

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. XXXVI.—No. 7.]

JULY, 1928.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

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

EMPLOYMENT.

THERE was a further decline, on the whole, in the state of employment during June.

Among the workpeople (aged 16-64 inclusive, and numbering approximately 11,800,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together was 10·8 at 25th June, 1928, as compared with 9·9 at 21st May, 1928, and 8·8 at 20th June, 1927.

The percentage wholly unemployed was 7·8 at 25th June, 1928, as compared with 7·6 at 21st May, 1928; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 3·0 as compared with 2·3. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 25th June, 1928, was approximately 1,239,000, of whom 986,000 were men and 198,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 21st May, 1928, it was 1,143,000, of whom 918,000 were men and 165,000 were women; and at 27th June, 1927, it was 1,032,000, of whom 836,000 were men and 144,000 were women.

Nearly half the total increase in the number of workpeople unemployed occurred in the coal-mining industry, where, however, the increase consisted mostly of persons who were temporarily stopped from the service of their employers. There were increases also in a number of other important industries, including pottery, pig iron manufacture, shipbuilding, the textile industries other than silk and artificial silk, and the motor vehicle, glass, clothing, boot and shoe, and building industries.

On the other hand, there was a substantial improvement in the tinplate industry, together with some improvement in the printing and paper trades and in canal, dock, harbour, and certain transport services.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during June resulted in a reduction of over £5,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 60,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £3,900 in those of over 37,000 workpeople.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by reductions included higher-paid men employed at iron puddling furnaces and in iron and steel rolling mills and forges in the Midlands, whose wages were reduced by the equivalent of nearly 2 per cent. on current rates, those of the lower-paid men remaining unchanged; and men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales, in whose case the reductions varied from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Adult timeworkers employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc. industries received temporary increases amounting to 2s. to 3s. per week in the case of male workers and 1s. per week in that of

female workers; juvenile workers in the same industries had their wages reduced. Adult female workers employed in the silk industry at Leek received increases in wages, varying in the case of timeworkers from 1s. to 3s. 6d. per week. There were also increases in the wages of building trade operatives at various towns in the South and East of England.

During the first six months of 1928 the changes reported to the Department in the industries for which statistics have been compiled have resulted in net increases of £14,450 in the weekly full-time wages of 155,500 workpeople, and in net reductions of £119,850 in those of about 1,115,000 workpeople. Of the total net reduction coal mining accounted for over £58,000, and the building and allied industries for nearly £42,000. In the corresponding period of 1927 there were net increases of £22,200 in the weekly wages of 325,000 workpeople, and net reductions of nearly £245,000 in those of 1,286,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 30th June the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 65 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. a month ago and 66 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 30th June was 57, as compared with 56 a month ago and 59 a year ago.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in June, was 20. In addition, 13 disputes which began before June were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in June (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 23,700, and the aggregate duration of all disputes during June was about 452,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 21,500 workpeople involved and 114,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 22,000 workpeople involved and 79,000 days lost in June, 1927.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first six months of 1928 was about 930,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was about 94,000. The figures for the corresponding period of 1927 were 686,000 days and 61,000 workpeople respectively.

CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL REORGANISATION AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

THE second full joint meeting of this Conference, composed of the representative group of employers associated with Lord Melchett (Sir Alfred Mond) and the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, was held on 4th July. Mr. Ben Turner, Chairman of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, presided, supported by Lord Melchett. Mr. Turner moved, and Lord Melchett seconded, the adoption of an Interim Joint Report, submitted by a Joint Committee of the Conference; this Report was adopted by the Conference, with one dissentient.

The Joint Report thus adopted refers to the circumstances in which the Conference had been called together, to the formation of the Joint Committee, and to the detailed agenda, setting forth the topics which had arisen for detailed discussion and investigation.* It also contains a statement of resolutions agreed to by the Committee on various subjects, particulars of which are summarised below.

Gold Reserve and its Relation to Industry.—The Report refers to a memorandum on this subject, which was prepared as a matter of urgency, and sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 12th April. The memorandum closed with the following resolutions:—

"We consider (a) that under the special conditions in which the gold standard operates at the present time, we are not convinced that it is either practicable or desirable that the credit policy of the country should be determined more or less automatically by gold movements, as in pre-war days; (b) that it is highly undesirable that the Bank of England should be so tied down by the provisions of a gold reserve law as to be unable fully and freely to co-operate in the plans adopted by this country and the rest of Europe at Genoa, 1922, for international co-operation in economising the use of gold, regulating its distribution, and preventing undue fluctuations in its value in terms of wealth; (c) that it is therefore essential to hold a full inquiry into the best form of credit policy for this country before decisive steps are taken by the Government."

The Report observes that "Mr. Churchill decided to make provision in his Bill for the greater elasticity requested in the memorandum. . . . The Bill (which was passed into law as the Banknotes and Currency Act, 1928), while still not satisfactory to industry, includes a provision by which the Bank of England is not tied down as rigidly as was formerly the case. To this extent the memorandum is admitted to have exerted a useful and beneficial influence."

Trade Union Recognition.—The Report recognises the Trades Union Congress, representing as it does the affiliated Trade Unions, as the most effective organisation and as the only body which possesses the authority to discuss and negotiate on all questions relating to the entire field of industrial reorganisation and industrial relations. It also recognises that industry in this country in the last generation has benefited by the progressive increase in the volume of negotiations which have taken place between employers and representatives of Trade Unions, and by the enormous growth of joint machinery for such negotiations in varying forms, namely, Industrial Councils, Conciliation Boards, Conferences, etc. It is now the usual practice of employers to negotiate on all questions of working conditions, including wages, hours, and other matters relating to the trade or industry, with the executives and officials of the appropriate affiliated Unions or of other *bona-fide* Trade Unions as already defined.

The Report proceeds: "This practice and method of procedure has in our experience proved to be so beneficial that in our view it should be encouraged and extended."

"It is therefore considered that it is definitely in the interests of all concerned in industry that full recognition should be given to affiliated Unions or other *bona-fide* Trade Unions as already defined, as the appropriate and established machinery for the discussion and negotiation of all questions of working conditions, including wages and hours, and other matters of common interest in the trade or industry concerned."

"We further consider that negotiations between employers and workmen are facilitated by workmen being members of an affiliated Union or other *bona-fide* Trade Union as already defined, and also by employers likewise being organised."

Victimisation.—The Report urges that everything possible should be done to avoid any causes of friction. One such cause of friction is what is generally described as victimisation. The Report proceeds: "It is most undesirable that any workman should be dismissed or otherwise penalised on account of his membership of a Union, on account of his official position in a Union, or on account of any legitimate Trade Union activities, or activities recognised as present or in the future by the parties concerned or allowed by agreement between the parties."

"It is recognised that misunderstanding exists upon consequences which, it is claimed, followed the great dispute of 1926. . . . Where workmen are being penalised for any part they played in these events, whether justified or not, such action is to be deprecated. For the sake of a better understanding in the future in the industrial world we hope efforts will be made to restore the pre-1926 position."

"We are further of opinion that, where a *prima-facie* case is established that a workman has been dismissed or otherwise penalised for his membership of a Trade Union or for activities as previously defined, some appeal machinery should be provided for the investigation and review of such a case. At such an appeal the parties

* See the issues of this GAZETTE for February, 1928 (page 43), and for April, 1928 (page 124).

should be entitled to be represented by the Trade Union or employers' organisation, respectively."

National Industrial Council.—"It is agreed that it is desirable, for the continuous improvement of industrial reorganisation and industrial relations, that a National Industrial Council should be formed; and it is recommended that the necessary steps for its formation should be taken immediately."

"It is recommended that the composition of the National Industrial Council should be as follows:—

(a) The representatives of the workers should be the members of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

(b) An equal number of representatives of the employers should be nominated by the Federation of British Industries and the National Confederation of Employers' Associations.

"It is agreed that the three main functions of the National Industrial Council should be—

(i) To hold regular meetings once a quarter for general consultation on the widest questions concerning industry and industrial progress.

(ii) To establish a Standing Joint Committee for the appointment of Joint Conciliation Boards, as set out in detail in the agreed Resolution on the prevention of disputes [quoted below].

(iii) To establish and direct machinery for continuous investigation into industrial problems."

Prevention of Disputes.—The Report refers to the Balfour Committee's "Survey of Industrial Relations," which demonstrates the great amount of anxious thought which has been given in this country during the last 40 years towards evolving machinery for the avoidance of strikes and lock-outs. "In no industrial country has so much been done; and it is only fair to say that the existing machinery has, on the whole, been successful in dealing with the great majority of disputes. On the other hand, this does not blind us to the fact that during the last few years the existing machinery has failed to deal with certain disputes of a serious magnitude."

The Joint Committee lay down from the outset that (i) nothing should be done to interfere with the beneficial work which is being carried on by the existing joint machinery; (ii) that wherever possible the existing joint machinery should be improved or strengthened; and (iii) that the application of the element of compulsion would be unacceptable and undesirable.

The Report accordingly makes the following recommendations:—

(i) A Standing Committee of the National Industrial Council, nominated as to half its members by the General Council representatives of the National Industrial Council and as to half by the National Confederation of Employers' Associations representatives of the National Industrial Council, should be set up to act as the elective and executive authority for the provision of Joint Conciliation Boards for industrial disputes.

(ii) The Joint Standing Committee should lay down the detailed nature of the Joint Conciliation Boards, their procedure and functions; but in doing this they should be guided by the following considerations:—

(a) When a dispute has failed to be settled within an industry, on the application of either party the Joint Standing Committee would make available a Joint Conciliation Board to investigate and report upon the matters tending towards a dispute. In order to facilitate investigation it is desirable that both parties should arrange that, on an application made to the Joint Standing Committee, no stoppage of work or alteration in conditions should take place pending the report of the Joint Conciliation Board.

(b) The Report of the Joint Conciliation Boards should be reported to the parties and to the Joint Standing Committee before publication.

(c) The personnel of the Joint Conciliation Boards should not be permanent. The Joint Standing Committee should appoint in each particular case referred to a Joint Conciliation Board the most suitable representatives to deal with the particular industry or matter tending towards dispute.

(d) The Joint Standing Committee should have authority to reject application for reference to the Joint Conciliation Board, if, in their opinion, the dispute was not of such a nature as should be referred.

(e) The Joint Standing Committee should also fix a time limit for the stages of reference, hearing, and report to a Joint Conciliation Board, so that the matters in dispute should be reviewed promptly, and reported upon without undue delay."

Rationalisation.—The Report endorses the definition of "rationalisation" adopted by the World Economic Conference at Geneva in May, 1927, viz.: "the methods of technique and of organisation designed to secure the minimum waste of either effort or material. It includes the scientific organisation of labour, standardisation both of material and of products, simplification of processes, and improvements in the system of transport and marketing."

The Report welcomes the tendency towards rationalisation "in so far as it leads to improvements in the efficiency of industrial production, services, and distribution, and to the raising of the standard of living of the people."

It recognises, however, "that certain measures of rationalisation may tend to displace labour or to modify in undesirable ways the conditions of work, and that safeguards are therefore necessary to ensure that the interests of the workers do not suffer by the adoption of such measures. It is therefore agreed that schemes for providing such safeguards should be considered as part of the general question of the displacement of labour."

"Recognising the necessity for adaptability and elasticity in industry, it is suggested that the Trade Unions and employers

concerned should consider the advisability of making provisions for testing variations from existing practices or rules on agreed experimental bases, with proper safeguards against an extension of such conditions being claimed by or imposed upon the industry beyond the agreed limits."

APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING INQUIRY: GENERAL REPORT.

A REPORT* has been compiled by the Ministry of Labour summarising and discussing the general results of an inquiry made in 1925 and 1926 into the methods adopted in Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the recruitment and training of boys and girls for the skilled occupations. This Report, together with the six Reports† already published on conditions of training in the various industries, provides for the first time a complete and authoritative survey of this important aspect of national economy.

A great part of the information presented was obtained from the replies of individual employers to a schedule of inquiry. Schedules were issued to some 44,000 employers, and the response made was highly satisfactory. Almost three-fourths of the employers to whom the questionnaire was addressed, employing nearly 3 million workpeople, gave the requisite information, respecting 1,377,331 male and 41,530 female apprentices and learners. Information, supplementary to that contained in the schedules, was also obtained from employers' associations and trade unions, and from other sources.

Apprenticeship is defined in the Report as the contractual relationship between an employer and a worker, under which the employer is obliged to teach the worker, or to cause him to be taught, any trade or business; and, in consideration of such teaching, the worker is to serve the employer as an apprentice throughout an agreed period on stated terms.

Learner, for the purpose of this inquiry, connotes "a worker who, not being an apprentice, is specifically engaged by the employer for a recognised period of training in the capacity of a learner, and is provided by the employer with instruction, or with definite facilities for learning a branch or process of the industry." This usage of the term, however, does not apply in the cotton and wool textile industries, where "learner" commonly means a juvenile worker undergoing a short but variable period of intensive training, or one who is performing certain simple auxiliary operations while awaiting a vacancy at a machine, not necessarily in the same department.

It is estimated that there are some 315,000 boy apprentices and 110,000 boy learners (excluding learners in the textile industries) in Great Britain alone; in other words, nearly one-seventh of the male workpeople in industrial occupations in Great Britain under 21 years of age are apprentices, and, excluding the textile industries, about one-fifth are either apprentices or are employed under some form of training adopted in substitution for or as an alternative to apprenticeship.

When all the industries in which apprenticeship occurs are considered together, it appears that only about a quarter of the employers take apprentices, and only about 30 per cent. employ boys under some recognised form of training. Moreover, the inquiry has brought out the fact that the burden of training apprentices is borne to a greater extent (in relation to their size) by the smaller than by the larger firms.

For the occupations definitely accepted as skilled, apprenticeship is still the recognised method for securing the necessary training; but this generalisation is subject to certain qualifications. In those industries in which great specialisation of process and of product has become possible, the advance made in the perfection of mechanical methods and in the use of machine tools has had the effect of introducing what might almost be described as a new class of worker, the minders of automatic or semi-automatic machines. Many of these machine minders are trained to a certain degree of skill by means of a rather vague and indefinite system of "learnership," or by a simple process of upgrading. "Upgrading" is the process of promoting, usually to the semi-skilled or to the less skilled tasks, labourers or other unskilled operatives who have acquired some knowledge of the methods and processes in use by working in association with skilled men. It takes two main forms: either a young labourer is first placed on a simple machine, and his progression to more difficult machines depends on his own adaptability; or a labourer works with a skilled workman, sometimes as a mate or as a member of a group or gang: he naturally acquires some acquaintance with the skilled operations, and after some years' experience may be able to perform some of these operations himself.

Apprenticeship proper has changed and is changing from its traditional forms. Thus, there is a distinct tendency for the substitution of an oral agreement for an indenture or other written instrument of apprenticeship. Even between the years 1909 and 1925, the proportion of boys in training serving as apprentices under oral agreements increased from rather more than one-third to just under one-half; while those serving under written agreements decreased from 36 to 30 per cent. In the case of oral agreements, the terms of employment may only be implied in the known or advertised conditions obtaining at particular establishments.

* Report of an Inquiry into Apprenticeship and Training for the Skilled Occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1925-26. VII.—General Report. H.M. Stationery Office; price 5s. net.

† Vols. I-VI.—Printing and Allied Industries; Building, Woodworking, and Allied Industries; Mining, Quarrying, Metal Extraction, Chemical, Glass, Pottery and Allied Industries; Textile and Clothing Industries; Government Departments, Public Utility Services, Distributive Industries, etc.; Engineering, Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing, and other Metal Industries: all published by H.M. Stationery Office, at the price of 4s. 6d., 6s., 3s. 6d., 5s., 4s. and 7s. 6d. net, respectively.

Again, there is evidence of a substantial change in the age of entering apprenticeship and in the length of apprenticeship; the traditional seven years running from the age of 14 has very largely given place to five years running from the age of 16. Of the 74,500 boys who each year enter upon some definite form of industrial training, about 27,000 start at the age of 14, 15,000 at the age of 15; and 30,000 at the age of 16.

There are changes also in the methods of selecting and training apprentices. The traditional methods of selection by the employer or by foremen, on the basis of recommendation or preliminary trial, are by far the most widely adopted; but there is some indication of the adoption by a substantial number of employers of methods of selection intended to ensure that the determining factor in such choice shall be mainly, if not solely, considerations of industrial fitness. Similarly, in regard to training, while the time-honoured method of attaching an apprentice to a skilled workman is still by far the most common, employers in increasing numbers are examining the traditional methods and adapting them to modern conditions, introducing in many cases schemes of training designed to provide opportunities for progressive advancement in knowledge and skill. A greater regard for the advantages of technical education as an adjunct to practical work is a feature of all these schemes.

Thus, substantial proportions of employers with apprentices pay or refund class fees to those apprentices who produce a record of satisfactory attendance at evening classes, or grant time-off during working hours, usually without deduction of wages, in order that the apprentices may attend evening or part-time day classes; or they provide facilities for attendance at day technical classes, by releasing the apprentice for one or two days per week for this purpose. So also many employers encourage attendance at evening classes by giving extra pay or bonus, according to success attained in technical classes. Some employers make attendance at evening classes a condition of the apprenticeship agreement; some arrange for technical instruction to be given at classes held in the works; while others adopt the "sandwich" system, under which boys are allowed to spend alternate periods in the works and in attendance at technical schools or colleges or universities. Despite all that is being done in this direction, however, there is evidence in the returns that in some districts facilities for technical instruction are not available. Even where such classes are available, there is room for the establishment of a closer relationship between technical and workshop training; thus, for example, under existing arrangements it is the exception rather than the rule for any distinction to be made in the length of the period of training required to be served by those apprentices who attend for technical instruction and those who do not.

Many trade unions have rules relating to the conditions of employment of apprentices (e.g., age of starting and length of apprenticeship, ratio of apprentices to journeymen, etc.): the main characteristics and objects of these rules have been summarised in the General Report. Some account is also given in the Report of collective agreements between employers' associations and trade unions on the subject of apprenticeship, of the wages of apprentices, and of the historical development and legal aspects of apprenticeship.

A section of the Report is devoted to an attempt to estimate how far the supply of apprentices is sufficient to meet the future needs of industry. This, it is pointed out, is a problem of unusual complexity. The difficulties of the subject are enhanced by the defects of the available information respecting the relative numbers of apprentices and journeymen, and of juniors and adults, who have in the past entered a particular occupation, and by the uncertainty respecting the future course of any particular industry. The complication introduced by the declining birth-rate is also discussed. The Report attempts, however, on the basis of the Census and other figures, to frame an estimate of the proportion of apprentices (or learners) to journeymen necessary to maintain the existing number of journeymen in the building, engineering and shipbuilding, printing, and furniture trades.

LONDON BOYS AND GIRLS: A GUIDE TO EMPLOYMENT.

THE London Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment have issued a "Guide to Employment for London Boys and Girls."*

The guide covers, under trade groups, the majority of the varied occupations open to boys and girls in London and district, showing the recognised avenues for entering these occupations and the ordinary methods of training, both workshop and technical. The description is not confined to the work of skilled mechanics, but shows in some detail the services performed by certain professional workers, by clerical, commercial and domestic workers, as well as by process workers and labourers.

Though in the main only occupations normally entered under the age of 18 are included, the guide covers all such employments as are usually taken up by boys and girls both from secondary and from elementary schools. A distinction is drawn between occupations which largely fall to the share of young workers and often entail a change early in working life, and those which from the first offer reasonable prospects of permanence. So far as is possible, technical terms are avoided, and sufficient description of working conditions is given to enable some idea to be formed of what is actually to be anticipated when school is left behind and working life begins.

An appendix shows the various types of technical and commercial schools, institutes and classes arranged by the London County Council in connection with the occupations described in the guide.

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. net.

COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY (ENGLAND & WALES AND SCOTLAND).

THESE Committees have now presented their second and final Reports,* dealing with the public systems of education in England and Wales and in Scotland "in relation to the requirements of trade and industry." Their first Reports, relating to the "arrangements for enabling young persons to enter into and retain suitable employment" were submitted at the end of the year 1926.†

England and Wales.—The Committee find that the evidence submitted to them does not afford a sufficient basis for the formulation of a series of industrial and commercial requirements related to the various branches of industry. Their more important recommendations are directed to securing closer contact between the schools and trade and industry, a point to which they attach the greatest importance. This will involve inquiries and negotiations, in which they propose that the Board of Education should take the initiative. The Board should either appoint a small body representative of employers, workers, Local Education Authorities and teachers, assisted by assessors from the various Departments and organisations interested, or should arrange for the work to be undertaken by its own officers with the help of assessors. In either case the objects of this action would be:—

- To inform trade and industry of the educational system;
- To assist trade and industry in the formulation of their views;
- To consider with educational authorities how far these views can be met.

These recommendations relate to central action covering the whole of an industry or branch of trade, but it is essential that such action should be supplemented by co-operation between Local Education Authorities and individual employers, or local trade organisations. Local action has already achieved valuable results, and, indeed, may be the only feasible method of dealing with some groups of occupation.

The Report also contains a survey of the various types of education from the point of view of industrial and commercial needs, in which the following points may be noticed:—

The Committee have no serious criticism to make on the public elementary schools, but they recommend the increased provision of handicraft and domestic subjects, and also that Education Authorities and employers should consider the possibility of providing some form of initiation into employment for school leavers. They also refer to the principle, now generally adopted, that a fresh stage in the child's studies should begin at about the age of 11.

The Committee believe that the education in secondary schools meets the needs of the professions, clerical occupations, and the more organised distributive trades, to one or other of which occupations the majority of pupils proceed. There is, however, little contact with industry, and probably the latter would benefit by a larger intake of secondary school pupils.

As regards other forms of higher education, the Committee praise the work done in junior full-time schools attended prior to employment, but consider that for boys and girls already in employment attendance at evening classes involves too great a strain. Even in the case of young workers above the age of 16, the only satisfactory method of arranging for technical education is for the employer to allow time off during working hours to attend day classes at the Technical School or School of Art. Though much has already been done in certain directions there is still insufficient contact between these schools and industry and commerce. It is most desirable that schemes of training should be formulated by an authoritative body for each industry, a body which will be qualified to deal with such questions as the development of day technical classes and the need of the industry for recruits who have had a full time education at a Technical School.

Scotland.—The Scottish Committee are also impressed with the need of strengthening the relations between the schools and trade and industry. Locally, they think that the Education Authorities and organisations of employers and workers should co-operate more closely, and should not hesitate to ask for mutual advice and information. As regards central action, the Report recommends the appointment of a special committee of the Advisory Council of the Scottish Education Department. This Committee would consist of representatives of organised industry and of education and would have the following functions:—

- To submit the joint views of organised industry and education on educational matters, and
- To stimulate local co-operation between the Education Authorities and industrial organisations.

It should work in co-operation with the Scottish National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment.

The views expressed in the survey of the school system are, allowing for the differences in administrative structure, not dissimilar to those of the Committee for England and Wales. It is recommended that there should be increased provision in primary schools of courses of an advanced division type for pupils who have

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net, each.
† H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net (England and Wales) and 1s. net (Scotland). Summaries of these Reports appeared in the issues of this GAZETTE for December, 1926, and for March, 1927, respectively.

failed by the age of 13 to earn promotion from the senior division. Steps should be taken to secure that pupils do not leave secondary schools before completing their studies; and in those schools the practice of giving a fourth year to an intensive commercial or industrial course, after the completion of three years' general education, should be extended. There is also need for developing the commercial side of day and evening continuation classes and Central Institutions. In particular, more short commercial courses of a technical character should be instituted.

OUTPUT, COSTS AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL-MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL summary* of the output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 31st March, 1928,† prepared by the Mines Department and based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertained for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners, shows that at undertakings which produced 61,833,281 tons of saleable coal, or about 97 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 56,829,836 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £40,355,861, equivalent to 14s. 2.43d. per ton. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £38,143,822, equivalent to 13s. 5.09d. per ton. There was thus a debit balance of £2,212,039, or 9.34d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that the debit balance ranged from 0.31d. in South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire to 1s. 5.69d. in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

The number of workpeople employed was 921,448, and the number of man-shifts worked was 58,218,785. The average output per man-shift worked was 21.24 cwt., the average for the districts ranging from 17.15 cwt. in Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire, to 23.63 cwt. in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The average earnings per man-shift worked were 9s. 5.02d., ranging from 8s. 0.98d. in Northumberland to 10s. 4.62d. in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. These earnings do not include the value of allowances in kind.

The number of man-shifts lost which could have been worked (including absences due to sickness or accident) was 3,977,573.

The following Table compares some of the more important figures with those given in previous returns:—

Quarter ended	Proportion of Industry covered.	Amount of Saleable Coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (-) balance per ton.†	No. of Work-people employed.	Output per man-shift worked.	Earnings per man-shift worked.
1924.						
31st Mar.	94	67,047,657	+2 9.63	1,111,280	17.79	10 2.82
30th June	93	61,552,868	+1 0.34	1,107,457	17.48	10 11.17
30th Sept.	92	59,163,976	+0 0.26	1,082,340	17.33	10 10.24
31st Dec.	94	62,428,185	+0 7.61	1,078,758	17.74	10 7.04
1925.						
31st Mar.	94	62,458,898	+0 6.13	1,074,079	17.98	10 7.58
30th June	95	54,982,191	-0 11.81	1,032,216	17.85	10 6.77
30th Sept.	98	54,976,337	-0 2.82‡	1,013,757	17.88	10 4.85
31st Dec.	98	62,662,455	+1 6.70§	1,041,997	18.31	10 5.14
1926.						
31st Mar.	99	66,071,166	+1 4.99§	1,074,395	18.46	10 4.79
1927.						
31st Mar.	96	63,329,641	+1 2.41	969,943	20.66	10 7.12
30th June	96	58,880,719	-1 0.65	981,393	20.47	10 2.84
30th Sept.	96	58,585,249	-1 2.00	946,487	20.47	9 9.53
31st Dec.	96	60,350,401	-1 0.43	945,480	20.82	9 7.38
1928.						
31st Mar.	97	61,833,281	-0 9.34	921,448	21.24	9 5.02

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE, 1928.

ACCORDING to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1928, amounted to 1,202,610 tons, as compared with 1,440,842 tons at the end of March, 1928, and 1,390,388 tons at the end of June, 1927. The tonnage of motor ships building at the end of June, 1928, amounted to nearly 45½ per cent. of the total tonnage under construction.

The tonnage commenced during the quarter amounted to 278,983 tons, i.e., a reduction of 62,860 tons as compared with the previous quarter. The tonnage launched amounted to 403,168 tons, as compared with 406,726 tons in the previous three months.

The total horse-power of the marine engines building or being installed on board vessels in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1928, amounted to 813,157 h.p., as compared with 918,659 h.p. in the previous quarter.

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

* Cmd. 3129. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.
† In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 30th April, 1928.
‡ Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.
§ After crediting substitution.

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH BOARD.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Industrial Fatigue Research Board, in their eighth Annual Report,* deal with the progress of their investigations during the year 1927 into various questions of general industrial importance, including the effect of varying hours of work, rest pauses, the double-shift system, etc.; the ventilation, heating, and lighting of factories; accident causation; absenteeism due to sickness; the effects of menstruation; the relation of age to the acquisition of dexterity; repetitive work; vocational guidance; and the design of machinery. Reports on some of these subjects have been published during the year; other investigations are in progress.

Investigations have also been carried out by the Board, or are in progress, into specific problems submitted by Government Departments or by industrial associations, including sickness amongst cotton weavers (with special reference to the practice of artificial humidification)†; sickness amongst card-room operatives; sickness in the printing industry; weight carrying by women; load carrying by men; atmospheric conditions in mines; telegraphists' cramp; vocational selection, especially of boys and girls, for various occupations. Particulars are also given in the Report of certain "laboratory" researches (i.e., researches carried on under carefully controlled conditions) into industrial work involving muscular effort;‡ into the extent to which intensive training in one activity affects the acquisition of skill in other activities; and into the effects of noise and vibration.

The Report concludes with a short review of the work of the Board during the whole period, now nearly ten years, since it was set up. The Board express the opinion that "the increase in rate of output on short shifts, the beneficial influence of short rest pauses, the importance of high illumination in fine processes, the disadvantageous effects on work involving muscular effort of high temperatures, and other practical results, though merely suggested in any one inquiry, have been repeatedly indicated in so many investigations, conducted independently and in different industries, that they can now be accepted as established within a high degree of probability."

The Board believe that their work tends more and more to prove that the workers' well-being is not antagonistic to production, but that on the contrary maximum production is contingent on maximum fitness on the part of the worker; and they are glad to think that the indications as to how improved conditions can be secured, such as emerge from the investigations undertaken by such bodies as the Board and the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, are beginning to be regarded as worthy of serious attention on the part of industries, with a view to practical experiment, more especially as all the available evidence goes to show that they will benefit employers and workmen alike.

REPORT ON FIVE-HOUR SPELLS OF WORK, REST-PAUSES, AND TWO-SHIFT SYSTEM.

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board have also issued a Report§ containing two studies on hours of work. The first deals with five-hour spells of work for women, and with the effect of the breaking up of such spells by short rest-pauses; the second with the two-shift system in certain factories.

Five-hour Spells of Work and Rest-Pauses.—This study was directed to ascertaining the effect of a break in five-hour work spells: its physiological and psychological advantages, the effect of such pauses on output, and on the health of the workers; also to its real or supposed disadvantages, chiefly in the obvious loss of working time, the interruption of the "swing" of the work, the stoppage of expensive machinery, etc.

The conclusions reached by the investigators are thus summarised in the Report:—

The adoption of a rest-pause—with opportunity for refreshment—during work spells of five hours' duration is desirable—

- for physiological reasons, dependent on the fact that there is often a period of six hours between breakfast and dinner;
- for psychological reasons, dependent on the relief from monotony.

The rest-pause increases the efficiency of the workers, for in various occupations (with four-and-a-half-hour work spells) the immediate effect of introducing a rest was to increase output by 2.8 per cent.; whilst the improvement in other groups of workers who were tested some months after the introduction of the rest amounted to 6.2 per cent. Also the introduction of a rest appeared to reduce the labour turnover greatly.

A compulsory rest-pause is disadvantageous to output in a small number of semi-continuous occupations, because it involves the waste of a good deal more time than that of the nominal rest-pause. However, this objection can be avoided by employing temporary substitutes, and by arranging that various groups of women take their rest-pause successively, and not simultaneously. This principle can be advantageously applied to many other occupations.

For various reasons it is probable that a ten-minute rest-pause is better than one of fifteen minutes.

"Two-Shift" System.—Under Section 2 of the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1920, the employment of women and young persons over sixteen years of age on two shifts of not more than eight hours each between the hours of 6 a.m. and

* H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.
† Artificial Humidification in Cotton Weaving: Report No. 48 (noticed in the January, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE).
‡ Report No. 50 (see below, in this issue).
§ Industrial Fatigue Research Board: Report No. 47. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net.

10 p.m. from Monday to Friday, and 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, may be allowed by permit from the Home Office on the joint application of the employer and the majority of the workers concerned. Certain special conditions, chiefly relating to welfare, are attached to the granting of permits.

About 500 Orders, or permits, were issued up to the end of 1925. In the course of this investigation, however, only a small number of factories, not more than fifty, was discovered where more than eight or ten women or young persons were employed fairly regularly on the shift system during the years 1925 and 1926; though there were no doubt others where the system was worked for short periods of time during those years. These factories employed altogether not more than 4,000 persons. At one firm about 2,000 women and young persons were on shift work, at two firms there were 200 or 300, and at two firms about 100. The remainder had less than 100 workers on shifts. More than half the 4,000 workers were drawn from the North Midlands district.

The few comparable data available suggest that the rate of work was often increased when workers were employed on the two-shift system. Owing, however, to the shorter hours worked by the shift-workers (on the average 40½ hours, compared with 46 hours) the weekly output per worker was lowered by 4 per cent.

A comparison of the lost-time records in one factory suggests that absenteeism amongst the shift-workers was greater than amongst the day-workers.

Neither system was shown to have any advantage over the other in respect of the sickness experienced. So far as could be ascertained by questioning the workers, a deficiency of sleep during the week of morning shifts was usually compensated for during the week of afternoon shifts.

In one large factory it appeared that the labour turnover was slightly greater in departments always on shift work than departments on day work. But in departments in which there were changes from day to shift work, and vice versa, the turnover was approximately twice as great. In other words, there appears to be an unconscious distaste for a change of system, whether from day work to shift work, or vice versa.

REPORT ON THE PHYSIOLOGICAL COST OF BARROW WORK.

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board have also issued a Report* on the results of an investigation into the physiological cost of barrow work, i.e., on the expenditure of energy in such work, as measured by the excess of oxygen consumed by men engaged therein. The men whose work was studied in this investigation were engaged in wheeling bricks at a brickworks near Peterborough.

The usual load was one of 70 bricks, each weighing about 5½ lbs., and carried, at a normal brisk walking pace, for distances varying from 25 to 75 yards. These were, as the result of the investigation, found to be, in fact, the optimum load and the optimum speed; but it is pointed out in the Report that the arrangement of the bricks on the barrows needs to be adjusted to suit the stature of the barrowman. The height of the handles relatively to the man's stature is also important, especially where the work consists of very short runs, since, if it is too low, an unnecessary expenditure of energy is involved in lifting the load to the "balance" height; hence it is important to get the length of the barrow legs exactly right. Again, as the stopping and starting of the loaded barrow involve relatively large expenditures of energy, it is clearly desirable to secure an uninterrupted run for the barrow.

Certain improvements in barrow design were suggested on the basis of these conclusions, and recommendations made as to the distribution of the load to suit the stature of the workers, and as to the instruction of newly engaged workers in regard to the most economical arrangement of the load. Barrows constructed and loaded in accordance with these suggestions have been experimentally tested in actual working, and found to be satisfactory.

REPORT ON THE RELIEF OF EYESTRAIN.

It is probable that, owing to modern developments in manufacture, and to the increasing subdivision of labour, the number of workers who are solely engaged on fine work, for the whole of the factory day, is increasing. There is a growing recognition of the necessity of ample illumination; but, in the case of fine work, this may not be enough. Such work may necessitate the eyes being brought very close to the work, which involves a great and sustained strain on the eyes' muscles of convergence and accommodation; this causes fatigue to the worker, and loss of output, through the frequent rests that are necessary to relieve the eyestrain. The Industrial Fatigue Research Board issued last year a Report† on an investigation into eyestrain caused by the process of "linking" in the hosiery industry. In that investigation it was found that the use of spectacles, specially prescribed to relieve excessive convergence and accommodation, greatly increased the comfort of the workers, and led to a distinct increase in output.

The Board have now issued another Report‡ on an investigation into certain other occupations involving the discrimination of fine detail, viz., (i) sorting and mounting by hand the filaments of electric lamps, most of which had a diameter of 0.04 or 0.05 of a millimetre (roughly, two thousandths of an inch); and (ii) "drawing-in" warp threads, i.e., drawing them through the eyes of the heads, and afterwards through the "dents" of a reed, preparatory to weaving.

* The Physiological Cost of the Muscular Movements Involved in Barrow Work. Industrial Fatigue Research Board: Report No. 50. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net.
† The Effect of Eyestrain on the Output of Linkers in the Hosiery Industry. I.F.R.B. Report No. 40. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net. A summary of this Report appeared in the May, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE, page 174.
‡ On the Relief of Eyestrain among Persons performing Very Fine Work. Report No. 49. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net.

In this experiment, most of the warp threads had to be drawn through 123 head eyes to the inch, and four sets of healds were used, one behind the other.

It was found that, by the provision of suitable glasses, the workers' rate of output was increased by from about 8 to 26 per cent. for "drawing-in," and by percentages varying from less than 1 (in one exceptional case) to nearly 20 per cent. for filament sorting and mounting. The increases recorded suggest that the use of glasses by persons doing work comparable to that described may effect an average increase of output of the order of 12 per cent.

POOR-LAW RELIEF (ENGLAND AND WALES).

ANALYSIS FOR 1ST JANUARY, 1928.

THE Annual Return* issued by the Ministry of Health, showing the number of persons in receipt of poor law relief in England and Wales on the night of 1st January, 1928, shows that the total number of persons (men, women, and children) in receipt of such relief at that date was 1,364,691, or 347 per 10,000 of the estimated population; a decrease of 184,220, or 11.9 per cent., as compared with the corresponding number for the previous 1st January. The decrease was relatively greatest (42.7 per cent.) in the unions in Wales (with Monmouthshire); in London the decrease was only 5.0 per cent. The total of 1,364,691 comprised 389,117 men, 494,801 women, and 480,773 children.

Of the total, 338,013 were relieved in institutions, and 1,026,678 were in receipt of relief in their own homes; as compared with 336,358 and 1,212,553, respectively, on 1st January, 1927. The decrease was therefore entirely among those in receipt of domiciliary relief. Of these, 449,913 (including dependants) were returned as relieved on account of unemployment; a decrease of 182,191, or 28.8 per cent. The other classes in receipt of domiciliary relief comprised 276,287 suffering from sickness, accident, or bodily infirmity; 5,462 suffering from mental infirmity; and 295,016 other persons. The corresponding figures for institutional relief were: sickness, etc., 94,551; mental infirmity, 131,053; and other persons, 112,409.

The geographical distribution of persons in receipt of relief is shown in detail, in one of the Tables in the Return, for each of the 635 poor-law unions. The highest proportions in receipt of relief were found in Poplar (1,747 per 10,000 of the population), Bermondsey (1,464), Bethnal Green (1,169), and Auckland, Co. Durham (1,094). Thirty-four other unions—mostly in East and South London, Durham, and South Wales—had proportions exceeding 500 per 10,000 of the population.

The great majority of unions had between 100 and 300 persons in receipt of poor-law relief per 10,000 of the population. The averages for London unions were 526 per 10,000; for other populous unions, 379; and for all other unions, 250. For all unions in England and Wales taken together the average, as stated above, was 347 per 10,000; as compared with 396 per 10,000 on 1st January, 1927; with 311 per 10,000 on 1st January, 1925 (the best 1st January figure in recent years); and with 208 per 10,000 on 1st January, 1914.

The following Table shows the numbers and proportions in receipt of domiciliary and of institutional relief, respectively, on 1st January, 1927 and 1928:—

Classification.	Numbers in receipt of relief.		Rate per 10,000 of estimated population.	
	1st Jan., 1928.	1st Jan., 1927.	1st Jan., 1928.	1st Jan., 1927.
In receipt of domiciliary relief on account of unemployment	449,913	632,104	114	162
Other persons in receipt of domiciliary relief	576,765†	580,449	147	148
In receipt of institutional relief	338,013‡	336,358	86	86
Total	1,364,691	1,548,911	347	396

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT, 1928.

THE National Health Insurance Act, 1928, received the Royal Assent on 2nd July.

Three sections were added, and a number of other alterations were made in the Bill during its passage through Parliament; but these were all of minor importance, and the summary of the principal provisions of the Bill given in the March issue of this GAZETTE, at the time of its introduction, substantially represents the main features of the Act, as passed.

The Act is based mainly on the majority Report of the Royal Commission on National Health Insurance. It also embodies new proposals in regard to prolongation of insurance and arrears of contributions; and the opportunity has been taken to introduce a number of minor alterations in the law.

The Act is to come into force on 1st January, 1929, save as regards certain sections and subsections, which come into force on 7th January, 1929.

* House of Commons Paper 87. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 3d. net. † Including 47 casuals. ‡ Including 10,450 casuals. Cmd. 2596. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6s. 6d. net.

WAGES AND HOURS OF WORK IN COAL MINING: INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON.

THE International Labour Office has issued a Report* which contains the results of an inquiry into wages and hours of labour in the coal-mining industry, undertaken as the outcome of a request made by the International Miners' Federation. The inquiry deals with conditions in the year 1925 in the more important coal-producing countries of Europe, excepting Russia.

A great deal of preliminary work was done by the Office, with the help of an advisory committee appointed by the Governing Body, in order to decide on methods, to arrive at definitions and to draw up rules, in accordance with which the statistics furnished for the various countries could be rendered strictly comparable. These methods, rules and definitions are described in detail in Part I of the Report, and are offered as a basis for future investigations of the kind on international lines.

The countries covered by the inquiry are Germany, Belgium, France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Poland, the Saar Territory and Czechoslovakia. In 1925 they produced about 95 per cent. of the total European output. The relative importance of these countries from the point of view of the international coal market is, however, very unequal, as the following Table, in which total output has been taken as a criterion, will show:—

World Production of Coal, 1909-1913 and 1925 (metric tons—000's omitted).

Continents and Countries.	Average 1909-1913.	1925.
Africa	6,878	12,492
North America	476,208	539,405
Central and South America	1,433	1,350
Asia	49,502	80,500
Oceania	12,070	14,868
Europe	551,543	538,688
Germany	121,118	132,729
Belgium	23,260	23,133
France	41,848	47,046
Great Britain	273,905	248,067
Netherlands	1,498	6,249
Poland	35,922	29,981
Saar Territory	11,500	12,990
Czechoslovakia	13,085	12,754
Spain	3,861	5,925
Russia	23,765	17,637
Other European countries	1,781	2,477
THE WORLD	1,097,634	1,187,803

It will be seen from the above figures that Europe produced, before the war, about 50 per cent. of the world's total output of coal, and that this proportion had declined in 1925 to about 45 per cent.

Statistics relating to hours of labour and wages in the coal-mining industry were received from the different Governments, and, after statistical treatment by the methods referred to above, various Tables were compiled. It is not possible to reproduce here anything more than a selection from these figures; and it should be pointed out that, fully to appreciate their significance, reference should be made to the qualifications and explanations set out at length in the Report.

Hours of Labour.

Particulars of the hours of labour of underground and surface workers in the coal-mining industry in 1925 have been extracted from the Report and are given in the following Table:—

Hours of Work in Coal Mines in 1925.

Country.	Underground Workers.				Surface Workers.			
	Hours of attendance reduced to a common unit.		Total average daily travelling time underground plus breaks.	Hours spent at face, less breaks.		Actual hours of work, excluding breaks.		Total.
	Day or shift.	Week.		Day.	Week.	Day.	Week.	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	
Germany: Ruhr	8	48	...	...	10	58-59		
Aachen	8.30'	51	...	...	10	58-59		
Upper Silesia	8.30'	51	...	...	10	60-58		
Lower	8	48	...	...	9	55.30'-53		
Saxony	8	48	1.45'	6.15'	37.30'	54-48		
Belgium	7.50'	47	1.30'	6.20'	38	48		
France	7.44'	46.24'	1.27'	6.17'	37.42'	47.54'		
Great Britain	7.30'	40.45'	1.45'	5.45'	31.7'	46.30'		
Netherlands	8	46	1.40'	6.20'	36	48		
Poland: Upper Silesia	8	48	1.44'	6.16'	37.36'	48		
Dombrowa and Cracow	8	46	1.44'	6.16'	35.46'	46		
Czechoslovakia	7.25'	44.30'	1.30'	5.55'	35.30'	46.30		
Saar	7.30'	45	...	...	...	46.30'		

The hours of attendance shown in column 2 have been calculated as the period from the moment the individual worker enters the cage

* Wages and Hours of Work in the Coal-mining Industry. Studies and Reports, Series D (Wages and Hours of Work), No. 13, published in the United Kingdom for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Son, Ltd., Orchard House, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W. 1; price 6s.

to descend to the moment when he leaves the cage after being raised to the surface. The weekly hours in columns 3, 6 and 8 are obtained by multiplying the daily figures by six and allowing, when appropriate, for shorter hours on certain days of the week, especially in various districts of Great Britain, the Netherlands and Poland (Dombrowa and Cracow).

Since 1925, the hours of work have been somewhat reduced in Germany by various arbitration awards, and have been increased in Great Britain by the Coal Mines Act, 1926. This has tended to level up the working hours for both underground and surface workers; but there are still considerable differences in the working time of surface workers.

Wages.

The calculation of comparable wage statistics had two distinct objects: (i) to determine the standard of living by means of the average earnings per time unit, and (ii) to find the labour cost of production through a computation of the average wages per ton of coal. Every important factor was taken into consideration, and many interesting Tables of comparison are given in the Report. In the following Table, in which a comparison is made of the average earnings of underground workers, expressed* in gold and in terms of purchasing power on the home market, the average annual earnings have been taken as the basis of the comparison, because the average earnings per man-shift would leave out of consideration time lost for various reasons.

Relative Levels in 1925 of Average Earnings per Year and per Worker of Underground Workers in Coal Mines, Employers' Insurance Contributions being excluded.

(Base: Great Britain = 100.)

Country and District.	Index Number of Average Earnings Expressed in Terms of Gold.	Index Number of Earnings Expressed in Terms of their Purchasing Power.
Great Britain	100	100
Netherlands	89	99
Belgium	57	82
France	58	77
Saar	58	76
Germany: Ruhr	70	69
Saxony	65	...
Czechoslovakia: Ostrava-Karvina	50	69
Kladno-Rakovnik	46	66
Germany: Upper Silesia	55	59
Poland	40	52

The maximum wage level in both methods of calculation was shown by Great Britain, but the differences in the relative value of the earnings were much more marked in the calculation based on gold values than in that based on internal purchasing power. In the latter calculation, the Dutch and the British miner are shown to have been nearly on a level, while the comparative level of real earnings in other countries was, for the most part, considerably below that prevailing in Great Britain. The eastern region, consisting of German Upper Silesia and Poland, showed the lowest relative standard, which was somewhat more than one-half of the level of real earnings in Great Britain. Comparisons made on the basis of man-shifts and hourly earnings do not alter the relations substantially.

The items which went to make up the total wages bill from which the average earnings per worker were calculated, included the net money wages (that is, gross money wages less deductions for tool repairs, explosives, etc.), as well as insurance contributions, cash allowances, free or cheap coal, payments for holidays, etc. The following Table shows the relative importance of these items according to country:—

Net Money Wages and other Elements of Earnings (in percentages of total actual earnings) in 1925, Employer's Contributions to Social Insurance being excluded.

Country and District.	Net Money Wages.	Earnings other than Net Money Wages.					
		Workers' Insurance Contributions.	Cash Allowances.	Free or Cheap Coal.	Other Allowances in Kind.	Payments for Holidays.	Total.
Great Britain	93.9	2.0	...	3.0	1.1	...	6.1
Belgium	91.7	2.1	1.0	3.7	1.5	...	8.3
Netherlands	86.7	6.0	4.5	0.7	0.7	1.4	13.3
Germany: Ruhr	82.6	9.7	4.0	1.5	...	2.2	17.4
Saxony	82.6	9.3	1.7	3.7	...	2.7	17.4
Upper Silesia	80.7	10.9	3.2	3.1	...	2.1	19.3
France	78.7	4.6	3.8	2.7	10.2	...	21.3
Czechoslovakia	77.3	7.3	3.6	8.1	1.7	2.0	22.7
Saar	77.0	7.7	9.9	4.0	0.1	1.8	23.0
Poland	70.0	8.2	7.4	6.5	5.0	2.9	30.0

The high proportion of workmen's insurance contributions in Germany, Poland, the Saar, and Czechoslovakia is due to the fact that compulsory and contributory social insurance in these countries

* An explanation of the method adopted for the conversion of money earnings to gold earnings is given in the Report, while the method employed for calculating the relative purchasing power of average earnings is described in one of the Appendices. † Separate information for underground workers not being available, the figures for all mine workers have been inserted.

has a particularly wide scope. Similarly, the conspicuously high percentage of allowances in kind (other than coal) in France is explained by the housing facilities offered by the mine owners, especially in Northern France.

On the other hand, a low percentage under any particular heading does not necessarily mean that the actual money value of this item is low as compared with the money value of the same item in another country. This remark applies particularly to allowances in kind; in countries where the total earnings are low, these allowances represent a higher proportion of the total, since their actual value, which is to some extent determined by the international market, is approximately equal in the different countries.

Working conditions in coal mining, more so than in manufacturing industries, depend very much on natural conditions. These natural conditions of production vary enormously from coal-field to coal-field (and indeed from mine to mine). The coal seams vary from place to place in thickness, jointing, inclination and frequency of faults; the depths of the pits vary; the roofs and floors of the roadways vary in firmness and dryness; the work-places vary in their size, lay-out, distance from the shaft to the face; and the coal itself varies in quality. Nor are these factors the only causes of variation. The use of machinery and explosives, the methods of ownership, the general efficiency of the worker, the scope of mining legislation, the concentration of mines in large undertakings, the combination of coalmining with other industries, and, finally, the distance from the market—all these circumstances influence in a varying degree the technical and economic conditions under which the mines are working. It is interesting, therefore, to compare the average output of coal and the average labour cost of production in the different countries and districts, excluding and including the employers' contributions to social insurance.

Relative Levels of Average Output per Man-Shift and Average Wages per Ton of Coal in European Coal Mines, 1925.

(Base: Great Britain = 100.)

Country and District.	Average Output per Man-shift.	Wages per Ton of Saleable Coal.*	
		Excluding Employers' Contributions.	Including Employers' Contributions.
Great Britain	100	100	100
Belgium	48	99	100
Germany: Saxony	61	96	105
Netherlands	82	90	96
France	59	81	83
Saar	71	73	...
Germany: Ruhr	100	63	68
Czechoslovakia	88	55	61
Germany: Upper Silesia	126	39	...
Poland	101	38	41

This Table clearly shows a great discrepancy between average output and average wage cost per ton. In fact, the countries may now be placed in four main groups. In the first group, Great Britain and the Netherlands (where the standard of living appeared to be highest) showed a very high wage cost per ton and a relatively high productivity (exceeded, however, or equalled in a few Continental districts). In the next two groups, the workers' standard of living was approximately equal; yet in Belgium, France and Saxony low productivity was accompanied by a relatively high wages cost per ton, while in the Ruhr and Czechoslovakia the conditions were the reverse. In the fourth group, i.e., in German Upper Silesia and Poland, the productivity was the highest in Europe, yet the standard of living was the lowest and also the wage cost per ton was the cheapest.

It therefore seems to be shown that the standard of living of the mine workers, the productivity of the mine, and the labour cost per ton influence each other very unequally in different countries, and are not related to one another by any common law or equation. Indeed, considerable weight must be given to other factors, which escaped the analysis of this inquiry, in making any international comparison of conditions in the coal mining industry.

While it was not possible to bring the United States of America within the main comparative analysis, the Report devotes, in an Appendix, considerable space to conditions in the coalmining industry in that country, which in 1925 was responsible for nearly half the world's production of coal. It has been possible to make roughly comparable estimates of the average output per man per day and the average wage cost per ton. The United States has the highest daily output per worker in the world; it is more than three times as high as in the most productive European coal district (German Upper Silesia) and more than four times as high as in Great Britain. The wage cost per ton in American bituminous mines is relatively low; it is not lower than in the European districts which show the lowest wage per ton, viz., Poland and German Upper Silesia, but it is at about the same level as the cost in Czechoslovakia and appreciably below the wage cost per ton in Great Britain, Belgium and the Netherlands. The general characteristics of the American coal industry may be stated to be high money earnings of mine workers, very high productivity of coal mines, and relatively low wage cost of production.

Data relating to changes in working conditions (wages, hours, etc.) in European countries from 1925 to 1927 are given in one of the Appendices to the Report; but it is explained that these particulars are not comparable with those for 1925.

* The wages per ton of saleable coal were obtained by dividing the total wages-bill for all underground and surface workers combined (excluding and including employers' contributions to social insurance) by the total metric tonnage of saleable coal.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

PROCEEDINGS AT ELEVENTH SESSION.

The eleventh Session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation of the League of Nations, convened under Article 389 of the Treaty of Versailles, opened at Geneva on 30th May, and ended on 16th June, 1928. Dr. Saavedra Lamas, ex-Minister of Justice and Public Instruction in the Argentine Republic, was elected President of the Conference. A full account of the proceedings at this Session, including the official texts of the Draft Convention, recommendation, and resolutions adopted by the Conference, will be published in due course as a Command paper, in the form of a report to the Minister of Labour by H.M. Government Delegates. In the meantime, the following is a summary of the principal decisions of the Conference:—

The Conference adopted a Draft Convention concerning the setting up of minimum wage-fixing machinery in trades in which the organisation of employers and workers is defective, and where wages are exceptionally low, with special reference to the home working trades, and also a Recommendation setting out the general principles which experience has shown to produce the most useful results in connection with the application of wage-fixing machinery.

Three committees were set up to consider the other question on the agenda—prevention of industrial accidents. Two draft questionnaires, one relating to the general question of accident prevention and one to the protection of workers engaged in loading and unloading ships, were approved; and the Conference decided that these two questions should be placed separately on the agenda for the 1929 Conference. In addition, a series of resolutions relating to the question of accident prevention and the "Safety First" movement were adopted by the Conference.

Certain amendments were made in the Standing Orders of the Conference, and proposals made by the Standing Orders Committee in regard to the amendment of the standard (or formal) articles appearing in all Conventions were approved by the Conference.

Voting took place for the election of the new Governing Body of the International Labour Office, as a result of which representatives of British employers and workers were elected by their respective groups. H.M. Government is permanently represented on the Governing Body, Great Britain being one of the eight states of chief industrial importance.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CENSUS IN ITALY.*

In October, 1927, a general census was taken throughout Italy of workshops and industrial enterprises, commercial, transport and banking undertakings and all other forms of economic activity, exclusive of undertakings of a purely agricultural nature.

The first results of the census, giving the number of undertakings of the various categories and the persons occupied therein, are tabulated below. The President of the Central Institute of Statistics, Rome, states that, in comparison with the results of the 1911 census, the largest increases are shown in the metallurgical, building, textile and clothing trades.

Nature of Undertaking.	No. of Undertakings.	No. of Persons occupied.
<i>Industrial Undertakings.</i>		
Industries connected with Agriculture	10,397	45,810
Fishing	13,412	42,348
Mines and Quarries	5,065	97,175
Woodworking and Allied Undertakings	102,620	284,931
Food and Allied Undertakings	81,386	339,520
Leather, Hides, Feathers, etc.	7,926	53,626
Printing and Paper Trades	10,224	103,378
Iron, Steel and Metallurgical	2,224	121,452
Engineering	80,273	468,699
Non-Metalliferous Mineral Products	17,350	170,907
Building and Construction	36,431	328,734
Textile	10,355	636,687
Clothing	191,055	490,798
Health and Local Services	38,215	94,697
Chemical	5,156	97,319
Light, Power and Water Supply	5,972	62,501
Transport and Communication	106,603	514,729
Others	1,486	12,190
Total	728,150	3,965,501
<i>Commercial Undertakings.</i>		
Credit, Exchange and Insurance	15,361	92,115
Wholesale Commerce	63,658	173,448
Auxiliary Commercial Activities	48,188	81,353
Retail Commerce	540,097	926,454
Hotels, Restaurants, etc.	139,122	300,451
Entertainments	3,606	17,318
Miscellaneous	11,634	49,151
Total	821,666	1,640,290
Total, Industrial and Commercial Undertakings	1,549,816	5,605,791

* *Bollettino del Lavoro*, 30th April, 1928, Rome, and *L'Organizzazione Industriale*, 1st May, 1928, Rome.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN GERMANY.

ACCORDING to a Report* recently issued by the Federal Ministry of Labour, the number of collective agreements and of workers covered thereby on 1st January, 1927, showed a slight decrease as compared with the figures for the corresponding date in 1926. (An analysis of the latter statistics was given on page 48 of this GAZETTE for February last.) The downward trend in the collective agreement statistics, which was most marked between the years 1924 and 1925, appears, however, to have been checked, as the slight falling off in the figures since 1st January, 1926, is attributed in the Report to the unfavourable conditions in the employment market towards the end of 1926. The figures for the last three years are as follows:—

	Number of Collective Agreements.	Number of Undertakings.	Number of Workers Covered.
1st January, 1925	7,099	785,945	11,904,159
" " 1926	7,533	788,755	11,140,521
" " 1927	7,490	807,300	10,970,120

In Reports for previous years, the extent to which the collective agreement system applied to the employed population of Germany was estimated on the basis of the relation between the total number of workers compulsorily insured against sickness and the number of workers included in the collective agreement statistics. In the present Report, however, a comparison has been made with the number of employed persons as shown by the Census of Occupations (1925). On the basis of a total of 17,053,000 employed persons in June, 1925, 61.3 per cent. of all German workers were covered by collective agreements on 1st January, 1927. The 1925 Census was, however, taken during a period of great industrial prosperity, so that a percentage ratio based on the Census figures is somewhat misleading. The compilers of the Report, therefore, allow for an increase of two millions since 1925 in the number of persons registered as seeking employment, and estimate the proportion of employed workers covered by collective agreements on 1st January, 1927, as approximately 69 per cent. The ratio is stated to be rather higher in the case of large scale undertakings (e.g., in the mining, metallurgical, chemical, textile and paper industries) and lower in such industries as the clothing and food and drink trades, retail commerce, and the hotel and restaurant trades.

Of the total number of agreements in force on 1st January, 1927, 62.8 per cent., covering 77.0 per cent. of the workers whose conditions were regulated by collective agreements, were concluded for a definite period, in the majority of cases between six months and one year. The majority of the agreements (93.0 per cent. of the total number) contained clauses defining the daily or weekly hours normally to be worked. In the case of 84.5 per cent. of these agreements, covering 75.3 per cent. of the workers concerned, a 48 hour week was prescribed as the general rule. Most of the agreements also contained clauses providing for paid holidays to be granted; according to the Report, collective agreements which do not make provision for paid holidays continue to be exceptional in Germany. In 50.5 per cent. of the agreements containing holiday clauses, the minimum period prescribed did not exceed three days, while a further 42.5 per cent. provided for periods ranging from three to six days, the maximum periods provided for generally ranging from six to twelve days. The number of days holiday granted to non-manual workers was, in most cases, fixed on a more liberal scale.

The official conciliation machinery continues to play an important part in the conclusion of collective agreements in Germany. Of those in force on 1st January, 1927, 14.0 per cent. (covering 32.3 per cent. of the total number of undertakings and 38.7 per cent. of the workers) were concluded as the result of arbitration awards. Comparatively few agreements (3.6 per cent.) were stated to have been arrived at as a sequel to strikes or lock-outs. In a large number of agreements, clauses were inserted providing for the reference of disputes to some form of conciliation authority; but the present Report does not contain any detailed statistics on this point, on account of the changes in procedure necessitated by the Labour Courts Act of 23rd December, 1926.

WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS IN GERMANY.

Metal Trades.—The provisional terms of settlement of the Berlin tool-makers' strike (of which an account was given on page 126 of this GAZETTE for April, 1928) included a clause providing for the negotiation, before 30th June, 1928, of a general wage agreement, covering the whole of the Berlin metalworkers, whose conditions of employment have not been regulated by a collective agreement for some time past. A joint arbitration committee, set up under the chairmanship of the local conciliation officer, issued an award in June. It provides for a number of wage adjustments and the retention of the present 48-hour week; but the number of hours of permissible overtime is to be reduced. It is not yet known whether this award has been accepted by both parties.

Transport.—The conciliation award in the Rhine transport industry (see page 208 of this GAZETTE for June, 1928) was declared binding by the Federal Minister of Labour during the second week in June.

* *Die Tarifverträge im Deutschen Reich am 1. Januar, 1927.* (43rd Special Supplement to *Reichsarbeitsblatt*.) Berlin, 1928.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN SWEDEN: NEW LEGISLATION.*

Two Acts recently passed by the Swedish Parliament, which come into force on 1st January, 1929, provide (A) for the regulation of collective agreements, and (B) for the establishment of a labour court to deal with disputes arising out of collective agreements. The existing machinery for the settlement of disputes is of a purely voluntary character, and is based on three Acts, dated 30th April, 1920. The first of these was an Act to amend the Act of 31st December, 1906, which provided for the appointment of conciliators, whose principal duty it was to "promote the settlement of disputes between employers and workpeople"; the second related to the appointment of special conciliators for individual disputes; while the third established a permanent arbitration court to which disputes arising out of collective agreements might be referred.

The first two of these Acts remain in force; but the former voluntary reference of disputes to an arbitration court is replaced by compulsory reference if conciliation fails, while the legislation is supplemented by the Act for the regulation of collective agreements. The new measures may be summarised as follows:—

(A) *The Collective Agreements Act.*—The Act applies to agreements concerning the conditions of engagement of workers or other relations between employers and workpeople concluded between an employer or an association of employers and a trade union or similar association of workers, or between federations of such associations. Collective agreements are binding, not only on the associations which conclude them, but also on individual members of the associations. A member of an organisation which has concluded a collective agreement who leaves the organisation does not cease to be bound by the agreement. An agreement between employers and workpeople who are bound by the same collective agreement is null and void if it contains provisions in conflict with the terms of the collective agreement, unless such an agreement may be considered permissible under the terms of the collective agreement. During the period of validity of a collective agreement employers or workpeople may not participate in a lock-out or strike, blockade, boycott, or similar action (a) on account of a dispute regarding the validity, duration, or interpretation of the agreement, or on account of a dispute as to how far certain action is contrary to the agreement or to the Act; (b) with a view to procuring an amendment in the agreement; (c) in order to introduce a provision to come into force after the expiration of the agreement; or (d) to assist any person who is himself forbidden to take offensive action. Moreover, if an association of employers or workers, or one of its members, is bound by a collective agreement, such association may not organise, initiate or support prohibited offensive action, and, further, the association is bound to do all in its power to prevent offensive action on the part of its members, and, if such action has been started, must endeavour to prevail upon them to call it off. Should an employer, worker, or association of employers or workers bound by a collective agreement be guilty of proceedings in contravention of the agreement or the Act, and such proceedings are of importance in relation to the agreement as a whole, the agreement may, at the instance of the other party, be declared by the Labour Court to be null and void. An association of employers or workers which has been guilty of any procedure in conflict with the terms of the agreement or the Act, is liable to pay compensation. If it is considered reasonable on account of the small degree of responsibility of the guilty person causing the injury, the behaviour of the injured party in regard to the origin of the dispute, or other circumstances, the amount of compensation may be fixed at a sum less than the actual damage; obligation to pay compensation may also be entirely set aside. In no case may the amount of damages awarded against any individual worker exceed 200 kronor (about £11).

(B) *The Labour Court Act.*—Cases arising out of collective agreements are to be dealt with by a Labour Court sitting in Stockholm. The Court will consist of a chairman and six members. The chairman and two members will be appointed by the King for a certain period from among persons who cannot be regarded as representing the interests of the employers or the workpeople; the chairman and one of the members, who will act as vice-chairman, must be experienced judges; the other member appointed by the King must have special experience of labour conditions and collective agreements. Of the four remaining members, two are to be appointed on the nomination of the Council of the Swedish Employers' Association and two on the nomination of the Swedish National Trade Union Federation. The appointments will be made by the King for a period of two years. Recourse to the Labour Court is compulsory, but disputes coming within the competence of the Court may be submitted for a decision to an arbitrator if provision for such procedure is made in the collective agreement. No appeal is allowed against the award of the Court. Cases coming before the Court must be settled without undue delay and, if possible, at one sitting.

LABOUR DISPUTES AT ANTWERP.

On 18th June a strike broke out among the Antwerp dockers, who claimed an immediate wage increase of 10 francs a day. At the outset 8,000 workers were affected; but the strike spread rapidly throughout the port, where all activity came to a standstill. It is estimated that approximately 12,000 workers were idle. The Transport Workers' Union originally disclaimed responsibility; but, after the strike became general, the Union assumed direction and undertook

to grant strike pay to Union members while the strike continued. It was decided to demand a minimum wage of 60 francs a day, an increase of 8 francs.

After interviews with the secretaries of the (Social-Democratic) Transport Workers' Union and the Christian Dockers' Union, the Minister of Labour and Industry on 23rd June proposed to the workers' and employers' organisations that a resumption of work should take place and the dispute be submitted to the joint committee of the port of Antwerp. This proposal was rejected by the Transport Workers' Union by 7,038 votes to 663; and the Christian and Liberal unions also decided by a majority to continue the strike for an immediate increase of wages.

On 10th July, on the advice of their leaders, the striking workmen belonging to both the Social-Democratic and the Christian unions decided to accept a conciliation proposal put forward by the Governor of the Province of Antwerp, and work was resumed on 11th July. The terms of the proposal were that work should be resumed immediately, and that questions of wages and conditions of work be referred to a joint committee under the chairmanship of the Governor, which is to settle the dispute within the next fortnight.

The present wages of dock workers in Antwerp are stated to be approximately as follows: stevedores' labourers, 52 to 100 francs a day, according to their employment; unskilled labourers, 52 francs a day; labourers employed on loading or unloading ores, up to 75 francs or more a day; labourers employed on loading and unloading timber, piecework payment.

No settlement has yet been reached in the ship-repairers' strike in Antwerp, referred to in this GAZETTE for April, 1928 (page 126). The ship-repairers cancelled their agreement with the ship-repairing firms and joined the metal workers on 7th May; they resumed work on 9th July, having obtained an increase in wages of 75 centimes an hour.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES IN BELGIUM.

A BELGIAN Act of 14th April, 1928, which is to come into force six months after the date of publication,* provides that a clause shall be inserted in contracts for public works, requiring all contractors, the value of whose contracts with the State amounts to 50,000 francs or more, to join an approved compensation fund for the payment of family allowances. The monthly scale of allowances is to be 15 francs for the first child, 20 francs for the second, 40 francs for the third, and 80 francs for the fourth and each subsequent child. Other scales may be approved if not less favourable to the recipients than the above minimum scale. A compensation fund, however, is not bound to pay out more than a sum equal to 3 per cent. of the total wages and salaries paid by all the employers who belong to it. To bring the total sum paid within this limit, the fund may reduce proportionately the minimum rates laid down by the statutory scale.

With regard to the activities of Family Allowance Compensation Funds in Belgium, a report was presented to the Committee of Inquiry into Family Allowances, at a meeting held on 9th November, 1927. The funds associated with the Committee in 1927 numbered 17, to which were affiliated 1,274 firms employing 250,171 workpeople. If the funds not associated with the Committee are included, the total number of workpeople covered by family allowance funds is 265,000. Apart from the compensation funds, family allowances are paid by the coal-mining industry in respect of 175,000 workpeople, by the National Railway Company in respect of 110,000 workpeople, by Government Departments in respect of 123,000 workpeople, by provincial and local administrations in respect of 20,000 workpeople, and by individual firms in respect of 45,000 workpeople.

The total number of workpeople who benefit by the system of family allowances is thus 738,000, out of a total number of 1,937,000 workpeople in Belgium. The amount disbursed annually is now approximately 154 million francs. Comparison of the rates paid by each fund in November, 1925, and November, 1927, respectively, shows a general increase. The highest rates are paid by the family allowance fund of the Liège section of the Federation of Zinc, Lead, Steel, Copper and Nickel Foundries, namely, 20 francs a month for the first child, 40 francs for the second, 60 francs for the third, 80 francs for the fourth, and 100 francs for the fifth and each subsequent child.†

HOURS OF WORK IN SHIPBUILDING YARDS IN HOLLAND.

THE Netherlands Minister of Labour recently announced to the associations of workers and employers concerned that on and from 1st January, 1929, working hours in shipbuilding yards building ships for sea traffic, in which exemptions have been granted almost continuously since the passing of the Eight-Hour Day Act, would be reduced from 50 to 48 hours a week. The Minister stated that the object for which overtime permits had been granted, the maintenance of the shipbuilding industry against foreign competition, had been completely realised, and that he considered that he had no power to continue granting overtime permits in order to increase profits by means of a longer working day.

For yards building ships for inland traffic, permits to work 52 hours a week may be granted up to 1st October, 1928. On and after that date, the weekly working hours for such yards are to be reduced to 50.

* *Moniteur Belge*, 20th April, 1928.

† Report on the *Economic Situation in Belgium in 1927*, Department of Overseas Trade, 1928. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 4s. net. Also *Industrial and Labour Information*, 27th February, 1928. Geneva.

* *Societal Meddelanden*, No. 6, 1928. Stockholm.

CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 30th JUNE.*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	65%
Food only	...	...	57%

FOOD.

DURING June the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food showed a slight advance, mainly due to increases in the prices of eggs and bacon. The prices of new potatoes at the end of the month were, on the average, not very different from those of old potatoes at the beginning of the month.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 57 per cent. at 30th June, 1928,* as compared with 56 per cent. a month ago, and 59 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st June and 30th June, 1928:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest 1d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 30th June, 1928, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st June, 1928.	30th June, 1928.	July, 1914.	1st June, 1928.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs	0 10	1 5	1 5½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 0½
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 2½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	+ 0 0½
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 0½	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	1 7	1 6½	+ 0 8½	- 0 0½
Breast	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	- 0 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 5	+ 0 0½
Breast	0 4	0 5	0 5	+ 0 1	...
Bacon (streaky)†	0 11½	1 3½	1 4	+ 0 4½	+ 0 0½
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 4½	1 4½	+ 0 6½	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 3½	...
Tea ...	1 6½	2 5	2 5	+ 0 10½	...
Sugar (granulated)	0 2	0 3½	0 3½	+ 0 1½	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 2	...
Butter—					
Fresh	1 2½	1 10½	1 10½	+ 0 7½	...
Salt	1 2½	1 9½	1 9½	+ 0 7	...
Cheese†	0 8½	1 2	1 2	+ 0 5½	...
Margarine	0 7	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 0½	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	+ 0 0½	+ 0 0½
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 5½	- 0 0½

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 30th June, 1928, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st June, 1928.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	76	71	73	72
Thin Flank	44	43	43	43
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	45	42	44	41
Thin Flank	13	16	14	12
Mutton, British—				
Legs	81	80	80	82
Breast	60	57	59	61
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	74	66	70	68
Breast	23	26	24	24
Bacon (streaky)†	44	41	43	37
Fish ...	115	92	103	102
Flour ...	57	61	59	59
Bread ...	63	61	62	62
Tea ...	55	62	58	59
Sugar (granulated)	67	60	63	63
Milk ...	96	64	60	60
Butter—				
Fresh	50	54	52	53
Salt	50	49	49	50
Cheese†	61	64	63	62
Margarine	8	4	6	6
Eggs (fresh) ...	36	29	32	23
Potatoes ...	125	103	114	119
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	58	56	57	56

* As 1st July fell on a Sunday, the statistics relate to 30th June, in accordance with the usual practice.
 † If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.
 ‡ The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 30th June, 1928, was approximately 51 per cent. Of the total increase about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges, and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 30th June the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged approximately 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group, there were some reductions in the prices of coal and gas during June and at the end of the month the prices of coal averaged about 70 per cent. and those of gas between 45 and 50 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 30th June, as compared with July, 1914, was approximately 65 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 30th June is, approximately, 65 per cent.† over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 65 per cent. at 1st June, 1928, and 66 per cent. at 1st July, 1927.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1928 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in those families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1918 TO 1928.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1918 to 1928:—

Month.	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)										
	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Jan. ...	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75	75	68
Feb. ...	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72	66
Mar. ...	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71	64
Apr. ...	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68	65	64
May ...	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64	64
June ...	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63	65
July ...	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66	65
Aug. ...	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64	...
Sept. ...	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65	...
Oct. ...	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	67	...
Nov. ...	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69	...
Dec. ...	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	69	...

NOTE.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THERE was a further decline, on the whole, in the state of employment during June, the percentage of insured workpeople unemployed rising from 9.9 to 10.8 between 21st May and 25th June.

Of the total increase in the numbers of workpeople unemployed nearly one-half occurred in the coal-mining industry, where, however, the increase consisted mostly of persons who were temporarily stopped from the service of their employers. There were increases also in a number of other important industries, including pottery, pig iron manufacture, shipbuilding, the textile industries other than silk and artificial silk, and the motor vehicle, glass, clothing, boot and shoe, and building industries.

On the other hand, there was a substantial improvement in the tinplate industry, together with some improvement in the printing and paper trades, and in canal, dock, harbour, and certain transport services.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts (aged 16 to 64 inclusive and numbering approximately 11,800,000), and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 25th June, 1928 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 10.8, as compared with 9.9 at 21st May, 1928, and 8.8 at 20th June, 1927. For males alone the percentage at 25th June, 1928, was 12.3, as compared with 11.4 at 21st May, 1928; for females the corresponding figures were 6.9 and 5.9. The percentage wholly unemployed at 25th June, 1928, was 7.8, as compared with 7.6 at 21st May, 1928. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 25th June, 1928, was approximately 1,239,000, of whom 986,000 were men and 198,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 21st May, 1928, it was 1,143,000, of whom 918,000 were men and 165,000 were women; and at 27th June, 1927, it was 1,032,000, of whom 836,000 were men and 144,000 were women.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal-mining industry employment continued slack, and showed a further decline. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 23rd June, 1928, was 920,332, a decrease of 1.0 per cent. as compared with May; the average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 23rd June, 1928, was 4.52, as compared with 4.70 in May.

In iron mining employment continued slack. In the shale mines in West Lothian there was a small decrease in the number of workpeople employed at the mines from which returns were received, but a slight increase in the average number of days worked per week as compared with May. At limestone quarries in the Clitheroe district employment was good; in the Buxton district it was fairly good; in the Weardale district it continued fair. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries it declined, and was reported as slack. At the slate quarries in North Wales it was fairly good. At china clay quarries in Devon and Cornwall employment remained fairly good; at tin mines it was also reported to be fairly good.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—In the pig-iron industry employment continued bad. Of 437 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of June, 1928, was 141, as compared with 148 at the end of May, 1928, and with 176 at the end of June, 1927.

At iron and steel works employment was bad, and short-time working was reported from many districts. Employment in the tinplate industry showed an improvement. The arrangement made in November for stabilising prices and regulating output, whereby provision was made for each works to stop three weeks out of every thirteen, was suspended at the end of May until the end of August. In the week ended 30th June, 435 mills were reported to be in operation, as compared with 328 in the week ended 28th May, 1928, and with 342 at the end of June, 1927. In steel sheet manufacture employment continued fair. The number of steel sheet mills in operation at the end of June, 1928, was 130, as compared with 121 at the end of May, 1928, and with 125 in June, 1927.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Industries.—In engineering employment remained quiet, on the whole, and showed little change compared with the previous month except in the motor vehicle section, where there was a decline, and where employment was only moderate. Employment remained fairly good in electrical engineering, and bad in marine engineering. Much short time was still worked in textile machinery manufacture, and at some of the railway works a 5-day week was introduced. In shipbuilding and ship-repairing employment remained very bad, on the whole, and showed a further decline.

In the other metal trades employment continued moderate to fair, on the whole. It was fairly good in the lock, latch, and key, and nut and bolt trades; fair in the tube, sheet metal, wire manufacture, and hollow-ware trades; moderate in the brasswork,

jewellery and plated ware, and needle and fishing tackle trades; and slack, or bad, in the metallic bedstead, stove and grate, cutlery, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Industries.—In the cotton industry employment declined, especially in the spinning department. In mills spinning Egyptian cotton it showed a further slight decline, but remained, on the whole, fairly good; in the section spinning American cotton employment was bad. In the plain weaving section it showed a slight decline; weavers of fine and coloured cloths were, as for many months past, relatively well employed.

In the wool textile industry employment showed a further decline both in the worsted and in the woollen sections. In the carpet section there was little change.

In the hosiery trades employment continued fairly good; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it also continued fairly good; in the lace trade it showed a decline; in linen manufacture a decline was also reported and employment was bad; in the jute industry employment was reported to be good, on the whole. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment continued slack generally.

Clothing Industries.—Employment in the retail bespoke branch of the tailoring trade continued fairly good on the whole; in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branch there was a seasonal decline, and employment was moderate, short time being worked in a number of districts. In the dressmaking, millinery, and blouse and light underclothing trades employment continued good in most districts; in the shirt and collar and corset trades it showed a decline, but was still fair, on the whole. In the felt hat trade employment was not so good as in May. In the boot and shoe industry it was very slack, and showed a further decline in most districts; short time was very prevalent.

Leather Trades.—Employment showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. In the tanning and currying section, and in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather sections it was fair; with saddlery and harness makers it was moderate.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades, except for a decline in the painting and decorating section, showed little change as compared with the previous month; it remained fair to fairly good in most districts with skilled operatives (other than plasterers) and moderate with unskilled workers. As regards individual occupations, it was generally fairly good with bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, and slack in many districts with plasterers; with slaters it improved, and was fair at most centres; with plumbers it was moderate, on the whole. Employment with painters and decorators showed a decline, but was still fairly good in most districts; with tradesmen's labourers it was moderate. In brick manufacture employment showed little change as compared with the previous month; in the Peterborough district it continued good.

Employment in the furnishing trades showed a slight decline, but was fairly good, on the whole; with coachbuilders, also, it was fairly good; with millers it was moderate.

Paper Manufacture, Printing, and Bookbinding.—With paper makers employment continued fairly good, on the whole. With letterpress printers it continued fair, and showed a slight improvement; it was, however, bad at Glasgow and moderate at Sheffield. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was good generally. With lithographic printers employment was fair, on the whole, but was reported as bad in Manchester. In bookbinding employment continued fair.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery industry showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month; in the best china-ware and in the sanitary ware sections employment was fairly good; in other sections there was much short-time working. In the glass trades employment continued bad in the bottle making section, and slack, on the whole, in other sections.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales the supply of labour was sufficient to meet increasing activities. With fishermen employment showed a further slight improvement.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—With dock labourers employment continued generally slack; with seamen it continued moderate to fair on the whole, the supply of seamen being adequate for requirements at most of the ports.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE, detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during June are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of these statistics are briefly

summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries and (b) for various other industries:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Workpeople included in the Returns for June, 1928.	June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month before.	Year before.
			Days.	Days.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.		
Coal Mining ...	920,332	4.52	- 0.18	- 0.16
Iron	6,697	5.67	- 0.11	+ 0.23
Shale	2,530	5.98	+ 0.01	+ 0.18
		Furnaces in Blast.	Number.	Number.
Pig Iron ...	...	141	- 7	- 35
		Mills working.	+ 116	+ 98
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	Shifts Worked (one week)	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel ...	66,673	358,414	+ 0.5	- 7.5

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.	
	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.
		Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Textiles:—				
Cotton ...	74,646	- 0.8	135,388	- 2.0
Woolen ...	61,661	- 0.5	126,601	- 2.1
Worsted ...	89,576	- 0.9	171,030	- 3.9
Carpet ...	10,282	- 0.1	19,293	- 1.8
Boot and Shoe ...	48,880	- 3.1	102,275	- 9.7
Pottery ...	11,515	+ 0.1	21,784	- 0.8
Brick ...	8,515	- 0.3	22,963	- 0.0

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 25th June, 1928, among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts:—

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured aged 16-64 inclusive, at July, 1927. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 25th June, 1928.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,091,260	6.2	3.1	5.2	+ 0.1	...
South-Eastern ...	849,410	4.8	3.2	4.4	- 0.1	+ 0.5
South-Western ...	807,100	8.2	4.5	7.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
Midlands ...	1,733,280	12.3	7.8	11.1	+ 2.1	+ 2.8
North-Eastern ...	1,961,560	17.2	8.1	15.2	+ 1.5	+ 2.8
North-Western ...	2,090,390	13.5	9.8	12.3	+ 1.5	+ 2.7
Scotland ...	1,268,170	13.0	6.1	11.1	- 0.1	+ 1.4
Wales ...	607,580	23.0	5.1	21.3	+ 0.3	+ 3.3
Northern Ireland	249,000	19.2	19.6	19.4	+ 1.7	+ 7.9
Special Schemes	126,250	1.9	0.4	1.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
TOTAL ...	11,784,000	12.3	6.9	10.8	+ 0.9	+ 2.0

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

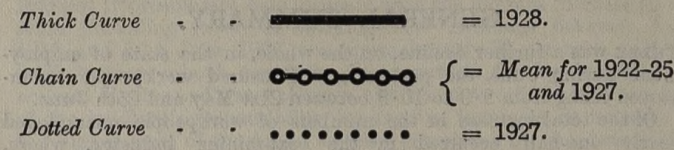
The following Table shows, month by month from June, 1927, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople and the approximate number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Date.	Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople.				Total.	Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.	
	Males.	Fe-males.	Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily Stopped.		Date.	Numbers.
1927.							
20 June...	10.1	5.3	6.5	2.3	8.8	27 June...	1,032,000
25 July...	10.4	5.8	6.6	2.6	9.2	25 July...	1,055,000
22 Aug...	10.4	6.3	6.8	2.5	9.3	29 Aug...	1,076,000
26 Sept...	10.5	6.9	7.4	2.4	9.3	26 Sept...	1,075,000
24 Oct...	10.8	6.0	7.2	2.3	9.5	31 Oct...	1,132,000
21 Nov...	11.3	6.4	7.6	2.4	10.0	28 Nov...	1,172,000
19 Dec...	11.3	5.9	7.7	2.1	9.8	19 Dec...	1,127,000
1928.						1928.	
23 Jan...	12.2	6.8	8.3	2.4	10.7	30 Jan...	1,199,000
20 Feb...	12.0	6.3	8.2	2.2	10.4	27 Feb...	1,139,000
26 Mar...	11.0	5.7	7.7	1.9	9.6	2 Apr...	1,071,000
23 Apr...	11.0	5.7	7.6	2.0	9.6	30 Apr...	1,171,000
21 May...	11.4	5.9	7.6	2.3	9.9	21 May...	1,143,000
25 June...	12.3	6.9	7.8	3.0	10.8	25 June...	1,239,000

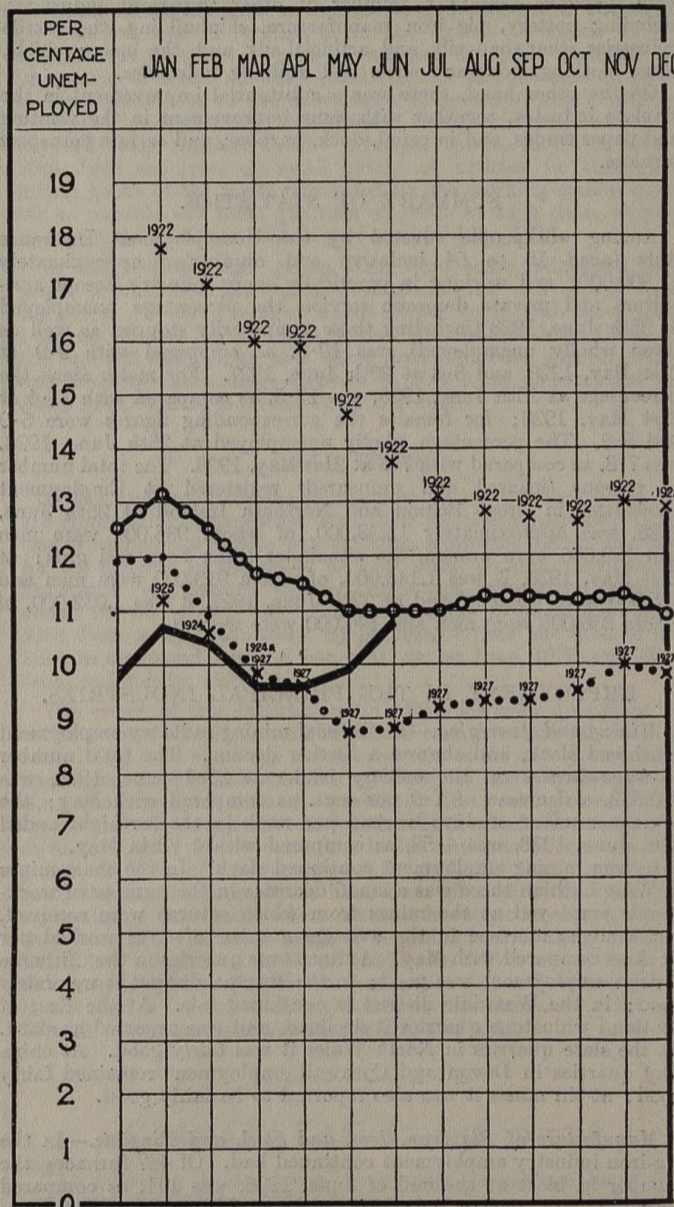
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND:—



× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-5 and 1927.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING JUNE, 1928.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Per-centages of Numbers Insured at July, 1927.*
South-Eastern:						
(a) London ...	1,717	5,441	2,757	4,919	14,834	0.71
(b) Rest of South-Eastern ...	1,300	2,427	1,518	1,974	7,219	0.85
South-Western ...	1,029	2,157	1,115	1,596	5,897	0.73
Midlands ...	956	4,147	1,110	3,656	9,869	0.57
North-Eastern ...	1,203	4,789	1,466	3,333	10,791	0.55
North-Western ...	1,129	4,086	1,661	3,861	10,737	0.51
Scotland ...	1,473	3,258	1,165	2,581	8,477	0.67
Wales ...	471	1,806	517	673	3,467	0.57
GREAT BRITAIN ...	9,278	28,111	11,309	22,593	71,291	0.62

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered.

* Aged 16-64 inclusive.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and no the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued slack during June, and showed a further decline. Much short-time working was reported, especially in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, and the Midlands.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 25.7 at 25th June, 1928, as compared with 21.1 at 21st May, 1928, and 19.1 at 20th June, 1927. The percentage wholly unemployed rose by 0.6 from 13.9 to 14.5, while the percentage temporarily stopped increased by 4.0 from 7.2 to 11.2.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 23rd June, 1928, showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. as compared with 26th May, 1928, and of 9.0 per cent. as compared with 25th June, 1927.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 23rd June, 1928, was 4.52, a decrease of 0.18 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th May, 1928, and a decrease of 0.16 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week* during the fortnight ended 23rd June, 1928, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Year before.	Fort-night ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	46,077	+ 0.7	- 7.8	4.92	- 0.25	+ 0.22
Durham ...	127,051	+ 0.3	- 4.2	4.92	- 0.22	+ 0.41
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	11,478	- 0.5	- 3.2	4.55	- 0.66	- 0.34
South Yorkshire ...	116,513	- 1.3	- 3.3	4.39	- 0.11	- 0.27
West Yorkshire ...	55,973	- 1.9	- 10.7	3.77	- 0.32	- 0.25
Lancs and Cheshire ...	80,975	- 1.4	- 10.1	3.55	- 0.36	- 0.54
Derbyshire ...	55,372	- 1.8	- 7.1	3.42	- 0.35	- 0.85
Notts and Leicester...	60,990	+ 0.0	- 9.4	3.75	- 0.32	- 0.66
Warwick ...	17,148	- 3.6	- 9.9	4.52	- 0.32	- 0.83
North Staffordshire	29,362	- 2.3	- 11.0	3.79	- 0.26	- 0.73
South Staffs,† Worcs and Salop ...	31,267	- 0.8	- 6.3	3.97	- 0.30	- 0.51
Glos. and Somerset ...	10,954	- 1.6	- 7.0	4.03	+ 0.03	- 0.18
Kent ...	3,480	+ 0.2	+ 56.2	5.14	- 0.41	- 0.46
North Wales... †	14,167	- 0.8	- 10.1	4.39	- 0.77	- 0.80
South Wales and Mon.	168,853	- 0.2	- 14.2	5.43	- 0.03	+ 0.17
England and Wales	829,660	- 0.7	- 8.5	4.44	- 0.21	- 0.19
SCOTLAND:						
Mid & East Lothians	12,134	- 0.2	- 8.7	5.31	- 0.21	+ 0.19
Fife and Clackmannan	21,015	- 0.6	- 9.0	5.22	- 0.14	+ 0.42
Rest of Scotland ...	57,523	- 5.3	- 16.6	5.13	+ 0.15	+ 0.08
Scotland ...	90,672	- 3.6	- 14.0	5.18	+ 0.04	+ 0.17
GREAT BRITAIN ...	920,332	- 1.0	- 9.0	4.52	- 0.18	- 0.16

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 23rd June, 1928, was 1.28 days per week, of which 1.24 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 26th May, 1928, were 1.09 days per week and 1.04 days per week; for the fortnight ended 25th June, 1927, the figures were 1.12 days per week and 1.05 days per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 23rd June, 1928, was reported to the Mines Department as 16,708,500 tons, as compared with 19,190,600 tons in the four weeks ended 26th May, 1928, and 18,297,400 tons in the four weeks ended 25th June, 1927. The figures of output of coal for June, 1928, and June, 1927, were affected by the Whitsun holidays.

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,031,100 tons in June, as compared with 6,183,100 tons in May, 1928, and with 5,954,100 tons in June, 1927.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 25th June, 1928, and the increases or decreases in the percentages as compared with 21st May, 1928, and 20th June, 1927, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 25th June, 1928.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.		Month before.	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporarily stopped.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporarily stopped.	Total.	
Great Britain ...	168,966	130,483	14.5	11.2	25.7	+ 4.6 + 6.7
England and Wales ...	141,540	128,537	13.8	12.5	26.3	+ 5.1 + 7.0
Scotland ...	27,426	1,946	20.0	1.4	21.4	+ 0.7 + 4.3
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—						
Northumberland ...	9,514	2,543	16.3	4.3	20.6	+ 1.7 + 0.9
Durham ...	30,999	5,280	19.2	3.3	22.5	- 1.9 + 0.6
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	923	1,529	7.4	12.2	19.6	+ 11.0 - 7.8
Yorkshire ...	16,129	30,451	8.5	16.1	24.6	+ 8.1 + 15.6
Lancs and Cheshire ...	10,210	23,638	10.0	23.2	33.2	+ 11.2 + 10.3
Derbyshire ...	3,953	12,161	6.0	18.4	24.4	+ 5.4 + 3.2
Notts and Leicester ...	4,289	12,477	6.0	17.5	23.5	+ 9.2 + 9.5
Warwickshire	1,310	257	9.8	1.9	11.7	+ 5.1 + 7.2
Staffs, Worcester and Salop ...	7,662	15,556	9.6	19.6	29.2	+ 8.8 + 12.4
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,860	2,320	13.4	16.7	30.1	+ 2.6 + 7.0
Kent ...	126	...	4.6	...	4.6	- 1.0 + 0.9
Wales and Monmouth ...	53,900	22,317	21.1	8.7	29.8	+ 3.4 + 4.6

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued slack during June. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron and ironstone mining industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.1 at 25th June, 1928, as compared with 14.7 at 21st May, 1928, and 8.1 at 20th June, 1927.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	Fort-night ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Fort-night ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Year before.	
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,637	+ 2.6	- 15.7	5.58	- 0.15	+ 0.62
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,692	- 1.3	- 10.7	5.72	- 0.28	- 0.17
Other Districts ...	1,368	+ 4.4	+ 10.2	5.74	+ 0.30	+ 0.19
ALL DISTRICTS	6,697	+ 1.4	- 9.3	5.67	- 0.11	+ 0.23

Returns received from 79 firms employing 17,788 workpeople at the end of June showed a decrease of 2.0 per cent. as compared with May and a decrease of 9.8 per cent. as compared with June, 1927.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of June, 1928, May, 1928 and June, 1927:—

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		June, 1928.	May, 1928.	June, 1927.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	99	34	37	42	- 3	- 8
Cumberland and W. Lancs	44	11	11	13	...	- 2
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield)	33	9	11	13	- 2	- 4
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants	64	28	28	32	...	- 4
Lincolnshire	24	15	14	15	+ 1	...
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick	55	10	10	16	...	- 6
South Wales	28	8	8	9	...	- 1
Total, England and Wales	347	115	119	140	- 4	- 25
SCOTLAND						
Total	90	26	29	36	- 3	- 10
Total	437	141	148	176	- 7	- 35

The production of pig iron in June amounted to 563,700 tons, as compared with 591,500 tons in May 1928 and 651,300 tons in June 1927.

IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in June continued slack on the whole, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. Short-time working was reported from many districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20.5 on 25th June, 1928, as compared with 20.5 on 21st May, 1928, and 17.0 on 20th June, 1927.

According to returns received from firms employing 66,673 workpeople in the week ended 23rd June, 1928, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of men employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 0.5 per cent. as compared with May, 1928, but showed a decrease of 7.5 per cent. as compared with June, 1927. The average number of shifts* during which the works were open was 5.4 in June, 1928, as compared with 5.3 in May, 1928, and 5.4 in June, 1927.

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

—	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Per cent.
				Month before.	Year before.	
DEPARTMENTS.						
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	6,802	+ 7.6	37,667	+ 6.7	- 13.9	
Puddling Forges	2,150	- 10.3	9,415	- 4.6	- 17.4	
Rolling Mills	24,602	- 2.5	123,991	- 2.1	- 11.3	
Forging & Pressing	3,023	+ 1.3	16,003	+ 5.4	- 5.5	
Founding	7,694	+ 1.1	43,868	+ 7.7	- 4.7	
Other Departments	8,327	+ 1.4	46,895	+ 1.0	+ 2.5	
Mechanics, Labourers	14,075	- 3.1	80,575	- 2.4	- 3.9	
TOTAL	66,673	- 0.9	358,414	+ 0.5	- 7.5	
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland	14,128	+ 1.0	78,972	+ 1.1	- 12.8	
Sheffield & Rotherham	17,632	- 1.7	92,363	+ 2.4	- 3.8	
Leeds, Bradford, etc.	1,629	- 6.5	8,824	- 3.7	- 21.8	
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire	6,617	+ 4.8	33,107	+ 3.8	- 7.0	
Staffordshire	5,125	- 11.2	27,873	- 8.4	- 10.3	
Other Midland Counties	3,303	- 4.5	18,758	- 4.0	- 5.4	
Wales and Monmouth	6,065	- 0.1	32,137	- 4.0	- 4.7	
Total, England and Wales	54,499	- 1.4	292,034	- 0.3	- 8.2	
Scotland	12,174	+ 1.4	66,380	+ 3.9	- 4.4	
TOTAL	66,673	- 0.9	358,414	+ 0.5	- 7.5	

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 709,500 tons in June, 1928, as compared with 752,700 tons in May, 1928, and 747,300 tons in June, 1927.

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

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry showed an improvement. The arrangement made in November for stabilising prices and regulating output, whereby provision was made for each works to stop three weeks out of every thirteen, was suspended at the end of May until the end of August. In the week ended 30th June, 435 mills were reported to be in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 328 in the week ending 26th May, 1928 and with 342 at the end of June, 1927. In steel sheet manufacture employment continued fair. In the week ending 30th June, 130 mills were reported to be in operation, as compared with 121 in the week ended 28th May, 1928 and with 125 at the end of June, 1927.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th June, 1928, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.0, as compared with 33.0 on 21st May, 1928 and with 25.5 at 20th June, 1927.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at works covered by the returns:—

Works.	Number of Works Open			Number of Mills in Operation		
	Week ending 30th June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ending 30th June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate	74	+ 19*	+ 11	435	+ 107*	+ 93
Steel Sheet	14	+ 1	+ 1	130	+ 9	+ 5
TOTAL	88	+ 20*	+ 12	565	+ 116*	+ 98

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in June, 1928, amounted to 108,782 tons, or 363 tons more than in May, 1928, and 4,360 tons more than in June, 1927.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in June remained quiet on the whole, and showed little change compared with the previous month except in the motor vehicle section, where there was some decline and employment was only moderate. Employment remained fairly good in electrical engineering and bad in marine engineering. Much short time was still worked in textile machinery manufacture, and at some of the railway works a 5-day week was introduced.

Compared with a year ago employment was rather worse on the whole; it was somewhat better in marine engineering, but showed a considerable decline in constructional engineering and on motor vehicle work.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th June, 1928, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 25th June, 1928.							Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering, Building and Foundry.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Month before.	Year before.
London	3,366	312	69	107	1,445	5,299	- 274	- 1,344	
South-Eastern	1,446	206	240	45	1,005	2,942	- 133	+ 85	
South-Western	1,551	117	559	50	1,024	3,301	+ 112	- 223	
Midlands	6,494	1,177	39	835	11,829	20,374	+ 4,029	+ 6,719	
North-Eastern	14,962	711	3,461	815	863	20,812	+ 1,072	- 3,726	
North-Western	17,566	992	99	195	1,289	20,141	- 921	+ 1,818	
Scotland	7,853	291	1,871	634	444	11,093	- 47	- 253	
Wales	951	17	10	83	263	1,324	- 19	+ 182	
Northern Ireland	927	25	967	9	125	2,053	- 46	- 956	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	55,116	3,848	7,315	2,773	18,287	87,339	+ 3,773	+ 2,302	
Percentage Unemployed at 25th June, 1928.									
London	4.3	2.6	9.0	3.6	3.9	4.0	- 0.2	- 0.9	
South-Eastern	3.5	2.4	7.7	7.6	3.9	3.7	- 0.2	+ 0.2	
South-Western	4.5	3.7	8.8	7.8	4.1	4.7	+ 0.1	- 0.4	
Midlands	7.3	4.9	2.5	12.6	12.2	9.4	+ 1.9	+ 3.1	
North-Eastern	13.0	8.9	16.8	11.6	6.9	12.8	+ 0.7	- 1.4	
North-Western	13.5	5.3	10.3	7.1	6.8	11.7	- 0.6	+ 1.6	
Scotland	10.3	11.1	10.6	11.8	4.4	9.9	- 0.1	+ 0.5	
Wales	15.3	5.2	5.3	11.4	12.9	13.9	- 0.2	+ 2.6	
Northern Ireland	13.7	10.0	20.0	30.0	6.6	14.9	- 0.3	- 5.4	
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	9.5	4.9	13.1	10.4	7.9	9.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.5	
<i>Ditto, May, 1928</i>	<i>9.6</i>	<i>4.9</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>10.0</i>	<i>6.4</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	
<i>Ditto, June, 1927</i>	<i>9.5</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>14.8</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>	

On the North-East Coast employment continued bad, showing a falling off in marine and general engineering. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire conditions remained moderate, a little improvement being experienced in Lincolnshire.

In Lancashire and Cheshire employment was still bad, but showed some improvement on the whole. In textile machinery manufacture much short time was still reported; employment continued fair in electrical engineering and moderate on motor work; in railway engineering conditions were not so good as formerly, some works being closed on Saturdays.

* The figures for May have been revised.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment declined and was slack, a marked seasonal decline being experienced on motor vehicle work; conditions in electrical engineering remained fairly good. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment remained fair. In London and the Southern Counties it continued fairly good generally, and good on electrical and motor-vehicle work.

Employment continued slack in Scotland and bad in Wales and Northern Ireland, but showed in each case a slight improvement on the whole compared with the previous month.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad on the whole during June. Compared with the previous month there was a further decline, which was most marked on the North-East Coast and in Wales, where over 35 per cent. of the insured workpeople were recorded as unemployed. Compared with a year ago there was a decline in most districts; on the South Coast an improvement was shown.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th June, 1928, and the increase or decrease as compared with 21st May, 1928, and 20th June, 1927:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 25th June, 1928.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 25th June, 1928.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London	2,022	+ 253	+ 126	19.1	+ 2.4	+ 2.4
South-Eastern	646	...	194	8.0	...	- 1.4
South-Western	2,418	+ 30	- 567	11.1	+ 0.1	- 1.4
Midlands	34	+ 2	+ 3	7.6	+ 0.5	- 2.7
North-Eastern	21,415	+ 3,438	+ 3,400	36.6	+ 5.8	+ 8.0
North-Western	8,316	+ 722	- 329	28.7	+ 2.5	+ 1.9
Scotland	12,953	+ 367	+ 1,615	22.5	+ 0.6	+ 3.4
Wales	3,668	+ 608	- 81	35.8	+ 5.9	+ 0.3
Northern Ireland	3,836	- 134	+ 31	30.7	- 1.1	+ 4.6
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	55,308	+ 5,286	+ 4,004	26.5	+ 2.5	+ 3.5

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

DURING June employment showed a further decline, both in the worsted and in the woollen sections of the industry. There was little change in the carpet section. As compared with a year ago, the position in the worsted section as a whole was not materially different, a slight improvement in the weaving department being counterbalanced by a decline in the sorting and combing and preparing departments. In the woollen section employment was generally worse than in June, 1927; in the carpet section, however, there was a definite improvement.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.0 on 25th June, 1928, as compared with 8.7 on 21st May, 1928, and with 9.5 on 20th June, 1927.

Worsted Section.—In this section unemployment increased in nearly all districts, and there was a marked addition to the numbers working short time. In the week ended 23rd June the returns received from employers showed that 25 per cent. of the operatives in the worsted section, taken as a whole, worked short time,* losing 12 hours each on the average. On the other hand, roughly 5 per cent. of the operatives worked overtime to the extent of six hours each.

In the sorting, preparing and combing departments there was a further decline in employment, short-time working showing a marked increase. The decline was partly due to seasonal depression, and all sections were affected, but employment remained better in the merino section than in others. During the week ended 23rd June more than 40 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns lost on an average about 15½ hours each in short-time.

Employment amongst worsted spinners continued to decline during June, and short-time working was prevalent in nearly all districts. There was little change as compared with the previous year. Amongst spinners generally, according to the returns received from employers, more than 28 per cent. worked short time with a loss of 11 hours each, on an average, during the week ended 23rd June. There was not much overtime, approximately 5 per cent. of the spinners working, on an average, 5½ hours each during the week.

There was a noticeable decline in employment amongst worsted weavers, affecting most areas; but employment, taken as a whole, was moderate. The decline was marked at Leeds, where employment was reported as bad. In comparison with a year ago, the position in the fine cloth trade of Huddersfield and Halifax showed a considerable falling off; but with weavers as a whole employment was slightly above the level of the previous June. Nearly 15 per cent. of the weavers lost, on an average, 11½ hours each in short time* during the week ended 23rd June, 1928; the amount of overtime worked was very small.

Woollen Section.—Employment continued to decline in this section as a whole, and short time working increased. Employers' returns for the week ended 23rd June showed that about 28 per cent. of the spinners and nearly 30 per cent. of the weavers worked short

* The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account, in the case of the weaving sections, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps" and tending one instead of two looms.

time,* losing on an average over 11 hours each. On the other hand, 10.5 per cent. of the spinners and over 3 per cent. of the weavers worked overtime to the extent of approximately 9 and 5½ hours each, respectively. Taking the woollen section as a whole, more than 28 per cent. of the operatives lost an average of 11 hours each in short time* during the week ended 23rd June, while nearly 7 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 8½ hours each.

In Huddersfield employment declined, and in the weaving and finishing departments, apart from those wholly suspended, over one-half of the operatives in employment were on short time. Some firms in the Colne Valley were not running more than half time. In the Dewsbury district there was some improvement in all sections, and a little overtime was worked; but there was still a considerable amount of short time working. At Morley there was an extension of short time working. Employment in the Yeadon district was reported to show a further decline, but there was little change at Leeds; in the Stockport area it was generally good. Employment in the blanket section of the industry was fair and showed a slight improvement, while in the Rochdale flannel trade it remained fairly satisfactory.

In Scotland employment showed a slight decline.

Carpet Section.—Employment in this section showed no marked change. It was satisfactory at Kidderminster, although there was a little seasonal slackness. In Scotland conditions were generally good, while in the Yorkshire district operatives were fairly well employed. The employers' returns for the week ended 23rd June showed that 16 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, with a loss, on the average, of 13 hours each; while 4 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of nearly 6½ hours each.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

—	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan. 1928 = 100.)	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan. 1928 = 100.)
DEPARTMENTS:						
WORSTED SECTION:						
Wool Sorting and Combing	11,271	- 0.2	98.0	26,243	- 5.2	89.3
Spinning	43,414	- 1.0	98.9	67,439	- 4.1	97.4
Weaving	21,500	- 1.8	100.5	44,858	- 4.5	103.0
Other Depts.	11,514	- 0.2	100.9	28,468	- 2.0	99.5
Not specified	1,877	+ 1.2	100.6	4,022	- 0.1	105.1
Total—Worsted	89,576	- 0.9	99.3	171,030	- 3.9	98.0
WOOLEN SECTION:						
Wool Sorting	1,067	+ 0.2	100.6	2,600	+ 1.2	108.3
Spinning	13,738	- 0.7	97.5	29,436	- 2.4	104.1
Weaving	26,164	- 0.5	105.8	46,966	- 2.9	107.4
Other Depts.	18,416	- 0.3				

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed in the week ended 23rd June, 1928, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the numbers employed by the same firms in the week ended 26th May, 1928:—

Department.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month (... signifies "no change"; - without a figure, signifies "no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WORSTED SECTION:					
Bradford ...	+ 0.6	- 1.1	- 1.9	+ 0.0	- 0.8
Huddersfield ...	+ 0.3	- 1.5	- 1.6	+ 0.3	- 1.1
Halifax ...	- 4.4	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 1.2	- 0.5
Leeds ...	- 1.6	- 1.7	- 0.5	- 1.4	- 1.4
Keighley ...	- 11.4	- 1.1	- 1.5	+ 1.3	- 1.7
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 0.1	-	-	- 3.6	- 0.9
Total, West Riding ...	- 0.3	- 1.0	- 1.8	- 0.3	- 1.0
West of England and Midlands ...	+ 3.9	- 0.6	- 1.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.1
Lancashire ...	-	- 0.6	-	-	- 1.4
Scotland ...	- 0.4	- 0.7	-	-	- 0.5
TOTAL ...	- 0.2	- 1.0	- 1.8	- 0.2	- 0.9

Department.	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with previous month. (... signifies "no change.")			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
WOOLLEN SECTION:				
Huddersfield ...	- 1.4	- 3.4	- 1.4	- 2.2
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	+ 0.6	+ 1.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
Leeds ...	+ 0.1	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	+ 0.8
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 2.8	+ 3.4	+ 7.3	+ 4.1
Bradford ...	- 7.2	- 1.7	- 3.1	- 2.9
Total, West Riding ...	- 0.2	- 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Lancashire ...	-	+ 1.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
West of England and Midlands ...	- 0.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Scotland ...	- 2.6	- 2.0	- 2.2	- 2.0
Wales ...	- 2.5	- 6.6	+ 15.3	+ 1.2
TOTAL ...	- 0.7	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.5

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 25th June, 1928:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th June, 1928.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	214	2	216	280	2	282	498
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	234	121	355	558	235	793	1,148
Wool Combing ...	159	110	269	920	591	1,511	1,780
Wool Carding ...	298	53	351	667	181	848	1,199
Woolen Spinning ...	205	58	263	272	185	457	72
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	290	793	1,083	229	2,086	2,315	3,398
Wool Winding and Warping ...	50	12	62	96	67	163	225
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	42	128	170	146	781	927	1,097
Woolen Weaving ...	92	159	242	321	1,911	2,332	2,474
Worsted Weaving ...	63	145	208	53	1,785	1,838	2,046
Other Processes ...	307	30	337	401	171	572	909
Total ...	1,954	1,602	3,556	3,943	7,995	11,938	15,494

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 10,340,500 lbs. in June, 1928, compared with 59,876,300 lbs. in May, 1928, and 27,331,800 lbs. in June, 1927.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,465,700 lbs., compared with 4,551,300 lbs. in May, 1928, and with 4,636,900 lbs. in June, 1927.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 14,681,800 square yards, compared with 11,788,600 square yards in May, 1928, and 13,559,300 square yards in June, 1927.

The exports of blankets were 92,301 pairs, 80,566 pairs and 71,282 pairs in June, 1928, May, 1928, and June, 1927.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

DURING June employment in this industry declined, especially in the spinning department; it was also at a lower level than in June of last year. The decline in the spinning department was partly due to the reduced demand from the weaving department, owing to the dispute at Nelson, which continued throughout the month.

Employment in mills spinning Egyptian cotton showed a further slight decline, but remained, on the whole, fairly good; in the section spinning American cotton, on the other hand, employment was definitely bad. Some 50 mills in this section were stated to be closed indefinitely; and, of those that were open, some were on short time and others had part of their machinery stopped. The actual production in this section was reported to be approximately 70 per

cent. of normal full production. During the month the Master Cotton Spinners' Federation took a ballot of firms spinning American cotton on a proposal to run short time to the extent of 24 hours a week (i.e., half-time); but the proportion (90 per cent.) of assenting firms necessary to bring the proposal into effect was not secured.

Employment in the plain weaving section also showed a further slight decline; weavers of fine and coloured cloths were, as for many months past, relatively well employed.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.9 on 25th June, 1928, as compared with 9.8 on 21st May, 1928, and with 7.0 on 20th June, 1927.

At Ashton the depression in the section spinning American cotton continued: a number of mills were idle, and others worked intermittently; on the other hand, mills in the Egyptian spinning section worked normal time. Employment in the fancy and jacquard weaving sections was normal, but it was slack in the plain weaving section. At Oldham employment in the spinning section was very bad, worse than in May, and worse also than in June of last year; the decline was partly due to the weaving stoppage at Nelson. The curtailment of production by short time in the Oldham district during June was estimated at the equivalent of about 30 per cent. of full employment. In the weaving department, employment in the calico and sheeting section was reported as bad.

Employment in the spinning department declined slightly at Bolton and Leigh: this, however, was partly due to engine breakdowns at two mills; at the end of the month employment was described as fair with spinners and poor with cardroom workers in the Bolton district. There was also a decline in the weaving department at Bolton, the quilt weaving section in particular being slack. A number of mills closed for extended holidays at Whitsuntide at Bury. Unemployment increased at Rochdale and at Heywood.

At Preston employment showed little change. At Chorley there was a decline, particularly with firms making coloured and fine goods. Much under-employment and intermittent working continued at Blackburn. Conditions at Darwen continued to improve, but there were still some 6,000 looms idle at that centre; and preparatory workers were irregularly employed. Many firms at Accrington extended the Whitsuntide stoppage; at the end of the month employment in mills manufacturing for the Eastern markets remained unsatisfactory, while firms making lighter fabrics and "fancies" were fairly well employed. Some mills at Burnley closed for an extended holiday at Whitsuntide; thereafter the mills (except some, containing 13,000 or 14,000 looms, which have been closed entirely for some time) ran fairly regularly throughout the month, though some firms had less than their full complement of looms running. Employment with winders remained very uncertain and intermittent. At Padiham employment in all sections was fairly good; at Nelson it was affected by the dispute. A further improvement took place at Great Harwood. In the Rossendale Valley employment was very bad, with much short time and under-employment.

In Yorkshire short time was more largely worked in most areas; employment was, however, reported as good at Elland, Greetland, and Wakefield. A decline at Todmorden and at Keighley was partly attributed to a shortage of coloured yarns owing to the dispute in the dyeing trade.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	10,607	- 2.2	- 4.5	17,784	- 3.1	- 5.0
Spinning ...	20,513	- 1.8	- 4.5	35,775	- 3.5	- 6.5
Weaving ...	30,583	+ 0.2	- 2.1	53,390	- 1.3	- 4.8
Other ...	6,754	- 0.3	- 5.6	16,317	- 1.1	- 5.4
Not Specified ...	6,189	- 0.0	- 3.9	12,122	- 0.9	- 7.1
TOTAL ...	74,646	- 0.8	- 3.6	135,388	- 2.0	- 5.6
DISTRICTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ashton ...	2,935	+ 0.6	+ 3.1	5,304	- 1.6	+ 1.2
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	8,722	- 0.6	- 5.0	15,547	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Oldham ...	9,360	- 3.4	- 1.0	17,967	- 5.3	- 3.6
Bolton and Leigh ...	13,806	- 1.4	- 1.9	23,789	- 4.2	- 7.5
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	5,812	- 1.9	- 2.5	10,302	+ 2.2	- 1.7
Manchester ...	4,807	- 0.1	- 2.5	8,307	- 1.4	+ 4.5
Preston and Chorley ...	6,373	+ 3.4	- 2.1	11,284	+ 1.2	- 1.8
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	7,433	+ 2.6	- 7.5	13,958	- 0.9	- 14.0
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	7,126	- 0.0	- 1.7	15,013	- 0.3	- 1.9
Other Lancashire Towns ...	1,742	- 9.4	- 26.1	2,759	- 22.1	- 35.0
Yorkshire Towns ...	4,051	- 1.8	- 4.6	7,220	- 1.3	- 9.3
Other Districts ...	2,479	- 1.1	- 3.3	3,938	+ 2.0	- 12.9
TOTAL ...	74,646	- 0.8	- 3.6	135,388	- 2.0	- 5.6

Returns from firms employing about 71,500 operatives in the week ended 23rd June showed that 16½ per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of approximately 13 hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women

(other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 25th June, 1928:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th June, 1928.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	717	2,761	3,478	895	5,162	6,057	9,535
Spinning ...	3,621	2,340	5,961	5,053	5,963	11,016	16,977
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	518	1,865	2,383	1,296	9,778	11,074	13,457
Weaving ...	1,606	3,850	5,456	2,110	6,537	8,647	14,103
Other Processes ...	399	109	508	326	273	599	1,107
Total ...	6,861	10,925	17,786	9,680	27,713	37,393	55,179

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 108,246,200 lbs. in June, 1928, compared with 121,691,300 lbs. in May, 1928, and with 97,968,200 lbs. in June, 1927.

The exports of cotton yarn were 14,370,500 lbs. in June, 1928, compared with 14,066,800 lbs. in May, 1928, and with 17,177,300 lbs. in June, 1927.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 277,911,800 square yards, as compared with 288,934,700 square yards in the previous month, and with 330,098,800 square yards, in June, 1927.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during June was very slack, and showed a further decline in most districts; short time was very prevalent. Employment was worse also than in June of last year.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.1 on 25th June, as compared with 10.0 on 21st May and with 6.5 on 20th June, 1927.

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

Department.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 23rd June, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
England and Wales:—						
London ...	1,727	- 7.3	- 6.5	3,610	- 9.0	- 8.7
Leicester ...	7,924	- 5.4	- 6.1	17,608	- 18.1	- 17.1
Leicester Country District ...	1,851	- 3.9	- 2.8	3,843	- 4.6	- 12.7
Northampton ...	4,871	- 2.9	- 2.2	11,373	- 2.7	- 12.1
Northampton Country District ...	8,281	- 1.2	- 0.4	16,968	- 8.8	- 13.3
Kettering ...	3,634	- 0.2	+ 2.4	8,295	- 10.1	- 9.3
Stafford and District ...	2,649	- 0.3	- 2.0	5,686	- 4.0	- 10.5
Norwich and District ...	4,136	- 6.6	- 9.7	7,555	- 17.4	- 16.9
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,693	+ 2.8	- 2.3	3,093	+ 5.7	- 10.7
Leeds and District ...	1,849	- 0.4	+ 0.8	3,988	- 3.8	- 6.5
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	5,364	- 4.5	- 1.9	10,850	- 10.9	- 15.6
Birmingham and District ...	978	- 1.3	- 3.0	1,862	- 6.1	- 6.9
Other parts of England and Wales ...	1,875	- 1.7	- 0.2	3,154	- 14.2	- 12.6
England and Wales ...	46,832	- 3.1	- 2.9	97,885	- 10.2	- 13.3
Scotland ...	2,048	- 5.1	+ 0.5	4,390	+ 2.3	- 2.4
United Kingdom ...	48,880	- 3.1	- 2.8	102,275	- 9.7	- 12.9

Returns from firms employing 47,700 operatives in the week ended 23rd June showed that 53 per cent. of these operatives worked short time in that week, losing about 13 hours each on the average.

Employment in London again declined, and was slack at most establishments, a considerable amount of short time being worked. At Leicester there was a marked decline, and employment was bad, with very few firms working full time; about 70 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 23rd June, losing about 14½ hours each on the average. Employment was also reported as bad at Hinckley, with much short-time working. At Northampton there was a further decline, and employment was bad; most factories were working short time, often only three days a week, though some firms engaged on women's shoes and other high grade work were less affected; nearly 42 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns received were on short time, and lost about 14 hours each, on the average, in the week ended 23rd June. At Wellingborough and Kettering employment declined, and was quiet on the whole; although the position at some factories was still fairly satisfactory. At Higham and Rushden, and at the smaller centres in Northamptonshire, employment varied from moderate to bad; there was much short time.

Employment at Stafford was slack, and showed some decline; it was reported as fair at Stone. At Norwich there was a marked decline, particularly with male operatives; employment varied a good deal as between one firm and another, but, speaking generally, it was very bad; 60 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 23rd June, losing, on the average, about 12 hours each.

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

In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment was moderate, and there was a slight improvement in the heavy boot trade; short time, however, continued to be largely worked. At Street there was a further decline, and employment was reported as bad. In the Leeds district employment was slack, on the whole, though it was reported as fair with some firms.

In the slipper trade in the Rossendale Valley and at Preston there was continued depression; at Bury employment was fair, but showed some decline.

In Scotland employment continued very slack in most districts; there was, however, a slight improvement at Maybole, and at Kilmarnock employment was reported as fairly good.

The following Table shows the numbers of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 25th June, 1928:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th June, 1928.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:—							
Preparing Department ...	92	31	123	98	27	125	248
Rough Stuff Department ...	332	18	350	317	12	329	679
Clicking Department ...	940	5	945	1,350	9	1,359	2,304
Closing Department ...	15	1,098	1,113	18	2,005	2,023	3,136
Making Department ...	1,446	40	1,486	1,785	42	1,827	3,313
Finishing Department ...	993	442	1,435	1,125	381	1,506	2,941
Slipper Making ...	263	110	373	515	654	1,169	1,542
Clog Making ...	12	4	16	8	...	8	24
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	353	2	355	44	...	44	399
TOTAL ...	4,446	1,750	6,196	5,260	3,130		

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 25th June, 1928, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and three* years ago, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are exempted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age, and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be exempted.

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

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 262 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

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

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

Special Note. Persons aged 65 and over.

Under the provisions of the Widows' Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, all persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts as from 2nd January, 1928. (The employers of such persons, however, are required to pay contributions at the employer's rates.) The estimates of the numbers of insured persons in each industry prepared on the basis of the information obtained from the exchange of unemployment books in July, 1927, have therefore been revised to exclude persons aged 65 and over who, it is computed, numbered approximately 323,000 men, and 24,000 women. Such persons no longer appear in the statistics showing the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, and the figures for dates subsequent to 2nd January, 1928, are therefore not comparable with those for earlier dates. The number of insured persons aged 65 and over whose books were lodged at the beginning of January did not exceed 30,000, and a proportion of these continued to register as uninsured persons. For all practical purposes, however, the percentages unemployed can be regarded as comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH JUNE, 1928.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.						GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.					
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing	2,605	90	2,695	73	50	123	2,678	140	2,818	2,671	140	2,811
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	168,477	517	168,994	129,679	804	130,483	298,156	1,321	299,477	298,128	1,321	299,449
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	1,389	...	1,389	473	...	473	1,862	...	1,862	1,832	...	1,832
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	785	5	790	813	28	841	813	5	818	813	5	818
Stone Quarrying and Mining	2,680	5	2,685	674	5	679	3,354	10	3,364	3,154	10	3,164
State Quarrying and Mining	384	1	385	186	...	186	570	1	571	570	1	571
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	1,031	85	1,116	350	22	372	1,381	107	1,488	1,340	107	1,447
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	700	5	705	61	...	61	761	5	766	758	5	763
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1,225	16	1,241	258	...	258	1,483	16	1,499	1,482	16	1,498
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	2,072	57	2,129	314	5	319	2,386	62	2,448	2,374	61	2,435
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	919	59	978	217	13	230	1,136	72	1,208	1,117	71	1,188
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	5,925	609	6,534	1,540	245	1,785	7,465	854	8,319	7,368	854	8,222
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	1,937	1,598	3,535	3,466	4,665	8,131	5,403	6,263	11,666	5,386	6,262	11,648
Glass Trades :—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	1,751	241	1,992	546	49	595	2,297	290	2,587	2,291	289	2,580
Glass Bottle Making	2,058	140	2,198	798	43	841	2,856	183	3,039	2,852	183	3,035
Chemicals, etc. :—												
Chemicals Manufacture	4,422	595	5,017	618	130	748	5,040	725	5,765	4,953	723	5,676
Explosives Manufacture	529	282	811	37	67	104	566	349	915	565	349	914
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	576	107	683	24	9	33	600	116	716	600	116	716
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	2,946	626	3,572	1,108	199	1,307	4,054	825	4,879	4,041	814	4,855
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	2,693	15	2,708	888	1	889	3,581	16	3,597	3,577	16	3,593
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	15,307	135	15,442	22,955	117	23,072	38,262	252	38,514	38,252	252	38,504
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	2,827	159	2,986	772	33	805	3,599	192	3,791	3,529	191	3,720
Manufacture of Tin Plates	884	59	943	1,410	111	1,521	2,294	170	2,464	2,294	170	2,464
Iron and Steel Tube Making	1,779	124	1,903	1,428	19	1,447	3,207	143	3,350	3,207	143	3,350
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	1,257	214	1,471	1,139	65	1,204	2,396	279	2,675	2,392	279	2,671
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	37,533	1,170	38,703	15,649	764	16,413	53,182	1,934	55,116	52,258	1,931	54,189
Electrical Engineering	2,706	585	3,291	405	152	557	3,111	737	3,848	3,086	737	3,823
Marine Engineering, etc.	6,642	25	6,667	646	2	648	7,288	27	7,315	6,324	24	6,348
Constructional Engineering	1,986	35	2,021	726	26	752	2,712	61	2,773	2,703	61	2,764
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	12,810	1,071	13,881	4,037	369	4,406	16,847	1,440	18,287	16,731	1,431	18,162
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	1,173	184	1,357	206	55	261	1,379	239	1,618	1,348	239	1,587
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	2,979	28	3,007	2,593	18	2,611	5,572	46	5,618	5,567	46	5,613

* See footnote * on page 261.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	52,030	118	52,148	3,124	36	3,160	55,154	154	55,308	51,330	142	51,472
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	6,424	496	6,920	2,982	244	3,226	9,406	740	10,146	9,322	740	10,062
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	1,065	20	1,085	106	5	111	1,171	25	1,196	1,117	24	1,141
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	2,819	1,263	4,082	438	187	625	3,257	1,450	4,707	3,249	1,450	4,699
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	2,392	693	3,085	1,837	357	2,194	4,229	1,050	5,279	4,222	1,050	5,272
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	986	870	1,856	579	262	841	1,565	1,132	2,697	1,565	1,132	2,697
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	1,386	750	2,136	352	159	511	1,738	909	2,647	1,734	909	2,643
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	379	14	393	56	...	56	435	14	449	434	14	448
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	1,390	881	2,271	475	529	1,004	1,865	1,410	3,275	1,830	1,409	3,239
Metal Industries not separately specified	7,649	4,377	12,026	3,190	1,466	4,656	10,839	5,843	16,682	10,742	5,839	16,581
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton	10,060	15,014	25,074	13,138	34,082	47,220	23,198	49,096	72,294	23,193	49,084	72,257
Woolen and Worsted	4,294	3,621	7,915	7,268	13,516	20,784	11,562	17,137	28,699	11,513	17,123	28,636
Silk and Artificial Silk	672	862	1,534	516	1,385	1,901	1,188	2,247	3,435	1,179	2,227	3,406
Linen	4,398	10,158	14,556	1,981	5,165	7,146	6,379	15,323	21,702	542	2,222	2,764
Jute	1,244	2,050	3,294	87	212	299	1,331	2,262	3,593	1,331	2,262	3,593
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	516	868	1,384	249	658	907	765	1,526	2,291	640	1,319	1,959
Hosiery	452	1,916	2,368	479	2,965	3,444	931	4,881	5,812	911	4,797	5,708
Lace	271	225	496	380	377	757	651	602	1,253	650	602	1,252
Carpet Manufacture	236	358	594	207	920	1,127	443	1,278	1,721	443	1,278	1,721
Textile Industries not separately specified	603	1,806	2,409	219	1,077	1,296	822	2,883	3,705	744	2,341	3,085
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	3,121	1,096	4,217	6,724	2,354	9,078	9,845	3,450	13,295	9,158	2,327	11,485
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	1,691	327	2,018	580	109	689	2,271	436	2,707	2,270	436	2,706
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	834	650	1,484	190	287	477	1,024	937	1,961	1,011	934	1,945
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring	3,303	2,500	5,803	285	2,372	2,657	3,588	4,872	8,460	3,525	4,815	8,340
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	472	1,974	2,446	15	1,074	1,089	487	3,048	3,535	478	2,757	3,235
Hat and Cap (Including Straw Plait) Manufacture	530	884	1,414	110	447	557	640	1,331	1,971	639	1,331	1,970
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	328	2,588	2,916	50	2,287	2,337	378	4,875	5,253	295	2,457	2,752
Dress Industries not separately specified	499	342	841	96	423	519	595	765	1,360	593	765	1,358
Foot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	6,331	2,348	8,679	6,286	4,501	10,787	12,617	6,849	19,466	12,442	6,841	19,283
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ...	6,292	2,173	8,465	646	185	831	6,938	2,358	9,296	6,357	2,244	8,601
Grain Milling	1,508	122	1,630	337	18	355	1,845	140	1,985	1,739	130	1,869
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	1,622	2,257	3,879	330	3,624	3,954	1,952	5,881	7,833	1,916	5,877	7,793
Food Industries not separately specified	3,577	3,873										

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.												GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE AT 25TH JUNE, 1928.				
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1927.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH JUNE, 1928.						INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH							
	Males.	Females.	Total.	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.				21ST MAY, 1928.	20TH JUNE, 1927.	22ND JUNE, 1925.*	
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.					
Fishing	26,600	950	27,550	9.8	9.5	9.8	0.3	5.2	0.4	10.1	14.7	10.2	- 0.8	- 1.0	- 2.0	10.3	
Mining :-																	
Coal Mining	1,157,580	6,800	1,164,380	14.6	7.6	14.5	11.2	11.8	11.2	25.8	19.4	25.7	+ 4.6	+ 6.6	+ 0.7	25.7	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	14,220	30	14,250	9.8	...	9.7	3.3	...	3.4	13.1	...	13.1	- 1.6	+ 5.0	- 12.4	12.9	
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	5,420	60	5,480	14.5	8.3	14.4	0.5	...	0.5	15.0	8.3	14.9	- 0.4	+ 8.0	+ 0.7	14.9	
Stone Quarrying and Mining	40,900	350	41,250	6.6	1.5	6.5	1.6	1.5	1.7	8.2	3.0	8.2	+ 0.4	+ 2.3	+ 2.2	7.9	
Slate Quarrying and Mining	10,630	10	10,700	3.6	10.0	3.6	1.7	...	1.7	5.3	10.0	5.3	+ 1.5	+ 4.2	+ 3.9	5.3	
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified	16,130	1,590	17,720	6.4	5.3	6.3	2.2	1.4	2.1	8.6	6.7	8.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	8.4	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	14,570	160	14,730	4.8	3.1	4.8	0.4	...	0.4	5.2	3.1	5.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.3	+ 2.1	5.2	
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :-																	
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,180	120	11,300	11.0	13.3	11.0	2.3	...	2.3	13.3	13.3	13.3	+ 0.3	+ 3.8	- 0.3	13.3	
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	15,040	1,350	16,390	13.8	4.2	13.0	2.1	0.4	1.9	15.9	4.6	14.9	+ 1.1	+ 3.3	+ 1.6	14.9	
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	17,930	880	18,810	5.1	6.7	5.2	1.2	1.5	1.2	6.3	8.2	6.4	+ 0.1	- 1.5	+ 1.5	6.4	
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	75,010	7,570	82,580	7.9	8.0	7.9	2.1	3.3	2.2	10.0	11.3	10.1	- 0.3	+ 4.9	+ 3.9	10.1	
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	32,110	37,790	69,900	6.0	4.2	5.1	10.8	12.4	11.6	16.8	16.6	16.7	+ 2.4	+ 3.0	- 0.6	16.7	
Glass Trades :-																	
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	19,650	5,300	24,950	8.9	4.5	8.0	2.8	1.0	2.4	11.7	5.5	10.4	+ 0.9	+ 1.2	- 0.7	10.4	
Glass Bottle Making	15,510	2,170	17,680	13.3	6.5	12.4	5.1	1.9	4.8	18.4	8.4	17.2	+ 1.1	+ 2.9	- 0.2	17.2	
Chemicals, etc. :-																	
Chemicals Manufacture	70,040	22,560	92,600	6.3	2.6	5.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	7.2	3.2	6.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2	- 2.4	6.2	
Explosives Manufacture	12,360	5,990	18,350	4.3	4.7	4.4	0.3	1.1	0.6	4.6	5.8	5.0	...	- 2.2	- 2.1	5.0	
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	13,790	4,300	18,090	4.2	2.5	3.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	4.4	2.7	4.0	+ 0.1	...	- 0.7	4.0	
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	55,700	20,920	76,620	5.3	3.0	4.7	2.0	0.9	1.7	7.3	3.9	6.4	+ 0.2	- 1.1	- 1.5	6.4	
Metal Manufacture :-																	
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) and Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	183,790	4,200	187,990	8.3	3.2	8.2	12.5	2.8	12.3	20.8	6.0	20.5	...	+ 3.5	- 4.2	20.5	
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	35,910	3,030	38,940	7.9	5.2	7.7	2.1	1.1	2.0	10.0	6.3	9.7	+ 0.2	...	- 2.4	9.7	
Manufacture of Tin Plates	26,820	3,950	30,770	3.3	1.5	3.1	5.3	2.8	4.9	8.6	4.3	8.0	- 25.0	- 17.5	- 11.0	8.0	
Iron and Steel Tube Making	26,110	1,340	27,450	6.8	9.3	6.9	5.5	1.4	5.3	12.3	10.7	12.2	+ 0.7	- 0.2	- 6.2	12.2	
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	17,820	3,950	21,770	7.1	5.4	6.8	6.3	1.7	5.5	13.4	7.1	12.3	+ 1.8	- 1.5	- 1.9	12.3	
Engineering, etc. :-																	
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	535,820	42,100	577,920	7.0	2.8	6.7	2.9	1.8	2.8	9.9	4.6	9.5	- 0.1	...	- 2.8	9.5	
Electrical Engineering	61,130	16,670	77,800	4.4	3.5	4.2	0.7	0.9	0.7	5.1	4.4	4.9	...	+ 0.2	- 0.7	4.9	
Marine Engineering, etc.	54,840	1,130	55,970	12.1	2.2	11.9	1.2	0.2	1.2	13.2	2.4	13.1	+ 0.8	- 1.7	- 6.3	12.4	
Constructional Engineering	25,740	1,050	26,790	7.7	3.3	7.5	2.8	2.5	2.9	10.5	5.8	10.4	+ 0.4	+ 2.7	- 2.1	10.3	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :-																	
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	207,310	22,820	230,130	6.2	4.7	6.0	1.9	1.6	1.9	8.1	6.3	7.9	+ 1.5	+ 2.2	+ 1.9	8.0	
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	18,020	2,250	20,270	6.5	8.2	6.7	1.2	2.4	1.3	7.7	10.6	8.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	- 1.6	7.9	
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	52,830	1,320	54,150	5.6	2.1	5.6	4.9	1.4	4.8	10.5	3.5	10.4	+ 0.8	+ 5.2	+ 3.7	10.4	
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	205,140	3,340	208,480	25.4	3.5	25.0	1.5	1.1	1.5	26.9	4.6	26.5	+ 2.5	+ 3.5	- 6.4	26.3	
Metal Trades :-																	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	77,010	7,830	84,840	8.3	6.3	8.2	3.9	3.2	3.8	12.2	9.5	12.0	+ 0.3	+ 3.1	+ 1.3	11.9	
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	13,150	1,160	14,310	8.1	1.7	7.6	0.8	0.5	0.8	8.9	2.2	8.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.5	+ 0.2	8.2	
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	53,170	30,560	83,730	5.3	4.1	4.9	0.8	0.6	0.7	6.1	4.7	5.6	- 0.1	- 1.9	- 2.1	5.6	
Hand Tool, Outtery, Saw, File Making	23,660	10,560	34,220	10.1	6.6	9.0	7.8	3.3	6.4	17.9	9.9	15.4	+ 1.0	- 1.7	+ 2.9	15.4	
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	14,230	11,110	25,340	6.9	7.8	7.3	4.1	2.4	3.3	11.0	10.2	10.6	+ 1.3	+ 1.3	- 2.9	10.6	
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	18,020	10,740	28,760	7.7	7.0	7.4	1.9	1.5	1.8	9.6	8.5	9.2	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 2.8	9.2	
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus, Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	23,220	20,600	43,820	6.0	4.3	5.2	2.0	2.5	2.3	8.0	6.8	7.5	+ 0.5	- 1.2	- 3.0	7.4	
Metal Industries not separately specified	115,810	67,080	182,890	6.6	6.5	6.6	2.8	2.2	2.5	9.4	8.7	9.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.2	- 1.3	9.1	
Textile Trades :-																	
Cotton	202,250	359,880	562,130	5.0	4.2	4.5	6.5	9.4	8.4	11.5	13.6	12.9	+ 3.1	+ 5.9	+ 4.4	12.9	
Woolen and Worsted	96,430	143,370	239,800	4.5	2.5	3.3	7.5	9.5	8.7	12.0	12.0	12.0	+ 3.3	+ 2.5	- 7.6	12.0	
Silk and Artificial Silk	21,920	31,660	53,580	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.3	4.4	3.5	5.4	7.1	6.4	- 0.2	...	- 0.7	6.4	
Linen	25,490	57,370	82,860	17.3	17.7	17.6	7.7	9.0	8.5	25.0	26.7	26.2	+ 5.1	+ 18.3	- 11.2	18.5	
Jute	12,230	26,170	38,400	10.2	7.8	8.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	10.9	8.6	9.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	- 6.5	9.4	
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making	7,060	11,960	19,020	7.3	7.3	7.3	3.5	5.5	4.7	10.8	12.8	12.0	+ 3.3	+ 3.2	- 5.3	12.0	
Hosiery	21,410	78,100	99,510	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.2	3.7	3.4	4.3	6.2	5.8	+ 0.2	- 0.8	- 3.5	5.8	
Lace	6,990	10,320	17,310	3.9	2.2	2.9	5.4	3.6	4.3	9.3	5.8	7.2	+ 2.0	- 0.2	- 9.4	7.2	
Carpet Manufacture	9,540	14,840	24,380	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.1	6.2	4.7	4.6	8.6	7.1	+ 2.4	+ 0.8	- 3.4	7.1	
Textile Industries not separately specified	13,080	30,210	43,290	4.6	6.0	5.6	1.7	3.5	3.0	6.3	9.5	8.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	- 4.0	7.9	
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	82,250	33,080	115,330	3.8	3.3	3.7	8.2	7.1	7.8	12.0	10.4	11.5	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	- 0.4	10.8	
Leather and Leather Goods :-																	
Tanning, Currying and Dressing	31,980	9,380	41,360	5.3	3.5	4.9	1.8	1.1	1.6	7.1	4.6	6.5	+ 0.2	- 0.9	- 5.8	6.5	
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture	12,920	13,160	26,080	6.5	4.9	5.7	1.4	2.2	1.8	7.9	7.1	7.5	+ 0.1	...	- 2.7	7.5	
Clothing Trades :-																	
Tailoring	67,030	130,950	197,980	4.9	1.9	2.9	0.5	1.8	1.4	5.4	3.7	4.3	+ 2.0	+ 1.2	- 1.0	4.3	
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery	10,250	94,710	104,960	4.6	2.1	2.3	0.2	1.1	1.1	4.8	3.2	3.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.6	- 1.1	3.1	
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture	12,980	19,960	32,940	4.1	4.4	4.3	0.8	2.3	1.7	4.9	6.7	6.0	+ 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 0.2	6.0	
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making	7,250	67,250	74,500	4.5	3.8	3.9	0.7	3.4	3.2	5.2	7.2	7.1	+ 1.3	+ 4.2	+ 0.1	4.8	
Dress Industries not separately specified	9,500	17,490	26,990	5.3	2.0	3.1	1.0	2.4	1.9	6.3	4.4	5.0	- 0.4	- 0.4	- 3.2	5.0	
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	85,540	52,470	138,010	7.4	4.5	6.3	7.3	8.6	7.8	14.7	13.1	14.1	+ 4.1	+ 7.6	+ 4.0	14.1	

WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

At 25th June, 1928, the number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,192,564; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,238,895.

Statistics for men, boys, women and girls, separately, are given below:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 25th June, 1928.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) as compared with 21st May, 1928.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
North-Eastern Division	251,639	31,207	12,350	295,196	+ 28,510
Barnsley ...	7,617	612	279	8,508	+ 3,965
Bradford ...	7,330	3,269	250	10,849	+ 2,198
Darlington ...	1,885	105	153	2,141	+ 72
Dewsbury ...	1,651	757	152	2,560	+ 157
Doncaster ...	2,678	251	258	3,187	+ 1,681
Gateshead ...	6,728	688	481	7,897	+ 413
Grimsby ...	3,095	138	127	3,360	+ 9
Halifax ...	2,050	1,394	50	3,494	+ 437
Hartlepool ...	5,245	164	158	5,867	+ 77
Huddersfield ...	2,286	1,710	457	4,453	+ 941
Hull ...	11,005	837	621	12,463	+ 1,120
Leeds ...	11,068	3,496	354	14,918	+ 1,120
Lincoln ...	1,285	135	163	1,583	+ 40
Middlesbrough ...	6,771	242	321	7,334	+ 205
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	15,700	1,190	816	17,706	+ 659
Rotherham ...	4,032	196	275	4,503	+ 13
Sheffield ...	20,880	2,580	1,358	24,818	+ 1,796
South Shields ...	7,352	209	369	7,930	+ 4
Stockton-on-Tees ...	3,983	178	326	4,487	+ 115
Sunderland ...	10,354	537	488	11,359	+ 543
Walsley ...	3,170	296	285	3,751	+ 282
York ...	1,564	515	188	2,267	+ 60
Rest of North-Eastern	113,932	11,648	4,421	130,001	+ 17,229
North-Western Division	177,455	62,983	11,086	251,523	+ 29,779
Accrington ...	1,831	1,233	143	3,207	+ 714
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	2,541	1,749	183	4,473	+ 311
Barrow ...	2,398	136	191	2,725	+ 378
Birkenhead ...	4,804	357	199	5,340	+ 777
Blackburn ...	3,276	3,546	290	7,112	+ 2
Blackpool ...	1,016	200	29	1,245	+ 322
Bolton ...	4,067	3,190	348	7,605	+ 322
Burnley ...	2,214	1,747	94	4,055	+ 357
Bury ...	1,260	1,388	112	2,760	+ 689
Chorley ...	2,298	674	37	3,009	+ 922
Liverpool ...	41,674	4,924	2,904	49,502	+ 121
Manchester ...	15,302	6,183	865	22,350	+ 994
Nelson ...	804	638	39	1,481	+ 596
Oldham ...	9,495	5,003	451	14,949	+ 2,174
Preston ...	2,742	1,791	115	4,648	+ 662
Rochdale ...	2,763	2,170	138	5,071	+ 1,183
St. Helens ...	6,174	298	238	6,710	+ 1,490
Salford ...	6,947	2,729	484	10,160	+ 490
Stockport ...	2,248	2,184	182	4,614	+ 1,243
Warrington ...	1,867	271	149	2,287	+ 266
Wigan ...	8,399	2,282	336	11,017	+ 2,972
Rest of North-Western	53,335	20,310	3,557	77,202	+ 14,626
Scotland Division	110,774	18,802	6,961	136,537	+ 2,139
Aberdeen ...	2,784	441	35	3,260	+ 114
Glydebank ...	1,196	156	97	1,449	+ 25
Dundee ...	4,292	2,178	272	6,742	+ 393
Edinburgh ...	9,710	1,650	535	11,895	+ 861
Glasgow ...	36,993	6,319	2,374	45,686	+ 1,516
Greenock ...	4,745	523	197	5,465	+ 9
Motherwell ...	3,483	111	252	3,846	+ 207
Paisley ...	1,816	350	130	2,296	+ 210
Rest of Scotland ...	45,755	7,075	3,069	55,899	+ 282
Wales Division	120,932	3,064	6,136	129,132	+ 1,089
Cardiff ...	8,340	742	569	9,651	+ 131
Llanelli ...	2,335	89	107	2,531	+ 1,664
Newport ...	4,549	207	275	5,031	+ 412
Swansea ...	5,449	259	445	6,153	+ 153
Rest of Wales ...	100,259	1,767	3,740	105,766	+ 2,319
Northern Ireland	26,594	17,943	1,794	46,331	+ 4,057
Belfast ...	17,717	10,308	1,211	29,236	+ 2,239
Londonderry ...	1,278	761	55	2,094	+ 291
Lurgan ...	556	958	38	1,552	+ 206
Lisburn ...	718	712	58	1,488	+ 207
Newry ...	759	362	15	1,136	+ 37
Rest of Northern Ireland	5,566	4,842	417	10,825	+ 1,077
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	985,679	198,151	55,065	1,238,895	+ 95,695

The following Table gives particulars relating to certain branches of the work of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the four weeks ended 25th June, 1928. Of the 97,238 vacancies filled, 51,609 were for men, 26,805 for women and 18,824 for juveniles:—

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†	Number of Work-people on Registers.
	During Week.	At end of Week.		
28th May, 1928 ...	23,054	21,875	21,262	Not available
4th June, 1928 ...	25,746	23,200	20,897	1,205,389
11th " " " " ...	29,527	22,419	26,219	1,194,691
18th " " " " ...	28,703	22,018	24,883	1,209,645
25th " " " " ...	28,339	21,047	25,239	1,238,895
Average (4 weeks) ...	28,079	...	24,310	1,212,155

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 25th June, 1928. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 25th June, 1928.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) as compared with 21st May, 1928.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London Division	80,008	17,092	4,206	101,306	+ 1,523
South-Eastern Division	27,154	5,067	2,678	34,899	+ 2,199
Brighton ...	1,156	168	122	1,446	+ 17
Chatham ...	1,903	187	551	2,641	+ 225
Ipswich ...	1,185	91	74	1,350	+ 342
Norwich ...	3,049	979	145	4,173	+ 926
Rest of South-Eastern	19,861	3,642	1,786	25,289	+ 3,025
South-Western Division	46,587	6,936	3,515	57,038	+ 46
Bristol ...	11,669	2,217	860	14,746	+ 512
Plymouth ...	4,493	343	264	5,100	+ 153
Portsmouth ...	3,325	329	423	4,077	+ 272
Reading ...	988	382	157	1,527	+ 224
Southampton ...	2,842	270	518	3,630	+ 445
Swindon ...	617	98	114	829	+ 153
Rest of South-Western	22,653	3,297	1,179	27,129	+ 141
Midlands Division	144,536	35,056	7,340	186,932	+ 35,021
Birmingham ...	19,460	7,733	868	28,061	+ 3,069
Govestry ...	4,701	773	122	5,596	+ 2,230
Cradley Heath ...	2,701	678	63	3,442	+ 71
Derby ...	1,366	449	131	1,946	+ 368
Leicester ...	4,244	3,544	164	7,952	+ 2,678
Northampton ...	2,170	811	169	3,150	+ 578
Nottingham ...	5,788	1,804	310	7,902	+ 861
Smethwick ...	2,035	805	87	2,927	+ 100
Stoke-on-Trent ...	16,445	5,203	1,000	22,648	+ 6,321
Walsall ...	3,859	800	297	4,956	+ 121
West Bromwich ...	2,001	435	104	2,540	+ 16
Wolverhampton ...	5,586	673	148	6,407	+ 664
Rest of Midlands	76,180	11,348	3,877	91,405	+ 17,944

* The term "Employment Exchange" as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.
 † "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men on relief works in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 21st May, 1928, the average number of such placings was 5,551 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 25th June, 1928, was 750 per week.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 25th June, 1928.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) as compared with 21st May, 1928.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
North-Eastern Division	251,639	31,207	12,350	295,196	+ 28,510
Barnsley ...	7,617	612	279	8,508	+ 3,965
Bradford ...	7,330	3,269	250	10,849	+ 2,198
Darlington ...	1,885	105	153	2,141	+ 72
Dewsbury ...	1,651	757	152	2,560	+ 157
Doncaster ...	2,678	251	258	3,187	+ 1,681
Gateshead ...	6,728	688	481	7,897	+ 413
Grimsby ...	3,095	138	127	3,360	+ 9
Halifax ...	2,050	1,394	50	3,494	+ 437
Hartlepool ...	5,245	164	158	5,867	+ 77
Huddersfield ...	2,286	1,710	457	4,453	+ 941
Hull ...	11,005	837	621	12,463	+ 1,120
Leeds ...	11,068	3,496	354	14,918	+ 1,120
Lincoln ...	1,285	135	163	1,583	+ 40
Middlesbrough ...	6,771	242	321	7,334	+ 205
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	15,700	1,190	816	17,706	+ 659
Rotherham ...	4,032	196	275	4,503	+ 13
Sheffield ...	20,880	2,580	1,358	24,818	+ 1,796
South Shields ...	7,352	209	369	7,930	+ 4
Stockton-on-Tees ...	3,983	178	326	4,487	+ 115
Sunderland ...	10,354	537	488	11,359	+ 543
Walsley ...	3,170	296	285	3,751	+ 282
York ...	1,564	515	188	2,267	+ 60
Rest of North-Eastern	113,932	11,648	4,421	130,001	+ 17,229
North-Western Division	177,455	62,983	11,086	251,523	+ 29,779
Accrington ...	1,831	1,233	143	3,207	+ 714
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	2,541	1,749	183	4,473	+ 311
Barrow ...	2,398	136	191	2,725	+ 378
Birkenhead ...	4,804	357	199	5,340	+ 777
Blackburn ...	3,276	3,546	290	7,112	+ 2
Blackpool ...	1,016	200	29	1,245	+ 322
Bolton ...	4,067	3,190	348	7,605	+ 322
Burnley ...	2,214	1,747	94	4,055	+ 357
Bury ...	1,260	1,388	112	2,760	+ 689
Chorley ...	2,298	674	37	3,009	+ 922
Liverpool ...	41,674	4,924	2,904	49,502	+ 121
Manchester ...	15,302	6,183	865	22,350	+ 994
Nelson ...	804	638	39	1,481	+ 596
Oldham ...	9,495	5,003	451	14,949	+ 2,174
Preston ...	2,742	1,791	115	4,648	+ 662
Rochdale ...	2,763	2,170	138	5,071	+ 1,183
St. Helens ...	6,174	298	238	6,710	+ 1,490
Salford ...	6,947	2,729	484	10,160	+ 490
Stockport ...	2,248	2,184	182	4,614	+ 1,243
Warrington ...	1,867	271	149	2,287	+ 266
Wigan ...	8,399	2,282	336	11,017	+ 2,972
Rest of North-Western	53,335	20,310	3,557	77,202	+ 14,626
Scotland Division	110,774	18,802	6,961	136,537	+ 2,139
Aberdeen ...	2,784	441	35	3,260	+ 114
Glydebank ...	1,196	156	97	1,449	+ 25
Dundee ...	4,292	2,178	272	6,742	+ 393
Edinburgh ...	9,710	1,650	535	11,895	+ 861
Glasgow ...	36,9				

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in June in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of over £5,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 60,000 workpeople and in an increase of £3,900 in those of over 37,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were as shown below:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Metal ... ..	...	33,500	£ ...	£ 2,150
Textile	16,000	8,500	1,800	1,280
Building and Allied Industries	16,000	17,000	1,750	1,460
Other	5,500	1,000	350	160
Total	37,500	60,000	3,900	5,050

The reductions in the metal group affected principally the higher-paid men employed at iron puddling furnaces and in iron and steel rolling mills and forges in the Midlands, and those employed in steel sheet rolling mills and galvanising works in various districts in England and Wales. In the former case the reduction, which applied to men on base rates of over 5s. 10d. per shift, amounted to nearly 2 per cent. on current rates, while steel sheet millmen and galvanisers rated at over 4s. per week sustained reductions varying from about 1½ to 3½ per cent. on current rates.

In the textile group adult timeworkers employed in the bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., industries in Lancashire and Yorkshire received temporary increases amounting to from 2s. to 3s. per week in the case of male workers and 1s. per week in the case of female workers; the adoption of new scales of wages for juvenile workers in the same industries resulted in most cases in reductions, varying generally from about 2s. or 2s. 6d. to 5s. per week. Female workers 19 years of age and over employed in the silk industry at Leek received increases in wages, which varied in the case of timeworkers from 1s. to 3s. 6d. per week.

In the building, etc. group there were increases, usually of ½d. per hour, in the wages of building trade operatives at certain towns in the South and East of England, as a result of up-grading under the National Grading Scheme. Men employed by electrical con-

tractors in England and Wales had their wages reduced by ½d. or ¾d. per hour under a cost-of-living sliding scale, and there was a reduction of ½d. per hour in the wages of building trade operatives at certain towns in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Of the total reduction of £5,050 per week nearly £1,500 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; £1,300 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; £830 took effect under arrangements made by conciliation boards or other joint bodies of employers and workpeople; and the remainder was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for about £75.

Of the total increase of £3,900 per week, over £2,000 took effect under arrangements made by joint bodies of employers and workpeople; and the remainder was chiefly the result of direct negotiation between the parties, including a sum of over £400 following disputes causing stoppage of work.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-JUNE, 1928.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying	5,000	391,000	£ 680	£ 59,150
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc.	200	3,550	15	600
Iron and Steel	34,500	68,000	1,160	6,250
Engineering and Shipbuilding and Other Metal	1,000	38,500	145	2,300
Textile	54,500	74,000	4,350	3,800
Clothing ... ..	...	30,000	...	1,520
Woodworking, etc.	3,200	10,250	290	1,750
Building and Allied Industries	12,500	453,000	1,350	41,900
Gas, Water and Electricity	...	...	...	...
Supply	30,850	600	5,800	60
Transport	1,150	9,350	100	530
Public Administration	12,500	8,500	550	690
Other	100	28,000	10	1,300
Total	155,500	1,114,750	14,450	119,850

In the corresponding six months of 1927, there were net increases of £22,200 in the weekly wages of 325,000 workpeople, and net reductions of nearly £245,000 in those of 1,286,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in June.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1928.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Chemical, etc., Manufacture.	Bristol (certain firms)	1st week in June.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of glue and chemical manures.	<i>Decrease of 6d. per week for men and of proportionate amounts for women and youths. Minimum rate after change for men, 44s.</i>
Pig-Iron Manufacture.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	10 June	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces.	New sliding-scale agreement adopted whereby the standard selling-price is to be 52s. per ton (instead of 70s. per ton formerly), and a percentage of 25 made payable on basis rates; cost-of-living bonuses previously paid discontinued, and output bonus and tonnage payments adjusted so as to yield approximately the same earnings. Net additions also made to wages varying from 10d. to 1d. per shift for men in receipt of base rates of 4s. 10d. to 5s. 7d. per shift. <i>Decrease of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 30 per cent. above the standard.†</i>
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	4 June	Workpeople employed at iron-puddling furnaces and in iron and steel rolling mills and forges (excluding men on base rates up to 5s. 10d. per shift)	<i>Decrease of 2½ per cent. for workpeople with base rates over 5s. 10d. per shift, leaving their wages 30 per cent. above basis.</i>
	Barrow-in-Furness ...	4 June	Wire and hoop millmen ...	<i>Percentage payable on basis rates reduced from 40 to 37½ for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 45s. and up to 51s. 6d. per normal week, and from 40 to 35 for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 51s. 6d. per normal week. Percentage payable on basis rates of mill squad workers to be 35 for rollers, furnacemen, and shearers, 37½ for catchers, breakers-down, bar drawers and doublers, and 40 for prillers, markers and scrap lads.**</i>
Galvanising	Certain districts in England and Wales.**	2 June	Steel-sheet millmen (excluding men on base earnings of 45s. per week or less).	<i>Percentage payable on basis rates reduced from 40 to 37½ for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 45s. and up to 51s. 6d. per normal week, and from 40 to 35 for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 51s. 6d. per normal week.††</i>
	England and Wales††	2 June	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing and all workers on base rates of 45s. per week or less).	

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of changes in the current rate of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working, etc.
 † In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of over 61 000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.
 ‡ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 § The principle embodied in the new agreement is to produce earnings equivalent to the previous earnings, including a cost-of-living bonus corresponding with an index number of 68 points (compared with an actual figure of 64 previously taken). Under the revised scale the new percentage is to apply to base rates, tonnage bonus and output bonus earnings alike, instead of separate percentages, as applied under former agreements.
 ¶ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.
 †† Men on base earnings of not more than 5s. 10d. per shift have been since 2nd November, 1925, in receipt of bonuses varying according to base earnings from 2d. to 10d. per day for dayworkers and from 2d. to 11d. per shift for shiftworkers. For the period 4th June, 1928, to 4th August, 1928, the percentage addition to base rates for such workers remains at 40 where base rate is 4s. 6d. or under, and 37½ where base rate is over 4s. 6d.
 ** This change took effect under the terms of an arrangement made by the Sheet Trade (Conciliation) Board—covering principally firms in Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire. The percentage payable on basis rates remained unchanged at 45 for men in receipt of basis earnings of 35s. or less per normal week, 42½ for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 35s. and up to 35s. per normal week, and 40 for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 35s. and up to 45s. per normal week. It was agreed that these percentages with the new percentages for other classes shown in the Table, should remain in operation for twelve months from 2nd June, the operation of the sliding scale being suspended.
 †† The above reductions took effect under the terms of an arrangement made by the Galvanising Conciliation Board. The percentage payable on basis rates remained unchanged at 45 for men in receipt of basis earnings of 35s. or less per normal week, 42½ for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 35s. and up to 35s. per normal week, and 40 for men in receipt of basis earnings of over 35s. and up to 45s. per normal week. The minimum wage for adult daily men also remained unchanged at 45s. per week. It was agreed that wages should remain at their present level for twelve months from 2nd June, the operation of the sliding scale being suspended.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1928 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Greater London Area	2nd pay day in June	Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	<i>Decrease of 0.25d. per hour for plumber-jointers, and of 0.2d. per hour for plumber-jointers' mates. Rates after change: plumber-jointers, 1s. 9.5d. per hour; plumber-jointers' mates, 1s. 5.2d. per hour.</i>
Silk	Leek	Pay week preceding 6 July	Female workers:— Timeworkers	New scale of weekly rates adopted, resulting in a decrease of from 1s. to 3s. 6d. per week at 19 years and over, the rates for those under 17½ years remaining unchanged. Rates after change: 22s. per week at 17½ years of age; 25s. at 18; 26s. 6d. at 19; 27s. 6d. at 20; and 29s. at 21 and over. Basis rates to be the same as for timeworkers for those 17 to 19 years of age, and 27s. per week for those over 19, an addition of 20 per cent. being paid on basis rates as formerly.
			Pieceworkers	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant):— Adult male timeworkers employed on productive process work— whose cost-of-living wages are paid on the flat rate system. whose cost-of-living wages are paid as a percentage on basis rates. Female timeworkers 18 years and over employed on productive process work. Male workers under 18 years of age. Female workers under 18 years of age.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, etc.	Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire.†	Pay week preceding 1st day in July.	Female workers under 18 years of age.	Increase of 3s. per week for those whose basis rates are less than 31s., 2s. 6d. per week for those whose basis rates are from 31s. to 33s. inclusive, and 2s. per week for those whose basis rates are over 33s. but not more than 34s.† Increase of 3s. per week for those whose basis rates are less than 31s., and 2s. 6d. per week for those whose basis rates are 31s. but not more than 32s. 6d.† Increase of 1s. per week.† New scale of basis rates adopted, resulting in decreases of from 1s. 6d. to 3s. per week in basis rates (except for those 17½ years of age in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, whose basis rate remained unchanged). Rates after change: 9s. 6d. at 14 and under 15, increasing to 12s. 6d. at 16 and under 16½, and to 17s. at 17½ and under 18, plus, in all cases, cost-of-living wage of 69½ per cent.‡ New scale of basis rates adopted, resulting in decreases of from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week in basis rates (except for those 17½ years of age in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, whose basis rate was increased by 6d. per week). Rates after change: 7s. 6d. at 14 and under 15, increasing to 11s. 6d. at 16 and under 16½, and to 15s. 6d. at 17½ and under 18, plus, in all cases, cost-of-living wage of 69½ per cent.‡
Furniture Manufacture.	High Wycombe ...	Pay day in week ending 23 June.	Caners of common bedroom chairs bored 18, 19 and 20.	Increase of ½d. per chair. Rates after change: bored 18, 7d. per chair; bored 19 and 20, 8d. per chair.
Building.	Colchester	1 June	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 5½d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.¶
	Luton	1 June	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d.) and ¼d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1½d.)¶
	Southend-on-Sea ...	1 June	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 1½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d.) and ¼d. per hour for labourers (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 2d.)¶
	Deal, Dover, Hastings and Isle of Thanet.**	1 June	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 4½d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d.¶
	Egham and Staines, Maidenhead, Oxford, Reading, Slough, Windsor and Eton, Redhill and Reigate	1 June	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d.) and ¼d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1½d.)¶
	Certain districts in South Wales and Monmouthshire.††	1 June	Bricklayers and masons ...	<i>Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 7d.)</i>
Electrical Installation.	England and Wales and Northern Ireland.‡‡	Pay period preceding 2nd pay day in June.	Men employed by electrical contractors.	<i>Decrease of 1½ per cent. on rates paid in April, 1921, leaving wages 28½ per cent. below these rates. Net hourly rates after change for qualified men:—Grade A districts, 1s. 9½d.; Grade B, 1s. 7½d.; Grade C, 1s. 6d.; Grade D, 1s. 4½d.†††</i>
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Glasgow	4 June	Settmakers	<i>Decrease of 1d. per ton (4s. 9d. to 4s. 8d. per ton).</i>
	Leeds	7 June	Street sweepers	Increase of 1d. per hour (11½d. to 1s. 0½d.).
	Birmingham ...	1st pay day in June.	Able-bodied male manual workers	Increase of 1s. 3d. per week. Rates after change: general yard and road labourers and sweepers, 51s. 10d.; refuse collectors and carters, 53s. 10d. Increase of 1s. per week. Minimum rates after change include: Grade A workpeople (bath and lavatory attendants, scavengers, etc.): Zone I districts, 52s. 6d.; Zone II, 51s.; Zone III, 48s. 6d.; Grade B (horse-drivers, stablemen, gardeners, yardmen, dust collectors, labourers, etc.): Zone I, 55s. 6d.; Zone II, 53s. 3d.; Zone III, 50s. 6d.
Co-operative Societies.	West Lothian District.	1st pay day in June.	Shop assistants, porters, caretakers and cellarmen. Head warehousemen	New scales of minimum rates adopted, resulting in increases in some cases and decreases in others. Minimum rate of 65s. 7d. per week adopted.

* It was provided that no reduction was to be made in the rates of those workers at present employed between the ages of 17½ and 19 years.
 † The change took effect under an agreement, ratified on 23rd June, between the Allied Association of Bleachers, Dyers, Printers and Finishers, and the Amalgamated Society of Dyers, Bleachers, Finishers and Kindred Trades, the National Union of General Workers, the Operative Bleachers, Dyers and Finishers' Association (Bolton Amalgamation), the No. 1 Calendermen's Society and the Society of Female Workers. The National Union of Textile Workers, which was not a party to the agreement, subsequently accepted its terms and work was generally resumed by its members, following a stoppage, on 5th July, or in the following week.
 ‡ These increases are of a temporary nature and are to be paid only until such time as arrangements for collective piecework at the individual works have been agreed upon and put into operation.
 § In the case of those under 18 years employed on piecework rates, cost-of-living wages are to be paid as though the workers concerned were paid 'on time rates in accordance with the agreed scale of rates. In Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire the cost-of-living wage was previously paid on the flat-rate system, but is now paid in the case of workers under 18 years as a percentage on basis rates. The total reductions, taking into account the cost-of-living wage additions before and after the change, varied in most cases, from about 2s. or 2s. 6d. per week to about 5s. per week; in the case of female workers 17½ years of age in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, there was a small increase.
 ¶ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.
 †† The change took effect as the result of re-grading under the Grading Scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry.
 ††† Including Ramsgate, Margate, Westgate, Broadstairs and Birchington.
 †††† Ebbw Vale and district (including Tredegar, Brynmawr, Nantyglo and Blaiva, and Abertillery), Sirhowy Valley (including Abercarn, Newbridge, Cwmearn, Crumlin, Blackwood, Pontllanraith, and Crosskeys), Pontypool and district (including Blaenavon, Abersychan, Pontnewynydd, and Panteg), Pontypridd, Rhondda Valley and Mountain Ash districts, East Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire Valleys (including Caerphilly, Abertidwr, Senghenydd, Bargoed up to Rhymer Bridge, excluding Bedwas), and Merthyr Tydfil.
 †††† The change took effect under an agreement made between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union. The reduction was equivalent to ½d. per hour for Grade B and to ¼d. per hour for Grades A, C, and D. A list of the districts included in the various grades was given on page 103 of the GAZETTE for March.
 ††††† The authorities affected are those which have followed a decision of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 249–250 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7).]

GERMANY.*

The official journal of the German Ministry of Labour* states that employment continued to improve during May owing to the maintenance of the seasonal demand for workers in agriculture and in the building trades. The seasonal causes influencing employment were, however, approaching their end. In other branches of industry the course of the labour market was uneven. The effects of the general economic situation on employment were to be seen in an increase both in the number of persons on short time (trade union figures) and in the number of applicants for work in groups most closely affected, as, for example, the textile and leather trades. In these two industrial groups, employment in May was again reported as unsatisfactory, particularly so in the case of women workers. It is not possible to state to what extent employment was adversely affected by conditions prevailing in Rhenish-Westphalian coalmining or in the iron industry, but it is reported that a considerable number of workers have been discharged in certain areas in which the heavy industries are carried on.

At the end of May, the Employment Exchanges making returns reported 1,246,457 persons as available and seeking work, as against 1,386,514 at the end of April, and 1,362,418 at the end of May, 1927. The number of vacant situations registered at the Exchanges at the end of May was 78,706, as compared with 85,693 at the end of the preceding month, and 59,987 at the end of May, 1927.

The number of insured persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment on 31st May, 1928, was 761,919 (including 132,449 in receipt of emergency unemployment benefit). On 30th April, the corresponding total was 891,732 (including 162,403 in receipt of emergency unemployment benefit).

Returns were received from national trade unions, relating to 4,310,276 organised workers. Of these 270,103, or 6.3 per cent., were totally unemployed on 26th May, 1928, as compared with 6.9 per cent. on 28th April, and 7.0 per cent. on 28th May, 1927. In addition, 215,759, or 5.0 per cent., were working short time, as against 4.2 per cent. on 28th April, and 2.9 per cent. at the end of May, 1927.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment among the principal groups of trades represented in the above total:—

Groups of Trades.	Membership reported on at end of May, 1928.	Percentage unemployed at end of month.	
		May, 1928.	April, 1928.
All Unions making Returns ...	4,310,276	6.3	6.9
Mining ...	165,000	1.9	1.6
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. ...	245,300	5.1	5.5
Engineering and metal ...	949,900	4.8	4.9
Chemical ...	114,300	5.4	4.9
Textile ...	390,800	6.3	5.4
Paper ...	118,200	4.5	4.6
Leather ...	153,700	12.6	11.0
Wood ...	307,300	10.2	10.7
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	277,500	6.6	7.2
Clothing ...	92,800	11.6	10.3
Building ...	635,400	9.5	14.2
Printing ...	145,300	3.4	3.4
Transport ...	334,700	4.8	5.0

Employers' returns were received in May from 3,270 establishments in various industries. On the 15th of the month, 19 per cent. of the aggregate workpeople covered by the returns were employed in establishments reporting good employment (as compared with 26 per cent. in the previous month and 25 per cent. in May, 1927), and 28 per cent. in those reporting bad employment (as against 29 per cent. in the previous month and 23 per cent. in May, 1927).

FRANCE.†

The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 30th June was 9,124 (5,676 men and 3,448 women). At the end of May the corresponding total was 12,327. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 16,227 (11,281 for men and 4,946 for women), as compared with 15,027 at the end of May. During the week ended 30th June, the Exchanges succeeded in placing 23,048 persons in situations, including 9,318 dock workers at sea ports, and in addition found employment for 636 foreign immigrants.

* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 20th June, 1928. Berlin.
† Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 6th July, 1928. Paris.

DENMARK.*

Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that 14.3 per cent. of the 273,552 workpeople covered by the statistics were unemployed at the end of May, as against 17.6 per cent. at the end of the preceding month and 19.1 at the end of May, 1927.

NORWAY.

According to information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, out of 16,424 members of trade unions making returns, 18.5 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of April, 1928. The corresponding figure for the end of March was 19.8 per cent. and that for April, 1927, 23.8 per cent.

SWEDEN.‡

The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st May, 1928, was 8.1 as compared with 11.5 on the last day of the preceding month, and 10.0 per cent. on 31st May, 1927.

AUSTRIA;§

According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th June, 1928, the total number of applicants for work registered at the Employment Exchanges at the end of May, 1928, was 153,946 (including 76,618 in Vienna), as compared with 179,637 at the end of April. The number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of May was 130,393 (including 63,687 in Vienna), as compared with 154,817 (69,891 in Vienna) at the end of April.

BELGIUM.‡

Returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 162 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 623,130, show that 4,049 (0.6 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of the last week of May (2nd June), 1928. The corresponding percentage at the end of the preceding month was 0.8, and in May, 1927, 1.5. In addition, 22,452 members (3.6 per cent.) were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment during May numbered 193,120, or 1.29 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 1.41, and in May, 1927, 2.25 per cent.

HOLLAND.§

The Journal of the Netherlands Statistical Office contains preliminary figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, which show that out of 291,186 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 26th May, 1928, 10,992 (3.8 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week and 3,129 (1.0 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the previous month (ended 28th April, 1928) the percentages were respectively 3.7 and 1.2.

ITALY.¶

According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 306,629 persons were recorded as unemployed on 31st May, 1928, as compared with 356,795 on 30th April, 1928, and 216,441 at the end of May, 1927. The total for 31st May includes 61,172 engaged in agriculture and fishing and 77,270 in the building, road construction, etc., industries and 58,350 in the textile industry. In addition, 45,569 persons were partially unemployed at that date, as compared with 45,855 at the end of April, 1928, and 59,091 at the end of May, 1927. (The foregoing totals are stated to be approximate only.) In May, 1928, 108,701 insured workers received benefit in respect of a total of 1,832,634 days of unemployment.

SWITZERLAND.¶

On 31st May, 1928, 6,410 applications for employment (4.9 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at employment exchanges as compared with 6,910 at the end of April and 9,547 at the end of May, 1927. The reduction is said to be due principally to seasonal causes, and it is stated that not since 1921 have there been so few registered unemployed. The metal and textile industries reported the greatest reductions in the numbers unemployed. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 4,126, 4,854, 3,640 respectively.

POLAND.**

According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland the number of unemployed registered at employment exchanges on 2nd June, 1928, was 131,454 as compared with 148,508 on the 5th May. On these dates the number of unemployed persons entitled to benefit was 55,917 and 67,259 respectively.

* Statistiske Efterretninger, 21st June, 1928. Copenhagen.
† Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.
‡ Revue du Travail, 30th June, 1928. Brussels.
§ Maandsskrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 30th June, 1928. The Hague.
¶ Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, June, 1928. Rome.
** Rapports économiques et Statistique Sociale, May, 1928. Berne.
*** Wiadomości Statystyczne, 20th June, 1928. Warsaw.

UNITED STATES.*

Figures relating to the volume of employment in May, based on returns from 11,035 establishments in 54 of the chief manufacturing industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 3,055,200 employed in May, 1928, a decrease of 0.2 per cent. as compared with the total for April. The aggregate wages paid for May showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. as compared with those for April, and the average earnings per head an increase of 0.5 per cent. The decrease in employment which is usual in May was less than in the same month during any of the last four years. Outstanding decreases, apart from a seasonal drop of 43.9 per cent. in fertilisers, were in sugar refining (6 per cent.), cotton goods (4.8 per cent.), women's clothing and millinery (5 per cent. each), boots and shoes and furniture (over 3 per cent. each) industries. Increases in employment were shown in the motor-car (5.7 per cent.) and woollen goods (1.4 per cent.) industries, together with seasonal increases in the ice cream (7.7 per cent.), brick (6.1 per cent.), cement (4.2 per cent.) and structural iron (3.7 per cent.) industries.

As compared with May, 1927, there was in the month under review a decrease of 4.7 per cent. in the numbers employed and a decrease of 5.8 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid. The most notable decreases in employment were in shipbuilding (26.3 per cent.), sugar refining (15.9 per cent.), petroleum refining (15.6 per cent.), brick (13.8 per cent.), carriages and wagons (13 per cent.), and in the piano, cast-iron pipe and cotton goods industries (approximately 12 per cent. each). The vehicle group of industries alone showed increased employment (2.4 per cent.), as compared with a year ago.

Index Number of Employment, May.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for May, 1928, is 85.5, as compared with 85.7 in April, and 89.7 in May, 1927.

CANADA.†

For 1st June, 1928, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,533 firms with an aggregate of 943,344 on their pay-rolls. On 1st May, 1928, the same firms reported 884,262 employed, and the total for 1st June thus shows an increase of 59,082, or 6.7 per cent. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st June, 1928, is 112.4, as compared with 105.5 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 105.9 on 1st June, 1927.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act, 1927.

POLITICAL FUND—"CONTRACTING IN."

An important decision has been given by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, acting under the powers conferred on him by the Trade Union Act, 1913.

The National Union of General and Municipal Workers had adopted the model rules which the Chief Registrar had approved as being in accordance with the terms of the Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act, 1927: in these rules were the following provisions amongst others:—(a) that contributions to the political fund were to be levied and paid separately from those to any other union fund, and (b) that no member of the union who had not "contracted-in" should be placed at any disadvantage as compared with other members of the union.

In August, 1927, however, the General Council of the union decided that the contribution to the political fund should be increased from 1s. to 1s. 4d. a year, and the branches of the union were circularised to that effect. The total contribution payable by each member to the union, namely, 6d. a week, was not to be increased; but members who did not agree to subscribe to the political fund were not to be allowed to pay a total contribution less than other members who did agree to contribute to that fund.

Mr. W. J. Griffiths, a member of the union, who had not agreed to contribute to the political fund, made a formal complaint to the Chief Registrar, on the ground that the union had marked his card as being in arrears because he had withheld 4d. a quarter, which was the amount of the contribution to the political levy. He submitted that, having regard to the fact that the union had adopted the model rules referred to above, it had, in effect, contravened its own regulations.

After hearing arguments the Registrar made an order that the union should delete the sum shown as arrears from Mr. Griffiths' card, and that for the future he should not be shown as in arrears for failing to contribute to the political fund, nor be deprived of any benefits of membership, nor be subject to any penalty or forfeiture. 7th June, 1928.

MEMBER OF TRADE UNION—EXPULSION—OPERATION OF UNION REGULATIONS.

This was an appeal from a decision of Mr. Justice Romer. Mr. Walter Fish, the plaintiff in the action, sought a declaration that he was still a member of one or both of the defendant associa-

* Employment in Selected Manufacturing Industries, May, 1928. Washington.
† The May Employment Situation, 1928. Ottawa.

tions, the National Union of General Workers and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers; he further sought an injunction restraining the defendant associations from expelling him from membership otherwise than in accordance with the rules of the respective bodies.

In January, 1920, the plaintiff joined the Paddington branch of the National Union of General Workers; he transferred his membership to the King's Cross branch in January, 1921, and to the Hoxton branch about June, 1921. Until 9th June, 1923, he paid his subscription (6d. a week) with fair regularity.

A rule of the union provided that if any member, when in work, owed six months' contributions and did not clear the books, his name should be struck off, and he should forfeit all he had contributed to the union.

The defendants alleged that the plaintiff paid no subscription for over six months from 9th June, 1923, and that, in consequence, the above-mentioned rule applied to him.

In the Court of first instance the plaintiff stated that he attended at the Hoxton branch on 16th July, 1923, and tendered 2s. to the secretary, who refused to accept the money, but gave no reason for his refusal. The chairman and secretary of the Hoxton branch denied that the plaintiff had ever tendered the money.

Mr. Justice Romer decided that the rule had properly operated to expel the plaintiff, who, in consequence, had ceased to be a member of the old union, the National Union of General Workers, and so had also ceased to be a member of the new union, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, with which the former association had been amalgamated.

Against this decision the plaintiff appealed. The Master of the Rolls (Lord Hanworth), in the course of his judgment, said that no evidence had been adduced to show whether the appellant was in work during the six months in question or not. The secretary had stated that an opportunity would be given to any man out of work to present his case to the union. The question for the Court, therefore, was whether the rule complained of worked automatically, or whether an inquiry should precede any action under it.

The rules provided that members who were out of work might have their cards cleared if they took the necessary steps to inform the secretary of their circumstances, and, accordingly, if a member of the union desired to avoid the operation of the rule, the onus lay upon him to notify the union officials that he was out of work. He (the Master of the Rolls) took the view that, if a member failed or neglected to do this, the rule would work automatically, and it was not incumbent upon the union to make any inquiry.

The appeal was dismissed.—*Fish v. The National Union of General Workers and the National Union of General and Municipal Workers. Court of Appeal. 22nd June, 1928.*

Other Recent Decisions of Interest.

REFUSAL OF WORK—DETENTION IN PIT.

Robert Morrison, a miner, sued his employers, James Nimmo and Company, Limited, for alleged illegal detention in the pit.

The pursuer stated that on two occasions he had descended the pit to go to the place where he usually worked, but was ordered to go to another section, on the ground that his particular section was not in a fit condition for working. He declined to do this, his reason being that the section to which he was ordered was deficient, and he would, in consequence, have earned less than he could have done at his usual working place. On his requesting to be taken to the surface again, he was met with a refusal, and so was detained for several hours at the bottom of the pit.

The Sheriff found that at the pit in question a regulation had been operative for some years to the effect that, if a man descended the shaft at the beginning of a shift and work was offered to him, he would not be raised to the surface until the end of the shift, unless there were exceptional circumstances. He (the Sheriff) was not concerned to inquire whether this rule was a reasonable one or not, but its effect was fatal to the pursuer's case.

Pursuer's claim accordingly failed.—*Morrison v. James Nimmo and Company, Limited. Falkirk Sheriff Court. 4th June, 1928.*

FAILURE TO FENCE MACHINERY—INJURY TO WORKMAN.

Messrs. Bassets, Limited, of Forge Lane, Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, macadam manufacturers, were charged with failing to fence their machinery properly.

Evidence was given to the effect that an employee had the sleeve of his coat caught in the cogs of a slag-crushing machine whilst he was engaged in oiling it: as a result, his left arm was torn off at the shoulder.

The Stipendiary Magistrate convicted, and imposed a fine of £20 upon the defendant company.—*Hanley Petty Sessions. 11th June, 1928.*

CHOICE OF A UNION—RIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL SELECTION—POWER OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OVER MEMBERS OF AFFILIATED BODIES—CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY.

The National Union of Distributive Workers appealed against a decision of Lord Moncrieff, who had granted declarator that certain persons were members of the Union, and entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership. The facts of the case are fully reported in the February, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 72.

The First Division of the Court of Session dismissed the appeal and upheld the decision of Lord Moncrieff.—*National Union of Distributive Workers v. Thomas Connell.—Court of Session, Edinburgh. 9th June, 1928.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS,
1920-27.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

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

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 927/28. (1.6.28.) Section 7 (1) (iv) of the Principal Act (as amended)—Unable to Obtain Suitable Employment.

APPLICANTS REFUSED EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE LOCAL AREA—CONSIDERED WAGES AND CONDITIONS OFFERED LESS FAVOURABLE THAN THOSE WHICH WOULD BE OBTAINED LOCALLY.

The applicants, bricklayers, were offered suitable employment outside their local area at a rate of pay less than that existing locally. The prospective employer did, however, pay the standard rate of wages of the district, and under certain conditions paid an output bonus. The applicants refused the employment; on the grounds that the rate of wages and conditions offered were less favourable than they would be able to obtain in their own district.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit be disallowed. The Court did not think that, within the meaning of the Act, the offer could be considered less favourable. The applicants' association appealed to the Umpire against the Court's disallowance of the claim, who gave the following decision:—

Decision.—“On the facts before me my decision is that, if the above-named employed persons had made a claim for unemployment benefit, the claim would have been disallowed.

“As was said in 754/27,† the Umpire is not concerned with matters of policy, but is required to follow strictly the words of the Act of Parliament. I must therefore disregard the question of policy entailed in the imposition of the ‘output bonus’ rule, the non-observance of which by the prospective employer, so the applicants suggest, renders the employment offered unsuitable.

“The fact that the employment offered is on terms contrary to a National Agreement does not in itself render the employment offered unsuitable (see 754/27,† 827/28,† 815/28§).

“As the employment offered was at or near Morecambe, whereas the applicants reside in Liverpool, it is necessary to consider whether the payment by the prospective employer of an ‘output bonus’ brings the offer of employment within the provisions of proviso (c) of Section 7 (1) of the 1920 Act.

“The course which this employer adopts is as follows:—He pays the standard rate of wage of the district, and if on the completion of each house it is found that the cost of erection is below the price quoted to the building owner the difference between actual cost and price quoted is divided as a bonus among the workmen engaged on the erection of the house. If the cost equals, or exceeds, the price quoted, the workmen receive the standard rate of wage, which is paid each week, and nothing more.

“In these circumstances it is impossible to say that, as regards these applicants, they were offered employment at a rate of wage lower or on conditions less favourable within the meaning of proviso (c) of Section 7 (1), and therefore they have failed to prove that they were unable to obtain suitable employment, and so are not entitled to benefit.”

Case No. 930/28. (2.6.28.) Section 8 (2) of the Principal Act—Misconduct.

APPLICANTS, MINERS, SUSPENDED FROM THEIR EMPLOYMENT FOR FILLING BOGIES WITH DIRTY ORE.

The applicants, miners, were suspended from their employment, after previous warnings, for the filling of bogies with dirty ore. The applicants contended that on the day in question their working place was about 40 feet away from the actual filling place, and that they therefore could not see the quality of the ore which was being placed in the bogies by the fillers, but for which they were held responsible.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit be disallowed for a period of one week. The Court did not view the matter so seriously as to warrant a longer period of disqualification in view of the fact that the dirty ore was confined to only two bogies out of thirty-three. The applicants' association appealed to the Umpire against the Court's disallowance, and contended that the applicants' first duty was to make their working place safe, and that the filling of bogies by some one else whilst they were so occupied

* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published annually by H.M. Stationery Office, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1927 (price 7s. 6d. net). Selected decisions are also issued monthly in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription; the latest monthly pamphlet issued is that for May, 1928. Applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

† See Vol. VI, Umpire's Selected Decisions (page 47, Pamphlet No. 2/1927).

‡ Not published.

§ See Umpire's Selected Decisions (page 56, Pamphlet No. 5/1928).

should not constitute misconduct under the Act. The Umpire gave the following decision, in which the facts are stated:—

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

“The applicants and their fillers worked in a ‘company,’ and were employed at tonnage rates. It is admitted by the applicants that they had control over their fillers, who work to their orders, and that the responsibility for seeing that the ore is picked clean before it is filled into the bogie rests with the applicants. It is further admitted that two of the bogies sent up contained an excessive amount of dirt. The applicants had been warned on previous occasions for sending up excessively dirty ore.

“It is contended by the applicants, and denied by the employers, that the bogies were filled at a platform 40 feet distant from the working place, and as the applicants were ‘dressing down’ the working place they were not aware of what was being filled. It is unnecessary to determine whether the applicants or the employers are right upon this point. It having been admitted that the applicants owed a duty to their employers to see that the fillers did not fill an excessive amount of dirt, and it having been admitted that there was a breach of that duty (see 765/28*), and the applicants having been warned previously against committing further breaches of this nature, it cannot be said they were not guilty of misconduct, the gravity of which the Court of Referees has recognised by the imposition of one week's disqualification only.

“There is no suggestion that, if there was misconduct, it was not the joint misconduct of all the applicants. This differentiates this case from 2011/27,† in which one of 5 or 6 men was guilty of misconduct in filling a dirty tub, and, as none of them would admit the offence, the employer, not knowing who was responsible, discharged them all. Benefit was allowed in that case because the Umpire could not say which of the 5 or 6 should have been disqualified for benefit on the ground that he had lost his employment through his misconduct.”

REFERENCES TO THE HIGH COURT.

Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Unemployment Insurance (Determination of Questions) Regulations, 1920, the Minister of Labour hereby gives notice of his intention to refer to the High Court for decision the following questions that have arisen in applications made to him for his decision under Section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, namely, whether the employment of persons in the following circumstances is or is not employment within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920:—

Employment by a firm of garden architects as labourer in connection with the construction of a landscape garden, to excavate chalk with pick and shovel for levelling purposes.

Employment by a firm of garden architects as labourer in connection with the construction of a landscape garden, to shift and lever heavy rocks, and occasionally to wheel mould and excavate chalk.

Employment by a firm of garden architects as labourer in connection with the construction of a landscape garden, to dig a trench for a waterpipe, to shovel and wheel mould for levelling purposes, to beat turf and plant shrubs.

Employment by the agricultural department of a co-operative society as labourer, to drain, excavate and level in connection with the construction of sports grounds.

Employment by a firm of landscape gardeners and nurserymen as labourer in connection with the construction of a new golf course, to dig, mow, carry, roll and tend turf.

Employment as a farm smith, and to work on the land as required.

Employment on a private estate as carpenter and general estate and farm repairer.

Employment on a private estate as estate carpenter.

Under the Rules of the Supreme Court, Order LV B, Rule 28, any person who claims to be affected by the decisions to be given in the above mentioned cases may apply to the Judge for leave to intervene.

The cases have been set down in the High Court, and will be heard in the near future.

In the event of any person desiring to intervene, all the necessary information and documents can be obtained by applying to the Solicitor to the Minister of Labour, 6, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME
(VARIATION AND AMENDMENT) (No. 2)
SPECIAL ORDER, 1928.

The Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) (No. 2) Special Order, 1928, dated 4th June, 1928,† made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).

Whereas the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as “the Minister”), by the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry

* See Umpire's Selected Decisions (page 53, Pamphlet No. 5/1928).

† See Vol. VI, Umpire's Selected Decisions (page 134, Pamphlet No. 7/1927).

‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1928, No. 467.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board
(Great Britain).

Order D.B. (12), dated 14th June, 1928, confirming a guaranteed time rate for a certain class of female learner and confirming the variation of general minimum time-rates, piecework basis time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of female workers, and general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers, and specifying the 25th June, 1928, as the date from which such minimum rates should become effective.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal C. (26), dated 12th June, 1928, to vary and fix general minimum piece-rates of wages for periods dependent upon the cost-of-living index figure, and to cancel certain general minimum piece-rates in the hand-hammered chain trade.

Objection period expires 12th August, 1928.

General Waste Materials Reclamation Trade Board
(Great Britain).

Proposal D.B. (13), dated 19th June, 1928, to fix minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in those branches of the trade newly brought within the scope of the Trade Board by the Trade Boards (Waste Materials Reclamation Trade, Great Britain) (General Waste Branch) (Amendment) Regulations, 1927 and 1928.

Objection period expires 19th August, 1928.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.B.S. (N. 19), dated 22nd June, 1928, to vary minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in Northern Ireland, exclusive of the County Boroughs of the Cities of Belfast and Londonderry.

Objection period expired 6th July, 1928.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

ACCIDENTS.—*International Labour Conference, Eleventh Session, Geneva, 1928. Prevention of industrial accidents. Supplementary Report.* International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1928; price 1s.)

APPRENTICESHIP.—*Report of an enquiry into apprenticeship for the skilled occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1925-1926, VII. General Report.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 5s.) (See page 241.)

EYE STRAIN.—*On the relief of eyestrain among persons performing very fine work.* Report No. 49. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 3d.)

FISHING INDUSTRY.—*Forty-sixth Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland, being for the year 1927.* (Cmd. 3126; price 2s.) Gives the numbers employed in the fishing industry in Scotland. Appendix V. describes the share system in Scottish fishing vessels.

INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE.—*Report of the Industrial Assurance Commissioner for the year ended 31st December, 1927.* (H.C. 18; price 3s.)

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—*Industrial Fatigue Research Board. Eighth Annual Report to December 31, 1927.* (S.O. publication; price 9d.) (See page 243.)

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.—(a) *Reports of Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment, 1927.* (i) *Finsbury and Holborn.* (ii) *Walsall.* (iii) *Wrexham.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 4d., 4d. and 6d., respectively.) (b) *Guide to employment for London boys and girls.* London Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 2s.) (See page 241.)

MINING.—(i) *Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 31st March, 1928.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 3129; price 1d.) (See page 242.) (ii) *Sixth Annual Report of the Safety in Mines Research Board, 1927.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 9d.) (iii) *Wages and hours of work in the coal-mining industry.* Studies and Reports, Series D. (Wages and hours of work), No. 18. International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1928. London, P. S. King & Son, Ltd.; price 6s.) See pages 244-5.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*Return showing the number of persons in receipt of poor law relief in England and Wales on the night of 1st January, 1928.* Ministry of Health. (H.C. 87; price 1s. 3d.) (See page 244.)

SAFETY.—*The use of abrasive wheels.* Safety Pamphlet No. 7. 3rd edition. Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 9d.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1927. Decisions given by the Umpire respecting claims to benefit during the month of May, 1928.* U.I. 440. Pamphlet No. 5/1928. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1928, approved for the purposes of Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, a Special Scheme for the Insurance Industry and varied and amended such Special Scheme which Scheme as so varied and amended is hereinafter referred to as “the Scheme”.

And whereas application has been made to the Minister for the further variation and amendment of the provisions of the Scheme.

Now therefore the Minister by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the said Section 18 and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Special Order:—

1. The variations and amendments of the provisions of the Scheme contained in the Schedule to this Order shall have effect as from 19th April, 1928.

2. This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) (No. 2) Special Order, 1928, and shall be included among the Orders which may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1928.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 4th day of June, 1928.

H. J. WILSON,
Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

SCHEDULE.

1. Clause 13 Part i B (Duration of Benefit) of the Benefit Table forming part of the Scheme shall have effect as though the following proviso were inserted at the end of paragraph (1):—

Provided also that the 19th April, 1928, shall be substituted for the date of the application for benefit in the prescribed manner in all cases where such application was made before the 19th April, 1928.

2. Clause 13 Part ii (Conditions for the Receipt of Benefit) of the said Benefit Table shall have effect as though in sub-paragraph (1):—

(a) the words “or the 19th April, 1928, if the application was made before that date” were inserted immediately after the words “prescribed manner” where those words first occur; and

(b) the words “or after the 19th April, 1928, as the case may be” were inserted immediately after the words “the period of six weeks after such application”.

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

Recent Proceedings.

(A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

SUPERVISING GRADES, POST OFFICE.—Federation of Post Office Supervising Officers v. Post Office. *Difference.*—Increase of Annual Leave. *Decision.*—Increases were granted in the case of some of the grades.

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

SHIPBUILDING: CO. DURHAM.—A dispute relating to demarcation of work between the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society and the Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association at the Haverton Hill Shipyards of the Furness Shipbuilding Company, Limited. Sir Richard Redmayne, K.C.B., appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to act as *Arbitrator* to determine the matter. *Award.*—That the work in question properly falls to be performed by the members of the Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association. Issued on 7th June, 1928.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE: LEICESTER.—Operatives' side v. Employers' side of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Leicester. *Difference.*—Arising out of an Award dated 25th June, 1927,* and an agreement of 28th July, 1927, as to filling up holes in heels and defective channels.—Mr. W. Addington Willis appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896, to act as *Conciliator* in the matter. Memorandum of Agreement signed on 12th June, 1928.

HOSIERY DYEING: DERBY.—Messrs. William Lowe (Derby), Limited, Derwent Side Dye Works, Derby, v. Midland Counties Federation of Hosiery Finishers. *Difference.*—As to whether the firm should pay their workpeople in accordance with the piece price list known in the trade as the Leicester List or in accordance with the piece price list known in the trade as the Nottingham List. Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C., appointed under the Industrial Courts Acts, 1919, to act as *Arbitrator* to determine the matter. *Award.*—That the employers' claim to pay in accordance with the Nottingham List was not established, and that, until a new agreement is negotiated between the parties, wages to be those in operation prior to dispute on 8th December, 1927.† Dated 26th June, 1928.

* See the July, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE, page 278.

† See the June, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 235.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JUNE, 1928.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Dartmouth: Repairs to Wood Block Floors: J. F. Ebner, London, E. **Devonport: Beacon Light:** Chance Bros. & Co., Ltd., Smethwick, Birmingham. **Portsmouth: Railway Materials:** Bolekow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Construction of one Residence:** J. Lay & Co., Portsmouth. **H.M. Naval Establishment Abroad: Sanitary Fittings:** Morrison Ingram & Co., Ltd., Cornbrook, Manchester.—**Cast Iron Pipes and Specials:** The Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Staveley, near Chesterfield.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Alternators, Motor, Rewinding and Repair: Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Amplifiers, Tuner (W/T):** Radio Instruments, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Apparatus, W/T:** Marconi's W/T Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Bacon, Smoked:** J. F. Percival, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Biscuits, Cabin:** P. Brown & Co., N. Shields.; Spillers, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Boxes, Ammunition:** Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Boxes, Junction:** Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.; L. Weekes (Luton), Ltd., Luton.—**Cables, Electric:** Greenwich Cable Works, Ltd., Greenwich.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent.—**Castings, Steel:** J. Rogerson & Co., Ltd., Wolsingham.; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle.; Carnyne Steel Castings Co., Renfrew.; Springfield Steel Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cloth, Blue:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley.; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley.; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield.; W. & T. Huggan, Ltd., Bramley.—**Davits and Fittings:** J. Rogerson & Co., Ltd., Wolsingham.—**Discs, Mild Steel and Nickel Chrome:** Rotherham Forge & Rolling Mills Co., Ltd., Rotherham.; Swift Levick & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Fans, Ship Ventilating:** Bull Motors, Ltd., Ipswich.; Electromotors, Ltd., Openshaw.; Veritys, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Fittings, Telemotor:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Fittings, W/T:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley.; Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Mechanics, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Gear, Hydroplane:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Gear, India Rubber:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts.; India Rubber, etc., Co., Ltd., London, E.; Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Leyland, near Preston.—**Helmets:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, S.E.; Helmets, Ltd., Wheathampstead.—**Installation, Electrical:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., Charlton, Kent.—**Iron, Firebar:** Hull Forge Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Lathe, Auto:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Lathe, Hexagon Turret:** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathe, Motor-driven Turret:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Lathes Hollow Spindle and Solid Spindle:** Dean Smith & Grace, Ltd., Keighley.—**Lathes, Screwing:** John Lang & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.; C. Redman & Sons, Ltd., Halifax, Yorks.; Smith Barker & Willson, Ltd., Halifax, Yorks.—**Leather:** G. A. Bacon, Ltd., Redhill.; J. Conyers & Sons, Ltd., Raunds.; Hy. Jeffery & Sons, London, S.E.; Tremlett's Tannery Co., Ltd., Exeter.; William Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.; Richard Nickols, Leeds.; E. Watts & Co., Ltd., Wellingborough.—**Machine Drilling and Tapping:** H. W. Kearns & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Hydraulic Manhole Punching:** Leeds Engineering & Hydraulic Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Machine, Hydraulic Plate Stretching:** Fielding & Platt, Ltd., Gloucester.—**Machine, Hydraulic Plate Flanging:** Hugh Smith & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Machine, Milling and Drilling:** H. W. Kearns & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machine, Radial Drilling:** F. Town & Sons, Halifax, Yorks.—**Machine, Surfacing, Boring, etc.:** H. W. Kearns & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Machines, Shaping:** Ward Haggas & Smith, Keighley.—**Motors:** Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Panels, Fuse:** Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans.; Bertram Thomas, Manchester.—**Pipes, Bends, etc.:** Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Rod, Bronze and Brass:** James Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Neshells, Birmingham.; C. Clifford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.; Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Sailcloth, Canvas:** Anderson & Chalmers, Arbroath.; Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.; The Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Pt. Glasgow.; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.; F. Webster & Sons, Arbroath.—**Trucks, Morris, 1-Ton:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tubing, Canvas Hose:** George Angus & Co., Ltd., Bentham.; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Pendleton.; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Turntables, Wagon:** Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Valves, W/T:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W., and Leamington-on-Tyne.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Varnishes:** Indestructible Paint & Standard Varnish, Ltd., London, N.W.; Jensen & Nicholson, Ltd., London, E.; London Varnish & Enamel Co., Ltd., London, E.; T. & R. Williamson, Ltd., Ripon.

WAR OFFICE.

Acetone: Barter Trading Corporation, Ltd., Spondon, Derby.—**Asbestos Protected Metal Sheets:** Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, near Birkenhead.—**Automatic Hopper Feeds:** Kynoch, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Baths, Slipper:** Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Bearings:** Hoffman Mfg. Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Bevel-Gear Generating Machine:** Buck & Hickman, Ltd., Halifax.—**Blankets, M.S.:** Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Blocks, Chopping:** Hey & Pashley, Ltd., Barnsley.—

Boxes, Ammunition: Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bronze Stampings:** Bean Cars, Ltd., Smethwick.—**Cases, Monocular:** C. F. Timbers, London, N.—**Cloth, Blue-grey:** J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth.; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, Leeds.—**Cord, Cotton, Khaki:** T. Barnes & Co., Ltd., Farnworth.—**Cotton, Waste:** W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cylinders:** Scott, Sons & Tucker, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Dental Apparatus:** The Amalgamated Dental Co., Ltd., London, W.; L. Porro, Ltd., London, W.; Dental Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W., and Barnet.—**Distemper:** John Hare & Co. (Colours), Ltd., Bristol.—**Drawers, Calico, Short:** Grove Mfg. Co., Dewsbury.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., Swindon.; Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Drill, Brown:** Hollins Mill Co., Ltd., Manchester.; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Manchester.; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Todmorden.; Langworthy Bros. & Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Duck, Linen:** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—**Excavator:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Fencing, Strained Wire:** Wm. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coathbridge.—**Files and Rasps:** Thos. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Generators:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Grates:** Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge.; Bratt, Colbran & Co. and The Heaped Fire Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Gutters and Piping, C.I.:** Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge.—**Iron, Pig:** The United Steel Cos., Ltd., Workington.—**Lathes:** Dean, Smith & Grace, Ltd., Keighley.—**Locomotive, Internal Combustion:** Baguley (Engrs.), Ltd., Burton-on-Trent.—**Manhole Covers, etc.:** Carron Co., Falkirk.—**Metal Rod:** The Kings Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.; The Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Methylated Spirit:** Jones & Co. (Methylators), Ltd., London, E.—**Milling Machine:** A. Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Motor Cycles and Combinations:** Triumph Cycle Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Pipes and Fittings:** Macfarlane, Strang & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Plates, Bullet-proof:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Rags, Old, Cotton:** W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Rails, Fishplates, etc.:** Guest, Keen & Nettelfolds, Ltd., S. Wales.—**Road Roller and Living Van:** Barford & Perkins, Peterborough.—**Rugs, Horse:** E. H. Price, Hadleigh.; The County Screen Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Sheets, Cotton:** Ashton Bros. & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Sheets, Ground:** C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.; Broadhurst & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Shoes, Canvas:** Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds.—**Socks, Worsted:** Hall & Sons, Stoke Golding.—**Sodium Nitrate:** F. W. Berk & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel, Shell:** Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Surgical Appliances, Sundries and Instruments:** S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C., and Barnet.; A. Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.; General Surgical Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; C. F. Thackray, Leeds.; Rexine, Ltd., Manchester.—**Table Tops:** Forster, Brotherton & Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.; W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes.—**Tarpaulins:** Boase Spinning Co., Dundee.—**Transformers, Rotary, etc.:** W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tyres and Tubes:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Birmingham.—**Vehicles, Six-Wheeled, Bodies for:** J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Basingstoke.—**Watches, G.S.:** Miscellaneous Disposals Syndicate, Ltd., London.—**Works Services: Building Works and Services:** Catterick, Additions to Ordnance Workshops: Sir L. Parkinson & Co., Ltd., Blackpool. Caterham Barracks, Erection of Gymnasium: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Plymouth and Devonport, Periodical Services: A. Bagnell & Sons, Ltd., Shipley, Warley, Periodical Services: A. A. McDermott, Bradford. Colchester, Reed Hall, Improvements to Hutted Camps: H. Everett & Son, Colchester. Malta, Steelwork for Roof: E. F. Blakeley & Co., Ltd., Birkenhead.—Woolwich, Royal Arsenal, Dredging: Flower & Everett, Ltd., London, E.C. Woolwich, Royal Arsenal, Pile Driving, &c., at Warren Wharf: Chafen & Newman, Ltd., London, S.E. Biggin Hill, Erection of Drill Hall: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Caterham Barracks, Cookhouse and Dining-Room Block: Wheeler Bros. (of London), Ltd., Reading. Salisbury, Married Soldiers' Quarters: Wort & Way, Salisbury. Colchester, Tarspraying and Repairs to Roads: F. Hutton & Son, Birch. Enfield Lock, Repairs to roads: Hendon Tar Paving Co., London, N.W. Norwich, Britannia Barracks, Improvements to Married Soldiers' Quarters: C. A. Green & Sons, Ipswich. Colchester, Internal and External Painting: S. Lupton & Sons, Bradford. Mistley and Thorpe, Hire of Camp Structures: A. E. Flory & Co., Colchester. Feltham, Erection of Barrack Blocks: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Woolwich, Military College of Science, Height-finding Shed: A. King & Co., London, S.W. Woolwich, Royal Military Academy, Improvements to and decorations of Cadets' Room: Arundel, Ltd., Bradford. Bulford, Drainage, Water supply and Fencing to Married Soldiers' Quarters: A. E. Laley, Salisbury. Glasgow, Maryhill Barracks, Periodical Services: Hobbs & Samuel, Ltd., Glasgow. Isle of Sheppey, Fletcher Battery, Alterations and Repairs to Huts: G. E. Wallis & Sons, Gravesend. Beverley, Victoria Barracks, Erection of Drill Shed: H. & F. Pape, Beverley. Catterick, Temporary Summer Camp: F. R. Hipperson, Norwich. Catterick, Repairs to Roads and Paths: Tarmac, Ltd., Wolverhampton. Catterick, Periodical Services: W. T. Pickering, Stockton-on-Tees. Lichfield, Whittington Barracks, Provision of Drill Shed: Orton & Dalby, Hugglescote, near Leicester. Pontefract Barracks, Periodical Services: Pickles, Aylard & Co., Ltd., Ossett, Yorks.

AIR MINISTRY.

Accumulators: Fuller Accumulator Co., Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.; Oldham & Sons, Ltd., Denton, Manchester.—**Ammeters:** E. Turner, High Wycombe.—**Aircraft:** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Nor-

wich; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes, Isle of Wight; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft Auto Slots:** H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—**Aircraft Modification:** Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft Spares:** A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Bands, D.F.:** India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Batteries:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bolt Croppers:** H. K. Porter, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bombing Teachers:** Barr & Stroud, Ltd., Anniesland, Glasgow.—**Brushes:** Newton & Cooke, London, S.W.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Aviation and M.T. Petrol Installation (Filton): Oil Installation Co., London, S.E. External Services to Quarters (Halton): W. Laughton, Bedford. Heating Steam Plant (Uxbridge): Clark, Hunt & Co., Ltd., London, E. Married Quarters (Hawkinge): G. Lewis & Sons (Dover), Ltd., Dover. Petrol Installation (Gosport): Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Petrol Storage (Malta): Cochran & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough. Reconditioning Buildings (Cattewater): Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Penvenon, Redruth, Cornwall. Rewinding Fans and Motors (Ickenham): Davidson & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Wall and Ceiling Board (Iraq): Limehouse Paper-board Mills, London, E.—**Cable, Electric:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Coating of Streamline Wires and Tie Rods:** Clerkenwell Plating Works, London, E.C.—**Cranes, Mobile:** Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Droque Targets:** Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Development Test on:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Examining:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of:** Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares:** Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Supercharger for:** Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Felt, Grey:** Mitchells, Ashworth, Stansfield & Co., Rossendale, Lancs.—**Fire Extinguishers and Refills:** Essex Fire Extinguisher Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Generators:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., London, W.C.; Mortley, Sprague & Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells.—**Generators, Aircraft:** B.S.A. Guns, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Generators and Spares:** W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Masts, Bentwood, Telescopic:** McGruer Hollow Spar Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Morris 4- and 6-wheeled Vehicles:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Motor Generators:** Small Electric Motors Ltd., Beckenham.—**Parachute Spares:** Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Photographic Stores:** A.P.M., Ltd., London, W.—**Proofing, Balloon Fabric:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Radiators, Aircraft:** J. Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Scarfi Rings, Aircraft:** Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Screens, Mutchrome:** W. Ottway & Co., Ltd., Ealing.—**Sections, Mast:** The Talbot-Stead Tube Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Soap:** Jos. Watson & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—**Switchboxes:** Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Thermometers, Oil Temperature:** Negretti & Zambra, London, E.C.—**Trailer Axles:** Weybridge Motor Engineering Co., Ltd., Weybridge.—**Voltmeters:** Everett, Edgecumbe & Co., London, S.W.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Cloth, Tracing: B. J. Hall & Co., Ltd., Cheadle, Staffs.; Winterbottom Book Cloth Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Copier Composition (Graph):** Edwardson & Co., Enfield.—**Envelopes:** McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., Wolverton.—**Paper (of various descriptions):** Alders Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Tamworth, Staffs.; E. Collins & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.; Imperial Paper Mills, Ltd., Gravesend.; Samuel Jones & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; King's Norton Paper Mills, Ltd., Birmingham.; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford.; Wm. Nash, Ltd., St. Paul's Cray.; Olives Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury.; Ryburndale Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Ripponden, near Halifax.; R. Sommerville & Co., Ltd., Taunton.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.:** Group 307 (1928), Bookwork Printing; Group 308 (1928), Bookwork Printing; Harrison & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C. Group 602 (1928), Jobwork Printing: South Essex Recorders, Ltd., Ilford. Group 603 (1928), Jobwork Printing: Willmott & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Group 606 (1928), Jobwork Printing: Wm. Hobbs & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone. Reprint of 50,000 Handbooks (Empire Marketing Board): W. P. Griffith & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tags:** G. Hughes & Co., London, N.—**Tape:** G. H. Wheatcroft & Co., Ltd., Wirksworth, Derby.—**Typewriters:** British Typewriters, Ltd., London, E.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Protective: Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Telephonic:** Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool.; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts.; General Electric Co., Ltd., Telephone Works, Coventry.; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.W.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.; Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Apparatus, Testing:** Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Baskets, Trolley:** W. H. Sharp & Sons, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Blocks, Terminal:** Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Eboneston Insulators, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bodies for Lorries:** W. H. Perry, Ltd., London, N.—**Boxes, Coin-collecting:** Hall Telephone Accessories (1928) Ltd., London,

N.W.—**Cable, Various:** Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent.; Connollys (Blackley) Ltd., Blackley, Manchester.; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex.; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—**Casks:** H. Cordall (Cooper) Ltd., Burslem.; Receiver & Manager, Tyson & Co. (Millwall) Ltd., London, E.; M. Round & Sons, Old Hill, Staffs.—**Chassis:** Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Glasgow.; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Clips, Earth:** Edwin Showell & Sons, Ltd., Stirehley, Birmingham.—**Clothing, Leather:** Frank Bryan, Ltd., London, E.; G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Hope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Combinations, Motor-Cycle:** B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Compound:** W. H. Keys, Ltd., West Bromwich.; Dussek Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Wilkins, Campbell & Co., Ltd., West Drayton, Middlesex.—**Dynamotors:** Walter Jones & Co., London, S.E.—**Ducts, Earthenware:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville, Burton-on-Trent.; Donington Sanitary Pipe and Fire Brick Co., Ltd., Moira, Burton-on-Trent.; Doulton & Co., Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.; Jas. Oakes & Co. (Riddings Collieries) Ltd., Jacksdale, Notts.; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax.; Jos. Place & Sons, Ltd., Huddlesden, Lancs.; Standard Brick & Terra Cotta Co., Ltd., Buckley, Chester.; Sutton & Co. (Overseal) Ltd., Overseal, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.—**Ducts, Fibre:** Key Engineering Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester.—**Extinguishers, Fire:** Pyrene Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Head-dresses:** R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; L. Silberston, London, E.—**Insulators:** Bullers, Ltd., Milton and/or Hanley.; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem.; Electric & Ordnance Accessories Co., Ltd., Hanley.; Taylor, Tunnicliff & Co., Ltd., Hanley and Stone.—**Ironwork, Telegraphic:** Bert Birks & Co., Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs.; D. Willelts, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs.—**Line, Sash:** Gourcock Ropework Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow.—**Lugs, Lead:** Thos. Francis & Co., Ltd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.; T. F. Snow, London, E.C.—**Oil Lubricating:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., Purfleet, Essex.—**Pipe, Steel:** British Mannesmann Tube Co., Ltd., Landore, S. Wales.—**Plates, Earth:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Rods, Steels:** Cakebread, Robey & Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Rope, Steel Wire:** Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Sacking, Jute:** Boase Spinning Co. (1920) Ltd., Dundee.—**Sleeves, Lead:** Geo. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Lead Pipes, Ltd., Elland, Yorks.; J. D. Stoward & Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Solder:** Du Bois Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; George W. Neale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tents, Joiners, to repair:** J. Smith & Co. (London, E.) Ltd., Goodmayes, Essex.—**Vans, Electric:** Electromobile, Ltd., Otley, Yorks.; Victor Electric, Ltd., Burscough, Lancs.—**Vans, Motor:** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Covered:** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby.—**Zincs, Rod, Leclanché:** Eyre Smelting Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

Band Conveyor: Manchester H.P.O.: Spencer (Melksham), Ltd., Melksham.—**Cable Bearers:** G.P.O. South-Cottage Grove: J. M. Dangerfield & Sons, London, S.E.—**Conduits, Laying:** Burton-on-Trent.; Harwich.; St. Nicholas-at-Wade (Kent); Chatham, Shoreham, Paddock Wood, etc.; Southend-on-Sea Junction; London-Southend-on-Sea; Coleraine, Larne, Cookstown and Downpatrick (N. Ireland); Gerrards Cross and Amersham Common (Bucks); Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Plymouth-Torquay; Tenby (Pembrokeshire), Newcastle Emlyn and St. Clears (Carmarthenshire); Box-Chippingham (Wilts.); G. Fred Leadbeter, Newport, Mon. Lyminge (Kent); St. Germans (Cornwall); Baillieston: W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh. Ashford (Kent): Fordyce Bros., Orpington. Liverpool-Colwyn Bay (Section 1); Ellesmere Port South (Cheshire) and Widnes, Hough Green (Lancs.); W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Ltd., Grappenhall, Warrington. Castleford (Yorks): J. W. Thornley & Sons, Farnworth, near Bolton. Horwich (Lancs): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Brentwood: W. & C. French, Buckhurst Hill. London-Maidenhead: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Southampton (Shirley and St. Mary's): J. F. Hodge, Rednal, near Birmingham. Lambeth (Brixton Road and Westminster Bridge Road); Enfield-Bush Hill Park: T. Muirhead & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Norbury (Pollards) Auto Exchange Area: A. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., London, W.C. Street (Somerset): S. Ambrose, Ltd., Bath. Washford (Somerset): E. Ireland, Bath. Chartham, Chilham, Elham, Littlebourne and Sturry (Kent): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Liverpool-Colwyn Bay (Section III): Wyatt Bros., Whitechurch, Salop. Finsbury, etc.: Westminster Road Construction & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Deptford, etc.: O. C. Summers, London, N. Burgess Hill (Sussex); St. Pancras: H. Collingridge, London, W.C. Crawley (Sussex): W. H. Brown (Leatherhead), Ltd., Dorking. Southend-on-Sea Automatic Exchange Area: Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Halifax-Sowerby Bridge Junction and Ripponden; Cambridge: Moore & Rowley, Northfield, Birmingham. Hamilton: Clyde-side Construction Co., Ltd., Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire.—**Electric Lift:** Middlesbrough H.P.O.: Keighley Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., Keighley.—**Low Tension Switchboard:** Manchester Central Telephone Exchange: J. G. Statter & Co., London, S.W.—**Switchboards:** Leafield Radio Station: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Macaulay: General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Sub-Contractors: Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Machines; D. P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Addiscombe: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby, for Charging Machines; Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire, for Batteries. Kirkcaldy: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Telephone Repeater Equipment, 4-Wire:** London Repeater Station: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Anti-corrosive Black : International Paint and Compositions Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Asbestos Sheets** : Bells Poulite & Everite Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Auto-Klean Strainers** : Wallsend Slipway & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wallsend-on-Tyne.—**Axlebox-planing Machine** : Craven Bros. (Manchester), Stockport.—**Beds** : Whitfield's Bedsteads, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Bed Covers** : Henry Bond & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Blankets** : Hepworths & Haley, Ltd., Dewsbury; J. France & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Brake Materials** : Westinghouse Brake & Saxby Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Building Material** : W. & R. Leggott, Ltd., Bradford.—**Cables** : W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works, London, E.C.; Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Calico** : Rylands & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cars** : Morris Motors (1926), Ltd., Cowley, Oxford.—**Cement** : Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Chassis** : Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Scotstoun, Glasgow; Bean Cars, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Chupplies** : Wilkins & Denton, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cloth** : J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds.—**Clothing** : A. G. Bateman, Manchester; Milns, Cartwright, Reynolds, Ltd., London, S.W.; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; D. Payne & Sons, Hinckley.—**Coal** : H. C. Vivian & Co., Ltd., Cardiff.—**Concrete Mixers** : Winget, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Copper** : Rd. Johnson & Nephew, Manchester; Glyco Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Doors and Windows** : Crittall Mfg. Co., London, W.C.—**Drainage Material** : York Engineering & Foundry Co., Ltd., York; Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Wortley, Leeds.—**Drawbars** : Birmingham Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Ltd., Smethwick.—**Dredger** : Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, Scotland.—**Dredging Plant** : Fleming & Ferguson, Ltd., Paisley.—**Drill** : J. H. Greenhow & Co., Manchester; E. Spinner & Co., Manchester; Hoyle & Smith, Ltd., Manchester; Cottrill & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Drugs** : British Drug Houses, Ltd., London, N.; Bayer Products, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Dynamite** : Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engine Spares** : Mirrlees, Bickerton & Day, Hazel Grove, near Stockport.—**Expanded Metal** : Wm. Jacks & Co., London, E.C.—**Fans** : Metro-Vick Supplies, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Fire Engine** : Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford.—**Flannel** : J. Bradbury & Co., Uppermill, Yorks.—**Folding Machine** : Harrild & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Generating Plant** : Petters, Ltd., Yeovil.—**Ialine** : Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lathes** : Ward, Haggas & Smith, London, S.W.; A. Herbert Ltd., Coventry.—**Lead** : Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Letter Boxes** : S. Withers & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Locomotives** : Beyer & Peacock, Ltd., Manchester.—**Locomotive Boiler** : North British Locomotive Co., Glasgow.—**Meters** : G. Kent, Ltd., Luton; The Leeds Meter Co., Armley, Leeds.—**Motor Signs** : Royal Label Factory, Stratford-on-Avon.—**Oil** : A. Duckham & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Osnaburg** : A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—**Overhauling of Car** : Lanchester Motor Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Paint** : Torbay Paint Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; W. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paper** : Hendon Paper Works Co., c/o Messrs. Corke, Sons & Co., London, E.C.—**Petrol** : F. & A. Swanzy, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Phosphor Bronze** : Phosphor Bronze Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Pipes** : Stanton Ironworks, Ltd., near Nottingham; Hughes & Lancaster, Ltd., London, S.W.; Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., near Chesterfield; Cochrane & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough-on-Tees.—**Pipe-bending Machine** : H. Berry & Co., Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds.—**Plates for Accumulator Cells** : D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire.—**Pole Number Plates** : Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Puttees** : T. & J. Tinker, Holmfirth, near Huddersfield.—**Quinine** : Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, Essex.—**Rails and Fish-plates** : Port Talbot Steel Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rice-cleaning Machinery** : Wm. McKinnon & Co., Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Roller Motor** : Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Runway** : H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Sailing Ketch** : Philip & Son, Ltd., Dartmouth.—**Sanitary Fittings** : Doulton & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Signalling Apparatus** : Railway Signal Co., Ltd., Fazekereley, Liverpool.—**Slates** : Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., London, E.C.—**Stationery** : Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Philip & Tacey, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steelwork** : Horsehay Co., Ltd., Horsehay, near Wellington, Salop; Braithwaite & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Horseley Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs; Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Patent Shaft & Axletree Co., Birmingham; A. Findlay & Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Steel Plates** : P. & W. McLellan, Glasgow.—**Steel Poles** : British Mannesmann Tube Co., London, E.C.—**Steel Sheets** : Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, near Birkenhead.—**Steel Sleepers** : United Steel Companies, Workington; Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Stonebreakers** : H. R. Marsden, Ltd., Leeds.—**Survey Instruments** : Cooke, Troughton & Simms, London, S.W.—**Tablet Instruments** : Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Tabloids** : Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., London, E.C.—**Tar** : Gas Light & Coke Co., London, E.C.; Shields & Ramsay, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Telephone Apparatus** : Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ticking** : J. & A. Stott, Manchester.—**Timber Piles** : C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—**Tin Plates** : Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Train-lighting Spares** : J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tubing** : Wellington Tube Works, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Tubular Poles** : J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Turnouts** : Isca Foundry Co., Ltd., Newport, Mon.—**Tyres** : H. Bessemer & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Undercarriage** : Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wagons** : Leeds Forge Co., Ltd., Leeds; Hurst, Nelson & Co., Ltd., Motherwell, N.B.; Gloucester Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Ltd., Gloucester; Metropolitan

Carriage Wagon & Finance Co., Birmingham.—**Waterworks Material** : Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow; Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.—**Winches** : British Steel Piling Co., London, S.W.—**Wire** : Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Wireless Apparatus** : Marconi's Wireless Tele. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Workshop Equipment** : Loudon Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works : Addiscombe, Croydon, Telephone Exchange—Plasterer : W. C. Greenslade & Co., West Croydon. Barnes, S.W., Telephone Exchange—Erection : A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, W. Barnsley Telephone Exchange—Asphalter : Northern Asphalt & Roofing Works Co., Ltd., Leeds. Belfast Law Courts—Steelwork : Redpath, Brown & Co., Ltd., Belfast. Bexhill-on-Sea P.O., etc.—Concrete Steps, etc. : W. Baxter Elliott, London, S.E.; Stonework : R. Francis & Sons, Ltd., Eastbourne. Bramhall, Stockport, Telephone Exchange—Plasterer : J. W. Sprowson, Stockport; Roof Flats : Pearson Bros. & Campbell, Ltd., Liverpool; Tiler : Ames & Finnis, London, W.C.; W.I. Work : W. W. White, Stockport. Charing Cross, W.C.—Demolition work : F. H. Clark, Coventry. Dollis Hill, Cricklewood, N.W., P.O. Research Depot—Chimney : The "Bidder" Steeplejack & Contracting Co., Manchester. Edinburgh "Central" Telephone Exchange—Alterations, etc. : W. & J. R. Watson, Ltd., Edinburgh; Glazier : A. Cunningham & Co., Edinburgh; Painter : G. M. Robb, Edinburgh; Plasterer : D. & J. Borthwick, Edinburgh; Plumber : W. Nicol & Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh; Slater : G. Riddell, Ltd., Edinburgh; Steelwork : Fleming Bros., Glasgow. Egham, Staines, P.O., etc.—Asphalter : Excel Asphalte Co., Ltd., London, W.; Steelwork : Measures Bros., (1911), Ltd., London, S.E. Godalming Telephone Exchange—Plasterer : A. J. R. Aubry, Woking; Plumber : E. Hill, Ewshott. Keighley Telephone Exchange—Painting : J. Sunderland, Keighley. Kentish Town, N.W., P.O., etc.—Erection : F. Hutton & Son, Birch. King's Cross, W.C., "Terminus" Telephone Exchange—Erection : A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, W. Lambeth, S.E., County Court—Stonework : The South Western Stone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Leyland, Preston, P.O., etc.—Painter : S. Wilkinson, Preston. Lyme Regis P.O., etc.—Steelwork : John Williams & Sons, (Cardiff), Ltd., Cardiff. Manchester Telephone Exchange—Iron Staircases : F. A. Norris & Co., London, E.C.; W.B. Flooring : J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Manchester. Norbury, S.W., P.O., etc.—Glazier : G. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C. Rugby Wireless Station—Rainwater supply : F. Hollowell, Rugby. South Lambeth S.W. Telephone Exchange—Steelwork : Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Workington Employment Exchange—Erection : T. Armstrong & Co., Cockermouth; Steelwork : E. F. Blakeley & Co. (Liverpool), Ltd., Birkenhead.—**Engineering Services** : Bridlington P.O., etc.—Heating : Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough. Broadmoor, Berks, Asylum—Wiring, etc. : T. Clarke & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Ilford P.O., etc.—Heating : White, Blanchard & Co., London, S.E. Manchester Telephone Exchange—Lift : J. Shaw & Sons (Salford), Ltd., Salford. Shepherd's Bush, W., Telephone Exchange—Heating, etc. : J. Combe & Son, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City.—**Painting, etc.** : Roy Gibson, Barnes; J. J. Lowe & Son, Liverpool; The Mond Staffordshire Refining Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; J. E. Snellgrove & Son, Newport, I. of W.; F. Troy & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Vigor & Co. (Poplar), Ltd., London, E.—**Miscellaneous** : Casements (Steel), etc. : The Crittall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; J. Thompson Beacon Windows, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Disinfectant : The Hull Chemical Works Co., Hull.—Furniture (Domestic, Office and Lavatory) : Dent & Hellyer, Ltd., London, W.C.; W. Lusty & Sons, London, E.; Milners Safe Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Glass (Plate) : Pilkington Bros., Ltd., St. Helens.—Poster Frames : W. E. Chivers & Sons, Ltd., Devizes.—Twine : Woods, Sons & Co., London, E.C.

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS.

Laundry : Glasgow Hospital : Gibson & Reid, Paisley; Orpington Hospital : R. & T. Hughes, London, S.E.—**Margarine** : English Margarine Works, Ltd., Liverpool.

COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS.

Quinquennial Repairs, 82, William Street, 72-82, Osnaburgh Street, and 1-10 (consecutive), Clarence Gardens, Regent's Park : R. A. Try & Son, London, N.W.

BOARD OF CONTROL.

Fish : R. Pearson, Grimsby.

NOTICE.

The "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" is published on or about the 18th of each month, price 6d. net. The annual subscription (post free) is 7s.

The Publishers (to whom should be addressed all communications concerning subscriptions and sales) are H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches (see Cover).

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, LTD., HIS MAJESTY'S PRINTERS, EAST HARDING STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.