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Industrial Disputes in 1954

SOME preliminary statistics of stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom during 1954 were given in the review of wages, retail prices, disputes, etc., in 1954, which appeared in the January, 1955, issue of this GAZETTE (page 5). More detailed statistics regarding these stoppages, revised in accordance with the latest information received, are now available and are given below.

The statistics on this subject compiled by the Ministry of Labour and National Service relate to stoppages of work due to disputes connected with terms of employment or conditions of labour. Small stoppages involving fewer than 10 workers and those which lasted less than one day are excluded from the statistics, except any in which the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded 100. The figures also exclude any loss of time which may be caused at other establishments by shortages of material or other effects brought about by the stoppages which are included in the statistics.

The number of stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as having begun in 1954, was 1,989, compared with 1,746 in the previous year. Ten other stoppages which began in 1953 continued into 1954, so that the total number of stoppages in progress in 1954 was 1,999. The aggregate number of workers involved in 1954 in the stoppages which began in that year was about 448,000, and, in addition, 2,000 workers were involved in 1954 in stoppages which had started towards the end of the previous year. Some of these workers were only indirectly involved, *i.e.*, they were thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but were not themselves parties to the disputes. The classification of the workers concerned into those directly and those indirectly involved is necessarily approximate, but it is estimated that, of the total of about 450,000 reported as involved in all stoppages in progress in 1954, about 46,000 were indirectly involved. The total number of workers involved in all stoppages in progress in the previous year was about 1,374,000. Separate figures for the numbers of males and females involved are not available.

The total number of workers shown as involved in stoppages during any given year has been obtained by aggregating the numbers involved in the separate stoppages during that year. Some workers are involved in more than one stoppage during a year and have therefore been counted more than once in the year's total. Precise information regarding the extent to which individual workers became involved in two or more stoppages during any one year is not available, but it is estimated that, during 1954, the net number of individuals involved in stoppages in progress in that year was about 349,000. Of the workers believed to have been involved in more than one stoppage during 1954 the great majority were coal miners but there was also an appreciable number in the transport industry.

No information is available as to the extent to which the same workers were involved in stoppages which occurred in different years.

The aggregate number of working days lost in 1954, through stoppages which began in that year, is estimated at about 2,441,000. In addition, about 16,000 days were lost at the beginning of 1954 through stoppages which began towards the end of the previous year, making a total of 2,457,000 working days lost in all stoppages in progress in 1954, compared with 2,184,000 lost in 1953. In the case of shift workers a shift is counted as a working day for the purpose of these figures.

The number of workers involved in all stoppages in progress during the year represented about 1½ per cent. of the total number of employees in civil employment and the loss of time for each of the workers involved averaged about seven working days during the year.

Analysis by Causes of Stoppages

An analysis of the principal causes of industrial disputes which led to stoppages of work *beginning* in 1954, showing the numbers and proportions of stoppages and of workers directly involved therein, is given in the next Table. In some cases stoppages originated from more than one matter in dispute, *e.g.*, a claim for an advance in wages accompanied by a claim for some other change in working conditions. For

the purpose of these statistics such cases have been classified according to what appeared to be the principal cause of the stoppage.

Principal Cause of Disputes leading to a Stoppage of Work	Stoppages beginning in 1954		Workers directly involved in Stoppages beginning in 1954	
	Number	Per cent. of total	Number	Per cent. of total
Wages —				
Claims for increases ..	116	5.8	50,200	12.5
Other wage disputes ..	811	40.8	105,200	26.2
All wage disputes ..	927	46.6	155,400	38.7
Hours of labour ..	47	2.4	31,200	7.8
Employment of particular classes or persons*	242	12.2	65,500	16.3
Other working arrangements, rules and discipline ..	735	36.9	113,400	28.2
Trade union status† ..	30	1.5	13,500	3.4
Sympathetic action ..	8	0.4	22,500	5.6
Total ..	1,989	100.0	401,500	100.0

Analysis by Magnitude of Stoppages

In the Tables below the stoppages beginning in 1954 are classified according to the length of time they lasted, the loss of working time they caused and the total number of workers involved. In this analysis the figures include working days lost in 1955 in cases where the stoppages continued into that year.

	Number of Stoppages beginning in 1954	Number of Workers involved directly and indirectly in these Stoppages	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in these Stoppages
Total ..	1,989	448,000	2,480,000

Classified by Duration in Working Days

Not more than one day ..	865	89,000	76,000
Over 1 and not more than 2 days ..	490	67,000	100,000
" 2 " " " 3 " ..	249	71,000	144,000
" 3 " " " 4 " ..	133	31,000	86,000
" 4 " " " 5 " ..	74	38,000	107,000
" 5 " " " 6 " ..	30	9,000	35,000
" 6 " " " 12 " ..	81	42,000	239,000
" 12 " " " 24 " ..	26	28,000	299,000
" 24 " " " 36 " ..	10	1,000	18,000
" 36 " " " 60 " ..	11	31,000	580,000
" 60 days ..	13	26,000	200,000
" 60 days and upwards ..	7	15,000	596,000

Classified by Aggregate Number of Working Days lost

Under 500 days ..	1,635	117,000	175,000
500 and under 1,000 days ..	154	56,000	107,000
1,000 " " 5,000 " ..	168	121,000	327,000
5,000 " " 25,000 " ..	22	37,000	265,000
25,000 " " 50,000 " ..	5	23,000	173,000
50,000 days and upwards ..	5	94,000	1,433,000

Classified by Total Numbers of Workers directly and indirectly involved

Under 100 workers ..	1,314	45,000	118,000
100 and under 250 workers ..	306	50,000	135,000
250 " " 500 " ..	203	69,000	224,000
500 " " 1,000 " ..	103	67,000	165,000
1,000 " " 2,500 " ..	48	71,000	191,000
2,500 " " 5,000 " ..	6	20,000	159,000
5,000 " " 10,000 " ..	4	30,000	507,000
10,000 workers and upwards ..	5	96,000	981,000

As in other recent years, most of the stoppages of work during 1954 were of short duration (in both 1954 and 1953 only about 7 per cent. lasted more than 6 working days) and in the majority the number of workers involved and the aggregate loss of time were relatively small.

Analysis by Industry

The Table in the next column analyses by industry groups the number of stoppages reported as beginning in 1954, together with the number of workers involved in, and the aggregate number of

* Employment of particular classes or persons includes, e.g., demarcation disputes; for reinstatement of discharged or suspended employee(s); disputes arising from employment of certain officials.

† Trade union status includes, e.g., refusal of trade union members to work with non-unionists.

working days lost through, all stoppages in progress in that year, including stoppages which began in 1953:—

Industry Group	Number of Stoppages beginning in 1954	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress in 1954	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in 1954 through all Stoppages in progress
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing ..	2	*	*
Mining and Quarrying —			
Coal Mining ..	1,464	204,400†	468,000*
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	2	100	*
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products —			
Bricks and Fireclay Goods ..	6	300	1,000
China and Earthenware ..	—	—	—
Glass ..	3	400	1,000
Cement, Cast Stone, Abrasives, etc. ..	4	700	2,000
Chemicals and Allied Trades —			
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works ..	4	200	*
Chemicals and Dyes ..	2	2,200	6,000
Explosives and Fireworks ..	—	—	—
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Paints, Soaps, Matches, Oils, etc. ..	1	*	*
Metal Manufacture —			
Iron and Steel (Blast Furnaces, Melting, Rolling, etc.) ..	20	7,100	42,000
Iron Foundries, Sheet, Tinplate, Tubes, etc. ..	14	1,500	3,000
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc. ..	2	600	1,000
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods —			
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ..	63	16,100	521,000
Engineering and Machinery (non-electrical) ..	41	10,000	43,000
Electrical Machinery, etc. ..	11	3,100	5,000
Vehicles —			
Motor Vehicles, Aircraft, Cycles ..	42	32,900	98,000
Railway Locomotives, Carriages, Trams, etc. ..	4	500	1,000
Carts, Perambulators, etc. ..	—	—	—
Other Metal Industries ..	10	1,800	27,000
Textiles —			
Cotton ..	—	—	—
Woolen and Worsted ..	3	300	*
Other Textiles ..	12	1,000	3,000
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur ..	—	—	—
Clothing —			
Clothing other than Footwear ..	13	3,000	9,000
Boots, Shoes, etc. (incl. Repairs) ..	3	100	*
Food, Drink and Tobacco —			
Grain Milling ..	—	—	—
Bread, Flour Confectionery, etc. ..	1	*	*
Other Food ..	4	300	3,000
Drink ..	2	100	*
Tobacco ..	—	—	—
Manufactures of Wood and Cork ..	13	1,300	9,000
Paper and Printing —			
Paper, Board, Cartons, etc. ..	1	*	*
Printing, Publishing, etc. ..	3	800	19,000
Other Manufacturing Industries ..	10	6,500	30,000
Building and Contracting ..	75	37,300	233,000
Gas, Electricity and Water ..	5	500	3,000
Transport and Communication —			
Railways ..	7	3,700	26,000
Road Passenger Transport ..	29	24,200	92,000
Goods Transport by Road ..	14	2,600	11,000
Water Transport and Docks ..	69	80,000†	787,000
Other Transport and Communication ..	6	2,000	3,000
Distributive Trades ..	12	3,200	4,000
Insurance, Banking and Finance ..	—	—	—
Public Administration ..	10	700	4,000
Professional Services ..	3	500	2,000
Miscellaneous Services (Entertainment, Sport, Catering, etc.) ..	—	—	—
Total ..	1,989†	450,000†	2,457,000

The numbers of workers shown above as involved in all stoppages in progress in 1954 in the various industries include workers who were directly involved and also those involved only indirectly (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments affected, but not themselves parties to the disputes). The totals also include workers who were involved in 10 stoppages in 1954 which had begun in the previous year.

Principal Disputes in 1954

The largest number of stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes in 1954 occurred in the coal mining industry. These stoppages accounted for nearly one-fifth of the aggregate loss of time in 1954 and for about two-fifths of the total number of workers involved in all stoppages in the year, showing that the majority of the coal mining stoppages were of relatively short duration. Among the more important stoppages in the coal mining industry was one in County Durham during February and March which arose from the workers' objection to the attitude of an overman. In this stoppage approximately 39,000 working days were lost by about 3,000 workers. Negotiations for a new price list led to a stoppage of work in Yorkshire during May, in which approximately 11,000 days were lost by about 1,200 workers, and, in addition, 4,000 days were lost by about 1,600 workers who ceased work in sympathy with the workers involved in this dispute.

During July a stoppage involving about 3,800 coke oven and other workers employed by a firm of steel manufacturers in South Wales arose out of the coke oven workers' dissatisfaction with the

* Less than 50 workers or 500 working days.

† Some workers, largely in the coal mining and transport industries, were involved in more than one stoppage and are counted more than once in the year's total. The net number of individuals involved in stoppages in progress during the year was approximately 349,000. For coal mining the total was approximately 139,000, while for transport the net total was approximately 87,000.

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

employer's offer in response to their claim for an increase in wages. This stoppage resulted in the loss of about 35,000 working days.

In the ship repairing industry a stoppage which arose out of a protest by electricians against the order of discharge on redundancy began about the middle of September and continued until the beginning of December. This stoppage involved about 8,700 workers in various trades in London and the Thames Estuary and resulted in the loss of about 485,000 working days.

Some 22,000 working days were lost by about 900 workers employed in the repair of aircraft at Gosport, Donibristle (Fife) and Belfast in a stoppage which lasted from the middle of May to the middle of July. This dispute arose as a protest by members of a craft union against the employment of members of another union on work claimed to be appropriate to the craft union. The suspension of nine workers for failing to comply with the management's instructions and the subsequent dismissal of four shop stewards led to a stoppage of motor vehicle workers in Coventry during December, 1954, and January, 1955. This stoppage involved approximately 11,000 workers and resulted in a total loss of about 34,000 working days.

A stoppage of work occurred in the middle of July and continued until the middle of October at Treforest, Glamorgan, involving 400 workers in light engineering and the loss of about 22,000 working days. The stoppage arose from a claim that semi-skilled workers in the tool room should be paid the skilled tool room rates and was extended in protest against the alleged employment of "blackleg" labour.

During March a stoppage involving about 2,500 laboratory workers employed in film production in London and the Home Counties arose out of the rejection of demands for an increase in wages and improvements in working conditions. It resulted in the loss of about 21,000 working days. A Committee of Investigation was appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the dispute (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1954, page 120).

Rejection of a claim by electricians and mates employed in the electrical contracting industry for an increase in wages had caused some stoppages in 1953, and these were followed by a further series of stoppages, between January and March, 1954, in various areas in the United Kingdom. Altogether about 23,000 workers were involved and approximately 140,000 days were lost in 1954. A protracted stoppage, from April to August, which involved about 400 electricians employed on maintenance work in factories and catering establishments in various districts in London arose from the employment of a non-union supervisor. Approximately 28,000 working days were lost in this stoppage. Rejection of a claim for an increase in wages led to a series of stoppages by steel erectors, which began towards the end of October and continued until the middle of March, 1955. Altogether about 4,400 workers were involved, resulting in a total loss of approximately 37,000 working days.

Stoppages in the transport industry included several of appreciable size and accounted for nearly two-fifths of the aggregate loss of time in 1954. The introduction of additional lodging turns led to a stoppage of work in May by about 2,700 locomotive drivers and firemen in various districts in England and Wales and resulted in the loss of about 24,000 working days. Some 2,500 dock workers at Hull lost about 22,000 working days during August when they ceased work to support a demand for grain to be unloaded mechanically. The largest single stoppage of work during 1954 began towards the end of September and continued until the end of October and involved about 26,000 dockers, stevedores and other workers employed in the Port of London and connected waterways. The stoppage originated in a dispute about meat sorting but subsequently it was claimed that discussions should be resumed on all outstanding matters and that overtime should be recognised by the employers as voluntary. This stoppage resulted in the loss of about 530,000 working days and a further 196,000 days were lost by about

REVIEW 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 170 to 191.

Employment

It is estimated that the number of persons in civil employment in Great Britain rose during March by 3,000 (+5,000 males and -2,000 females), the number at the end of the month being 22,734,000. The basic industries (mining, gas, electricity and water supply, transport, agriculture and fishing) showed an increase of 9,000 and manufacturing industries a decrease of 6,000. 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 35,000 from 23,838,000 to 23,803,000.

Unemployment

The number of persons registered as wholly unemployed at Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain fell from 251,297 to 226,328 between 14th March and 18th April, 1955, and the numbers registered as temporarily stopped rose from 18,614 to 33,801. In the two classes combined there was a fall of 6,031 among males and 3,751 among females.

Rates of Wages

The index of weekly rates of wages, based on June, 1947 (taken as 100), was 151 at the end of April, compared with 149 at the end of

19,000 dockers and stevedores in various other districts in England who ceased work in sympathy with the workers involved in this dispute. A Court of Inquiry was appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the dispute. The Report of the Court of Inquiry has been published (Cmd. 9310) and a summary of the contents of the Report and of the general observations and conclusions of the Court appeared in the November, 1954, issue of this GAZETTE (page 374). Also in October about 82,000 working days were lost by approximately 17,000 road passenger transport workers in various districts in London and the Home Counties who objected to the introduction of revised service schedules necessitated by staff shortages and a ban on overtime imposed by the workers.

Disputes in Years 1935-1954

The Table below gives figures relating to stoppages of work through industrial disputes in each of the past 20 years. In the columns showing the number of stoppages in each year, those stoppages which began in one year and continued into the next year have been included only in the year in which they began. As regards the numbers of workers involved and the loss in working days, however, separate particulars are shown for stoppages which began in the year under review and for all stoppages in progress in the year, including those which began in the previous year.

Year	Number of Stoppages beginning in Year	Number of Workers* involved in Stoppages		Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in Year in Stoppages		
		Beginning in Year		In progress in Year	Beginning in Year	In progress in Year
		Directly	Indirectly			
1935	553	000's	000's	000's	000's	000's
1936	818	230	41	279	1,849	1,955
1937	1,129	241	75	322	1,726	1,829
1938	875	388	209	610	3,132	3,413
1939	940	211	63	275	1,329	1,334
1940	922	246	91	337	1,352	1,356
1941	1,251	225	74	299	938	940
1942	1,251	297	63	361	1,076	1,079
1943	1,303	349	107	457	1,527	1,527
1944	1,785	454	103	559	1,805	1,808
1945	2,194	716	105	826	3,687	3,714
1946	2,293	447	84	532	2,827	2,835
1947	2,205	405	121	529	2,138	2,158
1948	1,721	489	131	623	2,389	2,433
1949	1,759	324	100	426	1,935	1,944
1950	1,426	313	120	434	1,805	1,807
1951	1,339	269	33	303	1,375	1,389
1952	1,719	336	43	379	1,687	1,694
1953	1,714	303	112	416	1,769	1,792
1954	1,746	1,329	41	1,374	2,157	2,184
1954	1,989	402	46	450	2,441	2,457

The average yearly number of days lost during the period 1914 to 1918 was about 5,360,000. In the following three years the average was about 49,140,000. From 1922 to 1932 (omitting 1926, when 162,000,000 days were lost, mainly in the coal mining dispute and general strike), the yearly average was about 7,560,000. Since 1932 the annual totals have been considerably lower, and in the 20 years, 1935 to 1954, the yearly total of days lost ranged from 940,000 to 3,710,000, the average being about 1,982,000. The average during the six war years 1940-45 was about 1,980,000.

* Workers involved in more than one stoppage in any year are counted more than once in the year's total. Workers involved in a stoppage beginning in one year and continuing into another are counted in both years in the column showing the number of workers involved in stoppages in progress.

March. The changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during April resulted in an increase estimated at approximately £996,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 2,471,000 workpeople. The principal increases affected workers employed in building, civil engineering contracting, coal mining, unlicensed places of refreshment, and furniture manufacture.

Retail Prices

At 19th April, 1955, the retail prices index was 147 (prices at 17th June, 1947=100), compared with 146 at 15th March, and with 142 at 13th April, 1954. The rise in the index during the month was due mainly to increases in the average prices of cabbage, tomatoes and other vegetables, cooking apples and fish, and increases in the charges for some services. These increases were to a small extent offset by decreases in the prices of bacon and ham and dairy produce.

Industrial Disputes

The number of workers involved during April 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 68,000. The aggregate time lost during the month at the establishments where the stoppages occurred was about 214,000 working days. The number of stoppages which began in the month was 226, and, in addition, 27 stoppages which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of the month.

NATIONAL SERVICE: CALL-UP AND DEFERMENT OF 1929-1936 CLASSES

An article is published in this GAZETTE at six-monthly intervals giving information about the age-classes which have been required to register under the National Service Acts (see, for example, page 373 of the November, 1954, issue). Similar information is now available for 4th April, 1955, in respect of men born between 1st January, 1929, and 31st December, 1936, and a summary of that information is given below.

Men in the classes in question were registered under the National Service Acts at various dates between 7th December, 1946, and 18th September, 1954. Each man was informed by means of a leaflet issued to him when he registered of the conditions which govern the grant of deferment of call-up to apprentices, learners, articulated pupils, etc., to enable them to complete their industrial training or their training for professional qualifications before call-up. He was also informed that there are arrangements under which deferment may be granted to enable the student to remain in full-time attendance at school to sit external examinations, such as the General Certificate of Education, or to undertake a University course of study. Arrangements for deferment of call-up on the ground of industrial need continued to operate in regard to men employed in coal mining and agriculture.

The total numbers of men included in the analysis of 4th April, 1955, were 299,000 of the 1929 class, 303,000 of the 1930 class, 301,000 of the 1931 class, 303,000 of the 1932 class, 281,000 of the 1933 class, 287,000 of the 1934 class, 284,000 of the 1935 class and 287,000 of the 1936 class. Large numbers of these classes had already been posted to the Forces, and the remainder had either been medically rejected for service, or were awaiting posting to the Forces, or had had their call-up deferred. The numbers in the various classes were as follows:—

	1929, 1930 and 1931 Classes	1932 Class	1933 Class	1934 Class	1935 Class	1936 Class
Posted to H.M. Forces or entered as volunteers	679,400	204,800	193,800	170,400	143,300	111,700
Found unfit for service in H.M. Forces Available for H.M. Forces or awaiting medical examination	127,300	56,000	46,400	37,800	36,500	32,800
Application for deferment of call-up under consideration:—	1,800	1,400	3,000	10,400	3,200	19,400
Agricultural cases	—	—	500	400	500	500
Others	—	—	100	200	100	500
Call-up deferred:—						
Apprentices	200	400	3,100	28,500	56,600	68,700
Post-Apprenticeship Deferments	400	1,000	900	300	—	—
Articled pupils and others training for professional qualifications	1,900	3,100	4,500	6,000	7,100	8,100
Agricultural workers	42,600	14,800	4,200	5,300	6,500	8,200
Coal mining workers	20,800	8,400	9,300	10,600	11,500	11,300
Seamen	14,500	5,700	5,900	5,600	4,900	4,800
Scientific Research workers on high priority work	1,500	200	100	—	—	—
Boys at school granted deferment to 31st July, 1955 (to take General Certificate of Education, etc.)	—	—	—	—	1,100	10,200
University students, student teachers, etc.	4,200	4,500	6,800	9,400	10,700	7,300
Emigrants and others gone abroad, including seamen who left ship abroad	6,400	1,800	1,300	900	600	300
All others (including hardship postponements, "approved school" cases, conscientious objectors, etc.)	2,000	900	1,100	1,200	1,400	3,200
Total	903,000	303,000	281,000	287,000	284,000	287,000

It should be noted that the men whose call-up for the Forces has been deferred have not yet been medically examined, and consequently it is not known how many of them are in fact unfit for service. The figures on the second line of the Table represent the "unfits" among those who have already been medically examined, and for all age-classes taken together they represent approximately 18 per cent. of the total number in that category.

In view of the shortage of labour in the coal mining industry, men employed in certain occupations in that industry will continue to have their call-up suspended. Men born in 1932 or earlier whose call-up has been suspended because of employment in agriculture are, in present circumstances, not normally regarded as available for call-up while they remain in that employment. Agricultural workers born after 1932 will in general be regarded as available for call-up: deferment may, however, be granted (subject to certain stringent conditions being satisfied) in the case of men employed on farms with not more than two regular full-time male

workers aged 17 or over (in addition to the working principal or manager) or where the worker is employed substantially as a stockman having the care of cattle, sheep or pigs. If an agricultural worker born in 1933 or later changes from one agricultural job to another after the date he was due to register under the National Service Acts, deferment cannot be considered in respect of the new employment unless it is taken up before a notice to attend for medical examination is issued to him.

Fuller details of the agricultural deferment arrangements are set out in a leaflet (N.L.16) which can be obtained from any Local Office of the Ministry. Agricultural workers who are not granted deferment but who have been placed in medical grade III will not be called up, although fit for call-up, while they remain in agricultural employment.

The men included in the Table who are shown as having been granted deferment to 31st July, 1955, to take the General Certificate of Education or an examination of similar or higher standard, will normally become available for call-up after termination of their deferment on 31st July, unless granted further deferment to continue their full-time studies or to enter into an apprenticeship or to train for a professional qualification.

The figures relating to the deferment of University students, etc., include men pursuing, or under consideration for, full-time courses for University degrees and qualifications of a similar standard, courses at Teachers' Training Colleges in Scotland, and also medical, dental, etc., and theological and missionary training. The deferment position of students taking courses for University degrees or qualifications of similar standard and medical, dental, etc., or higher technical courses is determined by Joint Recruiting Boards which have been established at all University Centres, and the majority (about 40,000) of the men in the above categories were students dealt with by these Boards. Applications for the deferment of students in full-time attendance at technical classes (other than those whose cases are considered by Joint Recruiting Boards) are dealt with by National Service Deferment Boards.

The statistics which were compiled on 4th April included an occupational analysis of the apprentices who had been granted deferment. About 52 per cent. of the total number of apprentices in the deferment class at 4th April were in engineering and metal-working occupations and about 27 per cent. were in building occupations. The following Table shows the numbers in the principal occupations:—

	1932 Class	1933 Class	1934 Class	1935 Class	1936 Class
Building Occupations:					
Carpenters	4	116	2,322	5,800	6,897
Plumbers, Gas Fitters, etc.	1	49	1,441	3,606	3,974
Bricklayers	3	37	997	2,926	3,409
Painters and Decorators	1	31	964	2,329	2,573
Plasterers	—	8	205	580	737
Other Building Craftsmen	2	30	477	1,200	1,384
Engineering, Shipbuilding, etc., Occupations:					
Motor Mechanics, Fitters (not electrical), etc.	40	253	2,568	5,003	6,070
Toolmakers, Precision Fitters, etc.	65	533	4,624	8,947	11,871
Electrical Engineering Fitters, Erectors, etc.	27	191	1,440	2,570	3,079
Electricians, Wiremen, etc.	18	152	2,092	4,023	4,674
Millwrights, Maintenance Fitters (not electrical)	12	83	730	1,286	1,428
Turners	6	49	610	1,291	1,653
Vehicle Body Builders	—	15	409	714	746
Scientific Instrument Makers and Assemblers	13	94	523	993	1,002
Sheet Metal Workers, Tinsmiths	—	7	517	1,043	1,283
Shipwrights	2	40	438	718	951
Patternmakers	—	15	332	734	812
Platers	1	39	474	878	1,164
Iron and Steel Founders and Moulders	2	22	257	602	707
Welders, Burners, Cutters	4	52	314	459	634
Other Occupations:					
Draughtsmen, etc.	312	759	2,216	3,278	3,495
Printers	13	117	689	1,694	1,798

Deferment under the provisions regarding apprenticeship is granted initially for a period of 12 months. Renewal of deferment will then be conditional on a report of satisfactory progress, showing that the apprentice is gaining full experience of his trade. If progress is satisfactory, deferment may be renewed for a further twelve months or until the date on which the apprenticeship is due to end, whichever is the shorter period. Comparison with the figures for April, 1954 (given in the May, 1954, issue of this GAZETTE, page 152), shows a considerable reduction in the 1932 and 1933 classes in most of the occupations included in the Table. This was mainly due to the fact that many men had completed their apprenticeship and become available for service in the Forces. The reduction in the number of apprenticeship deferments is reflected in an increase in the numbers posted to the Forces, with a corresponding slight increase in the numbers found unfit for service.

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF YOUNG PERSONS FOR INDUSTRY

Articles published in the issue of this GAZETTE for August, 1954 (page 266), and previous issues, gave particulars of schemes for recruiting and training young persons for industry which had been drawn up in accordance with the recommendations made by the Joint Consultative Committee, representative of the British Employers' Confederation and the Trades Union Congress, in their Report issued in December, 1945. The present article gives information regarding some additional schemes of this nature.

Wrought Hollow-ware Trade (Galvanised Section)

The scheme of apprenticeship described in the issue of this GAZETTE for October, 1949 (page 343) has been revised to include a three-year period of training instead of a five-year apprenticeship.

The revised joint training scheme has been agreed by the Galvanised Section of the Wrought Hollow-ware Trade Employers' Association and the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers. The industry is largely concentrated in Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire. A Youth Advisory Panel, representing employers and workers, with assessors from the Youth Employment Service, has been appointed to consider the suitability of boys for training in the industry and to supervise the training and employment of young workers. It has been agreed that the number of trainees to be employed in any one manufacturing establishment shall not exceed one-fifth of the number of adults. The normal period of training is to be three years, commencing between the ages of 15 and 17. Suitable trainees are to be allowed to attend technical education classes, where available, for one whole day each week during training. Trainees are also to be encouraged to attend evening classes. Practical training is to be as comprehensive as possible within the requirements of the trade, and trainees are not to be continuously occupied in one manufacturing operation for an unreasonably long period. Each manufacturer intending to participate in the training scheme is to give an undertaking to the Panel to abide by the standards of the scheme.

Boatbuilding (Scotland)

A scheme of indentured apprenticeship in boatbuilding in Scotland has been agreed by the Scottish Ship and Boatbuilders Employers Association, the Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Association and the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers. The scheme will be administered by the Scottish Boatbuilding Apprenticeship Training Committee representing these organisations. The Committee will co-operate with the Youth Employment Service in recruiting suitable trainees and with Education Authorities in planning appropriate courses of technical education. Under the scheme, apprenticeship, normally commencing at 16 years of age, extends over five years. A general syllabus of practical training has been drawn up by the Committee, who will keep in close touch with each firm employing apprentices. Apprentices are to be released by their employers, without loss of pay, for further education classes for two periods of four weeks in each year, or the equivalent as the Committee may decide. The arrangements for further education will normally apply during the first three years of apprenticeship, but may, at the Committee's discretion, be varied to any three years of apprenticeship. A craftsman's certificate will be issued to all apprentices who complete their apprenticeship training satisfactorily.

Boot and Shoe Manufacturing (Selected Personnel)

The National Joint Recruitment and Training Council in the boot and shoe manufacturing industry have adopted a scheme of intensive planned training for selected trainees (boys and girls). The scheme is intended to provide a pool of widely trained operatives which can be drawn upon for promotion to executive or supervisory positions. It will be administered by local committees. Recommendations for training will be made by employers, and trainees will be selected in consultation with local technical colleges and recruitment and training committees. Trainees will be accepted up to their 17th birthday or within three months of leaving school, whichever is the later. Training will extend over three complete academic years, subject to review at the end of the first academic year. Practical training provided in the factory is to be so arranged that by the end of the three-year period the trainee will be able to perform three major operations in the trade. Trainees will be released by their employers during working hours on three or four half-days a week to attend courses at the local technical college on shoe technology and some general educational subjects for entry to nationally recognised examinations in shoe manufacture.

The main scheme of training in this industry was summarised in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1947 (page 185).

Brewing

The Incorporated Brewers' Guild has introduced a scheme of pupilage designed to produce junior brewers, who may, by further experience, qualify for appointment as assistant or head brewers. Boys are recruited at age 16 and over and normally are expected to possess the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary) in English, Mathematics, and three other subjects, or an equivalent certificate. The training of individual pupils is supervised and controlled by local panels of the Guild. Theoretical and practical training under skilled supervision extends over not less than two years and includes training in at least seven branches of brewing: malting, brewing, cooperage, cellar management, bottling, scientific control, and plant running and maintenance. The training is designed to follow the seasonal cycle in the various processes over an uninterrupted period of two years. Pupils are required, concurrently with the practical training, to undertake theoretical studies in chemistry, bio-chemistry and allied subjects,

where facilities are available. A satisfactory certificate of completion of pupilage is recognised for appointment as, e.g., a junior brewer under a head brewer. The two-year pupilage forms part of the qualification for admission to Ordinary Membership of the Incorporated Brewers' Guild, and, after two years' further experience, junior brewers are eligible for election as Ordinary Members of the Guild.

Other forms of training in brewing, entailing full-time courses at brewing schools or universities, are available.

British Railways (Signals and Telecommunications Department)

A scheme approved by the British Transport Commission is designed to train probationers in the Signals and Telecommunications Department of British Railways for ultimate promotion to the Lineman or Installer grades. Suitable candidates may be accepted from among existing members of British Railways staff or from other youths whose standard of general education and intelligence is satisfactory. Applications should be made to the Signals and Telecommunications Engineer of the appropriate Region of British Railways. Medical examination is required and applicants should normally be not more than 16½ years of age. The period of training is four years or such shorter period as will admit of the training terminating in all cases at 20 years of age. A standard course of practical training has been laid down. Where facilities exist probationers will be allowed to attend approved technical courses on one day or two half-days a week, and they will in addition be expected to attend approved courses at evening classes. On completion of training probationers will be required to take the test laid down for men in the grade of Assistant Lineman and, if successful, they will be graded and paid as Installer, Class 3. Probationers who show special aptitude or qualifications may be transferred to the Signals and Telecommunications Engineering Student scheme.

Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products—Draughtsmen, Assistant Managers and Managers

A scheme of apprenticeship training for draughtsmen, assistant managers and managers has been agreed by the British Cast Concrete Federation, the Cast Stone and Concrete Federation and the Scottish Precast Concrete Manufacturers' Association. The scheme will be administered by the Joint Advisory Committee of these organisations. The age of entry into apprenticeship will normally be from 15 to 17 years, but applicants over 17 years of age may be accepted if they commence apprenticeship within three months of the end of full-time education. Training, under a form of indenture prescribed by the Joint Advisory Committee, will be for a maximum of five and a minimum of four years, including a probationary period normally of six months. Practical training will be within the scope of syllabuses laid down by the Joint Advisory Committee, but the employer may modify or vary the course within the syllabus in the interest of the apprentice. Apprentices will be required to attend classes of instruction, as the employer may direct, for one day or two half-days and two evenings a week, with the object of taking examinations leading to the National Certificate in Building. Employers will bear the cost of day classes. Certificates may be given to apprentices on completion of each stage of training and a final certificate will be given on satisfactory completion of training.

Dental Technicians in Hospitals and Local Authority Establishments

Systematic training of young persons as dental technicians in hospitals and dental establishments of local authorities will be provided under a scheme approved by the Professional and Technical Council "B" (Whitley Councils for the Health Services (Great Britain)). The scheme is administered by a National Joint Apprenticeship Committee for Dental Technicians in Hospitals and Local Authority Establishments. The detailed arrangements for the constitution of this Committee and for the administration of the scheme include power for the National Committee to appoint similarly constituted local committees to whom it may delegate the duties of local supervision and administration. The National Committee will maintain a register of establishments suitable to undertake the training of apprentices and will determine the training capacity of individual establishments. Under the scheme apprenticeship will generally commence at the minimum school-leaving age and last for five years. Older entrants may, however, be accepted and the National Joint Apprenticeship Committee will consider proposals for shortening the period of apprenticeship to not less than three years. A probationary period of six months will be served by every entrant and, if completed satisfactorily, will be included in the period of apprenticeship. Apprentices will be required to pass a medical examination. Practical training will be given to apprentices in accordance with a syllabus drawn up by the National Joint Apprenticeship Committee. Employers will release apprentices, without loss of pay, for attendance at approved courses of further education, which, in the case of persons under 18 years of age, are to be undertaken within the one day a week (or equivalent) release allowed to them. Where day-time courses are not available, apprentices are to attend suitable evening classes and employers are to grant reasonable facilities for attendance. Fees for courses may be paid by the employer. Apprenticeship will be served under indentures, but provision is made for allowing the apprentice to serve in another establishment, if necessary, to complete his practical training and for transfer of the apprenticeship agreement in special circumstances. On completion of apprenticeship, the employer will complete the Discharge of the Indenture and the National Joint Apprenticeship Committee will complete a certificate to the effect that the apprenticeship has been served in an approved establishment.

DOCK LABOUR

Report of National Dock Labour Board for 1954

The National Dock Labour Board have recently presented their Eighth Annual Report and Accounts, for the year 1954, to the Minister of Labour and National Service.

The Board refer to proposals made early in the year for amendments to the Dock Labour Scheme and say that, while the proposals were being considered, the local Boards continued to administer the disciplinary clauses of the Scheme at properly convened meetings. This placed a heavy additional strain on local boards. As a result of the ban on overtime imposed by certain unions, employers in London reported 85,675 individual cases of failure to work overtime as breaches of the Scheme, and the London Board, although approving the issue of the appropriate form of enquiry in each case, were unable to examine each complaint individually. In consequence, the Report says, no effective action was taken and the impossibility of dealing with mass indiscipline under the Scheme was demonstrated once again. The National Docks Agreement of 3rd July, 1947 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1947, page 218) was amended at the end of the year as a result of consideration by the National Joint Council for the Port Transport Industry of claims for increases in the rates of attendance money and weekly guarantee. The amendments provided for an increase of attendance money from 5s. to 6s. a turn and for the guaranteed weekly payment in respect of Group "A" men to be raised from £4 8s. to £5 4s. 6d., with proportionate increases for the other groups concerned. The changes were to take effect from 10th January, 1955.

During 1954 the Board sought, as a matter of settled policy, to maintain close control over the size of the dock labour force so as to ensure that variations in its size were related to the amount of work to be undertaken. The sanctioned strength of main registers was reviewed in the spring of 1954 and again at the end of the year. Changes following the first review resulted in a reduction of the total sanctioned strength from 74,910 to 74,700. At the same time the co-operation which local Boards had shown in keeping labour forces at the lowest levels consistent with normal labour requirements made possible some modifications in labour policy, including the lifting of the standstill order on fresh recruitment to main registers. The second review in December led to further adjustments which increased the total sanctioned strength to 76,050; additionally, authority was given for 2,130 men on temporary registers in 15 local Board areas. The Report notes the advantages resulting from the extension during the year of the use of temporary registers as a means of meeting short-term requirements. The total of temporary workers averaged 1,990 during the third quarter of the year and they helped considerably to offset the loss of workers from the main registers owing to annual holidays. The use of temporary workers also enabled local Boards to select for vacancies on the main register men who had obtained preliminary experience in the industry. Of a total intake of 4,827 men to main registers in 1954, 1,430 had previously served in a temporary capacity, compared with only 185 in the previous year. A survey of age-groups was undertaken in July and showed that the average age of daily workers on the main register had increased slightly since the previous year from 46.3 years to 46.4 years. The average age of

temporary workers was shown, however, to have fallen from 35 years to 31.1 years.

Figures given in the Report illustrate the gradual building up of the register of workers throughout the year and the variations quarter by quarter in shortages and surpluses of labour. There was a progressive reduction in the average amount of surplus labour and the Report comments on the favourable financial effects of the consequent fall in attendance money payable and make-up to the guaranteed minimum. The weekly average number of men who drew guarantee make-up as part of their gross earnings during 1954 was 501, compared with 1,605 in 1953 and 4,218 in 1952. The Board sought to mitigate the local shortages which occurred by the transfer of men from other ports and areas or by the employment of non-registered labour. Absences due to sickness or injury showed a small decline in 1954 compared with 1953. There was, however, a considerable increase in the total number of man-days lost through labour disputes and the total of 714,569 greatly exceeded that for any year since the inception of the Dock Labour Scheme. Over 90 per cent. of the total for 1954 was attributable to the dispute in London in the later part of the year and to the supporting action at a number of other ports.

The Report gives details of the gross earnings of daily workers, showing that average weekly gross earnings amounted to £10 19s. 8d. in 1954, compared with £10 5s. 4d. in 1953. The figures of gross earnings include amounts paid as attendance money and guarantee make-up, which averaged 4s. 4d. a week and 2d. a week, respectively, in 1954, compared with 7s. 2d. and 6d. a week in 1953.

The total cost of operating the Dock Labour Scheme in 1954 was £3,957,711, compared with £4,410,227 in 1953. The improvement in the level of employment and increased rates of pay brought total wages to £37,799,000 in 1954, compared with £35,830,000 in 1953. Correspondingly, there was a reduction of £486,082 in payments of attendance money and guarantee make-up; in consequence, the total operating costs expressed as a percentage of the gross wages of daily workers fell from 15.8 per cent. in 1953 to 13.5 per cent. in 1954. As a result it was found possible to make reductions in October in the percentage levy paid by employers on the wages of both daily and weekly workers.

Other matters reported upon by the Board include the training of key workers, the Board's programme for building call stands, offices, medical centres and first aid rooms, the welfare of dock workers, and the financial position and policy of the Board. The Report is followed by a number of appendices containing statistical information and the balance sheet and accounts of the Board for the year 1954.

Committee of Inquiry into Dock Labour Scheme

In reply to a Parliamentary Question the Minister of Labour and National Service stated on 21st April that he had decided to appoint a committee to enquire into the working of the Dock Labour Scheme.

The Dock Labour Scheme came into operation in June, 1947 (see the issues of this GAZETTE for March and July, 1947, pages 79 and 223).

INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT IN SCOTLAND IN 1954

The Secretary of State for Scotland has presented to Parliament the ninth annual review of the main developments and trends in the economic affairs of Scotland. The review, which has been published as a Command Paper,* relates to the calendar year 1954, but reference is also made to some events at the beginning of 1955. Some of the figures for previous years have been revised since the last review (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1954, page 120) and some of the figures for 1954 are estimates only.

The general summary with which the Command Paper opens says that, for Scotland as for the United Kingdom generally, 1954 was a prosperous year. Output and employment reached record levels and Scottish industries on the whole maintained or improved their export performance. The level of unemployment in Scotland remained higher than in the United Kingdom generally, but it was substantially lower in 1954 as a whole than in 1953. During the last quarter of the year the number of unemployed was less than in the corresponding period of any year since 1947. More new factory building was approved than in any year since 1946.

Production in Scottish industry as a whole, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production, was 24 per cent. greater in 1954 than in 1948 and five per cent. above the figure for 1953, despite a fall in 1954 compared with 1953 of about 1½ per cent. in output of coal and a slight fall (from 2.32 million tons to 2.23 million tons) in output of crude steel, which had reached a high level in 1953. The increase in production in 1954, unlike that of 1953 which came from building and other industries producing mainly for home consumption, was achieved mainly in the engineering industries, which account for about one-fifth of Scotland's industrial production and make a large contribution to export trade. Output in engineering and shipbuilding in 1954 was 11 per cent. higher than in 1953. In particular, some of the newer industries, including agricultural machinery, office machinery, and watch and clock

* Industry and Employment in Scotland, 1954. Cmd. 9410. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2s. 6d. net (2s. 7½d. including postage).

making, showed marked increases in production and exports. The tonnage of ships completed in Scotland was the highest for any year since the war. In agriculture there were difficulties caused by weather conditions during much of the year, particularly at harvest time, but yields were again above average and livestock production was maintained. The area under crops declined slightly.

The total number of persons in employment in Scotland, excluding the self-employed, was about 2,089,000 in May, 1954, compared with 2,063,000 in May, 1953, and 2,046,000 in May, 1952. Unemployment over the year 1954 as a whole was considerably lower than in 1953, reaching its lowest point in July, when registered unemployed numbered 49,770. The numbers unemployed in December, 1954, were 56,919 (2.7 per cent. of the estimated total number of employees), 5,674 fewer than in December, 1953. There was a recovery during the year in employment in many industries, including engineering, furniture and upholstery, paper and board making, and printing and publishing. The main causes of redundancies and under-employment, where they occurred, were lack of demand in the home market and a slight decline in export orders. Shortages of raw materials caused some under-employment in the cotton, wool and jute industries. In the Development Area unemployment fell from 41,879 (3.6 per cent.) in January to 32,359 (2.7 per cent.) in September. A normal seasonal increase raised the figure to 33,669 (2.9 per cent.) by December. Of the total number of persons registered as wholly unemployed in Scotland in December, 1954, more than one-fifth had been out of work for two weeks or less, but more than one-seventh, including 6,457 males and 1,487 females, had been unemployed for more than a year. Of the men who had been out of work for more than a year, 3,628 were 50 years of age or over.

The review says that marked shortages of skilled men persisted in 1954 in various industries, particularly in engineering. Highly skilled precision fitters and turners were in demand in a number of areas. In shipbuilding and ship repairing there was a sustained

demand, though at a somewhat lower level than in 1953, for shipwrights, platers, marine fitters and turners; the demand for welders continued unabated. In building and civil engineering certain classes of tradesmen were in short supply, and in printing and publishing the acute shortage of skilled operatives continued. Difficulty was experienced in recruitment of railway workers for isolated and remote areas. There was a substantial shortage of women workers for resident hotel and domestic employment, and an unsatisfied demand for skilled women operatives and young persons to train in the textile trades. In agriculture there was some shortage of skilled workers but generally an adequate supply of casual labour. Assistance was given to farmers at harvest time by about 1,500 workers under the Scottish Harvesting Scheme and by about 330 men employed as mobile workers in the Special Seasonal Labour Force. The Scottish Division of the National Coal Board set no man-power target for the end of 1954 but concentrated on maintaining the labour force at about the January level and paid particular attention to the recruitment of young persons in order to improve the age balance in the industry. Young persons recruited numbered 2,888 and 2,816 ex-miners rejoined the industry. The number of workers employed on constructional work on the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board's schemes rose to a peak of 8,654 in September, 1954, compared with 6,578 in November, 1953; the number had decreased to 7,478 by December, 1954.

There was a further slight easing during the year in industry's demand for boys and girls, and it was more difficult to obtain apprenticeships for the increasing number of boys wanting to enter skilled trades, particularly in engineering. The Ministry of Labour and National Service continued to encourage and assist industries to develop schemes for the systematic training of young workers, and Scotland was included in eight national schemes agreed during the year. Among other information on man-power and employment matters, the review gives some details about the employment of disabled persons and training and rehabilitation schemes, and about older workers. Employers, it is stated, are showing an increasing willingness to give older workers the opportunity of continuing in employment provided they can give effective service.

In a note on industrial relations, the review says that the number of stoppages of work arising from industrial disputes in industries other than coal mining in Scotland during 1954 was 134. The aggregate of working days lost during the year at the establishments concerned was about 101,000.* Stoppages of work due to disputes in coal mining numbered 661 and caused a loss of about 201,000 man-days.* During the year, officers of the Ministry of Labour and National Service assisted in the settlement of 113 disputes in Scotland.

During 1954 Industrial Development Certificates were issued for about 150 new factories and extensions, providing for more than 5,000,000 square feet of new factory space, an area about twice as large as in the previous year and larger than in any post-war year except 1946. Employers estimated that the projects approved in 1954 would employ about 5,000 men and 4,500 women. Two schemes of special importance approved in 1954 were a large iron and steel development at Motherwell and the atomic energy plant at Dounreay, Caithness. About three-fifths of the additional factory space approved in Scotland in 1954 will be in the Development Area, about one-half of it being due to expansion schemes in the iron and steel and engineering industries. Several schemes of factory expansion or new construction were promoted by North American companies, three of whom were new to manufacture in Scotland. Substantial progress was made under the scheme devised by the Scottish Council (Development and Industry) for expanding the electronics industry in Scotland. The review refers to the Electricity Re-organisation (Scotland) Act, 1954, under which a new authority, the South of Scotland Electricity Board, became responsible from 1st April, 1955, for the generation and distribution of electricity throughout the south of Scotland and the Secretary of State for Scotland took over most of the functions formerly exercised in Scotland by the Minister of Fuel and Power in regard to electricity. A chapter of the Command Paper reviews recent developments in the generation and distribution of electric power in Scotland.

Other sections of the Command Paper review in detail developments during 1954 in the Highlands and Islands, in the main industries and basic services in Scotland, and in technical education and industrial research and industrial design.

WORKING HOURS IN THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY

The Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, as amended by subsequent enactments, limits the time during which the main categories of workmen in mines may be below ground for the purpose of their work, and of going to and from their work, to 7½ hours during any period of 24 hours. For certain other categories the corresponding time is 8½ hours.

The operation of the relevant sections of the Act, in so far as it applies to coal mines, on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings was suspended by the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) (No. 2) Order, 1954, for the period which expired on 30th April, 1955 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1954, page 227). On 7th April Her Majesty in Council made the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1955, which came into operation on 1st May. This

* Provisional figure.

Order suspends the operation of the relevant sections of the Act on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings for the period from the expiry of the Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) (No. 2) Order, 1954, viz., 30th April, 1955, to 30th April, 1956.

Copies of the Order (S.I. 1955 No. 549) can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3½d. including postage).

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Prevention of Anthrax

On 30th April the Minister of Labour and National Service made the Anthrax Disinfection Fee (Amendment) Rules, 1955. These Rules increase by ½d. per pound (from 2½d. to 3d.) the disinfection fee payable by importers of goat hair and other material which is required under the Anthrax Prevention Act, 1919, to undergo disinfection at the Government Wool Disinfecting Station (Ministry of Labour and National Service), Liverpool. The Rules come into force on 1st August, 1955.

Copies of the Rules (S.I. 1955 No. 659) can be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net (3½d. including postage).

The Minister has also increased the fee for disinfecting bristles sent voluntarily to the Station from 3d. to 4½d. per pound with effect also from 1st August, 1955.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

A Guide to the National Insurance Schemes

A booklet entitled "Everybody's Guide to National Insurance" has been prepared by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and the Central Office of Information and published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 6d. net (7½d. including postage). Copies of the booklet may be purchased at any local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance or through any bookseller.

The booklet explains briefly the working of both the main National Insurance scheme and the Industrial Injuries scheme. It explains the rules about contributions under the two schemes, gives details of the various benefits and conditions for the receipt of benefit, and contains advice on how to claim, and, in particular, when to claim, benefits. It sets out the new rates of contributions which come into force on 6th June, and shows the current rates of benefits and the dates on which they came into operation. Some details are also given in the booklet about social services other than the two insurance schemes.

National Insurance Act, 1955

The National Insurance Act, 1955*, which received the Royal Assent on 6th May, makes changes in the provisions of the National Insurance scheme governing the exception from liability for contributions of persons with small incomes.

In connection with the arrangements for the quinquennial review of the National Insurance scheme (see the issue of this GAZETTE for April, 1954, page 121) the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance referred certain questions to the National Insurance Advisory Committee for advice. The Committee are making a separate Report on each of the three questions referred to them and their Report on the liability for contributions of persons with small incomes has recently been published by H.M. Stationery Office as a Command Paper (Cmd. 9432, price 9d. net, 10½d. including postage). In their Report the Committee recommended an increase from £104 to £156 a year in the income limit below which persons may be excepted from liability to pay contributions under the National Insurance Acts, 1946 to 1954. They also recommended that the arrangements under which employers bear a larger share of the contribution payable for an employee should operate where the weekly rate of remuneration is 60s. or less instead of 30s. or less.

The recommendations of the National Insurance Advisory Committee were accepted by the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance and embodied in a Bill presented to Parliament on 7th April. The Act now passed into law makes provision for the amended conditions of the scheme to be brought into operation on a day appointed by the Minister.

Review of Benefit Provisions for Byssinosis

The Minister of Pensions and National Insurance has asked the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council to review the provision made for byssinosis under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts. This review is being undertaken on behalf of the Council by their Industrial Diseases Sub-Committee. The Chairman of the

* 3 & 4 Eliz. 2. Ch. 29. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net (3½d. including postage).

Sub-Committee is Professor Sir Arnold Plant, who is also Chairman of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council.

Byssinosis is a form of chronic bronchitis and emphysema caused by cotton dust. Regulations made under the Industrial Injuries Acts provide insurance cover against the disease for persons who have been employed at some time since 5th July, 1948, and for at least 20 years in all, "in any occupation in any room where any process up to and including the carding process is performed in factories in which the spinning or manipulation of raw or waste cotton is carried on". Benefit is not, however, available unless the person concerned has died from byssinosis or his disablement from the disease is assessed at not less than 50 per cent. and is likely to be permanent. These conditions were imposed because of the difficulty of distinguishing byssinosis from bronchitis and emphysema of non-occupational origin.

Persons and organisations interested in any aspect of the provision made for byssinosis under the Industrial Injuries Acts are invited to submit written evidence. Communications should be sent to the Secretary, Industrial Injuries Advisory Council, 10 John Adam Street, London, W.C.2, as soon as possible and in any case should arrive not later than 6th June, 1955. An explanatory memorandum can be obtained on request.

Insurance Cover against Cadmium Poisoning

The Industrial Diseases Sub-Committee of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council is considering whether cadmium poisoning should be a "prescribed disease" under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts, and, if so, for which occupations.

Under existing provisions industrial injury benefit can be claimed for acute cadmium poisoning as "injury by accident". The purpose of the present enquiry is to investigate the possibility that prolonged exposure to cadmium at work can give rise to chronic ill-health against which insurance cover should be provided.

Persons and organisations interested in the question of including cadmium poisoning in the list of prescribed diseases are invited to submit written evidence. Communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Industrial Injuries Advisory Council, 10 John Adam Street, London, W.C.2, and should arrive not later than 6th June.

Payment of Benefits to Persons Resident Abroad

The National Insurance Advisory Committee have been asked to consider and report on the draft National Insurance (Residence and Persons Abroad) Amendment Regulations, 1955. The Regulations which it is proposed to make provide that a person shall not be disqualified for receiving widow's benefit, a guardian's allowance or a retirement pension by reason of being absent from Great Britain. Under existing arrangements these benefits can be paid to people resident abroad only if they are living in the Commonwealth or in the Republic of Ireland or in countries which have made reciprocal agreements with the United Kingdom. The proposed Regulations will enable the benefits to be paid in foreign countries even where there is no reciprocal agreement. Pensioners who are abroad, however, receive their pensions at the rates which were current when they left this country or when they first qualified for the pension, whichever is the later; and, in the absence of reciprocal agreements, widowed mothers' allowances and guardians' allowances cannot be paid in respect of children who are resident outside the United Kingdom.

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



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National Insurance Funds, 1953-54

The Accounts of the National Insurance Funds for the year ended 31st March, 1954, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General, have been presented to Parliament and published as a House of Commons Paper.*

The Accounts were presented under the National Insurance Acts, 1946 to 1953, the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts, 1946 to 1953, the Workmen's Compensation (Supplementation) Act, 1951, the Pneumoconiosis and Byssinosis Benefit Act, 1951, and the Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1948. They relate to the National Insurance Fund, the National Insurance (Reserve) Fund, the Industrial Injuries Fund, and the National Insurance (Existing Pensioners) Fund.

National Insurance Fund and National Insurance (Reserve) Fund

In his Report the Comptroller and Auditor General states that the net surplus of receipts over payments, amounting in 1953-54 to £36,127,584, was £12,976,161 larger than the surplus in 1952-53. Receipts increased by £40,656,191 and payments by £27,680,030. The increase in receipts was due mainly to the payment for a full year of the higher rates of contributions and the increase in the Exchequer supplement introduced from 6th October, 1952, by the Family Allowances and National Insurance Act, 1952 (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1952, page 239). The increase in payments was mainly on sickness benefit and retirement pensions. Expenditure on sickness benefit increased by £5,779,578 and on retirement pensions by £18,571,157. These additional charges were due largely to the higher rates of benefit payable under the 1952 Act and to an increase of 125,000 in the number of retirement pensioners, which at 31st December, 1953, reached about 4.3 million. In a reference to benefits subject to reduction on account of earnings the Comptroller and Auditor General notes that special checks were made during the year by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance to establish the extent to which understatement of earnings on the part of claimants occurred. Some changes in procedure designed to discourage the understatement of earnings have been made as a result and other action is under consideration.

Total receipts in the year 1953-54 amounted to £594,838,501. Of this total, £550,528,037 represented contributions and included £480,528,037 from employers and insured persons and £70,000,000 from the Exchequer. A repayment of £1,733,634 was made by the Exchequer in respect of special payments of unemployment benefit and administration expenses under Section 62 of the National Insurance Act, 1946. Total income from investments amounted to £42,564,008, of which £35,541,472 was received in the first instance by the National Insurance (Reserve) Fund and transferred to the National Insurance Fund. Other items of income, amounting in all to £12,822, included transfers from the Government of the Republic of Ireland under reciprocal arrangements and repayment of benefit paid on behalf of foreign countries under reciprocal agreements.

Total payments from the National Insurance Fund in the year amounted to £558,710,917, including £485,376,171 for benefits. Payments of benefits included unemployment benefit £22,158,144; sickness benefit £84,942,540; maternity benefit £10,500,000; widow's benefit £30,500,000; guardian's allowance £390,000; retirement pension £334,082,643; and death grant £2,802,844. The figures for unemployment benefit included £1,505,634 special payments of unemployment benefit under Section 62 of the principal Act. The division of total payments among the benefits other than unemployment and sickness benefit and death grant has been estimated. Payments totalling £40,347,000 were made to the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland as a contribution to the National Health Service. Administration expenses amounted to £26,422,795, representing the whole cost of administration of the National Insurance scheme including amounts paid to all the Government Departments concerned. Smaller items of expenditure included a total of £252,010 paid to the Ministry of Labour and National Service towards the cost of authorised courses of training and travelling expenses of insured contributors under the Employment and Training Act, 1948, and £35,000 to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland towards the cost of training under the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1949. Other payments totalled £6,277,941 and included £6,023,000 transferred to the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund under the arrangements for co-ordinating the systems of insurance established in the two countries.

The balance in the National Insurance Fund on 31st March, 1954, was £336,147,205, compared with £300,019,621 at 1st April, 1953.

The National Insurance (Reserve) Fund had a balance of £1,068,406,047 at 1st April, 1953, and during the year 1953-54 received £53,600 from the sale of property and a net amount from investments, etc., of £35,541,472, which was transferred to the National Insurance Fund. On 31st March, 1954, the balance of the Reserve Fund was £1,068,459,647.

Industrial Injuries Fund

The receipts of the Industrial Injuries Fund during the year totalled £44,150,704, which included £34,146,000 as contributions from employers and insured persons and £6,650,000 from the Exchequer, £3,352,220 from investments, £2,179 in respect of fees for medical examinations carried out under the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) (Prescribed Diseases) Regulations, 1948, and £305 as repayment of benefit paid on behalf of foreign countries under reciprocal agreements. Total expenditure during the year amounted

* Accounts 1953-54. Accounts of the National Insurance Fund, the National Insurance (Reserve) Fund, the Industrial Injuries Fund and the National Insurance (Existing Pensioners) Fund, for the year ended 31st March, 1954; together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. (Un continuation of House of Commons Paper No. 121 of 1953-54). House of Commons Paper No. 107. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net (10½d. including postage).

to £29,028,793. Benefit payments totalling £24,796,012 included £11,041,669 injury benefit, £12,174,343 disablement benefit, £1,015,000 death benefit, £170,000 allowances under the Workmen's Compensation (Supplementation) Act, 1951, and £395,000 allowances and death benefit under the Pneumoconiosis and Byssinosis Benefit Act, 1951. Other payments included £20,000 to the Ministry of Labour and National Service as grants towards the cost of industrial rehabilitation courses for disabled persons, £4,212,480 administration expenses, and £301 paid on behalf of foreign countries under reciprocal agreements. The balance of the Fund at 31st March, 1954, was £108,833,939, compared with £93,712,028 at 1st April, 1953.

National Insurance (Existing Pensioners) Fund

The National Insurance (Existing Pensioners) Fund was set up to carry the assets transferred from Superannuation Funds in which former employees of Approved Societies and kindred bodies had pension rights, and to meet certain liabilities of funds wholly transferred. The determination of amounts due to the Fund from Superannuation Funds is now completed and at the end of the period covered by the Accounts the appropriate transfers of assets had been effected in all cases. At 1st April, 1953, the balance of the Fund was £334,196. Receipts during the year 1953-54 amounted to £30,691, of which £21,195 represented assets transferred from Superannuation Funds associated with Approved Societies, etc., and £9,496 was income from investments. Payments from the Fund amounted to £20,464, which included £19,455 for pensions. Other payments amounted to £212 and losses on realisation and redemption amounted to £797. The balance of the Fund at 31st March, 1954, was £344,423.

LABOUR OVERSEAS

Man-Power Distribution in New Zealand

Statistics relating to man-power distribution, employment, etc., in New Zealand are compiled from surveys made at half-yearly intervals by the National Employment Service of the New Zealand Department of Labour. Some figures relating to man-power distribution in October, 1951, extracted from the reports of the half-yearly employment surveys, were published in the issue of this GAZETTE for June, 1952 (page 206). Later figures in the same series, taken from the February, 1955, issue of *Labour and Employment Gazette*, are given below. A revised industrial classification was introduced in May, 1952, and the figures now available are not, therefore, strictly comparable with those published in earlier issues of this GAZETTE.

For the purpose of the survey, employers are required to furnish returns of the numbers of full-time workers and working proprietors (other than those engaged in one-man businesses) in certain industries and services; the principal groups of activity excluded from the survey are farming, hunting, trapping, fishing, waterfront work and private domestic service. Seasonal workers are not included in the half-yearly survey but the data available from monthly returns in respect of such workers are incorporated in the results of the survey.

At 15th October, 1954, there were 483,684 persons working full-time in industries and services covered by the survey, 18,763 working in seasonal employment (meat processing, etc., fruit and vegetable preserving, dairy factories, and wool and grain stores) and 33,271 working proprietors*, making a total of 535,718. The distribution of this total is shown in the following Table.

Industrial Group	Persons Working Full-Time			Working Proprietors	Total
	Males	Females	Total		
Manufacturing Industries:					
Food, Drink and Tobacco (non-seasonal)	9,009	5,034	14,043	1,448	15,491
Textile, Clothing and Leather	12,538	23,734	36,272	1,555	37,827
Building Materials and Furnishings	24,230	1,418	25,648	1,778	27,426
Engineering and Metal Working	49,830	4,890	54,720	3,739	58,459
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	17,180	6,289	23,469	939	24,408
All Manufacturing Industries	112,787	41,365	154,152	9,459	163,611
Forestry, Logging, Mining and Quarrying	10,392	197	10,589	335	10,924
Power, Water, and Sanitary Services	10,870	758	11,628	6	11,634
Building and Construction	45,736	1,080	46,816	5,388	52,204
Transport and Communication	50,183	7,682	57,865	1,643	59,508
Distribution and Finance	61,735	34,597	96,332	11,067	107,399
Domestic and Personal Services†	11,216	13,259	24,475	4,624	29,099
Administration and Professional	41,315	40,512	81,827	661	82,488
Seasonal Industries	17,159	1,604	18,763	88	18,851
All Industries and Services	361,393	141,054	502,447	33,271	535,718

The total of 535,718 persons employed full-time included 516,955 persons covered by the half-yearly survey and 18,763 covered by the seasonal industry returns. In addition, the survey showed that 21,124 persons were employed part-time, including 8,242 males and 12,882 females. There were vacancies for 18,417 male workers and 8,807 female workers in the industries covered by the survey.

The total labour force at 15th October, 1954, including persons engaged in one-man businesses and employees in industries which the survey did not cover, was estimated by the National Employment Service to be 775,600. At the same date 10,400 persons were serving in the Armed Forces in New Zealand.

* Other than in one-man businesses.

† Domestic and personal services comprise provision of lodging and food, portrait and photographic studios, laundries and cleaning, barbers, beauty shops, recreation, sport, undertaking, etc.

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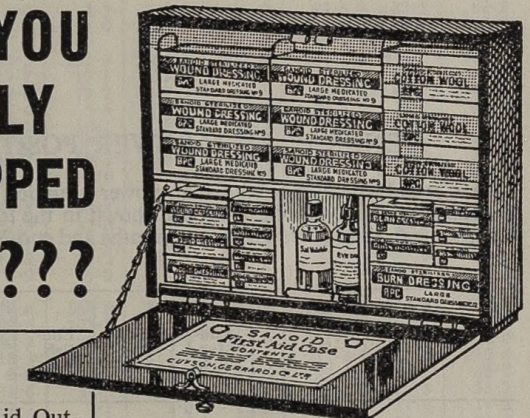
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EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC.

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Employment* in Great Britain in March

GENERAL SUMMARY

The number in civil employment (industry, commerce and services of all kinds) at the end of March was about 22,730,000, approximately the same as at the end of February.

As is usual in this month, there were no considerable changes in the numbers employed in any industry group. There was a small decrease in the manufacturing industries, mainly accounted for by a decrease in textiles.

There was a decrease of 10,000 in unemployment between 14th March and 18th April.

The number of persons registered as unemployed on 18th April was 260,000, including 34,000 temporarily stopped. Unemployment was 1.2 per cent. of the estimated total number of employees, compared with 1.3 per cent. in March and 1.5 per cent. in April, 1954.

The number unemployed for more than eight weeks was 105,000, which is 46 per cent. of the wholly unemployed.

The strength of the Forces at the end of March was 825,000.

It is estimated that the total working population† decreased by 35,000 during March.

GENERAL MAN-POWER POSITION

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

	Thousands				
	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955	Change during Mar., 1955
Number in Civil Employment	22,385	22,716‡	22,731‡	22,734	+ 3
Men	14,918	15,073‡	15,087‡	15,092	+ 5
Women	7,467	7,643‡	7,644‡	7,642	- 2
Wholly Unemployed§	308	282	271	239	- 32
Temporarily Stopped§	15	18	29	18	- 11
Total Registered Unemployed§	323	300	300	257	- 43
H.M. Forces and Women's Services	846	831	829	825	- 4
Men	823	810	808	804	- 4
Women	23	21	21	21	
Ex-Service men and women on release leave who have not taken up employment	4	5	7	5	- 2
Total Working Population†	23,543	23,834‡	23,838‡	23,803	- 35
Men	15,943	16,074‡	16,077‡	16,055	- 22
Women	7,600	7,760‡	7,761‡	7,748	- 13

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

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

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

ANALYSIS OF NUMBERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

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

Industry or Service	Thousands				
	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955	Change during Mar., 1955
Basic Industries					
Mining and Quarrying (Wage-earners on Colliery Books)	869	868	868	868	
Gas, Electricity and Water	(709)	(708)	(708)	(708)	(..)
Transport and Communication	375	378	379	379	
Agriculture and Fishing	1,705	1,691	1,696	1,700	+ 4
	1,040	1,017*	1,017*	1,022	+ 5
Number in Basic Industries	3,989	3,954*	3,960*	3,969	+ 9
Manufacturing Industries					
Chemicals and Allied Trades	499	511	512	513	+ 1
Metal Manufacture	554	569	570	570	
Vehicles	1,168	1,219	1,223	1,224	+ 1
Engineering, Metal Goods and Precision Instruments	2,605	2,731	2,740	2,745	+ 5
Textiles	999	997	993	986†	- 7
Clothing (inc. footwear)	697	690	688	686	- 2
Food, Drink and Tobacco	862	894	893	892	- 1
Other Manufactures	1,543	1,595	1,597	1,594	- 3
Number in Manufacturing Industries	8,927	9,206	9,216	9,210	- 6
Building and Contracting	1,429	1,421	1,426*	1,428	+ 2
Distributive Trades	2,708	2,781	2,772	2,767	- 5
Professional, Financial and Miscellaneous Services	4,011	4,043	4,046	4,048	+ 2
Public Administration	596	583	583	584	+ 1
National Government Service	725	728	728	728	
Local Government Service					
Total in Civil Employment	22,385	22,716*	22,731*	22,734	+ 3

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-March, 1954, and January, February and March, 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.

* Revised figure.
† Cotton—285,000. Wool—213,000. Other textiles—488,000.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN GREAT BRITAIN: INDUSTRIAL ANALYSIS*

Industry	Males				Females				Total			
	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955
Mining, etc.												
Coal Mining	772.8	771.9	771.7	771.4	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2	788.0	787.1	786.9	786.6
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	254.2	257.3	256.7	256.2	81.9	83.5	83.7	83.4	336.1	340.8	340.4	339.6
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	77.1	76.2	75.7	75.2	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.4	85.7	84.6	84.1	83.6
China and Earthenware	33.5	34.5	34.5	34.5	43.7	44.1	44.0	43.7	77.2	78.6	78.5	78.2
Glass (other than containers)	31.4	33.0	33.3	33.3	11.4	12.2	12.3	12.3	42.8	45.2	45.4	45.6
Glass Containers	20.0	21.0	20.9	20.9	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	25.6	26.7	26.7	26.7
Cement	14.6	14.6	14.6	14.6	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	15.9	15.9	15.9	15.9
Other Non-Metallif. Mining Manufactures	77.6	78.0	77.9	77.7	11.3	11.8	11.9	11.9	89.9	89.8	89.8	89.6
Chemicals and Allied Trades	353.5	361.4	362.6	363.4	143.5	148.0	148.1	148.1	497.0	509.4	510.7	511.5
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	18.0	18.1	18.1	18.1	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.5
Chemicals and Dyes	164.3	168.7	169.7	170.7	44.3	44.8	45.0	45.1	208.6	213.5	214.7	215.8
Pharmaceutical Preparations, Perfumery, etc.	25.7	27.0	27.0	26.9	33.9	35.9	35.8	35.8	59.6	62.9	62.8	62.7
Explosives and Fireworks	32.3	32.7	32.7	32.6	18.7	19.9	20.1	20.2	51.0	52.6	52.8	52.8
Paint and Varnish	27.5	28.0	28.2	28.3	11.8	12.1	12.3	12.3	39.3	40.1	40.4	40.4
Soap, Candles, Polishes, Ink, Matches, etc.	29.8	30.0	30.0	30.0	20.2	20.1	19.9	20.1	50.0	50.1	49.9	49.7
Mineral Oil Refining	31.1	31.9	32.0	32.1	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.8	37.6	38.7	38.8	38.9
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	24.8	25.0	24.9	24.7	7.6	8.0	7.9	7.8	32.4	33.0	32.8	32.5
Metal Manufacture	486.6	498.4	499.4	499.2	65.9	69.3	69.5	69.6	552.5	567.7	568.9	568.8
Blast Furnaces	21.0	20.9	20.8	20.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	21.5	21.4	21.3	21.3
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	202.6	204.4	204.7	204.8	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	221.6	223.4	223.7	223.8
Iron Foundries	107.6	110.4	110.7	110.5	16.6	17.6	17.6	17.6	124.2	128.0	128.3	128.1
Tiplate Manufacture	12.3	12.2	12.3	12.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	14.3	14.2	14.3	14.3
Steel Sheet Manufacture	18.4	18.9	18.9	18.9	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	19.6	20.1	20.1	20.1
Iron and Steel Tubes	36.6	38.0	38.0	38.0	7.2	7.8	7.9	7.9	43.8	45.8	45.9	45.9
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, Rolling, etc.	88.1	93.6	94.0	93.9	19.4	21.2	21.3	21.4	107.5	114.8	115.3	115.3
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	1,522.9	1,575.9	1,578.9	1,582.5	419.5	459.8	464.0	465.7	1,942.4	2,035.7	2,042.9	2,048.2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	195.6	197.1	196.9	198.1	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	204.3	205.8	205.7	206.8
Marine Engineering	75.5	76.1	76.1	75.6	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	79.6	80.3	80.3	79.7
Agricultural Machinery (exc. tractors)	33.3	35.7	35.9	36.2	4.8	5.2	5.2	5.3	38.1	40.9	41.1	41.5
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	27.3	28.0	28.1	28.2	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	30.1	30.8	30.9	31.0
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	86.3	89.7	89.9	90.1	18.3	19.5	19.7	19.8	104.6	109.2	109.6	109.9
Stationary Engines	22.9	23.7	23.8	23.8	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.7	26.4	27.4	27.5	27.5
Textile Machinery and Accessories	55.8	56.8	56.7	56.6	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.8	65.5	66.6	66.5	66.4
Ordnance and Small Arms	48.8	49.7	49.4	48.9	14.4	14.2	14.1	13.9	63.2	63.9	63.5	62.8
Constructional Engineering	75.2	76.0	75.7	75.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	81.8	82.7	82.4	82.4
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	511.5	529.7	531.5	532.7	113.3	121.4	122.7	122.7	624.8	651.1	653.6	654.4
Electrical Machinery	131.9	135.9	136.0	136.5	43.4	47.3	47.8	48.1	175.3	183.2	183.8	184.6
Electrical Wires and Cables	38.1	40.2	40.3	40.5	20.6	21.8	22.3	22.5	58.7	62.0	62.6	63.0
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	31.9	32.7	32.8	32.9	20.2	21.8	22.1	22.3	52.1	54.5	54.9	55.2
Wireless Apparatus and Gramophones	63.4	70.1	70.6	71.1	53.3	66.2	67.2	67.1	116.7	136.3	137.8	138.2
Wireless Valves and Electric Lamps	21.4	23.3	23.5	23.8	23.3	26.0	26.6	27.0	44.7	49.3	50.1	50.8
Batteries and Accumulators	11.2	11.6	11.5	11.4	8.9	8.4	8.5	8.5	20.1	20.0	20.0	19.9
Other Electrical Goods	92.8	99.6	100.2	100.5	63.6	72.1	72.6	72.6	156.4	171.7	172.6	173.1
Vehicles	967.9	1,009.0	1,011.6	1,012.9	166.0	175.8	176.8	177.3	1,133.9	1,184.8	1,188.4	1,190.2
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles and Cycles	261.5	279.6	281.6	282.3	44.8	47.7	47.9	48.1	306.3	327.3	329.5	330.4
Motor Repairs and Garages	234.6	239.3	239.2	239.0	35.6	37.0	37.0	37.2	270.2	276.3	276.2	276.2
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	196.5	206.7	207.5	208.0	33.0	34.2						

Numbers Employed in Great Britain: Industrial Analysis—continued

(Thousands)

Industry	Males				Females				Total			
	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955	End-Mar., 1954	End-Jan., 1955	End-Feb., 1955	End-Mar., 1955
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	234.7	243.6	243.5	241.0	60.8	64.6	65.0	64.5	295.5	308.2	308.5	305.5
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	83.3	84.3	83.9	83.3	11.8	12.4	12.6	12.5	95.1	96.7	96.5	95.8
Furniture and Upholstery	98.7	105.1	104.8	102.9	34.3	37.0	37.0	36.6	133.0	142.1	141.8	139.5
Shop and Office Fitting	16.7	18.0	18.4	18.4	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.0	19.4	20.9	21.4	21.4
Wooden Containers and Baskets	20.4	20.4	20.6	20.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	27.0	27.0	27.3	27.3
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	15.6	15.8	15.8	15.8	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.7	21.0	21.5	21.5	21.5
Paper and Printing	333.6	344.7	345.6	345.8	192.1	199.9	199.9	199.8	525.7	544.6	545.5	545.6
Paper and Board	65.5	69.3	69.6	69.7	19.7	20.6	20.6	20.6	85.2	89.9	90.2	90.3
Wallpaper	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.7	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.6
Cardboard Boxes, Cartons, etc.	18.8	20.3	20.4	20.5	30.5	31.7	31.6	31.4	49.3	52.0	52.0	51.9
Other Manufactures of Paper and Board	18.0	18.7	18.8	18.8	27.9	29.3	29.3	29.3	45.9	48.0	48.1	48.1
Printing and Publishing of Newspapers, etc.	87.9	89.9	90.1	90.2	21.9	23.0	23.0	23.0	109.8	112.9	113.1	113.2
Other Printing, Publishing, Bookbinding, etc.	139.4	142.6	142.8	142.7	90.1	93.6	93.7	93.8	229.5	236.2	236.5	236.5
Other Manufacturing Industries	154.9	164.1	164.8	164.8	115.9	121.7	121.6	122.2	270.8	285.8	286.4	287.0
Rubber	74.3	79.3	79.6	80.0	39.4	41.5	41.5	41.7	113.7	120.8	121.1	121.7
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	12.9	13.3	13.3	13.1	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.0	16.5	17.3	17.3	17.1
Brushes and Brooms	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.6	9.1	9.0	8.9	17.1	17.5	17.4	17.3
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	10.9	11.5	11.5	11.5	19.7	19.5	19.6	19.7	30.6	31.0	31.1	31.2
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.0	11.8	12.0	11.9	11.9
Production, etc., of Cinematograph Films	6.1	6.7	6.9	6.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	8.1	8.7	8.9	8.9
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	37.2	40.0	40.2	40.0	35.8	38.5	38.5	38.9	73.0	78.5	78.7	78.9
Total, All Manufacturing Industries	5,823.4	5,999.4	6,005.4	6,005.5	2,903.5	3,007.3	3,011.2	3,005.0	8,726.9	9,006.7	9,016.6	9,010.5
Building and Contracting	1,249.6	1,240.4	1,245.5	1,247.3	48.4	49.5	49.6	49.6	1,298.0	1,289.9	1,295.1	1,296.9
Building and Civil Engineering Contracting	1,184.6	1,173.4	1,178.4	1,180.4	40.6	41.0	41.0	41.0	1,225.2	1,214.4	1,219.4	1,221.4
Electric Wiring and Contracting	65.0	67.0	67.1	66.9	7.8	8.5	8.6	8.6	72.8	75.5	75.7	75.5
Gas, Electricity and Water	337.0	338.0	339.0	339.3	38.3	39.5	39.5	39.8	375.3	377.5	378.5	379.1
Gas	132.2	131.5	131.1	130.9	13.8	14.2	14.1	14.3	146.0	145.7	145.2	145.2
Electricity	171.6	173.9	175.3	175.9	22.6	23.3	23.4	23.5	194.2	197.2	198.7	199.4
Water	33.2	32.6	32.6	32.5	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	35.1	34.6	34.6	34.5
Transport and Communication	212.4	201.6	202.1	202.5	49.6	51.8	52.5	52.8	262.0	253.4	254.6	255.3
Tramway and Omnibus Service	19.9	19.2	19.3	19.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	22.2	21.6	21.7	21.9
Other Road Passenger Transport	19.9	19.2	19.3	19.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	22.2	21.6	21.7	21.9
Distributive Trades	1,118.3	1,140.4	1,138.0	1,135.3	1,117.1	1,167.3	1,161.0	1,159.0	2,235.4	2,307.7	2,299.0	2,294.3
Coal, Builders' Materials, Grain, Agricultural Supplies (Wholesale or Retail)	117.2	120.4	120.4	120.4	32.3	33.5	33.5	33.8	149.5	153.9	153.9	154.2
Other Industrial Materials and Machinery	69.7	72.4	71.9	71.5	28.1	28.2	28.2	28.2	97.8	100.7	100.1	99.7
Food and Drink, Wholesale	119.2	119.9	119.8	119.5	56.6	58.0	57.2	56.8	175.8	177.9	177.0	176.3
Food and Drink (exc. catering), Retail	300.7	302.3	301.8	301.1	291.1	303.1	302.8	302.1	591.8	605.4	604.6	603.2
Non-Food Goods, Wholesale	164.9	168.9	168.9	168.7	101.4	106.3	106.3	105.6	266.3	275.2	274.3	274.3
Non-Food Goods, Retail	327.2	336.7	335.4	334.0	572.2	600.5	596.0	595.7	899.4	937.2	931.4	929.7
Confectionery, Tobacco and Newspapers	19.4	19.8	19.8	20.1	35.4	37.6	37.0	36.8	54.8	57.4	56.8	56.9
Miscellaneous Services	58.5	60.1	59.4	59.3	75.6	76.0	76.2	75.9	134.1	136.1	135.6	135.2
Theatres, Cinemas, Music Halls, Concerts, etc.	37.0	37.9	38.1	38.1	40.6	40.9	39.0	38.9	77.6	78.8	77.1	77.0
Sport, Other Recreations and Betting	171.1	169.8	170.0	169.5	479.1	479.6	480.0	483.3	650.2	649.4	650.0	652.8
Catering, Hotels, etc.	30.2	29.9	29.9	29.8	106.0	103.8	104.5	104.7	136.2	133.7	134.4	134.5
Laundries	30.2	29.9	29.9	29.8	106.0	103.8	104.5	104.7	136.2	133.7	134.4	134.5
Dry Cleaning, Job Dyeing, Carpet Beating, etc.	11.3	10.7	10.8	10.9	32.2	30.2	30.6	31.1	43.5	40.9	41.4	42.0

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Unemployment at 18th April, 1955

SUMMARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN

The numbers of persons registered as unemployed at 14th March and 18th April, 1955, were as follows:—

	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total
14th March	168,106	5,509	90,030	6,266	269,911
18th April	158,234	9,350	84,177	8,368	260,129
Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)	-9,872	+3,841	-5,853	+2,102	-9,782

It is estimated that the number of persons registered as unemployed at 18th April represented 1.2 per cent. of the total number of employees. The corresponding percentage at 14th March was 1.3.

An analysis of the figures for 18th April 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	35,407	30,313	70,099	135,819	22,415	158,234
Boys under 18	6,032	1,933	870	8,835	515	9,350
Women 18 and over	21,447	20,205	32,530	74,182	9,995	84,177
Girls under 18	4,661	1,763	1,068	7,492	876	8,368
Total	67,547	54,214	104,567	226,328	33,801	260,129

The total of 260,129 includes 44,243 married women.

The numbers of wholly unemployed persons in each Region at 18th April, 1955, analysed according to duration of unemployment, and also the numbers temporarily stopped, are given in the Table below. Separate figures are given for males and females. The changes, compared with 14th March, 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		
London and South-Eastern	9,083	6,877	9,902	25,862	12,893	38,755
Eastern	1,972	1,714	3,957	7,643	845	8,488
Southern	1,757	1,220	2,539	5,516	107	5,623
South-Western	2,091	1,767	4,521	8,379	166	8,545
Midland	3,430	1,005	1,463	5,898	177	6,075
North-Midland	1,524	952	1,894	4,370	421	4,791
E. and W. Ridings	2,550	1,978	4,077	8,605	739	9,344
North-Western	7,270	4,837	8,872	20,979	4,242	25,221
Northern	3,100	3,264	8,301	14,665	837	15,502
Scotland	6,608	6,480	18,722	31,810	2,193	34,003
Wales	2,054	2,152	6,721	10,927	310	11,237
Great Britain	41,439	32,246	70,969	144,654	22,930	167,584

Males						
London and South-Eastern	9,083	6,877	9,902	25,862	12,893	38,755
Eastern	1,972	1,714	3,957	7,643	845	8,488
Southern	1,757	1,220	2,539	5,516	107	5,623
South-Western	2,091	1,767	4,521	8,379	166	8,545
Midland	3,430	1,005	1,463	5,898	177	6,075
North-Midland	1,524	952	1,894	4,370	421	4,791
E. and W. Ridings	2,550	1,978	4,077	8,605	739	9,344
North-Western	7,270	4,837	8,872	20,979	4,242	25,221
Northern	3,100	3,264	8,301	14,665	837	15,502
Scotland	6,608	6,480	18,722	31,810	2,193	34,003
Wales	2,054	2,152	6,721	10,927	310	11,237
Great Britain	41,439	32,246	70,969	144,654	22,930	167,584

Females						
London and South-Eastern	6,303	3,475	2,693	12,471	503	12,974
Eastern	1,119	1,051	1,486	3,656	215	3,871
Southern	1,337	1,116	1,541	3,994	50	4,044
South-Western	1,360	1,215	2,124	4,699	133	4,832
Midland	1,924	730	630	3,284	322	3,606
North-Midland	1,055	757	776	2,588	910	3,498
E. and W. Ridings	1,550	1,058	1,106	3,714	811	4,525
North-Western	4,283	3,720	4,740	12,743	6,285	19,028
Northern	2,125	2,466	4,682	9,273	386	

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 18th April, 1955, and the numbers of persons on the registers of the Exchanges and Offices situated in some of the principal towns in each Region, together with the increase or decrease compared with 14th March, 1955.

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 18th April, 1955					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 14th March, 1955
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total 15 and over	
London and South-Eastern London (Administrative County)	16,642	507	4,474	213	21,836	+ 4,464
Acton	90	2	40	5	137	+ 1
Brentford and Chiswick	149	5	57	2	213	+ 26
Brighton and Hove	1,589	36	472	27	2,124	- 424
Chatham	526	49	334	42	951	+ 16
Croydon	799	12	226	17	1,054	+ 166
Dagenham	358	38	171	42	609	+ 184
Ealing	212	11	88	2	313	- 11
East Ham	333	69	118	36	556	+ 246
Enfield	353	8	75	5	441	+ 134
Harrow and Wembley	590	38	273	24	925	+ 308
Hayes and Harlington	68	16	23	17	124	+ 46
Hendon	412	27	122	25	586	+ 191
Ilford	688	20	112	12	832	+ 343
Leyton and Walthamstow	1,073	23	118	13	1,227	+ 432
Tottenham	935	25	151	16	1,127	+ 310
West Ham	697	43	201	23	964	+ 151
Willesden	314	21	70	16	421	+ 7
Eastern	8,140	348	3,504	367	12,359	- 2,099
Bedford	81	5	74	16	176	+ 7
Cambridge	106	14	45	12	177	...
Ipwich	277	18	123	13	431	- 47
Luton	112	8	50	7	177	+ 14
Norwich	898	13	274	6	1,191	- 241
Southend-on-Sea	711	16	183	14	924	- 112
Watford	178	8	113	3	302	+ 69
Southern	5,307	316	3,665	379	9,667	- 612
Bournemouth	543	10	251	10	814	- 260
Oxford	98	—	80	6	184	- 20
Portsmouth (inc. Gosport)	1,154	47	1,052	40	2,293	- 131
Reading	236	31	131	31	429	+ 85
Slough	113	6	60	3	182	+ 51
Southampton	861	43	376	34	1,314	+ 127
South-Western	8,245	300	4,463	369	13,377	- 2,067
Bristol (inc. Kingswood)	1,728	28	556	31	2,343	- 25
Exeter	356	9	313	12	690	- 5
Gloucester	133	12	68	15	228	- 5
Plymouth	785	75	883	47	1,790	- 103
Swindon	91	3	108	14	216	+ 11
Midland	5,691	384	3,256	350	9,681	- 660
Birmingham	1,733	99	632	39	2,503	- 245
Burton-on-Trent	35	1	62	2	100	- 11
Coventry	321	15	171	14	521	+ 10
Oldbury	47	6	16	2	71	- 20
Smethwick	106	3	39	3	151	+ 16
Stoke-on-Trent	626	12	249	9	896	- 106
Walsall	226	40	141	15	422	+ 7
West Bromwich	102	—	22	2	126	+ 39
Wolverhampton	242	13	161	15	431	- 69
Worcester	122	1	53	—	176	- 110
North-Midland	4,493	298	3,099	399	8,289	- 1,213
Chesterfield	160	—	52	6	218	+ 15
Derby	259	7	115	6	387	+ 55
Grimsby	641	51	170	61	923	- 192
Leicester	301	9	345	5	660	- 69
Lincoln	153	7	40	11	211	- 10
Mansfield	143	4	77	4	228	- 19
Northampton	143	9	101	2	255	- 23
Nottingham	914	14	285	21	1,234	+ 51
Peterborough	93	13	93	15	214	+ 8
Scunthorpe	49	7	179	19	254	+ 13
East and West Ridings	8,850	494	4,001	524	13,869	- 1,225
Barnsley	230	5	94	11	340	- 135
Bradford	375	33	242	40	690	- 15
Dewsbury	120	2	34	—	156	- 5
Doncaster	190	8	202	10	410	- 110
Halifax	182	6	71	3	262	+ 61
Huddersfield	200	—	85	1	286	- 8
Hull	2,431	48	655	54	3,188	- 54
Leeds	1,521	44	562	9	2,136	- 203
Rotherham	126	8	90	25	249	+ 4
Sheffield	757	65	265	28	1,115	+ 250
Wakefield	116	25	101	14	256	+ 13
York	299	40	40	24	403	- 40
North-Western	23,369	1,852	17,559	1,469	44,249	+ 2,604
Accrington	65	1	69	2	137	- 3
Ashton-under-Lyne	263	16	301	12	592	- 143
Barrow	327	18	396	26	966	- 23
Birkenhead	671	38	678	33	1,420	- 198
Blackburn	130	2	275	4	411	+ 101
Blackpool	625	19	529	20	1,193	- 510
Bolton	684	39	661	43	1,427	+ 592
Burnley	249	6	432	12	699	+ 139
Bury	94	8	213	4	319	+ 62
Crewe	118	10	113	3	244	- 27
Liverpool (inc. Bootle)	7,886	746	3,045	324	12,001	- 862
Manchester (inc. Stretford)	3,613	253	869	98	4,813	+ 1,115
Oldham (inc. Failsworth and Royton)	497	31	512	88	1,128	+ 479
Preston	189	39	266	48	542	+ 47
Rochdale	184	8	798	9	999	+ 508
St. Helens	343	10	560	16	929	- 106
Salford (inc. Eccles and Pendlebury)	673	73	166	39	951	+ 176
Stockport	371	45	560	41	1,017	+ 160
Wallasey	366	30	560	19	975	- 182
Warrington	289	35	567	53	944	+ 381
Wigan	426	25	520	54	1,025	+ 360

Regions and Principal Towns	Numbers of Persons on Registers at 18th April, 1955					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Totals as compared with 14th March, 1955
	Men 18 and over	Boys under 18	Women 18 and over	Girls under 18	Total 15 and over	
Northern	14,534	968	8,569	1,090	25,161	- 3,414
Carlisle	141	15	123	10	289	- 7
Darlington	206	26	194	15	441	- 38
Gateshead	644	77	320	32	1,073	- 224
Hartlepool	645	20	613	68	1,346	- 99
Jarrow and Hebburn	416	22	482	6	926	- 162
Middlesbrough (inc. South Bank)	650	58	438	80	1,226	- 61
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	2,370	136	1,008	124	3,638	- 435
South Shields	1,127	74	451	22	1,674	- 100
Stockton-on-Tees	429	49	365	32	875	- 156
Sunderland	1,793	123	1,408	238	3,562	- 261
Wallsend (inc. Willington Quay)	288	5	146	3	442	- 29
Scotland	32,074	1,929	18,185	1,387	53,575	- 6,328
Aberdeen	1,469	21	702	20	2,212	- 791
Clydebank	229	14	90	7	340	- 47
Dundee	1,204	49	501	33	1,787	- 232
Edinburgh	2,645	194	943	44	3,826	- 568
Glasgow (inc. Rutherglen)	10,998	611	4,133	188	15,930	- 54
Greenock	813	74	984	66	1,939	+ 1
Motherwell and Wishaw	912	110	874	115	2,011	+ 1
Paisley	570	27	349	25	971	- 167
Wales	10,582	655	6,032	904	18,173	- 1,869
Cardiff	1,404	61	376	75	1,916	+ 41
Merthyr Tydfil	485	45	124	35	689	- 47
Newport	308	48	179	21	556	- 54
Rhondda	895	69	502	54	1,520	+ 42
Swansea	704	35	559	43	1,341	+ 42
Northern Ireland	22,495	1,604	10,930	1,212	36,241	- 857
Belfast	7,937	480	5,285	396	14,098	+ 1,129
Londonderry	2,349	190	659	153	3,351	- 318

DISABLED PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT, 1944

The number of persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, at 18th April, 1955, was 827,102, compared with 832,123 at 17th January, 1955. The figure for 18th April, 1955, included 727,238 men, 93,062 women and 6,802 young persons; of the total, 454,717 had at some time served in H.M. Forces (though their disabilities may not have been caused by that service), and 372,385 had not.

In the following Table, the persons on the Register at 18th April, 1955, are classified according to the disabilities which made them eligible for registration at the time of their applications. These disabilities are not necessarily the only ones which these persons have and they may not now constitute the primary handicap to employment.

Nature of Disability	1914-1918 War-disabled Pensioners	Other Ex-Service Persons	Non-Ex-Service*	Total
Amputations	19,196	20,364	28,656	68,216
Arthritis and rheumatism	1,496	17,938	14,698	34,132
Congenital malformations	36	759	14,144	14,939
Diseases of digestive system	2,160	34,289	17,794	54,243
Diseases of heart, etc.	5,623	25,120	25,285	56,028
Diseases of the lungs	5,985	30,435	25,258	61,678
Ear defects	3,525	11,169	22,968	37,662
Eye defects	6,949	19,160	31,681	57,790
Injuries of head, face, neck, thorax, abdomen, pelvis and trunk	16,757	14,106	8,211	39,074
Injuries and diseases of lower limb	24,905	39,339	41,982	106,226
Injuries and diseases of upper limb	25,717	26,245	24,544	76,506
Injuries and diseases of spine	1,086	13,520	15,725	30,331
Nervous and mental disorders	6,314	27,085	43,220	76,619
Tuberculosis	3,000	31,119	35,769	69,888
Other diseases and disabilities	3,174	18,146	22,430	43,750
Total	125,923	328,794	372,385	827,102

The number of disabled persons on the Register who were employed at 18th April, 1955, was 41,249, of whom 35,587 were males and 5,662 were females. An analysis of these figures is given in the Table below :-

	Males		Total
	Males	Females	
Suitable for ordinary employment	31,712	5,251	36,963
Severely disabled persons classified as unlikely to obtain employment other than under special conditions†	3,875	411	4,286
Total	35,587	5,662	41,249

* This column includes a small number of young persons who had served in H.M. Forces.
† These persons are excluded from the statistics of unemployed persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges given in the preceding Tables.

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 18th April, 1955. 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				Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	8,254	1,611	1,848	238	10,102	1,849	11,951	14,297	1,964	16,261
Agriculture and Horticulture	4,797	1,573	1,112	238	4,909	1,811	6,720	8,886	1,926	10,812
Forestry	259	28	2							

Numbers Unemployed: Industrial Analysis—continued

Industry	Great Britain							United Kingdom (all classes)		
	Wholly unemployed (including casuals)		Temporarily stopped		Total			Males	Females	Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Total			
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	339	271	19	22	358	293	651	373	300	673
Leather (Tanning and Dressing) and Fellmongery	187	97	5	8	192	105	297	198	108	306
Leather Goods	86	142	2	6	88	148	236	97	151	248
Fur	66	32	12	8	78	40	118	78	41	119
Clothing	1,506	3,115	335	552	1,841	3,667	5,508	2,097	5,199	7,296
Tailoring	681	1,630	85	180	766	1,810	2,576	846	1,992	2,838
Dressmaking	60	540	—	28	60	568	628	68	655	732
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	41	344	1	60	42	404	446	73	1,339	1,412
Hats, Caps and Millinery	49	77	92	81	141	158	299	145	161	306
Dress Industries not elsewhere specified	61	224	14	4	75	228	303	95	496	591
Manufacture of Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Clogs (exc. rubber)	270	272	133	199	403	471	874	440	518	958
Repair of Boots and Shoes	344	28	10	—	354	28	382	430	28	458
Food, Drink and Tobacco	4,980	6,156	42	332	5,022	6,488	11,510	5,794	7,706	13,500
Grain Milling	195	76	1	—	196	76	272	263	85	348
Bread and Flour Confectionery	1,459	1,061	8	16	1,467	1,077	2,544	1,663	1,181	2,844
Biscuits	228	586	3	3	231	589	820	236	607	843
Meat and Meat Products	212	290	6	9	218	299	517	312	319	631
Milk Products	212	204	1	3	313	207	520	398	250	648
Sugar and Glucose	266	103	—	—	266	103	369	272	109	381
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	289	838	4	29	293	867	1,160	310	880	1,190
Preserving of Fruit and Vegetables	307	1,331	4	149	311	1,480	1,791	470	2,254	2,724
Food Industries not elsewhere specified	589	750	14	116	603	866	1,469	617	870	1,487
Brewing and Malting	456	256	—	1	456	257	713	472	262	734
Wholesale Bottling	125	187	—	3	125	190	315	156	194	350
Other Drink Industries	303	265	—	—	303	265	568	349	283	632
Tobacco	239	209	1	3	240	212	452	276	412	688
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	2,956	733	3,861	532	6,817	1,265	8,082	7,304	1,293	8,597
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	871	160	23	2	894	162	1,056	985	165	1,150
Furniture and Upholstery	1,617	410	3,804	514	5,421	924	6,345	5,767	949	6,716
Shop and Office Fitting	99	15	7	3	106	18	124	113	18	131
Wooden Containers and Baskets	231	80	20	12	251	92	343	285	92	377
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	138	68	7	1	145	69	214	154	69	223
Paper and Printing	1,774	1,336	12,723	189	14,497	1,525	16,022	14,568	1,598	16,166
Paper and Board	271	208	6	7	277	215	492	283	17	499
Wallpaper	20	16	1	—	21	17	38	21	—	38
Cardboard Boxes, Cartons and Fibre-board Packing Cases	113	287	—	6	113	293	406	128	326	454
Manufactures of Paper and Board not elsewhere specified	73	186	1	15	74	201	275	74	204	278
Printing and Publishing of Newspapers and Periodicals	717	99	12,501	143	13,218	242	13,460	13,239	256	13,495
Other Printing and Publishing, Bookbinding, Engraving, etc.	580	540	214	17	794	557	1,351	823	579	1,402
Other Manufacturing Industries	1,469	1,341	20	72	1,489	1,413	2,902	1,630	1,431	3,061
Rubber	544	367	1	9	545	376	921	568	382	950
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	140	44	1	1	141	45	186	146	46	192
Brushes and Brooms	137	63	1	9	138	72	154	85	72	157
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	137	369	13	36	130	405	555	150	410	560
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	43	57	—	—	43	61	104	61	104	104
Production and Printing of Cinematograph Films	104	12	1	—	105	12	117	106	12	118
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	420	429	3	13	423	442	865	532	448	980
Building and Contracting	22,101	247	149	5	22,250	252	22,502	27,309	280	27,589
Building	13,903	182	57	5	13,960	187	14,147	17,491	206	17,697
Electric Wiring and Contracting	736	29	6	—	742	29	771	968	33	1,001
Civil Engineering Contracting	7,462	36	86	—	7,548	36	7,584	8,850	41	8,891
Gas, Electricity and Water Supply	1,719	99	16	1	1,735	100	1,835	1,093	109	1,202
Gas	885	37	5	—	890	37	927	969	40	1,009
Electricity	627	56	8	1	635	57	692	717	62	779
Water	207	6	3	—	210	6	216	252	7	259
Transport and Communication	15,042	1,755	314	31	15,356	1,786	17,142	17,750	1,835	19,585
Railways	2,113	145	23	—	2,136	146	2,282	2,345	152	2,497
Tramway and Omnibus Service	932	779	15	4	947	783	1,730	1,233	791	2,024
Other Road Passenger Transport	288	19	1	—	289	20	309	360	20	380
Goods Transport by Road	1,600	66	11	—	1,611	66	1,677	1,936	69	2,005
Sea Transport	4,879	91	220	7	5,099	98	5,197	5,329	100	5,429
Port, River and Canal Transport	1,622	6	12	—	1,634	6	1,640	1,640	7	1,647
Harbour, Dock, Canal, Conservancy, etc., Service	513	9	9	—	522	9	531	559	9	568
Air Transport	92	33	2	—	94	33	127	98	35	133
Postal, Telegraph and Wireless Communication	2,213	508	16	14	2,229	522	2,751	2,446	347	2,793
Other Transport and Communication	305	33	1	—	306	33	339	311	35	346
Storage	485	66	4	4	489	70	559	499	70	569
Distributive Trades	12,854	12,341	151	232	13,005	12,573	25,578	14,845	13,480	28,325
Dealing in Coal, Builders' Materials, Grain and Agricultural Supplies (Wholesale or Retail)	1,827	228	11	3	1,838	231	2,069	2,115	249	2,364
Dealing in other Industrial Materials and Machinery	1,370	216	4	5	1,374	221	1,595	1,598	248	1,846
Wholesale Distribution of Food and Drink	1,226	513	7	—	1,233	513	1,746	1,751	514	2,265
Retail Distribution of Food and Drink (exc. catering)	2,773	4,048	22	91	2,795	4,139	6,934	3,343	4,380	7,723
Wholesale Distribution of Non-Food Goods	1,516	623	43	9	1,559	632	2,191	1,694	673	2,367
Retail Distribution of Non-Food Goods	3,743	6,204	27	104	3,770	6,308	10,078	4,113	6,780	10,893
Retail Distribution of Confectionery, Tobacco and Newspapers	399	509	39	13	438	522	960	468	572	1,040
Insurance, Banking and Finance	1,225	521	9	3	1,234	524	1,758	1,314	560	1,874
Public Administration	12,017	2,633	109	41	12,126	2,674	14,800	13,408	2,878	16,286
National Government Service	4,713	1,412	19	4	4,732	1,416	6,148	5,360	1,550	6,910
Local Government Service	7,304	1,221	90	37	7,394	1,258	8,652	8,048	1,328	9,376
Professional Services	3,131	5,209	16	193	3,147	5,402	8,549	3,383	5,718	9,101
Accountancy	104	60	—	—	104	60	164	106	68	174
Education	885	1,222	10	166	895	1,388	2,283	1,476	2,428	3,904
Law	56	133	—	—	56	133	189	61	149	210
Medical and Dental Services	1,099	3,461	1	15	1,100	3,476	4,576	1,208	3,675	4,883
Religion	104	33	2	2	106	35	141	124	38	162
Other Professional and Business Services	883	300	3	10	886	310	1,196	932	312	1,244
Miscellaneous Services	13,216	20,928	90	634	13,306	21,562	34,868	14,271	23,002	37,273
Theatres, Cinemas, Music Halls, Concerts, etc.	2,737	1,880	26	58	2,763	1,938	4,701	2,859	1,992	4,851
Sport, Other Recreations and Betting	1,633	749	13	24	1,646	773	2,419	1,790	791	2,581
Catering, Hotels, etc.	6,387	11,861	31	425	6,388	11,986	18,374	6,856	12,560	19,416
Laundries	387	1,247	1	10	388	1,257	1,645	424	381	805
Dry Cleaning, Job Dyeing, Carpet Beating, etc.	125	358	2	6	127	364	491	139	381	520
Hairdressing and Manicure	147	221	2	5	149	226	375	176	245	421
Private Domestic Service (Resident)	161	1,671	1	6	162	1,677	1,839	1,777	1,901	2,078
Private Domestic Service (Non-Resident)	665	2,840	8	95	673	2,935	3,608	753	3,314	4,067
Other Services	1,004	401	6	5	1,010	406	1,416	1,097	437	1,534
Ex-Service Personnel not Classified by Industry	2,537	322	—	—	2,537	322	2,859	2,719	334	3,053
Other Persons not Classified by Industry	9,902	9,344	—	—	9,902	9,344	19,246	10,827	9,959	20,786
GRAND TOTAL*	144,654	81,674	22,930	10,871	167,584	92,545	260,129	191,683	104,687	296,370

* The totals include unemployed casual workers (2,909 males and 265 females in Great Britain and 4,366 males and 289 females in the United Kingdom).

Placing Work of the Employment Exchanges

The Table below shows for the four-week periods ended 9th March and 6th April, 1955, the numbers of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges and other Local Offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Great Britain, together with the numbers remaining unfilled at the end of each period. The figures include placings, etc., by the Youth Employment Offices of certain Local Authorities.

	Four weeks ended 9th March, 1955		Four weeks ended 6th April, 1955		Total Number of Placings, 16th Dec., 1954, to 6th April, 1955 (16 weeks)
	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	Placings	Vacancies Unfilled	
Men aged 18 and over	147,988	154,870	152,617	170,322	567,953
Boys under 18	10,416	52,291	11,688	60,551	68,150
Women aged 18 and over	65,355	101,252	66,402	111,658	256,889
Girls under 18	10,979	62,772	12,394	73,985	69,861
Total	234,738	371,185	243,101	416,516	962,853

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

Labour Turnover

The Table below shows labour turnover rates (per 100 employees) in the manufacturing industries during the four-week period ended 26th February, 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 February, 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	3.7	3.2	3.2	3.6
Bricks and Fireclay Goods	2.6	3.8	2.7	3.2	4.1	3.3
China and Earthenware (including Glazed Tiles)	2.7	3.4	3.1	2.7	3.6	3.2
Glass (other than Containers)	2.9	4.5	3.3	2.5	3.9	2.9
Glass Containers	3.7	4.6	3.9	4.1	3.6	4.0
Cement	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.4
Other Non-Metalliferous Mining Manufactures	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.2	3.7
Chemicals and Allied Trades	2.3	3.4	2.6	1.9	3.2	2.3
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1.8	1.0	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7
Chemicals and Dyes	2.6	3.2	2.7	2.0	2.7	2.1
Pharmaceutical Preparations, etc.	2.3	3.8	3.2	2.2	4.0	3.3
Explosives and Fireworks	1.6	3.4	2.3	1.5	2.4	1.9
Paint and Varnish	3.2	4.0	3.5	2.5	3.0	2.7
Soap, Candles, Polishes, etc.	1.5	2.8	2.0	1.6	3.7	2.5
Mineral Oil Refining	1.3	3.4	1.6	1.1	3.3	1.4
Other Oils, Greases, Glue, etc.	2.5	3.0	2.6	2.7	3.7	2.9
Metal Manufacture	2.5	3.7	2.7	2.3	3.3	2.4
Blast Furnaces	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.6
Iron and Steel Melting, Rolling, etc.	1.9	2.4	2.0	1.8	2.4	1.8
Iron Foundries	3.4	4.4	3.5	3.1	4.3	3.3
Tinplate Manufacture	2.1	2.6	2.2	1.2	1.6	1.3
Steel Sheet Manufacture	1.4	3.0	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5
Iron and Steel Tubes	3.1	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.9
Non-Ferrous Metals Smelting, etc.	3.2	4.4	3.4	2.9	3.7	3.0
Engineering and Electrical Goods	2.6	4.7	3.1	2.4	3.8	2.7
Marine Engineering	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.8
Agricultural Machinery	2.9	3.4	3.0	2.2	2.7	2.3
Boilers and Boilerhouse Plant	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.3	1.8	2.2
Machine Tools and Engineers' Small Tools	2.5	4.4	2.9	2.3	3.3	2.4
Stationary Engines	2.1	3.3	2.3	1.9	2.6	2.0
Textile Machinery and Accessories	2.3	3.6	2.5	2.6	3.2	2.6
Ordnance and Small Arms	1.4	2.2	1.6	1.9	2.5	2.0
Constructional Engineering	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.8	3.3	2.8
Other Non-Electrical Engineering	2.6	4.0	2.9	2.4	3.4	2.5
Electrical Machinery	2.1	4.1	2.6	2.0	3.3	2.3
Electrical Wires and Cables	2.7	5.4	3.7	2.4	3.2	2.7
Telegraph and Telephone Apparatus	2.0	4.2	2.9	1.6	2.7	2.0
Wireless Apparatus	3.6	6.7	5.1	2.9	5.2	4.0
Wireless Lamps and Electric Lamps	3.0	6.0	4.7	2.0	3.8	3.0
Batteries and Accumulators	2.0	6.9	4.0	2.5	5.6	3.7
Other Electrical Goods	3.2	5.1	4.0	2.8	4.8	3.7
Vehicles	2.4	3.9	2.6	2.1	3.3	2.3
Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, etc.	2.9	3.7	3.0	2.2	3.4	2.4
Motor Repairs and Garages	2.2	3.4	2.3	2.2	3.2	2.4
Manufacture and Repair of Aircraft	2.1	3.1	2.3	1.8	2.6	1.9
Manufacture of Motor Vehicle and Aircraft Accessories	3.6	5.3	4.1	2.9	4.0	3.2
Locomotive Manufacture	1.0	3.6	1.1	1.3	3.1	1.4
Railway Carriages and Wagons	1.3	3.1	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5
Carts, Perambulators, etc.	3.5	4.6	4.0	4.5	4.4	4.4
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified	3.4	5.2	4.1	3.2	4.6	3.7
Tools and Cutlery	3.0	4.8	3.7	2.7	4.4	3.4
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Nails, etc.	3.6	5.3	4.3	3.3	4.1	3.6
Iron and Steel Forgings	2.9	4.6	3.1	2.5	2.7	2.5
Wire and Wire Manufactures	2.7	4.2	3.1	2.6	3.2	2.8
Hollow-ware	3.2	5.5	4.5	3.0	5.0	4.1
Brass Manufactures	3.8	6.2	4.7	3.4	5.4	4.1
Other Metal Industries	3.6	5.2	4.2	3.6	4.6	4.0
Precision Instruments, Jewellery, etc.	2.2	3.9	2.8	2.3	3.6	2.8
Scientific, Surgical, etc., Instruments	2.2	4.1	2.8	2.4	3.7	2.8
Watches and Clocks	2.3	3.5	2.9	1.8	2.8	2.3
Jewellery, Plate, etc.	2.4	3.7	2.8	2.3	4.0	3.1
Musical Instruments	2.4	3.5	2.7	2.9	4.7	3.3
Textiles	2.5	3.2	2.9	2.8	3.6	3.3
Cotton Spinning, Doubling, etc.	2.5	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.8	3.7
Cotton Weaving, etc.	1.9	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.8	2.6
Woolen and Worsted	3.3	3.9	3.6	3.3	4.3	3.9
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Production	2.3	3.5	2.5	2.1	2.4	2.1
Rayon, Nylon, etc., Weaving and Silk	2.3	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.4	2.2
Linen and Soft Hemp	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.4	5.3	4.6
Jute	4.8	5.3	5.0	4.6	6.1	5.4
Rope, Twine and Net	3.8	4.8	4.4	3.5	3.9	3.7
Hosiery	1.6	2.7	2.4	1.9	3.1	2.8
Lace	1.2	1.6	1.4	2.3	2.6	2.5
Carpets	1.8	2.4	2.1	1.9	3.4	2.7
Narrow Fabrics	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.2	3.4	3.0
Made-up Textiles	3.2	5.2	4.7	2.9	5.1	4.5
Textile Finishing, etc.	1.8	2.8	2.1	2.4	3.3	2.7
Other Textile Industries	3.7	4.7	4.1	3.8	4.8	4.1
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	2.2	3.9	2.8	2.5	3.7	2.9
Leather Tanning and Dressing	1.9	3.3	2.2	2.4	3.2	2.6
Leather Goods	2.5	3.9	3.4	2.7	4.0	3.6
Fur	4.2	5.4	4.8	2.3	3.4	2.8
Clothing	2.2	3.3	3.0	2.5	3.5	3.2
Tailoring	2.7	3.7	3.4	2.7	3.6	3.4
Dressmaking	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.6
Overalls, Shirts, Underwear, etc.	2.0	2.8	2.8	2.5	3.8	3.7
Hats, Caps and Millinery	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	3.1	2.9
Other Dress Industries	1.8	3.0	2.8	1.8	3.1	2.8
Manufacture of Boots and Shoes	1.7	2.8	2.2	2.3	3.0	2.6
Repair of Boots and Shoes	1.7	2.8	1.9	2.2	4.0	2.5
Food, Drink and Tobacco	3.1	5.4	4.1	3.5	5.5	4.3
Grain Milling	2.6	3.4	2.8	2.7	3.3	2.8
Bread and Flour Confectionery	4.3	5.5	4.7	4.1	4.8	4.4
Biscuits	3.9	5.9	5.2	3.9	5.8	5.2
Meat and Meat Products	3.3	5.6	4.3	3.7	4.7	4.1
Milk Products	3.2	5.2	3.8	3.1	3.9	3.3
Sugar and Glucose	2.1	3.9	2.5	8.0	7.9	8.0
Cocoa, Chocolate, etc.	3.7	5.7	5.0	3.4	6.6	5.4
Preserving of Fruit and Vegetables	4.1	8.6	7.0	3.8	8.0	6.6
Other Food Industries	3.0	5.7	4.0	3.1	5.3	4.0
Brewing and Malting	1.9	2.9	2.1	2.6	4.1	2.9
Wholesale Bottling	3.3	2.9	3.1	4.4	3.9	4.2
Other Drink Industries	3.9	5.9	4.5	3.8	5.6	4.4
Tobacco	1.0	1.9	1.5	1.5	2.8	2.2
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	3.2	4.6	3.5	3.2	4.0	3.4
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.)	3.1	5.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5
Furniture and Upholstery	2.8	3.9	3.1	3.1	4.0	3.3
Shop and Office Fitting	4.7	5.4	4.7	2.1	3.5	2.3
Wooden Containers and Baskets	4.2	6.0	4.6	3.7	4.7	3.9
Miscellaneous Wood and Cork Manufactures	3.3	5.1	3.8	3.3	4.3	3.6
Paper and Printing	1.7	2.9	2.1	1.4	3.0	2.0
Paper and Board	1.9	2.5	2.0	1.5	2.4	1.7
Wallpaper	2.3	3.2	2.6	2.9	4.8	3.5
Cardboard Boxes, etc.	3.2	4.0	3.7	2.9	4.4	3.8
Other Manufactures of Paper	2.6	3.6	3.2	2.3	3.7	3.1
Printing of Newspapers, etc.	1.1	2.3	1.3	0.9	2.2	1.1
Other Printing, etc.	1.6	2.5	2.0	1.4	2.4	1.8
Other Manufacturing Industries	3.6	5.0	4.2	3.2	5.0	3.9
Rubber	3.6	4.9	4.0	3.2	4.8	3.7
Linoleum, Leather Cloth, etc.	2.9	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.0
Brushes and Brooms	2.0	3.2	2.6	2.0	3.9	3.0
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	2.9	5.9	4.8	2.8	5.2	4.3
Miscellaneous Stationers' Goods	3.5	4.4	4.0	3.7	5.8	5.0
Production of Cinematograph Films	6.2	3.1	5.6	2.4	3.0	2.5
Other Manufacturing Industries	4.1	5.5	4.8	3.6	5.5	4.5
All the above Industries	2.6	4.0	3.1	2.5	3.9	3.0

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 19th April, 1955, and the corresponding figures for 15th March, 1955, and 20th April, 1954. The statistics have been compiled by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance from claims to sickness or industrial injury benefit under the National Insurance Acts, and the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Acts, respectively. The principal groups of persons who do not claim these benefits in respect of their incapacity (and who are therefore excluded from the statistics) are (i) a large proportion of those whose incapacity lasts less than four days, (ii) civil servants receiving full pay during incapacity, and (iii) for sickness benefit only, married women who have chosen not to pay contributions under the main National Insurance scheme.

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

Region	Numbers of Insured Persons Absent from Work owing to					
	Sickness			Industrial Injury		
	19th Apr., 1955	15th Mar., 1955	20th Apr., 1954	19th Apr., 1955	15th Mar., 1955	20th Apr., 1954
London and S. Eastern :						
London and Middlesex	101.6	112.9	91.4	3.9	3.9	3.8
Remainder	81.1	90.6	74.0	3.6	3.6	3.3
Eastern	47.8	51.5	43.3	2.0	2.2	1.8
Southern	39.2	42.9	34.5	1.6	1.6	1.5
South-Western	55.0	59.0	48.6	2.3	2.4	2.1
Midland	88.9	96.8	80.4	4.6	4.9	4.4
North-Midland	61.0	67.6	53.6	4.9	5.2	5.0
East and West Ridings	88.7	93.5	83.1	7.9	8.2	8.0
North-Western	168.0	174.1	148.8	7.2	7.7	6.9
Northern	69.4	72.4	65.4	7.3	7.8	7.4
Scotland	117.6	127.7	116.3	7.4	7.8	7.6
Wales	76.2	73.6	61.7	7.0	6.8	6.8
Total, Great Britain	994.7	1,062.6	901.2	59.7	62.2	58.4

Separate figures for insured males and females for 19th April, 1955, are given below.

Region	Numbers Absent from Work owing to			
	Sickness		Industrial Injury	
	Males*	Females*	Males	Females
London and South Eastern :				
London and Middlesex	62	40	3.0	0.9
Remainder	52	29	2.7	0.9
Eastern	34	14	1.8	0.2
Southern	27	12	1.4	0.2
South-Western	38	17	1.9	0.4
Midland	61	28	3.8	0.9
North-Midland	42	19	4.6	0.3
East and West Ridings	61	27	7.2	0.7
North-Western	98	70	6.0	1.2
Northern	51	18	6.9	0.4

Employment in the Coal Mining Industry in March

The statistics given below in respect of employment, etc., in the coal mining industry in March, 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 2nd April was 708,200, compared with 708,400 for the four weeks ended 26th February, and 709,600 for the five weeks ended 3rd April, 1954. The total numbers who were effectively employed* were 639,100 in March, 637,700 in February, and 639,700 in March, 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 March, together with the increase or decrease† in each case compared with February, 1955, and March, 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 2nd April, 1955	Increase (+) or decrease (-) compared with the average for	
		4 weeks ended 26th February, 1955	5 weeks ended 3rd April, 1954
Northern (Northumberland and Cumberland)	47,100	—	300
Durham	102,300	—	600
North Eastern	140,600	—	—
North Western	59,200	—	800
East Midlands	101,900	—	1,200
West Midlands	58,200	—	100
South Western	108,400	—	1,200
South Eastern	6,600	—	100
England and Wales	624,300	—	1,500
Scotland	83,900	+	100
Great Britain	708,200	—	1,400

It is provisionally estimated that, during the five weeks of March, about 5,270 persons were recruited to the industry, while the total number of persons who left the industry was about 5,700; the numbers on the colliery books thus showed a net decrease of 430. During the four weeks of February there was a net decrease of 110.

The average number of shifts worked per week by coal-face workers who were effectively employed was 5.01 in March, 4.99 in February, and 5.03 in March, 1954. The corresponding figures for all workers who were effectively employed were 5.50, 5.48 and 5.47.

Information is given in the Table below regarding absenteeism in the coal mining industry in March and in February, 1955, and March, 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)

	March, 1955	February, 1955	March, 1954
Coal face Workers :			
Voluntary	5.11	5.21	5.41
Involuntary	9.56	9.52	9.72
All Workers :			
Voluntary	3.93	4.06	4.06
Involuntary	8.94	8.99	8.83

For face-workers the output per man-shift worked was 3.30 tons in March, compared with 3.27 tons in the previous month and 3.28 tons in March, 1954.

The output per man-shift calculated on the basis of all workers was 1.25 tons in March; for February, 1955, and March, 1954, the figures were 1.24 tons and 1.25 tons respectively.

* Excluding wage-earners employed at mines not operated by the National Coal Board. These numbers 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 2,701,100 in December, 1954, an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with the previous month and of 3.4 per cent. compared with December, 1953.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The interim index of employment in manufacturing industries, published by the Bureau of Census and Statistics, showed no change in November, 1954, compared with the previous month but was 2.4 per cent. higher than in November, 1953. Figures compiled by the Department of Mines showed that the numbers employed in the mining industry, excluding quarries, were 514,369 in November, 1954, 521,054 in the previous month and 490,869 in November, 1953. The numbers of persons (all occupations) registered at Government Employment Exchanges as unemployed were 13,235 at the end of November, compared with 12,817 at the end of the previous month and 12,330 at the end of November, 1953.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The number of civilians in employment as wage or salary earners in industries other than agriculture and domestic service in February is estimated by the Department of Labor to have been approximately 47,801,000. This was slightly lower than the (revised) figure for the previous month, and 0.2 per cent. lower than for February, 1954. The index figure of wage-earners' employment in manufacturing industries (base 1947-9 = 100) showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in February, compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 1.9 per cent. compared with February, 1954.

The Bureau of the Census estimated that the total number of unemployed persons at the middle of February was about 3,383,000, compared with 3,347,000 at the middle of the previous month and 3,671,000 at the middle of February, 1954.

BELGIUM

The average daily number of persons recorded as wholly unemployed during February was 169,868, compared with 178,392 in the previous month and 227,067 in February, 1954. Partial unemployment accounted in addition for a daily average loss of 127,662 working days. The total number of working days lost in February by persons wholly unemployed was 4,078,566, while 3,073,870 days were lost as a result of partial unemployment.

DENMARK

At the end of February returns received by the Danish Statistical Department from approved unemployment funds showed that 116,520, or 17.1 per cent. of a total membership of about 681,000, were unemployed, compared with 16.3 per cent. at the end of the previous month and 18.4 per cent. at the end of February, 1954. Of the total, 70,719 had been unemployed for seven days or more and the remainder had been unemployed for less than seven days or were not considered as ordinary unemployed (because of advanced age, etc.).

FRANCE

The number of persons registered as applicants for employment at the beginning of March was 209,197, of whom 68,395 were wholly unemployed persons in receipt of assistance. The corresponding figures were 202,803 and 64,179 at the beginning of the previous month and 231,524 and 77,737 at the beginning of March, 1954.

GERMANY

In the Federal Republic the number unemployed at the end of March was 1,405,511, compared with 1,814,887 at the end of the previous month and 1,427,353 at the end of March, 1954. In the Western Sectors of Berlin the corresponding figures at the same dates were 173,316, 185,215 and 202,464.

IRISH REPUBLIC

The number of unemployed persons on the live register of Employment Exchanges at 23rd April was 66,515, compared with 67,703 at 26th March, and 72,379 at 24th April, 1954.

ITALY

The number registered for employment at the end of January was 2,407,795, of whom 1,473,512 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 2,344,202, including 1,428,668 wholly unemployed and at the end of January, 1954, it was 2,425,211, including 1,478,153 wholly unemployed.

NORWAY

The number of persons registered for employment who were wholly unemployed was 25,960 at the end of January, compared with 20,627 in the previous month and 25,153 in January, 1954.

WAGES, DISPUTES, RETAIL PRICES

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Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour

RATES OF WAGES

Changes in April

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 April resulted in an aggregate increase estimated at approximately £996,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 2,471,000 workpeople.

The principal increases affected workers employed in building, civil engineering contracting, coal mining, unlicensed places of refreshment, and furniture manufacture. Others receiving increases included dock labourers, workers employed in gas undertakings and in boot and shoe manufacture, locomotive running staff employed by British Railways, and workers employed in textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing, and in waterworks undertakings in England and Wales.

In building and civil engineering contracting there were increases of 2½d. an hour for craftsmen and of 1½d. for navvies or labourers. In the coal mining industry new standard grade rates were established for day wage workers, resulting in increases of varying amounts. The statutory minimum rates fixed under the Catering Wages Act for workpeople employed in unlicensed places of refreshment were increased generally by 6s. a week for men and 4s. for women. In furniture manufacture there was an increase for men and women of ½d. an hour in the supplementary cost-of-living allowances.

The national minimum wage for dock labourers was increased by 2s. a day. In gas undertakings the standard rates for men were increased by 4d. or 3d. an hour, according to occupation. In boot and shoe manufacture there were increases in the day wage rates of 5s. a week for men and 4s. for women, with corresponding increases for pieceworkers. For the locomotive running staff employed by British Railways there were increases ranging from 2s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. a week, according to occupation and period of service; the increases were payable retrospectively from January. For workpeople employed in textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing the cost-of-living addition was increased by 1s. 10d. a week for men and 1s. 4d. for women. In waterworks undertakings in England and Wales the consolidated rates were increased by 3d. an hour.

Of the total increase of £996,000, about £630,000 resulted from arrangements made by Joint Industrial Councils or other joint standing bodies established by voluntary agreement; about £279,000 was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives; about £48,000 resulted

from Orders made under the Catering Wages Act or the Wages Councils Acts; about £37,000 was the result of the operation of sliding scales based on the index of retail prices; and the remainder resulted from arbitration awards.

Changes in January-April, 1955

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

Industry Group	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by Net Increases†	Estimated Net Amount of Increase in Weekly Wages
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	818,000	£ 239,800
Mining and Quarrying	391,500	255,100
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mining Products other than Coal	149,500	46,000
Chemicals and Allied Trades	138,500	55,700
Metal Manufacture	204,500	25,400
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Electrical Goods	2,442,000	1,091,600
Vehicles		
Metal Goods not elsewhere specified	187,000	31,800
Textiles	12,000	3,200
Leather, Leather Goods and Fur	129,500	30,100
Clothing	143,500	42,500
Food, Drink and Tobacco	135,000	15,400
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	220,000	40,800
Paper and Printing	68,500	23,400
Other Manufacturing Industries	1,215,000	600,600
Building and Contracting	246,500	136,100
Gas, Electricity and Water	780,500	326,000
Transport and Communication	978,000	241,700
Distributive Trades	241,000	94,900
Public Administration	519,000	135,500
Miscellaneous Services		
Total	9,019,500	3,455,500

In the corresponding months of 1954 there was a net increase of £1,659,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 5,926,000 workpeople.

HOURS OF LABOUR

The normal weekly working hours of male and female charge hands and assistants employed by licensed vintners in Belfast and district were reduced from 48 to 46.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL

(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, 1954," 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
Trawler Fishing	Great Britain	14 Mar.	Trawler fishermen (except skip-pers and mates)	Increase in basic rates of 1s. 6d. a day for all days on articles.
Coal Mining	Great Britain (6)	Beginning of first full pay week which included 4 Apr.	Underground and surface workers and craftsmen‡	New standard grade rates established as follows: underground workers—grade 1 31s. 9d. a shift, grade 2 30s. 9d., grade 3 29s. 9d., grade 4 28s. 9d., grade 5 27s. 9d.; surface workers—males, grade 1A 31s. 1d. a shift, grade 1 27s. 5d., grade 2 26s. 5d., grade 3 25s. 5d., grade 4 24s. 5d., females, grade 1 22s. 6d., grade 2 21s. 6d., grade 3 20s. 6d., grade 4 19s. 6d.; craftsmen, underground—grade 1 plus 35s. 5d. a shift, grade 1 32s. 11d., grade 2 30s. 5d., surface—32s. 1d., 29s. 7d., 27s. 1d.; juveniles, underground—15s. 3d. a shift at age 15, rising to 23s. 6d. at 20, surface—males 13s. to 20s. 6d., females 12s. 8d. to 18s. 8d.§
Other Mining and Quarrying	Portland (8)	18 Apr.	Craftsmen and labourers employed in limestone masonry works	Increases of 2½d. an hour for craftsmen, and of 1½d. for labourers. Rates after change: craftsmen 4s. an hour, labourers 3s. 5½d.
			Workpeople employed in limestone quarries	Increases of 2½d. an hour for craftsmen, and of 1½d. for labourers. Rates after change: day workers (working individually) 3s. 11d. an hour, day workers (working collectively in piecework quarry) 4s., pieceworkers' minimum rate 4s., other day workers and labourers 3s. 5d.
	Yorkshire (10)	Beginning of first full pay week commencing after 18 Apr.	Workpeople employed in the freestone and sandstone quarrying industry	Increases of 2½d. an hour for craftsmen, ordinary machinemen and kerb machinemen, and of proportional amounts for labourers and young learners. Rates after change: craftsmen—Zone A, grade I 3s. 9½d. an hour, grade II 3s. 8d., grade III 3s. 6½d.; Zone B 3s. 8d., 3s. 6½d., 3s. 5d., labourers—Zone A 3s. 1½d., Zone B 3s. 0½d., ordinary machinemen in zones A and B 3s. 9½d., kerb machinemen 3s. 8½d., young learners—Zone A 1½d. at 15 years, rising to 3s. 3½d. at 20, Zone B 1½d. to 3s. 2½d.
	North Wales (13)	4 Apr.	Workpeople employed in slate quarries	Rate of 7s. 6d. a week for day men and contractors. Day wage rates after change, inclusive of bonus: quarrymen 136s. 8d. a week, labourers 132s. 1d.

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

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

‡ Variations in existing wages do not apply to pieceworkers or taskworkers, except in so far as they relate to guaranteed wage, waiting time payments, and to "make-up" in certain circumstances.

§ The above rates are all-inclusive and are not subject to any additions by way of bonuses, flat rates or allowances, whether national or local, temporary or permanent, except for temporary allowances in respect of men working wet, the 5-day week bonus, and rent allowances when made as an addition to wages.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Other Mining and Quarrying (continued)	Cornwall, Devon and Dorsetshire (11)	First pay day in week commencing 28 Mar.	Workpeople employed on day-work in the ball clay industry	Increases of 2½d. an hour in the minimum rate for men 21 years and over and in the fall-back rates for pieceworkers, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Rates after change, inclusive of bonus of 2s. 6d. a week: minimum daywork rate for men 21 years and over 3s. 1d. an hour; fall-back rates for pieceworkers—regular underground miners 3s. 3d., regular surface clay getters 3s. 2d.; minimum rates for semi-skilled and maintenance men 1d. to 3d. an hour above the minimum day work rate; youths and boys 1s. 4½d. at 15 years, rising to 2s. 11½d. at 20 and under 21.
Building Brick and Allied Industries	South-East England (19)	Commencement of first full pay period beginning on or after 4 Apr.	Workpeople employed in making stock bricks	Revised occupational differential rates adopted, resulting in increases of varying amounts. Minimum hourly differentials after change: excavator drivers (not including loading shovels)—bucket capacity up to and including ½ yard 3d. an hour, ¾ yard to 1 yard 4d., over 1 yard 6d., burners, dumper drivers 2½d., boilerfremen (full-time) 2d., setters, moulders and sorters 1½d., crowdors, off-bearers, temperers, earth diggers, loco drivers 1d.
Glass Container Manufacture	Great Britain (29)	First full pay period following 16 Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls, except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Increases in minimum day-time rates of 2½d. an hour for men 21 years and over, of 1½d. to 2d., according to age, for youths and boys, of 2d. for women 21 years and over, and of 1½d. to 1¾d. for girls; additional increase of ½d. an hour for all male workers in receipt of a scheduled job differential, and for female shift sorters. Minimum hourly rates after change for dayworkers: London district—the rates paid in other districts, plus 1½d. an hour for male workers 18 years and over, 1½d. for female workers 18 and over, and 1d. for workers under 18; other districts—men 21 years and over, founders, gas-makers and furnacemen 3s. 2½d. or 3s. 3½d., according to melting capacity of furnace, boilermen or stokers and batch mixers 3s. 2½d., sorters 3s. 2½d., Lister or similar truck drivers 3s. 1½d., general labourers 3s. 0½d.; youths and boys 1s. 5½d. at 15, rising to 2s. 6d. at 20 and under 21; women and girls 1s. 4d. at 15, rising to 2s. 1½d. at 21 and over.
Glass Processing	Great Britain (28)	14 Apr.	Certain workers employed in processing plate and sheet glass	Increase in night-shift allowance of 3d. an hour (3d. to 6d.).
Cast Stone and Cast Concrete Products Manufacture	England and Wales (24)	First full pay week commencing on or after 11 Apr.	Men, youths, boys and women	Increases in minimum basic rates of 1½d. an hour for men, and of proportional amounts for youths, boys and women; flat-rate allowance previously paid to pieceworkers (totalling 9½d. an hour) for every hour worked to be merged into the revised basic rates. Minimum rates after change for labourers: London 3s. 4d. an hour, Zone A 3s. 3d., Zone B 3s. 2½d.
Monumental Masonry	England and Wales	18 Apr.	Craftsmen and labourers	Increases of 2½d. an hour for craftsmen, and of 1½d. for labourers. Rates after change: fully competent masons engaged for and able to undertake all classes of lettering and monumental work—London and Merseyside 4s. 4d. an hour, elsewhere 4s. 3d., other craftsmen 4s. 1½d., 4s., skilled monumental labourers 3s. 10½d., 3s. 9d., ordinary labourers 3s. 7½d., 3s. 5½d.
Drugs and Fine Chemicals Manufacture	Great Britain (36)	First full pay period beginning on or after 1 Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases in minimum rates of 8s. a week for men 21 years and over, of 6s. for women 21 and over, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over—class I occupations 151s. a week, class II 144s., class III 137s.; women 21 and over—class I 105s., class II 101s., class III 97s.; youths and boys 59s. at 15, rising to 119s. at 20; girls 55s. to 92s. In the London area (within a radius of 15 miles from Charing Cross) rates are 4s. a week higher for adult males and 2s. higher for adult females and juveniles.
Gelatine and Glue Manufacture	Great Britain	Beginning of first full pay week commencing on or after 1 Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases of 2½d. an hour in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, of 1½d. for women 21 and over, of 1d. to 2½d., according to age, for youths and boys, and of 1d. to 1½d. for girls. Rates after change include: men—day labourers 3s. 1½d. an hour, shift workers, 3-shift system 3s. 4d., 2-shift system 3s. 3½d.; women on men's work, for first month 2s. 3½d., thereafter 2s. 5½d., or, if carrying out men's work in full without assistance or supervision, the full adult male rate; women 21 and over on women's work 2s. 3½d.; youths and boys 1s. 4d. at 15, rising to 2s. 10½d. at 20; girls 1s. 3½d. to 2s. 1½d. Rates for London (within a 15-mile radius from Charing Cross) are 1d. an hour higher for adult male workers, and ½d. an hour higher for all other workers.
Printing Ink and Roller Manufacture	Great Britain	First pay day in Apr.	Male and female workers	Cost-of-living bonus increased* by 2s. a week for adult male workers, by 1s. 6d. for adult female workers, and by 1s. for juveniles. Minimum rates after change, inclusive of cost-of-living bonus, include: adult male workers—grade I occupations, London (within a radius of 20 miles from Charing Cross) 181s. a week, Provinces 171s., grade 2 171s., 162s., grade 3 166s., 157s. 6d., grade 4 163s. 6d., 155s. 3d., grade 5 161s., 153s.; women 21 and over 104s. 3d., (qualified) 113s. 3d.
Government Industrial Establishments	Great Britain (187)	Beginning of pay week containing 14 Mar.†	Female workers paid on an engineering basis (except women whose rates are related to men's rates)	Increases of 7s. 4d. a week for female workers 18 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Consolidated minimum time rates after change: 44s. 4d. a week at 15 years, rising to 104s. 6d. at 21 and over.
	South Wales	do.	Skilled engineering workers employed by the Ministry of Supply	Increases of 11s. a week for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Standard rate after change for skilled male timeworkers 21 years and over 179s. 4d. a week.
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Manufacture, Maintenance and Repair	Great Britain (60)	First full pay period which includes 4 Apr.	Men, apprentices, youths and boys	Increases of 11s. a week for skilled men 21 years and over, of 8s. for unskilled men, and of proportional amounts for apprentices, youths and boys. Minimum time rates after change include: skilled men 155s. 10d. a week, unskilled 135s. 5d.
Bobbin Making	England and Wales (62)	Third pay day in Apr.	Men, apprentices, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 1s. a week for adult workers, and of 6d. for apprentices, youths, boys and girls. Minimum rates after change: men—higher skilled 143s. 8d. a week, lesser skilled 135s. 2d., labourers 128s. 2d.; apprentices, youths and boys 52s. at 15 years, rising to 104s. 2d. at 20; women 18 years and over 101s. 8d.; girls 52s. at 15, 60s. at 16, and 74s. at 17.
Bobbin and Shuttle Manufacture	Scotland (62)	First complete pay week after 30 Mar.	Men, women, boys and girls	Increases of 5s. a week for male workers 18 years and over, of 4s. for female workers 18 and over, and of 3s. for juveniles under 18. Rates after change include: men, skilled 143s. 9d. a week, semi-skilled 131s. 9d., labourers 121s. 3d.; women 87s.
Electrical Cable Manufacture	Great Britain (55)	Beginning of first full pay period following 5 Apr.	Plumber jointers and plumber jointers' mates, youths and boys employed in laying cables (including telecommunication cables) and accessories	Increases of 4d. an hour for plumber jointers, of 3½d. for plumber jointers' mates, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys. Minimum rates after change: plumber jointers fully qualified—London area (within a radius of 18 miles from Charing Cross) 4s. 5½d. an hour, Provinces 4s. 1½d., plumber jointers' mates 3s. 9½d., 3s. 6½d.; youths and boys 30 per cent. of plumber jointers' rates at 16 years, rising to 85 per cent. at 21.
Railway Wagon Repairing	Great Britain (49)	14 Mar.	Men, apprentices, youths and boys employed by members of the Wagon Repairing Association	Increases for men 21 years and over of 11s. a week for skilled workers, of 9s. 6d. for intermediate grades, of 8s. for unskilled workers, and of proportional increases for apprentices, youths and boys. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers outside the London area include: wagon repairers, Grade 1 156s. 4d. a week, Grade 2 146s. 10d., Grade 3 136s. 10d., letterers, blacksmiths, riveters and/or erectors 156s. 4d., electric welders 148s. 4d., wheel turners 145s. 10d., holders-up, cold saw operators, profile cutters, lifters (fitting brasses) 145s. 4d., loco, crane, tractor or traverser drivers 143s. 4d., painters, lifters, burner operators 141s. 4d., shunters 140s. 10d., blacksmiths' strikers 138s. 10d., back sawyers 138s. 4d., punch and shearer assistants 136s. 10d., iron carriers 134s. 4d., sawyers and machinists, Grade 1 152s. 4d., Grade 2 141s. 10d., punch and shearer operators, Grade 1 150s. 10d., Grade 2 142s. 10d., outstation chargemen without assistants 158s. 4d., with one assistant 160s. 10d., with two assistants 163s. 4d., with three or four assistants 165s. 4d., with five or six assistants 167s. 10d., labourers 132s. 10d. In the London area rates are 5s. higher in each case.

* Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
† These increases were authorised in April, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Lighter Metal Trades	Sheffield	Commencement of first full pay period on or after 14 Mar.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in the manufacture of agricultural machine parts, machine knives, saws, scythes, sickles and hooks (excluding scythe grinders), heavy edge tools, light edge tools and sheeps shears	Increases in bonus for male datal workers and pieceworkers 21 years and over of 11s. a week or 3d. an hour for skilled workers, of 9s. 7½d. or 2½d. for intermediate grades, of 8s. 3d. or 2½d. for unskilled workers, of 2s. 6d. to 7s., according to age, for youths and boys, of 7s. 6d. for female workers 18 and over, and of 3s., 4s. or 4s. 9d. for girls.
	do.*	do.*	Workpeople employed in file manufacture	do. do.
	do.	Normal starting time on 14 Mar.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls employed in the manufacture of engineers' (small) tools	Increases in bonus for male datal workers and pieceworkers 21 years and over of 11s. a week for skilled workers, of 9s. 6d. for intermediate grades, of 8s. for unskilled workers, of 2s. 6d. to 7s., according to age, for youths and boys, of 7s. 6d. for female workers 18 and over, and of 3s., 4s. or 4s. 9d. for girls.
Spring Manufacture	Sheffield (57)	14 Mar.	Workpeople employed in laminated spring manufacture	Increases of 9s. 6d. or 11s. a week, according to occupation, for male workers 21 years and over. Consolidated minimum hourly time rates after change: springsmiths and fitters 3s. 11.55d. an hour, strikers and vicemen 3s. 4.84d.
	do.	do.	Workpeople employed on heavy coil spring manufacture	Increases of 8s., 9s. 6d. or 11s. a week, according to occupation, for male timeworkers 21 years and over. Consolidated minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over—setters-up and enders 158s. 8d. a week, scraggers and finishers 155s. 10d., coilers and hammerers 153s. 4d., rollers 150s. 4d., testers, temperers in lead 144s. 8d., grinders 142s. 10d., strikers, mates to setters-up 140s., general hands 138s. 7d., labourers 133s. 4d.
Spring Mattress and Bedstead Fittings Manufacture	Great Britain	Beginning of first pay week in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases† in supplementary cost-of-living allowance of ½d. an hour (10½d. to 11d.) for men 21 years and over and (7d. to 7½d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
	do.	do.	Certain juvenile workers	Percentages-by-age scales revised as follows: male apprentices, learners and juvenile production workers (except hand sandpaperers and packers) aged 16 and under 16½ 34 per cent. (previously 30) of the journeyman's rate, 16½ and under 17 38 per cent. (previously 35), 17 and under 17½ 42 per cent. (previously 40), 17½ and under 18 46 per cent. (previously 45); female apprentices, learners and juvenile production workers aged 16 and under 16½ 49 per cent. (previously 45) of the adult rate, 16½ and under 17 55 per cent. (previously 52), 17 and under 17½ 61 per cent. (previously 59), 17½ and under 18 67 per cent. (previously 66), 18 and under 18½ 74 per cent. (previously 73). For male and female workers under 16, male workers 18 and over and female workers 18½ and over the scales remain unchanged.
Artificial Limb and Orthopaedic Appliance Manufacture	Great Britain (65)	First pay day in week commencing 4 Apr.	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. 1½d. an hour, grade A, highly skilled 5s., grade B 4s. 9d., grade C 4s. 5d.; sheet metal section, grade A 5s. 1½d., grade B 4s. 11½d., grade C 4s. 6½d.
Dentistry	Great Britain	Beginning of first full pay period following 22 Apr.	Dental technicians	Increases in minimum rates of 20s. a week (182s. 6d. to 202s. 6d.) for technicians grade 1, and of 17s. 6d. (152s. 6d. to 170s.) for technicians grade 2.‡
Organ Building	United Kingdom (70)	1 Apr.	Journeymen and apprentices	Increases of 4d. an hour in Liverpool and Manchester and 3½d. in other areas for journeymen, and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Minimum rates after change for journeymen: London, Liverpool and Manchester 4s. 1d. an hour, other towns 4s. 8.
Pianoforte Manufacture	Great Britain (70)	Beginning of first pay week in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases† in supplementary cost-of-living allowances of ½d. an hour (10½d. to 11d.) for men 21 years and over and (7d. to 7½d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Flax and Linen Industry	Northern Ireland (85)	14 Mar.	Maintenance workers	Increases of 11s. a week (161s. 4d. to 172s. 4d.) for fitters, turners, millwrights, blacksmiths, hackle setters and machinists, and of 9s. 6d. (138s. 4d. to 147s. 10d.) for semi-skilled men.
Hosiery and Knitwear Manufacture	Scotland (except Hawick) (88)	Beginning of first full pay period following 1 Mar.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 6s. 6d. a week for adults, and of 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d. or 6s. 6d., according to age, for juveniles. Minimum time rates after change: men 21 years and over 126s. 6d. a week, youths and boys 48s. 6d. at 15, rising to 126s. 6d. at 20.
	do.	do.	Women and girls	Increases of 5s. a week for adult timeworkers, and of 3s., 4s. or 5s., according to age, for juveniles; increase of 6s. a week in piecework basis time rate. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers 43s. a week at 15, rising to 85s. after 3 years; pieceworkers, other than learners—piecework rates to yield a minimum of 96s.
Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Manufacture	Northern Ireland (92) (212)	1 Apr.	Male timeworkers	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for measurers and samplermakers, lappers and warehouse assistants or warehouse clerks who have served an apprenticeship of 5 years, of ½d., ¾d. or 1d., according to period of employment, for workers on Swiss embroidery machines, of 1d. for other workers 21 or over, and of ¾d., 1d. or 1½d., according to year of apprenticeship for apprentices to lapping, measuring and samplermaking, and according to age for other workers under 21. General minimum time rates after change include: workers who have served an apprenticeship of 5 years—measurers and samplermakers area A 3s. 2d. an hour, area B 2s. 11½d., lappers 3s. 1d., 2s. 10½d., warehouse assistants or warehouse clerks 2s. 11d., 2s. 8½d.; apprentices to lapping, measuring and samplermaking 1s. 0½d., or 11½d. during first year of apprenticeship, rising to 2s. 2½d. or 2s. 1d. during fifth year; workers on Swiss embroidery machines areas A and B, during first 6 months' employment 1s. 3½d., during second 6 months' employment 1s. 9d., thereafter 2s. 8d.; other workers 21 years or over—with not less than 2 years' employment in the trade within the preceding 5 years area A 2s. 7½d., area B 2s. 5½d., less than 2 years' employment 2s. 5d., 2s. 3½d.¶
	do.	do.	Male pieceworkers	Increase of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. Piecework basis time rates after change: workers on Swiss embroidery machines—on single machines having 2 or 3 tiers areas A and B 2s. 11½d. an hour, on single machines having 4 tiers or on any coupled machine 3s. 1½d., other workers area A 2s. 7½d., area B 2s. 5½d.¶
Lace Furnishings Manufacture	Nottingham, Ayrshire and Glasgow	End of first complete pay week in Apr.	Twisthands and weavers and auxiliary workers	Increase† of 1 per cent. in cost-of-living bonus (36 to 37 per cent. on basic rates).
Leavers Lace Manufacture	Long Eaton, Nottingham and Derby districts	First pay day following 5 Apr.	Twisthands and auxiliary workers	Increase of 2½ per cent. on existing rates.

* These increases were agreed on 4th April and had retrospective effect to the date shown.
† Under sliding-scale arrangements based on the official index of retail prices.
‡ Increases for apprentices will take place from 1st May.
§ These rates are related to a cost-of-living index of 146 points. Future alterations in the rates are to be governed by movements in the index, 2 points to equal 1d. an hour rise or fall. Any variations are to be adjusted every six months in April and October on the basis of January and July figures published in February and August, respectively.
¶ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 158 of the April issue of this GAZETTE.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Carpet Manufacture	Great Britain (93)	First pay day following 4 Apr.	Male and female workers	Cost-of-living bonus of 45 per cent. to be paid on the first £6 15s. (previously £6) of total earnings (exclusive of cost-of-living bonus) for male workers, and on the first £4 10s. (previously £4) for female workers. 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 139s. 3d. a week, wet beamers or dressers with 12 months' experience 153s. 9d., croppers and shearers with 6 months' experience 139s. 3d., 146s. 6d. or 153s. 9d., according to width of machine, other male workers 21 and over 130s. 6d.; female workers—card cutters with 18 months' experience and 18 years of age 78s. 4d., 19 years 88s. 6d., 20 years 100s. 1d., other female workers 18 years 74s., 19 years 79s. 9d., 20 years 87s.
Textile Making-up and Packing	Manchester (94)	Pay day in week ending 2 Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 1s. a week (45s. to 46s.) in the cost-of-living addition for men 21 years and over, of 8d. (30s. to 30s. 8d.) for women 18 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Mechanical Cloth Manufacture	Bury and district	First full pay week in Apr.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of cloth (woven felt and cotton filter cloth) used for mechanical purposes	Increase* of 2 per cent. (43 to 45 per cent.) in the percentage addition to basic wage rates.
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing and Finishing	Northern Ireland (90)	14 Mar.	Millwrights	Increase of 11s. a week (156s. 4d. to 167s. 4d.).
	Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (90)	Second Friday or equivalent pay day in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 1s. 10d. a week (26s. 7d. to 28s. 5d.) in cost-of-living addition for adult male workers, of 1s. 4d. (19s. 4d. to 20s. 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 128s. 5d. a week, adult females 89s. 2d.; pieceworkers—adult males 140s. 11d., adult females 96s. 11d.
	do.	Working week for which wages are paid during period 14-19 Mar.	Nightworkers (except shift-workers)	Increase of ½d. an hour (4d. to 4½d.) in night allowance.
	North West Region (90)	18 Apr.	Building trade craftsmen	Increase of 2½d. an hour (3s. 9½d. to 4s.).
	Scotland (90)	Second Friday or equivalent pay day in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* of 1s. 10d. a week (26s. 7d. to 28s. 5d.) in cost-of-living addition for adult male workers, of 1s. 4d. (19s. 4d. to 20s. 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 128s. 5d. a week, adult females 89s. 2d.; pieceworkers—adult males 140s. 11d., adult females 96s. 11d.
Silk Dyeing, Printing and Finishing	Macclesfield	do.	do.	do.
Sack and Bag Manufacture	Great Britain (211)	20 Apr.	Male workers	Increases of 1½d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men 21 years or over, and of ¾d. to 1¼d., according to age, for younger workers. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years or over employed in certain specified occupations 2s. 10½d. an hour (2s. 9½d. during first six months for new entrants), all other workers 21 or over 2s. 7½d., youths and boys 1s. 3½d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5½d. at 20 and under 21.†
			Female workers	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for women 18 years or over, and of ¾d. for girls; increase of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rates for workers of all ages. General minimum time rates after change: women 18 years or over employed in certain specified occupations 2s. 0½d. an hour (1s. 11½d. during first six months for new entrants), all other workers 18 or over 1s. 10½d., girls 1s. 3d. at under 16, rising to 1s. 6½d. at 17 and under 18; piecework basis time rates—workers in specified occupations 2s. 1½d., all other workers 2s. 0½d.†
Hat and Cap Making and Millinery	Scotland (105) (210)	1 Apr.	Men, youths and boys—Felt hat and hood making branch	Increases in general minimum time rates of 3d. an hour for workers on certain specified operations and for other workers 21 years or over, and of 1½d. to 4d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 3d. 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) 2s. 11½d. an hour, other workers 21 years or over except late entrants 2s. 7d., youths and boys 1s. 1½d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 3d. at 20, entrants to the trade at 19 or over, 1st six months 1s. 9½d., 2nd six months 1s. 10½d.; piecework basis time rates—workers on certain specified operations (after 3 years' employment after age 18) 3s. 1½d., all other workers of any age 2s. 9d.†
			Other branches	Increases in general minimum time rates of 3d. an hour for workers 21 years or over, and of 2½d. to 4½d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 3d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: cutters, blockers, body makers or finishers, stiffeners or shapers 2s. 11½d. an hour, other workers 21 years or over except late entrants 2s. 7d., youths and boys 1s. 1½d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 3d. at 20, entrants to the trade at 19 or over, 1st six months 1s. 9½d., 2nd six months 1s. 10½d.; piecework basis time rate 2s. 9d. for workers of any age.†
			Women and girls—Felt hat and hood making branch	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of 1½d. to 3d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: workers (including home workers) other than learners 1s. 11d. an hour, learners 1s. during 1st six months, rising to 1s. 7d. during 3rd year; piecework basis time rate 2s. 0½d. for workers of any age.†
			Wholesale cloth hat and cap making branch	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of 2½d. to 4d., 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 1s. 11d. an hour, learners 1s. during 1st six months, rising to 1s. 7d. during 3rd year; piecework basis time rate 2s. 0½d. for workers of any age.†
			Other branches	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of ¾d. to 1½d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 2d. an hour in piecework basis time rates. General minimum time rates after change: workers other than learners, area A 1s. 9½d. an hour, area B 1s. 8d., learners 8½d. or 7½d. during 1st year, rising to 1s. 4½d. or 1s. 2½d. during 4th year; piecework basis time rates 1s. 10½d. or 1s. 9d. for workers of any age.†

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

† These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 158 of the April issue of this GAZETTE.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—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	Scotland (101) (209)	13 Apr.	Men, youths and boys	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men 21 years or over, of ¾d. for late entrants, and of ¾d. or ½d., according to age, for youths and boys; increase of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years or over 2s. 7½d. an hour, youths and boys 1s. 0½d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 2½d. at 20; piecework basis time rate for workers of any age 3s.*
			Women and girls employed in the retail branch of the trade	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for bodice, coat, skirt, gown or blouse hands 20 years or over and for all other workers except learners, and of ¾d., ½d. or ¼d., according to area or 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 1s. 11½d. an hour, area B 1s. 10d., learners 8d. or 7d. during first year of employment, rising to 1s. 4d. or 1s. 2d. in fourth year, all other workers 1s. 9d., 1s. 7½d.*
			Women and girls employed in the wholesale manufacturing branch of the trade	Increases of 1d. an hour in general minimum time rates for workers other than learners, and of ¾d. or ½d., according to period of employment, for learners; increase of 1d. an hour in piecework basis time rate. General minimum time rates after change: conveyor belt machinists 2s. 0½d. an hour, other workers except learners 1s. 11d., learners 10½d. during first six months, rising to 1s. 7½d. during sixth six months; piecework basis time rate for workers of any age 2s. 0½d.*
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	Great Britain (except Rosendale Valley) (106)	First pay day in Apr.	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 55s. at 15, rising to 140s. at 21 and over; female workers 55s. at 15, rising to 103s. at 20 and over.
			Pieceworkers	Increase† of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices, making a total addition of 87½ per cent. for male workers and 97½ 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 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum weekly rates after change: male workers 55s. at 15, rising to 140s. at 21 and over; female workers 55s. at 15, rising to 103s. at 20 and over.
			Pieceworkers	Increase† of 5 per cent. on basic statement prices.
Flour Milling	Great Britain (108)	25 Apr.	Mechanics	Increase of 11s. a week. Rates after change: class A mills 181s. 6d. a week, class B 173s. 6d., class C 168s. 10d.
Baking	Northern Ireland (114) (212)	25 Apr.	Transport workers	Increases in general minimum time rates of 8s. a week for motor drivers, carters, loaders at quays, stablemen, harness cleaners or van washers and motor lorry helpers in areas A and B and for stablemen in area C, of 10s. for motor drivers, carters and motor lorry helpers in area C, and of 2s. 6d. to 8s., according to age, for motor lorry boys in all areas. General minimum time rates after change include: motor drivers—lorries with carrying capacity of over 2 tons, area A 142s. 6d. a week, area B 141s., area C 140s. 6d., 2 tons and under 134s. 6d., 133s., 133s., carters 133s. 6d., 132s., 129s. 6d., motor lorry helpers 133s. 6d., 132s., 129s. 6d.; motor lorry boys 21 years and over 124s., 119s. 6d., 119s. 3d.; stablemen 130s., 125s. 3d., 125s. 3d.‡
Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Manufacture	Great Britain (117)	25 Apr.	Shift and night workers	Additional payments increased by 2s. 9d. a week (8s. 6d. to 11s. 3d.) for workers on a two-shift system, by 3s. (9s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.) for the first and second shifts, and by 4s. 6d. (14s. 6d. to 19s.) for the third shift, for workers on a three-shift system, and by 6s. 9d. (21s. to 27s. 9d.) for nightworkers.¶
Sawmilling	England and Wales (125)	First full pay period following 1 Apr.	Male sawmill labourers employed in handling timber after its initial piling in sawmill yards	Increases in district minimum rates of 2d. an hour for adult workers 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for youths and boys; towns and districts in grade 3 and supergrade categories raised to grade 2, resulting in further increases in minimum rates of ½d. or ¾d. an hour for adult workers in those areas. District minimum rates after change for adult male labourers: grade I—Blyth, Hartlepool, Humber district, Liverpool and district, London district, Tees, Tyne and Wear 3s. 2½d. an hour; grade 2—Barrow-in-Furness, Berwick, Coventry and district, Cumberland, Devon, Dorset, East Anglia, Gloucester and district, Hampshire, Leicester and district, Northampton, Nottingham and district, Sheffield, Somerset (excluding the North-East of that County), South Coast, West Riding of Yorkshire and Westmorland 3s. 1½d.
	Manchester and district (125)	18 Apr.	Female labourers 19 years and over	Increase of 1½d. an hour (2s. 1½d. to 2s. 3d.).
			Workpeople employed in steam joinery and sawmill shops	Increases of 2½d. an hour for craftsmen, of 1½d. for labourers and women 19 years and over, and of proportional amounts for apprentices, young male labourers and girls; increase of 6s. a week for lorry drivers, statutory attendants and mates employed on "C" licensed vehicles. Rates after change include: woodcutting machinists 4s. an hour, power-driven crane drivers 3s. 7½d., slingers (regularly employed as such) 3s. 6d., timber yard labourers 3s. 5½d., female labourers 19 years and over 2s. 9½d.; lorry drivers 164s. to 181s. 6d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, statutory attendants and mates 18 and over 167s. 6d.
	Preston and district (125)	First full pay week after 16 Apr.	Qualified adult woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Increase of 4d. an hour (3s. 7d. to 3s. 11d.).
	do.	First full pay week commencing after Apr.	Adult male sawmill labourers	Increase of 3d. an hour (2s. 11½d. to 3s. 2½d.).
Furniture Manufacture	Northern Ireland (129)	Beginning of first full pay period in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Supplementary cost-of-living bonus increased† by 1d. an hour (9d. to 10d.) for adult male workers, and by proportional amounts for journeywomen and juveniles.
	Great Britain (128)	Beginning of first full pay week in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases† in supplementary cost-of-living allowances of ¾d. an hour (10½d. to 11d.) for men 21 years and over and (7d. to 7½d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers; percentages by age scales revised for certain juvenile workers as follows:—male apprentices, learners and juvenile production workers (except hand sandpaperers and packers) aged 16 and under 16½, 34 (previously 30) per cent. of the journeyman's rate, 16½ and under 17, 38 (previously 35) per cent., 17 and under 17½, 42 (previously 40) per cent., 17½ and under 18, 46 (previously 45) per cent.; female apprentices, learners (including sewers and sewing machinists) and juvenile production workers aged 16 and under 16½, 49 (previously 45) per cent. of the adult rate, 16½ and under 17, 55 (previously 52) per cent., 17 and under 17½, 61 (previously 59) per cent., 17½ and under 18, 67 (previously 66) per cent., 18 and under 18½, 74 (previously 73) per cent. For male and female workers under 16, male workers 18 and over and female workers 18½ and over, the scales remain unchanged.
Educational and Allied Woodworking	do.	do.	do.	do.
Bedding and Mattress Manufacture	do.	do.	do.	do.

* These increases took effect under Orders issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 158 of the April issue of this GAZETTE.

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

‡ The industries covered are cut sole, wood last, stiffener, toe puff and built heel.

§ These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland). See page 195 of this GAZETTE. Area A consists of the County of the City of Belfast and districts within 15 statute miles therefrom, area B the County of the City of Londonderry, and area C all other districts.

¶ These increases were agreed by the Joint Industrial Council for the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Manufacturers' Industrial Group, and applied to workpeople employed by members of the group.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Cane, Willow and Woven Fibre Furniture Manufacture	Great Britain	Beginning of first full pay week in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* in supplementary cost-of-living allowances of 1/4d. an hour (10 1/4d. to 11d.) for men 21 years and over and (7d. to 7 1/4d.) for women 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers.
Ladders, Trucks, etc., Manufacture	England and Wales	First full pay period after 1 Apr.	Adult male craftsmen and labourers	Increase* of 1/4d. an hour. Minimum rates after change: men 21 years and over—woodworkers, wood machinists and painters (coach) London and Liverpool districts 3s. 8d. an hour, Provincial districts 3s. 7d., labourers 3s. 3d., 3s. 2d.
Window Blind Manufacture	Great Britain	Beginning of first full pay week in Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases* in supplementary cost-of-living allowances of 1/4d. an hour (10 1/4d. to 11d.) for men 21 years and over and (7d. to 7 1/4d.) 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 Apr.	Journeyman and apprentices	Increases* in cost-of-living bonus of 1/4d. an hour (10 1/4d. to 11d.) for adult workers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices.
Wallpaper Manufacture	England (132-133)	First pay day after 4 Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases to all workers of amounts equivalent to 7 1/2 per cent. of provincial weekly rates; further increases of 2s. or 4s. a week, according to type of machine, for certain backtenders. Minimum rates after change include: men 21 years and over—skilled, London 170s. 8d. to 202s. 11d. a week, according to occupation, Provinces 161s. 8d. to 194s. 11d.; semi-skilled, London 156s. 10d. to 180s. 4d., Provinces 148s. 11d. to 172s. 4d.; unskilled, London 146s. 1d., Provinces 138s. 2d.; women 18 an hour—skilled, London 135s. 6d. to 147s. 3d., Provinces 128s. 6d. to 140s. 3d.; semi-skilled, London 120s. 4d. to 130s. 2d., Provinces 112s. 5d. to 123s. 2d.; unskilled, London 115s. 2d. to 122s. 8d., Provinces 108s. 2d. to 115s. 8d.
Rubber Manufacture	Great Britain (211)	25 Apr.	Timeworkers Pieceworkers and workers on systems of payment-by-results	Increases of 2d. an hour in general minimum time rates for men 21 years or over, of 1 1/4d. for women 21 or over, of 3d. to 1 1/4d., according to age, for youths and boys, and of 1/4d. to 1 1/4d. for girls. General minimum time rates after change: men 21 years or over 2s. 11 1/4d. an hour, youths and boys 1s. 2 1/4d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 6d. at 20; women 21 or over 2s. 2d., girls 1s. 0 1/4d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 0 1/4d. at 20. Increases in minimum aggregate remuneration of 2d. an hour for men 21 years or over, of 1 1/4d. for women 21 or over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum aggregate remuneration after change: men 21 or over 3s. 6d. an hour, youths and boys 1s. 5 1/4d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 11 1/4d. at 20; women 21 or over 2s. 6 1/4d., girls 1s. 2 1/4d. at under 16, rising to 2s. 5d. at 20. Increases of 2 1/4d. an hour for craftsmen and for women 19 and over, of 1 1/4d. for labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices, young male labourers and girls. Rates after change include: men—inner London (within a 12-mile radius from Charing Cross) and Liverpool (special district), craftsmen 4s. 1 1/4d. an hour, labourers 3s. 7d., outer London (between 12 and 15 miles from Charing Cross) 4s. 1d., 3s. 6 1/4d., grade A districts 4s., 3s. 5 1/4d., grade A1 3s. 11 1/4d., 3s. 5d., grade A2 3s. 11d., 3s. 4 1/4d., grade A3 3s. 10 1/4d., 3s. 4d.; women—on craft processes 3s. 1 1/4d., on other work 2s. 9 1/4d. Increase of 9d. a shift. Rates after change: London and Liverpool 22s. a shift (day or night), Provinces 20s. 9d. Increase of 1d. a day (2d. to 3d.) in the tool allowance. Increases of 2 1/4d. an hour for craftsmen, of 1 1/4d. for labourers and women operatives, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers; increase of 2d. a day (2d. to 4d.) in the allowance to joiners and joinery apprentices providing and maintaining tools. Rates after change include: men—craftsmen 4s. an hour, labourers 3s. 5 1/4d.; women on craft processes 3s. 5 1/4d., on labouring 3s. 2d. Increase of 10s. a week for workers employed on "C" licensed vehicles. Rates after change: motor drivers 171s. 6d. to 190s. 6d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, tractor drivers (steam and I.C.) 189s. 6d., mates and statutory attendants 18 years and over 176s. 6d., drivers of mechanical vehicles with trailer 6d. a day more. Increase of 10s. a week for workers employed on "C" licensed vehicles. Rates after change: motor drivers grade 1 districts 168s. to 185s. 6d. a week, according to carrying capacity of vehicle, grade 2 districts 163s. 6d. to 180s. 6d., mates and statutory attendants 18 years and over 171s. 6d., 166s. 6d. Increases of 2 1/4d. an hour for firebrick bricklayers, of 1 1/4d. for labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Increases of 2 1/4d. an hour for craftsmen, of 1 1/4d. for navvies and labourers, and of proportional amounts for juveniles; increase of 1d. a day (2d. to 3d.) in the tool allowance for plumbers. Rates after change include: craftsmen—London super grade and Liverpool grade 4s. 1 1/4d. an hour, class I districts (remainder of England, Wales and Scotland) 4s.; navvies or labourers—London super grade 3s. 7d., class I districts (remainder of England, Wales and Scotland) 3s. 5 1/4d. Increase of 9d. a shift. Rates after change: London super grade 22s. a shift (day or night), class I districts 20s. 9d. Increases of 1 1/4d. an hour for men and youths 18 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Rates after change for labourers: London district (within a 12-mile radius) and Liverpool (Mersey and district) 3s. 7d. an hour, London district (12 to 15 miles radius) 3s. 6 1/4d., grade A districts 3s. 5 1/4d., grade A1 3s. 5d., grade A2 3s. 4 1/4d., grade A3 3s. 4d. 1/4. Increase of 2 1/4d. an hour in standard rates of wages. Rates after change: London area (within 12 miles from Charing Cross) and Liverpool area 4s. 1 1/4d. an hour; South Eastern area (from 12 to 30 miles from Charing Cross) 4s. 1d.; South Eastern area (from 30 to 45 miles from Charing Cross except Aldershot and Guildford), Manchester, Midlands, North Eastern, West of England, South Wales and Yorkshire areas, Portsmouth and Bournemouth 4s.; Poole, Christchurch, Wimborne, Romsey, Winchester and Basingstoke 3s. 11 1/4d.; Andover, Isle of Wight, Aldershot and Guildford 3s. 11d. Increases of 2 1/4d. an hour for charge-hands and spreaders, of 1 1/4d. for mixermen, potmen and "classified labourers", and of proportional amounts for apprentices. Rates after change include: charge-hands, London area and Merseyside 4s. 7 1/4d. an hour; Provincial area 4s. 6d., spreaders 4s. 2 1/4d., 4s. 1d., mixermen 3s. 10d., 3s. 9d., potmen 3s. 9d., 3s. 8d., "classified labourers" 3s. 7 1/4d., 3s. 6 1/4d. Increases of 2 1/4d. an hour for craftsmen and adult mates, and of proportional amounts for apprentices; increase of 6d. a day (1s. 6d. to 2s.) in the allowance to operatives engaged on exceptionally dirty work or work under abnormal conditions. Rates after change include: craftsmen—London (within 15 miles radius of Charing Cross) 4s. 2d. an hour, all other districts 4s. 0 1/4d.; adult mates—20 years and over 3s. 7d., 3s. 6d., 18 and under 20 3s. 4d., 3s. 3d.

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

† These increases took effect under an Order issued under the Wages Councils Act. See page 195 of this GAZETTE. The minimum rates quoted above have been in operation since February, 1955, under an agreement of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Rubber Manufacturing Industry.

‡ The grading of districts is in accordance with that for the building industry.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Gas Supply	Great Britain (154)	From 6 a.m. on 3 Apr.	Workpeople other than maintenance craftsmen	Increases in standard scheduled rates of 4d. an hour for 1st and 2nd class fitters and of 3d. an hour or 2s. a shift for other adult male dayworkers and shiftworkers, with appropriate adjustments in rates for pieceworkers, female workers and juveniles. Standard scheduled rates after change include: gas fitters, 1st class—Metropolitan area 4s. 4 1/4d. an hour, Metropolitan fringe 4s. 3 1/4d., Provincial A 4s. 1 1/4d., Provincial B 4s.; 2nd class 4s. 1 1/4d., 4s. 0 1/4d., 3s. 10 1/4d., 3s. 9d.; labourers 3s. 6 1/4d., 3s. 5 1/4d., 3s. 3 1/4d., 3s. 2 1/4d.
	(155)	do.	Works maintenance craftsmen, including skilled plasterers, slaters and paviors, and bricklayers and masons other than those engaged on fire-brick work	Increase of 4d. an hour in standard rates. Rates after change include: skilled maintenance craftsmen—Metropolitan area 4s. 4 1/4d. an hour, Provincial A 4s. 1 1/4d., Provincial B 4s. 0 1/4d.; semi-skilled, according to occupation—Metropolitan area 3s. 11 1/4d. to 4s. 3 1/4d. an hour, Provincial A 3s. 8 1/4d. to 4s. 0 1/4d., Provincial B 3s. 7 1/4d. to 3s. 11 1/4d.
Waterworks Undertakings	England and Wales (158-159)	First full pay week commencing on or after 3 Apr.	Workpeople other than fully skilled engineering craftsmen	Consolidated rates increased by 3d. an hour or 11s. a week.*
	do.	do.	Fully skilled engineering craftsmen, other than those in the London Metropolitan Water Board	Increase of 4d. an hour. Rates after change: blacksmiths, brassfinishers, coppersmiths, electricians, engine-fitters and turners, motor mechanics, moulders, pattern-makers, sheet metal workers and welders 4s. 1 1/4d. an hour.
Railway Service	Great Britain (161)	10 Jan.†	Adult locomotive running staff employed by British Railways	Increases ranging from 2s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. a week, according to occupation and period of service. Rates after change include: drivers and motor men 1st year 175s. a week, 2nd year 185s., 3rd year 195s.; firemen and assistant motormen 1st year 145s., 2nd year 154s., 3rd year 164s.
Goods Transport by Road	Great Britain (167)	Beginning of first full pay period following 31 Mar.	Maintenance and repair staff employed by British Road Services	Increases of 11s. a week for skilled, of 9s. 2d. for semi-skilled, and of 7s. 4d. for unskilled adult workers, and of 1d. or 2d. an hour, according to age, for workers under 21 years. Rates after change for a 44-hour week include: London—skilled workers 170s. 6d., semi-skilled workers, class 1 157s. 8d., class 2 150s. 4d., unskilled workers 143s.; Provinces 165s., 152s. 2d., 144s. 10d., 137s. 6d.
Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labour	Great Britain (159)	18 Apr.	Dock labourers and other workers (except coal tipplers and trimmers at principal coal exporting centres) employed in the actual handling of cargoes in or on ship, quay, warehouse or craft:— Timeworkers Pieceworkers Permanent men whose wage rates are directly governed by agreements of the National Joint Council for the Port Transport Industry	Increase in the national minimum wage of 2s. a day. Minimum daily rate after change on half-daily basis 26s. Minimum guarantee on half-daily basis increased from 24s. a day to 26s., with consequential increases during overtime periods; existing gross piecework rates (i.e., basic piecework rates plus the appropriate percentage addition operating immediately prior to the date of this agreement) increased by 8 per cent. Increase of 11s. a week. Minimum rate after change 143s. a week.
	London	As from 6 a.m. on 18 Apr.	Workpeople employed in the lighterage industry in the Port of London	Increase of 2s. a day (25s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.) for daily wage workers, with <i>pro rata</i> increases for weekly workers and apprentices; flat-rate bonus payments increased from 25s. to 27s. a week or from 32s. to 34s. 6d., with <i>pro rata</i> increases for apprentices.
Coal Distribution	Lancashire and Cheshire (including part of Derbyshire) (176)	First full pay week commencing on or after 4 Apr.	Transport and other workers	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: one-horse carters, grades 1 and 2 areas 140s. a week; drivers of mechanical vehicles with a carrying capacity of up to and including 2 tons, grade 1 areas 144s., grade 2 areas 140s., over 2 and up to and including 5 tons 145s., 141s., over 5 tons 149s., 145s.; carriers-off, mates, fillers, loaders, yardmen and dropmen 141s., 137s. (drivers of bulk loads receive 4s. a week less than these rates).
	Yorkshire Region (176)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: drivers of mechanical vehicles with a carrying capacity of up to and including 2 tons, grade A areas 139s. 6d. a week, grade B areas 135s. 6d., over 2 and up to and including 5 tons 141s., 137s., over 5 tons 145s., 141s., one-horse drivers 137s., 133s., two-horse drivers 141s., 137s., coal yard and drop workers, carriers-off, fillers and other workers, including lorry drivers on provisional licence during training 134s. 6d., 130s. 6d. 1/2.
	North-Midland Region (176)	do.	do.	Increase of 10s. a week in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: motor roundsmen, grade 1 areas 148s. a week, grade 2 areas 142s. 6d., horsemen, yardmen, bag-fillers and mates 141s., 137s. (drivers of bulk loads receive 4s. a week less than these rates).
	Eastern Region (176)	do.	do.	Increase of 10s. a week in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: lorry drivers 140s. a week, horsemen, loaders and other workers 136s. 1/2.
	Midland Region (176)	do.	do.	Increase of 10s. a week in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change include: motor roundsmen 21 years and over, grade 1 areas 145s. a week, grade 2 areas 139s. 6d., horsemen, yardmen, bag-fillers and mates 18 years and over 140s., 134s. 6d. 1/2.
	Northern Region (176)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: motor drivers of vehicles with a carrying capacity of 1 ton or less, grade 1 areas 138s. a week, grade 2 areas 134s., over 1 and up to and including 5 tons 141s., 137s., over 5 and up to and including 8 tons 145s., 141s., over 8 and up to and including 12 tons 149s., 145s., over 12 tons 153s., 149s., horsemen (all areas) 137s., other workers 21 years and over 137s., 133s. 1/2.
	Southern Region (177)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for workers 21 years and over and for bag-fillers and mates 19 and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change include: drivers 21 years and over of vehicles with a carrying capacity of over 1 and up to and including 5 tons, group A areas 141s. a week, group B areas 137s., over 5 and up to and including 8 tons 145s., 141s., over 8 but gross laden weight not over 12 tons 149s., 145s., over 12 tons gross laden weight 153s., 149s., (in Dorset rates are—up to 3 1/2 tons 140s. 6d., 136s. 6d., 3 1/2 and up to 12 tons 142s. 6d., 138s. 6d.); lorry drivers' mates 21 years and over, yardmen, horse carmen, bag-fillers and loaders 19 years and over 137s., 133s.; leading hands to receive 5s. a week above bag-fillers' and loaders' rates. 1/2.

* This increase took effect as the result of an agreement made by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Undertakings Industry and applied to the undertakings affiliated to the constituent District Joint Councils. The districts represented on the National Council and the new consolidated rates of general labourers (or equivalent classes of workpeople) in these districts are as follows: Northern, Yorkshire, North Western, Midlands, South Midlands, South Wales and Monmouthshire 3s. 3 1/4d., South Eastern 3s. 3 1/4d. (inner special area 3s. 6 1/4d., outer special area 3s. 5 1/4d.), London (Metropolitan Water Board) grade B labourers 3s. 6 1/4d.

† These rates were made retrospective to the date shown.

‡ Plus 4s. a week to workers loading and/or delivering coal in sacks or bags for the time so spent.

Principal Changes in Rates of Wages Reported during April—continued

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Coal Distribution (continued)	South-Eastern Region (176)	First full pay week commencing on or after 4 Apr.	Transport and other workers . .	Increase of 10s. a week in minimum rates. Minimum rates after change: drivers of vehicles with a carrying capacity of up to and including 2 tons, grade 1 areas 137s. a week, grade 2 areas 133s., over 2 and up to and including 5 tons 141s., 137s., over 5 and up to and including 8 tons 145s., 141s., over 8 and up to and including 12 tons 149s., 145s., over 12 tons 153s., 149s., coal-yard workers, coal porters, horse carmen, mates and mates who act as coal porters 137s., 133s.*
	South-Western Region (177)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for workers 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: drivers of mechanically propelled vehicles of up to and including 4 tons carrying capacity, X areas 144s. 6d. a week, Y areas 141s., of over 4 and up to and including 6 tons 151s., 147s., of over 6 tons 153s., 149s., horse carters 143s., 139s., yardmen and other workers 141s., 137s. (drivers of bulk loads receive 4s. a week less than these rates).
	South and West Wales (177)	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for workers 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: drivers of vehicles with a carrying capacity of 1 ton or less, grade 1 areas 138s. a week, grade 2 areas 134s., over 1 and up to and including 5 tons 141s., 137s., over 5 and up to and including 12 tons 149s., 145s., over 12 tons 153s., 149s., mates 137s., 133s., one-horse drivers (all areas) 134s., two-horse drivers 139s.*
	Scotland	do.	do.	Increases of 10s. a week in minimum rates for men 21 years and over, and of proportional amounts for younger workers. Minimum rates after change for adult workers: one-horse drivers 139s. a week (6s. a week extra or proportionately for shorter periods when driving a pair of horses).*
Petroleum Distribution	United Kingdom	31 Jan.†	Adult male and female workers employed in the distribution, handling and storage of petroleum products, except those employed at refineries	New wage schedule introduced, resulting in increases in minimum rates for certain categories of workers of amounts varying from 3d. to 9s. 5d. a week, according to occupation, for male workers, and from 3d. to 18d. an hour for female workers. Minimum rates after change include: male workers—drivers of vehicles of over 1,500 gallons carrying capacity, London 164s. 4d. a week, Provinces 159s. 7d. (regular drivers of vehicles of over 2,500 gallons to receive 4s. above these rates—previously the amount was 3s.), of 1,500 gallons carrying capacity and under 158s. 6d., 153s. 9d.; certain skilled categories (coach builders, motor fitters, turners, electricians, installation mechanics, etc.) 182s. 3d., 177s. 6d.; labourers (rates unchanged) 142s. 9d., 138s.; female workers—can repairers, London 2s. 9½d. an hour, Provinces 2s. 8½d., package operatives 2s. 8¼d., 2s. 7½d., labourers 2s. 7¼d., 2s. 5¾d.
		18 Apr.‡	Workpeople employed in the distribution, handling and storage of petroleum products, except those employed at refineries:— Men and youths Women and girls	Increases in minimum rates of 8s. 6d. to 10s. a week, according to occupation, for men, and 4s. to 7s., according to age, for youths. Minimum rates after change include: drivers of vehicles of over 1,500 gallons carrying capacity, London 174s. 4d. a week, Provinces 169s. 7d. (regular drivers of vehicles of over 2,500 gallons to receive 4s. above these rates), of 1,500 gallons carrying capacity and under 168s. 6d., 163s. 9d.; certain skilled categories (coach builders, motor fitters, turners, electricians, installation mechanics, etc.) 192s. 3d., 187s. 6d.; labourers 151s. 3d., 146s. 6d. Increases in minimum rates of 1½d., 1¼d. or 1½d. an hour, according to occupation, for women, and of ¼d. to 1¼d., according to age, for girls. Minimum rates after change include: can repairers, London 2s. 11½d. an hour, Provinces 2s. 10d., package operatives 2s. 10½d., 2s. 9¼d., labourers 2s. 8¾d., 2s. 7¼d.
Government Industrial Establishments	London (187)	Beginning of pay week containing 1 Jan.§	Non-skilled workers paid on miscellaneous "M" rates	Increases in minimum rates of 3s. a week for adult male workers, of 2s. 6d. for adult female workers, and of proportional amounts for juveniles. Minimum rates after change include: adult male workers 139s. a week, adult female workers 116s. 10d.
Local Authority Service	England and Wales (190)	18 Apr.	Building and civil engineering workers	Increases of 2¼d. an hour for craftsmen, of 1¼d. for labourers, and of proportional amounts for apprentices and young male labourers. Rates after change include: craftsmen, London—inner zone (within a 12-miles radius of Charing Cross) and Liverpool special district 4s. 1½d. an hour, London—outer zone (12-15 miles radius) 4s. 1d., grade A districts 4s., grade A1 3s. 11¼d., grade A2 3s. 11d., grade A3 3s. 10¼d.; labourers, London—inner zone and Liverpool special district 3s. 7d., outer zone 3s. 6¼d., grade A districts 3s. 5¼d., grade A1 3s. 5d., grade A2 3s. 4¼d., grade A3 3s. 4d.
				Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire (192)
Funeral Direction	London	Beginning of first full pay period following 9 Apr.	Managers and staff	Increases of 12s. a week for adult workers on time rates, other than casual workers, and of proportional amounts for workers under 21. Rates after change include: branch managers (resident) 164s. 6d. a week, (non-resident) 169s. 6d., plus 2½ per cent. commission on all orders in each case, coffin makers 164s. 6d., plus 1s. a week tool allowance, machinists 173s. 3d., polisher-finishers 154s. 3d., chauffeur mechanics 178s. 9d., chauffeurs 158s. 3d., bearers 144s. 6d., supervising clerks 184s. 6d., clerks 154s. 6d., general workers 144s.
Unlicensed Places of Refreshment¶	Great Britain (202-203) (211)	4 Apr.	Men, youths, boys, women and girls	Increases in minimum rates of 6s. a week for male workers 21 years or over (6s. 6d. for drivers in Provincial area A and 5s. 9d. for drivers of vehicles of 1 ton or less carrying capacity in Provincial area B, who are supplied with full board and lodging), of 4s. for female workers 21 or over (3s. for workers other than waitresses in Provincial area B who are supplied with full board and lodging), and of varying amounts, according to age, for certain male and female workers under 21. Minimum rates after change for workers 21 years or over: London area—men, managers 150s. a week, assistant managers 132s., assistants in charge 127s., floor supervisors 117s. 6d., clerks 120s., clerical assistants or cashiers 114s. 6d., refreshment bar, buffet or service attendants 112s. 6d., waiters 96s., chefs 160s., head cooks 145s. 6d., cooks 131s., assistant cooks 120s., service cooks 115s., drivers of vehicles of 1 ton or less carrying capacity 128s. 9d., of over 1 ton carrying capacity 132s., other (unspecified) workers 110s.; women, manageresses 123s., assistant manageresses 107s., assistants in charge 101s., floor supervisors 92s. 6d., clerks 93s. 6d., hostesses, receptionists or seaters 85s. 6d., clerical assistants, cashiers or shop assistants 83s. 6d., refreshment bar, buffet or service attendants 81s. 6d., waitresses 69s. 6d., chefs 132s., head cooks 118s. 6d., cooks 98s., assistant cooks 88s., service cooks 84s., other (unspecified) workers 79s. Minimum rates for Provincial A area are 5s. a week less (5s. 6d. less for male drivers and 3s. less for waiters and waitresses), and for Provincial B area 10s. a week less (11s. less for female cashiers, clerical assistants, refreshment bar, buffet or service attendants, shop assistants, service cooks and other (unspecified) workers, 9s. 9d. less for male drivers of vehicles of 1 ton or less carrying capacity, and 5s. less for waiters and waitresses).**

* Plus 4s. a week to workers loading and/or delivering coal in sacks or bags for the time so spent.
† These increases were agreed in March and had retrospective effect to the date shown.
‡ This change became operative with full effect from 18th April, but the increases in minimum rates, exclusive of overtime calculations, were effective from 28th March.
§ These increases were authorised in April, and had retrospective effect to the date shown.
¶ Resident managers also receive reasonable living accommodation with light and rent free.
‡ Unlicensed places of refreshment include cafes, teashops, restaurants, coffee stalls, snack bars and similar places.
** These changes took effect under an Order issued under the Catering Wages Act. See page 158 of the April issue of this GAZETTE. The minimum rates quoted are payable where the employer supplies the worker with neither full board nor lodging but supplies him with meals of good and sufficient quality and quantity whilst on duty. Where the employer supplies neither meals nor lodging the minimum rates are to be increased by 14s. a week. Minimum rates at a lower level are also fixed under the Order for workers in each occupation who are provided with full board and lodging for 7 days a week.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING APRIL

Industry	District (see also Note at beginning of Table)	Date from which Change took effect	Classes of Workpeople	Particulars of Change
Catering	Belfast and district	1 Apr.	Male and female charge-hands and assistants employed by licensed vintners	Normal weekly working hours reduced from 48 to 46.

Index of Rates of Wages

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

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

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

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

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

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	114
1951	115	116	117	118	118	119	120	122	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	143	143	143	144	144	144
1955	146	147	149	151								

Medical Research Council

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Industrial Disputes

DISPUTES IN APRIL

The number of stoppages of work* arising from industrial disputes in the United Kingdom, reported to the Department as beginning in April, was 226. In addition, 27 stoppages which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The approximate number of workers involved during April in these 253 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 68,000. The aggregate number of working days lost during April at the establishments concerned was about 214,000.

The following Table gives an analysis by groups of industries of stoppages of work in April 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 ..	15	192	207	35,500	83,000
Engineering ..	3	5	8	2,000	11,000
Paper and Printing ..	1	—	1	20,900	100,000
All remaining industries and services ..	8	29	37	9,500	20,000
Total, April, 1955 ..	27	226	253	67,900	214,000
Total, March, 1955 ..	29	206	235	56,800	149,000
Total, April, 1954 ..	15	164	179	32,000	77,000

Of the total of 214,000 days lost in April, 95,000 were lost by 41,400 workers involved in stoppages which began in that month. Of these workers, 37,200 were directly involved and 4,200 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 April also included 119,000 days lost by 26,500 workers through stoppages which had continued from the previous month.

Duration of Stoppages

Of 237 stoppages of work owing to disputes which ended during April, 87, directly involving 6,500 workers, lasted not more than one day; 70, directly involving 10,800 workers, lasted two days; 35, directly involving 9,400 workers, lasted three days; 29, directly involving 8,400 workers, lasted four to six days; and 16, directly involving 4,100 workers, lasted over six days.

Causes of Stoppages

Of the 226 disputes leading to stoppages of work which began in April, 4, directly involving 1,300 workers, arose out of demands for advances in wages, and 96, directly involving 21,500 workers, on other wage questions; 8, directly involving 1,600 workers, on questions as to working hours; 15, directly involving 1,000 workers, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 100, directly involving 11,300 workers, on other questions respecting working arrangements; and one, directly involving 200

workers, on questions of trade union principle. Two stoppages, directly involving 300 workers, were in support of workers involved in other disputes.

DISPUTES IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1955 AND 1954

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

Industry Group	January to April, 1955			January to April, 1954		
	Number of Stoppages beginning in period	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress	Number of Stoppages beginning in period	Number of Workers involved in all Stoppages in progress	Aggregate Number of Working Days lost in all Stoppages in progress
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coal Mining ..	610	109,800†	276,000	521	87,400†	209,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	—	—	—	1	‡	‡
Treatment of Non-Metalliferous Mining Products ..	4	‡	‡	5	400	1,000
Chemicals and Allied Trades	4	1,000	1,000	1	100	‡
Metal Manufacture ..	17	3,900	13,000	14	2,100	4,000
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	24	1,800	7,000	24	4,300	20,000
Engineering ..	25	6,700	37,000	18	3,400	13,000
Vehicles ..	25	21,200	33,000	22	9,800	25,000
Other Metal Industries ..	4	1,100	3,000	5	500	4,000
Textiles ..	3	100	‡	4	400	1,000
Leather, etc. ..	1	100	‡	—	—	—
Clothing ..	2	100	1,000	9	2,400	8,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco	3	200	1,000	3	100	‡
Manufactures of Wood and Cork	10	700	11,000	8	1,000	5,000
Paper and Printing	1	20,900	105,000	2	700	16,000
Other Manufacturing Industries	1	‡	‡	7	4,500	25,000
Building and Contracting ..	33	3,800	37,000	30	27,200	155,000
Gas, Electricity and Water ..	1	100	‡	2	300	3,000
Transport, etc. ..	47	29,800	76,000	45	14,300	22,000
Distributive Trades ..	4	300	5,000	2	100	‡
Other Services ..	3	900	4,000	3	200	1,000
Total ..	822	202,500†	610,000	726	159,200†	512,000

The number of days lost in the period January to April, 1955, through stoppages which began in that period was 570,000, the number of workers involved in such stoppages being 190,100. In addition, 40,000 days were lost by 12,400 workers through stoppages which had begun towards the end of the previous year.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES DURING APRIL

Industry, Occupations§ and Locality	Approximate Number of Workers involved		Date when Stoppage		Cause or Object	Result
	Directly	Indirectly§	Began	Ended		
COAL MINING:—						
Colliery workers—Stepps, Glasgow (one colliery)	860	—	6 Apr.	14 Apr.	Refusal of a request, by certain workers, for permission to leave the pit early owing to alleged wet working conditions	Work resumed unconditionally.
Colliery workers—Armthorpe, Doncaster (one colliery)	1,780	—	21 Apr.	13 May	Dissatisfaction with wages	Work resumed.
Colliery workers—Denaby Main, Doncaster (one colliery)	1,250	280	13 Apr.	29 Apr.	Dissatisfaction with wages	Work resumed pending negotiations.
PRINTING:—						
Maintenance electricians, engineers and other workers employed in newspaper production—London, Manchester and Scotland	860	20,000	25 Mar.	19 Apr.	Dissatisfaction with wage increase offer	Work resumed. A Court of Inquiry appointed by the Minister of Labour and National Service to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the dispute has issued its Report (Cmd. 9439). A summary appeared on page 126 of the April, 1955, issue of this GAZETTE.

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

† Some workers, largely in the coal mining industry, were involved in more than one stoppage and are counted more than once in the totals. The net number of individuals involved in coal mining stoppages in the period under review in 1955 was approximately 95,000, and in the corresponding period in 1954 was approximately 73,000. For all industries combined the corresponding net totals were approximately 182,000 and 144,000.

‡ Less than 50 workers or 500 working days.

§ 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.

U.K. Index of Retail Prices

INDEX FOR 19th APRIL, 1955

ALL ITEMS (17th June, 1947 = 100) ... 147

At 19th April, 1955, the retail prices index was 147 (prices at 17th June, 1947=100), compared with 146 at 15th March and with 142 at 13th April, 1954.

The rise in the index during the month was due mainly to increases in the average prices of cabbage, tomatoes and other vegetables, cooking apples and fish and increases in the charges for some services. These increases were to a small extent offset by decreases in the prices of bacon and ham and dairy produce.

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 19th APRIL, 1955 (15th January, 1952 = 100)

The following Table shows, for various groups and sub-groups, and for all the groups combined, the indices at 19th April, 1955, on the basis 15th January, 1952 = 100, together with the relative weights which have been used in combining the group indices into a single "all items" index.

GROUP AND SUB-GROUP	INDEX FIGURE FOR 19th APRIL, 1955 (15th January, 1952 = 100)	GROUP WEIGHT
I. Food :		
Bread, flour, biscuits, cakes, etc. . .	118	
Meat, bacon and ham, and fish . . .	120	
Milk, cheese and eggs . . .	103	
Butter, margarine and cooking fat	132	
Vegetables and fruit . . .	130	
Tea and sugar, etc. . .	166	
Miscellaneous manufactured foods	107	
Total—Food ..	119.9	399
II. Rent and rates ..	114.4	72
III. Clothing :		
Men's outer clothing . . .	104	
Men's underclothing . . .	90	
Women's outer clothing . . .	97	
Women's underclothing . . .	90	
Children's clothing . . .	98	
Clothing materials . . .	92	
Footwear . . .	93	
Total—Clothing ..	96.3	98
IV. Fuel and light :		
Coal and coke . . .	117	
Other fuel and light . . .	113	
Total—Fuel and light ..	114.8	66
V. Household durable goods :		
Furniture . . .	100	
Appliances, etc. . .	98	
Floor coverings, drapery and soft furnishings . . .	88	
Hardware, pottery, glass, etc. . .	104	
Total—Household durable goods	95.5	62
VI. Miscellaneous goods :		
Soap and other miscellaneous household goods, medicines and toilet requisites . . .	101	
Newspapers, books, stationery and toys . . .	99	
Total—Miscellaneous goods ..	99.9	44
VII. Services :		
Travel . . .	119	
Entertainment . . .	113	
Other services . . .	109	
Total—Services ..	113.5	91
VIII. Alcoholic drink ..	102.7	78
IX. Tobacco ..	100.3	90
All items ..	110.8	1,000

PRINCIPAL CHANGES DURING MONTH

Food

Between 15th March and 19th April the average price of cabbage rose substantially and there were also increases in the average prices of tomatoes and other vegetables, cooking apples and the kinds of fresh fish included in the index. These increases were offset to some extent by decreases in the average prices of bacon and ham and dairy produce (eggs, butter and cheese). The net effect of these and other price changes of lesser degree, taken together, was to increase the average level of food prices by a little over 1 per cent, and the index figure for the group, expressed to the nearest whole number, was 120 at 19th April, compared with 119 at 15th March.

Rent and Rates

Increases in local rates in some areas in England and Wales, increases in the rents of local authority dwellings in a few areas and the effect of including in the index the increasing number of local authority dwellings combined to raise the average level of inclusive rents by a little under one-half of 1 per cent, between 15th March and 19th April. This was insufficient to change the group index figure, expressed to the nearest whole number, which remained at 114.

Services

During the period under review there were increases in bus fares and in the charges for laundering, hairdressing and similar services in some localities. In consequence of these increases the rise in the average level of prices and charges for the group as a whole was just sufficient to produce a change in the group index, expressed to the nearest whole number, which was 114 at 19th April, compared with 113 at 15th March.

Other Groups

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

ALL ITEMS INDICES FOR 1947-55

(17th June, 1947 = 100)

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

Thus, at 19th April, 1955, the "all items" figure in the new series, with prices at 15th January, 1952, taken as 100, was 110.8. 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 19th April, 1955, comparable with all the indices published for dates up to and including January, 1952, i.e., on the basis 17th June, 1947, taken as 100. The calculation is as follows:—

All items index at 15th January, 1952 (17th June, 1947 = 100)	132.5
All items index at 19th April, 1955 (15th January, 1952 = 100)	110.8
∴ All items index at 19th April, 1955 (17th June, 1947 = 100)	110.8 × 100 / 132.5 = 146.8 taken as 147

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	111	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	142	144	144	144	145	145
1955	146	146	146	147	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

A description of the index, entitled *Interim Index of Retail Prices: Method of Construction and Calculation (Revised Edition)*, is obtainable, price 1s. 3d. net (1s. 4½d. including postage), from H.M. Stationery Office at the addresses shown on page 198 of this GAZETTE.

A detailed report on the working of the index during the years 1947 to 1951 is given in the Cost of Living Advisory Committee's *Report on the Working of the Interim Index of Retail Prices*, Cmd. 8481, price 1s. 9d. net (1s. 10½d. including postage), from H.M. Stationery Office.

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 April was 116, compared with 113 (revised figure) in the previous month and 107 (revised figure) in April, 1954. In the case of seamen employed in ships registered in the United Kingdom, 16 fatal accidents were reported in April, compared with 20 in the previous month and 30 in April, 1954. Detailed figures for separate industries are given below for April, 1955.

Mines and Quarries*	Factories—continued
Under Coal Mines Act : Underground 33 Surface 8	Electrical Stations Other Industries 1
Quarries 2	WORKS AND PLACES UNDER SS. 105, 107, 108, FACTORIES ACT, 1937
Metalliferous Mines 1	Docks, Wharves, Quays and Ships 2
TOTAL, MINES & QUARRIES 44	Building Operations 15
Factories	Works of Engineering Construction 6
Clay, Stone, Cement, Pot- tery and Glass 1	Warehouses
Chemicals, Oils, Soap, etc. 2	TOTAL, FACTORIES ACT .. 58
Metal Extracting and Refining 3	Railway Service
Metal Conversion and Founding (including Rolling Mills and Tube Making) 9	Brakemen, Goods Guards 2
Engineering, Locomotive Building, Boilermaking, etc. 6	Engine Drivers, Motor- men 1
Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motor and Other Vehicles and Air- craft Manufacture	Firemen 1
Shipbuilding 3	Guards (Passenger)
Other Metal Trades 1	Labourers
Cotton 1	Mechanics
Wool, Worsted, Shoddy Other Textile Manufacture Textile Printing, Bleaching and Dyeing	Permanent Way Men 7
Tanning, Currying, etc.	Porters
Food and Drink 2	Shunters 2
General Woodwork and Furniture 1	Other Grades 1
Paper, Printing, etc. 1	Contractors' Servants
Rubber Trades	TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE 14
Gas Works 4	TOTAL (excluding Seamen) 116
	Seamen
	Trading Vessels 3
	Fishing Vessels 13
	TOTAL, SEAMEN .. 16
	TOTAL (including Seamen) 132

Industrial Diseases

The number of cases in the United Kingdom reported during April 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 : Shipbreaking 1 White and Red Lead Works 1	Pitch and Tar 15 Mineral Oil
Other contact with Molten Lead 1 Paint and Colour Works Shipbuilding 1	TOTAL 15
TOTAL 5	Chrome Ulceration
Other Poisoning	Manuf. of Bichromates .. 17
Aniline Poisoning	Chromium Plating 9
Compressed Air Illness	Dyeing and Finishing
TOTAL Nil	Other Industries
Anthrax	TOTAL 26
Wool	TOTAL, Cases .. 47
Hides and Skins	II. Deaths
Other Industries 1	Nil
TOTAL 1	

* For mines and quarries, weekly returns are obtained and the figures cover the 5 weeks ended 30th April, 1955.

Accidents in Coal Mining

A statement issued by the Ministry of Fuel and Power shows that the number of persons killed during the 13 weeks ended 26th March, 1955, as a result of accidents occurring in that period at mines as defined by the Coal Mines Act, 1911, in Great Britain was 101, compared with 95 in the 13 weeks ended 25th December, 1954, and 102 in the 13 weeks ended 27th March, 1954. The corresponding numbers of persons reportably injured at such mines were 467, 482 and 528. For the purpose of these statistics, reportable injuries are 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.

An analysis of the figures, by nature of accident, is given below.

Nature of Accident	Number of Persons Killed during 13 weeks ended			Number of Persons Reportably Injured during 13 weeks ended		
	26th March, 1955	25th Dec., 1954	27th March, 1954	26th March, 1955	25th Dec., 1954	27th March, 1954
Underground :						
Explosions of fire-damp or coal dust	—	—	2	10	4	29
Falls of ground	48	45	56	166	180	181
Haulage	24	25	20	117	112	112
Miscellaneous (in- cluding shaft acci- dents)	14	14	15	124	147	152
Total	86	84	93	417	443	474
Surface :						
All causes	15	11	9	50	39	54
Total, underground and surface	101	95	102	467	482	528

* * *

Vocational and Disabled Training

The statistics of the Vocational and Disabled Training Schemes given below relate to the thirteen weeks ended 14th March, 1955.

The number of applicants admitted to training during the period was 2,062, and 3,959 persons were in training at the end of the period. The latter figure included 3,393 males and 566 females; of the total, 2,477 were disabled persons. During the period 1,377 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	691	59	750
Disabled	1,052	260	1,312
Total	1,743	319	2,062
Number of persons in training at end of period at :			
Government Training Centres—			
Able-bodied	1,310	46	1,356
Disabled	1,173	85	1,258
Technical and Commercial Colleges—			
Able-bodied	72	31	103
Disabled	335	290	625
Employers' Establishments—			
Able-bodied	18	5	23
Disabled	52	11	63
Residential (Disabled) Centres and Voluntary Organisations	433	98	531
Total	3,393	566	3,959
Trainees placed in employment during period :			
Able-bodied	495	22	517
Disabled	705	155	860
Total	1,200	177	1,377

From the beginning of the Vocational Training Scheme on 2nd July, 1945, up to 14th March, 1955, the number of trainees placed in employment was 119,349, of whom 106,528 were males and 12,821 were females.

Industrial Rehabilitation

The statistics given below show the numbers of men and women admitted to courses at the Industrial Rehabilitation Units operated by the Ministry of Labour and National Service during the four weeks ended 4th April, 1955, the numbers in attendance at the end of, and the numbers who completed courses during, the period.

	Men	Women	Total
Persons admitted to courses during period ..	734	110	844
Persons in attendance at courses at end of period	1,292	211	1,503
Persons who completed courses during period ..	625	94	719

From the starting of these Units by the Ministry of Labour and National Service up to 4th April, 1955, the total number of persons admitted to industrial rehabilitation courses was 60,410.

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 March, 1955, and (b) during the whole period from 1st August, 1944.

	March Quarter, 1955	Total cases dealt with
Orders requiring employment to be made available to applicants	1	1,720
Orders requiring payment of compensation for loss by reason of default	6	904
Orders for both reinstatement and compensation	7	2,130
Total of orders made	14	4,754
No orders made against the employers concerned	6	4,615
Total of cases determined	20	9,369

Of the total of 9,369 cases determined since 1st August, 1944, 8,630 were dealt with under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1944, 713 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. Of the 20 cases determined during the March quarter, 1955, 19 were dealt with under the National Service Act, 1948, and one under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act, 1950.

Appeals against two determinations of Reinstatement Committees were decided by the Umpire during the quarter, and, of these, one was varied by him.

No reinstatement cases were determined during the quarter by Reinstatement Committees or the Umpire in Northern Ireland or the Isle of Man.

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 three applications for compensation under 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.

Shipbuilding in First Quarter of 1955

According to Lloyd's Register Shipbuilding Returns for the quarter ended 31st March, 1955, the number of merchant steamers and motorships under construction in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the end of March was 335, with a gross tonnage of 2,144,146 tons, compared with 327 vessels of 2,140,752 tons gross at the end of December, 1954, an increase of 3,394 tons.

The tonnage of vessels intended for registration abroad or for sale was 756,072 at the end of March. This figure, which was 18,287 tons less than at the end of December, 1954, represented 35.3 per cent. of the total tonnage being built in this country and included 326,968 tons for Norway and 169,880 tons for Panama. The tonnage at the end of March intended for registration abroad included 136,295 tons on which construction commenced during the quarter.

The total tonnage of steamers and motorships under construction in the world at the end of March amounted to 5,963,187 tons gross, of which 36.0 per cent. was being built in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The tonnage under construction abroad at the

end of March was 3,819,041, an increase of 105,546 tons compared with the previous quarter. Steam and motor oil tankers under construction in the world amounted to 3,103,257 tons or 52.0 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction. The total tonnage of oil tankers being built in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 1,104,368, representing 51.5 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 first quarter of 1955 were 22 steamers, of 152,470 tons, and 49 motorships, of 161,518 tons, a total of 71 vessels, of 313,988 tons gross. The numbers launched during the same period were 17 steamers, of 92,790 tons, and 40 motorships, of 171,843 tons, a total of 57 vessels, of 264,633 tons gross. The numbers completed during the period were 15 steamers, of 101,297 tons, and 49 motorships, of 207,525 tons, a total of 64 vessels, of 308,822 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*	Mar., 1955	687	- 2	+ 18
Food		693	- 4	+ 17
Belgium	1936-38 = 100			
All Items*	Feb., 1955	421	- 3	- 3
Food		405	- 4	- 4
Denmark	1935 = 100			
All Items	Apr., 1955	228	+ 3†	+ 8
Finland	Oct., 1951 = 100			
All Items	Mar., 1955	98§	Nil	- 5
Food		101§	+ 1	- 5
France (Paris)	1949 = 100			
All Items	Feb., 1955	145.0	- 0.3	+ 0.9
Food		136.2	- 0.6	- 0.8
Germany (Federal Republic)	1950 = 100			
All Items	Mar., 1955	109	Nil	+ 1
Food		115	Nil	+ 2
Iceland (Reykjavik)	Mar., 1950 = 100			
All Items	Jan., 1955	161	+ 1	+ 3
Food		166	Nil	+ 2
Italy (Large towns)	1938 = 100			
All Items	Feb., 1955	58.67	- 0.13	+ 1.57
Food		69.36	- 0.30	+ 2.01
Netherlands	1951 = 100			
All Items	Mar., 1955	107	Nil	+ 3
Food		111	Nil	+ 3
Norway	1949 = 100			
All Items	Feb., 1955	142	- 1	+ 4
Food		159	- 3	+ 6
Spain (Large towns)	July, 1936 = 100			
All Items	Jan., 1955	598.2	+ 3.7	+ 19.3
Food		755.5	+ 6.3	+ 26.5
Sweden	1949 = 100¶			
All Items	Feb., 1955	129	Nil	¶
Food		137	Nil	¶
Switzerland	Aug., 1939 = 100			
All Items	Feb., 1955	171.8	- 0.6	+ 2.3
Food		189.0	- 1.4	+ 4.3
Other Countries				
Australia (6 capital cities)	1952-53 = 100**			
All Items	Dec., 1954	103.2	+ 0.5†	+ 1.0
Food		103.7	+ 0.7†	+ 0.3
Canada	1949 = 100			
All Items	Mar., 1955	116.0	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Food		110.7	- 0.8	Nil
Ceylon (Colombo)	1952 = 100			
All Items	Feb., 1955	100.5	- 1.0	- 0.2
Food		105.50	- 1.59	- 0.04
Japan	Jan.-Dec., 1951 = 100			
All Items	Dec., 1954	117.6	- 0.7	+ 1.4
Food		115.0	- 1.4	+ 1.3
Pakistan (Karachi)	Apr., 1948-Mar., 1949 = 100			
All Items	Jan., 1955	107	- 2	- 4
Food		107	- 3	- 2
United States	1947-49 = 100			
All Items	Feb., 1955	114.3	Nil	- 0.7
Food		110.8	+ 0.2	- 1.8

* 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, and miscellaneous items).

† The index is quarterly and comparison is with the previous quarter.

‡ Revised "all items" figure for January, 1955, was 225.

§ Figure supplied by Labour Attaché.

|| New series based on investigation into household expenditure of manual and non-manual workers in 1951.

¶ New Consumer Price Index, replacing the cost-of-living index, base 1935 = 100; first figure in the new series is for July, 1954.

** New series, replacing the index on base 1923-27 = 1,000.

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 April the Industrial Disputes Tribunal issued eight awards, Nos. 703 to 710*. Three of the awards are summarised below; the others related to individual employers.

Award No. 703 (4th April).—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 payments in lieu of uniform should be made in those cases where porters are promoted to a higher group within the Council's schedule and continue to carry out porters' duties. **Award:** The Tribunal found that the claim had not been established.

Award No. 707 (22nd April).—Parties: Employers represented by the Employers' Side of the National Joint Council for the Craft of Dental Technicians, and members of the trade unions represented on the Trade Union Side of the Council in their employment. **Claim:** For increased rates of pay for dental technicians and apprentices. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded that with effect from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the award the minimum rate for technicians Grade I should be £10 2s. 6d. a week and for technicians Grade II £8 10s. a week; and that the rates of apprentices should be related to the minimum rate for technicians Grade II in the following proportions:—

From 1st May, 1955, 1st year 22½ per cent., 2nd year, 27½ per cent., 3rd year 33½ per cent., 4th year 45 per cent., 5th year 55 per cent. From 1st September, 1956, 1st year 25 per cent., 2nd year 30 per cent., 3rd year 37½ per cent., 4th year 47½ per cent., 5th year 60 per cent. From 1st January, 1958, 1st year 25 per cent., 2nd year 30 per cent., 3rd year 40 per cent., 4th year 50 per cent., 5th year 65 per cent.

Award No. 710 (29th April).—Parties: Members of the National Federated Electrical Association, and members of the Electrical Trades Union in their employment. **Claim:** For an amendment, so far as five-and-a-half-day week workers are concerned, of certain clauses of the agreement between the parties dated 21st July, 1947, relating to payment for bank, statutory and other holidays. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded that the agreement should be amended so as to provide that where the normal working week consists of five-and-a-half days and (1) where Christmas Day falls on a Sunday, the Tuesday next following shall be deemed to be a paid holiday and (2) where Christmas Day or Boxing Day falls on a Saturday, the afternoon of 24th December shall be deemed to be a paid holiday.

National Arbitration Tribunal (Northern Ireland) Awards

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

Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal

During April the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal issued one award, No. 277*, which is summarised below.

Award No. 277 (21st April).—Parties: The Post Office Engineering Union and the Post Office. **Claim:** For increased scales of pay with retrospective effect for the grades of Technician IIA, Technician IIB and Labourer in the Post Office. **Award:** The Tribunal awarded:—(a) that the scales of weekly pay (London, male) for the grades of Technician IIA, Technician IIB and Labourer in the Post Office shall be: Technician IIA, on entry 150s., after one year's adult service 159s. 6d., then by annual increments of 9s. to 168s. 6d. and of 11s. 6d. to 180s. Technician IIB, on entry 146s., after one year's adult service 155s., then by annual increments of 9s. to 164s. and of 10s. to 174s. Labourer, 141s.; (b) that the above consolidated scales shall have effect from 1st January, 1955; (c) that the "corresponding points" principle shall be applied in the assimilation to the new scales of officers in post; (d) that the determination of provincial scales shall be a matter for negotiation and agreement between the parties. In the event of the parties failing to reach agreement within a period of three months from the date of this award, either party shall be at liberty to report such failure to the Tribunal and the Tribunal will, after hearing the parties, determine the matter in dispute.

* See footnote * in second column on page 198.

Industrial Courts Act, 1919, and Conciliation Act, 1896

Industrial Court Awards

During April the Industrial Court issued four awards, Nos. 2563 to 2566, which are summarised below.

Award No. 2563 (16th April).—Parties: The National Union of Funeral and Cemetery Workers and the London Association of Funeral Directors. **Claim and Counter-claim:** For revision of Working Agreement. **Award:** The Court found and so awarded that the weekly adult wage rates set out in Part I of the Memorandum of Agreement dated November, 1953, shall be increased by 12s. a week, with proportionate increases for workers under 21 years of age. Except as provided above, the Court found against the claim of the Union and the counter-claim of the Association and awarded accordingly. Effect to be given to the award from the beginning of the first full pay period following 9th April, 1955.

Award No. 2564 (16th April).—Parties: Employees' and Employers' Sides of the Pilot Officers' National Sectional Panel of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport. **Claim:** For the payment of a London Allowance on the basis of 18s. a week for salaries over £442 a year and not exceeding £470 a year, then rising by an allowance of 1s. a week for each £50 (or part of £50) a year of basic salary up to a maximum allowance of 40s. a week (£104 a year). **Award:** The Court found against the claim and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 2565 (20th April).—Parties: Staff Side and Management Side of Committee C of the Medical Council of the Whitley Council for the Health Services (Great Britain). **Claim:** For a revision of salary scales for Medical Officers employed by Local Authorities. **Award:** The Court found and so awarded that, with effect from 1st January, 1955, the salary scales for Medical Officers of Health, Senior Medical Officers and Medical Officers in Departments (Assistant Medical Officers) shall be as follows:—

(i) Medical Officers of Health, according to the population of the area covered by the appointment, viz., 75,000 or under, commencing salary between £1,625 and £1,830, rising by four annual increments of £52 10s. each; 100,000 or under, commencing salary between £1,730 and £2,040, rising by five annual increments of £51 10s. each; 150,000 or under, commencing salary between £1,940 and £2,250, rising by five annual increments of £51 10s. each; 250,000 or under, commencing salary between £2,150 and £2,450, rising by two annual increments of £100 each and one annual increment of £50; 400,000 or under, commencing salary between £2,400 and £2,700, rising by two annual increments of £100 each and one annual increment of £50; 600,000 or under, commencing salary between £2,500 and £2,900, rising by three annual increments of £100 each; over 600,000, the scale to be at the discretion of the employing authority. (ii) Senior Medical Officers, £1,415 by £50 to £1,765 by £65 to £1,830. (iii) Medical Officers in Departments (Assistant Medical Officers), £975 by £50 to £1,375. The Court found against the proposal of the Management Side for the introduction, in the case of Scotland, of a salary scale for a Medical Officer of Health with a population group not exceeding 60,000 and awarded accordingly.

Award No. 2566 (23rd April).—Parties: Trade Union Side and Official Side of the Shipbuilding Trades Joint Council. **Claim:** That the Civilian Fire Brigade at the Royal Naval Aircraft Yard, Donibristle, be paid the normal prescribed industrial rates together with overtime, night duty or shift rates as appropriate for all hours of attendance. **Award:** The Court found against the claim and awarded accordingly.

Single Arbitrators and ad hoc Boards of Arbitration

During April one award was issued by a Single Arbitrator appointed under the Industrial Courts Act, 1919. The award related to an individual undertaking.

Wages Councils Acts, 1945-1948

Notices of Proposals

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

Hollow-ware Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal H.(65), dated 12th April, for fixing revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers. **Rope, Twine and Net Wages Council (Great Britain).**—Proposal R.(113), dated 12th April, for fixing revised general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates for male and female workers.

Fur Wages Council (Great Britain).—Proposal Z.(67), dated 19th April. This proposal supersedes Proposal Z.(66), dated 15th March, 1955, and is in the same terms as that previously published and included in last month's issue of this GAZETTE (page 157).

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 April 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 Rubber Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 544 (R.U. (42)), dated 6th April and effective from 25th April. This Order prescribes revised general minimum time rates, piecework rates and systems of payment by results for male and female workers.—See page 186.

The Brush and Broom Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 577 (M. (79)), dated 15th April and effective from 4th May. 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.

The Road Haulage Wages Council Wages Regulation Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 592 (R.H. (54)), dated 20th April and effective from 9th May. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for workers in relation to whom the Council operates.

The Hair, Bass and Fibre Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955: S.I. 1955 No. 646 (H.B. (45)), dated 28th April and effective from 16th May. 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.

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) 1/55 (10th January)

A rigger, a casual dock worker, who normally made himself available for employment by taking his place twice daily at a stand, went away for a holiday. He left his address with the Employment Exchange and contended that he was available for employment at short notice, being only two hours' rail journey away. Employment at the time was slack and he alleged that no vacancy arose during his absence. Held that claimant was not available for employment—the question was not whether employment was available for him but whether he was available for employment; employers of dock labour expect to find labour at the stand, and it was not shown that the claimant could reasonably expect an opportunity of employment to be brought to his notice whilst he was away. U.D. 7550/35 applied.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claimant was not available for employment in employed contributor's employment from 18th to 25th September, 1954, inclusive.

"The claimant is a rigger who normally obtains his employment at the S. Docks. The manner in which he obtains employment there is to take his place twice daily at a stand which is situated outside the dock gates and if any employer should require any labour he would go to the stand and thereupon engage the number of workers he required—the claimant possibly being one of those workers. The question to be determined in this the appeal of the insurance officer is whether the claimant was available for employment from 18th to 25th September, 1954, while he was residing in R., to which place he had gone to have a holiday.

"The question arose because the claimant made a delayed claim for unemployment benefit on 27th September, 1954, in respect of the

* See footnote * in second column on page 198.

† 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(D)"—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 198.

Wages Councils Act (Northern Ireland), 1945

Notices of Proposals

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

The Paper Box Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.B. (N.58), dated 1st April, for fixing revised provisions for the allowance of holidays and payment of holiday remuneration.

The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.Bk. (N.187), dated 7th April, for fixing revised provisions for the payment of holiday remuneration.

The General Waste Materials Reclamation Wages Council (Northern Ireland).—Proposal N.I.W.R. (N.52), dated 15th April, for fixing revised statutory minimum remuneration for male workers.

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

Wages Regulation Orders

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

The Baking Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 1) Order, 1955 (N.I.Bk. (N.188)), dated 14th April and effective on and from 25th April. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for male transport workers in the trade.—See page 185.

The Brush and Broom Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955 (N.I.B.B. (N.73)), dated 20th April and effective on and from 4th May. This Order prescribes revised statutory minimum remuneration for male and female workers.

above-mentioned period and, in order to succeed in his claim, it became necessary for him to show that in respect of the said period on a date earlier than the date on which the claim was made, apart from satisfying the condition of making a claim, he was entitled to the benefit and that throughout the period between the earlier date and the date on which the claim was made there was good cause for delay in making such claim (see the Second Schedule to the National Insurance (Claims and Payments) Regulations, 1948 [S.I. 1948 No. 1041] which Schedule was added by the National Insurance (Claims and Payments) Amendment Regulations, 1952 [S.I. 1952 No. 1207]). It follows that unless the claimant can prove that on a date earlier than that on which he made his claim he was entitled to the benefit, the fact that he may have had good cause for not making his claim earlier can avail him nothing. The facts show that the claimant notified the local Employment Exchange on 17th September, 1954, that he was going on holiday from 18th to 25th September, 1954, and that he arranged to claim unemployment benefit for those days when he was away from home. He left particulars of his holiday address at R. and stated that he was prepared to return home, if recalled. Upon his return to S. the claimant made the delayed application for benefit which is set out on form U.I. 591.

"The local insurance officer disallowed the claim from 18th to 25th September, 1954, on the ground that the claimant had failed to prove that during that period he was available for employment in employed contributor's employment.

"Against that decision the claimant appealed to the local tribunal and, in his grounds of appeal, stated that he was available for employment, if required, at very short notice, being only two hours' railway journey from M. He said that the firm for which he worked was very slack during the period of his absence and that in fact no vacancy occurred during his absence. In his submission to the local tribunal in support of his decision the local insurance officer observed that the claimant was a casual worker who was required to attend at the stand at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. daily. The stand was situated outside the dock gates and if the employers required any labour they went to the stand and engaged a number of workers. By that system the insurance officer submitted that if a worker did not attend he could not possibly be aware whether or not work was available for him and that being interested only in the men who were at the stand it was unlikely that an employer would go to the trouble of recalling a worker from his holiday, assuming that he knew that such worker was away. The insurance officer submitted that in these circumstances the claimant had materially reduced his chances of obtaining employment by his absence from home and that, therefore, he did not satisfy the 'availability' condition during the period from 18th to 25th September, 1954. The insurance officer referred the local tribunal to a decision of the Unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts (now repealed), entitled Decision U.D. 7550/35, for their consideration. That decision is set out in full in the case papers. For the purposes of this case it afforded guidance on the question of availability for employment. In fact the decision in my view fully supports the decision of the local insurance officer and the view which the chairman of the local tribunal has so forcefully and clearly expressed.

"The claimant gave evidence before the tribunal to the effect that when not on holiday he goes to the riggers' stand twice a day. He

* See footnote * in second column on page 198.

took his holiday at R., he said. Attendance at the stand is from 7.45 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. and from 12.45 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. He did not know the first train from R. nor did he know the last train in the day for R. He left his address at R. with the Employment Exchange. He gave the name of the firm which usually employs him as a rigger. He did not leave his address at R. with the employers, as the Employment Exchange had told him to leave it at the Employment Exchange. He chose that period of the year because it was the slack period for riggers. He said that in the past his employers had sent for him very often after the stand had closed. Before going away he had ascertained that there was little chance of work or he would not have gone. Any message to his home would have been sent on to him. He also said that he was not often sent for in that way. It was more often that he was sent for for night shifts or early morning. He assured the tribunal that during the particular week none of the gang with which he worked was at the stand.

"The majority of the tribunal accepted the claimant's statement of fact and found that he had proved that he was available for employment. The grounds of their decision were as follows: 'The appellant by leaving his address at the Employment Exchange sufficiently proves his intention to accept any suitable employment which might be notified to him and his evidence is accepted as shown and that he took reasonable steps to ensure that suitable employment would be notified to him. R. is not so far distant as to justify a finding that he would have been prevented from accepting at once any employment notified. We accept his evidence of a lack of prospect of work on the stand'. The chairman of the tribunal dissented from the decision on the following grounds: 'Conditions A, B, and C set out by the insurance officer must be satisfied before the appellant can be held to prove availability. But even if he satisfies them, it does not necessarily follow that availability is in fact proved. There may be a case which requires further inquiry, and this I think is such a case. I say this because the accepted method of proving availability in the case of a rigger is by attending the stand, and because the lack of prospect of getting work on the stand at any material time is not really material, because we are testing not the prospect of work but availability for it, should the chance come along. On the evidence it seems clear that by absence from the stand the appellant was considerably reducing, if not destroying, his chance of getting work should there happen to be any. He was in fact limiting his availability to the sphere of exceptional, if not very exceptional, circumstances. Direct notification by the employer only arises after the afternoon stand has been closed; it is exceptional even in the case of a rigger attending stand, and I infer that it is very exceptional in the case of a rigger not attending stand. Notification by the Employment Exchange is exceptional, because the accepted method is employment on the stand, and I infer very exceptional at times when the demand for labour on the stand is less than the supply. The appellant therefore does not satisfy me that he proves availability and I would disallow the appeal'.

"It will be convenient here to summarise the conditions A, B, and C to which the chairman and the insurance officer have referred. Those conditions are set out in Decision U.D. 7550/35 and are as follows:—

Condition A. The claimant who leaves home for the purpose of taking a holiday must prove that he was ready and willing to curtail his intended period of absence from his locality on holiday in order to accept at once any suitable employment which might be notified to him.

Condition B. He must prove that he had taken reasonable and satisfactory steps to ensure that any opportunity of suitable employment would be brought to his notice without delay. That his place of temporary residence was on the telephone service or had a postal and telegraph delivery which afforded a means of communicating with him which was adequate for the purpose of satisfying this condition.

Condition C. He must prove that there was nothing connected with his absence from his locality or with the position of his place of temporary residence which would have prevented him from accepting at once any suitable employment which might be notified to him.

"In my view condition B of the requirements of proof set out in Decision U.D. 7550/35 is, in itself, sufficient to show that the claimant was not available for employment as a rigger, for it is farcical to suggest that prospective employers in the docks, especially at a time when work was slack, would go to the trouble of sending a message to a man who was on holiday and that they would have been prepared to wait for him while all the time there were other men standing by idle, ready and willing to accept employment immediately. The question is not whether there was employment available for the claimant, it is whether he was available for employment, and I think that it strains credulity to the breaking point to assume that the claimant could reasonably expect that an opportunity for employment would, in the circumstances, be brought to his notice. Men such as the claimant who want employment in the docks go there and take their place at the stand. Employers of dock labour expect to find labour there; they do not normally expect to have to send messages for men who are not ready to accept employment immediately. The claimant was not in a position to accept at once any suitable employment which may have been notified to him and it is manifest that his chances of securing employment while residing in R. for his holiday were substantially reduced. I will go further and say that his chances were remote and that the procedure adopted by him in leaving his address at the Employment Exchange was a mere formality and had no reality about it. Even if he had left his address with the people who usually employed him, I would want cogent evidence that such people would be prepared to write or telegraph him to come all the way from R. to S. to do a day's work when they knew that there was labour available immediately at call. To say that the claimant was available for employment in this case seems to me to reduce the question to a farce.

"This case is clearly distinguishable from the cases of those persons who are not casual workers but who expect to be employed

for an appreciable time and can usually expect some notice before they accept a situation. Such persons can reasonably expect to have an opportunity to return home and take up the proffered situation. Workers at the docks expect to be taken on immediately or within a few hours. The claimant was in no position to begin work at such short notice.

"In the result I am satisfied, as was the local insurance officer and the chairman, that no such opportunity could reasonably have presented itself to the claimant while he was taking his holiday at R. and, therefore, I hold that he was not available for employment during the period in question. It follows that he cannot be treated as having been unemployed during that period and, therefore, he was not entitled to unemployment benefit from 18th to 25th September, 1954. The appeal of the insurance officer is allowed."

Decision No. R (U) 2/55 (5th January)

A colliery motorman was unemployed owing to a stoppage of work at the colliery due to a trade dispute. He contended that as a disabled man he was in a grade by himself and did not belong to the general grade of motormen. He worked as a motorman for the same hours and was paid at the same rate of wages as the other motormen. Held that the claimant belonged to the grade of motormen and therefore failed to prove that he did not belong to a grade of workers members of which were participating in the dispute.

Decision of the Commissioner

"My decision is that the claimant was disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit for the period from 25th May, 1954, to 29th May, 1954, both dates included.

"The claimant who is a registered disabled person was employed as an underground motorman at C. Colliery. During the period from 25th May, 1954, to 29th May, 1954, he lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at his place of employment. By virtue of section 13(1) of the National Insurance Act, 1946, the claimant was therefore disqualified for receiving unemployment benefit so long as the stoppage of work continued unless he proved (a) that he is not participating in or financing or directly interested in the trade dispute which caused the stoppage of work; and (b) that he does not belong to a grade or class of workers of which, immediately before the commencement of the stoppage, there were members employed at his place of employment any of whom are participating in or financing or directly interested in the dispute.

"The claimant attended for work on the morning of 25th May, 1954, but was told by the under-manager of the colliery that there was no work for him. All grades in the colliery, including the motormen, were participating in the dispute and as a result no work was available for the claimant during its continuance.

"I find it unnecessary to decide whether, upon these facts, the claimant has satisfied the condition expressed in paragraph (a) of the proviso to section 13(1) above-mentioned, because I am clearly of opinion that he has failed to satisfy the condition expressed in paragraph (b) of the proviso. The claimant contends that he has satisfied the condition expressed in paragraph (b) of the proviso to the subsection because he, as a disabled man who had to be employed on sedentary work, was in a grade by himself and owing to his disability was not in the general grade of motormen. A majority of the local tribunal accepted this argument but in my opinion the reason for dissent expressed by the chairman is correct. The claimant in fact worked as a motorman for the same hours and at the same rate of wages as the other motormen in the colliery. He was employed on work usually performed in connection with the colliery and similar in character, though not necessarily equal in degree, to that done by normal workers. In these circumstances I consider that the conclusion that the claimant belonged to the grade of motormen is inevitable. The claimant has therefore failed to prove that he did not belong to a grade of workers members of which were participating in the dispute, and his claim fails. I should add that in reaching this decision I have received material assistance from *Umpire's* decision 1664/25, with which I respectfully agree. I allow the appeal of the insurance officer."

Legal Cases Affecting Labour

Factories Act, 1937—Duty to fence grindstone—Compliance with Act rendering machine unusable

The respondent workman was employed as a maintenance fitter by the appellant company, and in the course of his work injured his thumb on a grindstone. This grindstone revolved at about 1,450 revolutions a minute, and was guarded by a fixed hood over the top. At the bottom there was an adjustable tool rest, but between the hood and the tool rest some seven inches of the wheel was unguarded so that the metal to be ground could be placed against the grindstone. The workman gave evidence that he had used such grindstones for 25 years without accident. An expert witness stated that the machine was a perfectly normal machine and was "guarded so far as is practicable to allow the machine to be used at all".

Mr. Justice Jones dismissed the workman's claim for damages in the court of first instance, but the Court of Appeal (Lords Justices Birkett and Morris, with Lord Justice Somervell dissenting) allowed his appeal (see the issue of this GAZETTE for July, 1954, page 258), judgment being entered for the workman for £261 6s. and costs, with leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

The House of Lords (Viscount Simonds, Lord Oaksey, Lord Morton of Henryton, Lord Reid and Lord Keith of Avonholm) affirmed the decision of the Court of Appeal. Viscount Simonds gave shortly five reasons for the decision, some of which were enlarged upon by the other Law Lords and none dissented therefrom. These reasons were:—(i) Where the dominant purpose of a statute was to protect a workman, it was wrong to introduce by implication words which reduced that protection. (ii) Where qualifying words were desirable the legislature had found no

difficulty in so doing in other statutes, and in the Factories Act, 1937, itself, e.g., sections 18, 19 and 22. (iii) The absolute obligation imposed by section 14 had remained unchallenged since *Davies v. Thomas Owen Company Limited* in 1919, which was a decision on a provision in a former Act substantially repeated by section 14. (iv) The proviso to section 14(1) affords a strong indication in itself that the obligation it imposes is absolute. (v) The absolute obligation is subject to the regulation-making power of the Minister conferred by section 60, and a machine which cannot be used because of the absolute obligation of section 14 may be permitted to be used by modifying the absolute obligation in respect of such classes or descriptions of factories as the Minister thinks fit.—*John Summers and Sons Limited v. Frost*. House of Lords, 24th March, 1955.

Factories Act, 1937—Risk of silicosis in steel foundry—Duty to provide masks and persuade workmen to wear them

In 1951 the plaintiff workman was certified as suffering from silicosis after being employed as a moulding machinist in the defendant employers' steel foundry for over twenty years. The danger from silicosis was not recognised until 1942 although a small number of masks had been provided in 1939. After 1942 there were sufficient masks for all workers.

The medical evidence was that the workman began to suffer from the disease in or about 1939, and he claimed damages both at common law and for a breach of section 47 of the Factories Act, 1937.

The case was heard at Liverpool Assizes before Mr. Justice Glyn-Jones who found that the employers were in breach of their common law duty and their statutory obligation and awarded the workman £750.

In referring to the common law duty of the employers Mr. Justice Glyn-Jones said:—"There was a failure to press on the men's representatives with earnestness and ardour, the need for these masks, so as to try at least to secure their strong help in persuading the men to wear them, and to wear them not merely for a few minutes in dusty conditions but as much as possible. I draw the inference that after a somewhat half-hearted attempt to persuade the men to wear the masks, the attempt was given up as hopeless...."

Since the workman was suffering from silicosis when the employers were first in breach, the learned Judge considered that no arithmetical calculation of loss of earnings could help in assessing damages, but a lump sum should be awarded which was fair compensation for the part played by the employers' breach in bringing about the worker's condition.—*Crookall v. Vickers-Armstrong Limited*. Liverpool Assizes, 17th February, 1955.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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

The Rubber Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 544), dated 6th April; *The Brush and Broom Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 577)*; price 1s. 9d. (1s. 10½d.), dated 15th April; *The Road Haulage Wages Council Wages Regulation Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 592)*; price 1s. (1s. 1½d.), dated 20th April; *The Hair, Bass and Fibre Wages Council (Great Britain) Wages Regulation Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 646)*; price 4d. (5½d.), dated 28th April. These Orders were made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Wages Councils Act, 1945.—See page 195.

The Fire Services (Conditions of Service) (No. 2) Regulations, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 504), made on 31st March by the Secretary of State for the Home Department under the Fire Services Act, 1947. These Regulations, which came into operation on 8th April, amend the Fire Services (Conditions of Service) Regulations, 1954. They make further provision as to the incremental date of a leading fireman who immediately before promotion is paid at the rate of 20s. a week; for increased pay for members of brigades stationed in the County of London; and for the payment of lodging allowances.

The Anthrax Disinfection Fee (Amendment) Rules, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 659), made on 30th April by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the Anthrax Prevention Act, 1919, and the Transfer of Functions (Factories, &c., Acts) Order, 1946.—See page 167.

The Coal Mines Regulation (Suspension) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 549), made on 7th April by Her Majesty in Council under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908.—See page 167.

The Transfer of Functions (Ministry of Food) Order, 1955 (S.I. 1955 No. 554); price 4d. net (5½d.), made on 7th April by Her Majesty in Council under the Ministers of the Crown (Transfer of Functions) Act, 1946. This Order came into operation on 7th April. It dissolves the Ministry of Food and transfers its functions in England and Wales and Northern Ireland to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The main functions previously discharged in Scotland by the Minister of Food are transferred to the Secretary of State for Scotland. Certain general functions of the Minister of Food, such as the making of Orders applicable to the United

* See footnote in second column on page 198.

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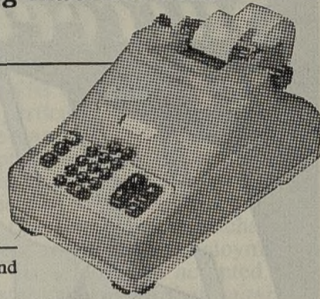
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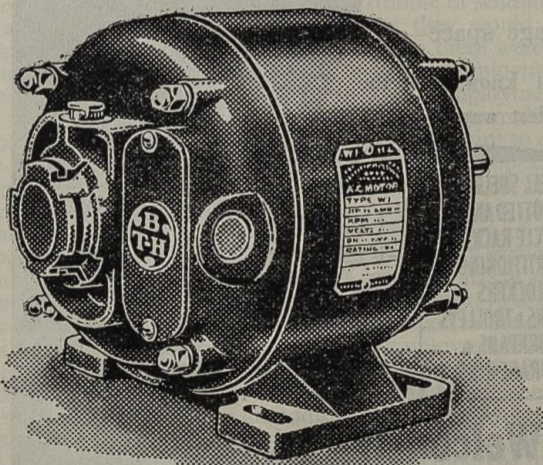
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Kingdom as a whole under Defence Regulations, have been transferred to the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food jointly.

The Aerated Waters Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. of Northern Ireland 1955 No. 57; price 3d. (4½d.)), dated 3rd March; The Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Council (Northern Ireland) Wages Regulation (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 68; price 3d. (4½d.)), dated 22nd March. These Orders were made 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 158).

The National Insurance (Maternity Benefit and Miscellaneous Provisions) Amendment Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1955 (S.R. & O. 1955 No. 72; price 3d. (4½d.)), made on 5th April by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance, under the National Insurance Act (Northern Ireland), 1946. These Regulations came into operation on 6th April and are similar in scope to the corresponding Regulations made in Great Britain (see last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 129).

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 23 (New Series). April, 1955. Ministry of Labour and National Service. Price 1s. (1s. 1½d.).

Agriculture.—Agricultural Statistics, 1953. United Kingdom—Part I. With Separate Figures for England and Wales, Scotland, Great Britain and Northern Ireland. (Joint Publication of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Department of Agriculture for Scotland and Ministry of Agriculture, Northern Ireland). Price 2s. 6d. (2s. 7½d.).

Census of Production for 1951.—Reports: (i) Volume 8, Trade D, Wholesale Slaughtering. Price 1s. (1s. 1½d.); (ii) Volume 2, Trade A, Coke Ovens and By-products; (iii) Volume 3, Trade F, Wrought Iron and Steel Tubes; (iv) Volume 6, Trade O, Made-up Household Textiles; (v) Volume 9, Trade B, Fish Curing; (vi) Volume 11, Trade H, Cinematograph Film Printing; (vii) Volume 12, Trade D, Tramway, Trolley Bus and Omnibus Undertakings (Civil Engineering). Price 1s. 6d. each (1s. 7½d.); (viii) Volume 2, Trade J, Soap, Candles and Glycerine; (ix) Volume 6, Trade H, Rope, Twine and Net. Price 2s. each (2s. 1½d.). Board of Trade.

National Insurance.—(i) Liability for Contributions of Persons with Small Incomes. Report of the National Insurance Advisory Committee. Cmd. 9432. Price 9d. (10½d.); (ii) Accounts 1953-54. Accounts of the National Insurance Fund, the National Insurance (Reserve) Fund, the Industrial Injuries Fund and the National Insurance (Existing Pensioners) Fund, for 1953-54, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. (In continuation of H.C. 121 of 1953-54). H.C. 107. Price 9d. (10½d.); (iii) Everybody's Guide to National Insurance. Price 6d. (7½d.).—See page 167.

Scotland.—(i) Education in Scotland in 1954. Cmd. 9428. Price 4s. (4s. 2d.); (ii) Industry and Employment in Scotland, 1954. Cmd. 9410. Price 2s. 6d. (2s. 7½d.).—See page 166; (iii) Reports of the Department of Health for Scotland and the Scottish Health Services Council, 1954. Cmd. 9417. Price 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.); (iv) Agriculture in Scotland in 1954. Cmd. 9411. Price 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.).

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

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