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

Number of Employees, May, 1955

THE Table on the following pages shows the estimated numbers of employees in each industry in Great Britain and in the United Kingdom at end-May, 1955. The figures cover all employees, including those who were unemployed and those who were absent from work through sickness and other causes as well as those who were actually at work. Employers and self-employed persons are excluded.

The figures are based mainly on the counts of national insurance cards exchanged in the June–August quarter, together with information supplied by employers of five or more workpeople as to the total number of insurance cards that they hold. National Insurance cards must be held in respect of all employed persons with the exception of certain Civil Servants. Even in the case of employed married women who opt not to pay their own contributions under the scheme there must still be an insurance card for the employer to pay his part of the contribution, and in the case of persons whose weekly amount of employment is so small as to be deemed “inconsiderable” under the Act there must be a card for the payment of the small contribution under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act.

The cards are current for twelve months, and at the end of their currency they must be taken or sent to a Local Office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance to be exchanged for new ones. As the total number of insured persons is well over 20 millions, the work of exchanging the cards has been spread over the four quarters of the year by arranging for one-quarter of the cards to be current for the twelve months beginning in March and the other three quarters for the twelve months beginning in June, September and December, respectively. It is not practicable to obtain an industrial analysis of the cards exchanged in each of the four quarters of the year, but an analysis of the figures for the cards exchanged in the June–August quarter, supplemented by the valuable information supplied by employers, provides an adequate basis for making estimates of the industrial distribution of the total number of employees. These estimates relate to the end of May, all employees exchanging cards at any time in the June–August quarter being assumed to have been in the employed population at the beginning of that quarter. Code letters are inserted on every card exchanged to indicate the industry in which the person was last working.

The procedure by which the figures for Great Britain were computed on the basis of the count of insurance cards exchanged and information supplied by employers is briefly as follows. The statements completed by employers (covering, in the aggregate, more than three-quarters of the total number of employees in the whole country) show the number of cards due for exchange in the June–August quarter on the one hand

and the number due for exchange in the other three quarters of the year on the other. The sum of these two sets of cards, industry by industry, gave the total numbers of employees in the undertakings from which employers' returns of cards were received. As stated above, however, these returns were obtained only from undertakings employing five or more workpeople and it was therefore necessary to estimate the number of employees, industry by industry, in undertakings from which returns had not been received. In each industry the total number of cards actually exchanged in the June–August quarter was known and the employers' returns showed how many of these cards belonged to their employees. The balance therefore represented cards exchanged in the June–August quarter, by employees of undertakings which had not rendered returns. This balance, for each industry, was multiplied by four and the product was then added to the total number of cards, of all quarters, shown on the returns received from employers.

The summary of the returns received from employers showed that, for all industries taken together, the total number of cards held by these employers which were due to be exchanged in the June–August quarter was almost exactly one-quarter of the total number of cards, of all quarters, held by them. This was to be expected, since the allocation of cards to the four periods of currency was arranged on a random basis. The employers' returns showed, however, that the ratio of “June–August” cards to total cards varied (as would be expected) from industry to industry, being more than one-quarter in some industries and less than one-quarter in others. There was thus some possibility of error in estimates arrived at by the procedure described in the preceding paragraph. Any such error, however, was relatively small, since the procedure of multiplying the numbers of “June–August” cards by four was limited to the small proportion of each industry that was not covered by employers' returns giving the total numbers of cards of all quarters held.

The preceding paragraph describes the general procedure followed in arriving at these estimates. As stated above, some Civil Servants do not have individual cards, but statistics of the numbers of such Civil Servants were provided by the Treasury. In the case of sea transport and agriculture use was also made of the statistics of employment compiled by the Departments concerned with those industries. The figures of employees in Northern Ireland were supplied by the Northern Ireland Ministry of Labour and National Insurance.

For Great Britain as a whole the estimated total numbers of employees at end-May, 1955, were 13,960,000 males and 7,500,000 females. Compared with May, 1954, these figures showed increases of 120,000 males and 150,000 females.

ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED) IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM AT END-MAY, 1955

Industry	GREAT BRITAIN					UNITED KINGDOM				
	Males		Females		Total Males and Females	Males		Females		Total Males and Females
	Under 18	Total all ages	Under 18	Total all ages		Under 18	Total all ages	Under 18	Total all ages	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	51,460	612,150	9,800	99,520	711,670	53,170	632,050	9,850	100,120	732,170
Agriculture and Horticulture	48,900	563,480	9,580	96,930	660,410	50,500	581,580	9,630	97,530	679,110
Forestry	1,440	21,750	210	2,030	23,780	1,540	23,100	210	2,030	25,130
Fishing	1,120	26,920	10	560	27,480	1,130	27,370	10	560	27,930
Mining and Quarrying	43,280	844,470	1,620	20,840	865,310	43,480	848,770	1,630	20,940	869,710
Coal Mining	41,500	770,810	1,190	15,900	786,710	41,500	770,840	1,190	15,900	786,740
Iron Ore Mining and Quarrying	170	6,370	—	110	6,480	170	6,380	—	110	6,490
Stone Quarrying and Mining	640	30,560	140	1,440	32,000	820	34,190	150	1,510	35,700
Slate Quarrying and Mining	90	4,210	—	70	4,280	90	4,210	—	70	4,280
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	590	20,980	170	1,310	22,290	610	21,560	170	1,330	22,890
Other Mining and Quarrying	290	11,540	120	2,010	13,550	290	11,590	120	2,020	13,610
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	12,990	259,350	8,880	86,520	345,870	13,210	263,450	9,080	87,120	350,570
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	4,900	75,370	870	8,780	84,150	4,960	76,500	880	8,810	85,310
China and Earthenware (inc. glazed tiles)	2,080	34,120	4,360	44,150	78,270	2,120	34,420	4,520	44,510	78,930
Glass (other than containers)	1,690	33,770	1,720	13,620	47,390	1,700	33,870	1,730	13,680	47,550
Glass Containers	1,070	20,810	450	6,300	27,110	1,070	20,820	450	6,300	27,120
Cement	330	14,480	160	1,260	15,740	350	14,840	170	1,280	16,120
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures	2,920	80,800	1,320	12,410	93,210	3,010	83,000	1,330	12,540	95,540
Chemicals and Allied Trades	8,870	368,950	15,350	150,540	519,490	8,890	370,070	15,380	150,820	520,890
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	290	19,890	30	630	20,520	290	19,890	30	630	20,520
Chemicals and Dyes	4,110	174,790	4,850	46,620	221,410	4,120	175,640	4,860	46,720	222,360
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Toilet Preparations, Perfumery	840	25,860	4,120	35,730	61,590	840	25,880	4,120	35,740	61,620
Explosives and Fireworks	490	33,810	1,340	20,490	54,300	490	33,810	1,340	20,490	54,300
Paint and Varnish	910	29,340	1,470	12,490	41,830	920	29,420	1,470	12,540	41,960
Soap, Candles, Glycerine, Polishes, Ink and Matches	1,020	29,580	2,320	20,260	49,840	1,020	29,680	2,340	20,380	50,060
Mineral Oil Refining	690	30,360	320	6,310	36,670	690	30,370	320	6,310	36,680
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	520	25,320	900	8,010	33,330	520	25,380	900	8,010	33,390
Metal Manufactures	18,510	502,780	6,040	70,550	573,330	18,570	503,260	6,050	70,570	573,830
Blast Furnaces	320	20,810	20	510	21,320	320	20,840	20	510	21,350
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc., not elsewhere specified	8,210	203,730	1,810	19,260	222,990	8,210	203,780	1,810	19,260	223,040
Iron Foundries	4,610	110,880	1,770	17,500	128,380	4,650	111,190	1,780	17,520	128,710
Tinplate Manufacture	670	11,990	130	1,960	13,950	670	11,990	130	1,960	13,950
Steel Sheet Manufacture	980	20,260	150	1,320	21,580	1,000	20,300	150	1,320	21,620
Iron and Steel Tubes (inc. melting and rolling in integrated works)	1,380	40,360	760	8,500	48,860	1,380	40,380	760	8,500	48,880
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc.	2,340	94,750	1,400	21,500	116,250	2,340	94,780	1,400	21,500	116,280
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	88,140	1,600,910	40,890	476,950	2,077,860	90,630	1,638,610	41,170	479,850	2,118,460
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	12,850	202,430	790	8,890	211,320	12,850	202,430	790	8,890	211,320
Marine Engineering	5,750	77,470	400	4,380	81,850	5,750	77,470	400	4,380	81,850
Agricultural Machinery (exc. tractors)	2,580	35,730	760	5,450	41,180	2,600	35,880	760	5,460	41,340
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	1,060	28,350	230	2,960	31,310	1,080	28,420	230	2,960	31,380
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	6,000	91,560	2,030	21,250	112,790	6,010	91,610	2,030	21,230	112,840
Stationary Engines	1,070	23,730	290	3,710	27,440	1,080	23,980	290	3,720	27,700
Textile Machinery and Accessories	2,820	55,990	630	9,760	65,750	3,560	61,740	710	10,540	72,280
Ordnance and Small Arms	1,240	49,830	570	15,010	64,840	1,240	49,840	570	15,010	64,850
Constructional Engineering	3,780	77,600	610	6,990	84,590	3,800	77,870	610	6,990	84,860
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	31,100	535,800	11,400	126,430	662,230	31,600	541,360	11,450	127,060	668,420
Electrical Machinery	8,480	138,560	4,660	49,310	187,870	8,570	139,160	4,690	49,550	188,710
Electrical Wires and Cables	1,230	41,260	2,030	23,800	65,060	1,280	41,600	2,070	23,970	65,570
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	1,160	33,260	1,660	22,470	55,730	1,160	33,270	1,660	22,470	55,740
Wireless Apparatus (exc. valves) and Gramophones	3,750	72,600	4,810	67,610	140,310	4,010	73,660	4,840	68,160	141,820
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	670	24,180	3,510	28,430	52,610	670	24,210	3,510	28,430	52,640
Batteries and Accumulators	310	11,460	830	8,590	20,050	310	11,480	830	8,600	20,080
Other Electrical Goods	4,290	101,000	5,580	71,930	172,930	4,290	101,130	5,580	71,980	173,110
Vehicles	53,380	1,018,460	16,610	181,240	1,199,700	54,820	1,034,760	16,810	182,840	1,217,600
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles and Cycles	10,710	281,860	4,390	48,540	330,400	10,810	282,740	4,390	48,570	331,310
Motor Repairs and Garages	23,570	243,750	4,640	39,570	283,320	24,570	250,530	4,790	40,220	290,750
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	6,690	208,540	2,730	34,770	243,310	6,970	216,340	2,760	35,480	251,820
Manufacture of Parts and Accessories for Motor Vehicles and Aircraft	4,270	126,030	3,630	46,650	172,680	4,270	126,250	3,630	46,660	172,910
*Locomotive Manufacture	4,070	73,380	480	4,720	78,100	4,080	73,680	480	4,720	78,400
Manufacture and Repair of Railway Carriages and Wagons and Trams	3,520	80,030	490	4,100	84,130	3,520	80,150	490	4,100	84,250
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	550	4,870	250	2,890	7,760	600	5,070	270	3,090	8,160
Metal Goods not Elsewhere Specified	20,010	324,620	17,570	192,830	517,450	20,270	326,220	17,600	193,230	519,450
Tools and Cutlery	1,780	26,670	1,810	19,280	45,950	1,780	26,690	1,810	19,290	45,980
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	1,330	23,780	1,170	19,110	42,890	1,330	23,790	1,170	19,110	42,900
Iron and Steel Forgings, not elsewhere specified	1,730	34,030	470	5,630	39,660	1,740	34,130	470	5,630	39,760
Wire and Wire Manufactures	1,410	29,320	1,070	10,760	40,080	1,410	29,330	1,070	10,760	40,090
Hollow-ware	1,480	27,610	3,450	33,570	61,180	1,490	27,830	3,460	33,720	61,550
Brass Manufactures	1,900	31,810	1,750	18,900	50,710	1,910	31,850	1,750	18,900	50,750
Metal Industries not elsewhere specified	10,380	151,400	7,850	85,580	236,980	10,610	152,600	7,870	85,820	238,420
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	6,150	89,240	5,740	57,420	146,660	6,210	89,840	5,780	58,120	147,960
Scientific, Surgical and Photographic Instruments, etc.	3,880	57,070	3,060	32,650	89,720	3,920	57,480	3,070	33,070	90,550
Manufacture and Repair of Watches and Clocks	670	9,620	890	8,760	18,380	680	9,750	890	8,940	18,690
Jewellery, Plate and Refining of Precious Metals	970	15,410	1,680	13,960	29,370	970	15,420	1,710	14,060	29,480
Musical Instruments	630	7,140	110	2,050	9,190	640	7,190	110	2,050	9,240
Textiles	20,640	405,390	61,410	555,330	960,720	25,100	431,890	68,350	599,530	1,031,420
Cotton Spinning, Doubling, etc.	3,550	53,470	8,100	100,840	154,310	3,600	53,720	8,180	101,040	154,760
Cotton Weaving, etc.	1,640	39,720	5,500	79,290	119,010	1,660	39,940	5,560	79,540	119,480
Woolen and Worsted	4,390	91,250	12,510	115,750	207,000	4,480	92,060	12,770	117,070	209,130
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Production	520	29,000	1,170	9,920	38,920	550	30,150	1,220	10,620	40,770
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving and Silk	670	21,470	3,640	31,150	52,620	720	21,950	3,690	31,570	53,520
Linen and Soft Hemp	250	4,460	1,060	6,970	11,430	3,490	19,460	5,520	36,470	55,930
Jute	600	9,080	920	11,180	20,260	600	9,090	920	11,180	20,270
Rope, Twine and Net	670	5,920	1,270	9,890	15,810	790	6,620	1,510	11,810	18,430
Hosiery and other Knitted Goods	2,110	35,230	14,340	88,720	123,950	2,200	36,140	14,610	89,890	126,030
Lace	340	4,900	550	5,780	10,680	360	5,040	660	6,320	11,360
Carpets	1,430	15,100	3,380	16,080	31,180	1,470	15,420	3,470	16,660	32,080
Narrow Fabrics	370	6,930	2,180	6,930	13,860	370	6,940	2,180	6,940	13,880
Made-up Textiles	740	9,250	2,490	21,110	30,360	930	10,540	2,680	26,880	37,330
Textile Finishing, etc.	2,460	59,970	3,180	30,460	90,430	2,980	64,860	3,460	32,280	97,140
Other Textile Industries	900	19,640	1,120	12,860	32,500	900	19,650	1,120	12,860	32,510</

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN 1955

Employment*

During 1955 the continued expansion of the economy was reflected in an increase in the number in civil employment of 280,000, the result of 200,000 more in the working population, 30,000 fewer unemployed and 50,000 fewer in the Armed Forces.

The following Table shows the changes in total man-power during the year :—

	Strength (in thousands) at		Change during 1955	
	December, 1954	December, 1955	'000s	Per cent.
Total Working Population	23,823	24,020	+ 197	+ 1
of which :—				
Men	16,047	16,124	+ 77	+ ½
Women	7,776	7,896	+ 120	+ 1½
H.M. Forces and Women's Services Ex-Service Men and Women on Release Leave	830	779	- 51	- 6
Total in Civil Employment	22,721	23,000	+ 279	+ 1
of which :—				
Men	15,058	15,201	+ 143	+ 1
Women	7,663	7,799	+ 136	+ 2
Registered Unemployed†	280	250	- 30	- 11
of which :—				
Wholly Unemployed	266	235	- 31	- 12
Temporarily Stopped‡	14	15	+ 1	+ 7

The increase in both the working population and civil employment in 1955, though considerable, was less than in 1954, particularly among women.

The following Table shows the changes in the distribution of man-power in civil employment during 1955 :—

Industry or Service	Strength (in thousands) at		Change during 1955	
	December, 1954	December, 1955	'000s	Per cent.
<i>Basic Industries</i>				
Coal Mining	784	779	- 5	- ½
Other Mining and Quarrying	80	79	- 1	- 1
Gas, Electricity and Water	376	378	+ 2	+ ½
Transport and Communication	1,691	1,699	+ 8	+ ½
Agriculture and Fishing	1,031	1,012	- 19	- 2
Total, Basic Industries	3,962	3,947	- 15	- ½
<i>Manufacturing Industries</i>				
Chemicals and Allied Trades	512	526	+ 14	+ 2½
Metals, Engineering and Vehicles ..	4,482	4,655	+ 173	+ 4
Textiles	991	952	- 39	- 4
Clothing (including footwear)	684	674	- 10	- 1½
Food, Drink and Tobacco	899	915	+ 16	+ 2
Other Manufactures	1,591	1,615	+ 24	+ 1½
Total, Manufacturing Industries ..	9,159	9,337	+ 178	+ 2
Building and Contracting	1,438	1,465	+ 27	+ 2
Distributive Trades	2,811	2,869	+ 58	+ 2
Professional, Financial and Miscellaneous Services	4,053	4,098	+ 45	+ 1
Public Administration :—				
National Government Service	574	560	- 14	- 2½
Local Government Service	724	724	—	—
Total in Civil Employment	22,721	23,000	+ 279	+ 1

As in 1954, the main increases were in the manufacturing industries and the distributive trades. All the main manufacturing groups increased their labour forces with the exception of clothing, in which there was a fall of 10,000, and textiles, in which there was a fall of 39,000, including 30,000 in cotton. Much the largest rise was 173,000 in the metals, engineering and vehicles group, which included increases of 46,000 in vehicle manufacture and 45,000 in the production of electrical goods and equipment. Outside manufacturing, employment increased in all industry groups except agriculture, mining and public administration.

More detailed figures for a large number of individual industries will be found in the Table on pages 52 and 53 of this GAZETTE.

Unemployment

The average number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain in 1955 was the lowest yearly average since the war. The total figure was 232,000, compared with 285,000 in 1954 and 253,000 in 1951 (the next lowest post-war figure). Except in April, May and June, the figure for each month in 1955 was the lowest post-war figure for the month, and the total of 185,000 in July was the lowest recorded throughout the period.

* In this article figures relating to civil employment and the total working population incorporate the revisions described on pages 41 and 51 of this issue of the GAZETTE.

† End of month estimates.
‡ Most, if not all, persons registered as temporarily stopped are on the pay-rolls of employers and included in the number in civil employment. It is necessary, therefore, in estimating the total working population, to omit the figures on the "temporarily stopped" line.

Between December, 1954, and January, 1955, there was the usual increase in the number registered as unemployed, due to the termination of Christmas employment and the registration of school-leavers. Thereafter there was a continuous decrease month by month till July, in spite of the fact that the numbers of cotton workers registered as temporarily stopped rose considerably during the period. In August there was an increase of 15,000, mainly as a result of the registration of children leaving school at the end of the summer term. During the last quarter of the year the usual seasonal increase occurred in agriculture, building and contracting and the catering trades, but this was counteracted to some extent by a substantial reduction in the number unemployed in the cotton industry. In December the total number registered as unemployed was 40,000 lower than the corresponding figure for December, 1954. The figures for the two dates were as follows :—

	Wholly Unemployed		Temporarily Stopped		Total
	'000s	Per cent.	'000s	Per cent.	
Males :					
6th December, 1954	157,000		6,000		163,000
12th December, 1955	135,000		4,000		139,000
Females :					
6th December, 1954	88,000		5,000		93,000
12th December, 1955	71,000		6,000		77,000

There was little change in the numbers registered as temporarily stopped. Among the wholly unemployed, however, the number of males decreased from 157,000 to 135,000 and the number of females from 88,000 to 71,000. There were decreases over the twelve months in the great majority of industries, the most important exceptions being the china and earthenware industry and the cotton industry. In the former industry the numbers temporarily stopped were about 900 higher in December, 1955, than in December, 1954, and the corresponding increase in the cotton industry was about 1,400. The largest decreases occurred in the building and contracting industries, the distributive and catering trades and public administration. In the group of manufacturing industries, taken as a whole, the decrease over the year was about 12,000, and the total of 65,000 at December, 1955, represented only about 0.7 per cent. of the total number of employees in those industries.

The industrial analysis of the numbers unemployed in December, 1955, shows that 30 per cent. of the total had been last employed in manufacturing industries, 11 per cent. in building and contracting, 10 per cent. in the hotel and catering trades, 9 per cent. in the distributive trades and 8 per cent. in transport and communications.

The number who had been continuously unemployed throughout the year was 21,000, compared with 27,000 for 1954. The total of 21,000 who had been unemployed throughout 1955 included 11,000 aged 55 and over.

The numbers registered as unemployed in Great Britain at one date in each month of the year are shown in the Table below :—

Date	Men aged 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women aged 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
6th December, 1954	158,685	4,666	87,229	5,728	256,308
10th January, 1955	184,022	10,675	92,003	11,147	297,847
14th February,	172,384	6,593	94,853	7,802	281,632
14th March,	168,106	5,509	90,030	6,266	269,911
18th April,	158,234	9,350	84,177	8,368	260,129
16th May,	131,127	5,099	82,095	5,322	223,643
13th June,	126,021	4,313	75,509	4,700	210,543
11th July,	111,563	5,127	63,316	4,923	184,929
15th August,	112,451	12,384	64,410	10,448	199,693
12th September,	116,274	8,045	70,687	7,215	202,221
10th October,	127,346	5,702	76,574	5,533	215,155
14th November,	137,215	4,740	79,048	4,910	225,913
12th December,	134,914	4,092	72,326	4,318	215,650

The next Table shows the numbers and percentages unemployed in December, 1955, and the changes in the numbers unemployed between December, 1954, and December, 1955, in each Administrative Region of England and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland :—

Region	Numbers on registers at 12th December, 1955		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) between December, 1954, and December, 1955		Percentage unemployed at 12th December, 1955
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
London and South-Eastern	23,580	10,477	- 6,808	- 3,812	0.6
Eastern	7,206	3,200	- 383	- 483	0.9
Southern	5,190	3,724	- 567	- 1,089	1.3
South-Western	9,116	5,029	- 1,772	- 1,171	0.4
Midland	5,382	3,811	- 507	+ 324	0.6
North-Midland	4,051	2,994	- 374	- 441	0.5
East and West Ridings	7,948	3,490	- 1,291	- 1,233	1.1
North-Western	20,867	13,582	- 2,482	- 981	1.5
Northern	12,262	7,230	- 3,482	- 2,760	2.3
Scotland	32,636	17,284	- 4,374	- 2,625	1.7
Wales	10,768	5,823	- 2,305	- 2,042	1.0
Great Britain	139,006	76,644	- 24,345	- 16,313	6.7
Northern Ireland	23,069	8,573	- 1,042	- 230	1.1
United Kingdom	162,075	85,217	- 25,387	- 16,543	1.1

SUMMARY OF THE MONTHLY STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics of the month. Further details and analyses will be found on pages 51 to 72.

Employment

It is estimated that the number of persons in civil employment in Great Britain fell during December by 136,000 (—37,000 males and —99,000 females), the number at the end of the month being 23,000,000. The basic industries (mining, gas, electricity and water supply, transport, agriculture and fishing) showed a decrease of 14,000, manufacturing industries a decrease of 47,000 and other industries and services a decrease of 75,000. The total working population, including H.M. Forces, the unemployed, and men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment, is estimated to have decreased by 115,000 from 24,135,000 to 24,020,000.

Unemployment

The number of persons registered as wholly unemployed at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain rose from 205,907 to 248,136 between 12th December, 1955, and 16th January, 1956, and the numbers registered as temporarily stopped rose from 9,743 to 15,774. In the two classes combined there was a rise of 34,170 among males and 14,090 among females.

Rates of Wages

The index of weekly rates of wages, based on June, 1947 (taken as 100), was 156 at the end of January, compared with 154 at the end of December. The changes in rates of wages reported to the

Department during January resulted in an increase estimated at approximately £731,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,992,000 workpeople. The principal increases affected agricultural workers in England and Wales, workers employed by British Railways and the London Transport Executive, certain classes of workers employed in the general printing industry, and workpeople employed in the retail meat trade, dressmaking and women's light clothing trades and in boot and shoe manufacture.

Retail Prices

At 17th January, 1956, the retail prices index was 153 (prices at 17th June, 1947 = 100), compared with 154 at 13th December, 1955, and with 146 at 18th January, 1955. The fall in the index during the month was due mainly to a substantial reduction in the average price of eggs and smaller reductions in the average prices of bacon, pork and ham. These reductions were partly offset by increases in the average prices of a number of other items, including cooking apples, tomatoes and other vegetables, and by increases in rents and fares in several districts including London.

Industrial Disputes

The number of workers involved during January in stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was nearly 27,000. The aggregate time lost during the month at the establishments where the stoppages occurred was nearly 84,000 working days. The number of stoppages which began in the month was 178, and, in addition, 6 stoppages which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month.

RATES OF PAY IN THE POLICE SERVICE

The Staff Side and the Official Side of Panel "C" of the Police Council for Great Britain having failed to agree on new salary scales for the federated ranks of the Police Forces of Great Britain the question was referred to arbitration.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Police Council for Great Britain, Sir Thomas Gardner, G.C.B., G.B.E., LL.D., Sir Richard Lloyd-Roberts, C.B.E., and R. P. Morison, Esq., Q.C., who had been appointed arbitrators by the Prime Minister, met under the chairmanship of R. P. Morison, Esq., Q.C., on 28th and 29th November, 1955, and announced their award on 14th December.

The arbitrators awarded that men's scales should be increased

by amounts ranging from £30 to £130 a year and that policewomen should receive 90 per cent. of the corresponding rate for policemen. It was also awarded that Inspectors and Chief Inspectors of the Metropolitan and City of London Police Forces should retain the existing lead over the same ranks in the Provincial and Scottish Police Forces.

The Regulations giving effect to these awards were made by the Secretaries of State on 16th December, 1955 (Statutory Instruments, 1955, No. 1913 for England and Wales, and No. 2003 (S.152) for Scotland). The revised scales of annual pay, which took effect from 16th December, 1955, are set out in the Tables below.

England and Wales

Annual Rates of Pay

	Men					Women				
	Chief Inspector other than in the City of London or Metropolitan Police Force	Inspector other than in the City of London or Metropolitan Police Force	Station Sergeant	Sergeant	Acting Sergeant	Constable	Chief Inspector other than in the City of London or Metropolitan Police Force	Inspector other than in the City of London or Metropolitan Police Force	Sergeant	Constable
On appointment as constable or on promotion as the case may be ..	£ 910	£ 800	£ 750	£ 675	£ 650	£ 475	£ 820	£ 720	£ 605	£ 425
After 1 year of service in the rank ..	935	820	750	690	—	475	840	740	620	425
After 2 years of service in the rank ..	960	840	770	705	—	535	865	755	635	480
After 3 years of service in the rank ..	—	860	—	720	—	550	—	775	650	495
After 4 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	735	—	565	—	—	660	510
After 5 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	—	—	580	—	—	—	525
After 6 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	—	—	600	—	—	—	540
After 10 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	—	—	620	—	—	—	555
After 15 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	—	—	640	—	—	—	575

Scotland

	Men				Women			
	Chief Inspector	Inspector	Sergeant	Constable	Chief Inspector	Inspector	Sergeant	Constable
On appointment as constable or on promotion as the case may be ..	£ 910	£ 800	£ 675	£ 475	£ 820	£ 720	£ 605	£ 425
After 1 year of service in the rank ..	935	820	690	475	840	740	620	425
After 2 years of service in the rank ..	960	840	705	535	865	755	635	480
After 3 years of service in the rank ..	—	860	720	550	—	775	650	495
After 4 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	735	565	—	—	660	510
After 5 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	580	—	—	—	525
After 6 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	600	—	—	—	540
After 10 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	620	—	—	—	555
After 15 years of service in the rank ..	—	—	—	640	—	—	—	575

COURTS OF INQUIRY INTO PRINTING DISPUTES

The Minister of Labour and National Service has set up two Courts of Inquiry under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919, to inquire into trade disputes which exist in the printing industry in London and the Provinces. The two Courts have the same Chairman and members. The terms of reference are "to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the disputes and to report." One Court will examine and report on the disputes between employers who are members of the London Master Printers' Association and workmen who are members of the London Typographical Society and the

Association of Correctors of the Press. The other Court will examine and report on the dispute between the British Federation of Master Printers and the Newspaper Society on the one hand, and the Typographical Association on the other. The Chairman is Sir John Forster, K.B.E., Q.C., and the other members are Mr. A. H. Mathias, C.B.E., and Mr. A. J. Tomkins, C.B.E.

The Courts first met the parties in private on Thursday, 23rd February, and the hearings in London opened in public later the same day.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

The Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales made Orders on 11th January, with effect from 23rd January, 1956, raising the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages for male and female workers employed in agriculture in England and Wales.

The Orders raise the minimum time rate for ordinary male workers 20 years and over from 127s. to 135s. a week in all districts. The special rates, which are in operation in the Holland division of Lincolnshire for certain classes of workers, are increased by 11s. a week to 186s. for men 20 years and over employed wholly or mainly as horsemen and by 9s. to 165s. for those employed wholly or mainly as cattlemen, milkmen or shepherds. For men in part-time or casual employment the general minimum rate is raised from 2s. 8d. to 2s. 11d. an hour. The corresponding rates for youths and boys are advanced proportionately, and there are consequential increases for all workers in the minimum differential rates for overtime employment and in holiday remuneration.

For female workers 21 years and over in all areas except Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely, and the three Ridings of Yorkshire, the Orders raise the minimum time rate from 96s. to 102s. for a 47-hour week. In the excepted areas, where the rate of 96s. did not apply, the minimum rate for a 44-hour week is raised from 90s. to 95s. For women in part-time or casual employment in all areas the minimum hourly rate is increased from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. an hour. There are corresponding increases in the minimum rates for female workers under 21, in the minimum differential rates for overtime employment and in holiday remuneration.

There are no changes in the provisions relating to hours of work, holidays with pay or public holidays, but the benefits or advantages which may be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash are varied by increases in the values fixed for board and lodging, board or individual meals supplied to a worker.

EQUAL PAY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

Men and women have for many years received equal pay for equal work in the higher Administrative Grades of the Electricity Supply Industry.

The National Joint Council (Administrative and Clerical Grades) for this industry have now approved the principle of equal pay in other grades and have made certain decisions as to the implementation of this principle.

As from 1st January, 1956, the scheme applies to General Clerical and Higher Clerical Grades, and to Women Tracers, Draughtswomen and State Enrolled Nurses. The basic principle of the scheme is that scales of pay for women in these categories shall be improved in five stages until they become identical with the corresponding existing men's scales or with revisions of these which may occur during the transition period. Succeeding adjustments will be made as from 1st January each year until full equality is reached on 1st January, 1960.

Improvement of the scales for Shorthand and Typing Grades, Machine Operators, Assistant Demonstrators and Telephone Operators is still under consideration.

REGISTRATION UNDER NATIONAL SERVICE ACTS

A further registration of men under the National Service Acts will be held on 3rd March. The obligation to register on that date applies to young men born between 1st January and 31st March, 1938, both dates inclusive, unless they are exempt from the operation of the Acts. Men are not exempt from registration because they are apprentices or are training for professional qualifications or because they are engaged in coal mining or agriculture. Such men, if born within the dates specified above, must register on the prescribed date.

Men who have a preference for a particular Service should say so when they register, but no guarantee can be given that they will be allocated to that Service.

With certain exceptions, any man registering for service in the Armed Forces who enters the coal mining industry for underground work before an enlistment notice is issued will not be called up so long as he remains satisfactorily employed in that work.

The call-up of agricultural workers born in 1933 or later will be deferred only after individual application by the man's employer and subject to the satisfaction of certain specific conditions. Particulars can be obtained at any Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Each man who registers will be given a leaflet setting out the conditions under which deferment of call-up may be granted to apprentices and men in a similar position, artied pupils, etc., or students in full-time attendance at technical classes. If a man wishes to complete his apprenticeship or training before he is called up, he must make application for deferment on the appropriate form to be obtained at the time of his registration or as soon as possible afterwards.

As announced in Command Paper No. 9608 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1955, page 386), men who register on 3rd March may expect to be called up between July and October.

The registration will take place at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service; but seamen should, if possible, register at Mercantile Marine Offices.

The Minister of Labour and National Service has announced that it is proposed to hold a further registration on 21st July, when men born between 1st April, 1938, and 30th June, 1938, will register.

ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1955

Provisional figures of the numbers of persons killed and injured by accidents at mines and quarries in Great Britain during 1955 have recently been issued by the Ministry of Fuel and Power, together with comparative figures for 1954. The word "injured" in these statistics refers to those injuries which, because of their nature or severity, are, under the terms of Section 80 of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, required to be reported to H.M. Divisional Inspectors of Mines at the time of their occurrence.

During 1955, a total of 473 persons were killed at mines as defined by the Coal Mines Act, 1911, and the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872, and at quarries, compared with 429 in 1954. In addition, a total of 2,055 persons were injured in 1955, compared with 2,030 in 1954.

At mines as defined by the Coal Mines Act, 1911, which include mines of coal, stratified ironstone, shale and fireclay, the number of persons killed in accidents in 1955 was 423, which was 52 more than in 1954. The number of fatalities caused by accidents underground increased from 328 in 1954 to 364 in 1955, and those at the surface from 43 to 59. Of the fatalities from accidents underground in 1955, 185 were caused by falls of ground, 118 occurred in connection with haulage and transport, and seven were caused by explosions of firedamp or coal dust. The numbers in each of these categories showed an increase in 1955 compared with the previous year, when the figures were 180, 87, and five, respectively. Underground fatalities from other causes, including shaft accidents, decreased by two, from 56 in 1954 to 54 in 1955.

The number of persons injured at mines under the Coal Mines Act in 1955 was 1,889, compared with 1,855 in 1954. The numbers injured in underground accidents, included in these totals, were 1,699 in 1955 and 1,670 in 1954. Of the total for underground accidents in 1955, 668 persons were injured by falls of ground, 436 in haulage and transport accidents, and 47 by explosions of firedamp or coal dust. There were decreases, compared with 1954, of ten in the numbers injured by falls of ground and of two in those injured by explosions of firedamp or coal dust, but the number injured in haulage and transport accidents increased by eight. Accidents from all other causes underground, including shaft accidents, are not separately classified; they were responsible for 548 of the injuries in 1955, compared with 515 in 1954. At the surface, the number of persons injured from all causes increased from 185 in 1954 to 190 in 1955.

At mines as defined by the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872, there were seven fatalities in 1955, compared with six in 1954. In each of these years, five of the fatalities resulted from underground accidents caused by falls of ground; the remaining two in 1955 and one in 1954 were caused by accidents at the surface. The number of persons injured was 48 in 1955, compared with 36 in 1954. The total of those injured in 1955 included 42 who were injured in underground accidents. Of these injuries, 14 were caused by falls of ground, seven by explosions of firedamp, four resulted from accidents occurring in connection with haulage and transport and 17 from all other causes underground (including shaft accidents). Six persons were injured in accidents at the surface.

At quarries, the number of persons killed was 43 in 1955, compared with 52 in 1954. Fatalities caused by haulage and transport accidents decreased from 17 in 1954 to 14 in 1955 and those caused by falls of ground from 15 in 1954 to 13 in 1955. Blasting accidents were responsible in 1955 for three deaths, the same number as in 1954. Fatalities from all other causes totalled 13, which was four fewer than in 1955. The number of persons injured was 118 in 1955, compared with 139 in 1954. Of the total for 1955, 34 were injured in haulage and transport accidents and 23 by falls of ground, the same figure in each case as in 1954. The number of injuries caused by blasting accidents fell from 22 in 1954 to 13 in 1955. There was a reduction also, from 60 in 1954 to 48 in 1955, in the number of injuries from all other causes.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR OF MINES FOR 1954

The Report of H.M. Principal Electrical Inspector of Mines for the year 1954 has been published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 2s. net (2s. 1½d. including postage).

In his Report H.M. Principal Electrical Inspector refers to the Coal Mines (Mechanics and Electricians) General Regulations, 1954, which came into operation on 1st September, 1954 (see the issues of this GAZETTE for June and September, 1954, pages 220 and 310). The Regulations are intended to secure the proper installation, examination, testing and maintenance of mechanical plant and electrical plant at mines. Under the Regulations mine managers are required to ensure that there is a scheme in force to cover the systematic examination and testing of all electrical

plant and to ensure its proper maintenance, and this scheme must specify the intervals within which all the electrical plant must be examined and tested and the nature of the examination and testing to be carried out on each occasion. A specimen scheme issued by the National Coal Board as a guide to colliery staffs has, the Report says, been adopted in a number of areas, but generally with some modifications, and reports from Electrical Inspectors showed that by the end of the year 1954 many collieries had been unable, owing to shortage of electrical staff, to adopt schemes conforming to the intervals shown in the specimen scheme. Alternative schemes which it was considered could be worked with the available staff were in some cases proposed.

The number of inspections made by H.M. Electrical Inspectors at mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, during 1954 was 1,359, of which 739 were underground inspections. In addition, 68 inspections were made at metalliferous mines and 648 at quarries. In reviewing the work of the Electrical Inspectorate during the year the Report contains notes on a number of matters of safety and good practice in the mines which were reported upon by Inspectors and gives some brief details of visits paid by the Principal Inspector to mines and manufacturers' works in France and in the United States to examine electric winders, flameproof apparatus for mining, and other apparatus.

A section of the Report gives figures showing the extent to which electrical apparatus is used in coal mines. At 30th June, 1954, the total horse-power of electric motors in use for all purposes at mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, was 3,667,590, the total number of motors in use being 120,820. Comparative figures for 1953 were 3,455,383 horse-power and 112,104 motors.

During 1954 there was only one fatality in accidents associated with the use of electricity at mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911. There were 61 non-fatal accidents, resulting in injury to 74 persons. Of these 74 persons, 34 were injured in accidents at the surface and 40 underground. The one fatal accident, which resulted from electric shock, occurred on the surface of a mine. In addition, there were 18 dangerous occurrences in 1954. Figures for 1954 and earlier years set out in the Report show that, compared with 1953, the number of persons suffering injury in electrical accidents increased by 10, although fatalities decreased from three to one. Of the persons involved in accidents, 51 were electricians, and the Report says that it is a matter for considerable concern that 11 out of the 51 were apprentices. Most of the injuries in 1954 were caused by electric shock and/or arc burns.

The Report contains a description of the one fatal accident and of a number of non-fatal accidents and dangerous occurrences in 1954. In discussing general matters in connection with electrical accidents, H.M. Principal Inspector refers to his Report for the previous year (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1955, page 428) in which he expressed concern about the increasing number of accidents involving electricians. The figure of 51 for the year under review is much too high and he emphasises again the need for electricians to exercise every care in order to avoid accidents.

INCREASES IN TRAINING AND REHABILITATION ALLOWANCES

There have recently been increases in the rates of maintenance allowances payable to persons taking a course of training under the Vocational Training Scheme or a course of industrial rehabilitation at one of the Industrial Rehabilitation Units operated by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Increases have also been made in the allowances payable to disabled persons training for employment under sheltered conditions (see the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1949, page 194). The increases took effect from the beginning of the first pay-week commencing on or after 2nd January, 1956, and varied according to age, sex and/or whether the person was living locally (local) or had to live away in lodgings (boarder) while attending the course. From the date on which the revised rates took effect an increase was made in the deduction from the maintenance allowance towards the cost of mid-day meals where such meals are provided at the training establishment or the Industrial Rehabilitation Unit. The amount of the deduction was increased from 6s. to 10s. weekly, or, where attendance is required on five days a week only, from 5s. to 8s. 4d.

The first Table below gives the revised weekly rates of maintenance for persons attending a course of training under the Vocational Training Scheme or a course of industrial rehabilitation. Details of the rates of allowances payable prior to these increases were given in an article published in the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1955 (page 10).

Age	Local		Boarder		Attending Residential Establishments		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
20 years and over	A	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
	B	90 0	73 0	60 0	48 6	50 0	38 6
	C	98 0	81 0	68 0	56 6	58 0	46 6
	D	110 0	93 0	80 0	68 6	70 0	58 6
19 years	..	72 0	64 6	47 0	42 0	37 0	32 0
18 years	..	60 0	55 0	40 0	36 0	30 0	26 0
17 years	..	50 0	47 0	35 0	34 0	25 0	24 0
16 years	..	46 0	44 0	32 0	32 0	22 0	22 0

The revised weekly rates of maintenance allowances payable to registered disabled persons during the first 12 months of a course of training for sheltered employment are given in the following Table. After 12 months of training the rates of allowances are

(4038)

increased to the same levels as those payable to persons attending Vocational Training and Industrial Rehabilitation courses, as shown in the preceding Table.

Age	Local		Boarder		Attending Residential Establishments		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
20 years and over	A	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
	B	77 6	63 0	51 0	40 6	41 0	30 6
	C	85 6	71 0	59 0	48 6	49 0	38 6
	D	97 6	83 0	71 0	60 6	61 0	50 6
19 years	..	61 6	54 6	38 0	33 0	28 0	23 0
18 years	..	50 6	46 0	31 0	29 0	21 0	19 0
17 years	..	42 0	39 0	29 0	27 0	19 0	17 0
16 years	..	39 0	37 0	27 0	27 0	17 0	17 0

For persons aged 20 or over Rate A in the Tables above applies to persons without dependants; Rate B to persons maintaining a dependent child, or children, under 16; Rate C to persons with a wife, or maintaining an adult dependant other than a wife but with no dependent children; Rate D to persons with a wife, or maintaining an adult dependant other than a wife, and maintaining a dependent child or children under 16. Married men under 20 years of age and, where the maintenance conditions are satisfied, unmarried men aged 19 and women aged 19 with dependants receive allowances at Rates B, C or D as appropriate. Other persons under 20 who have dependants receive 20s. a week for an adult dependant and 8s. a week for one or more dependent children in addition to the weekly allowance appropriate to their age.

For those persons who are classed as boarders an allowance, normally not exceeding 40s. a week, is also given for lodging and part-board. Persons attending Residential Establishments receive free lodging and full board in addition to the allowances shown in the Tables above.

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Conditions in Iron Foundries

The first Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Conditions in Iron Foundries has recently been published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 4s. 6d. net (4s. 9½d. including postage). The Committee, which includes representatives of both sides of the industry and representatives of the Factory Department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, was appointed by H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories at the end of 1947 following a recommendation by the Joint Advisory Committee on Conditions in Iron Foundries in their Report published in 1947 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1947, page 259). The terms of reference of the Standing Committee are "to keep under review conditions and development in the iron founding industry affecting the health and safety and welfare of the workers; to implement and continue the work of the Joint Advisory Committee on Conditions in Iron Foundries" and to act as a consultative body on matters which may be referred to it by H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories".

The introduction to the Report says that the Committee felt that they should submit a progress report on the work of the last seven years, even though the various industrial research and development projects have been published as completed. They think it desirable that the results of the research work undertaken by or on behalf of the Committee should become known as widely as possible, and, what is more important, should be put into practice in the foundry. A summary is given of the conclusions reached as a result of the first comprehensive investigation into the pulmonary health risks of iron and steel foundry workers. This investigation was carried out by a team led by one of H.M. Medical Inspectors who is also the medical member of the Joint Standing Committee, and a report on the investigation was published in 1950 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1950, page 337). The Report also outlines the activities of employers, trade unions, the Factory Inspectorate and other Government Departments in co-operation with the work of the Committee and gives some details of improvements which have been made in working conditions and welfare arrangements in the iron founding industry. It notes that about £3,000,000 was spent voluntarily between October, 1946, and December, 1953, on improvements and amenities. The Report refers also to three memoranda which have been published embodying the conclusions of a Technical Sub-Committee of the Standing Committee on problems raised by the Report of the original Joint Advisory Committee.

The Report describes research which has been undertaken in recent years into problems of industrial health and developments in connection with the prevention of industrial diseases in foundries. Sections of the Report deal with methods which have been developed for estimating the intensity of concentrations of dust and with problems involved in suppressing dust, and descriptions are given of a number of forms of dust control, including control by means of local exhaust ventilation on pedestal and other grinders and at "knock out" operations and of dust control and elimination by water. Other sections discuss the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning, precautions against sulphur dioxide fumes, and the problem of objectionable fumes given off when certain kinds of binders are used in core making. In connection with new processes which are coming into use in the iron founding industry, the Committee say that they are watching with great interest the development of the relatively new process of shell moulding, which they

think can give great improvements in working conditions if properly applied, and that the carbon dioxide process, still largely experimental, is also under careful consideration.

In discussing the prevention of accidents the Committee say that, from the study of a detailed analysis of 6,232 accidents at iron foundries in 1953 and of other information available to them, they have concluded that in recent years most foundry accidents have fallen consistently into a relatively small number of causation groups. The two principal groups are handling articles (including the lifting of heavy weights) and the movement of molten metal. These two groups account for over 50 per cent. of the total number of foundry accidents each year. A large proportion of the accidents result in three characteristic types of injury, viz., molten metal burns (including many foot and eye injuries), strains, hernias, etc., and cuts, abrasions, and bruises (including many foot injuries). These injuries show the importance of the provision and use of suitable gloves or other protection for the hands, goggles or eye screens, and safety boots. The Committee note with satisfaction that increasing attention is being given to accident prevention by both employers and trade unions but consider that more could be done to reduce accidents if keener interest and determination were shown by both management and workers. In this connection the Committee suggest the following lines of action as means for reducing accidents: (1) A much higher standard of housekeeping, especially as regards the provision and maintenance of better floors and gangways, with particular attention to obstructions on floors and gangways. (2) The wider provision of more suitable protective clothing and other protective devices. (3) The proper care and use of such protective equipment by the workers. (4) Early first-aid treatment. (5) Better instruction in safe methods and practices, with particular attention to weight lifting. (6) The setting up of some domestic organisation or arrangement in every foundry, whereby accident prevention measures can be discussed and dealt with jointly by management and employees.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

Review of Widows' Benefits

In connection with the first quinquennial review of the National Insurance scheme the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance referred certain questions on provisions of the scheme to the National Insurance Advisory Committee for consideration and report (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1954, page 121). The Committee have considered separately, and are reporting separately on, each of the three questions referred to them; their report on the provisions governing the liability for contributions of persons with small incomes has already been made and the recommendations embodied in legislation (see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1955, page 167). The Report of the Committee on the Question of Widows' Benefits has recently been submitted to the Minister. It relates to the first part of the first question referred to the Committee, on which their original terms of reference were "to review the present provisions (other than the contribution conditions and rates of benefit) governing widow's benefit". The Report has been published as a Command Paper (Cmd. 9684), price 1s. 6d. net (1s. 7½d. including postage).

The introduction to the Report notes that in November, 1955, the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance asked the Advisory Committee "to consider whether adjustments in the present earnings limits for retirement pensions, widow's benefit and dependants' allowances are called for, any matters arising therefrom, and to report". The Minister asked the Committee to regard as modified by the new reference the terms of reference of the questions referred to them on widows' benefits and dependency increases. In the present Report, the Committee therefore make no comment upon the earnings limits to which widowed mother's allowance and widow's pension are subject.

Part I of the Report sets out the existing provisions for widow's benefit. In Part II the Committee examine the main issues involved in the question under review, and in Part III they consider transitional problems, including the widow's basic pension, the standard rate of which is 10s. a week. Other sections of the Report relate to more detailed matters affecting relatively few people and to the financial effect of the changes proposed by the Committee.

The existing provision for widowhood under the National Insurance Act, 1946, is based on the general principle that the long-term benefits should be limited to those classes of widows who cannot reasonably be expected to re-enter employment and rely upon their earnings. The Committee endorse this general principle. The present benefits are a short-term resettlement benefit for all widows (widow's allowance), an allowance for widows with children (widowed mother's allowance), and a life pension for widows without young children who satisfy certain conditions of age and length of marriage.

The Advisory Committee, as a result of their review, make important proposals for changes in the widow's benefit provisions of the scheme. The main proposals are, briefly, as follows:—

(1) The re-establishment in insurance of widows who cease to qualify for widows' benefits. A widow who had been entitled to widow's allowance would be credited with Class 1 contributions from the beginning of the contribution year governing the benefit year in which she ceased to be entitled to widow's allowance or widowed mother's allowance until the date of her ceasing to be so entitled. This would provide the widow with insurance cover for sickness benefit for an unlimited period and the right, if unemployed, to draw unemployment benefit for periods, depending on the length of marriage, up to a maximum of 19 months. The Committee say that they attach great importance to this proposal to re-establish widows in insurance. The pension available at present to widows

The Report contains a number of illustrations. It is followed by technical appendices which include descriptions of systems of dust control, and recommendations on the drying of moulds by portable dryers and the reduction of fumes from oil bonded cores. Other appendices contain statistical analyses of accidents in iron foundries in 1953 and a list of publications on matters referred to in the Report.

The Iron and Steel Foundries Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1955

The Iron and Steel Foundries Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1955, were made on 21st December, 1955, by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance for Northern Ireland under the Factories Acts (Northern Ireland), 1938 and 1949. The Regulations contain requirements concerning the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in iron and steel foundries in Northern Ireland. They include provisions relating to gangways and the arrangement and storage of equipment, tools and materials in workrooms, the provision and maintenance of protective equipment, bathing facilities, and clothing accommodation. They also prescribe measures for the suppression of dust and fumes. The Regulations come into operation on 2nd April, 1956, with the exception of the requirements relating to the suppression of dust and fumes and the provision of bathing facilities and clothing accommodation, which will operate from 2nd April, 1958. (Special Regulations relating to iron and steel foundries in Great Britain were made in October, 1953, see the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1953, page 353.)

Copies of the Regulations (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland 1955 No. 193) can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, 80 Chichester Street, Belfast, or through any bookseller, price 4d. net (5½d. including postage).

incapable of self-support would be superseded, but the position of those drawing it at present would not be affected.

(2) The widowed mother's allowance should continue to be payable so long as the widow has a child under 18 residing with her instead of only up to the age limits for family allowances as at present. Benefit for the child should also be paid if the child continues in full-time education or is apprenticed up to the age of 18.

(3) The rates of the child's element in widowed mother's allowance and of increases for children after the first should be substantially increased.

(4) There should be no change in the general minimum age of 50 for the receipt of a widow's pension, but the present ten years of marriage condition should be replaced by a three years of marriage condition.

(5) If the proposals made by the Committee are accepted, the provision as at present of a widow's pension for a woman ceasing to be entitled to widowed mother's allowance between the ages of 40 and 50 should be discontinued, but this proposal should be given effect without prejudice to the position of widows entitled to widow's benefit at the time.

Under the contributory pensions scheme which was replaced in July, 1948, by the National Insurance scheme, a widow's basic pension of 10s. was payable, subject only to insurance and contribution conditions, to every widow. The Committee recommend that their proposals for a three years of marriage condition and for the re-establishment of widows in insurance should be applied, as from a given date, to all widows in receipt of the 10s. basic pension, and, in addition, to all women who qualified for widow's allowance under the National Insurance scheme but are not now entitled to any widow's benefit. These recommendations, if adopted, would, the Committee say, cover the obvious cases of hardship among widows drawing the 10s. pension.

The Command Paper contains a number of statistical appendices to the Report, giving statistical and other relevant information, including extracts from the National Insurance Act, 1946, and from Regulations relating to widow's benefit, and a note describing the Contributory Pensions Scheme, together with extracts from the Beveridge Report and the Coalition Government's White Paper on Social Insurance, Part 1 (Cmd. 6550) relating to provision for widowhood.

The Advisory Committee's recommendations are under consideration by the Government. If the recommendations are accepted, legislation amending the National Insurance Acts will be necessary before the proposed changes in provision for widowhood can be brought into effect.

Review of Industrial Injuries Benefit Provisions for Byssinosis

A review of the provision made for byssinosis under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts has been carried out by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council following a request made in February, 1955, by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance (see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1955, page 167). The Industrial Diseases Sub-Committee of the Council, to whom the matter was referred, have recently submitted their Report, which has been considered and adopted by the Council. The Report has been published by H.M. Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 9673), price 9d. net (10½d. including postage).

The Report gives a brief account of the provision made for persons incapacitated by byssinosis, which is a form of chronic lung disease caused by cotton dust, under the Workmen's Com-

Ministry of Labour Gazette. February, 1956

As a result of their review, the Advisory Council recommend that disablement pension for byssinosis should no longer be subject to any special limitation as to degree of disablement, and that the condition relating to length of employment should be modified to require a minimum of 10 years' employment in a prescribed occupation instead of 20 years as at present. The Council also recommend that further research should be undertaken into the possibility that cotton workers engaged on processes not already covered by the regulations can contract byssinosis, and that when the results of this research are available the Council should again review the provisions relating to occupational cover. It is pointed out in a summary of conclusions in the Report that the recommendations relate only to the advanced condition characterised by chronic respiratory embarrassment and in which demonstrable degenerative changes in the lungs have occurred; it is in relation to this condition that the term "byssinosis" has been used.

The recommendations of the Advisory Council have been accepted by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance. On 1st February the Minister made the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Prescribed Diseases) Amendment Regulations, 1956, which implement the recommendations. Copies of the Regulations (S.I. 1956 No. 118), which came into operation on 8th February, can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net (4½d. including postage).

Insurance Cover against Cadmium Poisoning

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council were also asked by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance to consider and advise on the question whether cadmium poisoning should be prescribed under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1955, page 168). The Advisory Council referred the matter for detailed examination to their Industrial Diseases Sub-Committee, whose Report has now been considered and adopted by the Council. The Report has been published by H.M. Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 9674), price 6d. net (7½d. including postage).

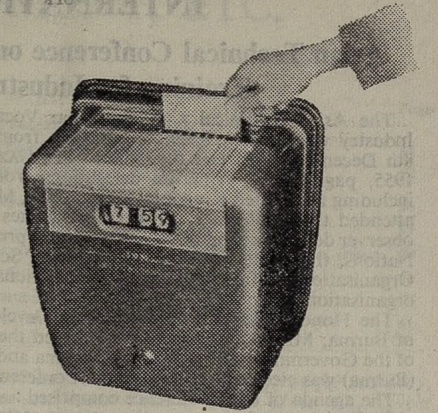
The Report refers to the increasing use in industry of cadmium, a soft, white metal, as a constituent of metal alloys and for other purposes. When present in absorbable form cadmium and its salts are acutely toxic, but, because of the precautions taken, cases of acute cadmium poisoning are rare. The cases of acute poisoning which do occur usually arise from the welding or burning of metal which, perhaps unknown to the worker, is cadmium-plated. The risk involved is of an occasional large dose of poisonous fume, but not of the absorption of small quantities over a period of time, and cases of this kind are already within the scope of the Industrial Injuries Act, since, if illness results, a claim can be made under the "injury by accident" provisions of the Act. The main concern of the Sub-Committee was, therefore, to decide whether there was an identifiable form of chronic cadmium poisoning (as distinct from the acute form) which satisfies the requirements for prescription under the Act.

The Report notes that it has for many years been suspected that continued absorption of cadmium might cause chronic ill-health and describes medical investigations which have been made into the results of exposure to cadmium dust and cadmium fume. The most recent investigation was carried out by a member of the scientific staff of the Medical Research Council among workers exposed to cadmium fume at factories making copper-cadmium alloys. From the results of this investigation the conclusion was drawn that prolonged exposure to cadmium gave rise to a condition of chronic cadmium poisoning. All the workers showing symptoms and signs attributed by the investigator to chronic cadmium poisoning had been exposed to cadmium for more than five years and some of them for more than 15 years. In the light of this evidence, together with advice rendered to the Advisory Council in their enquiry by a special sub-committee of the Medical Research Council, it was accepted that the occurrence of a chronic condition of cadmium poisoning had been established and that cases could be diagnosed with sufficient assurance to enable claims for Industrial Injuries benefit to be decided.

The Advisory Council accordingly recommended that "Poisoning by cadmium" should be prescribed under Section 55 of the Industrial Injuries Act, and that insurance against this disease should be provided under the Act for all persons whose occupations involve exposure to cadmium fumes.

The Minister of Pensions and National Insurance has accepted the recommendation of the Advisory Council. The National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Prescribed Diseases) Amendment Regulations, 1956, made on 1st February, 1956, implement the recommendation and provide insurance cover against cadmium poisoning. The Regulations came into operation on 8th February. Copies of the Regulations (S.I. 1956 No. 118) can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net (4½d. including postage).

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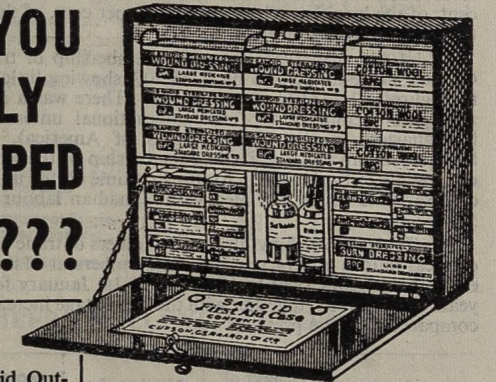
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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Asian Technical Conference on Vocational Training for Industry

The Asian Technical Conference on Vocational Training for Industry was held in Rangoon, Burma, from 28th November to 8th December, 1955 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1955, page 391). Tripartite delegations from sixteen countries, including the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Malaya and Singapore attended the Conference. The United States of America sent an observer delegation and observers were also present from the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and from a number of international non-Governmental organisations.

The Honourable Minister for Trade Development and Labour of Burma, Mr. M. A. Raschid, welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Government of the Union of Burma and Mr. Maung Maung (Burma) was elected President of the Conference.

The agenda of the Conference comprised:

- (1) Exchange of views on the present state of development of vocational training for industry in the Asian countries.
- (2) Problems of organisation and administration of vocational training for industry in the light of the needs of industry and the various national industrial development plans.
- (3) Organisation and administration of apprenticeship and other in-plant training as an integral part of the arrangements for training for industry.
- (4) Recruitment and training of teachers and instructors for vocational training for industry.
- (5) Training of supervisors for industry.

The Conference appointed two Committees, one on Apprenticeship and one on the Training of Supervisors. The main conclusion reached by the Conference was that in each of the Asian countries there was need for closer co-operation than at present between the three parties (Government, employers and workers' organisations) most closely concerned in the field of vocational training; the Conference accordingly recommended the setting up in each of the Asian countries of a National Council for Vocational Training to bring about the desired degree of co-ordination. In its report to the Conference, the Committee on Apprenticeship recommended, among other things, that in each of the Asian countries a central tripartite body with suitable local machinery should be set up to promote, develop and regulate apprenticeship training schemes. The Committee on the Training of Supervisors recommended that an appropriate organisation, charged with responsibility for the promotion and development of supervisor training facilities and for the initiation of research projects, be set up on a permanent basis in each of the Asian countries where adequate facilities for supervisor training do not already exist. Both of these reports were adopted.

The other items on the agenda were discussed by the Conference in Plenary Session. One of the conclusions reached was that an investigation should be carried out into the measure of success obtained through abridged or "accelerated" training methods in Asian countries, and other conclusions covered the selection, training, placement, conditions of employment, and promotion of vocational training instructors.

The recommendations of the Conference will come before the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, which will decide what action should be taken on them.

LABOUR OVERSEAS

Trade Unions in Canada

The 44th annual report in the series *Labour Organisation in Canada*, published by the Canadian Department of Labour, describes the structure of labour organisation at the beginning of 1955 and contains a statistical analysis of union membership by affiliation, industry and geographical area. The report also contains a directory of labour organisations.

Figures showing total trade union membership, the numbers in the individual unions, and the affiliation of unions with labour congresses, were compiled from replies to a questionnaire sent by the Department of Labour to the head offices of the national or international trade unions, and figures of industrial and geographical distribution of union members from questionnaires completed by local union secretaries. Returns were received from about 85 per cent. of the local branches covering 91 per cent. of the membership reported by the parent unions.

At 1st January, 1955, the total membership of trade unions in Canada was estimated to be 1,268,207, showing little change from the figure of 1,267,911 a year earlier. There was a decrease in the aggregate membership of the international unions (unions with headquarters in the United States of America), but this was balanced by an increase in the membership of the national unions, due mainly to the inclusion for the first time of two unions of federal civil servants which affiliated with Canadian labour congresses in 1954.

The Table below shows the total numbers of trade union branches or local unions and of trade union members at 31st December for each of the years 1939 to 1949 and at 1st January for each of the years 1951 to 1955, together with the percentage increase or decrease compared with the previous year:—

Year	Number of Trade Union Branches or Local Unions	Number of Trade Union Members	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Membership as compared with previous year
1939	3,267	358,967	+ 5.9
1940	3,221	362,223	+ 0.9
1941	3,318	461,681	+ 27.5
1942	3,426	578,380	+ 25.3
1943	3,735	664,533	+ 14.9
1944	4,123	724,188	+ 9.0
1945	4,329	711,117	+ 1.8
1946	4,635	831,697	+ 17.0
1947	4,956	912,124	+ 9.7
1948	5,114	977,594	+ 7.2
1949*	5,268	1,005,639	+ 2.9
1951	5,458	1,028,521	+ 2.3
1952	6,052	1,146,121	+ 11.4
1953	6,235	1,219,714	+ 6.4
1954	6,425	1,267,911	+ 4.0
1955	6,673	1,268,207	0.0

The number of trade unions in Canada at 1st January, 1955, was 183, which included 115 international unions and 68 national and regional unions. The membership of the international unions at that date was 893,838, organised in 4,056 branches. National or regional unions, entirely Canadian in scope, had a membership of 305,905, organised in 2,022 branches. The remaining trade union members were organised by local unions or branches which were either directly chartered by the central labour congresses or were wholly independent. Of the 183 unions at the beginning of 1955, 130, representing 84 per cent. of union membership, were affiliated to one of the three Canadian labour congresses. The largest of these federations of trade unions, the Trades and Labour Congress

* The figures for 1949 and later years include the Province of Newfoundland.

of Canada, had a membership, in affiliated unions, of about 600,800 at the beginning of 1955. The Canadian Congress of Labour had a representative membership of about 361,300. These two central organisations had, among their affiliated unions, both international and national and local unions. The third largest central organisation, the Confédération des Travailleurs Catholiques du Canada, which has national and local unions only in affiliation, represented 99,800 members, mainly in the province of Quebec. Trade unions with a membership of about 11,800 were affiliated only to central organisations in the United States. Four international railway unions, with a membership of 40,300, are not affiliated to central bodies either in Canada or the United States. A number of other unaffiliated international, national, regional, or local unions had a membership of over 154,000 at the beginning of 1955.

An agreement to merge the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada and the Canadian Congress of Labour was made in May, 1955, and it was decided, subject to ratification of the agreement by both organisations, to call a constitutional convention in 1956 for a unified Canadian Labour Congress. The agreement followed a unity agreement in the United States between the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

The Department of Labour estimate that, at 1st January, 1955, about 34 per cent. of non-agricultural workers in Canada were members of trade unions. There were union members in all the main industry groups, but the extent of union membership varied considerably between individual industries and industry groups. Figures of industrial distribution of union membership compiled from the local returns show that workers in manufacturing industries made up 41 per cent. of the total number of members of unions in Canada, 23 per cent. of the total were employed in transportation and communication, and the service and construction industry groups accounted for 13 and 10 per cent., respectively, of all union members. In the other industry groups the number of union members amounted in each case to less than five per cent. of total union membership.

The next Table shows the approximate numbers of trade union members in some of the principal manufacturing and other industries at 1st January, 1955, together with the numbers of union branches for each industry. The figures were compiled from the reports of the local unions, who were asked to indicate the employer (or employers) of the majority of their members.

Industry	Number of Trade Union Branches	Number of Trade Union Members
Logging	28	46,150
Mining	149	55,150
Iron and Steel Products	278	74,200
Transportation Equipment	131	87,650
Textiles	93	23,650
Clothing	116	33,700
Wood Products	132	32,100
Pulp, Paper and Paper Products	255	55,900
Printing and Publishing	158	20,500
Food and Drink	231	41,400
Construction	413	109,400
Transportation, Steam Railways	1,180	153,150
Other Transportation, Storage and Communication	393	110,700

An article on Canadian trade unions in 1952 was published in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1953, page 203.

EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC.

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NOTE.—The estimated numbers of employees included in the Tables below have been revised on the basis of the new figures for end-May, 1955, based on counts of National Insurance Cards, that have now become available (see article and Table on pages 41 to 43). Slight (upward) revisions have also been made to the figures for self-employed persons in a few industries.

Employment in Great Britain in December

GENERAL SUMMARY

The number in civil employment (industry, commerce and services of all kinds) at the end of December was 23 millions. This was nearly 140,000 less than at the end of November. A large fall in the numbers in employment is usual at this time of year.

The fall during the month was spread over most industry groups. The largest decreases occurred in distribution, building and contracting and food, drink and tobacco manufacture.

During 1955 the number in civil employment increased by 280,000, the result of 200,000 more in the working population, 30,000 fewer unemployed and 50,000 fewer in the Armed Forces. The main increases in employment were 180,000 in manufacturing industries and 60,000 in distribution. Within manufacturing there was an increase of 170,000 in metals, engineering and vehicles; most other groups showed increases, but there was a fall of 10,000 in clothing and a fall of 40,000 in textiles, including 30,000 in cotton. Outside manufacturing, all the main industry groups showed increases except agriculture, mining and public administration.

There was a seasonal increase of 48,000 in unemployment between 12th December, 1955, and 16th January, 1956.

The number registered as unemployed on 16th January was 264,000, of whom 16,000 were temporarily stopped. Total unemployment was 34,000 less than a year previously. Expressed as a proportion of the estimated number of employees, unemployment was 1.2 per cent. in January, 1956, compared with 1.0 per cent. in December, 1955, and 1.4 per cent. in January, 1955.

The number unemployed more than eight weeks was 92,000, this being 37 per cent. of the wholly unemployed.

The strength of the Forces at the end of December was 779,000. The total working population* at the end of December numbered 24,020,000. During the month there was a seasonal decrease of 115,000, mainly among women.

GENERAL MAN-POWER POSITION

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

	Thousands				
	End-Dec., 1954	End-Oct., 1955	End-Nov., 1955	End-Dec., 1955	Change during Dec., 1955
Number in Civil Employment	22,721	23,101	23,136	23,000	-136
Men	15,058	15,249	15,238	15,201	-37
Women	7,663	7,852	7,898	7,799	-99
Wholly Unemployed†	266	210	210	235	+ 25
Temporarily Stopped‡	14	12	10	15	+ 5
Total Registered Unemployed†	280	222	220	250	+ 30
H.M. Forces and Women's Services	830	786	783	779	- 4
Men	809	768	765	762	- 3
Women	21	18	18	17	- 1
Ex-Service men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment	6	6	6	6	
Total Working Population*	23,823	24,103	24,135	24,020	-115
Men	16,047	16,157	16,145	16,124	- 21
Women	7,776	7,946	7,990	7,896	- 94

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

† End of month estimates. Persons classed as temporarily stopped are included in the totals of persons in civil employment. (See footnote * above.)

(4038)

ANALYSIS OF NUMBERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

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

Industry or Service	End-Dec., 1954	End-Oct., 1955	End-Nov., 1955	End-Dec., 1955	Change during Dec., 1955
Basic Industries					
Mining and Quarrying (Wage-earners on Colliery Books)	864	857	857	858	+ 1
Gas, Electricity and Water	(705)	(699)	(699)	(700)	(+ 1)
Transport and Communication	376	378	379	378	- 1
Agriculture and Fishing	1,691	1,707	1,703	1,699	- 4
	1,031	1,042	1,022	1,012	- 10
Number in Basic Industries	3,962	3,984	3,961	3,947	- 14
Manufacturing Industries					
Chemicals and Allied Trades	512	528	529	526	- 3
Metal Manufacture	565	578	582	583	+ 1
Vehicles	1,208	1,252	1,254	1,254	
Engineering, Metal Goods and Precision Instruments	2,709	2,815	2,825	2,818	- 7
Textiles	991	950	954	952*	- 2
Clothing (inc. footwear)	684	676	677	674	- 3
Food, Drink and Tobacco	899	937	938	915	- 23
Other Manufactures	1,591	1,622	1,625	1,615	- 10
Number in Manufacturing Industries	9,159	9,358	9,384	9,337	- 47
Building and Contracting	1,438	1,498	1,489	1,465	- 24
Distributive Trades	2,811	2,857	2,908	2,869	- 39
Professional, Financial and Miscellaneous Services	4,053	4,117	4,108	4,098	- 10
Public Administration—National Government Service	574	560	560	560	
Local Government Service	724	727	726	724	- 2
Total in Civil Employment	22,721	23,101	23,136	23,000	-136

NUMBERS EMPLOYED: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

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

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

* Cotton—259,000. Wool—210,000. Other textiles—483,000.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

(Thousands)

Industry	Males				Females				Total			
	End-Dec., 1954	End-Oct., 1955	End-Nov., 1955	End-Dec., 1955	End-Dec., 1954	End-Oct., 1955	End-Nov., 1955	End-Dec., 1955	End-Dec., 1954	End-Oct., 1955	End-Nov., 1955	End-Dec., 1955
Mining, etc.												
Coal Mining	768.4	761.7	762.2	762.9	15.5	15.8	15.8	15.8	783.9	777.5	778.0	778.7
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	257.4	261.0	261.7	261.2	84.3	86.3	86.5	85.3	341.7	347.3	348.2	346.5
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	76.3	75.4	75.5	73.3	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.8	85.1	84.1	84.3	84.1
China and Earthenware	33.8	33.6	33.6	33.6	44.1	43.3	42.7	42.7	77.9	76.9	76.3	76.3
Glass (other than containers)	32.6	34.5	34.8	34.9	12.5	13.8	13.9	13.6	45.1	48.3	48.7	48.5
Glass Containers	20.6	21.1	21.2	21.2	5.9	6.4	6.4	6.2	26.5	27.5	27.6	27.4
Cement	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.8
Other Non-Metallif. Mining Manufactures	79.6	81.9	82.1	81.7	11.9	12.8	12.7	12.7	91.5	94.7	94.9	94.4
Chemicals and Allied Trades	361.5	372.7	373.4	373.1	148.0	153.5	153.0	150.5	509.5	526.2	526.4	523.6
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	19.1	20.0	20.1	20.1	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	19.6	20.6	20.7	20.7
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Perfumery, etc.	169.1	178.0	178.7	178.6	45.0	47.9	48.1	47.7	214.1	225.9	226.8	226.3
Explosives and Fireworks	33.3	32.9	32.8	32.8	19.8	19.9	20.0	19.8	53.1	52.8	52.8	52.6
Paint and Varnish	28.2	29.1	29.2	29.2	12.1	12.6	12.6	12.4	40.3	41.7	41.8	41.6
Soap, Candles, Polishes, Ink, Matches, etc.	29.8	29.9	29.8	29.7	20.4	20.9	20.5	20.5	50.2	50.7	50.3	49.7
Mineral Oil Refining	30.9	31.3	31.4	31.4	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	37.5	37.8	37.9	37.8
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	25.0	25.2	25.2	25.2	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.3	33.2	33.6	33.7	33.5
Metal Manufacture	495.5	506.7	509.7	510.5	68.6	70.4	70.8	70.6	564.1	577.1	580.5	581.1
Blast Furnaces	20.9	20.9	21.0	21.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	21.4	21.4	21.5	21.6
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	202.0	205.8	206.6	207.0	18.8	19.1	19.1	19.1	220.8	224.9	225.7	226.1
Iron Foundries	109.5	110.0	110.6	110.8	17.3	17.0	17.2	17.2	126.8	127.0	128.0	128.0
Tinplate Manufacture	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.9
Steel Sheet Manufacture	19.5	20.4	20.5	20.6	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	20.8	21.7	21.8	21.9
Iron and Steel Tubes	38.9	41.3	42.1	42.3	8.0	8.5	8.7	8.7	46.9	49.8	50.8	51.0
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc.	92.7	96.3	96.9	96.7	20.8	22.1	21.9	21.9	113.5	118.4	119.0	118.6
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	1,564.2	1,616.5	1,620.9	1,621.6	454.1	488.5	490.1	484.7	2,018.3	2,105.0	2,111.0	2,106.3
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	195.6	200.4	201.0	202.2	8.8	8.6	8.7	8.8	204.4	209.0	209.7	211.0
Marine Engineering	76.8	76.6	76.7	76.8	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	81.1	81.1	81.3	81.3
Agricultural Machinery (exc. tractors)	34.5	36.4	36.4	36.2	5.1	5.8	5.8	5.8	39.6	42.2	42.2	42.0
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	28.0	28.6	28.7	28.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	31.0	31.6	31.7	31.8
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	89.1	93.6	94.1	94.2	19.9	22.0	22.3	22.1	109.0	115.6	116.4	116.3
Stationary Engines	23.5	24.2	24.3	24.3	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	27.2	28.0	28.1	28.1
Textile Machinery and Accessories	56.0	54.6	54.3	54.1	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.4	65.6	64.1	63.8	63.5
Ordnance and Small Arms	49.8	50.0	50.2	50.1	14.9	14.8	14.8	14.7	64.7	64.8	65.0	64.8
Constructional Engineering	76.0	78.0	77.8	77.1	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.0	82.7	85.0	84.8	84.1
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	152.7	141.5	141.8	141.8	46.4	50.2	50.2	50.2	191.7	192.3	192.0	192.0
Electrical Machinery	39.8	41.8	42.0	41.9	23.8	23.7	23.5	23.5	61.6	65.6	65.7	65.4
Electrical Wires and Cables	32.5	34.2	34.3	34.4	21.2	22.9	23.0	23.0	53.7	57.1	57.3	57.4
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	69.5	75.6	75.9	75.4	64.1	72.2	71.8	69.0	133.6	147.8	147.7	144.4
Wireless Apparatus and Gramophones	22.7	25.4	25.7	25.9	25.4	29.5	29.8	29.4	48.1	54.9	55.5	55.3
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	11.5	11.7	11.7	11.6	8.3	9.2	9.1	9.0	19.8	20.9	20.8	20.6
Batteries and Accumulators	98.3	102.9	103.5	103.4	70.1	74.0	74.4	73.5	168.4	176.9	177.9	176.9
Other Electrical Goods	999.5	1,033.6	1,035.4	1,036.0	174.7	184.1	184.9	184.3	1,174.2	1,217.7	1,220.3	1,220.3
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles and Cycles	274.8	288.6	289.8	289.8	47.2	48.3	48.2	48.2	322.0	336.9	338.1	338.0
Motor Repairs and Garages	238.9	247.3	246.7	246.5	37.6	41.1	41.3	41.2	276.5	288.4	288.0	287.7
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	204.5	211.7	212.3	213.0	33.8	35.2	35.4	35.4	238.3	246.9	247.7	248.4
Manufacture of Parts and Accessories for Motor Vehicles and Aircraft	121.7	129.8	130.7	131.0	44.3	47.7	48.1	47.8	166.0	177.5	178.8	178.8
Locomotive Manufacture	74.7	71.6	71.3	71.2	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	79.5	76.4	76.1	76.0
Manufacture and Repair of Railway Carriages and Wagons and Trams	79.9	79.7	79.7	79.7	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	84.0	83.8	83.8	83.8
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.6
Metal Goods not Elsewhere Specified	321.2	328.0	330.1	331.0	187.7	195.3	196.7	194.2	508.9	523.3	526.8	525.2
Tools and Cutlery	26.9	26.8	26.9	27.1	18.9	19.4	19.4	19.2	45.8	46.1	46.3	46.3
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	23.0	24.3	24.3	24.6	18.3	19.5	19.6	19.4	41.3	43.9	44.1	44.0
Iron and Steel Forgings	33.7	34.3	34.6	34.8	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.8	39.0	40.1	40.4	40.6
Wire and Wire Manufactures	28.3	30.0	30.1	30.1	10.1	10.8	10.9	10.8	38.4	40.8	41.0	40.9
Hollow-ware	27.2	27.7	27.9	27.9	33.1	33.9	34.0	33.3	60.3	61.6	61.9	61.2
Brass Manufactures	31.6	32.1	32.2	32.3	18.2	18.8	18.9	18.7	49.8	50.9	51.1	51.0
Metal Industries not elsewhere specified	150.5	152.7	153.9	154.2	83.8	87.2	88.1	87.0	234.3	239.9	242.0	241.2
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	87.4	90.0	90.1	90.2	55.6	58.2	58.4	57.8	143.0	148.2	148.5	148.0
Scientific, Surgical, Photographic Instruments	56.6	57.5	57.6	57.7	32.0	33.1	32.9	32.9	88.3	90.4	90.7	90.6
Watches and Clocks	9.3	9.6	9.6	9.6	8.1	8.9	8.9	8.8	17.4	18.5	18.5	18.4
Jewellery, Plate, Refining of Precious Metals	14.9	15.5	15.4	15.4	13.6	14.2	14.2	13.9	29.7	29.6	29.3	29.3
Musical Instruments	6.9	7.4	7.5	7.5	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.2	8.8	9.6	9.7	9.7
Textiles	412.8	397.9	399.4	399.9	568.5	543.2	545.7	543.3	981.3	941.1	945.1	943.2
Cotton Spinning, Doubling, etc.	57.7	50.4	50.5	50.7	108.1	95.6	95.6	95.6	163.8	145.9	146.6	146.3
Cotton Weaving, etc.	40.8	37.7	37.6	37.6	4.2	7.5	7.6	7.8	122.0	112.8	112.2	111.2
Woolen and Worsted	92.8	91.1	91.4	91.6	118.2	115.7	116.5	116.0	211.0	206.8	207.9	207.6
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Production	28.5	28.9	29.2	29.2	9.4	9.9	10.1	10.1	37.9	38.8	39.3	39.3
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving and Silk	21.6	21.7	21.8	21.9	31.6	30.8	31.0	30.9	53.2	52.5	52.8	52.8
Linen and Soft Hemp	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	7.1	6.5	6.6	6.6	11.4	10.7	10.8	10.7
Jute	9.1	8.8	8.8	8.9	11.3	10.9	11.0	11.1	20.4	19.7	19.8	19.7
Rope, Twine and Net	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	15.0	15.0	15.0	14.8
Hosiery and other Knitted Goods	35.5	35.2	35.3	35.4	89.7	89.4	89.9	89.9	125.2	124.6	125.2	125.3
Lace	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	10.7	10.5	10.5	10.5
Carpets	14.7	14.7	14.8	14.8	15.2	15.0	15.1	15.1	29.9	29.7	29.9	29.9
Narrow Fabrics	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.1	15.7	15.5	15.7	15.6	22.6	22.5	22.8	22.7
Made-up Textiles	9.4	9.1	9.1	9.1	21.0	21.0	21.1	20.9	30.5	30.2	30.2	30.0
Textile Finishing, etc.	61.4	59.0	59.4	59.4	31.2	29.9	29.9	29.8	92.6	88.9	89.3	89.2
Other Textile Industries	19.6	19.8	19.9	20.0	12.2	12.8	12.9	12.9	31.8	32.6	32.8	32.9
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	42.5	41.2	41.2	41.1	30.0	30.6	30.5	29.9	72.5	71.8	71.7	71.0
Leather (Tanning, Dressing), Feltmongery	28.5	27.4	27.6	27.6	8.1	7.9	8.0	8.0	36.6	35.3	35.7	35.6
Leather Goods	9.2	9.0	8.9	8.8	16.9	17.4	17.1	16.7	26.4	26.0	26.0	25.5
Fur	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.2	9.8	10.1	10.0	9.9
Clothing	184.5	178.5	178.9	178.5	451.7	449.0	450.3	447.8	636.2	627.5	629.2	626.3
Tailoring	72.5	71.0	71.0	70.7	197.0	198.1	198.4	194.8	269.5	265.8	265.8	264.1
Dressmaking	10.2	10.1	10.2	10.2	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	26.0	25.2	25.2	25.2
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.6	63.7	65.5	66.0	65.9	72.4	74.1	74.6	74.5
Hats, Caps and Millinery	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.9	13.1	12.6	12.5	12.5	20.3	19.6	19.4	19.4
Dress Industries not elsewhere specified	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	32.7	33.4	33.4	33.1	41.7	42.4	42.4	42.1
Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Slippers, etc.	60.8	57.4	57.7	57.8	61.6	60.9	61.4	61.2	122.4	118.3	119.1	119.0
Repair of Boots and Shoes	16.1	15.4	15.5	15.3	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	19.7	19.1	19.2	19.0
Food, Drink and Tobacco	489.6	494.0	494.1	491.8	385.5	418.4	420.1	398.9	875.1	912.4		

Unemployment at 16th January, 1956

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 12th December, 1955, and 16th January, 1956, were as follows:—

	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
12th Dec., 1955 ..	134,914	4,092	72,326	4,318	215,650
16th Jan., 1956 ..	165,202	7,974	83,119	7,615	263,910
Increase (+) ..	+30,288	+3,882	+10,793	+3,297	+48,260

It is estimated that the number of persons registered as unemployed at 16th January, 1956, represented 1.2 per cent. of the total number of employees. The corresponding percentage at 12th December, 1955, was 1.0.

An analysis of the figures for 16th January according to duration of unemployment is given in the following Table:—

	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)				Temporarily Stopped	Total
	Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks	Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks	Unemployed for more than 8 weeks	Total		
Men 18 and over	49,407	44,950	62,476	156,833	8,369	165,202
Boys under 18	4,603	2,344	775	7,722	252	7,974
Women 18 and over	28,579	19,819	27,908	76,306	6,813	83,119
Girls under 18	4,174	2,181	920	7,275	340	7,615
Total ..	86,763	69,294	92,079	248,136	15,774	263,910

The total of 263,910 includes 43,807 married women.

The numbers of wholly unemployed persons in each Region at 16th January, 1956, analysed according to duration of unemployment, and also the numbers temporarily stopped, are given in the Table below. Separate figures are given for males and females. The changes, compared with 12th December, 1955, in the total numbers unemployed in each Region are shown in the first Table on the next page.

Region	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)				Temporarily Stopped	Total
	Unemployed for not more than 2 weeks	Unemployed for more than 2 weeks but not more than 8 weeks	Unemployed for more than 8 weeks	Total		
	Males					
London and South-Eastern ..	12,138	9,282	8,428	29,848	1,117	30,965
Eastern ..	2,706	3,281	3,055	9,042	326	9,368
Southern ..	2,117	1,747	2,348	6,212	39	6,251
South-Western ..	2,919	3,120	4,138	10,227	88	10,315
Midland ..	4,637	1,386	1,300	7,323	440	7,763
North-Midland ..	2,139	1,310	1,627	5,076	293	5,369
E. and W. Ridings ..	2,999	2,253	3,771	9,023	680	9,703
North-Western ..	8,376	6,991	8,365	23,732	1,727	25,459
Northern ..	4,405	4,096	6,523	15,024	756	15,780
Scotland ..	9,116	10,998	17,119	37,233	2,895	40,128
Wales ..	2,458	2,830	6,527	11,815	260	12,075
Great Britain ..	54,010	47,294	63,251	164,555	8,621	173,176
	Females					
London and South-Eastern ..	7,683	3,260	2,210	13,153	446	13,599
Eastern ..	1,427	1,147	1,039	3,613	136	3,749
Southern ..	1,717	1,527	1,255	4,499	76	4,575
South-Western ..	2,018	1,585	2,250	5,853	207	6,060
Midland ..	2,502	747	642	3,891	1,277	5,168
North-Midland ..	1,380	1,017	834	3,231	414	3,645
E. and W. Ridings ..	1,711	888	1,023	3,622	640	4,262
North-Western ..	5,469	3,447	3,933	12,849	2,905	15,754
Northern ..	2,223	2,134	3,449	7,806	406	8,212
Scotland ..	4,886	4,516	9,088	18,490	537	19,027
Wales ..	1,737	1,732	3,105	6,574	109	6,683
Great Britain ..	32,753	22,000	28,828	83,581	7,153	90,734
	Total					
London and South-Eastern ..	19,821	12,542	10,638	43,001	1,563	44,564
Eastern ..	4,133	4,428	4,094	12,655	462	13,117
Southern ..	3,834	3,274	3,603	10,711	115	10,826
South-Western ..	4,937	4,705	6,438	16,080	295	16,375
Midland ..	7,139	2,133	1,942	11,214	1,717	12,931
North-Midland ..	3,519	2,327	2,461	8,307	707	9,014
E. and W. Ridings ..	4,710	3,141	4,794	12,645	1,320	13,965
North-Western ..	13,845	10,438	12,298	36,581	4,632	41,213
Northern ..	6,628	6,230	9,972	22,830	1,162	23,992
Scotland ..	14,002	15,514	26,207	55,723	3,432	59,155
Wales ..	4,195	4,562	9,632	18,389	369	18,758
Great Britain ..	86,763	69,294	92,079	248,136	15,774	263,910

The following Table gives the numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 16th January, 1956, and the percentage rates of unemployment in each Region:—

Region	Numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 16th January, 1956			Percentage rate of unemployment*		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
London and South-Eastern ..	30,965	13,599	44,564	0.9	0.7	0.8
Eastern ..	9,368	3,749	13,117	1.2	0.9	1.1
Southern ..	6,251	4,575	10,826	0.9	1.3	1.0
South-Western ..	10,315	6,060	16,375	1.4	1.6	1.4
Midland ..	7,763	5,168	12,931	0.6	0.7	0.6
North-Midland ..	5,369	3,645	9,014	0.5	0.7	0.6
East and West Ridings ..	9,703	4,262	13,965	0.8	0.7	0.8
North-Western ..	25,459	15,754	41,213	1.4	1.4	1.4
Northern ..	15,780	8,212	23,992	1.8	2.2	1.9
Scotland ..	40,128	19,027	59,155	2.8	2.5	2.7
Wales ..	12,075	6,683	18,758	1.8	2.4	1.9
Great Britain ..	173,176	90,734	263,910	1.2	1.2	1.2

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The total number of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the United Kingdom at 16th January, 1956, was 302,355, including 191,933 men, 9,742 boys, 92,105 women and 8,575 girls. Of the total, 284,423 (including 4,149 casual workers) were wholly unemployed and 17,932 temporarily stopped. The temporarily stopped are persons suspended from work on the understanding that they are shortly to return to their former employment.

The numbers of unemployed persons on the registers in each Region at 16th January, 1956, are shown below.

Region	Men 18 years and over	Boys under 18 years	Women 18 years and over	Girls under 18 years	Total
London and South-Eastern ..	28,528	1,320	12,157	996	43,001
Eastern ..	8,731	311	3,308	305	12,655
Southern ..	5,891	321	4,028	471	10,711
South-Western ..	9,831	396	5,314	539	16,080
Midland ..	7,084	239	3,672	219	11,214
North-Midland ..	4,824	252	2,894	337	8,307
E. and W. Ridings ..	8,703	320	3,262	360	12,645
North-Western ..	22,431	1,301	12,037	812	36,581
Northern ..	14,159	865	6,991	815	22,830
Scotland ..	35,427	1,806	16,939	1,551	55,723
Wales ..	11,224	591	5,704	870	18,389
Great Britain ..	156,833	7,722	76,306	7,275	248,136
Northern Ireland ..	26,283	1,728	7,516	760	36,287
United Kingdom	183,116	9,450	83,822	8,035	284,423
	Wholly Unemployed (including Casuals)				
London and South-Eastern ..	1,107	10	438	8	1,563
Eastern ..	322	4	133	3	462
Southern ..	37	2	74	2	115
South-Western ..	83	5	186	21	295
Midland ..	416	24	1,197	80	1,717
North-Midland ..	270	23	396	18	707
North-Midland ..	667	13	601	39	1,320
E. and W. Ridings ..	1,675	52	2,778	127	4,632
North-Western ..	741	15	392	14	1,162
Northern ..	2,792	103	518	19	3,432
Scotland ..	259	1	100	9	369
Great Britain ..	8,369	252	6,813	340	15,774
Northern Ireland ..	448	40	1,470	200	2,158
United Kingdom	8,817	292	8,283	540	17,932
	Temporarily Stopped				
London and South-Eastern ..	1,107	10	438	8	1,563
Eastern ..	322	4	133	3	462
Southern ..	37	2	74	2	115
South-Western ..	83	5	186	21	295
Midland ..	416	24	1,197	80	1,717
North-Midland ..	270	23	396	18	707
North-Midland ..	667	13	601	39	1,320
E. and W. Ridings ..	1,675	52	2,778	127	4,632
North-Western ..	741	15	392	14	1,162
Northern ..	2,792	103	518	19	3,432
Scotland ..	259	1	100	9	369
Great Britain ..	8,369	252	6,813	340	15,774
Northern Ireland ..	448	40	1,470	200	2,158
United Kingdom	8,817	292	8,283	540	17,932
	Total Registered as Unemployed				
London and South-Eastern ..	29,635	1,330	12,595	1,004	44,564
Eastern ..	9,053	315	3,441	308	13,117
Southern ..	5,928	323	4,102	473	10,826
South-Western ..	9,914	401	5,500	560	16,375
Midland ..	7,500	263	4,869	299	12,931
North-Midland ..	5,094	275	3,290	355	9,014
North-Midland ..	9,370	333	3,863	399	13,965
E. and W. Ridings ..	24,106	1,353	14,815	939	41,213
North-Western ..	14,900	880	7,383	829	23,992
Northern ..	38,219	1,909	17,457	1,570	59,155
Scotland ..	11,483	592	5,804	879	18,758
Great Britain ..	165,202	7,974	83,119	7,615	263,910
Northern Ireland ..	26,731	1,768	8,986	960	38,445
United Kingdom	191,933	9,742	92,105	8,575	302,355

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

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED IN THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

The Table below shows the total numbers of unemployed persons on the registers of the Employment Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in each administrative Region of England, and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at 16th January, 1956, and the numbers of persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Offices situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 12th December, 1955.

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 16th January, 1956					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 12th Dec., 1955
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total 15 and over	
London and South-Eastern ..	29,635	1,330	12,595	1,004	44,564	+ 10,507
London (Administrative County) ..	12,208	313	4,671	179	17,371	+ 4,558
Acton ..	96	8	35	3	142	+ 65
Brentford and Chiswick ..	115	7	59	2	183	+ 62
Brighton and Hove ..	1,913	44	615	22	2,594	+ 464
Chatham ..	383	46	376	41	846	+ 158
Croydon ..	531	16	215	19	781	+ 243
Dagenham ..	273	18	117	17	425	+ 125
Ealing ..	197	15	97	11	322	+ 119
East Ham ..	216	18	73	15	322	+ 137
Enfield ..	189	4	138	3	334	+ 137
Harrow and Wembley ..	333	51	199	21	604	+ 165
Hayes and Harlington ..	57	14	41	9	121	+ 52
Hendon ..	285	16	107	24	432	+ 105
Ilford ..	410	16	111	20	557	+ 184
Leyton and Walthamstow ..	682	22	135	12	855	+ 312
Tottenham ..	555	25	184	9	773	+ 219
West Ham ..	550	38	194	34	816	

NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS

The statistics given below show, industry by industry, the numbers of persons who were registered as unemployed in Great Britain and in the United Kingdom, respectively, at 16th January, 1956. For Great Britain the wholly unemployed (*i.e.*, persons out of a situation) are distinguished from those temporarily stopped (*i.e.*,

persons suspended from work on the understanding that they were shortly to return to their former employment).

The industrial analysis is based on the Standard Industrial Classification. The figures for each industry represent the numbers whose last employment was in that industry.

Industry	Great Britain						United Kingdom (all classes)			
	Wholly unemployed (including casuals)		Temporarily stopped		Total		Males	Females	Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females				
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	8,972	2,896	1,789	617	10,761	3,513	14,274	17,442	3,699	21,141
Agriculture and Horticulture	6,138	2,850	331	615	6,469	3,465	12,942	12,942	3,651	16,593
Forestry	289	39	61	—	350	39	389	409	39	448
Fishing	2,545	7	1,397	2	3,942	9	3,951	4,091	9	4,100
Mining and Quarrying	1,397	180	54	11	1,451	191	1,642	2,243	201	2,444
Coal Mining*	815	131	16	1	831	132	963	837	132	969
Iron Ore Mining and Quarrying	21	—	—	—	21	—	21	25	—	25
Stone Quarrying and Mining	282	—	38	4	320	13	333	846	16	862
Slate Quarrying and Mining	51	—	—	—	51	—	51	120	—	120
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pits	124	—	—	—	124	5	129	307	5	312
Other Mining and Quarrying	104	35	—	6	104	41	145	108	48	156
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	2,486	880	365	1,108	2,851	1,988	4,839	3,217	2,002	5,219
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	714	157	4	6	718	163	881	825	163	988
China and Earthenware (inc. glazed tiles)	320	277	270	1,092	1,369	609	1,978	1,372	1,981	3,353
Glass (other than containers)	284	205	—	6	284	211	495	292	219	511
Glass Containers	231	134	3	—	234	368	237	134	371	505
Cement	41	2	—	—	41	52	2	54	—	54
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures	896	105	88	4	984	109	1,093	1,202	112	1,314
Chemicals and Allied Trades	2,227	1,368	7	30	2,234	1,398	3,632	2,350	1,415	3,765
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	93	3	—	—	93	3	96	94	3	97
Chemicals and Dyes	1,030	335	5	4	1,035	339	1,374	1,118	342	1,460
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Toilet Preparations, Perfumery	75	221	—	3	75	224	299	77	230	307
Explosives and Fireworks	333	387	—	—	333	387	720	335	387	722
Paint and Varnish	199	69	2	—	201	78	279	207	79	286
Soap, Candles, Glycerine, Polishes, Ink and Matches	121	261	—	12	121	273	394	126	280	406
Mineral Oil Refining	165	34	—	—	165	35	200	174	35	209
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	211	58	—	1	211	59	270	219	59	278
Metal Manufacture	2,779	465	160	11	2,939	476	3,415	3,074	477	3,551
Blast Furnaces	76	5	—	—	76	5	81	88	5	93
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc., not elsewhere specified	935	119	12	1	947	120	1,067	1,013	120	1,133
Iron Foundries	844	189	49	—	893	189	1,082	929	190	1,119
Timplate Manufacture	50	24	50	9	100	33	133	101	33	134
Steel Sheet Manufacture	50	17	25	—	75	17	92	78	17	95
Iron and Steel Tubes (inc. melting and rolling in integrated works)	258	32	15	—	273	32	305	279	32	311
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc.	566	79	9	1	575	80	655	586	80	666
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	12,633	3,925	70	39	12,703	3,964	16,667	13,689	4,093	17,782
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	4,334	178	41	8	4,375	186	4,561	4,716	192	4,908
Marine Engineering	398	37	—	—	398	37	435	414	38	452
Agricultural Machinery (exc. tractors)	190	37	—	—	190	37	227	200	38	238
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	93	4	—	—	93	4	106	110	4	114
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	236	62	—	—	236	62	299	241	62	303
Stationary Engines	48	11	—	—	48	11	57	12	69	
Textile Machinery and Accessories	240	126	8	18	240	126	366	249	126	375
Ordnance and Small Arms	888	39	5	—	893	39	932	921	40	961
Constructional Engineering	3,860	1,093	12	6	3,872	1,099	4,971	4,188	1,143	5,331
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	424	281	1	1	425	282	707	444	284	728
Electrical Machinery	218	143	—	—	218	143	362	226	148	374
Electrical Wires and Cables	125	214	—	—	125	214	340	127	214	341
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	689	719	1	—	690	721	1,411	773	752	1,525
Wireless Apparatus (exc. valves) and Gramophones	92	217	—	2	92	217	309	94	218	312
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	77	128	—	—	77	128	206	80	132	212
Batteries and Accumulators	465	552	—	2	465	554	1,019	474	569	1,043
Other Electrical Goods	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vehicles	3,991	923	16	6	4,007	929	4,936	4,437	1,002	5,439
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles and Cycles	1,181	244	8	—	1,189	244	1,433	1,262	249	1,511
Motor Repairs and Garages	1,516	218	—	—	1,522	218	1,740	1,758	233	1,991
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	493	178	2	1	495	179	674	581	206	787
Manufacture of Parts and Accessories for Motor Vehicles and Aircraft	427	248	—	4	427	252	679	443	254	697
Locomotive Manufacture	153	9	—	—	153	9	162	156	9	165
Manufacture and Repair of Railway Carriages and Wagons and Trams	164	6	—	—	164	6	170	166	6	172
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	57	20	—	1	57	21	78	71	4	75
Metal Goods not Elsewhere Specified	2,522	1,589	97	129	2,619	1,718	4,337	2,727	1,758	4,485
Tools and Cutlery	168	85	10	8	178	93	271	184	96	280
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	134	131	—	—	134	131	265	138	131	269
Iron and Steel Forgings not elsewhere specified	195	18	11	—	206	18	224	118	18	242
Wire and Wire Manufactures	180	93	—	21	180	114	294	115	299	
Hollow-ware	156	370	1	4	156	374	564	192	382	574
Brass Manufactures	156	79	—	—	156	79	254	98	266	
Metal Industries not elsewhere specified	1,500	795	75	95	1,575	890	2,465	1,637	918	2,555
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	398	393	3	9	401	402	803	422	431	853
Scientific, Surgical and Photographic Instruments, etc.	207	190	—	—	207	190	397	217	209	426
Manufacture and Repair of Watches and Clocks	78	128	1	—	79	129	208	86	132	218
Jewellery, Plate and Refining of Precious Metals	64	68	1	8	65	76	141	66	83	149
Musical Instruments	49	7	—	—	49	7	57	53	7	60
Textiles	2,797	3,885	1,372	2,583	4,169	6,468	10,637	5,519	8,595	14,114
Cotton Spinning, Doubling, etc.	412	566	385	989	797	1,555	2,352	823	1,606	2,429
Cotton Weaving, etc.	225	600	310	925	535	1,525	2,060	549	1,534	2,083
Woolen and Worsted	441	480	114	248	555	728	1,283	580	761	1,341
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Production	89	64	—	—	89	64	203	165	82	247
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving and Silk	89	156	—	16	89	172	261	966	1,452	2,418
Linen and Soft Hemp	407	167	—	—	407	167	574	407	172	579
Jute	75	236	—	10	75	246	321	100	370	803
Rope, Twine and Net	132	435	42	120	174	555	729	207	596	803
Hosiery and other Knitted Goods	38	29	4	14	42	43	65	82	82	147
Lace	35	152	147	40	213	192	405	246	235	481
Carpets	103	327	—	10	103	337	440	153	704	857
Narrow Fabrics	431	307	303	114	734	421	1,155	922	521	1,443
Made-up Textiles	155	106	—	2	155	108	263	159	108	267
Textile Finishing, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Textile Industries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* The figures for coal mining exclude all the unemployed who, although previously employed in coal mining, are known to be unfit for employment in that industry. These men are included with "Other persons not classified by industry" on the next page.

Numbers Unemployed: Industrial Analysis—continued

Industry	Great Britain						United Kingdom (all classes)			
	Wholly unemployed (including casuals)		Temporarily stopped		Total		Males	Females	Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females				
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	343	250	96	35	439	285	724	448	299	747
Leather (Tanning and Dressing) and Fellmongery	211	79	77	5	288	84	372	292	89	381
Leather Goods	86	139	2	13	88	152	240	93	161	254
Fur	46	32	17	17	63	49	112	63	49	112
Clothing	1,716	2,946	675	934	2,391	3,880	6,271	2,635	5,783	8,418
Tailoring	986	1,532	436	671	1,422	2,203	3,625	1,513	2,351	3,864
Dressmaking	58	538	2	56	60	594	654	70	667	737
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	38	355	—	34	38	389	427	68	367	435
Hats, Caps and Millinery	54	57	119	105	173	162	335	188	170	358
Dress Industries not elsewhere specified	62	210	10	3	72	213	285	96	1,245	1,341
Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs (exc. rubber)	217	230	90	65	307	295	602	327	364	691
Repair of Boots and Shoes	301	24	18	—	319	24	343	373	25	398
Food, Drink and Tobacco	6,235	6,340	26	442	6,261	6,782	13,043	7,085	7,831	14,916
Grain Milling	236	81	2	—	238	81	319	284	88	372
Bread and Flour Confectionery	1,654	1,125	7	13	1,661	1,138	2,799	1,872	1,231	3,103
Biscuits	328	613	3	26	331	639	970	346	736	1,082
Meat and Meat Products	231	250	1	2	232	252	484	314	265	579</

Placing Work of the Employment Exchanges

The Table below shows, for the four-week periods ended 16th November and 14th December, 1955, the numbers of vacancies filled by the Employment Exchanges of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain, together with the numbers remaining unfilled at the end of each period. The figures include placings, etc., by the Youth Employment Offices of certain Local Authorities.

	Four weeks ended 16th November, 1955		Four weeks ended 14th December, 1955		Total Number of Placings, 16th Dec., 1954, to 14th Dec., 1955 (52 weeks)
	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	
Men aged 18 and over ..	133,698	163,926	116,990	153,925	1,788,232
Boys under 18 ..	10,651	55,751	8,667	60,394	217,083
Women aged 18 and over ..	69,313	98,159	56,621	92,827	856,155
Girls under 18 ..	10,279	70,587	8,538	75,026	217,765
Total ..	223,941	388,423	190,816	382,172	3,079,235

The figures of vacancies filled relate only to those vacancies which were filled by applicants submitted by Employment Exchanges, i.e., they do not include engagements of workpeople by employers that were made without the assistance of Employment Exchanges. The figures are therefore not comparable with the percentage rates of engagements given in the "Labour Turnover" Table on the next page, which relate to engagements of all kinds during the period in question.

Industry Group	Placings during four weeks ended 14th December, 1955					Number of notified Vacancies remaining unfilled at 14th December, 1955				
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ..	876	247	745	37	1,905	17,073	1,812	203	277	19,365
Mining and Quarrying ..	1,323	243	24	11	1,601	6,061	1,640	27	51	7,779
Coal Mining ..	898	226	14	5	1,143	4,836	1,524	13	16	6,389
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal ..	3,161	211	743	78	4,193	2,216	1,662	1,146	1,435	6,459
Chemicals and Allied Trades ..	2,923	107	988	133	4,151	3,422	730	1,392	1,359	6,903
Metal Manufacture ..	5,769	237	416	52	6,474	5,278	1,734	500	451	7,963
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods ..	15,927	996	4,858	528	22,309	21,565	6,621	6,697	3,637	38,520
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ..	4,113	108	110	12	4,343	2,558	268	29	19	2,874
Engineering ..	9,269	710	284	12	12,377	15,228	2,315	25,645	2,315	25,645
Electrical Goods ..	2,545	178	2,634	232	5,589	3,779	941	3,978	1,303	10,001
Vehicles ..	7,677	480	1,270	199	9,626	14,821	2,174	1,151	2,174	11,001
Metal Goods not Elsewhere Specified ..	3,831	317	1,983	300	6,431	3,424	2,674	2,228	2,228	5,903
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc. ..	542	103	486	116	1,247	1,177	710	930	379	3,759
Textiles ..	3,292	263	3,171	665	7,391	2,264	3,134	8,698	7,958	22,054
Cotton ..	775	58	952	108	1,893	648	993	3,126	2,099	6,866
Wool ..	911	54	625	127	1,717	532	904	2,427	1,788	5,651
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur ..	250	74	158	57	539	285	579	784	2,178	28,580
Clothing (including Footwear) ..	777	143	2,843	820	4,583	1,039	2,457	13,854	11,230	9,900
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	4,490	542	3,950	638	9,620	2,065	1,784	2,789	3,262	9,900
Manufactures of Wood and Cork ..	2,140	495	600	106	3,341	1,694	2,493	697	1,076	5,960
Paper and Printing ..	1,139	196	1,065	322	2,722	1,271	1,472	1,598	3,839	18,140
Paper, Paper and Cardboard Goods ..	831	87	639	155	1,712	542	483	877	1,481	3,383
Printing ..	308	109	426	167	1,010	729	989	681	2,358	4,757
Other Manufacturing Industries ..	2,177	171	1,209	227	3,784	1,195	718	1,392	1,302	4,607
Building and Contracting ..	30,071	1,147	225	83	31,526	18,559	4,748	257	556	24,290
Building ..	20,898	885	119	52	21,954	13,610	3,748	151	366	17,875
Gas, Electricity and Water ..	2,816	53	96	18	2,983	2,309	441	142	172	3,064
Transport and Communication ..	10,047	428	1,775	205	12,455	26,517	3,598	3,236	1,135	34,486
Distributive Trades ..	7,289	1,534	10,587	2,457	21,867	6,242	12,592	10,474	19,400	48,708
Insurance, Banking and Finance ..	371	41	352	164	928	960	679	942	1,779	4,360
Public Administration ..	4,556	134	1,817	174	6,681	8,760	738	3,487	870	13,855
National Government Service ..	1,813	49	1,304	107	3,273	4,653	198	2,422	480	7,752
Local Government Service ..	2,743	85	513	67	3,408	4,107	540	1,065	390	6,103
Professional Services ..	1,229	103	3,337	329	4,998	2,181	1,904	6,988	3,654	14,727
Miscellaneous Services ..	4,317	402	13,923	819	19,461	3,547	2,023	22,210	6,490	34,270
Entertainments, Sports, etc. ..	432	85	424	45	986	415	490	839	267	2,011
Catering ..	3,005	115	9,404	205	12,729	1,959	633	10,699	1,474	14,765
Laundries, Dry Cleaning, etc. ..	377	137	1,173	288	1,975	230	1,971	1,811	1,811	4,373
Grand Total ..	116,990	8,667	56,621	8,538	190,816	153,925	60,394	92,827	75,026	382,172

The following Table gives a Regional analysis of the numbers of vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 14th December, 1955, and of the numbers of notified vacancies remaining unfilled at the end of the period :-

Region	Men 18 and over		Boys under 18		Women 18 and over		Girls under 18		Total	
	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled
	London and South-Eastern ..	28,341	33,561	2,140	15,919	15,627	35,457	1,461	22,805	47,569
Eastern ..	6,373	11,538	452	4,034	3,252	5,933	499	4,421	10,576	25,296
Southern ..	5,747	11,841	403	2,658	2,906	4,030	513	2,700	9,569	21,229
South-Western ..	6,022	12,046	352	2,321	2,627	3,372	426	3,231	9,427	20,970
Midland ..	12,759	22,268	974	9,401	4,720	9,151	1,048	8,560	19,501	49,380
North-Midland ..	8,009	15,176	347	6,124	2,977	6,336	373	6,820	11,706	34,456
East and West Ridings ..	9,660	11,534	493	7,163	4,348	7,415	452	8,671	14,953	34,783
North-Western ..	17,001	14,547	1,226	6,976	8,545	13,152	1,156	8,841	27,928	43,516
Northern ..	6,722	6,737	557	1,683	3,315	2,496	723	2,679	11,317	13,595
Scotland ..	11,225	7,225	1,325	2,578	6,179	3,842	1,364	4,862	20,093	18,507
Wales ..	5,131	7,452	398	1,537	2,125	1,643	523	1,436	8,177	12,068
Great Britain ..	116,990	153,925	8,667	60,394	56,621	92,827	8,538	75,026	190,816	382,172

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

The next Table shows the numbers of vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 14th December, 1955, in each of the industry "Orders" of the Standard Industrial Classification and in certain selected industries within the Orders, together with the number of vacancies remaining unfilled at 14th December, 1955.

Of the total of 133,698 men placed in employment during the four weeks ended 16th November, 1955, 26,384 (19.7 per cent.) were aged 40 and over, of whom 1,413 were aged 65 and over. Among the 69,313 women placed in employment during the same period 15,451 (22.3 per cent.) were aged 40 and over, of whom 873 were aged 60 and over.

Labour Turnover

The Table below shows labour turnover rates (per 100 employees) in the manufacturing industries during the four-week period ended 26th November, 1955, with separate figures for males and females. The figures are based on information given by employers with more than 10 employees on returns which they render every month to the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Each return shows the numbers of males and females on the pay-roll at the date of the return and also at the date of the previous return, and an additional item shows the numbers on the pay-roll at the later of the two dates who were not on the pay-roll at the earlier date. The figures in the last item are adopted as representing engagements during the period, and the figures of discharges and other losses are obtained by adding the numbers engaged during the period to the numbers on the pay-roll at the beginning of the period and deducting from the figures thus obtained the numbers on the pay-roll at the end of the period. It must be borne in mind, however, that the figures of engagements obtained in the way indicated above do not

include persons engaged during the period who were discharged or otherwise left their employment before the end of the same period, and the percentage rates both of engagements and of discharges, etc., in the Table below accordingly understate, to some extent, the total intake and wastage during the period. In spite of this limitation, however, the figures enable comparisons to be made between the turnover rates of different industries and also between the figures for consecutive months for the same industry, in the latter case after allowance is made for any difference in the length of period covered.

It is also important to note that the figures for any industry represent the aggregated totals of the numbers engaged and discharged by all firms rendering returns in the industry. Some of the persons who were discharged or left their employment during the period were probably engaged by other firms in the same industry, and the net numbers of engagements and losses of an industry, considered as one unit, will be less in every case than the sum of the figures for the individual firms.

Labour Turnover Rates in Manufacturing Industries: 4 weeks* ended 26th November, 1955

Industry	Number of Engagements per 100 employed at beginning of period			Number of Discharges and other Losses per 100 employed at beginning of period		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal ..	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.8	3.1	2.8
Bricks and Fireclay Goods ..	2.6	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.5
China and Earthenware (including Glazed Tiles) ..	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.6	3.1	2.9
Glass (other than Containers) ..	3.1	3.2	3.1	2.4	2.7	2.5
Glass Containers ..	3.9	3.7	3.9	3.5	3.8	3.5
Cement ..	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures ..	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.4
Chemicals and Allied Trades ..	1.9	3.0	2.2	1.7	3.2	2.1
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works ..	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	2.7	1.5
Chemicals and Dyes ..	2.1	2.7	2.2	1.7	2.3	1.8
Pharmaceutical Preparations, etc. ..	2.1	3.3	2.8	2.3	4.4	3.5
Explosives and Fireworks ..	1.0	2.5	1.6	1.5	2.1	1.7
Paint and Varnish ..	2.8	3.2	2.9	2.3	2.9	2.5
Sop, Candles, Polishes, etc. ..	1.7	3.1	2.3	1.5	4.7	2.8
Mineral Oil Refining ..	1.3	0.8	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.9
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc. ..	2.3	4.6	2.8	2.3	2.9	2.4
Metal Manufacture ..	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.0	2.6	2.1
Blast Furnaces ..	1.9	1.3	1.8	1.4	—	1.3
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc. ..	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.6	2.0	1.7
Iron Foundries ..	3.2	3.7	3.3	2.7	2.7	2.7
Plate Manufacture ..	1.5	2.5	1.6	1.1	2.1	1.3
Steel Sheet Manufacture ..	1.7	2.3	1.8	1.2	2.9	1.3
Iron and Steel Tubes ..	3.2	3.9	3.2	2.2	2.4	2.2
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, etc. ..	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.4	3.1	2.5
Engineering and Electrical Goods ..	2.3	3.6	2.6	2.1	3.3	2.4
Marine Engineering ..	1.9	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.0	1.7
Agricultural Machinery ..	2.2	3.0	2.3	2.2	3.0	2.3
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant ..	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.6	2.1
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools ..	2.4	3.8	2.6	1.9	2.3	1.9
Stationary Engines ..	2.4	3.2	2.5	1.9	2.1	1.9
Textile Machinery and Accessories ..	1.9	2.6	2.0	1.4	2.5	2.4
Ordnance and Small Arms ..	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.0	1.9	1.2
Constructional Engineering ..	2.7	2.3	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.9
Other Non-Electrical Engineering ..	2.4	3.5	2.5	2.1	2.9	2.2
Electrical Machinery ..	1.9	3.1	2.2	1.7	4.9	1.9
Electrical Wires and Cables ..	2.3	2.7	2.5	1.9	3.0	2.3
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus ..	2.0	3.2	2.4	1.7	2.6	2.0
Wireless Valves ..	3.0	4.4	3.7	2.5	5.0	3.7
Wireless Apparatus and Electric Lamps ..	2.9	4.3	3.6	1.6	3.2	2.5
Batteries and Accumulators ..	3.0	5.4	4.1	2.7	6.0	4.1
Other Electrical Goods ..	3.0	4.2	3.5	2.4	3.6	2.9
Vehicles ..	2.1	3.3	2.3	1.9	2.9	2.0
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, etc. ..	2.1	3.1	2.2	1.7	3.1	1.9
Motor Repairs and Garages ..	2.2	3.				

Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to Sickness or Industrial Injury

The Table below shows the numbers of insured persons in the various Regions of England, in Scotland and Wales, and in Great Britain as a whole, who were absent from work owing to sickness or industrial injury on 17th January, 1956, and the corresponding figures for 20th December, 1955, and 18th January, 1955. The statistics have been compiled by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance from claims to sickness or industrial injury benefit under the National Insurance Acts, and the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts, respectively. The principal groups of persons who do not claim these benefits in respect of their incapacity (and who are therefore excluded from the statistics) are (i) a large proportion of those whose incapacity lasts less than four days, (ii) civil servants receiving full pay during incapacity, and (iii) for sickness benefit only, married women who have chosen not to pay contributions under the main National Insurance scheme.

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

Region	Thousands					
	Numbers of Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to					
	Sickness			Industrial Injury		
	17th Jan., 1956	20th Dec., 1955	18th Jan., 1955	17th Jan., 1956	20th Dec., 1955	18th Jan., 1955
London and S. Eastern :						
London and Middlesex ..	117.6	85.9	121.6	3.8	3.5	4.2
Remainder	91.2	71.8	96.8	3.7	3.3	3.6
Eastern	54.2	41.6	58.6	2.1	2.0	2.1
Southern	41.8	34.1	45.1	1.7	1.6	1.7
South-Western	56.3	48.7	64.6	2.4	2.1	2.3
Midland	92.9	73.7	97.9	4.6	4.1	4.5
North-Midland	65.2	50.5	69.5	5.3	4.7	5.1
East and West Ridings ..	100.5	77.7	99.3	8.1	7.0	7.8
North-Western	178.1	142.4	186.4	7.6	7.0	7.6
Northern	78.1	61.6	77.2	7.7	6.2	7.3
Scotland	131.8	111.0	135.4	8.2	7.5	7.4
Wales	71.3	61.9	72.2	6.9	6.3	6.6
Total, Great Britain ..	1,079.1	860.9	1,124.5	62.3	55.3	60.3

The proportion of males included in the total (Great Britain) figures of persons absent from work owing to sickness remains fairly constant at between 65 and 66 per cent., except in epidemic periods, when it may rise to about 69 per cent. In the totals for industrial injury the proportion remains constant throughout the year at about 88 per cent.

The total number of persons shown in the Table above as absent owing to sickness represented 5.4 per cent. of the total number of insured persons. The corresponding figure for absences due to industrial injury was 0.3 per cent.

Work of Appointments Services

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

Technical and Scientific Register

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

The Register, which is assisted by Advisory Committees composed of members of the professions concerned, provides a placing and advisory service for physicists, mathematicians, chemists (other than pharmacists), metallurgists, agriculturists, biologists and other scientists, professional engineers, architects, surveyors, town planners, estate agents and valuers. The normal qualification for enrolment is a university degree in science or engineering or membership of a recognised professional institution. A Higher National Certificate in engineering subjects, applied physics, chemistry or metallurgy is also an acceptable qualification. A register of vacancies is maintained, which includes a wide range of overseas vacancies.

The total number of persons enrolled on the Technical and Scientific Register at 16th January was 3,236*; this figure included 2,388 registrants who were already in work but desired a change of employment, and 848 registrants who were unemployed.

* This figure includes 294 registrants who were also registered at Appointments Offices and 120 unemployed registrants who were also registered at Employment Exchanges.

The numbers of vacancies notified, filled, etc., between 13th December, 1955, and 16th January, 1956 (5 weeks) are shown below.

Vacancies outstanding at 12th December ..	5,081
" notified during period	710
" filled during period	149
" cancelled or withdrawn	545
" unfilled at 16th January	5,097

Appointments Register

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

The total number of persons on the registers of the Appointments Offices at 16th January was 13,154*, consisting of 11,991 men and 1,163 women. The registrants included 4,942 men and 529 women who were wholly unemployed. The remaining 7,049 men and 634 women were, at the time of their registration, in employment but requiring other posts; in the majority of cases the employment was of a temporary nature or was unsuitable having regard to their qualifications and experience or the personal circumstances of the registrant.

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

Appointments Office	Wholly Unemployed		In Employment		Total
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
London	3,675	388	4,340	469	8,872
Northern	830	85	1,861	86	2,862
Scottish	437	56	848	79	1,420
Total	4,942	529	7,049	634	13,154

The registrants included 1,603 ex-Regular personnel of H.M. Forces, of whom 984 were wholly unemployed and 619 were in employment.

During the period 13th December, 1955, to 16th January, 1956, there were new registrations by 1,189 men and 146 women, and in the same period the registrations of 1,421 men and 212 women were withdrawn.

The Table below shows the numbers of vacancies (other than those for nurses and midwives) notified, filled, etc., between 13th December and 16th January.

	Men†	Women
Vacancies outstanding at 13th December ..	2,205	247
" notified during period	734	96
" cancelled or withdrawn during period ..	455	58
" filled during period	261	36
" unfilled at 16th January	2,223	249

Nursing Appointments Service

As indicated above, the numbers of vacancies notified and filled in the nursing and midwifery professions are not included in the statistics relating to the Appointments Register. The placing of men and women in nursing and midwifery vacancies and in vacancies for medical auxiliary and allied occupations notified by hospitals and other employers is carried out by the Nursing Services Branch of Employment Services Department through the Nursing Appointments Offices. These Offices also provide a Careers Advice Service for the above-mentioned professions both for potential students and for qualified persons seeking other posts.

Statistics of vacancies for nurses, midwives, and medical auxiliary and allied occupations, in respect of the period from 1st October to 31st December, 1955, are given below.

	Men	Women
Vacancies outstanding at 1st October	4,072	20,807
" filled during period	208†	2,587‡
" outstanding at 31st December	4,262	21,714

The total of 25,976 vacancies outstanding at 31st December included 3,587 vacancies for nursery nurses, nursing assistants, nursing auxiliaries and medical auxiliaries. An analysis of the remaining 22,389 vacancies, by grade of nurse, etc., is given below.

Trained Nurses	6,326	Pupil Midwives	872
Student Nurses	10,232	Assistant Nurses	2,838
Midwives	694	Pupil Assistant Nurses ..	1,427

* These figures include 1,597 persons who were also registered at Employment Exchanges for the purpose of claiming unemployment benefit but exclude 101 persons registered for overseas employment only. Registrations of nurses and midwives are also excluded.

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

‡ These figures include 448 vacancies filled by part-time workers.

Employment in the Coal Mining Industry in December

The statistics given below in respect of employment, etc., in the coal mining industry in December, 1955, have been compiled by the Ministry of Fuel and Power from information provided by the National Coal Board.

The average weekly number of wage-earners on the colliery books in Great Britain during the five weeks ended 31st December was 699,900, compared with 699,200 for the four weeks ended 26th November, and 704,900 for the five weeks ended 1st January, 1955. The total numbers who were effectively employed* were 631,300 in December, 634,000 in November, and 637,800 in December, 1954; these figures exclude wage-earners who were absent for any reason (including holidays) for the whole of any week.

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

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

Division‡	Average numbers of wage-earners on colliery books during 5 weeks ended 31st December, 1955	Increase (+) or decrease (–) compared with the average for	
		4 weeks ended 26th November, 1955	5 weeks ended 1st January, 1955
Northern (Northumberland and Cumberland)	47,100	+	300
Durham	102,000	+ 200	200
North Eastern	138,200	+ 100	1,600
North Western	58,500	..	500
East Midlands	101,400	..	300
West Midlands	56,500	..	1,600
South Western	105,500	+ 100	2,900
South Eastern	6,900	+ 100	300
England and Wales	616,100	+ 500	5,500
Scotland	83,800	+ 200	500
Great Britain	699,900	+ 700	5,000

It is provisionally estimated that, during the five weeks of December, about 4,890 persons were recruited to the industry, while the total number of persons who left the industry was about 4,160; the numbers on the colliery books thus showed a net increase of 730. During the four weeks of November there was a net increase of 330.

The average number of shifts worked per week by coal-face workers who were effectively employed was 4.71 in December, 5.00 in November, and 4.64 in December, 1954. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.17, 5.50 and 5.08.

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

Absence Percentage (five-day week)

	December, 1955	November, 1955	December, 1954
Coal-face Workers :			
Voluntary	5.87	4.97	6.07
Involuntary	8.91	9.35	8.83
All workers :			
Voluntary	4.41	3.79	4.58
Involuntary	8.15	8.48	8.19

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 3.32 tons in December, compared with 3.34 tons in the previous month and 3.25 tons in December, 1954.

The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.24 tons in December; for November, 1955, and December, 1954, the figures were 1.26 tons and 1.23 tons, respectively.

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

† "No change" is indicated by three dots.

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

Employment Overseas

AUSTRALIA

The Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics estimate that the total number of civilians in employment as wage and salary earners, other than those engaged in rural industries and private domestic service, was about 2,747,000 in September, 1955, an increase of 0.2 per cent. compared with the previous month and of 3.0 per cent. compared with September, 1954.

CANADA

Returns received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from employers in industries other than agriculture and private domestic service indicate that the total number of workpeople in employment at 1st October, 1955, in the establishments covered by the returns, was about the same as at the beginning of the previous month and 4.3 per cent. higher than at 1st October, 1954. The number of persons employed in manufacturing industries at 1st October was 0.7 per cent. lower than at the beginning of the previous month and 4.7 per cent. higher than at 1st October, 1954.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The number of civilians in employment as wage or salary earners in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in November, 1955, is estimated by the Department of Labor to have been approximately 50,608,000. This was 0.3 per cent. higher than the figure for the previous month, and 3.7 per cent. higher than for November, 1954. The index figure of wage-earners' employment in manufacturing industries (base 1947-9 = 100) showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in November, compared with the previous month, and of 6.9 per cent. compared with November, 1954.

The Bureau of the Census estimated that the total number of unemployed persons at the middle of November was about 2,398,000, compared with 2,131,000 at the middle of the previous month and 2,893,000 at the middle of November, 1954.

BELGIUM

The average daily number of persons recorded as wholly unemployed during November, 1955, was 96,632, compared with 82,137 in the previous month and 134,378 in November, 1954. Partial unemployment accounted in addition for a daily average loss of 33,305 working days. The total number of working days lost in November by persons wholly unemployed was 2,228,060, while 764,395 days were lost as a result of partial unemployment.

FRANCE

The number of persons registered as applicants for employment at the beginning of December, 1955, was 142,673, of whom 42,658 were wholly unemployed persons in receipt of assistance. The corresponding figures were 137,879 and 41,359 at the beginning of the previous month and 167,767 and 53,203 at the beginning of December, 1954.

GERMANY

In the Federal Republic the number unemployed at the end of December, 1955, was 1,046,005, compared with 602,977 at the end of the previous month and 1,287,638 at the end of December, 1954. In the Western Sectors of Berlin the corresponding figures at the same dates were 139,845, 125,139 and 176,851.

IRISH REPUBLIC

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 21st January was 70,465, compared with 54,446 at 17th December, 1955, and 74,425 at 22nd January, 1955.

ITALY

The number registered for employment at the end of September, 1955, was 2,008,223, of whom 1,191,364 were wholly unemployed with a previous history of employment and the remainder were young persons, etc., registering for first employment or employed persons seeking other employment. At the end of the previous month the number registered for employment was 2,022,381, including 1,199,058 wholly unemployed and at the end of September, 1954, it was 2,037,395, including 1,193,093 wholly unemployed.

NETHERLANDS

The number of persons wholly unemployed at 30th November, 1955, including persons who are relief workers as well as those in receipt of unemployment benefit, was 44,501, compared with 34,164 at the end of the previous month and 57,326 at the end of November, 1954. The number of persons included in the total who were employed on relief work was 8,551 at 30th November, compared with 5,595 at 31st October, 1955, and 7,036 at the end of November, 1954.

NORWAY

The number of persons registered for employment who were wholly unemployed was 12,670 at the end of November, 1955, compared with 7,869 in the previous month and 13,305 in November, 1954.

WAGES, DISPUTES, RETAIL PRICES

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Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

RATES OF WAGES

Changes in January

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in the rates of wages reported to have come into operation in the United Kingdom during January resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £731,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 1,992,000 workpeople.

The principal increases affected agricultural workers in England and Wales, workers employed by British Railways and the London Transport Executive, certain classes of workpeople employed in the general printing industry, workpeople employed in the retail meat trade, the dressmaking and women's light clothing industry, and in boot and shoe manufacture. Others receiving increases included workpeople in the iron and steel industry, furniture manufacture, the paint, varnish and lacquer industry, the brewing industry, the hat, cap and millinery trade, the textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing trade, the manufacture of carpets, and in the employ of river authorities.

The statutory minimum rates fixed under the Agricultural Wages Act for agricultural workers in England and Wales were increased generally by 8s. a week for men and by 5s. for women. Salaried and conciliation staff employed by British Railways and railway workers employed by the London Transport Executive received increases of approximately 7 per cent. of their basic rates. Certain classes of workpeople employed in the general printing industry received increases of 18s. 6d. a week for craftsmen, 15s. 6d. or 18s. 6d. for other male workers, according to occupation and area, and 12s. for women. The statutory minimum rates fixed under the Wages Councils Acts for workers employed in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in England and Wales and in Northern Ireland and in the hat, cap and millinery trade in England and Wales and in Scotland were increased by 2½d. an hour for men and 2d. for women. The statutory minimum rates fixed under the Wages Councils Acts for workers employed in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trade in Scotland were increased by 2½d. an hour for men and 1½d. for women. In the retail meat trade there were increases of 11s. to 12s. a week in minimum weekly rates for managers and manageresses according to area and weekly trade, of 9s. to 18s., according to age and area, for other male

workers and of 7s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. for other female workers. Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices workers in boot and shoe manufacture received increases of 5s. a week in day rates for men and 4s. for women; pieceworkers received increases of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices.

In the iron and steel industry there were small increases payable under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices. Increases were payable, also under sliding-scale arrangements based on the index of retail prices, in furniture manufacture of ¾d. an hour for men 21 years and over and for women 19 and over, in carpet manufacture of 2½ per cent. in the cost-of-living bonus for men and women and in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trade of 1s. 10d. a week for men and 1s. 4d. for women. In the paint, varnish and lacquer industry there were increases of 7s. 4d. a week in basic national minimum rates for men and of 5s. 3d. to 5s. 11d. for women, according to period of employment. In a number of areas men in the brewing industry received increases in minimum rates of 10s. to 12s. 6d. a week, according to area, and women of 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. Workpeople employed by river authorities received an increase of 2d. an hour in minimum rates with retrospective effect to 12th December, 1955. Female postal and telegraph officers, postwomen, female telegraphists and telephonists, etc., employed by the Post Office, received increases ranging from 1s. to 6s. a week, according to age, occupation and area of employment, under the second stage of the implementation of the equal pay scheme for men and women in the non-industrial Civil Service.

Of the total increase of £731,000, about £331,000 was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives; about £270,000 was the result of Orders made under the Wages Councils Acts; about £76,000 resulted from arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint standing bodies established by voluntary agreement; and about £54,000 resulted from the operation of sliding-scales based on the index of retail prices.

HOURS OF LABOUR

The normal weekly working hours of workpeople employed in the Leavers section of the lace industry were reduced from 47 to 45.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JANUARY

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

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Agriculture	England and Wales (1) (229)	23 Jan.	Workpeople employed in agriculture, other than certain classes of male workers in the Holland division of Lincolnshire and female workers in Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely and Yorkshire	Increases of 8s. a week in minimum rates for male workers 20 years and over, of 6s. for female workers 18 and over and for male workers 18 and under 20, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 20 years and over 135s. a week, youths and boys 63s. at 15, rising to 108s. at 19 and under 20; women 21 years and over 102s., girls 55s. at 15, rising to 96s. at 18 and under 21.†
	Holland division of Lincolnshire (1) (229)		Male workers employed wholly or mainly as horsemen	Increases of 11s. a week in minimum rates for workers 20 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers 20 years and over 186s. a week, youths and boys 86s. at 15, rising to 148s. at 19 and under 20.†
	do.		Male workers employed wholly or mainly as cattlemen, milkmen and shepherds	Increase of 9s. a week (156s. to 165s.) in minimum rates for workers 20 years and over.†
	Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely and Yorkshire (1) (229)		Female workers employed in agriculture	Increases of 5s. a week in minimum rates for workers 21 years and over, of 6s. for those 18 and under 21, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change: women 21 years and over 95s. a week, girls 51s. at 15, rising to 90s. at 18 and under 21.†
	Mining and Quarrying	Cleveland (8)	2 Jan.	Ironstone miners
North Lincolnshire		1 Jan.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (6s. 8-6d. to 6s. 11-2d.) for men, by 1-95d. (5s. 0-445d. to 5s. 2-395d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 1-3d. (3s. 4-3d. to 3s. 5-6d.) for boys under 18.
Notts., Leics., parts of Lincs., Northants. and Banbury		do.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen and limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-72d. a shift (6s. 5-52d. to 6s. 8-24d.) for men, by 2-04d. (4s. 10-14d. to 5s. 0-18d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 1-36d. (3s. 2-76d. to 3s. 4-12d.) for boys under 18.‡
South and West Durham		2 Jan.	Limestone quarrymen	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2d. a shift (6s. 10d. to 7s.) for men and youths 18 years and over, and by 1d. (3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d.) for boys under 18.

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

† These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Agricultural Wages Act. See article on page 46 of this GAZETTE.
‡ Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
§ Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) totalling 7s. 10d. a shift for underground workers 18 or over and surface workers 21 or over, plus 9d. to datal workers whose base rate is less than 8s. 1½d. a shift, with proportional additions for younger workers, or additions varying at different mines on tonnage rates.
|| Wages are subject to further flat-rate additions (not subject to sliding-scale arrangements) of 1s. a shift for men, of 9d. for youths 18 and under 21 years, and of 6d. for boys.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Mining and Quarrying (continued)	Cornwall and Devon (13)	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the china clay industry	Increases of 10s. 6d. a week for male timeworkers 18 years and over, of proportional amounts for youths, boys and female workers, and of 1d. an hour (2½d. to 3½d.) on the lead rate for shift workers; bonus for full Saturday afternoon shift increased by 2s. 6d. (10s. to 12s. 6d.); bonus rates for contract workers increased by 10s. 6d. (23s. to 33s. 6d.) for workers who work 36 hours but less than 42, and 32s. to 42s. 6d. for those who work 42 hours; increase of 3d. (9d. to 1s.) an hour for contract workers for all hours worked over 42. Basic rates after change: timeworkers—washing and breaking clay, cleaning mica, winding and pumping, processing, washing mica and all other unclassified work 137s. 6d. a week, landing 142s. 6d., maintenance (handymen and inclines) 142s. 6d., shift bosses 157s. 6d.; workers engaged full time in boring and blasting or in chemical processing 2d. an hour above basic rate of 137s. 6d. a week; contract workers basic rates—mill operators 105s. a week, stent 110s., sand and overburden 115s., loading and bagging 120s., drying-press kiln 120s., tank kiln 130s., plus in each case a bonus of 33s. 6d. or 42s. 6d.; youths and boys 1s. 6½d. an hour at 15 years, rising to 3s. 0½d. at 17½ and 3s. 3½d. at 18; women's rates 80 per cent. (to nearest penny) of men's rate for the same work.
Building Brick and Allied Industries	England and Wales (certain districts)* (16)	First full pay period following 31 Dec., 1955	Pieceworkers employed in making building and engineering bricks (other than glazed bricks), hollow clay blocks, roofing and flooring tiles (unglazed), chimney pots and finials	Flat-rate allowances totalling 9½d. an hour to be merged with basic piecework hourly rate of 2s. 4d.; piecework rates to be adjusted where necessary so as to enable pieceworkers of average ability to earn a minimum of 25 per cent. above the daywork rate of 3s. 1½d. an hour plus the appropriate occupational differential.
Flint Glass Manufacture	Great Britain (various districts)	First pay day in Jan.	Glassmakers, glass cutters and decorators and ancillary workers	Cost-of-living bonus increased† by 4s. a week (22s. to 26s.).
Coke Manufacture	Scotland, Cumberland, South Durham, Cleveland, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Northants. and South Wales (certain firms)‡	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed at coke oven plants attached to blast furnaces	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2 6d. a shift (6s. 8-6d. to 6s. 11-2d. for shift-rated workers), or by 0-36d. an hour (10-99d. to 11-35d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and for women and youths employed on men's work, by 1-95d. a shift (5s. 0-45d. to 5s. 2-4d.) or by 0-27d. an hour (8-24d. to 8-51d.) for youths 18 and under 21 and for women employed on youths' work, and by 1-3d. a shift (3s. 4-3d. to 3s. 5-6d.) or by 0-17d. an hour (5-5d. to 5-67d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.
Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Manufacture	United Kingdom (39)	First pay day in week commencing 16 Jan.	Men, youths and boys Women 21 years and over employed wholly on men's work Other women and girls	Increases of 7s. 4d. a week in basic national minimum rates for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys; further increase of 1d. an hour (2d. to 3d.) above ordinary day time rates for two shift workers and (4d. to 5d.) for night-shift workers and nightworkers. Minimum rates after change: London district—men 21 years and over 152s. 10d. a week, youths and boys 49s. 1d. at 15, rising to 130s. 3d. at 20 and under 21; other districts—men 147s. 10d., youths and boys 47s. 7d. to 126s. Increases of 5s. 3d. or 5s. 11d. a week in basic national minimum rates, according to period of employment. Rates after change: London district—109s. 3d. a week during first 6 months' service, thereafter 123s. 2d.; other districts 105s. 9d., 119s. 2d. Increases of 4s. 11d. a week in basic national minimum rates and 5s. in London rates for women 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for girls. Rates after change: London district—women 21 years and over 104s. a week, girls 49s. 11d. at 15, rising to 97s. 5d. at 20 and under 21; other districts—women 98s. 8d., girls 47s. 4d. to 92s. 4d.
Pig Iron Manufacture	England and Wales and certain works in Scotland (42)	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed at blast-furnaces, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (6s. 8-6d. to 6s. 11-2d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-36d. an hour (10-99d. to 11-35d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and women and youths employed on men's work, by 1-95d. a shift (5s. 0-45d. to 5s. 2-4d.) or by 0-27d. an hour (8-24d. to 8-51d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women employed on youths' work, and by 1-3d. a shift (3s. 4-3d. to 3s. 5-6d.) or by 0-17d. an hour (5-5d. to 5-67d.) for boys and for girls doing boys' work.
	West of Scotland (42)	Pay period commencing nearest 1 Jan.	Workpeople employed at certain blast-furnaces, excluding those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (6s. 9d. to 6s. 11d. calculated to the nearest penny) for men, with usual proportions for youths.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Great Britain§ (43)	2 Jan.	Workpeople employed at steel sheet rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (6s. 8-6d. to 6s. 11-2d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 1-95d. (5s. 0-45d. to 5s. 2-4d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 1-3d. (3s. 4-3d. to 3s. 5-6d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain (43)	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in steel melting shops (melting, pitmen, slagmen, ladle-men, furnace helpers, gas producers, semi-skilled workers and labourers, etc.)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (6s. 8-6d. to 6s. 11-2d. for shift-rated workers) or by 0-36d. an hour (10-99d. to 11-35d. for hourly-rated workers) for men and women, by 1-95d. a shift (5s. 0-45d. to 5s. 2-4d.) or by 0-27d. an hour (8-24d. to 8-51d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 1-3d. a shift (3s. 4-3d. to 3s. 5-6d.) or by 0-17d. an hour (5-5d. to 5-67d.) for those under 18.
	Great Britain (43)	do.	Workpeople employed at steel rolling mills	do. do.
	North-East Coast	do.	Iron puddlers, millmen, semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at iron puddling furnaces and rolling mills	do. do.
	Great Britain (43)	do.	Maintenance craftsmen employed on coke oven and blast-furnace plants, in steel melting shops and in steel rolling mills	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 0-36d. an hour (10-99d. to 11-35d.) for craftsmen, by 0-27d. (8-24d. to 8-51d.) for apprentices 18 to 21 years, and by 0-17d. (5-5d. to 5-67d.) for apprentices under 18.
	Midlands and parts of South Yorks. and South Lancs. (43)	do.	Workpeople employed at iron puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges, other than those engaged on maintenance work	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (6s. 8-6d. to 6s. 11-2d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 1-95d. (5s. 0-45d. to 5s. 2-4d.) for workers 18 and under 21, and by 1-3d. (3s. 4-3d. to 3s. 5-6d.) for those under 18.
	West of Scotland (43)	Pay period beginning 2 Jan.	Workpeople, other than 6-shift workers, employed at iron puddling forges and mills and sheet mills 6-shift workers	Cost-of-living net additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-8d. a shift (7s. 1-4d. to 7s. 4-2d.) for men, by 2-1d. (5s. 4-05d. to 5s. 6-15d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 1-4d. (3s. 6-7d. to 3s. 8-1d.) for boys under 18. The existing cost-of-living payment increased† by 0-38d. an hour for men, by 0-29d. for youths 18 and under 21 years, and by 0-2d. for boys under 18.
	South-West Wales (43)	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture, except bricklayers and carpenters	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2-6d. a shift (5s. 7-6d. to 5s. 10-2d.) for men and for women employed on men's work, by 1-95d. (4s. 2-7d. to 4s. 4-65d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and by 1-3d. (2s. 9-8d. to 2s. 11-1d.) for youths under 18.

* The districts affected are the Northern, North Eastern and North Western Counties of England, North and East Midlands, North Staffordshire (Stoke-on-Trent), part of South Western Counties and North and South Wales.

† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
‡ These increases affected employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association.
§ These increases affected mainly the employees of firms which are members of the Sheet Trade Board, the districts concerned being Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Glasgow district.
|| These increases affected employees of firms which are members of the Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association, the principal districts concerned being the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South Yorkshire (excluding Sheffield special steels district), Lincolnshire, South Wales and West of Scotland.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Iron and Steel Manufacture (continued)	South Wales and Monmouthshire* (43)	1 Jan.	Workpeople employed at iron and steel works	Cost-of-living bonus increased† by 2.4d. a shift (4s. 10.8d. to 5s. 1.2d. for skilled craftsmen, and 6s. 1.8d. to 6s. 4.2d., for other men) for men and women 18 years and over, and by 1.2d. (2s. 5.4d. to 2s. 6.6d. or 3s. 0.9d. to 3s. 2.1d.) for those under 18.
Tinplate Manufacture	South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire (43)	do.	Men, youths, women and juveniles (except apprentices)	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2.6d. a shift (6s. 8.6d. to 6s. 11.2d.) for men and for women engaged specifically to replace male labour, by 1.95d. (5s. 0.45d. to 5s. 2.4d.) for youths 18 and under 21 years and for women 18 years and over, and by 1.3d. (3s. 4.3d. to 3s. 5.6d.) for workers under 18.
Tube Manufacture	Newport and Landore	do.	Men, youths and boys	Cost-of-living bonus increased† by 2.32d. a shift (6s. 8.62d. to 6s. 10.94d.) for men, by 1.546d. (4s. 5.723d. to 4s. 7.269d.) for youths 18 and under 21, and by 1.16d. (3s. 4.31d. to 3s. 5.47d.) for boys.
Galvanising	England and Wales	2 Jan.	Galvanisers and ancillary workers employed at steel sheet works, other than those engaged in the process of annealing	Flat-rate additions to wages, previously granted, increased† by 2.6d. a shift (6s. 8.6d. to 6s. 11.2d.) for men and women 21 years and over, by 1.95d. (5s. 0.45d. to 5s. 2.4d.) for youths and girls 18 and under 21 years, and by 1.3d. (3s. 4.3d. to 3s. 5.6d.) for those under 18.
Bobbin Making	England and Wales (51)	Third pay day in Jan.	Men, apprentices, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases† of 3s. a week for adult workers, and of 1s. 6d. for apprentices, youths, boys and girls. Minimum rates after change: men—higher skilled 153s. 2d. a week, lesser skilled 144s. 8d., labourers 137s. 8d.; apprentices, youths and boys 55s. 10d. at 15 years, rising to 111s. 8d. at 20; women 18 years and over 111s. 2d.; girls 55s. 10d. at 15, 63s. 10d. at 16, and 79s. 8d. at 17.
Shuttle Making	Lancashire and Yorkshire (51)	First pay day in Jan.	Journeyman	Increase† of 1d. an hour in the minimum daywork rate, and of 3 per cent. (38 to 41 per cent.) on the percentage addition to piecework rates. Minimum daywork rate after change: Lancashire 4s. 3d. an hour, Yorkshire 4s. 5d.
Wire Rope and Iron and Steel Wire Manufacture	Great Britain (62)	First full pay week in Nov., 1955	Adult female workers, youths, boys and girls	Increase of 5s. 3d. a week in the absolute minimum base time rate (base rate plus war addition) for female workers 21 years and over making a total of 102s. a week, i.e. 75 per cent. of adult male rate. Revised scale of proportional wages for youths, boys and girls introduced as follows:—youths and boys 40 per cent. of adult male rate at 15 years, rising to 87½ per cent. at 20, girls 40 per cent. to 65 per cent.
		First full pay week in Dec., 1955	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 5s. a week in the existing war addition for men 21 years and over, of 3s. 9d. for women 21 and over, and of 2s. to 4s. 5d., according to age, for younger workers. Minimum rates after change (including war addition) include: men 21 years and over engaged in splicing and socketing, closing and testing (rope) 149s. a week, stranding, crane driving 144s., testing (wire) 143s., winding 142s.; minimum rate for other productive and for non-productive adult male workers 141s.; minimum rate for women 21 years and over 105s. 9d.
Spring Mattress and Bedstead Fittings Manufacture	Great Britain	First full pay week in Jan.	Timeworkers—Men, youths and boys	Additional payments,† previously granted, increased by 2d. an hour (2d. to 4d.) for journeymen, by 1d. (2d. to 3d.) for labourers and porters and by proportional amounts for youths and boys; increases† in the supplementary cost-of-living allowances of 1d. an hour (11d. to 1s.) for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Minimum hourly payments after change, consisting of current minimum time rates, supplementary cost-of-living allowance and additional payment include: men 21 years and over—journeymen, London 4s. 3d., Provinces 4s. 1d., labourers and porters 3s. 8½d., 3s. 7d.
			Women and girls	Minimum time rates, cost-of-living allowance and additional payment for women to be 75 per cent. (previously 66½ per cent.) of the rates for men, with proportional increases for girls. Minimum hourly payments after change: women 19 years and over employed as productive workers, London 3s. 2½d. an hour, Provinces 3s. 0½d., as labourers and porters 2s. 9½d., 2s. 8½d.
			Payment-by-results workers	Times fixed for jobs to be such as may be reasonably expected to enable the average productive worker by appropriate effort to earn at least 35 per cent. (previously 30 per cent.) (individual schemes) or 25 per cent. (previously 20 per cent.) (collective schemes) more than the appropriate current minimum time rate.
		do.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases† in supplementary cost-of-living allowance of ¼d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 0½d.) for men 21 years and over and (9d. to 9½d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Lock, Latch and Key Manufacture	England (66)	First full pay week following 31 Dec., 1955	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increase† in cost-of-living bonus of 10 per cent. (40 to 50 per cent.) on basic rates, resulting in increases of 8s. to 10s. 4d. a week, according to occupation, for men 21 years and over, of 6s. 2d. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change, inclusive of factory efficiency bonus of 20 per cent., and cost-of-living bonus of 50 per cent.: men—group P.T. (patternmakers and toolmakers) 166s. 9d. or 176s. 6d. a week, group A (experienced locksmiths and keymakers engaged in high quality work, and fully qualified bobbers, polishers and toolsetters) 161s. 6d. or 170s., group B (all other adult male workers except labourers) 149s. 9d. or 156s. 3d., labourers 136s.; youths and boys 43s. 1d. at 15, rising to 104s. 1d. at 20½ and 143s. 6d. at 21; female workers 43s. 1d. at 15, rising to 104s. 1d. at 21, workers of more than ordinary skill or ability or those engaged on special work may receive an extra payment of up to 5s. a week. Piecework prices to be such as to enable workers of average skill and ability to earn at least 33½ per cent. above the basic rate; the cost-of-living bonus to be the same for pieceworkers as for dayworkers. In the London area the basic rates are subject to an addition of 15 per cent.
Penmaking	Birmingham and district (67)	5 Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	New minimum rates adopted on the basis of a figure of 144 for the index of retail prices. Current minimum rates related to a figure of 152: fully apprenticed toolmakers aged 25 years and over 185s. 4d. a week, 21 and under 25 years 166s. 7d., semi-skilled 21 and over 155s. 4d., unskilled 147s. 10d.; women 18 years and over (daywork) 87s. 11d., (piecework) 99s. 2d.
Artificial Limb and Orthopaedic Appliance Manufacture	Great Britain (69)	Week commencing 2 Jan.	Men, apprentices, youths and boys	Increases† in cost-of-living bonus of 1½d. an hour for workers 18 years and over, and of 1d. for workers under 18. Minimum rates after change include: grade 1, exceptionally highly skilled 5s. 3d. an hour, grade A, highly skilled 5s. 1½d., grade B 4s. 10½d., grade C 4s. 6½d.; sheet metal section, grade A 5s. 3d., grade B 5s. 1d., grade C 4s. 8d.
Pianoforte Manufacture	Great Britain (74)	Beginning of first pay week in Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases† in supplementary cost-of-living allowance of ¼d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 0½d.) for men 21 years and over and (9d. to 9½d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Wool Textile	Wales (83)	Pay day in week commencing 5 Dec., 1955	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases in minimum time rates of 7s. 6d. a week for adult male workers, of 4s. for adult female workers, and of 4 per cent. for juvenile workers (juvenile workers now qualify for the adult rates at 18 years, previously 19); increase of 2½ per cent. on existing piece rates. Minimum time rates after change include: men 131s. a week, women 84s.

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

† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
‡ The additional payment is due only to timeworkers paid at the minimum rates. A male timeworker 21 years and over who is receiving less than 4d. or 3d., according to occupation, in excess of the appropriate current minimum time rate by way of enhanced rate, lieu bonus or otherwise (excluding supplementary cost-of-living allowance) is to be paid an additional amount of 4d. or 3d. an hour, or such less sum as will secure for him an hourly remuneration (excluding supplementary cost-of-living allowance) of not less than the appropriate current minimum time rate plus 4d. or 3d. The rates for women are 75 per cent. of those for men.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Wool Textile (continued)	Leicester (80)	First pay day in Jan.	Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by ¼d. in the shilling (1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d.) on basic wages. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus and good timekeeping bonus, include: men 21 years and over—skilled 140s. 11d. a week, unskilled 134s. 8d.; women 18 and over—skilled 89s. 5d., learners 86s. 7d.; piecework minimum rates, men 147s. 2d., women 101s. 9d.
Pressed Felt Manufacture	Rosendale Valley (certain firms)	First pay day in Jan.	Men, women and juveniles	Increase* of 1s. a week for men, and of 8d. for women and juveniles. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus: men 21 years and over 142s. 8d. a week; women 18 and over, felt production processes 106s. 8d., cutting and stitching 97s. 2d.
Jute Carpet Manufacture	Dundee	First pay day in Jan.	Male and female workers	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 2½ per cent. (50 to 52½ per cent.) on the first £6 15s. of total earnings (exclusive of cost-of-living bonus) for male workers, and on the first 4 10s. for female workers. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus and lieu bonus, include: men 21 years and over 137s. 3d. a week, women 91s. 6d.
Hosiery and Knitwear Manufacture	Nottingham and district	First pay day in Jan.	Male knitters employed in the shawl and antimacassar section	Increase* of 1d. in the shilling (9d. to 10d.) on gross earnings.
Lace Furnishings Manufacture	Nottingham, Ayrshire and Glasgow	End of first complete pay week in Jan.	Twisthands and auxiliary workers	Increase* of 5 per cent. in cost-of-living bonus (40 to 45 per cent. on basic rates).
	Nottingham, Derby and West of England	First full pay week in Jan.	Twisthands and auxiliary workers employed in the plain net section of the lace industry	Increases of amounts varying from 5 per cent. to 7 per cent. on existing card rates.
Leavers Lace Manufacture	Long Eaton, Nottingham and Derby districts	First pay day in Jan.	Twisthands and auxiliary workers	Increase* of 6 per cent. on existing rates, and further 1½ per cent. as compensation for reduction of normal weekly working hours, making the overall addition 34 per cent.†
Carpet Manufacture	Great Britain (92)	First pay day in Jan.	Men, women and juveniles	Cost-of-living bonus increased* from 50 to 52½ per cent. on the first £6 15s. of total earnings (exclusive of cost-of-living bonus) for male workers, and on the first 4 10s. for female workers. Bonus on earnings in excess of £6 15s. and £4 10s. increased from 40 to 42½ per cent. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus and lieu bonus, include: male workers 21 years and over—dry beamers, packers, backsizers and starchers, card men (jacquard, wilton and gripper), fur cutters with 6 months' experience in any of the jobs 151s. a week, wet beamers or dressers with 12 months' experience 166s. 3d., croppers and shearers with 6 months' experience 151s., 158s. 7d. or 166s. 3d., according to width of machine, other male workers 21 and over 141s. 10d.; female workers 20 years and over—card cutters with 18 months' experience 108s. 3d., other female workers 94s. 7d.
Textile Making-up and Packing	Manchester (98)	Pay day in week ending 7 Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 5s. a week (49s. to 54s.) in cost-of-living addition for men 21 years and over, of 3s. 4d. (32s. 8d. to 36s.) for women 18 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing and Finishing	Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (96)	Second Friday or equivalent pay day in Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 1s. 10d. a week (32s. 1d. to 33s. 11d.) in cost-of-living addition for adult male workers, of 1s. 4d. (23s. 4d. to 24s. 8d.) for adult female workers, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living additions and special payments to timeworkers or percentage additions to pieceworkers, include: timeworkers—adult males 133s. 11d. a week, adult females 93s. 2d.; pieceworkers—adult males 150s. 11d., adult females 104s.
	Scotland (96)	do.	do.	do.
	Macclesfield	do.	Workpeople employed in silk dyeing, printing and finishing	do.
Hosiery Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	Midlands (various districts)† (97)	First pay day in Jan.	Men, women and juveniles	Increase* of 2 per cent. (30½ to 32½ per cent.) in the percentage addition paid on all time and piece rates.
Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing	England and Wales (106) (229)	13 Jan.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 2½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers 20 years or over (other than late entrants), of 2d. or 2½d. for late entrants, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to age, for younger workers; increase of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. General minimum time rates after change include: cutters in wholesale manufacturing branch (21 years or over with not less than 4 years' experience) 3s. 2d. an hour, all other workers 21 years or over (except 1st year late entrants) 2s. 9½d., youths and boys, retail bespoke branch 1s. 2½d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5d. at 20 and under 21, wholesale manufacturing branch 1s. 3d. to 2s. 5½d.; piecework basis time rates—cutters 3s. 4d., all other workers 2s. 11½d.‡
			Women and girls (retail bespoke branch)	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to period of employment, for learners. General minimum time rates after change: bodice, coat, skirt, gown or blouse hands 20 years or over—area A 1s. 11½d. an hour, area B 2s. 1½d., area C 2s. 2½d., all other workers except learners 1s. 9½d., 1s. 11½d., 2s. 1d.; learners A 10½d. during 1st six months, rising to 1s. 4d. in third year, B 11d. to 1s. 5½d., C 1s. 1d. to 1s. 8½d.‡
			Women and girls (wholesale manufacturing branch)	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. General minimum time rates after change: conveyor belt machinists 2s. 2½d. an hour, other workers except learners 2s. 1d., learners 1s. 1½d. during 1st six months, rising to 1s. 9d. in third year; piecework basis time rates 2s. 2½d.‡
	Scotland (107) (229)	27 Jan.	Men, youths and boys	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2½d. an hour for men 21 years or over, of 2d. or 2½d. for late entrants, and of 1½d., 2d. or 2½d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years or over except late entrants 2s. 10½d. an hour, late entrants 1s. 11½d. during 1st six months, 2s. 0½d. during 2nd six months, youths and boys 1s. 1½d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5d. at 20; piecework basis time rate 3s. 2½d. for workers of any age.‡
			Women and girls employed in the retail branch of the trade	Increases in general minimum time rates of 1½d. an hour for bodice, coat, skirt, gown or blouse hands 20 years or over and for all other workers except learners, and of 1½d. or 1½d., according to period of employment, for learners. General minimum time rates after change: qualified bodice, coat, skirt, gown or blouse hands 20 years or over—area A 2s. 1½d. an hour, area B 1s. 11½d., learners 9½d. or 8½d. during first year of employment, rising to 1s. 5½d. or 1s. 3½d. in fourth year; all other workers 1s. 10½d., 1s. 9d.‡
			Women and girls employed in the wholesale manufacturing branch of the trade	Increases in general minimum time rates of 1½d. an hour for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 1½d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 1½d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: conveyor belt machinists 2s. 2½d. an hour, other workers except learners 2s. 0½d., learners 11½d. during first six months, rising to 1s. 9½d. during sixth six months; piecework basis time rate 2s. 2½d. for workers of any age.‡

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

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

‡ Including Leicester, Loughborough, Hinckley and district, Nuneaton and Nottingham district and Derby.

§ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 36 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.

¶ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 76 of this GAZETTE.

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

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing (continued)	Northern Ireland (232)	30 Jan.	Workpeople employed in the factory branch:— Men, youths and boys ..	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2½d. an hour for cutters with not less than 5 years' experience in the trade and for other workers 20 years or over, except late entrants, of 2d. for late entrants, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. General minimum time rates after change include: cutters with not less than 5 years' experience 3s. 2d. an hour, other workers 21 years or over 2s. 9½d.; piecework basis time rates—cutters 3s. 4d., other workers 2s. 11½d.*
			Women and girls ..	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2d. an hour for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to age and period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rate and in the guaranteed time rate for certain pieceworkers. General minimum time rates after change include: conveyor belt machinists 2s. 1½d. an hour, other workers except learners 1s. 11½d.; piecework basis time rate 2s. 1½d.*
			Women and girls in the retail branch	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2d. an hour for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change include: workers 20 years and over, with not less than 2 years' experience after learnership, employed as "fully qualified" bodice, skirt, gown or blouse hands—area A 2s. 1d. an hour, area B 1s. 11½d., area C 1s. 10d., other workers except learners 1s. 11½d., 1s. 10d., 1s. 10d.; piecework basis time rates—workers 20 years and over, with not less than 2 years' experience after learnership, employed as "fully qualified" bodice, skirt, gown or blouse hands—area A 2s. 2d., area B 2s. 0½d., area C 1s. 11d., other workers 2s. 0½d., 1s. 11d., 1s. 11d.*
			Men, youths and boys ..	Increases of 2½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers in specified occupations and for other workers (except late entrants) 20 years or over, of 2d. or 2½d. for late entrants, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to age, for younger workers; increase of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. General minimum time rates after change include: workers in specified occupations 3s. 2d. an hour, other workers 21 years or over 2s. 9½d., youths and boys 1s. 3d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5½d. at 20; piecework basis time rates; workers in specified occupations 3s. 4d., other workers 2s. 11½d.†
Hat and Cap Making and Millinery	England and Wales (110) (230)	13 Jan.	Men, youths and boys ..	Increases of 2½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: workers other than learners 2s. 1d. an hour, learners 1s. 1½d. during 1st six months, rising to 1s. 9d. during 3rd year; piecework basis time rate 2s. 2½d. an hour.†
			Women and girls ..	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. or 2d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: workers other than learners 2s. 1d. an hour, learners 1s. 1½d. during 1st six months, rising to 1s. 9d. during 3rd year; piecework basis time rate 2s. 2½d. an hour.†
	Scotland (111) (230)	27 Jan.	Men, youths and boys:— Felt hat and hood making branch	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2½d. an hour for workers on certain specified operations and for other workers 21 years or over except late entrants, and of 1½d., 2d., or 2½d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. General minimum time rates after change: workers on certain specified operations (after 3 years' employment after age 18) 3s. 2d. an hour, other workers 21 years or over except late entrants 2s. 9½d., youths and boys 1s. 3d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5½d. at 20, late entrants 1s. 11½d. during 1st six months, 2s. 1d. during 2nd six months; piecework basis time rates—workers on certain specified operations (after 3 years' employment after age 18) 3s. 4d., all other workers of any age 2s. 11½d.‡
			Other branches ..	Increases in general minimum time rates of 2½d. an hour for workers 21 years or over except late entrants, of 2d. or 2½d. for late entrants, and of 1½d., 2d. or 2½d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 2½d. an hour in piecework basis time rate after change: cutters, blockers, body makers or finishers, stiffeners or shapers 3s. 2d. an hour, other workers 21 or over except late entrants 2s. 9½d., youths and boys 1s. 3d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5½d. at 20, late entrants 1s. 11½d. during 1st six months, 2s. 1d. during 2nd six months; piecework basis time rate 2s. 11½d. for workers of any age.‡
Felt Hat Manufacture	Atherstone	First pay day in Jan.	Men, women and juveniles ..	Cost-of-living bonus increased§ by 2½ per cent. on basic rates for male pieceworkers (from 80 to 82½ per cent.), female pieceworkers on hand trimming, forming and hardening (72½ to 75 per cent.) and other female pieceworkers (62½ to 65 per cent.).
			Timeworkers ..	Increases of 5s. a week in day wage rates for men 21 years and over, of 4s. for women 20 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum weekly rates after change: male workers 58s. at 15, rising to 145s. at 21 and over; female workers 58s. at 15, rising to 107s. at 20 and over.
			Pieceworkers ..	Increases of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices, making a total addition of 92½ per cent. for male workers, and 102½ per cent. for female workers.
			Workpeople employed in industries ancillary to boot and shoe manufacture:— Timeworkers ..	Increases of 5s. a week in day wage rates for men 21 years and over, of 4s. for women 20 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum weekly rates after change: male workers 58s. at 15, rising to 145s. at 21 and over; female workers 58s. at 15, rising to 107s. at 20 and over.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	Great Britain (except Rossendale Valley) (112)	do.	Pieceworkers ..	Increases of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices.

* These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 76 of this GAZETTE.

† These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 36 of the January issue of this GAZETTE.

‡ These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 76 of this GAZETTE.

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

|| The industries concerned are cut sole, last and upper pattern, stiffener, toe puff, built heel and wood heel manufacture and wood heel processing.

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

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Boot and Shoe Manufacture (continued)	Rossendale Valley and Burnley, Bury, Great Harwood, Rochdale, Chorley, Blackburn and the Fylde coast	First making-up day in Jan.	Shoe and slipper operatives ..	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 1½ per cent. (28½ to 30 per cent.) on basic wage rates.
	do.	3 Jan.	do.	Increases† of 2d. an hour in day wage rates for male workers 21 years and over, of 1½d. for women 20 and over, and of 2d. for all younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over, commencing rate 2s. 5d. an hour, after 6 months 2s. 7d.; women 20 and over 1s. 11d., 2s. 0½d., plus the cost-of-living bonus of 30 per cent. payable on all rates.
Baking	Midland Counties of England‡ (117-118)	First full pay period commencing 7 Nov. 1955	Workpeople employed by co-operative societies in the baking industry	New minimum weekly rates, resulting in increases of varying amounts, agreed as follows:—male workers 21 years and over—bakery dept., foremen 171s. 6d. a week, first hands 163s. 1d., doughmakers, confectionery mixers and ovenmen 159s. 4d., confectioners, table hands and plant operatives 153s. 9d. (guaranteed minimum 157s. 6d.), packing and despatch dept., charge-hands, slicing and wrapping operatives 153s. 9d., bakery workers 150s., other workers 146s. 3d.; youths and boys 58s. 8d. at under 15½, rising to 146s. 3d. at 20½ years and over; female workers 21 years and over—bakery dept., forewomen 120s., first hands 112s. 6d., ovenwomen 108s. 9d., confectioners 105s., packing and despatch dept., charge-hands 102s. 2d., bakery workers 98s. 5d., other workers 94s. 8d.; girls 55s. at under 15½, rising to 94s. 8d. at 20½ years and over.‡
Brewing	Burton-on-Trent (128)	1 Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for men, of 7s. 6d. for women, and of proportional amounts for juveniles; shift allowance of 8s. a week (or 1s. 4d. a shift) payable to brewery shiftmen, stationary engine-men and stokers increased by 4s. (to 12s. a week or 2s. a shift). Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—locomotive drivers 171s. 6d. a week, spare drivers (when driving) first year 167s. 6d., second year 168s. 6d., third year 169s. 6d., stationary engine-men 170s., head shunters 161s., steam and petrol lorry drivers 160s., stokers 167s. 6d., coldroom workers 156s., steersmen and cellar-men 155s., ale loaders, firemen (including cleaners) and under-shunters 153s., carters and drivers (2-horse) 152s., (1-horse) 150s., brewery labourers (dayworkers) 150s., youths and boys 52s. at 15, rising to 129s. 6d. at 20; women in breweries and maltings 75 per cent. of the rate for men doing similar work, women and girls in bottling stores 46s. at 15, rising to 105s. 6d. at 21 and over.
	Yorkshire (West Riding, excluding Sheffield and Rotherham) (127)	Week commencing 2 Jan.	do.	Increases of 10s. 1d. a week (or 2½d. an hour) in minimum rates for male workers 19 years and over, of 6s. 3d. (or 1½d.) for women 20 years and over and for youths 18 and under 19, and of 5s. 6d. (or 1½d.) for younger workers; nightworkers' allowance as addition to day rates increased by 2d. an hour (2d. to 4d.). Minimum rates after change: transport workers—motor drivers 150s. 4d. to 161s. 4d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle (1s. a day extra when operating a vehicle with trailer attached), two-horse drivers 156s. 4d., one-horse drivers and mates 151s. 4d.; inside workers—male workers 1s. 5½d. an hour at 15 years, rising to 3s. 5d. at 21 and over; female workers—brewery dept. 1s. 5½d. at 16, rising to 2s. 4½d. at 20 and over, bottling dept. 1s. 5½d. to 2s. 3½d. plus 1d. an hour extra when employed in lifting cases of full bottles.
Fence Manufacture and Erection	South Lancs. and East Cheshire (126)	2 Jan.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for male workers 19 years and over, of 7s. 6d. for female workers 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—transport drivers (mechanical) 161s. a week, boilerhouse firemen 155s. 6d., two-horse drivers 155s., one-horse drivers, mates, assistant firemen and labourers 150s., youths and boys 57s. 3d. at 15, rising to 128s. 4d. at 20; women and girls in bottling dept. 56s. 9d. at under 16, rising to 105s. 4d. at 19 and over, women in breweries and maltings three-quarters of the rate for men doing similar work.
	Northumberland and Durham (126)	Week commencing 1 Jan.	do.	Increases of 11s. a week in minimum rates for male inside workers 21 years and over, of 10s. 9d. to 11s. 11d. for transport workers, of 7s. 4d. for women 20 years and over in bottling stores, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—inside workers 150s. 4d. a week, motor drivers 150s. 4d. to 162s. 3d., according to carrying capacity of vehicle (1s. a day extra when driving a vehicle with trailer attached), two-horse drivers 156s. 9d., one-horse drivers and mates 151s. 3d., youths and boys 58s. 8d. at 15, rising to 129s. 3d. at 20; women and girls in bottling stores 56s. 9d. at 15, rising to 100s. 10d. at 20 and over.
Furniture Manufacture	Birmingham (128)	2 Jan.	do.	Increases of 12s. 6d. a week in minimum rates for lorry drivers, of 10s. for other men 21 years and over, of 6s. 8d. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—lorry drivers 162s. 6d. a week, horse drivers 158s., backmen and brewery workers 150s., youths and boys 61s. 7d. at 15, rising to 127s. 10d. at 20; women and girls in breweries or bottling and wine and spirit stores 48s. 8d. at 15, rising to 100s. at 21 and over.
	South Wales (129)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week for male workers 21 years and over, of 7s. 6d. for youths 18 and under 21 and for female workers 18 and over, and of 5s. for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men in breweries 21 years and over 150s. a week, transport drivers 160s. (with trailer attached 1s. a day extra), helpers on lorries 150s.; women 21 and over in bottling stores 105s. 6d.
Furniture Manufacture	Sheffield, Rotherham and Chesterfield district (127)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. 1d. a week in minimum rates for male workers 19 years and over, of 6s. 5d. for female workers 20 and over and for youths 18 and under 19, and of 5s. 6d. for younger workers; permanent nightworkers' allowance increased by 2d. an hour (from 2d. to 4d. over day rates). Minimum rates after change: transport workers—motor drivers 150s. 4d. to 161s. 4d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, mates 150s. 4d.; other brewery workers—male workers 63s. 3d. at 15 and under 16, rising to 150s. 4d. at 21 and over, female workers 64s. 2d. at 16 and under 17, rising to 102s. 8d. at 20 and over (108s. 2d. when doing men's work).
	Nottingham, Kimberley, Derby and Mansfield district (129)	First pay week in Jan.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week for male workers 19 years and over, of 6s. 3d. for female workers 20 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—inside workers 150s. a week, motor drivers 160s., two-horse drivers 156s., one-horse drivers and mates 152s., youths and boys 67s. 2d. at 15, rising to 137s. 2d. at 20; women and girls 65s. 10d. at 16, rising to 94s. at 20 and over.
Furniture Manufacture	Great Britain	Pay day in week commencing 2 Jan.	Men, women and juveniles ..	Increases in minimum rates of 4d. an hour for men 21 years and over, of 2d., 2½d. or 3d., according to age, for youths and boys, of 2½d. for women 18 and over, and of 2d. for girls. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over, fence erection—skilled fencers 4s. 1½d. an hour, fence fixers 4s., fencers' labourers 3s. 7d.; fence manufacturing—London (20 miles radius from Charing Cross), sawyers, carpenters and machinists 4s., labourers 3s. 5½d., provincial area, sawyers, carpenters and machinists 3s. 10d., cleavers 3s. 5½d., labourers 3s. 3½d.; women 18 years and over 2s. 8½d.
	Northern Ireland (137)	Beginning of first full pay period in Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Supplementary cost-of-living bonus increased* by 1d. an hour (10d. to 11d.) for adult male workers, and by proportional amounts for journeywomen and juveniles.
Furniture Manufacture	Great Britain (136)	Beginning of first full pay week in Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* in supplementary cost-of-living allowance of ½d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 0½d.) for men 21 years and over and (9d. to 9½d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.

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

† These increases apply to all rates (minimum, contract or average earning rates) provided only that such rates do not exceed 3s. for men and 2s. 4½d. for women after the addition of the 2d. or 1½d. an hour, respectively.

‡ These increases affected workpeople employed by co-operative societies affiliated to the Midland Sectional Wages Board of the Co-operative Union, Ltd. Previously the localities were classified into two areas with varying rates.

§ Previously the adult rate was paid at 21 years and over; nightworkers now receive an addition of 15 per cent. on the rates shown above.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Educational and Allied Woodworking	Great Britain	Beginning of first full pay week in Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* in supplementary cost-of-living allowance of 1d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 0½d.) for men 21 years and over and (9d. to 9½d.) for women 19 and over and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Bedding and Mattress Manufacture	do.	do.	do.	do.
Window Blind Manufacture	Great Britain	First full pay week in Nov., 1955†	Men, youths and boys	New minimum rates fixed, and additional payments‡ granted of 4d. an hour for bench hands and fixers, of 2d. for fixers' mates and labourers, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Minimum hourly payments after change, consisting of current minimum time rates, supplementary cost-of-living allowance and additional payments, include: bench hands 21 years and over, London district 4s. 3d. an hour, Provincial districts 4s. 1d., fixers 4s. 2d., 4s., fixers' mates (after 3rd six months) 3s. 10d., 3s. 8d., labourers 3s. 7½d., 3s. 6d.
			Women and girls	Minimum time rates, cost-of-living allowance and additional payment for women to be 75 per cent. (previously 66½ per cent.) of the rates for men, with proportional increases for girls. Minimum hourly payments after change include: journeywomen (sewers and sewing machinists), London district 3s. 2½d. an hour, Provincial districts 3s. 0½d., labourers 2s. 8½d., 2s. 7½d.; women employed on men's work to be paid the appropriate minimum payment for adult male workers on a similar class of work.
			Payment-by-results workers	Times fixed for jobs to be such as may be reasonably expected to enable the average productive worker by appropriate effort to earn at least 35 per cent. (previously 30 per cent.) (individual schemes) or 25 per cent. (previously 20 per cent.) (collective schemes) more than the appropriate current minimum time rate.
	do.	First full pay week in Jan.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 1d. an hour in supplementary cost-of-living allowances (1s. to 1s. 0½d.) for men 21 years and over and (9d. to 9½d.) for women 19 and over and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Stone Carving, Wood Carving and Modelling	Great Britain and Northern Ireland	First full pay week in Jan.	Journeyman and apprentices	Increases* in cost-of-living bonus of 1d. an hour (1s. to 1s. 1d.) for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Basket Manufacture	United Kingdom (138)	1 Jan.	Men, women and juveniles	Increases of 2d. an hour in minimum time rates for men, of 3d. for women, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and other young workers; various adjustments made in piecework price list. Minimum time rates after change include: journeyman basket makers 3s. 4d. an hour, skilled fitters 3s. 1d., labourers 2s. 11d.; women 19 years and over 2s. 4d.; plus 15 per cent. cost-of-living bonus in each case.
Sign Production and Display	England and Wales	First full pay week commencing on or after 1 Jan.	Production artists, writers, poster writers, screen process printers, auxiliary workers, etc.	Increase* of 2s. a week (26s. to 28s.) in the cost-of-living bonus paid to all workers.
Printing	England and Wales (except London) (144-146) (153)	First full pay week in Jan.	Certain classes of workpeople employed in the general printing industry and envelope and stationery manufacture§	Increases in basic rates of 18s. 6d. a week for craftsmen and highest class of non-craft male workers, of 15s. 6d. for all other non-craft male workers and of 12s. for women [further increase of 2s. 6d. (7s. 6d. to 10s. in general printing and 4s. to 6s. 6d. in envelope and stationery manufacture) in experience money, and period of experience following training necessary reduced from 5 to 4 years]; adoption of new minimum rates for male and female learners; additional increases in machine and other extra payments granted. New minimum rates for craftsmen—grade 1 towns 195s. a week, grade 2 towns 189s. 6d.
	London (146-147)	1 Jan.	do.¶	Increases in basic rates of 18s. 6d. a week for craftsmen, of 15s. 6d. for non-craftsmen, and of 12s. for women [further increase of 2s. 6d. (7s. 6d. to 10s. in general printing and 4s. to 6s. 6d. in envelope and stationery manufacture) in experience money, and period of experience following training necessary reduced from 5 to 4 years]; adoption of new minimum rates for male and female learners; additional increases in machine and other extra payments granted. New minimum rates for craftsmen 206s. 6d. a week. Guillotine cutters and other operatives in same class hitherto in receipt of rate 3s. below craft rate will now receive craft rate (206s. 6d.).
	England and Wales (151-152)	First full pay period in Jan.	Lithographic artists	Increase* of 7s. a week (33s. to 40s.) in the cost-of-living bonus.
	Scotland (149)	Pay day in week commencing 2 Jan.	Workpeople (excluding lithographic machinemen, stone and plate preparers and lithographic artists) employed in the general printing industry	New minimum rates introduced resulting in increases in basic rates of 18s. 6d. a week for craftsmen, 15s. for auxiliary male assistants and 12s. for auxiliary female assistants. Minimum rates after change include: compositors, machinemen, bookbinders, electrotypers and stereotypers 195s. a week, monotype keyboard operators and readers (Rule 13) 205s., linotype operators 207s. 6d., female compositors 163s. 6d., auxiliary workers—male 167s., females with 4 years' or more experience after training 124s. 9d.†
Linooleum and Felt Base Manufacture	England and Scotland	First full pay period following 8 Jan.	Men, women and juveniles	Increases of 2½d. an hour in minimum time rates for adult male workers, and of proportional amounts for female workers and juveniles. Minimum time rates after change include: men 20 or 21 years and over 139s. 3d. a week, women 18 and over 96s. 3d.

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

† These changes were agreed in January with retrospective effect to the date shown.

‡ The additional payments are due only to timeworkers paid at the minimum rates. A male timeworker 21 years and over who is receiving less than 4d. or 2d. according to occupation in excess of the appropriate current minimum time rate by way of enhanced rate, lieu bonus or otherwise (excluding supplementary cost-of-living allowance) is to be paid an additional amount of 4d. or 2d. an hour, or such less sum as will secure for him an hourly remuneration (excluding supplementary cost-of-living allowance) of not less than the appropriate current minimum time rate plus 4d. or 2d. The rates for women are 75 per cent. of those for men.

§ The workpeople concerned are employees of members of The British Federation of Master Printers, and who are members of the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers, the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants and the National Society of Electrotypers and Stereotypers. The cost-of-living bonus previously paid was consolidated with the basic rates in November, 1955; with effect from the first pay day in July, 1956, a new flat bonus on similar basis to that operating up to 16th November, 1955, but calculated above an index figure of 150, will be payable.

¶ The same classes of employees as shown in the above note with the exception of the National Society of Electrotypers and Stereotypers but including members of the Monotype Casters and Typefounders Trade Society.

† Previously towns in Scotland were divided into two grades with varying rates. Cost-of-living bonus previously paid is now consolidated with basic rates and a new sliding-scale agreement is to commence in July, 1956, with adjustments on the first pay day in July or January according to the index figures relating respectively to the May and November immediately preceding. For each point rise or fall in the range above the index figure of 150 the bonus shall be increased or decreased as the case may be by 1s. for male workers 18 years and over, 9d. for females 18 and over, 4d. for apprentices and male learners under 18, and 3d. for girl learners under 18. The bonus is to be a flat addition to the week's pay and shall not be included for calculation of overtime or shift rates.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during January—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Cinematograph Film Production	Great Britain	1 Jan.	Technicians and trainees employed in the production of specialised films (including film strips)	Increases in minimum rates varying from 9s. to 33s. 9d. a week, according to occupation, for technicians and 4s. 9d. to 8s. 6d. for trainees and newcomers in the live action dept., from 7s. 3d. to 20s. 6d. and 4s. 9d. to 8s. 6d., respectively, in the cartoon and diagram dept., and of 7s., 11s. or 19s. 9d. for additional technical grades. Minimum rates after change for technicians: live action dept., £9 9s. to £35 8s. 9d. a week, according to occupation, cartoon and diagram dept., £7 12s. 3d. to £21 10s. 6d., additional grades, charge-hands £11 11s., assemblers £10 14s. 9d., breakers-down £8 2s. 9d.*
	United Kingdom	First pay day in Jan.	Laboratory workers, including technical and clerical workers and certain other workers† employed in film printing and processing laboratories	Cost-of-living bonus increased‡ by 2s. a week (44s. to 46s.) at 21 years and over, and by 1s. 4d. (29s. 4d. to 30s. 8d.) at under 21.
	Great Britain	do.	Technical workers whose normal salaries do not exceed £19 10s. a week, and learners employed in producing newsreels	Cost-of-living bonus increased‡ by 1s. a week (50s. to 51s.) at 21 years and over, and by 8d. (33s. 4d. to 34s.) at under 21.
Railway Service	Great Britain (168-169)	23 Jan.	Workpeople employed by British Railways:— Conciliation staff engaged in the manipulation of traffic and miscellaneous grades	Existing rates of pay increased by approximately 7 per cent. Rates after change for workers employed outside the London area include: traffic staff—porters and crossing keepers 1st year 140s. a week, 2nd year 142s. 6d., 3rd year 144s. 6d., guards 1st year 154s., 2nd year 162s. 6d., 3rd year 171s., shunters 158s. 6d., ticket collectors 159s. 6d., train ticket collectors 166s., signalmen, special class "C" 206s. 6d., "B" 200s., "A" 193s. 6d., class 1 181s., class 2 172s. 6d., class 3 166s., class 4 160s. 6d.; relief signalmen, special class 200s., class 1 181s., class 2 166s.; goods and cartage staff—horse drivers 146s. 6d., leading horse drivers 154s., checkers 156s.; permanent way staff—labourers 1st year 140s., 2nd year 142s. 6d., 3rd year 144s. 6d.; sub-gangers 155s., gangers 167s.; locomotive shed grades—shedmen 1st year 140s., 2nd year 142s. 6d., 3rd year 144s. 6d., coalmen 150s., boiler washers, steamraisers 153s., coalmen and plant attendants 152s.; drivers and motormen—1st year 188s. 6d., 2nd year 200s., 3rd year 212s.; firemen and assistant motormen 1st year 155s., 2nd year 165s., 3rd year 175s. 6d.; carriage and wagon staff—carriage servicemen 1st year 140s., 2nd year 142s. 6d., 3rd year 144s. 6d., carriage and wagon examiners 163s. 6d. London rates are in general 3s. a week higher than the rates paid elsewhere, but for certain grades, e.g., guards, drivers and motormen, firemen and assistant motormen, train ticket collectors, etc., the same rates are paid in all areas. Existing rates of pay increased by 7 per cent.
		28 Jan.	Salaried staff, including clerks, stationmasters, agents, traffic control staff and supervisors	The existing arrangements for flat-rate payments for turns of duty commencing on Saturday afternoon are replaced by payments at the rate of time-and-a-quarter for ordinary time, and time-and-a-half for overtime, worked between the hours of 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Saturdays, regardless of the commencing time of the turn.
	London	Beginning of payroll week commencing on or after 29 Jan.	Railway workers employed by the London Transport Executive, except workers whose rates follow those paid by British Railways:— Conciliation grades and others engaged in the manipulation of traffic and miscellaneous grades	Existing rates of pay increased by approximately 7 per cent. Rates after change include: operating staff—stationmen including porters, station cleaners, mess room attendants, watchmen, lampmen, etc., 150s. a week, ticket collectors—class 2 157s. 6d., class 1 162s. 6d., guards—1st year 166s., 2nd year 171s., 3rd year 177s. 6d., motormen and drivers 1st year 191s. 6d., 2nd year 203s. 6d., 3rd year 215s., signalmen—class "A" 204s. 6d., class "B" 188s. 6d., class "C" 172s. 6d., relief 215s.; permanent way staff—lengthmen, relayers 155s., sub-gangers 162s. 6d.; mechanical engineers' staff—carriage cleaners, watchmen, escalator machinery attendants (class 2), lift machinery attendants (class 2), 155s., escalator machinery attendants (class 1), lift machinery attendants (class 1) 159s. 6d. Existing rates of pay increased by 7 per cent.
Lighterage Industry	Port of London	1 Jan.	Lightermen and bargemen employed in the legal quay section Workpeople employed in the rough goods section of the lighterage industry and tug-boatmen in the legal quay and seeking tug sections	Revised basis of payment for Saturday afternoon shifts as follows:—ordinary time worked between the hours of 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Saturday will be paid for at the rate of time-and-a-quarter. All overtime worked between these hours will be paid for at the inclusive rate of time-and-a-half. Existing bonus of 4s. 6d. a day increased by 1s. 6d. and thereafter designated a differential payment ranking for overtime calculations.
Hide and Skin Market Trade	England and Wales	First pay day following 16 Jan.	Men, youths and boys	Existing bonus of 34s. 6d. a week increased by 11s. 6d. and thereafter designated a differential payment ranking for overtime calculations.
Multiple Retail Meat Trade	England and Wales	Week commencing 23 Jan.	Shop managers and manageresses Other workers	Increases in minimum rates of 12s. 6d. a week for workers 20 years and over, of 10s. for youths 18 and under 20, and of 7s. 6d. for boys. Minimum rates after change: yard foremen acting as hide and/or skin classers in charge of six or more men 82s. 6d. a week, acting in charge of five or less 177s. 6d., hide and/or skin classers 172s. 6d., assistant classers 157s. 6d., hide trimmers (skilled) 154s., labourers 20 years and over 150s. 6d.; youths and boys 71s. 6d. at 16 and under, rising to 125s. 6d. at 19; workers in the London area, within a radius of 20 miles from Charing Cross, to receive 1d. an hour above these rates.

* These increases are the final payments under the agreement of June, 1955; a cost-of-living bonus, based on the Interim Index of Retail Prices, the latest published figure as at 1st January being taken as the starting point or basis, is also payable under this agreement; the bonus is of 1s. a week for workers 21 years and over and 8d. for workers under 21, for each point rise or fall above the basic figure. Minimum salaries are not to be affected by any fall in the index figure below the basic figure. Adjustments, where necessary, are to be made as from the beginning of the first full pay week following the publication in the Ministry of Labour Gazette of any variation of the index figure.

† Including boiler attendants, storemen, transport mechanics, transport drivers, charge-hand cleaners, cleaners, commissionaires, doormen and gatemen, charge-hand painters, painters' mates, carpenters, carpenters' mates and general labourers.

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

§ These increases apply to workpeople employed by members of the Association of Multiple Retail Meat Traders who have adopted the decisions of the Joint Committee for the Multiple Retail Meat Trade.

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

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Retail Meat Distribution	England and Wales (196)	Week commencing 23 Jan.	Managers and manageresses . . .	Increases of 11s. or 12s. a week, according to area. Minimum weekly rates after change: managers—London 171s. 6d. where weekly trade does not exceed £100 (previously the amount was £50) to 216s. where weekly trade does not exceed £500 (previously the amount was £300), Provincial A areas 165s. 6d. to 210s., Provincial B areas 159s. 6d. to 204s.; manageresses to receive 10s. a week less than managers' rates.
			Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in general butchers' shops	Increases of 9s. to 18s. a week, according to age and area, for male shop assistants and cashiers, and of 7s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. for female workers. Minimum weekly rates after change: male shop assistants and cashiers—London 70s. at 16, rising to 148s. 6d. at 22 (previously the highest rate was payable at 23), Provincial A areas 64s. to 143s. 6d., Provincial B areas 59s. to 134s. 6d.; female shop assistants and cashiers—London 56s. 6d. at 16 to 105s. at 22, A 51s. 6d. to 101s., B 47s. 6d. to 94s.; females mainly engaged in cutting and acting as general butchers' assistants—London 59s. 6d. at 16 to 109s. at 22, A 54s. 6d. to 105s., B 50s. 6d. to 98s.
			Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in pork butchers' shops	Increases of 9s. or 10s. a week, according to area, for first machinemen, of 9s. to 18s., according to age and area, for male assistants engaged as cutters, salesmen or makers-up, and of 7s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. for female assistants wholly or mainly engaged as makers-up. Minimum weekly rates after change: first machinemen engaged mainly in making-up—London 159s. 6d., Provincial A areas 154s. 6d., Provincial B areas 147s. 6d.; first machinemen with three or more assistants 169s. 6d., 164s. 6d., 157s. 6d.; male assistants engaged as cutters, salesmen or makers-up—London 70s. at 16 to 148s. 6d. at 22 (previously the highest rate was payable at 23), A 64s. to 143s. 6d., B 59s. to 134s. 6d.; female assistants wholly or mainly engaged as makers-up—London 59s. 6d. at 16 to 109s. at 22, A 54s. 6d. to 105s., B 50s. 6d. to 98s.
Post Office	United Kingdom (184-185)	1 Jan.	Female postal and telegraph officers, postwomen, women covering posts proper to postmen higher grade, female telegraphists and telephonists, etc., employed by the Post Office	Increases ranging from 1s. to 6s. a week, according to age, occupation, and area of employment, for full-time staff 21 years and over, with proportional hourly increases for part-time staff. Rates after change for full-time staff include: postal and telegraph officers, London 134s. a week at 21 years, rising to 159s. at 25, then to a maximum of 191s. Intermediate areas 130s. to 155s. then to 185s., Provincial areas 126s. to 151s. then to 178s.; postwomen 131s. to 146s. at 24, then to 158s., 127s. to 142s. then to 154s., 123s. to 138s. then to 150s.; women covering posts proper to postmen higher grade 133s. to 171s., 129s. to 167s., 125s. to 163s.; telegraphists 135s. to 155s. at 25 years then to 172s., 131s. to 151s. then to 168s., 127s. to 147s. then to 164s.; telephonists 133s. 6d. to 153s. then to 166s., 129s. 6d. to 149s. then to 162s., 125s. 6d. to 145s. then to 158s.*
Government Industrial Establishments	Great Britain	Beginning of pay week containing 5 Jan.	Shiftworkers paid on miscellaneous "M" rates	Increase of 2s. a week in shift allowance (8s. to 10s. for workers on rotating shifts and 6s. to 8s. for those on alternating shifts).
Local Authority Services	London (210-211)	Pay day in week commencing 2 Jan.	Manual workers employed by local authorities, except female workers employed in the school meals service, staff canteens and civic restaurants, home helps and semi-skilled engineering workers	Increases in London "weighting" of 5s. a week (6s. to 11s.) for adult male workers, of 3s. 9d. (4s. 6d. to 8s. 3d.) for female workers, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change include: men in the general classes—group I occupations 153s. a week, group II 156s. 8d., group III 160s. 4d., group IV 164s., group V 167s. 8d., group VI 171s. 4d.; road labourers 3s. 6d. an hour; ambulance staffs—drivers 179s. 6d. a week, attendants 166s. 4d.
River Authorities	England and Wales (215)	Commencement of first full pay period on or after 12 Dec., 1955†	Men and youths	Increase of 2d. an hour in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: Greater London area 3s. 4½d. an hour or 151s. 10½d. for a 45-hour week, other areas 3s. 2½d. or 144s. 4½d.
	do.	do.	Night watchmen	Increase of 7s. 6d. a week (129s. to 136s. 6d.).
Drawing Office Materials Manufacture	Great Britain	First pay day in Jan.	Men, women and juveniles	Increases of 7s. a week (17s. to 24s.) in cost-of-living bonus for male and female workers 21 years and over, of 5s. 3d. (12s. 9d. to 18s.) for workers 18 and under 21, and of 3s. 6d. (8s. 6d. to 12s.) for workers under 18.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING JANUARY, 1956

Leavers Lace Manufacture	Long Eaton, Nottingham and Derby districts	First pay day in Jan.	Twisthands and auxiliary workers	Normal weekly working hours reduced from 47 to 45.‡

* These increases represent the second stage in the introduction of equal pay for men and women in the non-industrial Civil Service.
† These increases were agreed in January, 1956, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.
‡ Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
§ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages".

Index of Rates of Wages

The index figure of rates of wages measures the movement, from month to month, in the level of full-time weekly rates of wages in the principal industries and services in the United Kingdom compared with the level at 30th June, 1947, taken as 100. The industries and services covered by the index and the method of calculation were described on page 41 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1948. The index is based on the recognised rates of wages fixed by collective agreements between organisations of employers and workpeople, arbitration awards or statutory orders. The percentage increases in the various industries are combined in accordance with the relative importance of the industries, as measured by the total wages bill in 1946. The index does not reflect changes in earnings due to such factors as alterations in working hours, or in piecework earnings due to variations in output or the introduction of new machinery, etc. As indicated on page 307 of the September, 1955, issue of this GAZETTE, the index of actual weekly earnings in April, 1955, the latest available, was 176 for all workers combined as compared with 152 for rates of wages in those industries covered by the earnings enquiries (and 152 also in all the principal industries and services).

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

In the first Table opposite are shown the separate index figures for men, women, juveniles and "all workers" for December in each of the years 1947 to 1954, inclusive, for March, June, September and December, 1955, and for January, 1956. The second Table shows the figure for "all workers" for each month since June, 1947.

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

Date	Men	Women	Juveniles	All Workers
1947, December . . .	103	103	106	103
1948, December . . .	107	109	110	107
1949, December . . .	109	112	118	114
1950, December . . .	113	116	122	116
1951, December . . .	125	130	133	126
1952, December . . .	132	138	143	134
1953, December . . .	125	116	118	114
1954, December . . .	136	143	149	138
1955, March . . .	142	148	156	144
June . . .	147	153	160	149
September . . .	151	155	163	153
December . . .	152	156	164	154
1956, January . . .	152	158	166	154
	154	159	168	156

All Workers

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1947	—	—	—	—	100	100	101	101	102	103	103	103
1948	104	104	105	105	105	106	106	106	106	107	107	107
1949	108	108	108	108	108	109	109	109	109	109	109	109
1950	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	111	111	111
1951	115	116	117	118	118	119	120	120	122	122	126	126
1952	127	128	128	129	129	129	130	130	131	131	134	134
1953	134	135	135	135	135	135	136	136	137	137	137	138
1954	139	139	139	141	142	142	142	143	143	144	144	144
1955	146	147	149	152	152	152	153	153	153	153	154	154
1956	156											

Industrial Disputes

DISPUTES IN JANUARY

The number of stoppages of work* arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in January, was 178. In addition, 6 stoppages which began before January were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The approximate number of workers involved during January in these 184 stoppages, including workers thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes, is estimated at nearly 27,000. The aggregate number of working days lost during January at the establishments concerned was nearly 84,000.

Of the total of 84,000 days lost in January, 67,000 were lost by 26,100 workers involved in stoppages which began in that month. Of these workers, 25,400 were directly involved and 700 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The number of days lost in January also included 17,000 days lost by 900 workers through stoppages which had continued from the previous month.

Duration of Stoppages

Of 171 stoppages of work owing to disputes which ended during January, 87, directly involving 6,800 workers, lasted not more than one day; 35, directly involving 5,700 workers, lasted two days; 25, directly involving 4,900 workers, lasted three days; 21, directly involving 7,000 workers, lasted four to six days; and 3, directly involving 700 workers, lasted over six days.

Causes of Stoppages

Of the 178 disputes leading to stoppages of work which began in January, 14, directly involving 3,100 workers, arose out of demands

for advances in wages, and 68, directly involving 9,200 workers, on other wage questions; 4, directly involving 300 workers, on questions as to working hours; 18, directly involving 3,000 workers, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 69, directly involving 6,600 workers, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and 2, directly involving 1,000 workers, on questions of trade union principle. Three stoppages, directly involving 2,200 workers, were in support of workers involved in other disputes.

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

Industry Group	Number of Stoppages in progress in Month			Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in Month	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress in Month
	Started before beginning of Month	Started in Month	Total		
Coal Mining	2	134	136	12,500	24,000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	2	6	8	2,400	18,000
Engineering	—	9	9	4,600	19,000
Vehicles	1	3	4	1,000	7,000
All remaining industries and services	1	26	27	6,500	16,000
Total, January, 1956	6	178	184	27,000	84,000
Total, December, 1955	15	126	141	24,500	113,000
Total, January, 1955	7	179	186	43,000	91,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES DURING JANUARY

Industry, Occupations† and Locality	Approximate Number of Workers involved		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object	Result
	Directly	Indirectly‡	Began	Ended		
SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIRING:— Joiners and other workers employed in shipbuilding—Birkenhead (one firm)	460	400	11 Nov.	—	Employer's termination of an understanding about demarcation	No settlement reported.
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING:— Machine setters and other workers employed in the manufacture of electrical equipment for cars and aircraft—Beaconsfield (one firm)	600	—	23 Jan.	30 Jan.	Dismissal of eight workers on redundancy grounds	Work resumed to permit negotiations.
Workers employed in the manufacture of electrical equipment for cars and aircraft—Hemel Hempstead and Willesden (one firm)	1,800	—	23 Jan.	30 Jan.	In sympathy with the workers involved in the above dispute	
Workers employed in the manufacture of record changing equipment for radiograms—London-derry (one firm)	670	—	24 Jan.	31 Jan.	Closure of factory following workers' decision to work to rule	Resumption of work on agreed terms.
VEHICLES:— Workers employed in the manufacture of motor car bodies—Coventry (one firm)	450	—	3 Jan.	20 Jan.	Fresh hourly rate paid to pieceworkers when piecework not available.	Work resumed pending negotiations.

* The statistics relate to stoppages of work due to disputes connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour. They exclude stoppages involving fewer than 10 workers, and those which lasted less than one day, except any in which the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures for the month under review are provisional and subject to revision; those for earlier months have been revised where necessary in accordance with the most recent information.
† The occupations printed in italics are those of workers indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes.

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

1st April, 1955

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

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U.K. Index of Retail Prices

INDEX FOR 17th JANUARY, 1956

ALL ITEMS (17th June, 1947 = 100) .. 153

At 17th January, 1956, the retail prices index was 153 (prices at 17th June, 1947 = 100), compared with 154 at 13th December, 1955, and with 146 at 18th January, 1955. The fall in the index during the month was due mainly to a substantial reduction in the average price of eggs and smaller reductions in the average prices of bacon, pork and ham. These reductions were partly offset by increases in the average prices of a number of other items including cooking apples, tomatoes and other vegetables, and by increases in rents and fares in several districts including London.

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

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

DETAILED FIGURES FOR 17th JANUARY, 1956

(15th January, 1952 = 100)

The following Table shows, for various groups and sub-groups, the indices at 17th January, 1956, on the basis 15th January, 1952 = 100, together with the relative weights which have been used in combining the group indices into a single "all items" index.

GROUP AND SUB-GROUP	INDEX FIGURE FOR 17th January, 1956 (15th January, 1952 = 100)	GROUP WEIGHT
I. Food :		
Bread, flour, biscuits, cakes, etc.	121	
Meat, bacon and ham, and fish	130	
Milk, cheese and eggs	111	
Butter, margarine and cooking fat	143	
Vegetables and fruit	132	
Tea and sugar, etc.	158	
Miscellaneous manufactured foods	111	
Total—Food	125.4	399
II. Rent and rates .. 117.9 .. 72		
III. Clothing :		
Men's outer clothing	109	
Men's underclothing	94	
Women's outer clothing	98	
Women's underclothing	91	
Children's clothing	99	
Clothing materials	92	
Footwear	97	
Total—Clothing	98.7	98
IV. Fuel and light :		
Coal and coke	132	
Other fuel and light	124	
Total—Fuel and light	127.6	66
V. Household durable goods :		
Furniture	109	
Appliances, etc.	106	
Floor coverings, drapery and soft furnishings	91	
Hardware, pottery, glass, etc.	118	
Total—Household durable goods	102.5	62
VI. Miscellaneous goods :		
Soap and other miscellaneous household goods, medicines and toilet requisites	105	
Newspapers, books, stationery and toys	108	
Total—Miscellaneous goods	106.6	44
VII. Services :		
Travel	127	
Entertainment	116	
Other services	115	
Total—Services	119.1	91
VIII. Alcoholic drink .. 103.1 .. 78		
IX. Tobacco .. 102.9 .. 90		
ALL ITEMS	115.8	1,000

PRINCIPAL CHANGES DURING MONTH

Food

Between 13th December, 1955, and 17th January, 1956, there was a substantial reduction in the average price of eggs. There were also reductions in the average prices of bacon, pork, ham, imported beef, sausages and tea. The effect of these reductions was partly offset by rises in the average levels of prices of cooking apples, tomatoes, potatoes and other vegetables, fish and cheese. For the food group as a whole the average level of prices fell by nearly 1½ per cent. and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 125 at 17th January, compared with 127 at 13th December.

Rent and Rates

During the month under review there were increases in net rents of local authority dwellings in some areas; in addition, the rent index is affected each month by the inclusion of rents of newly-erected local authority dwellings. As a result the average level of rent and rates rose by about 1 per cent. and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 118 at 17th January, compared with 117 at 13th December.

Clothing

Between 13th December and 17th January there were increases in the average prices of most articles of clothing and footwear. The effect of these increases was to raise the level of clothing prices, taken as a whole, by about one-half of 1 per cent. and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 99 at 17th January, compared with 98 at 13th December.

Household Durable Goods

The average prices of most articles of furniture and hardware and many appliances rose between 13th December and 17th January. There were also increases in the average prices of floor coverings. For the household durable goods group as a whole, the average level of prices rose by about 1 per cent. and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 103 at 17th January, compared with 102 at 13th December.

Services

Between 13th December and 17th January there were increases in fares in a number of areas, including London. There were also increases in laundry charges in many areas and in parcel postage rates. The effect of all these increases was to raise the average level of prices and charges for the group as a whole by between 1 and 1½ per cent., and the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 119 at 17th January, compared with 118 at 13th December.

Other Groups

In the four remaining groups, covering fuel and light, miscellaneous goods, alcoholic drink and tobacco, there was little change in the general level of prices during the month under review. The index figures for these groups, expressed to the nearest whole number, were 128, 107, 103 and 103, respectively.

ALL ITEMS INDICES FOR 1947-56

(17th June, 1947 = 100)

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

Thus, at 17th January, 1956, the "all items" figure in the current series, with prices at 15th January, 1952, taken as 100, was 115.8. This figure has then to be linked to the index figure for 15th January, 1952, in the old series, in order to produce an "all items" figure for 17th January, 1956, comparable with all the indices published for dates up to and including January, 1952, i.e., on the basis 17th June, 1947, taken as 100. The calculation is as follows:—

All items index at 15th January, 1952 (17th June, 1947 = 100) .. 132.5
 All items index at 17th January, 1956 (15th January, 1952 = 100) .. 115.8
 ∴ All items index at 17th January, 1956 (17th June, 1947 = 100) .. 132.5 × 100 / 115.8 = 115.8

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

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1947	—	—	—	—	—	100	101	100	101	101	103	104
1948	104	106	106	108	108	110	108	108	108	108	109	109
1949	109	109	109	109	111	111	111	111	112	112	112	113
1950	113	113	113	114	114	114	114	113	114	115	116	116
1951	117	118	119	121	124	125	126	127	128	129	129	130
1952	132	133	133	135	135	138	138	137	136	138	138	138
1953	138	139	140	141	140	141	141	140	140	140	140	140
1954	140	140	141	142	141	142	145	144	143	144	145	145
1955	146	146	146	147	147	150	150	149	150	152	154	154
1956	153	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS

The monthly summary of the latest information received is given on page 74.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

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Fatal Industrial Accidents

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in January was 101, compared with 121 in the previous month and 107 (revised figure) in January, 1955. In the case of seamen employed in ships registered in the United Kingdom, 19 fatal accidents were reported in January, compared with 4 in the previous month and 34 in January, 1955. Detailed figures for separate industries are given below for January, 1956.

Mines and Quarries*	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Underground .. 27	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships .. 4
Surface .. 1	Building Operations .. 19
Quarries .. 3	Works of Engineering Construction ..
Metalliferous Mines ..	Warehouses ..
TOTAL, MINES & QUARRIES .. 31	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT .. 63
Factories	
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pottery and Glass .. 2	Railway Service
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. .. 5	Brakemen, Goods Guards ..
Metal Extracting and Refining ..	Engine Drivers, Motor-men .. 2
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) .. 7	Permanent Way Men .. 1
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. .. 6	Porters .. 2
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and Other Vehicles and Aircraft Manufacture .. 2	Shunters ..
Shipbuilding .. 3	Other Grades .. 1
Other Metal Trades .. 3	Contractors' Servants .. 1
Cotton ..	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE .. 7
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy .. 1	Total (excluding Seamen) 101
Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing ..	
Tanning, Currying, etc. ..	Seamen
Food and Drink ..	Trading Vessels .. 9
General Woodwork and Furniture .. 1	Fishing Vessels .. 10
Paper, Printing, etc. .. 3	TOTAL, SEAMEN .. 19
Rubber Trades .. 1	Total (including Seamen) 120
Gas Works .. 2	
Electrical Stations .. 2	
Other Industries .. 2	

Industrial Diseases

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

I. Cases	I. Cases—continued
Lead Poisoning	Epitheliomatous Ulceration (Skin Cancer)
Operatives engaged in : Smelting of Metals .. 2	Pitch and Tar .. 5
Shipbreaking .. 2	Mineral Oil .. 1
Other contact with Molten Lead .. 2	TOTAL .. 6
Paint and Colour Works ..	Chrome Ulceration
Other Industries ..	Manuf. of Bichromates .. 4
TOTAL .. 4	Chromium Plating .. 4
	Dyeing and Finishing ..
	Other Industries ..
	TOTAL .. 8
Other Poisoning ..	Total, Cases .. 19
Anthrax	II. Deaths
Wool ..	Epitheliomatous Ulceration (Skin Cancer)
Other Industries .. 1	Pitch and Tar .. 1
TOTAL .. 1	Mineral Oil ..
	TOTAL .. 1

* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are obtained and the figures cover the 4 weeks ended 28th January, 1956.

Vocational and Disabled Training

The statistics of the Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes given below relate to the thirteen weeks ended 12th December, 1955. The number of applicants admitted to training during the period was 1,868, and 3,557 persons were in training at the end of the period. The latter figure included 3,050 males and 507 females; of the total, 2,253 were disabled persons. During the period 1,544 trainees were placed in employment. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below.

	Males	Females	Total
Applicants admitted to training during period :			
Able-bodied ..	688	47	735
Disabled ..	895	238	1,133
Total ..	1,583	285	1,868
Number of Persons in Training at end of period at :			
Government Training Centres—			
Able-bodied ..	1,164	32	1,196
Disabled ..	1,070	66	1,136
Technical and Commercial Colleges—			
Able-bodied ..	53	34	87
Disabled ..	273	273	546
Employers' Establishments—			
Able-bodied ..	21	—	21
Disabled ..	62	7	69
Residential (Disabled) Centres and Voluntary Organisations ..	407	95	502
Total ..	3,050	507	3,557
Trainees placed in Employment during period :			
Able-bodied ..	572	34	606
Disabled ..	745	193	938
Total ..	1,317	227	1,544

From the beginning of the Vocational Training Scheme on 2nd July, 1945, up to 12th December, 1955, the number of trainees placed in employment was 124,095, of whom 110,523 were males and 13,572 were females.

Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics below show the numbers of men and women admitted to courses at the Industrial Rehabilitation Units operated by the Ministry of Labour and National Service during the four weeks ended 9th January, 1956, the numbers in attendance at the end of, and the numbers who completed courses during, the period.

	Men	Women	Total
Persons admitted to courses during period ..	493	73	566
Persons in attendance at courses at end of period ..	1,101	193	1,294
Persons who completed courses during period ..	479	90	569

From the starting of these Units by the Ministry of Labour and National Service up to 9th January, 1956, the total number of persons admitted to industrial rehabilitation courses was 68,058.



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Reinstatement in Civil Employment

Information about the Acts relating to reinstatement in civil employment, viz., the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1944, the National Service Act, 1948, the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1950, and the Reserve and Auxiliary Forces (Training) Act, 1951, was given in the issue of this GAZETTE for May, 1951 (page 215).

The following Table analyses the determinations given by Reinstatement Committees (a) during the quarter ended 31st December, 1955, and (b) during the whole period from 1st August, 1944.

	December Quarter, 1955	Total cases dealt with
Orders requiring employment to be made available to applicants	1	1,723
Orders requiring payment of compensation for loss by reason of default	6	920
Orders for both reinstatement and compensation	3	2,141
Total of orders made	10	4,784
No orders made against the employers concerned	4	4,641
Total of cases determined	14	9,425

Included in the total figure of 9,425 were 505 cases determined between 1st August, 1944, and the end of 1945, 4,277 during 1946, 1,777 during 1947, 1,387 during 1948, 431 during 1949, 280 during 1950, 93 during 1951, 248 during 1952, 203 during 1953, 148 during 1954 and 76 in 1955.

Of the total of 9,425 cases determined since 1st August, 1944, 8,630 were dealt with under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1944, 769 under the National Service Act, 1948, 23 under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1950, and three under the Reserve and Auxiliary Forces (Training) Act, 1951. The 14 cases determined during the December quarter in 1955 were dealt with under the National Service Act, 1948.

Appeals against five determinations of Reinstatement Committees were decided by the Umpire during the quarter, and, of these determinations, three were confirmed, one was varied and one reversed by him. Appeals against 16 determinations of Reinstatement Committees were decided by the Umpire during the year, and, of these, six were upheld, four varied and six set aside. During the whole period from 1st August, 1944, to 31st December, 1955, the Umpire decided 1,214 appeals, and in 481 cases he reversed the Committee's determinations.

No reinstatement cases were determined during the quarter by Reinstatement Committees or the Umpire either in Northern Ireland or the Isle of Man. The Reinstatement Committees in Northern Ireland have, up to 31st December, 1955, determined 39 cases, 23 of them being decided in favour of the applicant. The Deputy Umpire in Northern Ireland has decided eight appeals; in seven cases the Committee's determinations were confirmed. During 1955 the Isle of Man Reinstatement Committee determined one case. It rejected the application for reinstatement, but the applicant was awarded compensation.

Other work of the Reinstatement Committees related to the statutory provisions of Section 51 of the National Service Act, 1948, prohibiting dismissal of employees by reason of liability for part-time service under the Act. During the quarter, four applications for compensation under this Section of the Act were determined by Reinstatement Committees, orders for compensation being made in two of these cases. The Umpire did not decide any appeals against such orders during the quarter. During 1955 compensation was awarded in seven out of the 14 cases determined by the Committees. No appeals under Section 51 were received by the Umpire against these decisions during the year.

Shipbuilding in Fourth Quarter of 1955

According to Lloyd's Register Shipbuilding Returns for the quarter ended 31st December, 1955, the number of merchant steamers and motorships under construction in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the end of December was 361, with a gross tonnage of 2,226,190 tons, compared with 346 vessels of 2,147,057 tons gross at the end of September, 1955, an increase of 79,133 tons.

The tonnage of vessels intended for registration abroad or for sale was 757,599 at the end of December. This figure, which was 1,313 tons more than at the end of September, represented 34.0 per cent. of the total tonnage being built in this country and included 222,440 tons for Norway and 166,800 tons for Liberia. The tonnage at the end of December intended for registration abroad included 80,035 tons on which construction commenced during the quarter.

The total tonnage of steamers and motorships under construction in the world at the end of December amounted to 6,612,641 tons gross, of which 33.7 per cent. was being built in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The tonnage under construction abroad at the end of December was 4,386,451, an increase of 247,809 tons compared with the previous quarter. Steam and motor oil tankers under construction in the world amounted to 2,627,756 tons. The oil tanker percentage of the total tonnage under construction in the

world was 39.7 per cent., the lowest percentage since June, 1951. The total tonnage of oil tankers being built in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 941,825, representing 42.3 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction in this country. The world figures and those for construction abroad are exclusive of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Poland, and China, for which countries no figures were available.

The numbers of propelled vessels begun in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the fourth quarter of 1955 were 19 steamers, of 187,290 tons, and 53 motorships, of 221,265 tons, a total of 72 vessels, of 408,555 tons gross. The numbers launched during the same period were 22 steamers, of 240,067 tons, and 52 motorships, of 222,878 tons, a total of 74 vessels, of 462,945 tons gross. The numbers completed during the period were 16 steamers, of 131,351 tons, and 40 motorships, of 206,350 tons, a total of 56 vessels, of 337,701 tons gross.

The figures in this article exclude vessels of less than 100 tons gross. They also exclude non-propelled vessels (sail and barges).

Retail Prices Overseas

In the Table below a summary is given of the latest information relating to changes in retail prices in overseas countries contained in official publications received since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared.

Country	Base of Index* and Month for which Index Figure is given	Index Figure	Rise(+) or Fall(-) of Index Figure (in Index Points) compared with	
			Month before	Year before
European Countries				
Austria (Vienna)	Mar., 1938 = 100			
All items*	Dec., 1955	713	Nil	+22
Food		717	Nil	+10
Belgium	1935 = 100			
All Items*	Nov., 1955	102	Nil	+1
Food		103	Nil	+1
Denmark	1935 = 100			
All Items	Jan., 1956	239	+3†	+13
Finland	Oct., 1951 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1955	101‡	Nil	+3
Food		104‡	Nil	+5
France (Paris)	1949 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1955	146.3	+0.2	+1.4
Food		137.7	+0.3	+1.3
Germany (Federal Republic)	1950 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1955	112	Nil	+2
Food		118	Nil	+2
Iceland (Reykjavik)	Mar., 1950 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1955	174	+1	+14
Food		183	Nil	+17
Italy (Large towns)	1938 = 1			
All Items	Oct., 1955	59.91	-0.02	+1.44
Food		70.47	-0.09	+1.20
Netherlands	1951 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1955	105	Nil	-1
Food		108	Nil	-1
Norway	1949 = 100			
All Items	Oct., 1955	142	Nil	-1
Food		159	Nil	-2
Portugal (Lisbon)	July, 1948-June, 1949 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955	101.5	+0.9	+1.1
Food		103.1	+1.7	+2.2
Spain (Large towns)	July, 1936 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1955	610.1	+4.4	+28.9
Food		772.9	+8.0	+46.0
Sweden	1949 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955	137	+2	+8
Food		151	+3	+15
Switzerland	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955	173.6	+0.2	+0.6
Food		191.8	+0.5	-0.2
Other Countries				
Australia (6 capital cities)	1952-53 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1955	105.7	+1.0†	+3.0
Food		108.2	+1.8†	+5.2
Canada	1949 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1955	116.9	Nil	+0.3
Food		112.4	-0.6	-0.2
Ceylon (Colombo)	1952 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955	100.8	+0.5	-0.8
Food		105.53	+0.93	-1.75
India*	1949 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955§	98	+1	Nil
Food		95	+1	-3
Israel	Sept., 1951 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1955	239	+8	+12
Food		258.4	+17.7	+12.6
Japan	1951 = 100			
All Items	Oct., 1955	119.0	+1.6	-1.8
Food		117.3	+2.5	-4.1
Pakistan (Karachi)	Apr., 1948- March, 1949 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1955	107	+1	-3
Food		107	+1	-3
Rhodesia, Northern	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Oct., 1955	191	+1	+7
Food		246	+1	+10
Rhodesia, Southern	Oct., 1949 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955	132	+1	+4
Food		152	+1	+6
South Africa, Union (9 urban areas)	1938 = 100			
All Items	Sept., 1955	203.4	+1.9	+5.0
Food		234.9	+0.9	+6.7
United States	1947-49 = 100			
All Items	Nov., 1955	115.0	+0.1	+0.4
Food		109.8	-1.0	-1.3

* The items of expenditure on which the "all items" figures are based are food, clothing, house-rent, fuel and light, and other or miscellaneous items, except in the case of Austria (food, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) and Belgium (food, clothing, fuel and light, services, and household, etc., items). The index for India is an All-India average of the indices for a number of areas. † The index is quarterly and comparison is with the previous quarter. ‡ Figures supplied by Labour Attaché. § Figures for the latest month are provisional.

ARBITRATION AWARDS, NOTICES, ORDERS, ETC.

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

Industrial Disputes Tribunal Awards

During January the Industrial Disputes Tribunal issued twelve awards, Nos. 788 to 799.* Three of the awards are summarised below; the others related to individual employers.

Award No. 789 (4th January).—Parties: Employers represented by the Employers' Side of the London Joint Council for Local Authorities' Services (Manual Workers), and members of the trade unions represented on the Trade Union Side of the Council in their employment. Claim: For the upgrading of tree pruners or loppers from Group IV to Group V of the London Joint Council Schedule. Award: The Tribunal found in favour of the claim.

Award No. 798 (30th January).—Parties: Members of the Surgical Instrument Manufacturers' Association (Incorporated), and members of the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers and members of the National Union of Furniture Trade Operatives in their employment. Claim: For an improvement in wages for artificial limb makers. Award: The Tribunal awarded that 9d. of the cost-of-living bonus should be consolidated into the existing adult basic hourly rates, and that these enhanced rates should be increased by 4d. an hour for Grades 1, A and B and by 3d. an hour for Grade C, representing revised hourly rates of 5s. 2d. for Grade 1, 5s. 1d. for Grade A, 4s. 11d. for Grade B and 4s. 5d. for Grade C. The Tribunal also awarded that in the case of apprentices and juniors proportionate amounts of the cost-of-living bonus should be consolidated into the existing basic hourly rates and that these enhanced rates should be increased by proportionate flat-rate amounts. The award was made effective from the first pay week after 18th November, 1955.

Award No. 799 (30th January).—Parties: Employers represented by the Management Side of the Ancillary Staffs Council of the Whitley Councils for the Health Services (Great Britain), and members of the trade unions represented on the Trade Union Side of the Council in their employment. Claim: That the standard working week for all staff covered by the Ancillary Staffs Council shall provide for 44 hours' attendance. Award: The Tribunal found that the claim had not been established.

National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) Awards

During January the National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) issued three awards, one of which is summarised below. The other awards did not relate to a substantial part of an industry.

Award No. 1148 (30th January).—Parties: Certain member firms of the Ulster Provincial Licensed Traders' Defence Association in Newry, and certain members of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union employed by them as barmen. Claim: For revised rates of wages and conditions of employment for male apprentices, male assistants and charge-hands. Award: The Tribunal awarded (a) that the normal working week of the workers concerned should be 48 hours; and (b) that the minimum rates of wages for a week of 48 hours should be: male apprentices during first year of apprenticeship £2 10s., during second year £2 15s., during third year £3; male assistants, during first year after apprenticeship £4, during second year after apprenticeship £4 10s., after five years' service (including three years' apprenticeship) £5 17s. 6d.; male charge-hands, in sole charge of house and stock and one assistant £6, with not more than two assistants £6 5s. The award is without prejudice to the right of any worker whose existing wages are in excess of the minimum rates provided therein to continue to receive such higher wages. The award is to have effect from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award.

Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal

During January the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal issued one award, No. 306*, which is summarised below.

Award No. 306 (11th January).—Parties: The Institution of Professional Civil Servants and the Admiralty. Claim: For increased salary scales with retrospective effect for Superintending Electrical Engineers, Electrical Engineers and Assistant Electrical Engineers employed by the Director of Electrical Engineering and the Director of Dockyards, Admiralty. Award: The Tribunal awarded:—(a) that the Superintending Electrical Engineers, the Electrical Engineers and the Assistant Electrical Engineers employed by the Director of Electrical Engineering and the Director of Dockyards, Admiralty, shall be paid the following salary scales (London, male) with effect from 1st January, 1953:—Superintending Electrical Engineers £1,575 by £60 to £1,695 by £70 to £1,800,

Electrical Engineers £1,130 by £40 to £1,250 by £50 to £1,500, Assistant Electrical Engineers £620 (age 23, age pay up to 30 years) by £45 to £800 by £25 to £825 by £35 to £1,055 (this scale does not attract a £75 special increase); (b) that the above scales shall attract Pay Supplement with effect from 1st July, 1954, with an increase, where appropriate, from 1st July, 1955; (c) that normal Civil Service three-tier provincial differentiation shall apply; (d) that the "corresponding points" principle shall be applied in the assimilation to the new scales of officers in post.

The Tribunal found that the scale claimed for Superintending Electrical Engineers with effect from 1st January, 1951, had not been established and awarded accordingly.

Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896

Industrial Court Awards

During January the Industrial Court issued six awards, Nos. 2591 to 2596. Four of the awards are summarised below; the others did not relate to a substantial part of an industry.

Award No. 2591 (12th January).—Parties: Radio Officers' Union and Marconi International Marine Communication Company, Limited, Radio Communication Company, Limited, and Marconi Sounding Device Company, Limited. Claim: For amendment of certain clauses of Memoranda of Agreement. Award: The Court awarded:—(a) That as from and including 1st July, 1955, the first two stages of the Marine Technical Assistant scale shall be deemed to have been eliminated and that those who, on the aforesaid date, were in their first or second year of service shall be deemed to have been in their third year; (b) that subject to the provisions contained in (a) above, the salary scales of the under-mentioned grades shall, as from and including 1st July, 1955, be increased at each point by the amounts shown: Inspector £45, Assistant Inspector £40, Marine Technical Assistant (including temporary officers) £35; (c) that those employees falling within the present reference who, under existing agreement or practice, have been paid 3s. 6d. an hour when unable to take leave in lieu of excess hours worked, shall, as from and including 1st July, 1955, be entitled to 4s. an hour in respect of such excess hours.

Award No. 2594 (24th January).—Parties: Staff Side and Management Side of the Whitley Councils for the Health Services (Great Britain) Professional and Technical "A" Whitley Council. Claim: For increase in scales of salary of Physiotherapists. Award: The Court found and awarded that as from 1st January, 1956, the salary scales of the under-mentioned grades of Physiotherapists shall be as follows: Physiotherapist £462 10s. by £15 to £537 10s., Senior Physiotherapist working single-handed or in charge of one physiotherapist in the basic grade, or in charge of a clearly defined division £520 10s. by £15 to £580 10s., Superintendent Physiotherapist I in charge of 2 or 3 physiotherapists £537 by £15 to £597, Superintendent Physiotherapist II in charge of 4 to 8 physiotherapists £571 by £15 to £661, Superintendent Physiotherapist III in charge of 9 to 13 physiotherapists £626 by £20 to £726, Superintendent Physiotherapist IV in charge of 14 or more physiotherapists £669 by £20 to £769, Assistant Superintendent Physiotherapist where there are 6 to 13 physiotherapists in addition to the Superintendent Physiotherapist £526 by £15 to £586, Assistant Superintendent Physiotherapist where there are 14 or more physiotherapists in addition to the Superintendent Physiotherapist £537 by £15 to £597. Physiotherapy Teachers: Teacher £549 10s. by £15 to £609 10s. by £20 to £709 10s., Assistant Principal £603 by £15 to £663 by £20 to £763, Principal I £658 by £20 to £758 by £25 to £833, Principal II £707 by £20 to £787 by £25 to £887. Assimilation shall be in the new salary scales on the "corresponding points" principle, that is to say, each officer will, as from 1st January, 1956, be placed on the point in the new scale which he would have reached had the scale been operative at the date of his appointment in his particular grade. The award is without prejudice to the question of whether and to what extent, if any, the current wages structure should be revised, a question which, in the view of the Court, should come up for further consideration between the parties after a lapse of not less than five years from 1st May, 1952, the date upon which the current structure was instituted.

Award No. 2595 (24th January).—Parties: Staff Side and Management Side of the Whitley Councils for the Health Services (Great Britain) Professional and Technical "A" Whitley Council. Claim: For increase in scales of salary of Occupational Therapists. Award: The Court found and awarded that as from 1st January, 1956, the salary scales of the under-mentioned grades of Occupational Therapists shall be as follows: Occupational Therapist £462 10s. by £15 to £537 10s., Senior Occupational Therapist working single-handed or in charge of one occupational therapist £520 10s. by £15 to £580 10s., Head Occupational Therapist Grade I in charge of 2 or 3 occupational therapists in the basic grade £537 by £15 to £597, Head Occupational Therapist Grade II in charge of 4 to 8 occupational therapists £571 by £15 to £661, Head Occupational Therapist Grade III in charge of 9 to 13 occupational therapists £626 by £20 to £726, Head Occupational Therapist

* See footnote * in first column on page 79.

Grade IV in charge of 14 or more occupational therapists £669 by £20 to £769, Assistant Head Occupational Therapist where there are 4 to 13 occupational therapists in addition to the Head Occupational Therapist £526 by £15 to £586, Assistant Head Occupational Therapist where there are 14 or more occupational therapists in addition to the Head Occupational Therapist £537 by £15 to £597. Assimilation shall be in the new salary scales on the "corresponding points" principle, that is to say, each officer will, as from 1st January, 1956, be placed on the point in the new scale which he would have reached had the scale been operative at the date of his appointment in his particular grade. The award is without prejudice to the question of whether and to what extent, if any, the current wages structure should be revised, a question which, in the view of the Court, should come up for further consideration between the parties after a lapse of not less than five years from 1st May, 1952, the date upon which the current structure was instituted.

Award No. 2596 (24th January).—Parties: Staff Side and Management Side of the Professional and Technical Council "A" of the Whitley Councils for the Health Services (Great Britain) Professional and Technical "A" Whitley Council. **Claim:** For increase in scales of salary for Remedial Gymnasts. **Award:** The Court found and awarded that as from 1st January, 1956, the salary scales of the under-mentioned grades of Remedial Gymnasts shall be as follows: Remedial Gymnast £441 by £15 to £516, Senior Remedial Gymnast working single-handed or in charge of one remedial gymnast in the basic grade £499 by £15 to £559, Head Remedial Gymnast I in charge of 2 remedial gymnasts £515 by £15 to £575, Head Remedial Gymnast II in charge of 3 or 4 remedial gymnasts £533 10s. by £15 to £623 10s., Head Remedial Gymnast III in charge of 5 or more remedial gymnasts £572 by £20 to £672. Assimilation shall be in the new salary scales on the "corresponding points" principle, that is to say, each officer will, as from 1st January, 1956, be placed on the point in the new scale which he would have reached had the scale been operative at the date of his appointment in his particular grade. The award is without prejudice to the question of whether and to what extent, if any, the current wages structure should be revised, a question which, in the view of the Court, should come up for further consideration between the parties after a lapse of not less than five years from 1st May, 1952, the date upon which the current structure was instituted.

Single Arbitrators and ad hoc Boards of Arbitration

During January two awards were issued by Single Arbitrators appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. The awards are summarised below:—

Parties: The Iron and Steel Trades Employers' Association and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. **Claim:** That the tonnage bonus agreement in respect of Craftsmen's Mates at Port Talbot and Margam Works should be applied to Platelayers at the Port Talbot, Margam and Abbey Works of the Steel Company of Wales Limited. **Award:** The Arbitrator found that the claim had not been established.

Parties: Remploy Limited and Group Controllers in the employ of Remploy Limited. **Claim:** To determine a difference regarding the salaries of Group Controllers. **Award:** The Arbitrator awarded that the initial salary of a Group Controller should be £1,350 per annum with three annual increments of £50 per annum and the salaries of existing Group Controllers should be appropriately adjusted on the basis of their service as Controllers; the award to be effective from 1st January, 1956.

In addition, two awards were issued in January by Boards of Arbitration appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. The awards are summarised below:—

Parties: Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and the Civil Service Union. **Claim:** That the scale of pay for male Section House Wardens shall be revised with effect from 1st January, 1952, by an addition of £1 a week to each point of the scale. **Award:** The Board awarded that the scale of pay should be revised with effect from 1st January, 1953, by an addition of 7s. 6d. a week to each point in the scale.

Parties: Two Sides of the Pilot Officers' Sectional Panel of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport. **Claim:** To determine a difference arising from proposals submitted by the two Sides regarding the working hours and duty arrangements of pilots. **Award:** The Board accepted the contention of the Employers' Side that the award should take the form of a revision of the existing agreement and incorporated in the employers' proposals some of the claims made by the Employees' Side.

During January, also, an Independent Chairman was appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896, to settle a difference relating to the dismissal of a worker employed by an individual undertaking.

Wages Councils Acts, 1945-1948

Notices of Proposals

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

Retail Bread and Flour Confectionery Trade Wages Council (Scotland).—Proposal B.F.C.S.(3), dated 6th January, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

Hair, Bass and Fibre Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal H.B. (46), dated 10th January, for fixing revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers.

Retail Food Trades Wages Council (England and Wales).—Proposal R.F.C. (20), dated 13th January, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

Jute Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal J. (95), dated 13th January, for fixing revised general minimum and guaranteed

time rates, general minimum piece rates and supplemental payments for male and female workers and piecework basis time rates for female workers.

Retail Food Trades Wages Council (Scotland).—Proposal R.F.C.S. (18), dated 17th January, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers and for amending the provisions relating to holidays and holiday remuneration.

Sack and Bag Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal S.B. (44), dated 17th January, for fixing revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers and piecework basis time rates for female workers.

Retail Bread and Flour Confectionery Trade Wages Council (England and Wales).—Proposal B.F.C. (3), dated 20th January, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

Retail Bookselling and Stationery Trades Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal R.B.C. (17), dated 20th January, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers and for amending the provisions relating to holidays and holiday remuneration.

Brush and Broom Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal M. (80), dated 20th January, for fixing revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers.

Retail Furnishing and Allied Trades Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal R.F.A. (23), dated 27th January, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

Milk Distributive Wages Council (Scotland).—Proposal M.D.S. (66), dated 31st January, for fixing revised general minimum time rates for male and female workers.

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

Wages Regulation Orders

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

The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1956: S.I. 1956 No. 35 (W.D.S. (65)), dated 12th January and effective from 27th January. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers.—See page 65.

The Hat, Cap and Millinery Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1956: S.I. 1956 No. 36 (H.M.S. (45)), dated 12th January and effective from 27th January. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers.—See page 66.

The Cutlery Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1956: S.I. 1956 No. 109 (C.T. (59)), dated 30th January and effective from 13th February. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers and amends the provisions relating to holidays and holiday remuneration.

Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945

Notices of Proposals

No notices of proposals were issued during January.

Wages Regulation Orders

During January the Ministry of Labour and National Service made the following Wages Regulation Orders* giving effect to the proposals made by the Wages Councils concerned:—

The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 1) Order, 1956 (N.I.W.D. (N.78)), dated 20th January and effective on and from 30th January. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers in the Factory Branch of the trade.—See page 66.

The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1956 (N.I.W.D. (N.79)), dated 20th January and effective on and from 30th January. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for female workers in the Retail Bespoke Branch of the trade.—See page 66.

The Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1956 (N.I.H.H.G. (N.141)), dated 26th January and effective on and from 8th February. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers in the trade.

Agricultural Wages Act, 1948

Orders relating to England and Wales

Orders Nos. 2041 to 2087 were made on 11th January by the Agricultural Wages Board for England and Wales with effect from 23rd January, 1956, raising the statutory minimum and overtime rates of wages for male and female workers employed in agriculture in England and Wales—See pages 46 and 62.

* See footnote * in first column on page 79.

Decisions of the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts

The Commissioner is a judicial authority independent of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and appointed by the Crown (see Section 43 of the National Insurance Act, 1946, and Section 42 of the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946). His decisions*, which are final, are binding on Insurance Officers and Local Tribunals and must be followed in appropriate cases. They are thus the "case law" which is the principal means of maintaining consistency of decisions.

Appeals to the Commissioner under the National Insurance Acts may be made by an Insurance Officer, or by an association of which the claimant is a member, or by the claimant himself with the leave of the Tribunal or the Commissioner, or without such leave if the decision of the Tribunal was not unanimous.

Appeals to the Commissioner under the Industrial Injuries Acts may be made by an Insurance Officer, or by a person whose right to benefit is or may be, under the fourth Schedule to the 1946 Act, affected by the decision, or by an association of which the claimant or the deceased was a member, or by the claimant himself. No appeal may be made without the leave of the Tribunal or of the Commissioner.

Recent decisions of general interest are set out below.

Decision No. R(U) 21/55 (9th September)

A share fisherman, who was a seasonal worker, was unable at the beginning of his off-season to satisfy the additional conditions imposed by regulation 2(1)(b) of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations. During the off-season, he obtained a substantial amount of employment, though not in his normal occupation, and applied for a review of the disallowance of benefit from the beginning of the off-season. Held that the original decision should not be reviewed; the employment obtained fortuitously could not reasonably have been foreseen, and did not constitute a relevant change of circumstances. Decision R(U)16/51 distinguished.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that I affirm the decision of the local tribunal (dated 7th April, 1955) upholding the local insurance officer's decision of 2nd March, 1955, refusing to review the decision of the local tribunal dated 12th January, 1955, whereby the claimant's claim for unemployment benefit dated 4th October, 1954, was disallowed.

"The claimant, a married man aged 64 years, lodged a claim for unemployment benefit on 4th October, 1954. He was registered for employment as a share fisherman. On 20th October, 1954, the local insurance officer decided—having regard to the claimant's record of employment—that he was a seasonal worker as defined by regulation 2(2)(a) of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations, 1950 [S.I. 1950 No. 1220] as amended by the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Amendment Regulations, 1952 [S.I. 1952 No. 1466]; that his claim was made in his off-season; and that he failed to establish the additional condition with respect to the receipt of unemployment benefit imposed by regulation 2(1)(b) of the Regulations. On appeal, the local tribunal on 12th January, 1955, upheld the insurance officer's decision. The claim for benefit was accordingly disallowed.

"The claimant obtained employment as a net-mender from 25th January, 1955, to 23rd February, 1955, a period of 26 days (exclusive of Sundays). He had already obtained six days of employment (as a deckhand) within the current off-season as that off-season had been calculated by the local insurance officer and affirmed by the local tribunal. This total amount of employment, namely 32 days, was accepted as constituting sufficient off-season employment to satisfy the additional condition of regulation 2(1)(b), and the claimant's entitlement to unemployment benefit from 24th February, 1955, was admitted.

"On 24th February, 1955, however, the claimant applied for a review of the local tribunal's decision of 12th January, 1955, the effect of which had been to disallow unemployment benefit in respect of the claim of 4th October, 1954. That decision could not be reviewed unless the conditions prescribed by regulation 18(1) of the National Insurance (Determination of Claims and Questions) Regulations, 1948 [S.I. 1948 No. 1144] as amended by the National Insurance (Determination of Claims and Questions) Amendment Regulations, 1951 [S.I. 1951 No. 1208] were fulfilled. In particular, in order to justify review of the decision in question, the determining authority required to be satisfied . . . (a) that the decision was given in ignorance of, or was based on a mistake as to, some material fact, or (b) that there had been any relevant change of circumstances since the decision was given. The particular circumstance put forward by the claimant as justifying review was that during his off-season he had in fact worked a sufficient number of days to entitle him to benefit as from 4th October, 1954. The local insurance officer, however, refused to review the decision in question, and on appeal (on 7th April, 1955) the local tribunal upheld the insurance officer's refusal.

"The matter thus comes before me as a review question, rather than as an appeal question. In these circumstances the question which I have to decide is whether there is ground for reviewing the decision of 12th January, 1955. The answer to that question depends upon whether it is shown that that decision proceeded upon ignorance of, or a mistake as to, some material fact, or alternatively upon whether there has been any relevant change of circumstances. I can find no basis for saying that the decision in question proceeded upon ignorance of, or mistake as to, any material fact. It remains

* Selected decisions of the Commissioner are published periodically in the following series:—Series "R(U)"—decisions on unemployment benefit; Series "R(P)"—decisions on retirement pensions; Series "R(S)"—decisions on sickness benefit; Series "R(G)"—decisions on guardian's allowance, maternity benefit, death grant and widow's benefit; Series "R(I)"—decisions on all benefits and on any other questions arising under the Industrial Injuries Acts. An Index to Commissioner's Decisions, which is kept up to date by amendments published at monthly intervals, is also available. Applications and enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown in the second column on page 79.

to be considered whether any relevant change of circumstances has been shown. The circumstance founded upon by the claimant is his obtaining a certain amount of employment since the date of the decision, namely employment as a net-mender for the 26 working days between 25th January, 1955, and 23rd February, 1955.

"The critical fact which led to the decision disallowing benefit (in respect of the claim of 4th October, 1954) was the fact, as found by the tribunal, that he had no reasonable prospect of obtaining during his off-season sufficient employment to constitute a substantial amount of employment. The question at that stage was one of prospects, and, as matters stood when that question fell to be decided, I entertain no doubt that that finding was entirely justified. It was apparent that for reasons connected with the claimant's age and state of health, employment during the winter in his normal occupation was unlikely to be forthcoming. On the evidence available when the decision of 12th January, 1955, was made, that was a correct and unassailable decision. It has however been recognised as a general principle that 'What in fact has happened is *prima facie* evidence of what could reasonably have been expected to happen' (Decision R(U) 16/51), and this principle has been applied in a number of cases, to the effect of allowing the determining authority, in the light of subsequent events, to overturn a decision which was correctly made in the light of information available at the time of the decision. But the evidence of what has in fact happened is not necessarily conclusive evidence of what would have been reasonable to expect would happen. It is merely *prima facie* evidence; and on investigation it may turn out that what has in fact happened has no real bearing on what might reasonably have been expected to happen. If, for example, the type of employment obtained by a claimant during his off-season is of an exceptional character, or obtained fortuitously rather than in normal course, the fact that he has obtained that employment does not justify any inference that it would have been reasonable to anticipate the obtaining of that employment. It is not generally reasonable to expect the unexpected. In the present case the employment which the claimant obtained as a net-mender was not employment of the kind normal in his case. The opportunity of obtaining it arose only because of a fortuitous circumstance, namely the unexpected illness of the regular net-mender. I cannot regard such employment, obtained in such circumstances, as justifying the inference that it could reasonably have been expected to be obtained. In my judgment the fact that it was obtained does not constitute a relevant change of circumstances. If (as I hold) this period of employment falls to be disregarded as being something which could not reasonably have been foreseen on 4th October, 1954, there is no ground for reviewing the decision disallowing the claim of 4th October, 1954. A different situation arises in respect of the claim of 24th February, 1955. As at that date, the claimant had in fact had a 'substantial' amount of employment in his off-season. In order to demonstrate fulfilment of the relevant additional condition, it was not at that stage necessary for the claimant to invoke any prospects of further off-season employment, and the fact that the employment which he had had was of unexpected character was immaterial. So far as concerns the claim from 24th February, 1955, therefore, the question whether the employment in fact obtained could be regarded as evidence of employment likely to be obtained did not arise. Herein lies the difference between the claim as from 4th October, 1954, and the claim as from 24th February, 1955.

"In her submissions, the insurance officer now concerned suggests a rather different computation of the claimant's off-season from that accepted by the local tribunal. It appears, however, that even on the alternative computation of the claimant's off-season, the claimant would still fail to qualify for benefit in respect of the period in question. I hold that no ground has been shown for reviewing the decision of 12th January, 1955, and that the tribunal's decision of 7th April, 1955, upholding refusal to review that decision, was correct. The claimant's appeal must be dismissed."

Decision No. R(U) 26/55 (7th October)

A seasonal worker who claimed unemployment benefit in his off-season had failed to register for employment during a period of 22 days (19 working days) in the two years preceding his claim. Held that this period of failure to register could not be regarded as inconsiderable for the purposes of regulation 2(1)(a)(ii) of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations, 1950, as amended.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claim for unemployment benefit is disallowed from and including 25th March, 1955.

"The claimant is a married man, aged 48 years. He is normally employed as deckhand on a fishing vessel. On 25th March, 1955, he lodged a claim for unemployment benefit. He had been classified in previous years as a seasonal worker within the meaning of the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Regulations, 1950 [S.I. 1950 No. 1220] as amended by the National Insurance (Seasonal Workers) Amendment Regulations, 1952 [S.I. 1952 No. 1466]. Having regard to the claimant's record of employment during the three years preceding the relevant claim, I am satisfied that he was correctly held by the local insurance officer and by the local tribunal to be still a seasonal worker at the date of the relevant claim. I am also satisfied that the claimant's off-season was correctly stated as embracing the following periods, namely—from 23rd March, 1955, to 22nd April, 1955; from 6th September, 1955, to 1st October, 1955; and from 12th December, 1955, to 10th January, 1956. The claimant at one time disputed these dates, on the ground that he had in fact been employed during parts of these off-seasons in the previous years. This may be so; but in a case where the starting and finishing dates of employment are not identical in each year, the off-season dates must be reckoned by a process of averaging (Decision R(U) 29/51). The criticism was therefore not a valid one.

"Since the claim for unemployment benefit was thus made by a seasonal worker in respect of a day within his off-season, it was necessary for the claimant to establish that he satisfied the additional conditions prescribed by regulations 2(1)(a) and 2(1)(b) of the regulations above-cited. The former is a registration condition. The latter is an employment condition. Both required to be fulfilled. The local tribunal on 13th May, 1955, decided that neither was fulfilled in the case of the claimant.

"Regulation 2(1)(a) requires, in the case of a claimant who has been a seasonal worker for at least two years prior to the day for which benefit is claimed (which is the case of the present claimant) that he should have been registered for employment at an employment exchange throughout the period of two years immediately preceding that day, certain periods being disregarded. The periods to be disregarded are set forth in sub-heads (i), (ii) and (iii) of the regulation. The immediate issue for determination in the present case arises in relation to sub-head (ii). It is established that during the two relevant years the claimant failed to register from 11th September, 1954, to 2nd October, 1954 (both dates included). That period does not fall to be disregarded under sub-head (i), nor under sub-head (ii). The question is whether it can be disregarded under sub-head (ii) as being any 'inconsiderable period'. The tribunal answered this question in the negative.

"The word 'inconsiderable' is not defined in the regulations. In various Commissioner's decisions (e.g., Decision R(U) 7/52) periods of greater length than the period here in question have been held not to be 'inconsiderable'. I have not been referred to, or been able to discover, any decision which directly relates to the period in question here—namely a period of three weeks and one day—or to any shorter period. I need not attempt to suggest where the line ought to be drawn between a period that is inconsiderable and a period that is not inconsiderable. I agree with the tribunal that a period of three weeks and one day (or 19 working days) should not be regarded as an inconsiderable period within the meaning of the regulation 2(1)(a)(ii). Accordingly it cannot be said that the claimant satisfied the additional condition of regulation 2(1)(a), and his claim therefore falls to be disallowed.

"The tribunal also held that the claimant did not satisfy the condition prescribed by regulation 2(1)(b); but in view of his failure to satisfy regulation 2(1)(a) the further question does not require to be decided. The appeal of the claimant is dismissed."

Decision No. R(U) 27/55 (12th October)

At the time of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the claimant's grade of employment, there was a substantial increase in absenteeism amongst the grade or class of workers to which the claimant belonged. It was contended for the claimant, but not proved by evidence, that this increase was due to sickness. Held that the claimant had not discharged the onus of proving that every member of his grade or class who absented himself from available work was not participating in the dispute, and therefore paragraph (b) of the proviso to section 13(1) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, did not relieve him from disqualification for the receipt of unemployment benefit so long as the stoppage of work continued.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claimant lost his employment on 5th May, 1955, by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at his place of employment and that, therefore, he is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit thereafter under section 13(1) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, from 6th May, 1955, to 11th May, 1955, inclusive, which was the date on which the stoppage of work came to an end.

"The facts of this case, which are not in dispute, are fully set out by the insurance officer in his grounds of appeal and need not be recapitulated here. It is sufficient for the purposes of the issue raised in this appeal to say that the sole question is whether the claimant belonged to a grade or class of worker of which immediately before the commencement of the stoppage there were members employed at his place of employment any of whom were participating in or financing or directly interested in the dispute. (See paragraph (b) of the proviso to subsection (1) of section 13 of the National Insurance Act, 1946.)

"It is not in dispute that there were members of the claimant's grade who did not present themselves for work on 3rd, 4th and 5th May, 1955, and that some of that grade may have been absent in circumstances unconnected with the stoppage of work due to the trade dispute at the claimant's place of employment. In the circumstances the majority of the local tribunal found that the management (of the colliery) had not proved that any members of the claimant's grade or class were participating in the trade dispute. The chairman of the tribunal dissented from the decision to allow the claimant's appeal, on the ground that the claimant had not proved that some members of this class did not withhold their labour. The chairman observed that absenteeism rose from 12 per cent. to 29 per cent. and 33 per cent. and that that could not wholly be said to be covered by 'doctor's notes' as the claimant's union representative had contended.

"I agree with the chairman. The error which the majority of the tribunal have made is to put the onus of proof on the employers. The onus of proving that he did not belong to a grade or class of workers such as are mentioned in paragraph (b) of the said proviso lies upon the claimant. The proviso recites 'provided that this subsection shall not apply in the case of a person who proves. . . .'

"It is clear that the claimant failed to prove that every member of his grade or class who absented himself from work during the relevant period did so on account of sickness or other cause unconnected with the trade dispute in question and, therefore, as there was work available for workers in that grade or class at the material time the inference was that some—if not all—of that grade or class absented themselves because they were in sympathy with those workers who had withdrawn their labour at the claimant's place of employment. The evidence given by or on behalf of the claimant was not sufficient to rebut that inference and, therefore, the claimant did not satisfy the provision of paragraph (b) of the proviso to subsection (1) of section 13 of the Act and, accordingly, he should

have been disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit for so long as the stoppage of work continued. The appeal of the insurance officer is allowed."

Decision No. R(U) 28/55 (27th October)

Claimant presented himself in a dirty and unshaven state for an interview with a prospective employer, with a view to a situation as a parcel porter. As a result he was not engaged. Held that the claimant's attitude amounted to neglect to avail himself of a reasonable opportunity of suitable employment, and that he must incur disqualification.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claimant is disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit for 6 weeks from and including the first day of the benefit week immediately following that in which this decision is given.

"The local insurance officer disallowed the claimant's claim and disqualified him for receiving unemployment benefit under section 13 of the National Insurance Act, 1946, on the ground that he had neglected to avail himself of a reasonable opportunity of suitable employment.

"The facts in support of the insurance officer's decision were contained in a report of the prospective employer that the claimant had presented himself for an interview with reference to being employed and that he had attended in a dirty and unshaven state. In the result the employer marked the introduction card 'not required.'

"The prospective situation to which the claimant was submitted was that of a parcel porter and if, as the employer has said, the claimant appeared before him as though he had not shaved for at least two days and unnecessarily dirty and dishevelled it is not surprising that the employer decided not to offer employment to the claimant. The claimant has admitted that he had not shaved on the day in question but he has denied that he did not have a wash. In his grounds of appeal he said he had not refused any job that he had been sent to. He did not attend the hearing of his appeal before the local tribunal.

"The tribunal allowed his appeal, on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence before them to find neglect on the part of the claimant 'to avail himself of a reasonable opportunity of suitable employment.' I am unable to affirm the decision of the tribunal as I cannot see any good reason for taking a view contrary to that of the local insurance officer.

"With due respect to the local tribunal, they had not seen the claimant and, therefore, had no opportunity—as had the prospective employer—to judge his appearance—making due allowance, of course, for the fact that the claimant might have appeared before the tribunal shaved and clean. The claimant had admitted that he was not shaved on the day in question and, in my view, there was no sufficient reason in this case for doubting the veracity of the prospective employer's observations or of the accuracy of his opinion about the claimant. In the circumstances the tribunal should have considered the appeal in the light that the prospective employer's allegations were established.

"When an insured contributor is submitted to a prospective employer for employment he is expected to present himself for an interview dressed suitably for the occasion, that is to say dressed in clothes in which he may be expected to work and to be clean in his person. Much, of course, would depend upon the type of work which the person is expected to do. A labourer should not be expected to appear in his Sunday clothes, but to present himself for an interview in a dirty and unshaven condition is tantamount to inviting a refusal by the employer to engage him.

"The claimant's attitude amounted to a neglect to avail himself of a reasonable opportunity of suitable employment and, therefore, he must incur disqualification for benefit under section 13 of the Act. The appeal of the insurance officer is allowed."

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

Since last month's issue of this GAZETTE was prepared, the under-mentioned Statutory Instruments,* relating to matters with which the Ministry of Labour and National Service are concerned, either directly or indirectly, have been published in the series of *Statutory Instruments*. The list also includes certain regulations, etc., published in the series of *Statutory Rules and Orders of Northern Ireland*, additional to those contained in the lists appearing in previous issues of the GAZETTE. The prices shown are net; those in brackets include postage. Where no price is shown, the Instrument costs 2d. net (3½d. including postage).

The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 35; price 3d. (4½d.)), dated 12th January; The Hat, Cap and Millinery Wages Council (Scotland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 36; price 4d. (5½d.)), dated 12th January; The Culinary Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 109; price 6d. (7½d.)), dated 30th January. These Orders were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 76.

The Police (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 2003 (S.152); price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 16th December by the Secretary of State for Scotland under the Police Act, 1919.—See page 45.

The Fire Services (Conditions of Service) Regulations, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 119), made on 31st January by the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the Fire Services Act, 1947. These Regulations amend the Fire Services (Conditions of Service) Regulations, 1954, by providing for increases in the pay of members of fire brigades.

* See footnote * in first column on next page.

The National Service (Isle of Man) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 1952), made by Her Majesty in Council on 22nd December, 1955, under the National Service Acts, 1948 and 1955. By this Order the National Service Act, 1955 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1955, page 127) is extended to the Isle of Man, subject to certain adaptations and modifications which are specified in the Schedule to the Order.

The National Insurance (New Zealand) Order, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 88; price 6d. (7½d.)), made on 25th January by Her Majesty in Council under the National Insurance Act, 1946. This Order gives effect in England, Wales and Scotland to the reciprocal agreement on social security made between the Governments of the United Kingdom and of New Zealand (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 11) and modifies the National Insurance Acts, 1946 to 1955, in their application to persons affected by the agreement.

The National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Prescribed Diseases) Amendment Regulations, 1956 (S.I. 1956 No. 118; price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 1st February by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946.—See pages 48 and 49.

The Injuries in War (Shore Employments) Compensation (Amendment) Scheme, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 1974), made on 13th December, 1955, by the Army Council under the Injuries in War (Compensation) Act, 1914. The Injuries in War (Shore Employments) Compensation Schemes, 1914 to 1953, provide for the payment of weekly allowances to small numbers of ex-members of the women's auxiliary forces who suffered disablement from their service overseas during the 1914-1918 war. This amending Scheme provides, with effect from 1st February, 1955, that the maximum weekly allowance payable shall be increased from 55s. to 67s. 6d. and that other allowances shall be increased proportionately.

The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (No. 1) Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland 1955 No. 194; price 6d. (7½d.)); The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (No. 2) Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 195; price 6d. (7½d.)); The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (No. 4) Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 196; price 4d. (5½d.)); The Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 197; price 4d. (5½d.)); The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (No. 3) Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 198; price 6d. (7½d.)). These Orders were made on 9th December by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945.—See last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 36.

The Iron and Steel Foundries Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 193; price 4d. (5½d.)), made on 21st December by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the Factories Acts (Northern Ireland), 1938 and 1949.—See page 48.

The Employment and Training (Advisory Committees) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1956 (S.R. & O. 1956 No. 2; price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 4th January by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the Employment and Training Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, and operating from the same date. The Act empowers the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance to appoint Advisory Committees to assist it in the performance of its functions under the Act. These Regulations provide for the constitution and functions of Advisory Committees and prescribe the term of office of members and the circumstances in which the office of members may be terminated.

The National Insurance (Determination of Claims and Questions) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1956 (S.R. & O. 1956 No. 8; price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 13th January by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1946. These Regulations came into operation on 16th January and are similar in scope to the corresponding Regulations made in Great Britain (see the issue of this GAZETTE for December, 1955, page 428).

The National Assistance (Determination of Need) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 200), made on 9th December, 1955, by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance under the National Assistance Act (Northern Ireland), 1948. These Regulations came into operation on 23rd January and are similar in scope to the corresponding Regulations made in Great Britain (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 11).

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED*

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

Accidents.—How They Happen, and How to Prevent Them at Factories, Docks, Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction. Volume 26 (New Series). January, 1956. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 1s. (1s. 2½d.).

Atomic Energy Production.—Exchange of Notes between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America rectifying the Agreement of June 15, 1955, for Co-operation on the Civil Uses of Atomic Energy. Washington. Oct. 20th-Nov. 3rd, 1955. (Treaty Series No. 3, 1956.) Cmd. 9677. Price 4d. (5½d.).

Census of Production for 1951.—Reports: (i) Volume 2, Trade E, Chemicals (General). (ii) Volume 2, Trade F, Drugs and Pharmaceutical Preparations. (iii) Volume 3, Trade C, Iron Foundries.

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

(iv) Volume 3, Trade M, Railway Carriages and Wagons and Trams. (v) Volume 6, Trade I, Hosiery and Other Knitted Goods. (vi) Volume 10, Trade A, Timber. (vii) Volume 10, Trade B, Furniture and Upholstery. (viii) Volume 10, Trade F, Paper and Board. (ix) Volume 12, Trade H, Water Undertakings. Price 2s. each (2s. 2½d.). Board of Trade.

Development Areas.—Estimates, Select Committee on. 2nd Report, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before Sub-Committee E of the Committee of the Last Session of the Last Parliament and Sub-Committee E of the Committee of the Present Session and Appendices. Development Areas. H.C. 139. Price 10s. (10s. 4½d.).

Industrial Diseases.—Lung Function in Coalworkers' Pneumoconiosis. Medical Research Council Special Report Series No. 290. Privy Council. Price £1 1s. (£1 1s. 8½d.).

Iron Foundries.—Conditions in Iron Foundries. First Report of Joint Standing Committee. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 4s. 6d. (4s. 9½d.).—See page 47.

Mines.—Report of H.M. Principal Electrical Inspector of Mines for 1954. Ministry of Fuel and Power. Price 2s. (2s. 1½d.).—See page 46.

National Health Service.—Report of the Committee of Enquiry into the Cost of the National Health Service. Cmd. 9663. Price 9s. (9s. 6½d.).

National Insurance.—(i) National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946. Byssinosis. Report of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council on the Provision made for Byssinosis under the Act. Cmd. 9673. Price 9d. (10½d.). (ii) National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act, 1946. Cadmium Poisoning. Report of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council on the Question whether Cadmium Poisoning should be prescribed under the Act. Cmd. 9674. Price 6d. (7½d.). (iii) National Insurance Act, 1946. Report of the National Insurance Advisory Committee on the Question of Widows' Benefits. Cmd. 9684. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 7½d.).—See pages 48 and 49.

Social Security.—Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of New Zealand on Social Security. Cmd. 9682. Price 6d. (7½d.).

MINING QUALIFICATIONS BOARD

The next Mining Qualifications Board Examinations for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under-Managers of Mines will be held on 15th, 16th and 17th May, 1956, at Glasgow, Sunderland, Doncaster, Wigan, Cardiff and Stoke-on-Trent. Candidates for Limited Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under-Managers at Stratified Ironstone Mines will attend the Doncaster Centre.

The Mining Legislation Examinations for Mechanical Engineer's Certificates, Electrical Engineer's Certificates, Mechanic's Certificates Class I, and Electrician's Certificates Class I, will be held at the above Centres on 15th May, 1956.

The written part of the Examination for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines will be held at the above Centres on 16th May, 1956, and the Oral and Practical Examinations, to be attended only by those who qualify in the written test, in July, 1956.

Intending candidates should apply after 24th February for the necessary forms, stating whether they have previously attended an examination for any of the above Certificates. The completed applications should be returned to the Secretary as soon as possible, and must in any event be received not later than 20th March, 1956. Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Mining Qualifications Board, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Thames House South, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

NOTICE

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Communications with regard to the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts. (Telephone: Bushey Heath 3211.)

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