, appointed in December, 1948, to consider an application for the establishment of a Wages Council in this industry was reviewed in the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1950 (page 156).

COAL MINING

Ninth Annual Report of National Coal Board

The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the National Coal Board for the year ended 31st December, 1954, has been submitted to the Minister of Fuel and Power under the provisions of the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act, 1946, and has been published by H.M. Stationery Office as House of Commons Paper No. 1 (Session 1955-56), price 7s. 6d. net (7s. 10d. including postage).

The introduction to the Report says that in 1954 the demand for fuel and power in this country continued to grow. The coal industry was able to meet only part of the increase in demand and the deficiency had to be filled mainly by imported coal. The Report describes the operations of the industry during the year and discusses the problem of creating new productive capacity without which the industry cannot meet the future demand for coal nor, in fact, maintain present output. It deals also with the difficulties which have to be overcome in order to carry out the Board's reconstruction plans successfully. One of the main difficulties affecting nearly all the activities of the Board is the shortage of men with suitable training and experience, and the Board draw attention in the Report to efforts made in 1954 to overcome this shortage and make the best use of the industry's human resources. Reference is made to the Advisory Committee on Organisation, composed of persons with experience of large-scale undertakings, which, at the invitation of the Board, investigated the whole structure and functioning of the Board. The Committee, from whose work the Board derived valuable help, were carrying out their investigation during 1954; their recommendations, and the Board's action on them, do not come within the period covered by the Report. (See page 92 of the March, 1955, issue of this GAZETTE regarding one of the Committee's principal recommendations.)

Some of the main facts and figures contained in the Report about operations and results achieved in 1954 are given below.

Production and Costs

Output of deep-mined coal in 1954 was 214 million tons, 1.5 million tons more than in 1953; output from opencast sites was 10.3 million tons, about 1.4 million tons less than in 1953. Total output of saleable coal, at 224.3 million tons, was thus only 70,000 tons more than in the previous year. The number of shifts worked weekly by each man in 1954 averaged 4.71, compared with 4.67 in 1953, and the average productivity of all workers was 24.61 hundredweights a man-shift, the highest figure ever attained in British coal mines. Productivity of face-workers, which rose from 64.32 hundredweights a man-shift in 1953 to 65.14 in 1954, was also higher than ever before. Average attendance, both of all workers employed and of face-workers in particular, was better in 1954 than in 1953. The improvements were, however, offset by a fall in the average number of men employed from 712,900 in 1953 to 707,200 in 1954. There was also an increase in the number of men engaged on development work. The Report says that, but for the shortage of man-power, better attendance, higher productivity and a slightly longer working year would have provided a considerable increase in deep-mined output.

Total costs of production of deep-mined coal in 1954 were 61s. 11d. a ton, 2s. 9d. a ton more than in 1953. The main reasons given in the Report for the rise in costs of production are an increase in the cost of wages despite the slight improvement in productivity, increased capital and maintenance charges, and additional expenditure on safety and on other measures designed to increase long-term output and efficiency. The increase in wages costs amounted to 1s. 5d. a ton. Reconstruction of the industry under the National Plan involved a total capital expenditure on the collieries of £68 millions in 1954. The Report points out that the intensified programme of reconstruction and mechanisation adds to the cost of spares and maintenance of machinery and equipment as well as adding to capital charges. Moreover, the need to maintain output while colliery reconstructions are carried out frequently causes material additions to production costs. The financial results of operating the collieries and other activities during 1954 showed a deficit of £3.8 millions, which increased the accumulated deficit since vesting date to £17.4 millions.

The Report contains a chapter reviewing coal supply in relation to demand and distribution. Home demand for coal increased in 1954 by nearly five million tons, or 2½ per cent. The Board estimate that over three million tons of the increase resulted from the rise in the country's industrial production and the remainder from the cold weather. The biggest increase in demand came from the power stations, which used over three million tons, or 8.5 per cent., more coal than in 1953. To meet the increased demand for coal stocks were drawn upon, exports were slightly reduced, and coal was imported. Imports for the year totalled just over three million tons. Export shipments in 1954 amounted to 13.6 million tons. Sales for ships' bunkers amounted to 2.5 million tons, which was 400,000 tons less than in 1953 and reflected the continued change from coal-burning to oil-burning ships.

Man-Power and Training

At the end of the year 1954 the number of men employed in the coal mining industry was 705,400, which was 400 fewer than at the end of 1953. For the whole year the average number of men employed was 707,200, compared with 712,900 in 1953. The average number of face-workers fell from 292,800 in 1953 to 290,400 in 1954 and the average number of all underground workers from 560,600 to 558,400.

There was an improvement during the year in recruitment to the industry and the total number of men recruited was 60,786,

compared with 51,604 in 1953. The figure for wastage was slightly lower in 1954 than in the previous year. The numbers of boys employed in the industry rose from 36,400 in 1953 to 37,500 in 1954.

The Report describes the measures taken during the year to overcome shortages of labour and says that man-power difficulties were accentuated in 1954 by the fact that industry was booming, particularly in the areas where the Board most needed more men. Efforts were made, in particular, to relieve the shortage in the West Midlands and North Eastern Divisions, and by the end of the year 4,200 men, of whom 3,300 were experienced mineworkers, had been moved under a transfer scheme to these Divisions, whose total man-power in six areas of most urgent need would otherwise have fallen by 2,800 during the year. At the end of the year it was too early to assess the results on recruitment of the publicity campaign begun in October by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Good progress was made in 1954 in the programme of the Coal Industry Housing Association, set up by the Board in 1952 to carry out a special housing programme in those areas where more houses were urgently needed than the Local Authorities could provide. The Board had aimed at building 20,000 houses in three years, and by the end of 1954 17,505 had been built and most of the remainder were due for completion by the end of the three-year period in April, 1955.

In a section on education and training the Report refers to the Board's aim to recruit most of their future colliery workers as boys under 18, and to train them. There has been a substantial growth in recruitment of boys since 1949 and a marked fall in the rate of wastage. The number of boys recruited in 1954 was 20,400. During the year the preliminary training centres were improved and extended. A second residential training centre for boys was opened in Scotland, and, the Report says, more than 40 per cent. of the Scottish Division's juvenile entrants now pass through the two residential centres. Good progress was made with the national scheme of apprenticeship for engineering craftsmen (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1954, page 266) and by the end of the year 1,022 apprentice mechanics and 1,079 apprentice electricians were in training. The number of adult entrants who completed preliminary training in 1954 was 12,500 and 15,000 trained for work at the coal face. Details are also given in the Report of the numbers of employees taking courses under the Board's "ladder plan", of the Technical Scholarship Scheme providing assistance in university training, and of schemes of initial training for management and courses for senior staff already within the industry.

Industrial Relations

Although almost one-half of the pits in the country were free from disputes in 1954, the Report notes a serious increase in the number of unofficial stoppages and restrictions of work. They numbered in all 2,614, compared with 2,324 in 1953. The number of these stoppages and restrictions in 1954 was the highest since the nationalisation of the mines and the loss of coal was 1.5 million tons, 356,000 tons more than in the previous year, although less than in 1952. The Report comments that these figures show only the direct effect of unofficial disputes and restrictions. The indirect effects may also be serious in disrupting work and in their bad effect on morale. The utmost co-operation between management and men is needed both in avoiding the misunderstandings from which so many disputes arise and in making use of the industry's comprehensive conciliation scheme.

Safety and Health, etc.

The Report gives figures showing that there was again a decline in 1954 compared with the previous year in the numbers of men killed and injured in the types of accidents that must be reported immediately to H.M. Inspectors of Mines. A total of 359 men were killed and 1,825 injured as a result of these "reportable" accidents in 1954, compared with 364 killed and 1,907 injured in 1953. The figures for 1954 are the lowest for any year for which there are records. Other accidents, involving injury to the worker and his absence from work for over three days, numbered 219,000, compared with 230,000 in 1953. There were no major disasters in 1954.

The Report describes developments in 1954 in engineering and mechanisation and says that many of the technical improvements which are being made make the mines safer as well as more efficient. New safety problems are, however, created from time to time by the continued mechanisation of the pits and some illustrations are given of the research constantly in progress in order to make the mines as safe to work in as possible. Efforts to suppress dust in the mines were intensified during 1954. Work was also put in hand during the latter part of the year to enable the Board to implement the provisions of the Mines and Quarries Act, 1954 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1955, page 9). Increased expenditure during 1954 on the improvement of safety and working conditions included the costs of installation of more fire-resistant conveyor belts, greatly increased expenditure on dust suppression, and more funds devoted to research and development, medical services, pithead baths and general welfare.

The Report contains also particulars of the year's results from carbonisation and other activities, details of capital expenditure and finance, and a chapter reviewing progress in research and experiment. Among the subjects dealt with in connection with matters of demand and distribution are the long-term prospects for fuel supplies and the prospects for supplies of smokeless fuels. A brief account is also given of the arrangements for consultation and co-ordinated action which have been made between the United Kingdom Government and the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community. The Report is followed by the audited accounts of the National Coal Board for the year ended 31st December, 1954, and by appendices giving statistical and other information.

Earnings in Coal Mining in Fourth Quarter of 1954 and in Year 1954

The Statistical Statement of the costs of production, proceeds and profit or loss of collieries in Great Britain for the fourth quarter of 1954 and for the year 1954 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 Nationalisation Act. Licensed mines produced about 1.0 per cent. of the total quantity of deep-mined saleable coal.

Earnings in the Fourth Quarter of 1954

	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	58 4 8	2 5 7	60 10 5
All Underground	49 11 2	2 3 3	52 2 5
Surface	33 9 3	1 11 9	35 9 2
All Workers	46 4 3	2 2 6	48 6 9
(ii) Per Wage-earner per Week—			
At the Face	287 6	12 3	299 9
All Underground	261 6	11 11	273 5
Surface	195 11	11 7	207 6
All Workers	248 2	11 10	260 0

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Report of Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance for 1954

The Minister of Pensions and National Insurance has presented to Parliament a Report on the work of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance during 1954. The Report, which has been published by H.M. Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 9495, price 4s. net, 4s. 2d. including postage), reviews the work of the Ministry during the year in the administration of the National Insurance schemes and of the family allowances scheme for which the Ministry is responsible. An account is also given of the Ministry's work for war pensioners; this information, together with reports from the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland in respect of the work for war pensioners undertaken by those Departments, has been published in a separate Report on War Pensioners (House of Commons Paper No. 2, Session 1955-56, price 4s. net, 4s. 2d. including postage).

The introductory sections of the Report refer to the review of the National Insurance scheme by the Government Actuary and to the Report of the Phillips Committee on Provision for Old Age (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1954, pages 413 and 411, respectively), both of which the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance was able to take into account when making his statutory review of the rates and amounts of benefits. The outstanding events of the year, the Report says, were the enactment in December, following the Minister's review, of changes in the rates of insurance benefits and contributions and the simultaneous announcement of changes in the rates of war pensions and allowances. These changes are set out in the Report, which then deals in turn with each of the principal branches of the Ministry's work during 1954. Some details are given below of the main facts and statistics contained in the Report.

National Insurance, General Scheme

The Ministry of Labour and National Service continued to administer unemployment benefit on behalf of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance. In December, 1954, 148,000 persons were in receipt of unemployment benefit, compared with 215,000 a year earlier. New claims for unemployment benefit made during the year totalled over 2½ millions, including over 1½ million claims made in respect of second and subsequent spells of unemployment in the same benefit year. Regulations made during the year, referred to in the Report, altered the rule determining whether unemployment benefit is payable while the claimant is in receipt of compensation for loss of remuneration (see the issue of this GAZETTE for March, 1954, page 85). The cost of unemployment benefit for the year ended 31st March, 1954, was £20½ millions.

New claims for sickness benefit received during 1954 numbered 7,173,000. There was no epidemic during the year comparable with the influenza epidemics of 1951 and 1953 and the figure was the second lowest since 1950. The number of current claims for sickness benefit showed the usual rise early in the year and reached 1.1 millions in the middle of February, then fell steadily to just over 800,000 in August, after which there was a slow rise to 970,000 in December, a somewhat higher level than in that month in earlier years. The cost of sickness benefit for the financial year 1953-54 was nearly £85 millions. A Table in the Report gives, for the year 1951, information not previously published about the incidence in certain occupations of incapacity due to a few of the commoner kinds of illness, and mentions a "Digest of Statistics Analysing Certificates of Incapacity, 1951 and 1952", prepared by the Statistics Division of the Ministry and available on request to research workers.

(3032)

Earnings in Year 1954

	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	57 2 5	2 4 1	59 6 6
All Underground	49 1 8	2 1 9	51 3 7
Surface	33 6 3	1 10 5	35 4 8
All Workers	45 7 8	2 1 2	47 9 0
(ii) Per Wage-earner per Week—			
At the Face	270 1	11 1	281 2
All Underground	247 1	10 10	257 11
Surface	188 9	10 7	199 4
All Workers	235 1	10 10	245 11

Statistics of earnings are given in the Statement for each of the twenty wage districts in Great Britain. The average earnings in the year per man-shift worked, including the value of allowances in kind, for workers of all ages ranged from 44s. 1.6d. in North Staffordshire and 44s. 7.5d. in the Forest of Dean to 52s. 7.5d. in Kent and 53s. 9.7d. in Nottinghamshire. The average earnings per wage-earner per week ranged from 212s. 8d. in Shropshire and 225s. 4d. in North Staffordshire to 270s. 5d. in North Derbyshire and 278s. 1d. 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 fourth quarter of 1954 amounted to 50s. 11d. per man-shift worked and 273s. 5d. per week. The corresponding amounts for the year were 50s. 1d. and 258s. 8d.

The new provisions relating to maternity benefits, introduced by the National Insurance Act, 1953, were in full operation during 1954. The Report says that, because the changed provisions were in operation during the year under review, it is not possible to make a detailed statistical comparison of maternity benefit awards in 1954 with those of previous years. It was estimated, however, that the number of maternity grants awarded during 1954 was again about three-quarters of a million. Of all the women awarded maternity grants, over one-quarter also qualified for maternity allowances and about 40 per cent. for the special home confinement grant. Maternity benefits cost £10½ millions during the year ended 31st March, 1954.

During 1954, about 390,000 new retirement pensions came into operation, with increases for dependants where appropriate. Of the total of 390,000, over 90,000 were awarded to women claiming on the insurance of their husbands who had also been awarded retirement pensions. The total number of persons receiving retirement pensions at the end of the year was about 4.4 millions. Expenditure on retirement pensions in the financial year 1953-54 amounted to about £334 millions out of a total expenditure of £485 millions on all National Insurance benefits. At the end of the year 1954 there were about half-a-million men and women who had reached the minimum pensionable age during the previous five years but had not retired and could, therefore, earn increments to the pensions payable on their eventual retirement. The average number of increments earned by those who stayed at work after the minimum pensionable age was a little over six, both for men and for insured women. Figures given in the Report show also that, of the pensions awarded to men during the quarter ended September, 1954, 40 per cent. went to men who had just reached 65 years of age and 23 per cent. to men who were 70 years of age or within three months of that age (at which a pension can be awarded whether or not retirement has taken place). The Report gives a summary of the results of the enquiry into the reasons which lead people to retire or to continue at work after reaching the minimum pensionable age; the detailed results of the enquiry have been separately published (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1954, page 410).

Details are also given in the Report of the numbers of awards during the year of widows' benefits and guardians' allowances, the numbers of persons drawing these benefits at the end of the year, and expenditure for the financial year 1953-54. In a section on adjudication on claims for National Insurance benefits, the Report says that in 1954 nearly 1,000 claims were referred by Insurance Officers to Local Tribunals for decision. In addition, Local Tribunals decided 42,500 appeals against the decisions of Insurance Officers. In 24 per cent. of the cases the Tribunals decided in favour of the claimant. Appeals to the Commissioner against decisions of Local Tribunals numbered 990, and in 429 cases the Commissioner decided in the claimant's favour.

National Insurance, Industrial Injuries Scheme

The number of claims for injury benefit in 1954 was 803,000, compared with 783,000 in the previous year. The Report notes that a comparison of the figures for recent years shows that the rate of claim for injury benefit had quickly stabilised itself by the end of 1949 and has since remained at about the same level. Expenditure on industrial injury benefit amounted to over £11 millions in the financial year ended 31st March, 1954.

The number of new claims for disablement benefit continued to rise in 1954, as in previous years, and there was a total of 139,000 claims during the year, compared with 117,000 in 1953. Part of

the increase is attributed to the provisions of the National Insurance Act, 1953, which eased the conditions giving entitlement to disablement benefit. As claims for disablement benefit normally follow injury benefit and injury benefit claims have not shown a tendency to increase, the Report says that there is probably a growing awareness of the benefit cover of the scheme, particularly in respect of relatively minor disablement. The number of disablement pensions in payment, which at 31st October, 1953, was about 106,000, had risen by the end of October, 1954, to about 115,000. At the same date 62,000 special hardship supplements were in payment and constant attendance allowance was being paid to 930 pensioners and 540 men in receipt of workmen's compensation. The number of hospital treatment allowances in payment at that date was about 540 and about 410 persons were receiving unemployment supplement. Disablement benefit and its supplementary allowances cost over £12 millions in 1953-54.

Other Contents

In addition to the separate sections dealing with the administration of family allowances and of war pensions, the Report and its detailed statistical appendices contain also information relating to finance, contributions and classification of contributors under the National Insurance Acts, legal proceedings in the case of contribution and benefit offences, systems of adjudication of claims and questions, and arrangements for war pensioners living overseas and for payment abroad of National Insurance benefits and family allowances.

At the end of 1954 nearly 3½ million families with nearly 8½ million children were receiving family allowances of 8s. a week for each child after the first within the age limit. Family allowances were estimated to cost about £105 millions in the financial year 1954-55. The number of war pensions in payment at the end of 1954 was over 900,000, a decrease of more than 30,000 compared with the previous year. War pensions were estimated to have cost about £87½ millions in 1954-55. The chapter on finance includes estimates, based mainly upon a Report by the Government Actuary, of the effect on future income and expenditure of the provisions of the National Insurance Act, 1954. The receipts and payments of the National Insurance and Industrial Injuries Funds in 1953-54 are set out in full with comparative figures for the preceding five years and a statement of the progress of the balances of the two Funds and of the National Insurance (Reserve) Fund. The Accounts of the Funds for the year ended 31st March, 1954, were published recently (see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1955, page 168). Figures of the estimated numbers of contributors in the three classes under the National Insurance scheme at 31st March, 1954, are reproduced from the Report by the Government Actuary on the First Quinquennial Review of the National Insurance Act. The chapter on overseas arrangements says that at the end of 1954 there were 30,000 United Kingdom war pensioners living overseas. Reciprocal arrangements on social security were in operation at the beginning of the year with Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Republic of Ireland, France and Italy and (in respect of family allowances only) with Guernsey and New Zealand. During the course of the year arrangements with Australia, Jersey, Switzerland and Denmark came into force; brief details are given of the new arrangements made with these countries, of agreements with the Netherlands and Luxembourg which had not become effective at the end of 1954 and of three international conventions embodying provisions on social security which were ratified by the United Kingdom. At the end of the year negotiations for further agreements were continuing with New Zealand, Belgium, the German Federal Republic and Austria.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

38th Session of International Labour Conference

The 38th Session of the International Labour Conference was held in Geneva from 1st to 23rd June. An article on the work of the Session appears on pages 235 to 237 of this GAZETTE.

129th Session of Governing Body

The 129th Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office was held in Geneva on 27th and 28th May and on 24th June, 1955, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Ago, Government representative, Italy. The United Kingdom Government representative at the Session was 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., Chairman of the International Standing Committee and Member of the General Purposes Committee and Council of the British Employers' Confederation, and Sir Alfred Roberts, C.B.E., Vice-Chairman of the Governing Body, Member of the General Council of the Amalgamated Association of Card, Blowing and Ring Room Operatives.

At the end of the Session the Governing Body was called upon to elect its officers for the ensuing year. Mr. Arthur Brown, Government representative, Canada, was unanimously elected Chairman. Mr. Pierre Waline, Employers' representative (France), and Sir Alfred Roberts, Workers' representative (United Kingdom), were unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chairmen.

The Governing Body paid tribute to the memory of Mr. James E. Herbert who died on 6th June, 1955. Mr. Herbert was the first

Payment of Benefits to Persons Resident Abroad

On 4th July the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, in conjunction with the Treasury, made the National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment Regulations, 1955. The preliminary draft of these Regulations had been submitted to the National Insurance Advisory Committee (see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, page 168) and approved by them in their Report, which has been published as House of Commons Paper No. 28 (Session 1955-56).

The Regulations now made came into operation on 11th July. They amend the National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Regulations, 1948, and remove the statutory disqualification for the receipt of widow's benefit, guardian's allowance and retirement pension for periods of absence from Great Britain which hitherto has applied (with certain exceptions) in the case of persons outside Her Majesty's dominions. The Regulations also contain a transitional provision preserving any right to benefit to which persons would have been entitled but for the amendment.

The effect of the Regulations is that national insurance retirement pensions and widows' pensions will in future be payable anywhere in the world. Hitherto these benefits have been payable only in the Commonwealth and in countries with which reciprocal agreements have been made. Where exchange control restrictions prevent payment from being made direct to the pensioner, arrangements will be made for the pension to be paid into a bank or to a nominee in this country.

The Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance will invite applications from pensioners who are known to be abroad and have not been receiving their pensions. Other pensioners who are residing abroad should write immediately to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, Overseas Group, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Copies of the Regulations (S.I. 1955 No. 983) and of the Report of the National Insurance Advisory Committee can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price, respectively, 2d. and 3d. net each (3½d. and 4½d. including postage).

Reciprocal Arrangements with the Netherlands

On 21st June Her Majesty in Council made the National Insurance and Industrial Injuries (Netherlands) Order, 1955. This Order gives effect in England, Wales and Scotland to the Convention made on 11th August, 1954, between the Governments of the United Kingdom and of the Netherlands (see the issue of this GAZETTE for September, 1954, page 310) and modifies the National Insurance Acts, 1946 to 1955, and the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts, 1946 to 1954, in their application to persons affected by that Convention. Copies of the Order (S.I. 1955 No. 874), which came into operation on 21st June, can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d. net (7½d. including postage).

The English text of the Convention is reproduced in a Schedule to the Order. The Convention deals with benefits for sickness, unemployment, maternity, old age, widowhood, orphanhood, and industrial accidents and diseases. The agreed arrangements enable contributions paid under the national insurance schemes of both countries to be taken into account when a person claims any of these benefits, and also enable persons who are receiving pensions to continue to receive them if they go from one country to the other.

Director of the London Branch Office of the International Labour Office and subsequently served on the Headquarters staff at Geneva for many years.

The following paragraphs contain notes regarding the main subjects discussed by the Governing Body.

Agenda of the 40th (1957) Session of the International Labour Conference

In accordance with the normal practice, the Governing Body gave preliminary consideration to the question of the agenda for the 40th (1957) Session of the International Labour Conference. A final decision on the agenda will be taken by the Governing Body at its autumn session. There are three standing items on the agenda of sessions of the International Labour Conference. These are: the Report of the Director-General; Financial and Budgetary Questions; and Information and Reports on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations. The Governing Body noted that, in addition, three questions on the agenda of the 39th (1956) Session of the Conference for a first discussion are likely to be carried forward for second discussion in 1957. These are: Forced Labour; Weekly Rest in Commerce and Offices; and Living and Working Conditions of Indigenous Populations in Independent Countries. With regard to possible new items for the agenda, the Governing Body decided to call for law and practice reports, to be considered in November, on the following subjects: Discrimination in the Field of Employment and Occupation; Conditions of Employment of Plantation Workers; Regulation of the Employment of Children and Young Persons in Agriculture; Payment by Results; and Organisation of Occupational Health Services. In the case of the first of these items, Discrimination in the Field of Employment and Occupation, it was agreed that a Report on this subject, which had already been before the Governing Body at this Session under a separate item of the agenda but on which

substantive discussion had been deferred, should, after it had been amended in certain minor respects, be regarded as the law and practice report. This Report had been prepared following requests from the United Nations that the International Labour Organisation should make a study of the question (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1954, page 231). Another subject considered as a possible new item for the agenda was Hours of Work. The Governing Body decided that if the study which is being prepared in pursuance of a Resolution on this subject adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 37th Session (1954) should be completed in time for the autumn session of the Governing Body, it might then, if it should be so decided, be treated as a law and practice report. It was emphasised that this decision did not imply that pressure of any kind was being placed on the Director-General to complete the report by the next session if this would involve the report not being up to the requisite standard.

Mines other than Coal Mines and the Timber Industry

The Governing Body had before it proposals submitted by the Director-General for dealing with the problems of at least some of the industries in respect of which it had been decided, at the 127th Session of the Governing Body last November, that it was not possible in present circumstances to proceed to the establishment of new Industrial Committees (see the issue of this GAZETTE for January, page 13). The Governing Body agreed that priority should be given to the consideration of the problems of mines other than coal mines and of the timber industry in view of the special conditions obtaining in these industries and it was decided that meetings should be held in 1957 to deal with the problems of the two industries. The agenda for the two meetings were also agreed and it was decided that the composition of the meetings should be tripartite. Other points for decision in respect of the meetings were deferred to a later session.

Forced Labour

The Governing Body resumed consideration of a proposal which had previously been discussed at the 128th Session in March (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, page 130) for the setting up of an International Labour Organisation Committee on Forced Labour pending discussion of this subject at the 1956 and 1957 Sessions of the International Labour Conference.

After discussion the Governing Body adopted a resolution authorising the Director-General to establish an independent *ad hoc* Committee on Forced Labour to analyse material received by the Organisation dealing with the use and extent of forced labour throughout the world and to submit its conclusions to the Director-General for transmission to the Governing Body and for inclusion in his Reports to the 1956 and 1957 Sessions of the Conference. The resolution also requests the Director-General to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of this decision with a view to seeking his collaboration in the work of the Committee.

Freedom of Association

The Governing Body approved the Sixteenth Report of its Committee on Freedom of Association dealing with seven cases of alleged infringement of trade union rights. The Committee recommended that three of these cases should be dismissed without being communicated to the Governments concerned. The Committee also recommended that the remaining four cases, on which the observations of the Governments concerned had been obtained, should be dismissed as not calling for further examination. These cases related to the Argentine Republic, Burma and Greece (two cases).

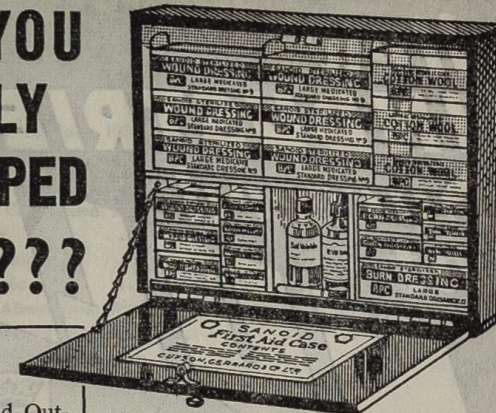
Full Employment

The Governing Body endorsed a paper setting out a number of points for inclusion in the statement to be made by the representative of the International Labour Organisation at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations during its annual discussion on full employment. The paper first lays emphasis on the need for vigorous, persistent and concerted action to combat structural unemployment and under-employment by Governments, by international organisations, and by employers' and workers' organisations. The work of the International Labour Organisation during recent years in this field is then described. Attention is drawn to the Conventions and Recommendations which set out some of the basic principles of action against unemployment, and to the conclusions concerning unemployment problems affecting particular regions or industries which have been reached as a result of tripartite discussions at Regional Conferences and at Industrial Committees. An account is also given of operational activities designed to promote economic development and thereby to overcome unemployment and under-employment in under-developed countries. Projects undertaken by the International Labour Organisation for this purpose under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance include man-power surveys, vocational and technical training, projects to increase productivity, the development of small-scale industries and co-operatives, and projects to help in the integration of indigenous peoples into more developed economies.

Supplementary Understanding with the Food and Agriculture Organisation

The Governing Body took note of a Supplementary Understanding which had been reached between the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the Director-General of the International Labour Office. This Understanding outlines the respective responsibilities of the two organisations in the fields of vocational training in agriculture, migration for land settlement, co-operatives and rural industries, and records consultations which have taken place concerning the immediate programme of the

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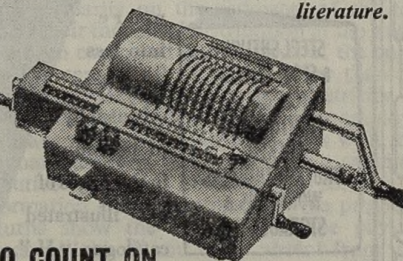
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International Labour Organisation in respect of social policy in agriculture.

Fifth Session of Petroleum Committee (Caracas, April–May, 1955)

On the decision of the Officers of the Governing Body the reports of the representatives of the Governing Body at the Fifth Session of the Petroleum Committee at Caracas were included in the agenda as a supplementary item. The reports gave a detailed account of the events leading up to the adjournment of the meeting on 2nd May. The Governing Body representatives to the meeting were Sir Guildhaume Myrddin-Evans (United Kingdom Government representative and Chairman of the Government Group), Mr. Allana (Employers' delegate, Pakistan) and Mr. Vermeulen (Workers' delegate, Netherlands). One report was submitted jointly by Sir Guildhaume Myrddin-Evans and Mr. Allana. Mr. Vermeulen submitted a separate report. After a brief discussion the Governing Body took note of the two Reports, while expressing to their representatives their warm personal gratitude.

Other Matters

The Governing Body dealt with a number of other matters including the following: the Report of the Sixth Session of the Asian Advisory Committee which met in Geneva on 7th and 8th March, 1955 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, page 131); proposals regarding the relations of the International Labour Organisation with non-Governmental Organisations; the Eighteenth Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the Economic and Social Council; a number of financial and administrative questions; and the reports of various meetings and committees.

LABOUR OVERSEAS

Earnings and Working Hours in the Irish Republic, September, 1954

Statistics of hourly and weekly earnings, average weekly hours worked, and numbers of persons engaged in industries producing transportable goods in the Irish Republic have been published by the Central Statistics Office of the Republic in the issue of the *Irish Trade Journal and Statistical Bulletin* for December, 1954. They relate to September, 1954, and are estimates based on returns received from the 1,300 larger establishments included in the Census of Industrial Production. These establishments cover at least 80 per cent., and in many industries 100 per cent., of all the establishments included in the Census.

The Table below shows the average hourly and weekly earnings of industrial workers in September, 1954, and the average numbers of hours worked weekly in the principal industries covered by the enquiry, and the total numbers of industrial workers engaged in the industries. The figures for total numbers of persons engaged include proprietors working in the business, managers and other salaried employees, in addition to wage-earners, but they exclude outside piece-workers. Figures for the transportable goods industries as a whole are also shown in the Table.

Industry	Number of Persons Engaged	Average Earnings of Industrial Workers		Average Hours Worked a Week
		Hourly	Weekly	
Mines and Quarries	3,393	s. d. 3 2-2	s. d. 145 11	45-9
Bricks, Pottery, Glass, Cement and Monumental Masonry	5,413	2 7-7	125 1	47-3
Metal	6,063	2 8-4	124 1	46-0
Engineering and Implements	6,180	2 5-8	115 2	46-3
Assembly, Construction and Repair of Vehicles	6,282	3 5-2	157 4	45-8
Linen, Cotton, Jute and Canvas	5,614	2 1-7	84 11	39-7
Woolen and Worsted	4,745	2 0-6	95 8	46-6
Hosiery	5,849	2 0-1	85 11	42-8
Clothing (Wholesale Factories)	5,238	1 11-3	80 1	41-2
Men's and Boys'	6,606	1 8-0	68 8	41-3
Women's and Girls'	6,199	2 6-4	104 9	41-4
Boots and Shoes (Wholesale Factories)	3,644	2 6-0	122 4	49-0
Bacon Curing	3,164	2 1-3	101 8	48-3
Butter, Cheese, Condensed Milk and Margarine	4,836	2 6-7	122 4	47-8
Grain Milling	10,759	2 5-0	116 1	48-0
Bread, Flour, Confectionery and Biscuits	9,822	2 2-2	99 0	45-3
Sugar, Sugar Confectionery, Jam-making, etc.	4,624	3 4-0	151 10	45-6
Brewing	2,688	2 7-8	112 0	42-2
Tobacco	4,456	2 7-3	119 2	45-6
Timber	3,416	2 8-7	119 5	43-8
Wood Furniture and Upholstery	4,416	2 5-4	113 6	46-3
Paper Making and Manufactured Stationery	8,627	3 1-6	132 10	42-4
Printing, Publishing, Bookbinding and Engraving	143,489	2 5-9	111 8	44-8
Total Transportable Goods* (September, 1954)				

Index figures of earnings (base October, 1948 = 100) compiled by the Central Statistics Office show that there were increases of 36.5 per cent. in average hourly earnings and 35.9 per cent. in average weekly earnings between October, 1948, and September, 1954. Average hours worked weekly showed little change, the index figure for September, 1954, being 99.6.

An article containing statistics relating to earnings and working hours in the Irish Republic in September, 1953, was published in the March, 1954, issue of this GAZETTE, page 86.

* Including certain industries not shown separately above.

EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC.

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Employment* in Great Britain in May

GENERAL SUMMARY

The number in civil employment (industry, commerce and services of all kinds) at the end of May was 22,850,000, which was 45,000 more than at the end of April and 280,000 more than a year previously. There were seasonal increases in agriculture and miscellaneous services. Manufacturing industries overall showed no change, increases in engineering, vehicles and food, drink and tobacco being offset by decreases in textiles and clothing.

In the week ending 28th May about 1,580,000 workers were reported to be working overtime in manufacturing establishments rendering returns. This is 40,000 less than in February, but 80,000 more than a year ago.

The number reported to be working short-time was 60,000, which was 20,000 more than in February and a year ago.

The number of persons registered as unemployed on 13th June was 211,000, including 30,000 who were temporarily stopped. (A provisional figure of 209,000 was issued on 16th June, when an assessment was made of unemployment resulting from the railway strike.) This was 13,000 less than on 16th May, and constituted 1.0 per cent. of the estimated total number of employees at both dates; the proportion unemployed a year ago was 1.1 per cent.

The number unemployed for more than eight weeks was 81,000, this being 45 per cent. of the wholly unemployed.

The strength of the Forces at the end of May was 811,000.

It is estimated that the total working population† increased by 10,000 during May to 23,850,000.

GENERAL MAN-POWER POSITION

The broad changes in the man-power situation between end-April and end-May, 1955, are shown in the following Table, together with the figures for recent months and end-May, 1954.

	End-May, 1954	End-March, 1955	End-April, 1955	End-May, 1955	Change during May, 1955
Number in Civil Employment	22,570	22,732	22,807	22,852	+ 45
Men	15,004	15,090	15,128	15,135	+ 7
Women	7,566	7,642	7,679	7,717	+ 38
Wholly Unemployed‡	242	239	205	180	- 25
Temporarily Stopped‡	13	18	25	20	- 5
Total Registered Unemployed‡	255	257	230	200	- 30
H.M. Forces and Women's Services	841	824	818	811	- 7
Men	818	803	798	791	- 7
Women	23	21	20	20	..
Ex-Service men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment	5	5	6	6	..
Total Working Population†	23,658	23,800	23,836	23,849	+ 13
Men	15,984	16,052	16,060	16,046	- 14
Women	7,674	7,748	7,776	7,803	+ 27

* The figures of employment for all dates after June, 1954, are provisional and subject to revision in the light of more complete information to be obtained on the basis of the count of national insurance cards in mid-1955.

† The total working population represents the estimated total number of persons aged 15 and over who work for pay or gain, or register themselves as available for such work. The total comprises the Forces, men and women on release leave not yet in employment, all persons—employers and workers on their own account as well as employees—in civil employment (including persons temporarily laid off but still on the employers' pay-rolls) and wholly unemployed persons registered for employment. Part-time workers are counted as full units.

‡ End of month estimates. The figures on the "temporarily stopped" line have been excluded from the computation of the Total Working Population. See footnote † above.

ANALYSIS OF NUMBERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

An analysis of the total numbers in civil employment by broad industrial groups is given in the Table below.

Industry or Service	End-May, 1954	End-March, 1955	End-April, 1955	End-May, 1955	Change during May, 1955
Basic Industries					
Mining and Quarrying	869	868	869	866	- 3
(Wage-earners on Colliery Books)	(710)	(708)	(709)	(706)	(- 3)
Gas, Electricity and Water	374	379	379	379	..
Transport and Communication	1,714	1,700	1,704	1,711	+ 7
Agriculture and Fishing	1,069	1,022	1,032	1,047	+ 15
Number in Basic Industries	4,026	3,969	3,984	4,003	+ 19
Manufacturing Industries					
Chemicals and Allied Trades	501	513	514	515	+ 1
Metal Manufacture	552	570	571	571	..
Vehicles	1,175	1,224	1,230	1,234	+ 4
Engineering, Metal Goods and Precision Instruments	2,620	2,745	2,758	2,765	+ 7
Textiles	998	986	980	970*	- 10
Clothing (inc. footwear)	694	686	689	682	- 7
Food, Drink and Tobacco	877	892	896	905	+ 9
Other Manufactures	1,550	1,594	1,595	1,591	- 4
Number in Manufacturing Industries	8,967	9,210	9,233	9,233	..
Building and Contracting	1,456	1,428	1,440	1,440	..
Distributive Trades	2,737	2,767	2,782	2,787	+ 5
Professional, Financial and Miscellaneous Services	4,059	4,048	4,058	4,079	+ 21
Public Administration—					
National Government Service	595	582	582	582	..
Local Government Service	730	728	728	728	..
Total in Civil Employment	22,570	22,732	22,807	22,852	+ 45

NUMBERS EMPLOYED: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

The Table on the next page shows, for those industries for which comparable figures are available, the numbers employed at end-May, 1954, and March, April and May, 1955. The figures relate to employees (including persons temporarily laid off but still on the employers' pay-rolls); they exclude employers and persons working on their own account, and they are thus different in scope from those given in the preceding paragraphs. Satisfactory estimates of the changes in the numbers within the latter classes cannot be made at monthly intervals for the individual industries.

The figures are based primarily on the estimates of the total numbers of employees and their industrial distribution at the middle of each year which have been computed on the basis of the counts of insurance cards. In the case of all industries other than coal mining, building and civil engineering and gas and electricity, use has also been made of the monthly returns rendered by employers under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947. All employers with more than ten employees in manufacturing industries, and a sample of employers in the distributive trades and miscellaneous services, are required to supply information every month under the provisions of the Act. The returns show the numbers on the pay-rolls (including those temporarily laid-off and those absent from work owing to sickness, etc.) at the beginning of the month and at the end of the month; the two sets of figures are summarised separately for each industry, and the ratio between the two totals is the basis for computing the change in employment during the month. Certain industries and services which are not covered by employers' returns (or are only partially covered), or for which figures are not available in the same form as for those shown below, are omitted from the Table.

* Cotton—274,000. Wool—211,000. Other textiles—485,000.

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NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS*

(Thousands)

Industry	Males				Females				Total			
	End-May, 1954	End-March, 1955	End-April, 1955	End-May, 1955	End-May, 1954	End-March, 1955	End-April, 1955	End-May, 1955	End-May, 1954	End-March, 1955	End-April, 1955	End-May, 1955
Mining, etc.	772.9	771.4	772.6	775.6	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2	788.1	786.6	787.8	790.8
Coal Mining	772.9	771.4	772.6	775.6	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2	788.1	786.6	787.8	790.8
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	255.1	256.2	256.9	257.1	82.3	83.4	83.9	84.3	337.4	339.6	340.8	341.4
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	77.2	75.2	75.3	75.1	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.5	85.8	83.6	83.8	83.6
China and Earthenware	33.5	34.5	34.5	34.4	43.8	43.7	43.7	43.8	77.3	78.2	78.2	78.2
Glass (other than containers)	31.4	33.3	33.5	33.7	11.5	12.3	12.5	12.6	42.9	45.6	46.0	46.3
Glass Containers	20.3	20.9	20.9	21.0	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.0	26.0	26.7	27.0	27.0
Cement	14.5	14.6	14.6	14.7	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	15.8	15.9	15.9	16.0
Other Non-Metallif. Mining Manufactures	78.2	77.7	78.1	78.2	11.4	11.9	12.0	12.1	89.6	89.6	90.1	90.3
Chemicals and Allied Trades	353.5	363.4	363.6	363.6	145.3	148.1	148.4	149.2	498.8	511.5	512.0	512.8
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	18.0	18.1	18.1	18.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	18.4	18.5	18.5	18.5
Chemicals and Dyes	163.8	170.7	171.2	171.1	44.1	45.1	45.4	45.2	207.9	215.8	216.6	216.3
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Perfumery, etc.	26.0	26.9	26.9	27.0	35.3	35.8	35.9	36.3	61.3	62.7	63.3	63.3
Explosives and Fireworks	32.2	32.6	32.5	32.4	18.9	20.2	20.1	20.1	51.1	52.8	52.6	52.5
Paint and Varnish	27.7	28.3	28.4	28.5	12.1	12.3	12.4	12.6	39.8	40.6	40.8	41.1
Soap, Candles, Polishes, Ink, Matches, etc.	29.8	30.0	29.8	29.8	20.1	19.7	19.6	19.8	49.9	49.7	49.4	49.6
Mineral Oil Refining	31.4	32.1	32.1	32.1	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.9	38.0	38.9	38.9	39.0
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	24.6	24.7	24.6	24.6	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.9	32.4	32.5	32.4	32.5
Metal Manufacture	485.0	499.2	499.3	499.3	66.2	69.6	70.5	70.5	551.2	568.8	569.8	569.8
Blast Furnaces	21.0	20.8	20.7	20.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	21.5	21.3	21.1	21.1
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	201.6	204.8	204.9	205.4	18.9	19.0	19.0	19.6	220.5	223.8	224.4	225.0
Iron Foundries	106.1	110.5	110.5	110.2	16.4	17.6	17.7	17.7	122.5	128.1	128.4	127.6
Tinplate Manufacture	12.1	12.3	12.3	12.2	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	14.1	14.3	14.3	14.2
Steel Sheet Manufacture	18.3	18.9	18.9	18.9	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	19.5	20.1	20.1	20.1
Iron and Steel Tubes	36.7	38.0	37.9	38.0	7.3	7.9	8.0	8.1	44.0	45.9	45.9	46.1
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc.	89.2	93.9	93.9	94.0	19.9	21.4	21.6	21.7	109.1	115.3	115.5	115.7
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	1,530.5	1,582.5	1,590.0	1,593.3	423.2	465.7	468.8	472.4	1,953.7	2,048.2	2,058.8	2,065.7
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	195.8	198.1	198.8	199.0	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	204.5	206.8	207.6	207.7
Marine Engineering	76.4	75.6	75.4	75.4	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.1	80.7	79.7	79.5	79.5
Agricultural Machinery (exc. tractors)	33.6	36.2	36.7	37.0	4.8	5.3	5.4	5.5	38.4	41.5	42.1	42.5
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	27.4	28.2	28.2	28.2	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	30.2	31.0	31.0	31.0
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	87.1	90.1	90.8	91.1	18.4	19.8	19.9	20.0	105.5	109.9	110.7	111.1
Stationary Engines	22.9	23.8	23.8	23.8	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.7	26.4	27.5	27.5	27.5
Textile Machinery and Accessories	55.8	56.6	56.5	56.4	9.6	9.8	9.8	9.8	65.4	66.4	66.3	66.3
Ordinance and Small Arms	49.1	48.9	49.4	49.2	14.3	13.9	13.6	13.6	63.4	62.8	63.1	62.8
Constructional Engineering	75.4	75.6	76.4	76.9	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	82.0	82.4	83.3	83.8
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	514.7	532.7	535.1	535.7	114.4	122.7	123.4	124.1	629.1	655.4	658.5	659.8
Electrical Machinery	132.1	136.5	137.2	137.4	43.9	48.1	48.7	49.3	176.0	184.6	185.9	186.7
Electrical Wires and Cables	38.0	40.5	40.7	41.0	20.5	22.5	22.7	22.9	58.5	63.0	63.4	63.9
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	31.6	32.9	33.0	33.2	20.2	22.3	22.6	22.9	51.8	55.2	55.6	56.1
Wireless Apparatus and Gramophones	63.9	71.1	71.6	72.0	53.4	67.1	67.5	67.5	117.3	138.2	139.1	139.3
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	21.5	23.8	24.1	24.4	23.6	27.0	27.5	28.1	45.1	50.8	51.6	52.5
Batteries and Accumulators	11.2	11.4	11.4	11.4	8.9	8.5	8.5	8.6	20.1	19.9	19.9	20.0
Other Electrical Goods	94.0	100.5	100.9	101.2	65.3	72.6	72.8	73.6	159.3	173.1	173.7	174.6
Vehicles	973.3	1,012.9	1,017.9	1,020.3	167.8	177.3	178.3	179.6	1,141.1	1,190.2	1,196.2	1,199.9
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles and Cycles	263.8	282.0	283.8	284.5	45.6	48.1	48.2	48.4	309.4	330.4	332.0	332.9
Motor Repairs and Garages	235.5	239.3	240.8	241.6	35.8	37.2	37.6	38.0	271.3	276.2	278.4	279.6
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	197.0	208.0	208.9	209.3	33.0	34.4	34.5	34.8	230.0	242.4	243.4	244.1
Manufacture of Parts and Accessories for Motor Vehicles and Aircraft	115.1	123.0	123.7	124.5	41.5	45.4	45.8	46.2	156.6	168.4	169.5	170.7
Locomotive Manufacture	77.4	76.4	76.5	76.4	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	82.3	81.3	81.4	81.3
Manufacture and Repair of Railway Carriages and Wagons and Trams	79.5	79.0	79.0	78.8	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	83.7	83.3	83.3	83.1
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.2	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	7.8	8.2	8.2	8.2
Metal Goods not Elsewhere Specified	310.1	324.7	325.3	325.0	178.8	191.5	192.4	193.1	488.9	516.2	517.7	518.1
Tools and Cutlery	27.3	28.5	28.7	28.8	18.5	19.9	20.0	20.3	45.8	48.4	48.9	49.1
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	22.6	23.6	23.8	23.9	17.9	19.3	19.6	19.8	40.5	42.9	43.4	43.7
Iron and Steel Forgings	33.3	34.5	34.6	34.7	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.6	38.5	40.0	40.2	40.3
Wire and Steel Manufactures	26.7	28.5	28.3	28.4	9.4	10.1	10.1	10.1	36.1	38.3	38.4	38.5
Hollow-ware	27.0	27.5	27.5	27.5	32.2	33.4	33.6	33.6	60.9	60.9	60.9	61.1
Brass Manufactures	31.0	32.5	32.6	32.5	17.0	18.9	18.9	18.9	48.0	51.4	51.5	51.4
Metal Industries not elsewhere specified	142.2	149.9	149.2	149.2	78.6	84.4	84.6	84.8	220.8	234.3	234.4	234.0
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	84.9	87.0	87.4	87.5	53.2	55.1	55.3	55.3	138.1	142.1	142.7	142.8
Scientific, Surgical, Photographic Instruments	55.2	56.4	56.7	56.8	31.7	32.0	32.1	32.2	86.9	88.4	88.8	89.0
Watches and Clocks	8.6	9.1	9.1	9.1	7.1	8.1	8.1	8.2	15.7	17.2	17.2	17.3
Jewellery, Plate, Refining of Precious Metals	14.7	14.7	14.8	14.8	12.7	13.1	13.2	13.0	27.4	27.8	28.0	27.8
Musical Instruments	6.4	6.8	6.8	6.8	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.9	8.1	8.7	8.7	8.7
Textiles	413.3	414.1	411.1	407.7	575.4	563.1	559.8	553.3	988.7	977.2	970.9	961.0
Cotton Spinning, Doubling, etc.	59.2	57.1	55.8	54.5	106.0	103.6	101.4	101.4	170.4	163.1	159.4	155.9
Cotton Weaving, etc.	40.9	40.5	40.0	39.4	81.8	79.9	77.8	77.8	122.7	120.4	119.1	117.2
Woolen and Worsted	93.2	93.5	93.0	92.3	119.2	117.1	116.8	116.0	212.4	210.6	209.8	208.3
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Production	28.2	29.0	28.9	29.0	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.9	37.9	38.7	38.7	38.9
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving and Silk	21.4	22.0	21.8	21.7	31.8	31.2	31.1	30.9	53.2	53.2	52.9	52.6
Linon and Soft Hemp	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	11.3	11.2	11.2	11.1
Jute	9.3	9.5	9.5	9.4	11.5	11.5	11.3	11.3	20.8	21.0	21.0	20.7
Rope, Twine and Net	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.5	15.2	15.1	15.3	15.2
Hosiery and other Knitted Goods	35.2	35.4	35.4	35.3	92.6	90.1	90.2	90.2	125.5	125.1	125.5	125.5
Lace	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.6	10.7	10.3	10.3	10.2
Carpets	14.3	14.7	14.8	14.7	16.1	16.0	15.7	15.7	30.4	30.8	30.8	30.4
Narrow Fabrics	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	15.7	15.5	15.4	15.4	22.9	22.9	22.8	22.7
Made-up Textiles	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.6	20.2	20.1	19.7	19.7	29.9	29.9	29.5	29.3
Textile Finishing, etc.	61.5	60.9	60.5	59.9	31.7	31.4	31.3	30.9	93.2	91.8	90.8	90.8
Other Textile Industries	18.5	20.1	20.1	20.0	11.5	12.1	12.2	12.2	30.0	32.2	32.2	32.2
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	42.7	42.5	42.5	42.0	29.8	30.5	30.6	30.8	72.5	73.0	73.1	72.8
Leather (Tanning, Dressing), Fellmongery	28.8	28.2	28.1	27.7	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.4	37.0	36.6	36.5	36.1
Leather Goods	9.0	9.3	9.3	9.2	16.6	17.0	17.1	17.2	25.6	26.3	26.4	26.4
Fur	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2	9.9	10.1	10.2	10.3
Clothing	185.1	182.8	182.6									

Unemployment at 13th June, 1955

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 16th May and 13th June, 1955, were as follows:—

	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
16th May	131,127	5,099	82,095	5,322	223,643
13th June	126,021	4,313	75,509	4,700	210,543
Dec. (-)	- 5,106	- 786	- 6,586	- 622	- 13,100

It is estimated that the number of persons registered as unemployed at 13th June represented 1.0 per cent. of the total number of employees. This was the same percentage as at 16th May.

An analysis of the figures for 13th June according to duration of unemployment is given in the following Table:—

	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)				Temporarily Stopped	Total
	Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks	Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks	Unemployed for more than 8 weeks	Total		
Men 18 and over	33,230	24,206	54,847	112,283	13,738	126,021
Boys under 18	2,236	1,024	570	3,830	483	4,313
Women 18 and over	20,982	15,336	24,619	60,937	14,572	75,509
Girls under 18	1,972	943	552	3,467	1,233	4,700
Total ..	58,420	41,509	80,588	180,517	30,026	210,543

The total of 210,543 includes 41,282 married women. The numbers of wholly unemployed persons in each Region at 13th June, 1955, analysed according to duration of unemployment, and also the numbers temporarily stopped, are given in the Table below. Separate figures are given for males and females. The changes, compared with 16th May, 1955, in the total numbers unemployed in each Region are shown in the first Table on this page.

Region	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)				Temporarily Stopped	Total
	Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks	Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks	Unemployed for more than 8 weeks	Total		
Great Britain ..	58,420	41,509	80,588	180,517	30,026	210,543
Males						
London and South-Eastern	7,661	4,455	7,375	19,491	2,621	22,112
Eastern	1,536	1,086	2,493	5,115	237	5,352
Southern	1,540	975	1,892	4,407	48	4,455
South-Western ..	1,509	1,380	3,171	6,060	92	6,152
Midland	3,530	739	1,136	5,405	471	5,876
North-Midland ..	1,353	709	1,462	3,524	433	3,957
E. and W. Ridings ..	2,244	1,578	3,386	7,208	1,592	8,800
North-Western ..	5,921	4,210	7,694	17,825	3,723	21,548
Northern	2,369	2,409	6,423	11,201	1,362	12,563
Scotland	6,053	5,971	14,993	27,017	3,102	30,119
Wales	1,750	1,718	5,392	8,860	540	9,400
Great Britain ..	35,466	25,230	55,417	116,113	14,221	130,334
Females						
London and South-Eastern	5,658	2,054	1,722	9,434	1,044	10,478
Eastern	939	609	822	2,370	121	2,491
Southern	1,058	708	883	2,649	49	2,698
South-Western ..	1,189	869	1,283	3,341	191	3,532
Midland	1,920	552	431	2,903	638	3,541
North-Midland ..	858	555	551	1,964	681	2,645
E. and W. Ridings ..	1,484	909	877	3,270	1,577	4,847
North-Western ..	3,912	2,775	3,996	10,683	9,209	19,892
Northern	1,562	1,776	3,708	7,046	297	7,343
Scotland	3,222	4,142	8,257	15,621	1,579	17,200
Wales	1,152	1,330	2,641	5,123	419	5,542
Great Britain ..	22,954	16,279	25,171	64,404	15,805	80,209
Total						
London and South-Eastern	13,319	6,509	9,097	28,925	3,665	32,590
Eastern	2,475	1,695	3,315	7,485	358	7,843
Southern	2,598	1,683	2,775	7,056	97	7,153
South-Western ..	2,698	2,249	4,454	9,401	283	9,684
Midland	5,450	1,291	1,567	8,308	1,109	9,417
North-Midland ..	2,211	1,264	2,013	5,488	1,114	6,602
E. and W. Ridings ..	3,728	2,487	4,263	10,478	3,169	13,647
North-Western ..	9,833	6,985	11,690	28,508	12,932	41,440
Northern	3,931	4,185	10,131	18,247	1,659	19,906
Scotland	9,275	10,113	23,250	42,638	4,681	47,319
Wales	2,902	3,048	8,033	13,983	959	14,942
Great Britain ..	58,420	41,509	80,588	180,517	30,026	210,543

The following Table gives the numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 13th June, 1955, and the percentage rates of unemployment in each Region:—

Region	Number of persons registered as unemployed at 13th June, 1955			Percentage rate of unemployment*		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
London and South-Eastern	22,112	10,478	32,590	0.7	0.5	0.6
Eastern	5,352	2,491	7,843	0.7	0.7	0.7
Southern	4,455	2,698	7,153	0.7	0.8	0.7
South-Western ..	6,152	3,532	9,684	0.8	1.0	0.9
Midland	5,876	3,541	9,417	0.4	0.5	0.5
North-Midland ..	3,957	2,645	6,602	0.4	0.6	0.5
E. and W. Ridings ..	8,800	4,847	13,647	0.7	0.8	0.7
North-Western ..	21,548	19,892	41,440	1.2	1.8	1.4
Northern	12,563	7,343	19,906	1.4	2.0	1.6
Scotland	30,119	17,200	47,319	2.1	2.3	2.2
Wales	9,400	5,542	14,942	1.4	2.1	1.6
Great Britain ..	130,334	80,209	210,543	0.9	1.1	1.0

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The total number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the United Kingdom at 13th June, 1955, was 242,920, including 147,543 men, 5,718 boys, 84,010 women and 5,649 girls. Of the total, 210,349 (including 4,699 casual workers) were wholly unemployed and 32,571 temporarily stopped. The temporarily stopped are persons suspended from work on the understanding that they are shortly to return to their former employment.

The numbers of unemployed persons on the registers in each Region at 13th June, 1955, are shown below.

Region	Men 18 years and over	Boys under 18 years	Women 18 years and over	Girls under 18 years	Total
Great Britain ..	112,283	3,830	60,937	3,467	180,517
Northern Ireland ..	20,655	1,293	7,310	574	29,832
United Kingdom	132,938	5,123	68,247	4,041	210,349
Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)					
London and South-Eastern	18,638	853	8,898	536	28,925
Eastern	4,980	135	2,212	178	7,485
Southern	4,265	142	2,476	153	7,056
South-Western ..	5,919	141	3,175	166	9,401
Midland	5,303	102	2,773	130	8,308
North-Midland ..	3,440	84	1,817	147	5,488
E. and W. Ridings ..	7,053	155	3,047	223	10,478
North-Western ..	17,207	618	10,301	382	28,508
Northern	10,851	350	6,659	387	18,247
Scotland	26,042	975	14,876	745	42,638
Wales	8,585	275	4,703	420	13,983
Great Britain ..	112,283	3,830	60,937	3,467	180,517
Northern Ireland ..	20,655	1,293	7,310	574	29,832
United Kingdom	132,938	5,123	68,247	4,041	210,349
Temporarily Stopped					
London and South-Eastern	2,606	15	961	83	3,665
Eastern	234	3	112	9	358
Southern	47	1	46	3	97
South-Western ..	91	1	180	11	283
Midland	439	32	587	51	1,109
North-Midland ..	433	—	585	96	1,114
E. and W. Ridings ..	1,569	23	1,370	207	3,169
North-Western ..	3,600	123	8,706	503	12,932
Northern	1,248	114	250	47	1,659
Scotland	2,963	139	1,446	133	4,681
Wales	508	32	329	90	959
Great Britain ..	13,738	483	14,572	1,233	30,026
Northern Ireland ..	867	112	1,191	375	2,545
United Kingdom	14,605	595	15,763	1,608	32,571
Total Registered as Unemployed					
London and South-Eastern	21,244	868	9,859	619	32,590
Eastern	5,214	138	2,324	167	7,843
Southern	4,312	143	2,522	176	7,153
South-Western ..	6,010	142	3,355	177	9,684
Midland	5,742	134	3,360	181	9,417
North-Midland ..	3,873	84	2,402	243	6,602
E. and W. Ridings ..	8,622	178	4,417	430	13,647
North-Western ..	20,807	741	19,007	885	41,440
Northern	12,099	464	6,909	434	19,906
Scotland	29,005	1,114	16,322	878	47,319
Wales	9,093	307	5,032	510	14,942
Great Britain ..	126,021	4,313	75,509	4,700	210,543
Northern Ireland ..	21,522	1,405	8,501	949	32,377
United Kingdom	147,543	5,718	84,010	5,649	242,920

* Numbers registered as unemployed expressed as percentage of the estimated total number of employees.

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

The Table below shows the total numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in each administrative Region of England, and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at 13th June, 1955, and the numbers of persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Offices situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 16th May, 1955.

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 13th June, 1955					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 16th May, 1955
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total 15 and over	
Great Britain ..	21,244	868	9,859	619	32,590	- 2,812
London and South-Eastern	9,753	239	4,345	165	14,502	- 263
London (Administrative County)	59	6	30	2	97	- 10
Acton	680	2	44	1	727	- 38
Brentford and Chiswick	1,099	15	351	19	1,484	- 276
Brighton and Hove	360	12	324	19	715	- 92
Chatham	388	8	172	15	583	- 73
Croydon	199	16	176	19	410	+ 41
Dagenham	128	7	89	4	228	- 89
Ealing	169	23	95	11	298	+ 7
East Ham	294	5	79	7	385	+ 25
Enfield	240	10	199	12	515	- 92
Harrow and Wembley	39	3	15	6	63	- 20
Hayes and Harlington	231	13	85	3	332	+ 10
Hendon	317	1	82	11	411	- 57
Ilford	496	21	122	11	650	- 70
Leyton and Walthamstow	423	13	190	11	637	- 65
Tottenham	454	18	228	16	716	- 37
West Ham	264	18	81	12	375	+ 53
Willesden	5,214	138	2,324	167	7,843	- 1,608
Bedford	76	5	57	2	140	+ 24
Cambridge	101	—	38	3	142	- 11
Ipswich	209	15	86	4	314	- 31
Luton	89	1	55	4	149	+ 15
Norwich	668	7	203	3	881	- 34
Southend-on-Sea	439	3	114	5	561	- 128
Waford	127	3	90	3	223	- 23
Southern ..	4,312	143	2,522			

DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND AGE OF UNEMPLOYED

The following Table gives an analysis, according to (a) age and (b) the length of the current spell of registered unemployment...

Table with columns for Duration of Unemployment in weeks and Age Groups (Under 18, 18 and under 20, etc.), split into Males and Females.

Figures for the main age-groups and "duration" categories are given in the Table below for each Region and Development Area :-

Large regional and developmental area table, broken down by Region (London and South-Eastern, Southern, Midland, East and West Ridings, Northern, Wales, Great Britain) and Development Area (North-Eastern, West Cumberland, Merseyside, Scottish).

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED : INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

The statistics given below show, industry by industry, the numbers of persons who were registered as unemployed in Great Britain and in the United Kingdom...

Table of numbers unemployed by industry, categorized by Great Britain and United Kingdom, further divided into Wholly unemployed, Temporarily stopped, and Total.

* The figures for coal mining exclude all the unemployed who, although previously employed in coal mining, are known to be unfit for employment in that industry.

Numbers Unemployed : Industrial Analysis—continued

Industry	Great Britain							United Kingdom (all classes)		
	Wholly unemployed (including casuals)		Temporarily stopped		Total			Males	Females	Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total			
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	265	247	72	59	337	306	643	353	314	667
Leather (Tanning and Dressing) and Felmongery	161	91	62	17	223	108	331	331	111	341
Leather Goods	65	129	1	23	66	152	218	74	156	230
Fur	39	27	9	19	48	46	94	49	47	96
Clothing	1,671	2,929	1,202	1,654	2,873	4,583	7,456	3,146	6,119	9,265
Tailoring	969	1,561	985	776	1,954	2,337	4,291	2,014	2,484	4,498
Dressmaking	68	534	16	341	84	959	1,043	87	992	1,079
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	28	297	2	263	30	560	590	27	1,492	1,549
Hats, Caps and Millinery	61	79	81	118	142	197	339	151	202	353
Dress Industries not elsewhere specified	60	181	1	33	61	214	275	79	495	574
Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs (exc. rubber)	224	254	107	123	331	377	708	415	431	846
Repair of Boots and Shoes	261	23	10	—	271	23	294	343	23	366
Food, Drink and Tobacco	3,896	4,822	36	210	3,932	5,032	8,964	4,525	5,932	10,457
Grain Milling	196	66	—	2	196	68	264	253	74	327
Bread and Flour Confectionery	1,054	885	9	18	1,063	903	1,966	1,213	977	2,190
Biscuits	179	455	2	7	181	462	643	189	477	666
Meat and Meat Products	196	258	9	4	205	262	467	291	291	582
Milk Products	280	175	—	2	280	177	457	345	207	552
Sugar and Glucose	163	65	1	—	164	65	229	166	72	238
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	227	65	1	32	228	97	325	239	698	937
Preserving of Fruit and Vegetables	228	999	2	64	230	1,063	1,293	330	1,600	1,930
Food Industries not elsewhere specified	399	502	8	78	407	580	987	437	589	1,026
Brewing and Malting	383	219	1	—	384	219	603	394	220	614
Wholesale Bottling	99	175	—	—	99	175	274	120	184	304
Other Drink Industries	278	229	3	2	281	231	512	322	242	564
Tobacco	214	139	—	—	214	140	354	226	301	527
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	2,304	655	2,910	294	5,214	949	6,163	5,543	978	6,521
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	708	135	9	16	717	151	868	813	154	967
Furniture and Upholstery	1,270	377	2,890	265	4,160	642	4,802	4,367	668	5,035
Shop and Office Fitting	73	14	2	2	75	16	91	79	16	95
Wooden Containers and Baskets	148	56	8	7	156	63	219	171	63	234
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	105	73	1	4	106	77	183	113	77	190
Paper and Printing	1,079	1,046	9	58	1,088	1,104	2,192	1,146	1,175	2,321
Paper and Board	227	178	—	4	227	182	409	231	183	414
Wallpaper	21	15	—	—	21	15	36	21	15	36
Cardboard Boxes, Cartons and Fibre-board Packing Cases	95	211	—	7	95	218	313	114	250	364
Manufactures of Paper and Board not elsewhere specified	75	165	1	28	76	193	269	76	205	281
Printing and Publishing of Newspapers and Periodicals	227	60	2	1	229	61	290	246	71	317
Other Printing and Publishing, Bookbinding, Engraving, etc.	434	417	6	18	440	435	875	458	451	909
Other Manufacturing Industries	1,127	1,199	26	84	1,153	1,283	2,436	1,258	1,298	2,556
Rubber	460	330	1	24	461	354	815	490	359	849
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	78	39	—	3	78	42	120	43	122	165
Brushes and Brooms	61	68	1	3	62	71	133	79	72	151
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	85	293	6	6	91	299	390	94	300	394
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	36	59	1	2	37	61	98	37	62	99
Production and Printing of Cinematograph Films	65	21	1	—	66	21	87	67	21	88
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	342	389	16	46	358	435	793	412	441	853
Building and Contracting	19,043	199	346	18	19,389	217	19,606	23,989	240	24,229
Building	11,924	136	42	7	11,966	143	12,109	15,240	158	15,398
Electric Wiring and Contracting	613	29	20	—	633	29	662	816	34	850
Civil Engineering Contracting	6,506	34	284	11	6,790	45	6,835	7,933	48	7,981
Gas, Electricity and Water Supply	1,465	92	16	1	1,481	93	1,574	1,658	103	1,761
Gas	748	29	6	—	754	30	784	828	34	862
Electricity	545	59	6	—	551	59	610	620	64	684
Water	172	4	4	—	176	4	180	210	5	215
Transport and Communication	12,674	1,348	317	23	12,991	1,371	14,362	15,390	1,407	16,797
Railways	1,813	105	59	1	1,872	106	1,978	2,082	116	2,198
Tramway and Omnibus Service	647	660	—	3	647	663	1,310	852	669	1,521
Other Road Passenger Transport	209	11	—	—	209	11	220	270	11	281
Goods Transport by Road	1,207	56	—	—	1,224	56	1,280	1,470	57	1,527
Sea Transport	4,303	66	189	4	4,492	70	4,562	4,804	71	4,875
Port, River and Canal Transport	1,443	6	16	—	1,459	6	1,465	2,596	10	2,606
Harbour, Dock, Canal, Conservancy, etc., Service	401	5	6	—	407	5	412	440	5	445
Air Transport	54	23	—	—	54	23	77	57	24	81
Postal, Telegraph and Wireless Communication	1,882	334	12	12	1,894	346	2,240	358	242	600
Other Transport and Communication	246	32	5	—	251	33	284	254	34	288
Storage	469	50	13	2	482	52	534	495	52	547
Distributive Trades	10,143	9,049	94	254	10,237	9,303	19,540	12,192	10,133	22,325
Dealing in Coal, Builders' Materials, Grain and Agricultural Supplies (Wholesale or Retail)	1,532	179	33	4	1,565	183	1,748	2,038	208	2,246
Dealing in other Industrial Materials and Machinery	1,134	186	7	6	1,147	192	1,339	1,382	217	1,599
Wholesale Distribution of Food and Drink	1,056	423	2	9	1,058	432	1,490	1,338	512	1,850
Retail Distribution of Food and Drink (exc. catering)	2,095	2,903	16	77	2,111	2,980	5,091	2,615	3,205	5,820
Wholesale Distribution of Non-Food Goods	1,203	528	14	22	1,227	550	1,777	1,322	591	1,913
Retail Distribution of Non-Food Goods	2,884	4,466	22	131	2,906	4,597	7,503	3,225	4,980	8,205
Retail Distribution of Confectionery, Tobacco and Newspapers	239	364	—	5	239	369	608	272	420	692
Insurance, Banking and Finance	1,083	440	11	6	1,094	446	1,540	1,171	479	1,650
Public Administration	9,858	2,027	98	26	9,956	2,053	12,009	11,086	2,241	13,327
National Government Service	3,874	1,099	16	7	3,896	1,106	4,996	4,460	1,233	5,693
Local Government Service	5,984	928	82	19	6,066	947	7,013	6,626	1,008	7,634
Professional Services	2,543	3,956	18	58	2,561	4,014	6,575	2,747	4,367	7,114
Accountancy	93	36	—	—	93	36	129	98	42	140
Education	640	816	9	13	649	829	1,478	691	921	1,612
Law	65	132	1	—	66	133	199	67	146	213
Medical and Dental Services	909	2,703	9	4	913	2,707	3,616	996	2,959	3,955
Religion	85	34	1	2	86	36	122	94	36	130
Other Professional and Business Services	751	235	3	22	754	257	1,011	801	263	1,064
Miscellaneous Services	9,259	15,549	59	301	9,318	15,850	25,168	10,158	17,136	27,294
Theatres, Cinemas, Music Halls, Concerts, etc.	1,867	1,225	11	42	1,878	1,267	3,145	1,973	1,314	3,287
Sport, Other Recreations and Betting	1,043	537	14	26	1,057	563	1,620	1,178	586	1,764
Catering, Hotels, etc.	4,297	8,268	19	116	4,316	8,384	12,700	4,712	8,847	13,559
Laundries	343	1,034	1	4	344	1,038	1,382	884	353	1,237
Dry Cleaning, Job Dyeing, Carpet Beating, etc.	96	323	—	8	98	331	429	110	323	433
Hairdressing and Manicure	105	138	2	5	107	143	250	123	158	281
Private Domestic Service (Resident)	138	1,293	—	6	138	1,299	1,437	150	1,535	1,685
Private Domestic Service (Non-Resident)	575	2,395	5	93	580	2,488	3,068	643	2,820	3,463
Other Services	795	336	5	1	800	337	1,137	885	373	1,258
Ex-Service Personnel not Classified by Industry	1,891	227	—	—	1,891	227	2,118	2,043	236	2,279
Other Persons not Classified by Industry	5,616	6,581	—	—	5,616	6,581	12,197	6,555	7,188	13,743
GRAND TOTAL*	116,113	64,404	14,221	15,805	130,334	80,209	210,543	153,261	89,659	242,920

* The totals include unemployed casual workers (2,563 males and 238 females in Great Britain and 4,441 males and 258 females in the United Kingdom).

Placing Work of the Employment Exchanges

The Table below shows for the four-week periods ended 4th May and 1st June, 1955, 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 placements, etc., by the Youth Employment Offices of certain Local Authorities.

	Four weeks ended 4th May, 1955		Four weeks ended 1st June, 1955		Total Number of Placements, 16th Dec., 1954, to 1st June, 1955 (24 weeks)
	Placements	Vacancies Unfilled	Placements	Vacancies Unfilled	
	Men aged 18 and over	140,830	183,423	135,874	
Boys under 18	28,779	55,292	10,031	58,834	106,960
Women aged 18 and over	65,488	117,444	63,248	122,417	385,625
Girls under 18	29,206	69,484	9,404	74,268	108,471
Total	264,303	425,643	218,557	443,225	1,445,713

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 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

Labour Turnover

The Table below shows labour turnover rates (per 100 employees) in the manufacturing industries during the four-week period ended 23rd April, 1955, with separate figures for males and females. The figures are based on information given by employers with more than 10 employees on returns which they render every month to the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Each return shows the numbers of males and females on the pay-roll at the date of the return and also at the date of the previous return, and an additional item shows the numbers on the pay-roll at the later of the two dates who were not on the pay-roll at the earlier date. The figures in the last item are adopted as representing engagements during the period, and the figures of discharges and other losses are obtained by adding the numbers engaged during the period to the numbers on the pay-roll at the beginning of the period and deducting from the figures thus obtained the numbers on the pay-roll at the end of the period. It must be borne in mind, however, that the figures of engagements obtained in the way indicated above do not

include persons engaged during the period who were discharged or otherwise left their employment before the end of the same period, and the percentage rates both of engagements and of discharges, etc., in the Table below accordingly understate, to some extent, the total intake and wastage during the period. In spite of this limitation, however, the figures enable comparisons to be made between the turnover rates of different industries and also between the figures for consecutive months for the same industry, in the latter case after allowance is made for any difference in the length of period covered. It is also important to note that the figures for any industry represent the aggregated totals of the numbers engaged and discharged by all firms rendering returns in the industry. Some of the persons who were discharged or left their employment during the period were probably engaged by other firms in the same industry, and the net numbers of engagements and losses of an industry, considered as one unit, will be less in every case than the sum of the figures for the individual firms.

Labour Turnover Rates in Manufacturing Industries : 4 weeks ended 23rd April, 1955

Industry	Number of Engagements per 100 employed at beginning of period			Number of Discharges and other Losses per 100 employed at beginning of period		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	3.2	3.5	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.0
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	2.9	4.2	3.0	2.8	3.3	2.8
China and Earthenware (including Glazed Tiles)	2.6	3.2	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.0
Glass (other than Containers)	3.0	3.8	3.2	2.5	2.6	2.5
Glass Containers	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.0	3.2
Cement	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.6	3.6	3.6
Chemicals and Allied Trades	2.0	3.3	2.3	1.9	3.1	2.2
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.7
Chemicals and Dyes	2.1	3.0	2.2	1.8	2.5	1.9
Pharmaceutical Preparations, etc.	2.3	4.2	3.4	2.2	3.9	3.2
Explosives and Fireworks	1.3	2.2	1.7	1.6	2.8	2.0
Paint and Varnish	2.7	4.5	3.2	2.2	3.3	2.5
Soap, Candles, Polishes, etc.	1.6	3.1	2.2	2.1	3.4	2.6
Mineral Oil Refining	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.3	2.0	1.3
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	2.1	2.7	2.2	2.5	2.9	2.6
Metal Manufacture	2.1	3.3	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.2
Blast Furnaces	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.6
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	1.7	2.7	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.9
Iron Foundries	2.7	3.7	2.9	2.6	3.2	2.7
Tinplate Manufacture	1.5	2.4	1.6	1.7	4.4	2.0
Steel Sheet Manufacture	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.1	1.7
Iron and Steel Tubes	2.2	3.3	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.4
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, etc.	2.6	3.8	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.6
Engineering and Electrical Goods	2.4	4.0	2.7	1.9	3.3	2.2
Marine Engineering	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.9	2.2
Agricultural Machinery	3.5	5.3	3.7	2.1	4.2	2.3
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	2.2	2.6	2.2	2.2	1.8	2.2
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	2.4	3.7	2.6	1.7	3.3	2.0
Stationary Engines	2.0	3.3	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.0
Textile Machinery and Accessories	1.9	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.9	2.2
Ordnance and Small Arms	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.0	2.9	1.4
Constructional Engineering	3.2	3.0	3.2	2.2	2.0	2.2
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	2.4	3.8	2.6	1.9	3.2	2.1
Electrical Machinery	2.2	3.7	2.6	1.7	2.7	1.9
Electrical Wires and Cables	2.6	4.5	3.3	2.1	3.5	2.6
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	1.7	3.8	2.5	1.4	2.6	1.9
Wireless Apparatus	3.1	4.9	3.9	2.4	4.3	3.3
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	2.9	4.9	4.0	1.7	3.0	2.4
Batteries and Accumulators	2.1	3.5	2.6	2.0	3.0	2.4
Other Electrical Goods	2.5	4.1	3.2	2.1	3.6	2.7
Vehicles	2.3	3.5	2.5	1.9	3.0	2.0
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, etc.	2.6	3.3	2.7	2.0	3.1	2.2
Motor Repairs and Garages	2.8	4.1	2.9	2.0	3.1	2.2
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	2.0	2.7	2.1	1.6	2.3	1.7
Manufacture of Motor Vehicle and Aircraft Accessories	3.0	4.3	3.3	2.4	3.4	2.7
Locomotive Manufacture	1.2	3.0	1.3	1.0	2.8	1.1
Railway Carriages and Wagons	1.3	2.1	1.3	1.3	2.6	1.3
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	6.0	3.7	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified	2.9	4.3	3.4	2.8	3.9	3.2
Tools and Cutlery	2.7	4.7	3.5	2.1	3.3	2.6
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Nails, etc.	3.2	4.5	3.8	2.5	3.2	2.8
Iron and Steel Forgings	2.2	3.5	2.4	2.0	2.1	2.0
Wire and Wire Manufactures	2.5	3.9	2.8	2.2	3.4	2.5
Hollow-ware	2.9	4.5	3.7	3.0	4.6	3.9
Brass Manufactures	3.1	4.4	3.6	2.7	4.2	3.2
Other Metal Industries	3.1	4.3	3.5	3.2	4.1	3.5
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	2.3	3.5	2.7	1.9	3.1	2.4
Scientific, Surgical, etc., Instruments	2.4	3.7	2.8	1.9	3.3	2.4
Watches and Clocks	1.8	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.4
Jewellery, Plate, etc.	2.4	3.8	3.0	1.8	2.9	2.3
Musical Instruments	2.0	2.3	2.1	1.8	3.5	2.2

Unemployment Benefit and National Assistance

Unemployment Benefit

For the period of thirteen weeks ended 25th June, 1955, expenditure on unemployment benefit in Great Britain (excluding the cost of administration) amounted to approximately £3,636,000. During the thirteen weeks ended 26th March, 1955, the corresponding figure was £4,425,000, and during the thirteen weeks ended 26th June, 1954, it was £4,410,000.

National Assistance

Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service undertake the payment of national assistance to persons who are required to register for employment and are entitled to national assistance. The amount of national assistance thus paid during the thirteen weeks ended 25th June, 1955, was £1,950,000. The corresponding amount paid during the thirteen weeks ended 26th March, 1955, was £2,340,000, and during the thirteen weeks ended 26th June, 1954, it was £2,260,000.

Comparison of the figures for the two most recent quarters with those for the earlier quarters is affected by the increase in the scale rates which came into force on 7th February, 1955, and adjustments resulting from increases in national insurance benefits at various dates in April and May, 1955 (see the issues of this GAZETTE for January, page 12, and February, page 48).

The total number of males shown above as absent owing to sickness represented 4.0 per cent. of the total number of insured males, and the total number of females absent owing to sickness represented 5.4 per cent. of the total number of insured females. The corresponding figures for absences due to industrial injury were 0.4 per cent. for males and 0.1 per cent. for females.

Work of Appointments Services

The particulars given below relate to the work of the Appointments Services of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Technical and Scientific Register

The Technical and Scientific Register operates centrally on a national basis from Almack House, 26-28 King Street, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1 (Telephone number, Whitehall 6200), but it also has a representative at the Scottish Appointments Office, 450 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2 (Telephone number, Glasgow Douglas 7161).

The Register, which is assisted by Advisory Committees composed of members of the professions concerned, provides a placing and advisory service for physicists, mathematicians, chemists (other than pharmacists), metallurgists, agriculturists, biologists and other scientists, professional engineers, architects, surveyors, town planners, estate agents and valuers. The qualification for enrolment is in general a university degree or membership of the appropriate professional institution. A register of vacancies is maintained, which includes a wide range of overseas vacancies.

The total number of persons enrolled on the Technical and Scientific Register at 13th June was 3,555*; this figure included 2,771 registrants who were already in work but desired a change of employment, and 784 registrants who were unemployed.

The numbers of vacancies notified, filled, etc., between 17th May and 13th June (4 weeks) are shown below.

Vacancies outstanding at 17th May	5,103
" notified during period	639
" filled during period	90
" cancelled or withdrawn	413
" unfilled at 13th June	5,239

Appointments Register

The Appointments Register is concerned with the placing of other professional workers and persons with administrative, managerial or senior executive experience or qualifications. The registers are maintained at three offices: the London Appointments Office, which serves the South of England and the Midlands and South Wales; the Northern Appointments Office in Manchester, which serves the North of England broadly as far as the southern borders of Yorkshire and Cheshire, and North Wales; and the Scottish Appointments Office in Glasgow, which covers the whole of Scotland.

The total number of persons on the registers of the Appointments Offices at 13th June was 12,935†, consisting of 11,893 men and 1,042 women. The registrants included 4,775 men and 464 women who were wholly unemployed. The remaining 7,118 men and 578 women were, at the time of their registration, in employment but requiring other posts; in the majority of cases the employment was of a temporary nature or was unsuitable having regard to their qualifications and experience or the personal circumstances of the registrant.

The following Table shows the numbers‡ of registrations at each of the Offices:—

Appointments Office	Wholly Unemployed		In Employment		Total
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
	London	3,684	330	4,365	
Northern	733	76	1,944	103	2,856
Scottish	358	58	809	67	1,292
Total	4,775	464	7,118	578	12,935

During the period 17th May to 13th June, 1955, there were new registrations by 889 men and 104 women, and in the same period the registrations of 1,082 men and 195 women were withdrawn.

The Table below shows the numbers of vacancies (other than those for nurses and midwives), notified, filled, etc., between 17th May and 13th June.

Vacancies outstanding at 17th May	2,575	257
" notified during period	677	70
" cancelled or withdrawn during period	466	55
" filled during period	256	29
" unfilled at 13th June	2,530	243

* This figure includes 360 registrants who were also registered at Appointments Offices and 85 unemployed registrants who were also registered at Employment Exchanges.

† These figures include 1,625 persons who were also registered at Employment Exchanges for the purpose of claiming unemployment benefit but exclude 97 persons registered for overseas employment only. Registrations of nurses and midwives are also included.

‡ This column includes vacancies for which employers were willing to accept either men or women.

Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to Sickness or Industrial Injury

The Table below shows the numbers of insured persons in the various Regions of England, in Scotland and Wales, and in Great Britain as a whole, who were absent from work owing to sickness or industrial injury on 21st June, 1955, and the corresponding figures for 17th May, 1955, and 15th June, 1954. The statistics have been compiled by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance from claims to sickness or industrial injury benefit under the National Insurance Acts, and the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts, respectively. The principal groups of persons who do not claim these benefits in respect of their incapacity (and who are therefore excluded from the statistics) are (i) a large proportion of those whose incapacity lasts less than four days, (ii) civil servants receiving full pay during incapacity, and (iii) for sickness benefit only, married women who have chosen not to pay contributions under the main National Insurance scheme.

A relatively small number of claims do not result in the payment of benefit, but, because they indicate certified incapacity for work, such claims are included in the Table. Injury benefit is payable in respect of both industrial accidents and prescribed industrial diseases.

Region	Numbers of Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to					
	Sickness			Industrial Injury		
	21st June, 1955	17th May, 1955	15th June, 1954	21st June, 1955	17th May, 1955	15th June, 1954
London and S. Eastern :	85.2	87.9	91.5	3.5	3.6	3.8
London and Middlesex	69.6	72.2	73.7	3.2	3.3	3.5
Remainder	41.2	42.1	42.5	1.7	1.9	1.8
Eastern	33.0	34.0	34.9	1.5	1.6	1.4
Southern	46.4	47.9	48.6	1.9	2.1	2.2
South-Western	76.2	76.6	79.0	4.4	4.4	4.2
Midland	51.6	52.8	53.7	4.8	4.8	5.1
North-Midland	78.5	80.6	81.8	7.4	7.9	7.8
East and West Ridings	142.8	146.9	144.3	6.9	6.8	6.8
North-Western	62.3	64.0	64.7	7.1	7.2	7.4
Northern	108.2	110.0	108.0	7.6	7.4	7.1
Scotland	60.2	61.8	62.8	6.3	6.1	6.9
Wales	855.2	876.7	885.6	56.3	57.2	58.0
Total, Great Britain	855.2	876.7	885.6	56.3	57.2	58.0

Separate figures for insured males and females for 21st June, 1955, are given below.

Region	Numbers Absent from Work owing to Sickness		Numbers Absent from Work owing to Industrial Injury	
	Males*	Females*	Males	Females
	London and South Eastern :	52	34	2.7
London and Middlesex	44	26	2.4	0.7
Remainder	30	11	1.5	0.2
Eastern	22	11	1.3	0.2
Southern	31	15	1.6	0.3
South-Western	51	25	3.5	0.8
Midland	35	17	4.5	0.3
North-Midland	54	25	6.7	0.7
East and West Ridings	83	60	5.8	1.1
North-Western	45	17	6.7	0.4
Northern	70	38	6.7	0.9
Scotland	44	16	5.8	0.4
Wales	560	295	49.4	6.9
Total, Great Britain	560	295	49.4	6.9

* Figures are "rounded" to nearest thousand.

Employment in the Coal Mining Industry in May

The statistics given below in respect of employment, etc., in the coal mining industry in May have been compiled by the Ministry of Fuel and Power from information provided by the National Coal Board.

The average weekly number of wage-earners on the colliery books in Great Britain during the four weeks ended 28th May was 707,400, compared with 708,700 for the four weeks ended 30th April, and 710,100 for the four weeks ended 29th May, 1954. The total numbers who were effectively employed* were 630,900 in May, 638,000 in April, and 646,800 in May, 1954; these figures exclude wage-earners who were absent for any reason (including holidays) for the whole of any week.

The Table below shows the numbers of wage-earners on the colliery books in the various Divisions in May, together with the increase or decrease† in each case compared with April, 1955, and May, 1954. The figures for the latest month are provisional and figures for earlier months have been revised, where necessary.

Average Numbers of Wage-earners on Colliery Books—Analysis by Divisions

Division†	Average numbers of wage-earners on colliery books during 4 weeks ended 28th May, 1955	Increase (+) or decrease (-) compared with the average for	
		4 weeks ended 30th April, 1955	4 weeks ended 29th May, 1954
Northern (Northumberland and Cumberland)	47,200	—	200
Durham	102,400	+	400
North Eastern	140,000	—	500
North Western	59,100	—	1,000
East Midlands	102,200	+	1,200
West Midlands	57,900	—	300
South Western	108,000	—	1,700
South Eastern	6,700	+	100
England and Wales	623,500	—	2,800
Scotland	83,900	—	100
Great Britain	707,400	—	2,700

It is provisionally estimated that, during the four weeks of May, about 3,300 persons were recruited to the industry, while the total number of persons who left the industry was about 6,130; the numbers on the colliery books thus showed a net decrease of 2,830. During the four weeks of April there was a net increase of 1,250.

The average number of shifts worked per week by coal-face workers who were effectively employed was 4.78 in May, 4.55 in April, and 4.95 in May, 1954. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.26, 5.02 and 5.40.

Information is given in the Table below regarding absenteeism in the coal mining industry in May and in April, 1955, and May, 1954. Separate figures are compiled in respect of (a) voluntary absenteeism (absences for which no satisfactory reason is given) and (b) involuntary absenteeism (absences due mainly to sickness). The figures represent the numbers of non-appearances, expressed as percentages of the total numbers of possible appearances.

Absence Percentage (five-day week)

	May, 1955	April, 1955	May, 1954
Coal-face Workers:			
Voluntary	4.79	5.57	4.61
Involuntary	9.04	9.36	8.86
All Workers:			
Voluntary	3.60	4.10	3.45
Involuntary	8.09	8.37	7.97

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 3.23 tons in May, compared with 3.24 tons in the previous month and 3.28 tons in May, 1954.

The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.21 tons in May; for April, 1955, and May, 1954, the figures were 1.21 tons and 1.24 tons respectively.

* Excluding wage-earners employed at mines not operated by the National Coal Board. These number approximately 5,400.

† "No change" is indicated by three dots.

‡ The divisions shown conform to the organisation of the National Coal Board.

Employment Overseas AUSTRALIA

The Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics estimate that the total number of civilians in employment as wage and salary earners, other than those engaged in rural industries and private domestic service, was about 2,710,400 in February, an increase of 0.7 per cent. compared with the previous month and of 3.4 per cent. compared with February, 1954.

CANADA

Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from employers in industries other than agriculture and private domestic service indicate that the total number of workpeople in employment at 1st March, in the establishments covered by the returns, was 0.2 per cent. lower than at the beginning of the previous month and 0.9 per cent. lower than at 1st March, 1954. The number of persons employed in manufacturing industries at 1st March was 1.9 per cent. higher than at the beginning of the previous month and 2.5 per cent. lower than at 1st March, 1954.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The number of civilians in employment as wage or salary earners in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in April is estimated by the Department of Labor to have been approximately 48,641,000. This was 0.9 per cent. higher than the (revised) figure for the previous month, and 1.2 per cent. higher than for April, 1954. The index figure of wage-earners' employment in manufacturing industries (base 1947-9 = 100) showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in April, compared with the previous month, and of 2.2 per cent. compared with April, 1954.

The Bureau of the Census estimated that the total number of unemployed persons at the middle of April was about 2,962,000, compared with 3,176,000 at the middle of the previous month and 3,465,000 at the middle of April, 1954.

BELGIUM

The average daily number of persons recorded as wholly unemployed during April was 129,797, compared with 156,446 in the previous month and 181,877 in April, 1954. Partial unemployment accounted in addition for a daily average loss of 40,787 working days. The total number of working days lost in April by persons wholly unemployed was 2,986,550, while 933,203 days were lost as a result of partial unemployment.

FRANCE

The number of persons registered as applicants for employment at the beginning of May was 179,919, of whom 62,256 were wholly unemployed persons in receipt of assistance. The corresponding figures were 198,806 and 67,244 at the beginning of the previous month and 206,059 and 73,045 at the beginning of May, 1954.

GERMANY

In the Federal Republic the number unemployed at the end of May was 731,104, compared with 893,716 at the end of the previous month and 1,101,930 at the end of May, 1954. In the Western Sectors of Berlin the corresponding figures at the same dates were 145,310, 154,170 and 197,603.

IRISH REPUBLIC

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 18th June was 51,230, compared with 59,598 at 21st May and 56,373 at 19th June, 1954.

ITALY

The number registered for employment at the end of February was 2,343,219, of whom 1,417,945 were wholly unemployed with a previous history of employment and the remainder were young persons, etc., registering for first employment or employed persons seeking other employment. At the end of the previous month the number registered for employment was 2,407,795, including 1,473,512 wholly unemployed and at the end of February, 1954, it was 2,419,404, including 1,467,730 wholly unemployed.

NETHERLANDS

The number of persons wholly unemployed at 30th April, including persons who are relief workers as well as those in receipt of unemployment benefit, was 51,020, compared with 70,368 at the end of the previous month and 80,859 at the end of April, 1954. The number of persons included in the total who were employed on relief work was 16,015 at 30th April, compared with 19,348 at 31st March, 1955, and 21,157 at the end of April, 1954.

SWITZERLAND

The number of registered applicants for employment at the end of April who were wholly unemployed was 1,281, or 0.9 per cent of the employed population (exclusive of apprentices) according to the census of 1941, compared with 2,866 or 1.9 per cent at the end of the previous month and 2,504 or 1.7 per cent at the end of April, 1954.

WAGES, DISPUTES, RETAIL PRICES

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Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

RATES OF WAGES

Changes in June

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics,* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in the United Kingdom during June resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £184,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 736,000 workpeople.

The principal increases affected domestic and similar grades of staff employed in hospitals and allied institutions, workpeople employed in the iron and steel industry, the wool textile industry in Yorkshire and hosiery manufacture in the Midlands, and certain conciliation grades of workers employed on British Railways. Others receiving increases included workpeople employed in the roadstone quarrying industry, in the jute industry, and in rope, twine and net manufacture.

Domestic and similar grades of staff employed in hospitals and allied institutions received increases of 10s. 6d. a week for men and 8s. for women. In the iron and steel industry there were small increases payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices. For workpeople employed in the wool textile industry in Yorkshire there was an increase of 6 per cent. on the weekly rates, producing minimum increases of 7s. 3d. for men on daywork and of 4s. 10d. or 5s. 3d. for women. In hosiery manufacture in the Midlands the cost-of-living bonus was increased by 1d. in the shilling on basic wages, equivalent to an increase in current rates of approximately 3 per cent. Certain conciliation grades of workers employed on British Railways received increases of 1s., 2s. or 3s., according to occupation, grade or period of service.

In the roadstone quarrying industry the minimum basic rates for men were increased by 2½d. an hour. In the jute industry there were increases ranging from 7s. 6d. to 10s. 5d. a week for men and from 5s. 2d. to 8s. 1d. for women. Workpeople employed in rope, twine and net manufacture received increases of 1½d. an hour for men and 1d. for women.

Of the total increase of £184,000, about £100,000 resulted from arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint standing bodies established by voluntary agreement; about £51,000 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives; about £16,000 was the result of the operation of sliding scales based on the index of retail

prices; about £12,000 resulted from Orders made under the Wages Councils Acts; and the remainder was the result of arbitration awards.

Changes in January-June, 1955

The following Table shows the numbers of workpeople in the United Kingdom affected by increases in rates of wages reported to the Department during the six completed months of 1955, and the net aggregate amounts of such increases.

Industry Group	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Net Increases†	Estimated Net Amount of Increase in Weekly Wages
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	818,000	£ 259,800
Mining and Quarrying	424,000	271,500
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	230,000	78,100
Chemicals and Allied Trades	169,500	63,000
Metal Manufacture	204,500	96,700
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	2,478,000	1,112,100
Vehicles		
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified	434,000	91,900
Textiles	19,000	7,000
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	131,500	30,400
Food, Drink and Tobacco	216,500	85,500
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	185,000	37,200
Paper and Printing	220,000	40,800
Other Manufacturing Industries	90,500	30,900
Building and Contracting	1,215,000	611,800
Gas, Electricity and Water	246,500	136,200
Transport and Communication	887,000	383,200
Distributive Trades	978,000	242,300
Public Administration	846,000	338,300
Miscellaneous Services	629,000	162,600
Total	10,422,000	4,079,300

In the corresponding months of 1954 there was a net increase of £2,276,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 7,146,000 workpeople.

HOURS OF LABOUR

The normal weekly working hours of warehouse and transport workers employed in the wholesale grocery and provision trade were reduced from 46 to 45.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE

(NOTE.—The figure in brackets below an item in the column headed "District" relates to the page in the volume "TIME RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR, 1ST APRIL, 1955," on which details for that date are given.)

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Coal Mining	Great Britain . .	Pay week including 4 Apr.†	Weekly paid industrial staff employed by the National Coal Board	Increase of 14s. 5d. a week for supervisory and non-supervisory grades employed on the surface and underground.
Other Mining and Quarrying	Cleveland	6 June	Ironstone miners	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased‡ by 1.2d. a shift (8s. to 8s. 1.2d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by 0.6d. (4s. to 4s. 0.6d.) for boys under 18.¶
	North Lincolnshire	24 Apr.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Increase of 10s. 11d. for a week of 5½ shifts for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for younger workers; payment for period from 2 a.m. Sunday to 10 p.m. Sunday increased from time-and-a-half to double-time.
	do.	5 June	do.	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased‡ by 1.3d. a shift (6s. 0.8d. to 6s. 2.1d.) for men, by 0.975d. (4s. 6.595d. to 4s. 7.57d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0.65d. (3s. 0.4d. to 3s. 1.05d.) for boys under 18.
	Notts., Leics., parts of Lincs., Northants and Banbury	do.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased‡ by 1.36d. a shift (5s. 9.36d. to 5s. 10.72d.) for men, by 1.02d. (4s. 4.02d. to 4s. 5.04d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0.68d. (2s. 10.68d. to 2s. 11.36d.) for boys under 18.¶
South and West Durham	6 June	Limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased‡ by 1d. a shift (6s. 4d. to 6s. 5d.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by ½d. (3s. 2d. to 3s. 2½d.) for boys under 18.**	
Great Britain (10)	Beginning of first full pay week in June	Men, youths and boys employed in the roadstone quarrying industry	Increases of 2½d. an hour in the minimum basic rate for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Minimum basic rates after change: adult unskilled workers 3s. 2½d. an hour, youths and boys 1s. 5½d. at 15 years, rising to 2s. 10½d. at 20.	

* The particulars of numbers affected by changes in rates of wages and working hours, and of the amount of change in weekly wages and hours of labour, exclude changes affecting clerical workers, for whom the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. The estimates of the effect of the changes on weekly wages are based on normal conditions of employment and do not take into account the effect either of short-time or of overtime.

† Workpeople who received two or more increases of wages during the period are counted only once in this column.

‡ This increase was agreed in May, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

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

¶ Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) totalling 6s. 5d. a shift for underground workers 18 or over and surface workers 21 or over, plus 9d. to datal workers whose base rate is less than 8s. 1½d. a shift, with proportional additions for younger workers, or additions varying at different mines on tonnage rates.

** Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men, of 9d. for youths 18 and under 21 years, and of 6d. for boys.

*** Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men and youths 18 and over, and of 6d. for boys.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during June—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Other Mining and Quarrying (continued)	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland and Durham (11)	18 Apr.	Freestone quarry workers	Increases of 2½d. an hour for skilled workers, and of proportional amounts for labourers. Rates after change: stone planing machinemen—grade A districts 3s. 11½d. an hour, grade A1 3s. 11d., grade A3 3s. 10d., quarrymen and grindstone turners—3s. 11d., 3s. 10½d., 3s. 9½d., carborundum sawyers—3s. 9d., 3s. 8½d., 3s. 7½d., crane-men—3s. 8d., 3s. 7½d., 3s. 6½d., labourers—3s. 2d., 3s. 1d., 3s. 0½d.
	Scotland (15)	do.	Workpeople employed in or about shale mines and oil works	Increases of 2s. a day for all workers 18 years and over, of 1s. for younger surface workers, and of 11s. 11d. a week for craftsmen. Rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living allowance of 3s. a shift, include: underground workers—shale miners, minimum make-up rate 30s. a shift, miners' drawers, minimum make-up rate 28s., foremen in charge of working section 32s. 5d., other foremen 28s. 8½d., roadmen 25s. 11d., repairers 26s. 5½d., pit bottomers 24s. 11½d., cloth hangers 24s. 8d., underground haulage motormen 23s. 3½d. to 26s. 3d., according to H.P. of motor; surface workers at mines—labourers, carters, shale inspectors, hammermen, runners, lampmen, hutch-repairers, wagon trimmers, weighers and magazine attendants 23s. 5½d.; craftsmen 16s. 5d. a week.
	Great Britain	2 May	Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in gypsum mines, quarries, plaster board works and plaster mills	Increase of 2½d. an hour for male workers 20 years and over, with proportional increases for women and juveniles; increases of ½d. on existing job differentials of ½d. to 2d. an hour, and of 1d. on existing job differentials of 3d. Basic rates after change for male workers 21 years and over: group 1 mines, quarries, plaster mills and board plants 3s. 3d. an hour, group 2 3s. 4d.
Building Brick and Allied Industries	Great Britain (21)	Beginning of first full pay period following 4 June	Workpeople employed in making salt glazed and sanitary fireclay ware	Increases of 2½d. an hour in minimum rates for adult male timeworkers, of 1½d. for adult female timeworkers, and of proportional amounts for younger workers; increases in differential of ½d. an hour (2d. to 2½d.) for kilnburners and boilerfiremen and (1d. to 1½d.) for kilnburners' labourers; flat-rate increase to pieceworkers of the same amount for each clock hour worked, as is payable to timeworkers employed at the same works. Minimum rates after change: men 21 years and over 3s. 1½d. an hour, kilnburners (including makers-up but excluding burners responsible for salting and finishing processes) and boilerfiremen employed on continuous shift work 28s. 2d. a shift (inclusive of differential of 2½d. an hour and shift allowance of 2d. an hour), kilnburners' labourers (including slack wheelers) employed on continuous shift work 27s. 6d. (inclusive of differential of 1½d. an hour and shift allowance of 2d. an hour); women 20 years and over 2s. 5½d. an hour.
	Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Peterborough districts (22)	9 May	Workpeople employed in Fletton brick manufacture, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Increases of 2½d. an hour in minimum time rates for men 20 years and over, of an equivalent amount for pieceworkers, either as a flat-rate payment or by the adjustment of piecework rates, and of proportional amounts for women and juveniles. Basic rates after change: adult male general labourers 3s. 2½d. an hour; women 18 years and over 2s. 5d. an hour.
	do.	20 June	do.	Increases in differentials of ½d., 1d. or 2d. an hour, according to occupation; pieceworkers' occupational rates (for purposes of holiday payment, overtime, etc.) increased by 1½d. an hour. Minimum hourly differentials after change: chamber cleaning, tram or electromobile driving 1d. an hour (unchanged), pan feeding 1½d., calldozer driving, dumper driving (not on public highway), oiling and attending elevator boot 2d. (unchanged), chaseside shovel driving, dumper driving (on public highway) 2½d. (unchanged), knothole labouring, loco driving (oil, petrol or steam, narrow gauge), plate laying (standard gauge) 3d., tracktype tractor driving over 1½ and up to 5 cubic yards 7d., over 5 cubic yards 8d., shaler driving 7d.; pieceworkers' occupational rates (for purposes of holiday payment, overtime, etc.)—drawing 3s. 5½d. an hour, wheeling and setting 3s. 6d., setting (full time) 3s. 6½d.
	Shropshire, Staffordshire (other than Stoke-on-Trent), Warwickshire and Worcestershire (17)	Beginning of first full pay period following 4 June	Workpeople employed in making building and engineering bricks and roofing tiles	Increases of 2½d. an hour in minimum rates for adult male timeworkers, of 1½d. for adult female timeworkers, and of proportional amounts for younger workers; piecework rates to be such as will enable pieceworkers of average ability to earn a minimum of 25 per cent. above the amount they would earn during the same period if employed at the appropriate day-work rate. Minimum rate after change for labourers 21 years and over 3s. 1½d. an hour; occupational differential rates continue unchanged as plussages to the new minimum rate; women 18 years and over 2s. 4d.
Asbestos Cement Manufacture	Great Britain (34)	26 June	Men, women and juveniles	Flat-rate increases of 2d. an hour for men, of 1½d. for women, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum time rates after change: able-bodied men 21 years and over, grade 0 occupations—group 1 areas 3s. 4½d. an hour, group 2 3s. 3½d., group 3 3s. 2½d., grade 1 occupations 3s. 6d., 3s. 5d., 3s. 4d., grade 2 3s. 7½d., 3s. 6½d., 3s. 5½d., grade 3 3s. 9d., 3s. 8d., 3s. 7d.; women 18 years and over doing recognised women's work 2s. 4½d., 2s. 4d., 2s. 3½d.
General Stoneware Manufacture	England and Scotland (32)	First pay week after 20 June	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases in standard minimum basic rates of 2d. an hour for male workers 21 years and over, of 1½d. for female workers 20 years and over, of 1d. or 1½d. for boys and youths, and of 1d. or 1½d. for girls under 20. Minimum basic rates after change: bigware throwers and bigware turners (over 10 quart sizes) 3s. 7½d. an hour, general throwers (over 40 oz. sizes) 3s. 4½d., skilled men who have served their apprenticeship 3s. 3½d., unskilled men 21 and over 2s. 11½d., kiln firemen and other shift workers—such hourly or shift rates as will secure earnings of not less than 179s. 8d. for a week of 56 hours; youths and boys 1s. 1½d. an hour at 15 years, rising to 2s. 4d. at 20 years; women 20 years and over 1s. 11½d.; girls 1s. 1d. at 15 years, rising to 1s. 10d. at 19 years.
Slag and Tarmacadam Manufacture	Great Britain	4 Apr.*	Adult male workers	Increase of 2½d. an hour. Minimum basic rates after change, including any sliding-scale, cost-of-living, or good timekeeping bonus: adult labourers 3s. 2½d. an hour, plant unit attendants 3s. 3½d., tar mixer attendants 3s. 4½d.
Coke Manufacture	Great Britain (35)	Beginning of pay week including 11 Apr.†	Workpeople employed at coke oven and by-product plants vested in the National Coal Board	New national grade rates adopted, resulting in increases of varying amounts. National grade rates after change: craftsmen—grade I, blacksmiths, boiler-smiths, bricklayers, or masons, electricians, fitters, joiners or carpenters, leadburners, machinists (shop), plumbers, painters and decorators and welders 30s. 6d. a shift, grade II, semi-skilled craftsmen in grade I trades and burners, blacksmiths' strikers, erectors or riggers, pipe fitters and painters 28s.; other coke or by-product workers—grade B 29s. 4d., grade C 28s., grade D 27s. 2d., grade E 26s. 4d., grade F 25s. 6d.
	Scotland, Cumberland, South Durham, Cleveland, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Northants, and South Wales (certain firms)‡	5 June	Workpeople employed at coke oven plants attached to blastfurnaces	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1-3d. a shift (6s. 0-8d. to 6s. 2-1d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-17d. an hour (9-93d. to 10-1d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 0-97d. a shift (4s. 6-6d. to 4s. 7-57d.) or by 0-13d. an hour (7-45d. to 7-58d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women employed on youths' work, and by 0-65d. a shift (3s. 0-4d. to 3s. 1-05d.) or by 0-09d. an hour (4-96d. to 5-05d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.
	do.	do.	do.	do.
	do.	do.	do.	do.
Pig Iron Manufacture	England and Wales and certain works in Scotland (42)	do.	Workpeople employed at blastfurnaces, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	do.
	West of Scotland (42)	Pay period commencing nearest 1 June	Workpeople employed at certain blastfurnaces, excluding those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1-3d. a shift (6s. 1d. to 6s. 2d. calculated to the nearest penny) for men, with usual proportions for youths.

* This increase was agreed in June, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

† These rates were agreed in May with retrospective effect to the date shown.

‡ These increases affected employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association.

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

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during June—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Great Britain* (43)	6 June	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages increased by 1-3d. a shift (6s. 0-8d. to 6s. 2-1d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-975d. (4s. 6-6d. to 4s. 7-575d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-65d. (3s. 0-4d. to 3s. 1-05d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain† (43)	5 June	Workpeople employed in steel melting shops (melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, gas producers, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1-3d. a shift (6s. 0-8d. to 6s. 2-1d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-17d. an hour (9-93d. to 10-1d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and women, by 0-97d. a shift (4s. 6-6d. to 4s. 7-57d.) or by 0-13d. an hour (7-45d. to 7-58d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-65d. a shift (3s. 0-4d. to 3s. 1-05d.) or by 0-09d. an hour (4-96d. to 5-05d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain‡ (43)	do.	Workpeople employed at steel rolling mills	do.
	North-East Coast	do.	Iron puddlers, millmen, semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills	do.
	Great Britain§ (43)	do.	Maintenance craftsmen employed on coke oven and blastfurnace plants, in steel melting shops, and in steel rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 0-17d. an hour (9-93d. to 10-1d.) for craftsmen, by 0-13d. (7-45d. to 7-58d.) for apprentices 18 to 21 years, and by 0-09d. (4-96d. to 5-05d.) for apprentices under 18.
	South-West Wales (43)	do.	Workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture, except bricklayers and carpenters	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1-3d. a shift (11s. 0-6d. to 11s. 1-9d.) for men and for women employed on men's work, by 0-975d. (8s. 3-45d. to 8s. 4-425d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and by 0-65d. (5s. 6-3d. to 5s. 6-95d.) for youths under 18.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire (43)	do.	Workpeople employed at iron and steel works	Cost-of-living bonus increased by 1-2d. a shift (4s. 3-6d. to 4s. 4-8d. for skilled craftsmen, and 5s. 6-6d. to 5s. 7-8d. for other men) for men and women 18 years and over, and by 0-6d. (2s. 1-8d. to 2s. 2-4d. or 2s. 9-3d. to 2s. 9-9d.) for those under 18.
Tinplate Manufacture	South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire (43)	1 May¶	Men, youths, women and juveniles	Increase of 10s. a week, inclusive of sliding scale, for adult male workers, and of proportional amounts for women and younger workers.
	do.	5 June	Men, youths, women and juveniles (except apprentices)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased by 1-3d. a shift (12s. 1-6d. to 12s. 2-9d.) for men and for women engaged specifically to replace male labour, by 0-975d. (9s. 1-2d. to 9s. 2-175d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women 18 years and over, and by 0-65d. (6s. 0-8d. to 6s. 1-45d.) for workers under 18.
Tube Manufacture	Newport and Landore	do.	Men, youths and boys	Cost-of-living bonus increased by 1-16d. a shift (12s. 3-32d. to 12s. 4-48d.) for men, by 0-773d. (8s. 2-171d. to 8s. 2-944d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and by 0-58d. (6s. 0-66d. to 6s. 1-24d.) for boys.
Galvanising	England and Wales	6 June	Galvanisers and ancillary workers employed at steel sheet works, other than those engaged in the process of annealing	Flat-rate additions to wages increased by 1-3d. a shift (6s. 0-8d. to 6s. 2-1d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 0-975d. (4s. 6-6d. to 4s. 7-575d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-65d. (3s. 0-4d. to 3s. 1-05d.) for those under 18.
Admiralty Dockyards and Establishments	United Kingdom (206)	Beginning of pay week containing 14 Mar.**	Women employed on women's work and paid on an engineering basis in H.M. Dockyards and Admiralty establishments	Increases in minimum timework rates ranging from 3s. 1d. to 7s. 4d. a week, according to age. Rates after change: women in dockyards 44s. 4d. a week at 15 years, rising to 105s. 6d. at 18 years and over, women in establishments away from dockyards 44s. 4d. a week at 15 years, rising to 104s. 6d. at 21 years and over.
Bobbin Making	England and Wales (51)	Beginning of first full pay period after 10 June	Men, apprentices, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 5s. 6d. a week for adult male and female workers, of 1s. 10d., 3s. 8d. or 5s. 6d., according to age, for apprentices, youths and boys, and of 1s. 10d. or 3s. 8d. for girls. Minimum rates after change: men—higher skilled 149s. 2d. a week, lesser skilled 140s. 8d.; labourers 133s. 8d.; apprentices, youths and boys 53s. 10d. at 15 years, rising to 109s. 8d. at 20; women 18 years and over 107s. 2d.; girls 55s. 10d. at 15, 61s. 10d. at 16, and 77s. 8d. at 17.
Wire Rope and Iron and Steel Wire Manufacture	Great Britain (62)	First full pay week in May	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 5s. a week in the existing war addition for men 21 years and over, of 3s. 9d. for women 21 and over, and of 2s. 6d. to 3s. 8d., according to age, for younger workers. Minimum time rates after change (including war addition) include: men 21 years and over engaged in splicing and socketing, closing and testing (rope) 144s. a week, stranding, crane driving 139s.; testing (wire) 138s.; winding 137s.; minimum rate for other productive and for non-productive adult male workers 136s.; minimum rate for women 21 years and over 96s. 9d.
Pin, Hook and Eye and Snap Fastener Manufacture	Great Britain (230)	22 June	Men, youths, boys, women and girls, other than home workers	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2½d., 2½d. or 3d. an hour, according to occupation, for men 21 years and over, of 2d. for female chargehands, automatic machine operators and other female workers 18 years and over, of 1d. to 1½d., according to age, for youths and boys, and of 1d., 1½d. or 1½d. for girls; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rate for female workers. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over 3s. 0½d. to 3s. 7½d. an hour, according to occupation, female workers—chargehands 2s. 5½d., automatic machine operators 2s. 2½d., other workers 18 or over 2s. 1d.; piecework basis time rates for female workers: automatic machine operators 2s. 5d., all other workers 2s. 3½d.††
Surgical Instrument and Equipment Manufacture	England and Wales (excluding Sheffield) (70)	Week commencing 1 June	Men, apprentices, youths and boys	Increases in basic minimum time rates of 3½d. an hour for skilled workers 23 years and over, of 3d. for semi-skilled workers, of 2½d. for unskilled workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and learners; increase of 35 per cent. in current piecework prices for pieceworkers in lieu of existing bonuses, with a minimum guaranteed rate of 4s. 6d. an hour for the job. Basic minimum time rates after change: adult skilled workers 4s. an hour, semi-skilled 3s. 9d., unskilled 3s. 3½d.; apprentices and learners 1s. 3½d. at 15 years, rising to 3s. 8½d. at 22.
Wool Textile	West Riding of Yorkshire (78-80)	Pay day in week ending 25 June	Workpeople employed in woollen and worsted spinning and weaving	Increase of 6 per cent. on weekly rates, with minimum increases of 7s. 3d. for adult male timeworkers, and 4s. 10d. for adult female timeworkers. Minimum weekly time rates after change for lowest rated workers: men 127s. 8d. a week, women 85s. 4d.
	do.	do.	Workpeople employed in wool-combing	Increase of 6 per cent. on weekly rates, with minimum increases of 8s. 1d. for men on night work, of 7s. 4d. for men on day work, and 5s. 3d. for women. Minimum weekly rates after change for lowest rated workers: men (nightworkers) 142s. 8d. a week, plus a special night allowance of 7½d. an hour for all hours worked, (dayworkers) 129s. 1d.; women 92s. 6d.

* These increases affected mainly the employees of firms which are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the districts concerned being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district.

† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices. The cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangement has been revised by merging part of the flat-rate addition into base rates; the addition is now proportionate to the number of points by which the official index figure exceeds 90 (previously 34).

‡ These increases affected employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the principal districts concerned being the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South Yorkshire (excluding Sheffield special steels district), Lincolnshire, South Wales and West of Scotland.

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

¶ These increases affected employees of firms which are members of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association.

** This increase was agreed in June with retrospective effect to the date shown.

†† These increases were authorised in May, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

‡‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 267 of this GAZETTE.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during June—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Wool Textile (continued)	West of England (81)	Pay day in week ending 25 June	Timeworkers	Increases in minimum rates of 6s. a week for adult male workers, of 3s. 9d. for adult female workers, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum time rates after change include: men 21 years and over—head-overlookers and head tuners 157s. 6d. a week, loom tuners 144s. 9d. or 150s. 3d., according to experience, overlookers 144s. 9d., fully qualified maintenance workers 144s. 6d., class A occupations 137s. 6d., class B 134s. 3d., class C 131s., class D (non-textile workers) 127s. 9d.; women 18 and over—class A 90s. 3d., class B 86s. 6d.
			Pieceworkers	Increases in group average minimum piece rates of 6s. a week for male workers (5s. for weavers in group A), and of 3s. 9d. for female workers. Group average minimum rates after change: men class A 152s. a week, class B 148s. 3d., class C 143s. 3d., weavers group A 151s., group B 148s. 3d., group C 143s. 3d.; women class A 101s., class B 97s. 9d., two-loom weavers group A 113s. 3d., group B 108s., group C 97s. 9d.
Pressed Felt Manufacture	Rossendale Valley (certain firms)	First pay day in June	Men, women and juveniles . .	Increases* of 6d. a week for men, and of 4d. for women and juveniles. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus: men 21 years and over 129s. 2d. a week; women 18 and over, felt production processes 96s. 9d., cutting and stitching 88s. 1d.
	do.	6 June	do.	Increases of 7s. 6d. a week for men 21 years and over, of 5s. 8d. or 5s. 1d. according to occupation, for women 18 and over, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus: men 21 years and over 136s. 8d. a week; women 18 and over, felt production processes 102s. 5d., cutting and stitching 93s. 2d.
Jute	Great Britain (88) (230)	29 June	Workpeople employed in the jute industry, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries:—	
			Male workers	Increases in general minimum time rates of 8s. 10d. a week for loom tenters 21 years or over, of 7s. 6d. for loom under-tenters 21 or over, of 10s. 5d. in general minimum time rates and guaranteed time rates for hessian weavers and in general minimum time rates for other workers 21 or over, and of varying amounts for younger workers. General minimum time rates after change for workers 21 years or over: loom tenters 150s. 8d. a week, loom under-tenters 127s. 8d., other workers 127s. 6d., guaranteed time rates for hessian weavers 127s. 6d.†
			Female workers (except hessian weavers specified below)	Increases in general minimum time rates of 6s. a week for spinning shifting mistresses, of 6s. 1d. for orra (or spare) spinners 18 years or over, of 5s. 2d. to 8s. 1d., according to size of bobbins and number of spindles attended, for single spinners, of 5s. 2d. to 7s. 1d. for double spinners, of 8s. 1d. for weaving learners and other workers 18 years or over, and of varying amounts for younger workers; increase of 5s. 3d. (83s. 10d. to 89s. 1d. a week) in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change include: spinning shifting mistresses 101s. 10d. a week, orra (or spare) spinners 18 or over 87s. 7d., single spinners 87s. 7d. to 124s. 3d., double spinners 88s. 3d. to 119s. 10d., other workers 18 or over 87s. 7d.†
			Male pieceworkers (all districts) and female pieceworkers (Aberdeen, Barrow-in-Furness, Dundee, Kirkcaldy and Tayport) employed in hessian weaving	Increase in standard general minimum piece rate of 5.33d. (85.28d. to 90.61d.) for single loom weavers, with appropriate adjustments for other workers; supplemental payments increased by 1s. 3d. a week (20s. 3d. to 21s. 6d.) for male workers, and by 1s. 2d. (19s. 2d. to 20s. 4d.) for female workers, irrespective of age; guaranteed time rates for female pieceworkers increased by 2s. 11d. to 8s. 1d. a week, according to age (from 79s. 6d. to 87s. 7d. at 18 or over).†
Rope, Twine and Net Manufacture	Great Britain (89) (231)	6 June	Timeworkers	Increases of 1½d. an hour for male workers 21 years or over, of 1d. for female workers 18 or over, of ¾d., ¾d., 1d. or 1½d., according to age and occupation, for younger male workers, and of ¾d. or 1d., according to age, for younger female workers. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years or over 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10½d. an hour, according to occupation; women 18 or over 1s. 11½d. to 2s. 0½d.‡
			Pieceworkers	Increases of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates for male workers, and of 1d. for female workers. Piecework basis time rates after change: male workers 2s. 10½d. to 3s. an hour, according to occupation; female workers 2s. to 2s. 0½d.‡
Hosiery Manufacture	Midlands§ (90)	First pay day in June	Men, women and juveniles . .	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 1d. in the shilling (1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.) on basic wages.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing and Finishing	Yorkshire (96)	29 Apr.	Skilled mechanics and apprentices in certain dye works	Increase of 4d. an hour or 15s. a week (168s. 9d. to 183s. 9d.) for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Fur Dressing, etc.	Great Britain (229)	13 June	Timeworkers	Increases in general minimum time rates of amounts varying from 2s. to 12s. a week, according to age, occupation or period of service, for male workers, and of 1s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. for female workers. General minimum time rates after change include: men—cutters 121s. to 167s. a week, according to experience, nailers 118s. 6d., cleaners 131s. 6d., fur sorters 151s., fur sorters' assistants or counters, strippers or sizers 125s. 6d., tubbers and roller fleshing machine operators (other than shaving machine operators) 145s. 6d., hand fleshers or rotary fleshing machine operators 194s. 6d., skin packers 128s. 6d., other male workers 21 years or over—dressers' and dyers' section 128s. 6d., fur sorters' section 119s. 6d., all other sections 117s.; women—cutters 117s. to 162s. 6d., nailers 113s. to 133s. 6d., fur machinists 105s. 6d., liners, finishers, hand fur sewers or machinists 96s., fur sorters 18 or over 86s., roller fleshing machine operators 99s. 6d., hand fleshing or rotary fleshing machine operators 131s. 6d., other female workers 19 or over—dressers' and dyers' section 81s. 6d., all other sections 71s. 6d.‡
			Pieceworkers	Increases in piecework basis time rates of 2½d. an hour (3s. 9½d. to 4s.) for male workers and (2s. 6½d. to 2s. 9d.) for female workers employed in the dressers' and dyers' section as roller fleshing machine operators (other than shaving machine operators); general minimum piece rates for hand or machine fleshing, and for fleshing pony or lamb skins where roller or rotary machines are used, increased by a further 2½ per cent. making a total increase of 15 per cent.‡
Beet Sugar Manufacture	Great Britain (123)	25 Apr.†	Non-tradesmen	Increases in minimum rate of 2d. an hour (3s. to 3s. 2d.) for adult male day-workers in grade I occupations; grades 2 to 9 receive plus rates of ¾d. to 1s. 3d. (previously ½d. to 11d.) above the minimum rate; increase of 1d. an hour (2d. to 3d. an hour) in the shift allowance for all hours worked on a shift system.
			Maintenance workers	Increases in minimum rates varying from 2½d. to 7½d. an hour, according to occupation and experience, and increase of 1d. an hour (2d. to 3d. an hour) in the shift allowance for all hours worked on a shift system. Rates after change for dayworkers: fitters—class A 4s. 8d. an hour, class B 4s. 5d., class C 4s. 2½d., shift electricians—minimum 4s. 5d., maximum 4s. 10d., semi-skilled workers—minimum 3s. 2½d., maximum 3s. 10d.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
 † These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 267 of this GAZETTE.
 ‡ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 231 of the June issue of this GAZETTE. New general minimum piece rates were introduced and took effect under an Order dated 15th April. See page 158 of the April issue of this GAZETTE.
 § Including Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Mansfield and district.
 ¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 231 of the June issue of this GAZETTE.
 †† These increases were agreed in May with retrospective effect to the date shown.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during June—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Coopering	Great Britain and Belfast (138)	First pay day following 6 June	Dayworkers	Increases* of 1d. an hour in the national minimum daywork rate for men, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change for journeymen: London 3s. 11d. an hour, elsewhere 3s. 10d.
			Pieceworkers	Increase* of 4 per cent. (95 to 99 per cent.) in the piecework plussage.†
Wood Box, Packing Case and Wooden Container Manufacture	Scotland (excluding Aberdeen) (135)	Pay day in week ending 14 May	Woodcutting machinists, sawyers, boxmakers and apprentices	Increases of 3d. an hour (3s. 6½d. to 3s. 9½d.) for journeymen, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and female workers.
	Aberdeen	First full pay week commencing after 1 May	do.	Increases of 3d. an hour for journeymen, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and female workers. Rates after change for journeymen; woodcutting machinists 3s. 9½d. an hour, sawyers and boxmakers 3s. 9d.
Stone Carving, Wood Carving and Modelling	Great Britain and Northern Ireland	18 Apr.‡	Journemen and apprentices . .	Increases in basic rates of 4d. an hour for journeymen, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Minimum rates after change include: journeymen 21 years and over 4s. 1d. an hour, modelling or carving figures in the round or in relief 5s. 3d., plus 11d. an hour cost-of-living bonus in each case.
Printing	London (148)	1 Nov., 1954§	Compositors and machine managers engaged in the production of national morning, evening and Sunday newspapers	Cost-of-living bonus, previously paid, consolidated with the basic rates, and new fixed bonus granted at 12s. a week for compositors and 12s., 10s. 6d. or 9s., according to grade, for machine managers. Weekly rates after change: compositors, hand or machine (permanent time hands), readers—morning papers 265s., evening papers 259s. 6d., Sunday papers 234s., plus fixed bonus of 12s. in each case; machine managers—night work, 1 roll-rotary 222s. 6d. plus fixed bonus of 10s. 6d., up to 3 rolls 242s. plus 12s., 4 rolls 253s. plus 12s., day work 186s. plus 9s., 195s. plus 10s. 6d., 200s. 6d. plus 10s. 6d., men on overlay and interlay 186s. plus 9s.
Sports and Games Equipment Manufacture	Great Britain	14 June	Men, women and juveniles . .	Increases of 2½d. an hour for men employed in grades E and F, of 2d. for men in other grades and for women on men's work, of 1d. for other women, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change: men grade A 2s. 11d. an hour, grade B 3s., grade C 3s. 2d., grade D 3s. 3d., grade E 3s. 4½d., grade F 3s. 5½d.; women employed on men's work 6d. or 6½d. an hour less, according to grade, other women grade A 2s. 1d., grade B 2s. 2d., grade C 2s. 3d., grade D 2s. 4d., grade E 2s. 5d., grade F 2s. 7d.‡
Cinematograph Film Production	Great Britain	First pay day in June	Laboratory workers, including technical and clerical workers and certain other workers,† employed in film printing and processing laboratories	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 1s. a week (38s. to 39s.) at 21 years and over, and by 8d. (25s. 4d. to 26s.) at under 21.
	United Kingdom . .	do.	Technical workers whose normal salaries do not exceed £19 10s. a week, and learners, employed in producing newsreels	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 6d. a week (47s. to 47s. 6d.) at 21 years and over, and by 4d. (31s. 4d. to 31s. 8d.) at under 21.
Thermal Insulation	England and Wales	16 May	Boiler and pipe coverers and other workers employed on thermal insulation (land contracts)	Increases in minimum rates of 3d. an hour for boiler and pipe coverers, of 2½d. for labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change: boiler and pipe coverers 3s. 10½d. an hour, labourers 3s. 2d.
Electricity Supply	Northern Ireland	Beginning of first full pay week commencing on or after 7 June	Certain manual workers	Increases in Schedule A rates of ½d. an hour for craftsmen rated at 4s. an hour and above, and of ¼d. for all grades rated at more than the labourers' rate (3s. 3½d. an hour) and less than 4s.
Railway Service	Great Britain	10 Jan.‡	Restaurant car travelling and depot staff employed by the British Transport Hotels and Catering Services	Increases ranging from 9s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. a week, according to occupation, for adult male travelling car staff, from 9s. 6d. to 19s. for adult male depot staff, from 5s. 6d. to 12s., according to age, for younger workers, and of 7s. 6d. a week for linen maids. Rates after change include: travelling staff—cooks 175s. a week, assistant cooks 142s., conductors, class 1 141s., class 2 133s., leading attendants 127s., attendants 121s., kitchen porters 117s.; depot staff—cooks 178s. a week, assistant cooks and cellarmen 141s., storemen 136s. 6d., kitchen porters, platemen, pantrymen or crockery attendants 134s. 6d.; linen maids 109s.; for depot staff in London the rates are increased by 3s. a week, and for travelling staff there is a London rent allowance of 3s. a week.**
	do. (168-169)	15 June	Workpeople employed by British Railways:— Certain locomotive running staff Certain conciliation grades	Increases of 1s., 2s. or 3s. a week, according to occupation and period of service. Rates after change: drivers and motormen, 1st year 176s. a week, 2nd year 187s., 3rd year 198s.; firemen and assistant motormen (after prescribed number of driving turns have been worked representing one year), shed chargemen (category "A"), shed enginemen 176s. A rent allowance of 3s. a week is payable for those workpeople stationed in London. Increases of 1s., 2s. or 3s. a week, according to grade and occupation. Rates after change: traffic staff—signalmen, class 1 169s. a week, special "A" 181s., special "B" 187s., special "C" 193s., relief signalmen, class 1 169s., special class 187s., yard foremen 174s.; permanent way staff—relaying gangers 166s.; signal and telecommunications staff—chief installers, class 1 162s., linemen, class 1 167s., special class 175s., chief linemen, class 3 165s., class 2 171s., class 1 178s., special class 185s.; overhead line maintenance staff—leading overhead traction linemen 168s., chief overhead traction linemen 175s. London rates are 3s. a week higher.
Civil Air Transport	Great Britain (183)	Pay period commencing 29 May	Certain hourly-rated engineering and maintenance staff	Timeworkers' bonus, payable to workers not employed on schemes for payment-by-results and other incentives, increased by 2d. an hour (3d. to 5d.).
Warehousing	Liverpool	Pay day in week commencing 27 June	Workpeople employed in general warehouses	Increase of 10s. a week in minimum rates for permanent workers 21 years and over, and of 1s. 10d. a day for casual workers. Minimum rates after change: captains, warehouse keepers 177s. a week, assistant captains 163s. 6d., assistant warehouse keepers 167s., charge-hands 158s., crane drivers 154s., weighers, bookmen, samplers, pliersmen and doormen 150s., porters 147s.; casual porters 21 years and over 27s. 3d. a day.
National Government Service	Great Britain	First full pay week commencing on or after 25 May†	Non-industrial women cleaners employed in Government offices other than the Post Office	Increases of 8s. a week for full-time staff, and of 2d. an hour for part-time staff. Rates after change: London—full-time 123s. a week of 48 hours, part-time 2s. 6½d. an hour, Intermediate offices†† 120s., 2s. 6d., Provincial offices†† 117s., 2s. 5½d.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
 † Piecework rates to be calculated by adding at least 50 per cent. to existing piecework prices before the addition of the current piecework plussage.
 ‡ These increases were agreed in June, with retrospective effect to the dates shown.
 § The agreements relating to this change were completed in June, with retrospective effect to the date shown and are comparable with agreements for other workers already in operation.
 ¶ The grade rate is fixed according to amount of skill required in different processes.
 †† Including boiler attendants, storemen, transport mechanics, transport drivers, charge-hand cleaners, cleaners, commissionaires, doormen and gatemen, charge-hand painters, painters' mates, carpenters, carpenters' mates and general labourers.
 ** For travelling staff meals on duty are granted in addition to the rates shown: for depot staff, where meals are provided on duty, the rates are 14s. a week less.
 ††† For staff recruited after 25th May, 1955, the rates are lower than those quoted above by 1s. a week or ¼d. an hour in Intermediate offices, and 2s. or ¼d. in Provincial offices.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during June—*continued*

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Local Authority Services	England and Wales (212)	Pay day in week commencing 9 May*	Engineering craftsmen	Increase of 4d. an hour. Rates after change: blacksmiths, brass finishers, coach body makers, coach painters, coach trimmers, copper-smiths, electricians (except in London), engine fitters, engine turners, millwrights, motor mechanics, pattern makers, platers, riveters, sheet metal workers, welders and wheelwrights—London 4s. 5½d. an hour, zone A 4s. 1½d., zone B 4s. 0½d.
	England and Wales (210-211)	do.	Semi-skilled engineering workers	Increase of 2½d. an hour. Rates after change: London, grade 1 3s. 6½d., an hour, grade 2 3s. 8½d., grade 3 3s. 9½d., grade 4 3s. 11½d., zone A 3s. 4½d., 3s. 6½d., 3s. 7½d., 3s. 9½d., zone B 3s. 3½d., 3s. 5½d., 3s. 6½d., 3s. 8½d.
	England and Wales† (223)	30 Nov., 1953*	Female workers in civic restaurants	Increase of ½d. an hour. Rates after change: cooks—London 2s. 4½d. an hour, zone A 2s. 3½d., zone B 2s. 2½d., assistant cooks 2s. 2½d., 2s. 1½d., 2s. 0½d., helpers or general assistants 2s. 1d., 1s. 11½d., 1s. 11d.
Hospitals and Allied Institutions	Great Britain (216-217)	Beginning of pay week in which 1 June fell	Domestic and similar grades of staff and ancillary workers	Increases of 10s. 6d. a week in standard rates for men 21 years and over, and of 8s. for women 18 and over. Rates after change for adult workers in the basic grade (group 1 occupations): London, men 148s. 6d. a week, women 114s., elsewhere 142s. 6d., 107s.‡

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING JUNE

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Wholesale Grocery and Provision Trade	England and Wales (188)	6 June	Warehouse and transport workers	Normal weekly working hours reduced from 46 to 45.

* These increases were agreed in June, 1955, and had retrospective effect to the dates shown.
 † This increase applies to authorities which are affiliated to the constituent District Joint Councils of the National Joint Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Services (Manual Workers).
 ‡ The charges for board, lodging and laundry for resident staff have been increased from 38s. to 42s. a week for men, and from 37s. 6d. to 41s. 3d. for women.

Index of Rates of Wages

The index figure of rates of wages 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 compared with the level at 30th June, 1947, taken as 100. The industries and services covered by the index and the method of calculation were described on page 41 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1948. The index is based on the recognised rates of wages fixed by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. The percentage increases in the various industries are combined in accordance with the relative importance of the industries, as measured by the total wages bill in 1946. The index does not reflect changes in earnings due to such factors as alterations in working hours, or in piece-work earnings due to variations in output or the introduction of new machinery, etc. As indicated on page 83 of the March issue of this GAZETTE, the index of actual weekly earnings in October, 1954, the latest available, was 166 for all workers combined as compared with 145 for rates of wages in those industries covered by the earnings enquiries (and 144 in all the principal industries and services).

Where necessary, the figures have been revised to include changes arranged with retrospective effect or reported too late for inclusion in the current figures.

In the first Table opposite are shown the separate index figures for men, women, juveniles and "all workers" for December in each of the years 1947 to 1953, inclusive, for March, June, September and December, 1954, and for each month of 1955 to date. The second Table shows the figure for "all workers" for each month since June, 1947.

All figures in the Tables are on the basis of 30th June, 1947 = 100, and relate to the end of the month.

Date	Men	Women	Juveniles	All Workers
1947, December.. ..	103	103	106	103
1948, December.. ..	107	109	110	107
1949, December.. ..	109	112	113	109
1950, December.. ..	113	116	118	114
1951, December.. ..	125	130	133	126
1952, December.. ..	132	138	143	134
1953, December.. ..	136	143	149	138
1954, March	138	144	150	139
June	141	146	154	142
September	141	147	154	143
December	142	148	156	144
1955, January	144	151	158	146
February	145	151	158	147
March	147	153	160	149
April	150	154	162	152
May	151	154	163	152
June	151	155	163	152

All Workers

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1947	—	—	—	—	100	100	101	101	102	103	103	103
1948	104	104	105	105	105	106	106	106	106	107	107	107
1949	108	108	108	108	108	109	109	109	109	109	109	109
1950	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	111	111	111
1951	115	116	117	118	118	119	120	120	122	122	126	126
1952	127	128	128	129	129	129	130	130	131	131	134	134
1953	134	135	135	135	135	136	136	136	137	137	137	138
1954	139	139	139	141	142	142	142	143	143	144	144	144
1955	146	147	149	152	152	152						

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

1st April, 1955

Minimum, or standard, time rates of wages of wage-earners in the great majority of industries have been fixed by voluntary collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople or by statutory orders under the Wages Councils Acts, the Agricultural Wages Acts and the Catering Wages Act. In a number of cases the agreements have been arrived at by Joint Industrial Councils or similar bodies. In this volume, particulars are given of the minimum, or standard, rates of wages fixed by these agreements and orders for the more important industries and occupations. The source of the information is given in each case.

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Industrial Disputes

DISPUTES IN JUNE

The number of stoppages of work* arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in June, was 146. In addition, 16 stoppages which began before June were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved during June in these 162 stoppages, including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes, is estimated at about 98,000. The aggregate number of working days lost during June at the establishments concerned was about 1,327,000.

The following Table gives an analysis by groups of industries of stoppages of work in June due to industrial disputes:—

Industry Group	Number of Stoppages in progress in Month			Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in Month	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress in Month
	Started before beginning of Month	Started in Month	Total		
Coal Mining	1	125	126	10,200	20,000
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	1	—	1	500	12,000
Transport	3	2	5	85,300	1,285,000
All remaining industries and services	11	19	30	2,500	10,000
Total, June, 1955	16	146	162	98,500	1,327,000
Total, May, 1955	10	248	258	204,500	879,000
Total, June, 1954	20	148	168	21,100	69,000

Of the total of 1,327,000 days lost in June, 26,000 were lost by 12,500 workers involved in stoppages which began in that month. Of these workers, 11,500 were directly involved and 1,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The number of days lost in June also included 1,301,000 days lost by 86,000 workers through stoppages which had continued from the previous month.

Duration of Stoppages

Of 149 stoppages of work owing to disputes which ended during June, 64, directly involving 3,200 workers, lasted not more than one day; 43, directly involving 3,300 workers, lasted two days; 18, directly involving 3,100 workers, lasted three days; 12, directly involving 1,700 workers, lasted four to six days; and 12, directly involving 63,900 workers, lasted over six days.

Causes of Stoppages

Of the 146 disputes leading to stoppages of work which began in June, 7, directly involving 1,600 workers, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 72, directly involving 5,600 workers, on other wage questions; one, directly involving 100 workers, on

questions as to working hours; 10, directly involving 800 workers, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 54, directly involving 3,300 workers, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and two, directly involving 100 workers, on questions of trade union principle.

DISPUTES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1955 AND 1954

The following Table gives an analysis by groups of industries of all stoppages of work through industrial disputes in the United Kingdom in the first six months of 1955 and 1954:—

Industry Group	January to June, 1955			January to June, 1954		
	Number of Stoppages beginning in period	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress	Number of Stoppages beginning in period	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	1	500	1,000	—	—	—
Coal Mining	917	241,900†	884,000	778	117,900†	279,000
Other Mining and Quarrying	—	—	—	2	100	†
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	5	800	29,000	10	1,200	3,000
Chemicals and Allied Trades	5	1,700	5,000	4	200	†
Metal Manufacture	26	5,800	18,000	16	2,500	5,000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	32	5,800	20,000	30	4,800	24,000
Engineering	31	7,400	40,000	23	4,000	22,000
Vehicles	34	22,500	37,000	33	12,800	50,000
Other Metal Industries	5	1,100	4,000	7	600	4,000
Textiles	7	1,400	9,000	8	500	1,000
Leather, etc.	1	100	†	—	—	—
Clothing	4	200	1,000	14	3,000	9,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco	6	300	1,000	6	200	1,000
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	13	900	12,000	11	1,200	9,000
Paper and Printing	1	17,900	73,000	2	700	19,000
Other Manufacturing Industries	1	†	†	8	5,200	26,000
Building and Contracting	49	4,800	42,000	36	28,800	181,000
Gas, Electricity and Water	1	100	†	2	300	3,000
Transport, etc.	55	120,900	1,608,000	58	20,000	51,000
Distributive Trades	6	700	7,000	3	200	1,000
Other Services	5	1,200	4,000	9	900	4,000
Total	1,205	436,000†	2,795,000	1,060	205,100†	692,000

The number of days lost in the period January to June, 1955, through stoppages which began in that period was 2,755,000, the number of workers involved in such stoppages being 423,600. In addition, 40,000 days were lost at the beginning of the year by 12,400 workers through stoppages which had begun towards the end of the previous year.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES DURING JUNE

Industry, Occupations and Locality	Approximate Number of Workers involved		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object	Result
	Directly	Indirectly‡	Began	Ended		
COAL MINING:— Colliery workers—Deri, Bargoed, Glam. (one colliery)	350	410	20 June	24 June	Dissatisfaction with wages when employed on alternative work	Work resumed pending negotiations.
STONE CUTTING AND DRESSING:— Monumental sculptors, masons and other workers—various districts in Scotland (various firms)	800‡	—	5 May	—	Rejection of employers' offer of a wage increase conditional upon the employment of unskilled men on work formerly performed by skilled workers	No settlement reported.
RAILWAYS:— Locomotive drivers, motormen, firemen and cleaners—Great Britain	62,000	—	29 May	14 June	To support a claim for increased pay	Work resumed following the appointment by the Minister of Labour and National Service of an independent referee to determine specified wage questions.
DOCKERS:— Stevedores and dockers—various districts in England	21,060	—	23 May	2 July	To support a claim for representation of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers on port joint committees	Work resumed.
SEA TRANSPORT:— Catering, engine-room, deck and other crew—Liverpool and Southampton (various shipping lines)	1,500**	—	31 May	25 June	To protest against alleged under-manning of ships	Work resumed.

* The statistics relate to stoppages of work due to disputes connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour. They exclude stoppages involving fewer than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, except any in which the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision; those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information.

† Some workers, largely in the coal mining industry, were involved in more than one stoppage and are counted more than once in the totals. The net number of individuals involved in coal mining stoppages in the period under review in 1955 was approximately 188,000, and in the corresponding period in 1954 was approximately 92,000. For all industries combined the corresponding net totals were approximately 362,000 and 177,000.

‡ Less than 50 workers or 500 working days.

§ A stoppage of electricians which began in April, 1954, involved workers in more than one industry group, but was counted as only one stoppage in the total for all industries taken together.

¶ Thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

** Of the number of workers originally involved in the stoppage, approximately one-third have resumed work or found alternative employment.

*** A series of stoppages began on 31st May and continued until 25th June. About 1,500 workers were involved at one time or another during this period.

U.K. Index of Retail Prices

INDEX FOR 14th JUNE, 1955

ALL ITEMS (17th June, 1947 = 100) .. 150

At 14th June, 1955, the retail prices index was 150 (prices at 17th June, 1947 = 100), compared with 147 at 17th May and with 142 at 15th June, 1954.

The rise in the index during the month was due mainly to the fact that in many areas the stocks of old potatoes had become exhausted exceptionally early and had been replaced by new potatoes at higher prices. In addition, there were increases in the average prices of some other food items, including cooking apples and eggs, and in rail and road passenger fares. Among the few items which showed decreases in prices were tomatoes and cabbage.

The interim index of retail prices measures the change from month to month in the average level of prices of the commodities and services entering into the expenditure of the great majority of households in the United Kingdom. As with most indices of this kind it is based on the price movements of a large and representative selection of goods and services. The index is a measurement of price changes only and does not reflect changes in expenditure resulting from variations in the nature and quantities of goods purchased from time to time. Accordingly the price comparisons used in compiling the index figures relate in general to a fixed list of items in given quantities, although certain changes in the list of items were made at the beginning of 1952. In order to ensure that, so far as possible, the index figures reflect real changes in price levels, no account is taken of changes in the prices quoted which are attributable solely to variations in the quality of the items on sale.

The index is not calculated in terms of money but in percentage form, the average level of prices at the base date being represented by 100. Some goods and services are relatively much more important than others and the percentage changes in the price levels of the various items since the base date are combined by the use of "weights". The index figures for each month are first calculated as index numbers with prices at 15th January, 1952, taken as 100, and the weights used are in proportion to the estimated average household consumption of the various items in a recent period (1950) valued at the prices ruling in January, 1952.

DETAILED FIGURES FOR 14th JUNE, 1955 (15th January, 1952=100)

The following Table shows, for each of the nine main groups of items and for all the groups combined, the indices at 14th June, 1955, on the basis 15th January, 1952 = 100, together with the relative weights which have been used in combining the group indices into a single "all items" index.

GROUP	INDEX FIGURE FOR 14th JUNE, 1955 (15th January, 1952 = 100)	WEIGHT
I. Food	124.8	399
II. Rent and rates	114.9	72
III. Clothing	96.2	98
IV. Fuel and light	112.7	66
V. Household durable goods	95.6	62
VI. Miscellaneous goods	101.5	44
VII. Services	115.3	91
VIII. Alcoholic drink	102.7	78
IX. Tobacco	100.3	90
All items	112.9	1,000

PRINCIPAL CHANGES DURING MONTH

Food

The early exhaustion of stocks of old potatoes in many areas resulted in large numbers of retailers having only the much higher-priced potatoes of the new crop on sale at 14th June. In consequence, the average level of prices of potatoes at 14th June was substantially higher than a month earlier. There were also increases in the average prices of cooking apples, oranges, eggs, and some cuts of meat and bacon. The effect of these and other smaller increases was offset to a slight extent by a fall in the price level of tomatoes and cabbage, and by slight decreases in the prices of two or three other food items. For the food group as a whole there was an increase in prices of about 4 per cent. and the index figure, rounded to the nearest whole number, stood at 125 at 14th June, compared with 120 at 17th May.

Fuel and Light

There was a slight rise in the average level of household coal prices during the month, due to seasonal increases in the prices of coal in London and the South of England and to general increases to meet higher freight charges. There were also increases in some districts in the charges for electricity. For the fuel and light group as a whole the average level of retail prices rose by about 1 per cent. and the index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 113 at 14th June, compared with 111 at 17th May.

Services

Among the items included in the services group, the principal changes between 17th May and 14th June were increases in rail fares and in road passenger fares in London and other areas. For the services group as a whole, the average level of charges rose by a little over 1 per cent. and the index figure was 115 at 14th June, compared with 114 at 17th May.

Other Groups

In the six remaining groups, covering rent and rates, clothing, household durable goods, miscellaneous goods, alcoholic drink, and tobacco, there was little change in the general level of prices during the month under review. The index figures for these groups, expressed to the nearest whole number, were 115, 96, 96, 101, 103 and 100, respectively.

ALL ITEMS INDICES FOR 1947-55

(17th June, 1947 = 100)

The index numbers quoted in the two preceding sections are index numbers showing changes in the level of prices compared with the level at 15th January, 1952, these latter being taken as = 100. Before January, 1952, the index figures were calculated on a different weighting basis and they showed the changes in the level of prices compared with a level of 100 at 17th June, 1947, the date when the Interim Index of Retail Prices was started. The "all items" index numbers in the two series can be linked together, however, in order to produce a continuous series of figures showing the change in the level of prices compared with the level at the starting date of the index, viz., 17th June, 1947.

Thus, at 14th June, 1955, the "all items" figure in the new series, with prices at 15th January, 1952, taken as 100, was 112.9. This figure has then to be linked to the index figure for 15th January, 1952, in the old series, in order to produce an "all items" figure for 14th June, 1955, comparable with all the indices published for dates up to and including January, 1952, i.e., on the basis 17th June, 1947, taken as 100. The calculation is as follows:—

All items index at 15th January, 1952 (17th June, 1947 = 100)	132.5
All items index at 14th June, 1955 (15th January, 1952 = 100)	112.9
∴ All items index at 14th June, 1955 (17th June, 1947 = 100)	112.9 × 132.5 / 100 = 149.6 taken as 100.

The Table below shows the figures for "all items" from June, 1947, onwards with prices at 17th June, 1947, taken as 100. The figures normally relate to the Tuesday nearest to the 15th of each month.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1947	104	106	106	108	108	110	108	108	108	108	109	109
1948	109	109	109	109	111	111	111	111	112	112	112	113
1949	109	109	109	109	111	111	111	111	112	112	112	113
1950	113	113	113	114	114	114	114	114	114	115	116	116
1951	117	118	119	121	124	125	126	127	128	129	129	130
1952	132	133	133	135	135	138	138	137	136	138	138	138
1953	138	139	140	141	140	141	141	140	140	140	140	140
1954	140	140	141	142	141	142	145	144	143	144	145	145
1955	146	146	146	147	147	150	—	—	—	—	—	—

Retail Prices Overseas

The latest information received is given in the Table below.

Country	Base of Index* and Month for which Index Figure is given	Index Figure	Rise (+) or Fall (−) of Index Figure (in Index Points) compared with	
			Month before	Year before
European Countries				
France (Paris)	1949 = 100			
All Items	Apr., 1955	144.8	- 0.1	+ 2.4
Food	" "	135.9	- 0.2	+ 2.2
Germany (Federal Republic)	1950 = 100			
All Items	May, 1955	109	Nil	+ 1
Food	" "	114	- 1	+ 2
Ireland (Dublin)	1947 = 100†			
All Items	Aug., 1947	127	+ 1	+ 3
Italy (Large towns)	1938 = 1			
All Items	Apr., 1955	59.29	+ 0.49	+ 2.00
Food	" "	70.32	+ 0.77	+ 2.69
Luxembourg	1st Jan., 1948 = 100			
All Items*	Mar., 1955	122.45	- 1.18	- 0.50
Food	" "	130	- 2	- 1
Netherlands	1951 = 100			
All Items	May, 1955	106	Nil	+ 2
Food	" "	109	Nil	+ 1
Sweden	1949 = 100§			
All Items	Mar., 1955	130	+ 1	§
Food	" "	137	Nil	§
Other Countries				
Canada	1949 = 100			
All Items	May, 1955	116.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Food	" "	112.3	+ 1.3	+ 2.1
Rhodesia, Northern	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Mar., 1955	188	Nil	+ 7
Food	" "	246	Nil	+ 16
Rhodesia, Southern	Oct., 1949 = 100			
All Items	Apr., 1955	130	+ 1	Nil
Food	" "	150	+ 1	+ 1
South Africa, Union (9 urban areas)	1938 = 100			
All Items	Mar., 1955	201.8	+ 1.5	+ 7.8
Food	" "	236.9	+ 4.2	+ 11.3
United States	1947-49 = 100			
All Items	Apr., 1955	114.2	- 0.1	- 0.4
Food	" "	111.2	+ 0.4	- 1.2

* The items of expenditure on which the "all items" figures are based are food, clothing, house-rent, fuel and light, and other or miscellaneous items, except in the case of Luxembourg (food, clothing, fuel and light, soap, etc.).
† A figure for "Food" is not available on this base. On base August, 1953 = 100 it was 102.7 at May, 1955.
‡ The index is quarterly and comparison is with the previous quarter.
§ New Consumer Price Index, replacing the cost-of-living index, base 1935 = 100; first figure in the new series is for July, 1954.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

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Fatal Industrial Accidents

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in June was 105, compared with 103 (revised figure) in the previous month and 119 (revised figure) in June, 1954. In the case of seamen employed in ships registered in the United Kingdom, 6 fatal accidents were reported in June, compared with 21 in the previous month and 7 in June, 1954. Detailed figures for separate industries are given below for June, 1955.

Mines and Quarries*	Factories—continued
Under Coal Mines Act :	Electrical Stations .. 2
Underground 34	Other Industries 2
Surface 3	
Quarries 3	
Metalliferous Mines	
TOTAL, MINES & QUARRIES .. 40	
Factories	
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass 4	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER ss. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 7	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships 2
Metal Extracting and Refining	Building Operations .. 15
Metal Conversion and Foundry (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) 7	Works of Engineering Construction 5
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. 4	Warehouses
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and Other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture .. 2	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT .. 59
Shipbuilding 2	Railway Service
Other Metal Trades	Brakesmen, Goods Guards .. 1
Cotton	Engine Drivers, Motor-men
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy .. 1	Firemen
Other Textile Manufacture ..	Guards (Passenger)
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing 1	Labourers
Tanning, Currying, etc. .. .	Mechanics
Food and Drink	Permanent Way Men .. 1
General Woodwork and Furniture 2	Porters 1
Paper, Printing, etc. 1	Shunters 1
Rubber Trades 1	Other Grades 2
Gas Works 1	Contractors' Servants
	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE .. 6
	Total (excluding Seamen) 105
	Seamen
	Trading Vessels 6
	Fishing Vessels
	TOTAL, SEAMEN .. 6
	Total (including Seamen) 111

Industrial Diseases

The number of cases in the United Kingdom reported during June under the Factories Act, 1937, or the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, are shown below.

I. Cases	I. Cases—continued
Lead Poisoning	Epitheliomatous Ulceration (Skin Cancer)
Operatives engaged in :	Pitch and Tar 13
Plumbing and Soldering .. 2	Mineral Oil 7
Other contact with Molten Lead .. 2	TOTAL 20
Paint and Colour Works .. 1	Chromic Ulceration
Other Industries 2	Manuf. of Bichromates .. 5
TOTAL 7	Chromium Plating 8
Other Poisoning	Dyeing and Finishing
Aniline Poisoning	Other Industries 33
TOTAL Nil	TOTAL 46
Anthrax	Total, Cases .. 74
Wool 1	
Hides and Skins	II. Deaths
Other Industries	Nil
TOTAL 1	

* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are obtained and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 25th June, 1955.

Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics given below show the numbers of men and women admitted to courses at the Industrial Rehabilitation Units operated by the Ministry of Labour and National Service during the four weeks ended 27th June, 1955, the numbers in attendance at the end of, and the numbers who completed courses during, the period.

	Men	Women	Total
Persons admitted to courses during period ..	717	131	848
Persons in attendance at courses at end of period	1,203	246	1,449
Persons who completed courses during period	622	85	707

From the starting of these Units by the Ministry of Labour and National Service up to 27th June, 1955, the total number of persons admitted to industrial rehabilitation courses was 62,789.

Business Training for Ex-Regulars

The figures below relate to applications for training under the Scheme of Business Training for Ex-Regulars since its inception in February, 1949. The figures show the position at the end of June, 1955, and are in continuation of those published in the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1955 (page 156).

Number of applications received	2,191
" " " " rejected or withdrawn	1,452
" " " " under consideration	24
" " " " applicants who entered training	697
" " " " awaiting training	18

Of the 697 applicants who entered training, 605 completed their course, 67 terminated their training prematurely (most of them to take employment) and 25 were still in training at the end of June. After completion of training, 519 applicants were placed in, or found, employment, 80 lapsed their registration for employment and 6 were awaiting suitable employment. Of those awaiting suitable employment, two were in "stop-gap" employment pending satisfactory resettlement. The reason usually given for lapsed registration for employment was that the applicants had either found employment themselves or had rejoined H.M. Forces.



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ARBITRATION AWARDS, NOTICES, ORDERS, ETC.

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Industrial Disputes Order, 1951, and Conditions of Employment and National Arbitration (Northern Ireland) Orders, 1940 to 1945

Industrial Disputes Tribunal Awards

During June the Industrial Disputes Tribunal issued seven awards, Nos. 722 to 728.* Three of the awards are summarised below; the others related to individual employers.

Award No. 725 (10th June).—*Parties*: Employers represented by the Employers' Side of the Joint Industrial Council for the Bobbin Making Industry, and members of the trade unions represented on the Trade Union Side of the Council in their employment. *Claim*: For an increase in wages. *Award*: The Tribunal found that the minimum rate of wages for higher skilled adult male workers should be increased by 5s. 6d. a week with consequential increases for other workers.

Award No. 727 (17th June).—*Parties*: Members of the Tyne Tugowners' Association, and members of the North-East Coast Tugboatmen and Fishermen's Association employed by them as tugboat crews. *Claim*: For an increase in wages and for a reduction in the basic working week. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded that the wage rates of the workers concerned should be increased by 7½ per cent., with corresponding increases in the rates of payment for overtime. They found that the claim for a reduction in the basic working week had not been established.

Award No. 728 (30th June).—*Parties*: Employers represented by the Employers' Side of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, and members of the trade unions represented by the Operatives' Side of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry in their employment. *Claim*: That plasterers should be paid a tool allowance of 2d. a day. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded that with effect from 1st August, 1955, plasterers should be paid an allowance of 2d. a day in respect of the maintenance and upkeep of tools. A list of the tools required to be maintained is to be agreed between the parties.

National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) Awards

During June the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued five awards, none of which related to a substantial part of an industry.

Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal

During June the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal issued seven awards, Nos. 279 to 285,* which are summarised below.

Award No. 279 (4th June).—*Parties*: The Civil Service Clerical Association and the Post Office. *Claim*: For increased scale of pay with retrospective effect for Assistants employed in the Investigation Branch of the Personnel Department of the Post Office. *Award*: The Tribunal found against the claim.

Award Nos. 280 and 281 (8th June).—*Parties*: The Civil Service Radio Officers' Association and H.M. Treasury, and the Civil Service Union and H.M. Treasury, respectively. *Claim*: The claim in each case was for increased salary scale with retrospective effect for Radio Operators employed in Government Departments as part of the Composite Signals Organisation. *Award*: The claims were heard independently and an award was made in each case. The awards were in the same terms, as follows:—(a) that the salary scale (London, male), exclusive of Pay Supplement from 1st July, 1954, of Radio Operators employed in Government Departments as part of the Composite Signals Organisation shall be: Age 18 £360, age 19 £385, age 20 £410, age 21 £435, age 22 £455, age 23 £470, age 24 £485, age 25 or over £505, then by £20 to £605 by £25 to £630; (b) that the above scale shall have effect from 1st January, 1953; (c) that normal Civil Service three-tier provincial differentiation shall apply; (d) that the "corresponding points" principle shall be applied in the assimilation to the new scale of officers in post.

Award No. 282 (10th June).—*Parties*: The Post Office Engineering Union and the Post Office. *Claim*: For increased scales of pay with retrospective effect for Technical Officers employed in the Post Office. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded:—(a) that the scale of weekly pay (London, male) for the grade of Technical Officer in the Post Office shall be 166s. by annual increments of 8s. to 230s. (b) that the above consolidated scale shall have effect from 1st January, 1955; (c) that the "corresponding points" principle shall be applied in the assimilation to the new scales of officers in post; (d) that the determination of a provincial scale shall be a matter for negotiation and agreement between the parties; also that determination whether

* See footnote * in second column on page 269.

the system of payment of the grade shall be by an annual salary or by a weekly wage shall be a matter for negotiation and agreement between the parties. In the event of the parties failing to reach agreement on either or both of the above matters within three months from the date of this award, either party shall be at liberty to report such failure to the Tribunal and the Tribunal will, after hearing the parties, determine the matter in dispute.

Award No. 283 (15th June).—*Parties*: The County Court Officers' Association and the County Courts Branch, Lord Chancellor's Department. *Claim*: For increased scale of pay with retrospective effect for County Court Bailiffs. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded:—(a) that the scale of pay of County Court Bailiffs (London, weekly) shall be 150s. by 10s. to 200s.; (b) that normal Civil Service three-tier provincial differentiation shall apply; (c) that the above consolidated scale shall have effect from 1st July, 1954, and shall not be subject to Civil Service Pay Supplement from that date; (d) that the "corresponding points" principle shall be applied in the assimilation to the new scale of officers in post.

Award No. 284 (16th June).—*Parties*: The Telecommunications Traffic Association and the Post Office. *Claim*: For increased salary scale with retrospective effect for Telecommunications Traffic Superintendents employed in the Post Office. *Award*: The Tribunal found against the claim.

Award No. 285 (25th June).—*Parties*: The Institution of Professional Civil Servants and the Ministry of Works. *Claim*: For increased salary scales with retrospective effect for Assistant Technical Officers, Technical Officers, Senior Technical Officers and Superintending Technical Officers in the Fuel Section of the Ministry of Works. *Award*: The Tribunal awarded:—(a) that the Technical Officers (Fuel) employed in the Ministry of Works shall be paid the following scales (London, male): Assistant Technical Officer £680 (age 26) by £25 to £830 by £30 to £950 (highest age pay £780 at age 30), Technical Officer £950 by £30 to £1,065, Senior Technical Officer £1,055 by £30 to £1,235, Superintending Technical Officer £1,315 by £45 to £1,360 by £50 to £1,510; (b) that normal Civil Service three-tier provincial differentiation shall apply; (c) that the above consolidated scales for Assistant Technical Officers and Technical Officers shall have effect from 1st January, 1954 (the remaining scales are already in force); all the scales exclude, and shall be subject to, Civil Service Pay Supplement from 1st July, 1954; (d) that the "corresponding points" principle shall be applied in the assimilation to the new scales of officers in post.

Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896

Industrial Court Awards

During June the Industrial Court issued four awards, Nos. 2569 to 2572, which are summarised below.

Award No. 2569 (6th June).—*Parties*: The Transport Salaried Staffs' Association, the National Union of Railwaymen, the Electrical Trades Union and the Railways Staff Conference. *Claim*: That railway electrical, technical and supervisory staff shift workers should be paid quarter-time rate additional to the existing rates for time worked on week-days between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. *Award*: The Court found against the claim and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 2570 (10th June).—*Parties*: Trade Union Side and Official Side of the Forestry Commission Industrial and Trade Council. *Claim*: Interpretation of Industrial Court Award No. 2552. *Award*: The Court ruled that, in accordance with the terms and intention of Industrial Court Award No. 2552, dated 18th January, 1955 (see the issue of this Gazette for February, page 74), a mobile mechanic whose individual contract with the Forestry Commission entitles him whilst so employed to a rate in excess of 170s. for a normal working week of 47 hours and who works hours in excess of 47 shall be paid his individual rate for his normal working week, plus overtime hours calculated on the rate of 170s. prescribed under Clause 1(a) of Award No. 2552.

Award No. 2571 (10th June).—*Parties*: Trade Union Side and Official Side of the Shipbuilding Trades Joint Council. *Claim*: That no justification existed for the reduction of Sunday payments to Admiralty telephone operators from the present rate of double-time to time-and-a-half. *Award*: The Court, in the special circumstances relating to the telephone operators covered by the reference, found and awarded in favour of the claim made by the Trade Union Side of the Shipbuilding Trades Joint Council that there was no justification for the reduction of Sunday payments to Admiralty telephone operators employed in Miscellaneous Establishments from the present rate of double-time to time-and-a-half.

Award No. 2572 (24th June).—*Parties*: Trade Union Side and Official Side of the Shipbuilding Trades Joint Council. *Claim*: That the present wage structure for the remuneration of Recorders of Work be replaced by a system of incremental scales. *Award*: The Court awarded that the claim of the Trade Union Side of the Shipbuilding Trades Joint Council, that the present wage structure

for the remuneration of Recorders of Work be replaced by a system of incremental scales, had not been established. The decision of the Court was without prejudice to the question of whether or not the existing remuneration was adequate and, if not adequate, to what extent it should be improved.

Single Arbitrators and ad hoc Boards of Arbitration

During June two awards were issued by Single Arbitrators appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Both awards related to individual undertakings.

Wages Councils Acts, 1945-1948

Notices of Proposals

During June notices of intention to submit wages regulation proposals to the Minister of Labour and National Service were issued by the following Wages Councils:—

Milk Distributive Wages Council (England and Wales).—Proposal M.D. (81), dated 3rd June, for fixing revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers.

Retail Drapery, Outfitting and Footwear Trades Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal R.D.O. (21), dated 10th June, for amending the provisions relating to holidays and payment of holiday remuneration.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal D. (110), dated 17th June, for fixing revised general minimum time rates for unskilled male and female workers aged under 21 years, including learners and apprentices.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal D. (111), dated 17th June, for fixing revised provisions for the allowance of holidays and payment of holiday remuneration.

Baking Wages Council (Scotland).—Proposal BKS (32), dated 21st June, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

Further information concerning any of the above proposals may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council in question, at Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

Wages Regulation Orders

During June the Minister of Labour and National Service made the following Wages Regulation Orders* giving effect to the proposals submitted to him by the Wages Councils concerned:—

The Pin, Hook and Eye, and Snap Fastener Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 816 (O.544), dated 6th June and effective from 22nd June. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates for workers other than home workers and revised piecework basis time rates for female workers other than home workers.—See page 259.

The Jute Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 843 (J.94), dated 13th

Decisions of the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claim for unemployment benefit is disallowed from and including 3rd October, 1954.

"The claimant is fifty-six years of age and his industrial record during the three calendar years immediately preceding his claim for unemployment benefit made on 3rd October, 1954, fully warrants the finding of the local insurance officer, which was upheld by the local tribunal on appeal, that the claimant was then a seasonal worker, that is, an insured person whose normal employment was then for a part only of a year in an occupation of which the availability or extent varied at approximately the same time in successive years. (See regulation 2(2)(a) of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations, 1950 [S.I. 1950 No. 1220] as amended by the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Amendment Regulations, 1952 [S.I. 1952 No. 1466].)

"The claimant's current off-season is from 3rd October, 1954, to 31st May, 1955, a period of 206 days, excluding Sundays, and in order to be entitled to unemployment benefit the claimant is required to show that when he made his claim he could reasonably expect to obtain a substantial amount of employment in that off-season. A substantial amount of employment means one-fourth, or such other fractional part as the determining authority considers reasonable in the circumstances, of the current off-season. (See regulation 2(1)(b) and 2(2)(d) of the regulations referred to above.)

"When the claimant made his claim on 3rd October, 1954, he was unable to show that he satisfied this requirement and his claim was accordingly disallowed but he obtained employment from 26th October, to 20th November, 1954, and applied for a review of the decision disallowing his claim. The matter was referred to the local tribunal who found that the above-mentioned period of employment which amounted to 23 days or approximately one-ninth of the current off-season, was, in the circumstances, a substantial amount of employment within the meaning of the relevant regulation and they allowed the claim from and including 22nd November, 1954.

"The insurance officer appealed to the Commissioner and submits that there was no justification for the tribunal regarding the number of days the claimant had worked in his off-season (23 days out of a total of 206 days) as a 'substantial number' which

* See footnote * in second column on page 269.

* See footnote * in second column on page 269.
+ Selected decisions of the Commissioner are published periodically in the following series:—Series "R(U)"—decisions on unemployment benefit; Series "R(P)"—decisions on retirement pensions; Series "R(S)"—decisions on sickness benefit; Series "R(G)"—decisions on guardian's allowance, maternity benefit, death grant and widow's benefit; Series "R(I)"—decisions on all benefits and on any other questions arising under the Industrial Injuries Acts. An Index to Commissioner's Decisions, which is kept up to date by amendments published at monthly intervals, is also available. Applications and enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown in the second column on page 269.

June and effective from 29th June. This Order prescribes revised general minimum and guaranteed time rates, general minimum piece rates and supplemental payments for male and certain female workers and piecework basis time rates for female workers.—See page 260.

The Boot and Floor Polish Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 853 (B.P.433), dated 15th June and effective from 1st July. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers.

The Toy Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 887 (Y.533), dated 23rd June and effective from 11th July. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers.

The Rope, Twine and Net Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 968 (R.116), dated 30th June and effective from 15th July. This Order prescribes revised general minimum piece rates for male and female workers.

Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945

Notices of Proposals

During June notices of intention to submit wages regulation proposals to the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance were issued by the following Wages Councils:—

The Road Haulage Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.R.H. (N.11), dated 3rd June, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male workers in the trade.

The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.Bk. (N.190), dated 10th June, for fixing revised provisions for the allowance of holidays and payment of holiday remuneration.

The Rope, Twine and Net Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.R. (N.65), dated 24th June, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers in the trade.

Further information concerning any of the above proposals may be obtained from the Secretary of the Council concerned, at Tyrone House, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast.

Wages Regulation Orders

During June the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance made the following Wages Regulation Order* giving effect to the proposals made by the Wages Council concerned:—

The Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1955 (N.I.H.H.G. (137)), dated 27th June and effective on and from 5th July. This Order fixes additional general minimum piece rates for certain operations in the trade and amends the provisions regarding entitlement to customary holidays.

satisfies regulation 2(2)(d) of the aforesaid regulations. The local tribunal had regard to the state of the claimant's health—the claimant suffers from chronic bronchitis—which involves a serious handicap. The insurance officer observes that the employment which the claimant obtained was, on his own admission, purely of a temporary nature and only arose because of the illness of the person who usually does the work. Such employment was not the usual employment of the claimant and there is no evidence, the insurance officer submits, that it was likely to last a considerable time or that there are chances of the employment recurring in future years. It was purely casual and, in the submission of the insurance officer, there are no circumstances in this case to enable the determining authority to accept short periods of temporary employment as substantial within the meaning of the regulation. I agree with the insurance officer. In Decision C.U. 14/52 (not reported) which concerned the claim of a seasonal worker it was suggested that in his case 'substantial employment' might be considered to be less than one-fourth of the current off-season for the purposes of determining whether he satisfied the conditions that he could reasonably expect to obtain a substantial amount of employment during the current off-season. I was unable to see sufficient reason for reducing the figure to less than one-fourth in that case.

"The claimant in that case was fifty years of age and suffered from the disability of deafness and gastric trouble, but I took the view that that was one of the very reasons why he had become a seasonal worker and that it was not a circumstance which could be taken into account so as to warrant reducing the amount of employment which the claimant could reasonably expect to obtain to less than one-fourth of the current off-season. I observed that one of the circumstances envisaged in regulation 2 might be that the claimant had in past off-seasons had an illness which had substantially reduced his chances of securing a substantial amount of employment during those off-seasons and that such illness was not likely to recur, or that there had in the past been a depression of trade which had passed away. I observed that neither of these circumstances existed in the case which I was considering, for, unfortunately for the claimant, there was no reason for supposing that the disability under which he was labouring and which handicapped him from competing with able-bodied men of his age was likely to disappear.

"I cannot really distinguish this case in any material particular from the case to which Decision C.U. 14/52 refers. In this case it seems that it is largely because of the state of the claimant's health that he has become a seasonal worker and I can see no sufficient reason for reducing the fraction to less than one-fourth of the current off-season. In the result I must agree with the insurance officer that the claimant's claim for unemployment benefit made in his current off-season must be disallowed, on the ground that he fails to satisfy the requirements of regulation 2(1)(b) of the Seasonal Workers Regulations, 1950. The appeal of the insurance officer is allowed."

Decision No. R(U) 6/55 (1st April)

A school dining-room attendant who had been employed in the school terms only for five years when she claimed unemployment benefit on 17th April, 1954, expected to come under revised conditions of service as from 1st August, 1954. One of the effects of the revision was an extension of the number of weeks of paid employment in the year to a maximum of 46. Held that unemployment benefit was not payable on 17th April, 1954, and that the claimant could not prove that she had ceased to be a seasonal worker until she had had a period of work under non-seasonal conditions.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that on 17th April, 1954, the claimant was a seasonal worker and was not entitled to unemployment benefit in respect of that day.

"The claimant, a married woman aged 42, made a claim for unemployment benefit on 17th April, 1954. She was registered as a dining-room attendant, and had been employed since February, 1949, in the school meals service. Under the conditions of service which were in operation until 31st July, 1954, her employment was for parts only of the year, that is to say, during the school terms. She was not paid during school holidays, subject to the proviso that, if in any week she worked for three days, she was paid as for a full week (in other words, one or two days' holiday occurring in a scholastic week carried payment although no duties were involved) and one week's holiday pay was paid in addition. The period when the claimant was neither working nor paid occurred at approximately the same times in successive years. There was never any question of the claimant engaging in other employment. Looking to the claimant's record it is conceded that, if the conditions of service had remained unaltered, the claimant must have remained a seasonal worker, with an off-season in excess of seven weeks.

"On 24th June, 1954, the school meals committee resolved to recommend to the education authority revised conditions of service for school dining-room attendants. The important alteration of conditions for present purposes was an extension of the number of paid weeks in the year to a maximum of 46 weeks. Payment for 46 weeks in the year was not to be automatic, but might depend upon fulfilment of certain personal qualifications. Accordingly, service as a school dining-room attendant under the revised conditions was no longer necessarily a seasonal employment, although of course in any individual case it might still be so. These revised conditions were duly adopted by the education authority and came into force on 1st August, 1954. Evidence was laid before me, and I am prepared to accept it, that the adoption by the education authority of the committee's recommendation was a 'foregone conclusion'.

"The interesting and—I think—difficult question which arises in this case relates to the effect of the changed conditions of service, and in particular to the date at which, for purposes of a claim to unemployment benefit, cognisance should be taken of the change. In the present case the claimant's claim for unemployment benefit on 17th April, 1954, was disallowed by the local insurance officer on the ground that she was a seasonal worker within the meaning

of regulation 2(2)(a) of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations, 1950 [S.I. 1950 No. 1220], as amended by the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Amendment Regulations, 1952 [S.I. 1952 No. 1466] (hereinafter referred to as the regulations), that her claim was made in respect of a day during her off-season, and that she did not fulfil the additional condition of regulation 2(1)(b). On appeal the local tribunal upheld the disallowance; and the present appeal is taken by the claimant's association.

"Unemployment benefit being in the nature of a day-to-day insurance, it seems plain that what must be considered in the first place is the status of the claimant on the day in respect of which unemployment benefit is claimed. On 17th April, 1954, was she a seasonal worker? That must be determined in accordance with the definition provided by regulation 2(2)(a) as amended. In dealing with the initial words of the definition, namely—'seasonal worker means an insured person whose normal employment is for . . . parts only of a year'—counsel for the claimant's association argued that 'year' in that context must mean 'year' as defined in regulation 2(2)(c), i.e., the period of 12 months from 5th January, 1954, which was the day on which the claimant began her normal employment in the calendar year 1954. In that year—as was now, at the date of hearing, known—the claimant's employment could normally be expected, by virtue of the revised conditions of service, to involve less than 7 weeks' idleness: therefore the claimant was no longer a seasonal worker. Counsel maintained that this argument had become open to him by reason of the amendment of the original regulation 2(2) of the regulations of 1948 effected by the amending regulations of 1952. I am not, however, convinced that the amendment in question has this effect. The same—or a very similar—contention was rejected by the Commissioner recently in decision C.U. 6/55 (so far unreported), where it was said: 'The definition in regulation 2(2)(c) pre-supposes that the normal employment of the claimant has been ascertained, and has no bearing on the question what that normal employment is.' It has consistently been accepted as a rule of practice both before and after the amending regulations of 1952 that where a claimant has in fact for three years past been engaged in seasonal employment her normal employment may legitimately be presumed to be seasonal (see, for example, decisions R(U) 3/51, R(U) 14/53, and R(U) 22/53). That does not, of course, end the matter, for the presumption arising from three years' seasonal employment is a rebuttable presumption. As was pointed out in decision R(U) 14/53 there might well be cases in which the facts would justify the conclusion that an insured person who had had less than three years of only seasonal employment had become a seasonal worker. Equally there might be cases in which the facts would justify the conclusion that an insured person who had had at least three years of only seasonal employment had ceased to be a seasonal worker. As was stated in decision C.U. 6/55, it might be shown that the last three years did not afford a proper basis for estimating the insured person's prospects of employment. *Prima facie*, a change in the conditions of employment whereby the idle (or unpaid) periods of service were reduced below the seven weeks contemplated by the regulations would constitute a factor tending to show that the three years prior to the change no longer afforded a proper basis for determining the insured person's status. In that situation it may not be easy to determine the point of time from which cognisance must be taken of the change of circumstances. I shall return to this point later in this decision.

"The immediate question for determination in this case is the claimant's entitlement to unemployment benefit on 17th April, 1954. I entertain no doubt that in considering her status as a seasonal worker or non-seasonal worker on that date it is illegitimate to consider a change of circumstance which had not taken effect, had not been resolved upon, and, so far as is in evidence, was not even contemplated at that date. The claimant's record of employment prior to that date amply justifies the conclusion that on that date she was a seasonal worker within the meaning of the regulations. In that situation the question arises whether she can be held to fulfil the additional conditions of receipt of benefit imposed by regulation 2; and in particular the additional condition of regulation 2(1)(b)(ii). It was accepted by counsel for the claimant's association that if the claimant be held to be a seasonal worker (on 17th April, 1954) the maximum number of days of employment which he could claim as accrued or likely to accrue to the claimant during her off-season of 45 days was seven days. While conceding (as he was bound to do) that this represented less than one-fourth of the current off-season (regulation 2(2)(d)), counsel argued that it was open to the determining authority as matter of discretion to hold that this constituted a substantial amount of employment in the circumstances of the case. No doubt it is true that the regulation leaves the determining authority an unfettered discretion in fixing a lesser fraction than the one-fourth specified in the regulation: but the discretion must be exercised judicially (decision R(U) 3/51), and no reason was adduced why, in the present case, the proportion represented by 7/45ths should be adopted as reasonable. To accept so small a proportion in the present case would be merely arbitrary. I hold therefore that on 17th April, 1954, the claimant was a seasonal worker and that the additional condition of receipt of benefit imposed by regulation 2(1)(b) of the regulations was not fulfilled in her case.

"I was asked by the insurance officer who attended the oral hearing, in the event of my decision in relation to 17th April, 1954, being adverse to the claimant, to give some guidance as to what the position would be on subsequent dates. For a variety of reasons I do so with hesitation. One reason is that in determining entitlement in a case like this, regard must be had not merely to the general conditions on which employment is offered by the employers, but also to the circumstances of the particular claimant. These may vary from time to time and must be considered, as I see it, in relation to each day in respect of which benefit is claimed. So far as the general conditions of the employment are concerned, however, it would seem right to apply the principle stated in paragraph 19

of decision R(U) 14/53, namely, that where a person has become a seasonal worker and seeks to establish that he has ceased to be one, the burden of proof rests on him to show that his normal employment is no longer an occupation followed for a part (or parts) only of a year. The operative word is 'is', not 'will be'. On or about 24th June, 1954, the claimant could no doubt hope to prove that the occupation in which she was engaged would very soon cease to be merely seasonal. But until 1st August, 1954, arrived, that occupation was still a seasonal one. A period of work under the new (non-seasonal) conditions would normally be required to establish that a claimant had ceased to be a seasonal worker. In the special circumstances of the present case, if it be accepted that non-seasonal conditions were virtually assured to the claimant from 1st August, 1954, the very minimum—i.e., one day of work under the new conditions—might be enough to establish the change of status. But until the claimant had worked at least one day under the new conditions she could not, in my view, hope to prove that she had ceased to be a seasonal worker.

"For these reasons I consider that the decision of the tribunal was well founded. I dismiss the association's appeal."

Legal Cases Affecting Labour

Factories Act, 1937—Building (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1948—Installation of electrical apparatus in new building

The defendant employers were engaged in the installation of electrical apparatus in a building in course of erection. The work involved the use of scaffolding which was also being used by joiners in connection with the roof, the defendants being sub-contractors for the electrical work.

An electrician employed by the defendants was killed when a length of conduit pipe used in connection with the electrical installation fell some 30 feet from the scaffolding and hit him. This pipe had been placed on the scaffolding by another worker in the employ of the defendants but how it came to fall was not explained. The scaffolding did not comply with the Building Regulations in that there were no toe-boards provided.

The case was heard before Mr. Justice Ashworth at Liverpool Assizes when he held: (i) the installation of electric light in a building in the course of construction was an operation to which the Building Regulations applied, (ii) that the breach of the regulations in failing to provide toe-boards could have been the cause of the worker's death, and in the absence of any other explanation it must be concluded that the breach was the cause, since if there had been toe-boards the probability was that the pipe would not have fallen.

Judgment was entered for the plaintiff for £392 6s. 6d.—*Hughes v. McGoff and Vickers Limited*. Liverpool Assizes, 8th February, 1955.

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 prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage. Where no price is shown, the instrument costs 2d. net (3d. including postage).

The Pin, Hook and Eye, and Snap Fastener Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 816; price 3d. (4½d.)), dated 6th June; The Jute Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 843; price 4d. (5½d.)), dated 13th June; The Boot and Floor Polish Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 853; price 4d. (5½d.)), dated 15th June; The Toy Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 887; price 4d. (5½d.)), dated 23rd June; The Rope, Twine and Net Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 968), dated 30th June. These Orders were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 267.

The Police Regulations, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 882; price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 22nd June by the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the Police Act, 1919. The Regulations, which come into operation on 5th September, amend the Police Regulations, 1952, and provide for increased rates of overtime allowance; for the grant, so far as the exigencies of duty permit, to every member of a police force below the rank of superintendent of one rest day in every fortnight in addition to the weekly rest day; and for increased rates of detective duty allowance.

The Transfer of Functions (Iron and Steel) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 876; price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 21st June by Her Majesty in Council under the Ministers of the Crown (Transfer of Functions) Act, 1946, and the Supplies and Services (Transitional Powers) Act, 1945. This Order, which came into operation on 18th July, makes provision for the transfer to the Board of Trade of functions, including those exercised under the Iron and Steel Act, 1953, hitherto performed by the Minister of Supply in relation to iron and steel.

(i) *The National Insurance and Industrial Injuries (Netherlands) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 874; price 6d. (7½d.)), dated 21st June; (ii) The National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment Regulations, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 983), dated 4th July. These Instruments were made (i) by Her Majesty in Council under the National Insurance Act, 1946, and the National Insurance*

* See footnote * in next column.

(Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946, and (ii) by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, in conjunction with the Treasury, under the National Insurance Act, 1946.—See page 242.

(i) *The National Insurance (Commencement) (No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland), 1955 (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland 1955 No. 98), dated 2nd June; (ii) The National Insurance (Contributions) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 101; price 4d. (5½d.)), dated 3rd June. The Order and the Regulations were made (i) by the Minister of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland under the National Insurance (No. 2) Act (Northern Ireland), 1955, and (ii) 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 1955. They came into operation on 6th June and are similar in scope to the corresponding instruments made in Great Britain (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 208).*

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED*

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

Careers.—Choice of Careers. New Series No. 63. H.M. Forces. The Women's Services. March, 1955. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 2s. (2s. 2d.).

Catering Industry.—Catering Wages Commission. 11th Annual Report, 1954. H.C. 21. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 2d. (3½d.).

Census of Production for 1951.—Reports. Volume 6, Trade B, Cotton Weaving. Board of Trade. Price 2s. (2s. 1½d.).

Coal Mining.—(i) Report and Accounts for 1954. H.C.1. Price 7s. 6d. (7s. 10d.). (ii) Quarterly and Annual Statistical Statement of the Costs of Production, Proceeds and Profit or Loss of Collieries for the fourth quarter of 1954 and for the Year 1954. Price 8d. (9½d.). National Coal Board.—See pages 240 and 241.

Disabled Persons.—Services for the Disabled. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).—See page 239.

Industrial Health.—Dust Prevention and Suppression. Instructional Pamphlet No. 1. Water Infusion. A means of dust control. Ministry of Fuel and Power. Price 1s. (1s. 1½d.).—See page 239.

Ministry of Labour and National Service.—Annual Report for the Year 1954. Cmd. 9522. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 5s. (5s. 3d.).—See page 238.

National Insurance.—(i) Report of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance for the year 1954. Cmd. 9495. Price 4s. (4s. 2d.). (ii) National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment Regulations, 1955. Report of the National Insurance Advisory Committee. H.C. 28. Price 3d. (4½d.).—See pages 241 and 242.

Teachers' Salaries.—Reports of the Committees on Scales of Salaries for Teachers in England and Wales, 1954. (a) Primary and Secondary Schools. (b) Establishments for Further Education. (c) Farm Institutes, etc. (d) Training Colleges. Addendum No. 1, May, 1955. Ministry of Education. Price 4d. (5½d.).

Transport.—British Transport Commission. 7th Annual Report and Accounts, 1954. (a) Volume I, Report. Price 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.). (b) Volume II, Financial and Statistical Accounts. Price 6s. 6d. (6s. 9d.). Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

War Pensioners.—Report for the year 1954. H.C.2. Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland. Price 4s. (4s. 2d.).

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