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## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.

### EMPLOYMENT.

THERE was a further improvement in employment in most industries during April.

Among the workpeople, numbering approximately 11,880,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed in all industries taken together was 9·9 at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 10·1 at 25th March, 1929, and 9·5 at 23rd April, 1928. The percentage wholly unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, was 8·0, as compared with 8·4 at 25th March, 1929; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 1·9, as compared with 1·7. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 22nd April, 1929, was approximately 1,175,000, of whom 905,000 were men and 197,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 25th March, 1929, it was 1,168,000, of whom 918,000 were men and 190,000 were women; and at 30th April, 1928, it was 1,171,000, of whom 942,000 were men and 160,000 were women. At 29th April, 1929, the total had risen to 1,198,000, owing mainly to an increase in the numbers unemployed in the coal mining industry.

The principal industries in which improvement occurred included the mining group, exclusive of coal mining and slate quarrying; building and public works contracting; brick, tile, cement, and pottery manufacture; tinplate manufacture; shipbuilding, ship repairing, and marine engineering; the shipping service, silk and artificial silk, and lace manufacture; the clothing trades, and boot and shoe manufacture.

In the coal mining industry there was a further reduction in the numbers of workpeople wholly unemployed, but this was more than counterbalanced by an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped. There were also increases in the numbers unemployed in the cotton, linen, and jute industries, in textile bleaching, dyeing, and finishing, in the glass bottle industry, and in river, dock and harbour services.

### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during April resulted in an increase of about £6,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 86,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £7,150 in those of 114,000 workpeople.

The largest bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased were coal miners in the Cannock Chase district, for whom the percentage payable on basis rates was raised by the equivalent of about 3¼ per cent. on current rates, and pieceworkers employed in boot and shoe repairing, etc., for whom the minimum Trade Board rates were increased by 2½ or 5 per cent. on list prices. Other groups who received increases included shale miners and shale oil workers in Scotland, men

employed by electrical contractors and waterworks employees in London, and brush and broom makers.

Those whose wages were reduced included workpeople employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland, the reductions in Yorkshire varying from about 2 to 2½ per cent. on current rates, and in the other districts being 1s. 3d. and 9d. per week in the case of men and of women respectively.

During the first four months of 1929 the changes reported to the Department in the industries for which statistics have been compiled have resulted in net increases of over £6,500 in the weekly full-time wages of 97,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £19,250 in those of 301,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1928 there were net increases of £10,350 in the weekly full-time wages of 105,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £115,100 in those of nearly 1,115,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st May the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 61 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 62 per cent. a month ago and 64 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding figures were 49, 50 and 54. The fall in the level of prices since a month ago is due mainly to reductions of 4d. per lb. in the prices of tea, as a consequence of the abolition of the import duty.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, and accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various articles included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April, was 37. In addition, 16 disputes which began before April were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in April (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 23,100, and the aggregate duration of all disputes during April was about 159,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 23,100 workpeople involved and 137,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 2,900 workpeople involved and 30,000 days lost in April, 1928.

The aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in the first four months of 1929 was about 485,000 working days, and the total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was about 47,000. The figures for the corresponding period of 1928 were 360,000 days and 63,000 workpeople, respectively.



## STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS IN 1928.

In the issue of this GAZETTE for January, 1929 (pages 5 and 6), some preliminary statistics were given of industrial disputes, involving stoppages of work, which occurred in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1928. More detailed statistics regarding these disputes, revised in accordance with the latest information received, are now available and are given below.

The number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as having begun in 1928 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 302,\* slightly fewer than in 1927, and the smallest number known to have occurred in any year during the whole period for which statistics are available. In these 302 disputes about 79,800 workpeople were directly involved (i.e., on strike or locked-out), and 44,100 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, 500 workpeople were involved, for the most part directly, in 8 disputes which began in 1927 and were still in progress at the beginning of 1928. The total number of workpeople involved, either directly or indirectly, in all disputes in progress in 1928, was thus about 124,400, as compared with 114,200 in the previous year. The aggregate time lost in 1928 by these workpeople owing to the disputes was approximately 1,388,000 working days; this figure is the lowest ever recorded by the Department, with the exception of that in the previous year, for which the corresponding figure was only 1,174,000.

The following Table summarises by industries the number of disputes reported as beginning in 1927 and 1928 in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the number of workpeople involved in and the aggregate duration of all disputes in progress in each of these years:—

Industry Groups.	1927.			1928.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in 1927.	Number of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in 1928.	Number of Work-people involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days in progress.
Coal Mining ...	110	73,000	688,000	97	82,200	452,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	5	400	7,000	3	300	9,000
Bricks, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	10	300	12,000	11	800	21,000
Engineering ...	9	2,500	12,000	10	600	4,000
Shipbuilding ...	22	7,200	30,000	23	4,100	16,000
Other Metal ...	38	5,800	39,000	18	3,500	40,000
Textile ...	27	4,700	36,000	33	24,500	695,000
Clothing ...	10	9,200	199,000	9	1,100	25,000
Woodworking and Furniture ...	18	800	10,000	26	1,100	13,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	34	7,800	129,000	38	3,000	83,000
Transport ...	16	2,100	7,000	16	2,000	11,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	9	400	5,000	6	300	8,000
Other ...	12	900	11,000			
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>114,200</b>	<b>1,174,000</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>124,400</b>	<b>1,388,000</b>

Of the total numbers of workpeople shown as involved in all disputes, 18,600 in 1927 and 44,100 in 1928 were indirectly involved.

Of all the disputes in 1928, those in the coal-mining industry accounted for about one-third of the total number of stoppages, for about two-thirds of the total of workpeople involved, and for about one-third of the time lost. A single large dispute accounted for the greater part of the time lost in the textile industry. No other industry was seriously affected by disputes in 1928.

## PRINCIPAL DISPUTES IN 1928.

The largest single dispute occurring in 1928 was a lock-out involving about 16,600 workpeople in the cotton weaving industry at Nelson, which was in progress from 30th May to 12th July and caused a loss of 600,000 working days. The lock-out was imposed by federated firms following a strike of the employees of one firm to secure the reinstatement of a weaver, who had been dismissed in connection with his objection to the payment of a fine for alleged bad work. The dispute was settled by the weaver in question being found work with another firm (an offer which the local Trade Union had previously refused), and by the reference to further negotiations of questions as to the right to strike for the reinstatement of an individual and as to the system of fining at the particular establishment at which the strike occurred and in the local area, respectively.

A series of short stoppages occurred in March at various collieries in Northumberland and Durham, due to cessation of work or restriction of output on the part of coal putters, who were dissatisfied with reduced wages awarded by arbitration. In these stoppages nearly 35,000 workpeople were involved, for the most part indirectly, and about 137,000 working days were lost. Work was resumed on the terms of the awards, and restriction of output was to be abandoned; in some cases consideration of grievances was promised.

No other individual dispute occurring in 1928 involved as many as 5,000 workpeople.

In the following Table a list is given of the principal trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, beginning in 1928, with particulars of

\* Disputes involving less than ten workpeople and those which lasted less than one day are omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.

the classes of workpeople involved, the dates of the stoppages, the numbers involved, and the aggregate duration in each case:—

Classes of Workpeople involved.	Dates of beginning and end of Stoppage.	Approximate Number of Work-people involved.	Approximate Aggregate Number of Working Days lost.
<b>COAL MINING:—</b>			
Colliery workpeople—			
1928.			
South Shields ...	13 Feb.—18 Feb.	3,662	19,600
Northumberland ...	13 Feb.—23 Feb.	1,978	21,200
Co. Durham ...	1 Mar.—31 Mar.*	16,300	51,400
Durham (near) ...	7 Mar.—9 Mar.†	5,150	5,200
Co. Durham ...	13 Mar.—24 Mar.†	6,500	60,000
Stirling (near) ...	20 Mar.—28 Mar.†	6,900	20,825
Maryport ...	21 Aug.—6 Nov.	504	29,165
Hamilton, Motherwell and other districts of Lanarkshire ...	27 Aug.—30 Nov.	730	50,000
<b>GLASS INDUSTRY:—</b>	17 Sept.—19 Sept.	3,000	6,750
Glass bottle blowers and makers—London ...	13 Feb.—30 Apr.	257	15,500
<b>TINPLATE INDUSTRY:—</b>	30 Apr.—19 May	1,900	30,780
Finishing dept. employees—Gorseinon, Glam. ...			
<b>TEXTILE INDUSTRIES:—</b>			
Cotton weaving (all occupations)—Nelson—			
Grey cloth section ...	30 May—12 July	16,600	602,400
Coloured goods section ...	25 June—12 July		
Timeworkers, etc. (members of National Union of Textile Workers) in the dyeing and finishing industry—Huddersfield, Bradford and various centres in Lancs. ...	16 June—3 July	3,000	46,000
Spinners, reellers, finishers, etc. (artificial silk)—Peterborough ...	25 Oct.—6 Dec.	593	12,425
<b>CLOTHING INDUSTRY:—</b>	8 Oct.—24 Dec.	486	23,230
Tailoresses, etc.—London, N.			
<b>PRINTING INDUSTRY:—</b>	22 Dec.—7 Mar. (1929).	359	21,718
Lithographic printers and transferers (ceramic transfer printing)—North Staffordshire ...			
<b>BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC.:—</b>			
Plasterers—Birmingham ...	10 Feb.—9 Jan. (1929).	133	11,420
Painters—Plymouth ...	10 Apr.—19 June	350	18,800
Plasterers and plasterers' labourers—Manchester, Salford and District ...	5 May—22 Feb. (1929).	319	22,850

## CAUSES.

The following Table shows the numbers and proportions of disputes in 1928, and of workpeople directly involved therein, arising from the principal classes of causes. In some cases disputes originate from a number of different causes, e.g., a claim for an advance in wages may be accompanied by one for a reduction in working hours. For the purpose of this and the following Tables such disputes are classified according to what appears to have been the principal cause of the stoppage:—

Principal Causes.	Number of Disputes.		Number of Workpeople directly involved.	
	Total.	Per-centage.	Total.	Per-centage.
Wage increases ...	26	8.6	6,200	7.8
Wage decreases ...	63	20.9	14,900	18.6
Other wage questions ...	80	26.5	17,000	21.4
All wage questions ...	169	56.0	38,100	47.8
Hours of labour ...	15	5.0	800	1.0
Employment of particular classes or persons ...	69	22.8	12,600	15.8
Other working arrangements, rules and discipline ...	30	9.9	6,600	8.4
Trade Unionism ...	13	4.3	1,300	1.6
Sympathetic action ...	6	2.0	20,300	25.4
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>79,700</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The distribution of disputes in 1928 among the principal categories of causes was not unlike that in the previous year. Proposed reductions in wages and other wage questions again predominated as causes of disputes, 169 out of the total of 302 falling under these categories and accounting for nearly half of all the workpeople directly involved in disputes in the year. Of the remainder, the causes most frequently occurring were demands for the reinstatement of dismissed workpeople and other questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons, 69 disputes arising in this manner. Questions as to working hours and other working arrangements taken together accounted for 45 disputes, while questions of Trade Union principle were the causes of 13 disputes only in 1928 as compared with 26 in 1927. Six disputes were of the nature of "sympathetic" strikes or of lock-outs imposed with a view to effecting the settlement of other disputes, including the largest dispute of the year, the lock-out in the cotton industry at Nelson.

\* Stoppages occurred at a considerable number of pits on various dates, mostly early in the month, and lasted about three days on the average.  
† Average loss of time, one day. ‡ Average loss of time, three days.

The following Table shows by groups of industries the proportion of workpeople who were directly involved in disputes in 1928 arising from the principal classes of causes:—

Industry Groups.	Work-people directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1928.	Proportions directly involved in Disputes respecting questions of					
		Wages	Hours of Labour	Employment of particular Classes or Persons.	Working Arrangements.	Trade Unionism.	Sympathetic Action
Mining and Quarrying ...	45,700	59.9	...	14.9	11.9	0.0	13.3
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	4,500	56.3	6.6	30.0	6.8	0.3	...
Textile ...	21,300	20.8	0.4	9.3	1.9	0.9	66.7
Clothing ...	900	36.5	1.6	4.4	...	57.5	...
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	2,700	76.6	7.7	12.7	...	3.0	...
Transport and Communication ...	2,000	15.4	6.2	56.9	20.0	1.5	...
Other Industries and Services ...	2,600	40.1	2.8	36.2	4.3	16.3	0.3
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>79,700</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>25.4</b>

In the mining and quarrying, the metal, engineering and shipbuilding, and the building, etc., industry groups wages questions preponderated as a cause of stoppages, judged by the numbers of workpeople directly involved in the disputes. In the textile and the clothing groups two relatively large disputes accounted for the high percentages shown in the last two columns of the above Table; apart from these two disputes wages were the predominant cause of stoppage in these two groups also. In the transport and communication group more workpeople were affected by disputes respecting the employment of particular classes or persons than by any other cause.

## RESULTS.

The following Table shows the number and proportion of disputes beginning in 1928, and of workpeople directly involved therein, the results of which were (a) in favour of the workpeople, (b) in favour of the employers, (c) of the nature of a compromise, and (d) which still remain unsettled. Disputes classified as in favour of workpeople or in favour of employers, for the purpose of this and the following Table, are those in which the workpeople or employers, respectively, were completely successful, or practically so, in attaining or resisting the objects to which the stoppage of work was due. Disputes in which the workpeople, or employers, were partly, but not wholly, successful, are included under "compromised."

Results.	Number of Disputes.		Number of Workpeople directly involved.	
	Total.	Per-centage.	Total.	Per-centage.
In favour of workpeople ...	42	13.9	4,000	5.1
In favour of employers ...	144	47.7	31,400	39.3
Compromised ...	115	38.1	44,200	55.5
Unsettled ...	1	0.3	100	0.1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>79,700</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In most years, disputes resulting in compromise form the most numerous group, but in 1928, 144, or nearly 48 per cent. of all disputes, were settled in favour of the employers, as compared with 115 disputes, or about 38 per cent. of the total number, in which a compromise was effected. The largest dispute of the year, the lock-out in the cotton industry at Nelson, was terminated by a compromise; apart from this dispute, the number of workpeople directly involved in disputes which resulted in a compromised settlement was approximately the same as the number directly involved in disputes ending in favour of employers. Only 42 disputes, mostly of small dimensions, resulted in favour of the workpeople.

The following Table shows, by groups of industries, the proportion of workpeople directly involved in disputes beginning in 1928, classified according to their results:—

Industry Groups.	Work-people directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1928.	Proportions directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1928, the Results of which were			
		In favour of Work-people.	In favour of Employers.	Compromised.	Unsettled.
Mining and Quarrying ...	45,700	5.3	53.1	43.6	...
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	4,500	16.1	42.0	41.9	...
Textile ...	21,300	3.8	11.9	84.3	...
Clothing ...	900	...	8.3	91.7	...
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	2,700	14.0	61.1	24.9	...
Transport and Communication ...	2,000	5.6	8.9	85.5	...
Other Industries and Services ...	2,600	18.4	30.5	46.8	4.3
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>79,700</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>

Judged by the numbers of workpeople directly involved, disputes settled in favour of the employers predominated in the mining and quarrying and the building, etc., groups, but not overwhelmingly so, the proportions being about 53 and 61 per cent. of the totals, respectively. On the other hand, disputes resulting in compromises accounted for over 80 per cent. of the total numbers involved in the textile and transport and communication groups, and for over 90 per cent. in the clothing group. In the metal, engineering and shipbuilding group, disputes in these two categories were nearly equal, the proportion in each case being about 42 per cent. In the building, etc., group compromised disputes accounted for about a quarter of the total workpeople. In none of the industry groups did disputes settled in favour of the workpeople account for as many as one in five of the total numbers directly involved.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople directly involved in disputes in 1928 classified both by the principal causes and by the results of the disputes:—

Principal Causes.	Number of Workpeople directly involved in Disputes beginning in 1928, the Results of which were				Total.
	In favour of Work-people.	In favour of Employers.	Compromised.	Unsettled.	
Wages:—					
For increase ...	200	2,200	3,800	...	6,200
Against decrease ...	400	10,700	3,700	100	14,900
Other ...	1,400	8,300	7,300	...	17,000
<b>Total—Wages ...</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>38,100</b>
Hours of labour ...	100	500	200	...	800
Employment of particular classes or persons ...	1,000	3,600	8,000	...	12,600
Working arrangements ...	300	3,300	3,000	...	6,600
Trade Unionism ...	600	100	600	...	1,300
Sympathetic action ...	...	2,700	17,600	...	20,300
<b>Grand Total, 1928 ...</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>31,400</b>	<b>44,200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>79,700</b>

## METHODS OF SETTLEMENT.

Of the 302 disputes beginning in 1928, 301 had been finally settled at the time of going to press. The principal methods by which these disputes were settled are shown in the Table below:—

Methods of Settlement.	Number of Disputes.	Proportion of all Disputes.	Number of Workpeople directly involved.	Proportion of Workpeople directly involved in all Disputes.
By direct negotiations between the parties or their representatives ...	199	66.1	54,700	68.8
By conciliation ...	4	1.3	4,500	5.6
By arbitration ...	14	4.6	1,000	1.2
By return to work on employers' terms without negotiations ...	55	18.3	18,700	23.5
By replacement of workpeople ...	21	7.0	600	0.8
Otherwise ...	8	2.7	100	0.1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>79,600</b>	<b>100.0</b>

As in most years, the majority of final settlements in 1928 were effected by direct arrangements or negotiations between the parties or their representatives, 199, or about two-thirds of all the settled disputes, directly involving about the same proportion of workpeople, being concluded in this manner. In 55 disputes, forming about 18 per cent. of all cases, work was resumed on the employers' terms without negotiation, and nearly 24 per cent. of the workpeople were involved in such disputes, which included a number of short stoppages by coal putters at collieries in Northumberland and Durham. Disputes settled by the various modes of arbitration and conciliation formed only 6 per cent. of the whole, and the numbers of workpeople involved in these disputes were generally small. In 21 disputes the strikers were replaced by other workpeople, but such disputes were in all cases very small.

## MAGNITUDE.

In the Table below the disputes of 1928 are analysed from three different aspects of magnitude, viz., numbers of workpeople involved, duration in weeks, and aggregate duration in working days. It should be observed that, for the purposes of this Table, the duration in weeks and the aggregate duration in working days take account of time lost in 1929 by disputes which began in 1928 and continued beyond the end of the year. On the other hand, the aggregate duration of disputes which began before 1928 but continued into 1928 is excluded. As regards numbers involved, the Table relates only to disputes beginning in 1928. The figures in the Table, therefore, differ from those given in the first Table in this article (page 156), which include workpeople involved and working days lost in all disputes in progress during the year irrespective of the date of commencement.

It will be seen from the figures given that most of the disputes occurring in 1928 involved small numbers of workpeople only and lasted but a few days. About three-quarters of all the disputes involved less than 250 workpeople each and about three-quarters



also of all the disputes lasted for less than two weeks. Of the total aggregate duration, 43 per cent. resulted from one dispute alone, in comparison with which all other disputes were unimportant in this respect.

Limits.	Number of Disputes beginning in 1928.	Total Number of Workpeople involved directly and indirectly in these Disputes.	Aggregate Duration of these Disputes in Working Days.
<i>Disputes classified by Total Numbers directly and indirectly involved.</i>			
Under 100 workpeople	166	6,000	69,000
100 and under 250	54	9,400	82,000
250 " 500	32	10,900	156,000
500 " 1,000	30	18,700	165,000
1,000 " 2,500	12	17,700	126,000
2,500 " 5,000	3	9,700	72,000
5,000 " 10,000	3	18,500	86,000
10,000 and upwards	2	32,900	654,000

Limits.	Number of Disputes beginning in 1928.	Total Number of Workpeople involved directly and indirectly in these Disputes.	Aggregate Duration of these Disputes in Working Days.
<i>Disputes classified by Duration in Weeks.</i>			
Under 1 week	156	41,700	81,000
1 and under 2 weeks	71	33,100	219,000
2 " 4 "	23	9,900	145,000
4 " 6 "	9	17,700	76,000
6 " 10 "	18	17,600	638,000
10 " 20 "	22	3,300	194,000
20 weeks and upwards	3	500	37,000

Limits.	Number of Disputes beginning in 1928.	Total Number of Workpeople involved directly and indirectly in these Disputes.	Aggregate Duration of these Disputes in Working Days.
<i>Disputes classified by Aggregate Duration in Working Days.</i>			
Under 500 days	173	13,300	31,000
500 and under 1,000	41	8,800	29,000
1,000 " 5,000	52	20,700	111,000
5,000 " 25,000	29	35,500	349,000
25,000 " 50,000	3	5,400	106,000
50,000 " 100,000	3	23,500	162,000
100,000 days and upwards	1	16,600	602,000

#### COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1893-1928.

The following Table shows the total number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in each of the years 1893-1928, together with the approximate number of workpeople involved in these disputes, and the aggregate number of working days lost in all disputes in progress during the year (irrespective of the date of commencement) at the establishments where the disputes occurred. It should be observed, in comparing these figures with the figures relating to 1927 and 1928 given in the first Table in this article, that in the Table below the particulars of numbers involved relate to persons involved in disputes beginning in each year, whilst in the first Table they relate to the total numbers involved in all disputes in progress, including those beginning earlier which were still unsettled at the beginning of the year:—

Year.	Number of Disputes beginning in Year.	Number of Workpeople involved in Disputes beginning in Year.*			Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress during Year (to nearest 10,000).
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
1893	599	597,000	37,000	634,000	30,440,000
1894	903	254,000	68,000	322,000	9,510,000
1895	728	205,000	54,000	259,000	5,700,000
1896	906	142,000	50,000	192,000	3,560,000
1897	848	166,000	63,000	229,000	10,330,000
1898	695	199,000	53,000	252,000	15,260,000
1899	710	137,000	42,000	179,000	2,500,000
1900	633	132,000	53,000	185,000	3,090,000
1901	631	111,000	68,000	179,000	4,130,000
1902	432	115,000	140,000	255,000	3,440,000
1903	380	93,000	23,000	116,000	2,320,000
1904	346	56,000	31,000	87,000	1,460,000
1905	349	67,000	25,000	92,000	2,370,000
1906	479	158,000	60,000	218,000	3,020,000
1907	585	100,000	46,000	146,000	2,150,000
1908	389	221,000	72,000	293,000	10,790,000
1909	422	168,000	129,000	297,000	2,690,000
1910	521	384,000	150,000	534,000	9,870,000
1911	872	824,000	128,000	952,000	10,160,000
1912	834	1,232,000	230,000	1,462,000	40,890,000
1913	1,459	497,000	167,000	664,000	9,800,000
1914	972	326,000	121,000	447,000	9,880,000
1915	672	491,000	47,000	538,000	2,950,000
1916	532	235,000	41,000	276,000	2,450,000
1917	730	575,000	297,000	872,000	5,650,000
1918	1,165	923,000	193,000	1,116,000	5,880,000
1919	1,352	2,401,000	190,000	2,591,000	34,970,000
1920	1,607	1,779,000	153,000	1,932,000	26,570,000
1921	763	1,770,000	31,000	1,801,000	85,870,000
1922	576	512,000	40,000	552,000	19,850,000
1923	628	343,000	62,000	405,000	10,670,000
1924	710	558,000	65,000	623,000	8,420,000
1925	603	401,000	40,000	441,000	7,950,000
1926	323	2,724,000	10,000	2,734,000	162,230,000
1927	308	90,000	18,000	108,000	1,170,000
1928	302	80,000	44,000	124,000	1,390,000

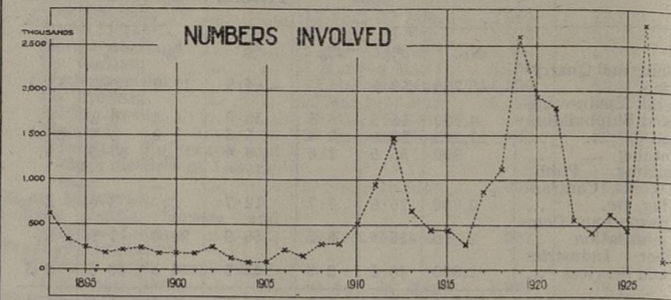
It will be noticed that the figures show wide variations in different years, especially as regards the aggregate number of days lost, of which the maximum and minimum figures occurred in consecutive years, viz., over 162 millions in 1926 and less than 1½ million in 1927. The high total for 1926 was due to the prolonged general stoppage in the coal-mining industry and the general strike which occurred in that year. General coal-mining stoppages

\* Workpeople involved in more than one dispute during the year are counted more than once in the totals for the year. The extent of such duplication is not very considerable except in the case of industries involved in the general strike in May, 1926, and in the coal-mining group, in which about 41,000 workpeople in 1926, 100,000 in 1921, 300,000 in 1920, 150,000 in 1919, and 106,000 in 1912 were involved in more than one dispute.

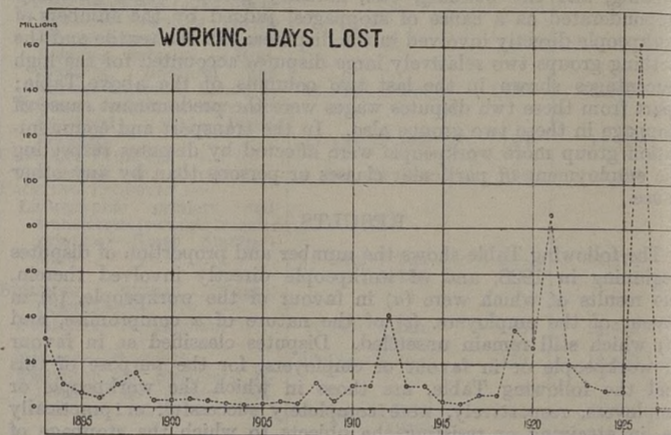
also occurred in 1893, 1912, 1920 and 1921, and account largely for the magnitude of the figures for those years.

A graphic representation of the numbers of workpeople involved in disputes, involving stoppage of work, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during 1893-1928, and of the numbers of working days lost in such disputes, is given in the appended diagrams, which are based on the figures in the last two columns of the foregoing Table.

In the first diagram the position of the crosses, in relation to the scale in the margin, indicates the total number of workpeople involved in disputes beginning in each year since 1893.



In the following diagram the position of the circles indicates the aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in each year.



The dotted lines in both these diagrams are inserted only in order to assist the eye by connecting successive crosses or circles.

#### JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS.

The National Council of the Pottery Industry held its fiftieth meeting on 17th April.

The Chairman voiced the satisfaction felt by the industry, and by the National Council in particular, at the mutual agreement arrived at by the manufacturers' and operatives' organisations not to exchange notices for either increases or decreases of wages during the current year. He expressed the opinion that this result was largely due to the labours and influence of the Council, through and by which there is better understanding in the industry.

It was decided to urge H.M. Government to enlarge the scope of the Empire Marketing Board so as to enable it to advertise British manufactured goods in the Empire on the same lines and the same scale as the Board now advertises Empire goods in this country: also to make provision for an extension of the marketing scheme to permit of goods of British manufacture being advertised in foreign countries. It was explained that such publicity would cover British goods as a whole. A specific industry or an individual firm in that industry could co-operate by advertising its own products in the countries concerned.

With a view to modifying or altogether eliminating indiscriminate applications for employment by the making of calls at factories by unemployed persons, the Council recommended the British Pottery Manufacturers' Federation to suggest to its members to have the names of their respective firms placed on the tabulated list, kept by the local Employment Exchange officials, of employers who do not encourage indiscriminate personal applications for work by unemployed persons within the industry.

Other matters dealt with included technical scholarships, the placing of boys and girls who had received special preliminary technical education as apprentices for skilled branches of the trade, facilities in the works for Trade Union officials, and questions relating to trade statistics and de-rating. Reports were submitted by the Research Committee, and on a Conference of Works Inspectors.

At the conclusion of the meeting an address was given by Col. the Rt. Hon. Josiah G. Wedgwood, D.S.O., M.P., on the "Rise and Growth of the Pottery Industry in North Staffordshire."

The inaugural meeting of the *Printing Ink and Roller Trades* Joint Industrial Council was held on 23rd April. The draft constitution was adopted and officers were elected. The Joint Secretaries are Mr. J. F. Hudson (Society of British Printing Ink Makers) and Mr. J. Hobday (National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants).

#### TRAINING AND TRANSFERENCE OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

In the March issue of this GAZETTE an account was given of the action taken by the Ministry of Labour upon the Report of the Industrial Transference Board, and the results achieved at that date. It is now possible to supplement that account in several respects.

*Transference within Great Britain.*—The Prime Minister's appeal to employers was issued in August, 1928, and was quoted in full in the issue of this GAZETTE for September. In the period from 19th August, 1928, to 22nd April, 1929, about 20,700 persons were transferred from depressed areas to employment elsewhere. This figure is made up as follows:—

Men transferred through Ministry of Labour machinery	15,597
Trainees transferred from the training centres for men	2,315
Women and girls trained and transferred by the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment, and by the Ministry of Labour	941
Boys transferred	1,885
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,738</b>

*Transfer Instructional Centres for Men.*—In addition to the ordinary training centres for home employment described in the March issue of the GAZETTE, a number of "transfer instructional centres" are being provided for men from the depressed areas who have been out of work for a long time. The aim of the course of training is to bring each man into the physical condition necessary for obtaining and keeping a job, and to revive habits of good time-keeping and steady work. Married and single men, selected by the Ministry of Labour as likely to profit by the course, are eligible. The first of these centres was opened at Blackpool early in May, with accommodation for 250 men. A second centre is about to be opened at Brigstock, near Kettering, and others will be opened in the near future.

The course will normally be one of eight weeks, but it may be extended in certain cases. Men will be required to work out-of-doors for part of the time, but instruction will also be given indoors in such pursuits as rough carpentry, boot and shoe repairing, or elementary metal work. Physical exercises may be arranged in special cases, and, so far as circumstances permit, efforts will be made to organise games and other pursuits which seem likely to further the main purpose of the course. Allowances, etc., will be similar to those received by men attending the ordinary training centres for home employment. The opportunity of a transfer to an ordinary training centre will be offered to a limited number of men.

With regard to the ordinary training centres for employment in Great Britain, up to 4th May 3,312 men had satisfactorily passed through the centres since the first centre was opened in 1925. Of this total over 90 per cent. were known to have found employment.

*Training of Women and Girls.*—For the training of women and girls, during the period 1st April, 1928, to 29th April, 1929, there were 38 centres providing courses of homecraft training, and 2,812 young women and 1,116 girls (total 3,928) completed a course. Of these, 959 women and 192 girls (total 1,151) found local domestic employment, and 1,473 women and 788 girls (total 2,261) were placed in domestic service away from home. Since the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment began its work in 1920, upwards of 41,000 women and girls have passed through the centres.

*Juvenile Unemployment Centres.*—In March, 1929, there were 102 juvenile unemployment centres open, in the areas of 39 Education Authorities, and the average attendance was about 7,000. The total number of juveniles who have passed through juvenile unemployment centres since 1st April, 1925, is approximately 220,000. Between February, 1928, and March, 1929, over 2,600 boys, the great majority of whom had been trained in the centres, had been transferred from the depressed areas to work in other parts of the country through the agency of the Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and the Local Education Authorities' Bureaux concerned. Of these about 830 were assisted out of money provided by the Lord Mayor's Fund.

*Training for Employment Overseas.*—The Ministry of Labour have three permanent farm training centres with accommodation as follows:—

Claydon, Ipswich, for 250 overseas men and 50 handymen (home employment).
Brandon, Norfolk, for 250 overseas men and 50 handymen (home employment).
Carstairs, Lanark, for 120 overseas men and 30 handymen (home employment).

In addition there are three quasi-permanent centres, each accommodating 200 men at a time, on the Forestry Commission's estates in Norfolk; and use is being made of the surplus accommodation available at the Army Vocational Centre at Chiseldon.

Applicants for training must be between the ages of 19 and 35 in the case of Canada, and 19 and 25 in the case of Australia. They must be provisionally approved by a representative of the Dominion authority, and prepared to sign an undertaking to remain throughout the course and, as soon thereafter as shipping facilities are available, to proceed overseas if finally approved. All provisionally selected applicants are required to undergo medical examination, which is

arranged by the Ministry of Labour without cost to the applicant. Employment is guaranteed by the Dominion Government.

Each course lasts three months, and is designed to eliminate men who, judged by the test of life and work under farm conditions, are not likely to succeed in the Dominions, and to teach those who are found suitable so much of the rudiments of certain farm operations as will enable them to settle down more quickly on the land and will make them of immediate value at the outset to the farmer. For this purpose implements and tools of Canadian and Australian pattern are in use, and the men are taught by experienced Canadian and Australian instructors.

Travelling expenses to and from the man's home to the centre and to the port of embarkation are paid. At the centre trainees for overseas receive free board and lodging, an allowance of 5s. per week, and a small amount of kit. Married men receive an extra allowance to enable them to send money home to their dependants each week.

Trainees proceeding to Australia can obtain an advance in respect of passage, landing money, and expenses on arrival. These charges are arranged by the Ministry of Labour in the case of those going to Canada.

Further, in order to meet the demand for men for farm work on the land during the Canadian season, a number of residential hutment centres have been established for the purpose of testing the physical fitness of the men for such work, by means of a short intensive course of four weeks' duration. At these centres the men are being accustomed to hard manual labour, to the handling of horses, and to the harnessing and hitching of teams of horses according to the methods which obtain in Canada. Accommodation is provided in these short courses for 1,200 men at a time.

The above facilities enable the Ministry to turn out in a full year approximately 9,000 trained and tested men.

Up to the end of April, 1929, 5,225 men had completed courses of training at one or other of the Ministry of Labour farm training centres and had proceeded overseas, 3,301 to Canada and 1,924 to Australia.

*Training of Women for Overseas.*—A residential training centre was opened in September, 1927, at Market Harborough, Leicestershire, for young women who desire to qualify for a free passage to Australia as household workers. This centre is administered by the Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment on behalf of the Oversea Settlement Department and the Australian Government, who share the cost. Since the centre was opened, 351 trainees have completed training, all of whom have sailed for Australia.

Centres of the same type, but administered by voluntary organisations, to train women for either Canada or Australia have recently been opened at Newcastle-on-Tyne, with provision for about 30 trainees; at Cardiff with provision for about 18; at Millersneuk, Lenzie, near Glasgow (36 places); and at the St. Mary's Training Hostel, Portobello Rd., London, (36 places).

*Training of Boys for Overseas.*—Centres for training boy migrants have been established by voluntary societies and private agencies with State assistance. The most important are those managed by the Salvation Army in Essex (annual capacity 850); by Dr. Cossar in Scotland (annual capacity 200); and by the Church Army in Essex (annual capacity 100).

Training hostels are open also at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Liverpool, and Cardiff, where boys who desire to migrate to the Dominions are given preliminary training for three months, during which they are taught the rudiments of farm work at local farms. Further centres on similar lines are now being established, including two training camps conducted by the Boy Scouts Association.

#### SICKNESS EXPERIENCE OF PRINTERS.

A REPORT\* has been issued by the Industrial Fatigue Research Board containing the results of an investigation into the sickness experience of printers, with special reference to tuberculosis. The data necessary for studying the problem were obtained from the records of nine "approved societies" in the printing trades, covering about 36,000 males and (with the addition of one more "general" society) about 3,000 females.

The inquiry showed that, in short-period illness (first 26 weeks of incapacity) printers have roughly only three-quarters of the sickness of all males insured under the Health Insurance Acts, except at ages 16-19, when their rate is very nearly as high as that for all insured males. In long-period illness (illness after the first 26 weeks of incapacity) they are again less well off in early employed life; yet after age 35 they have only about four-fifths of such illness suffered by all insured men.

The initial disadvantage observed at ages 16-19 for all printers, as mentioned above, was found to be largely due to the high incidence of nearly all diseases at these ages among compositors; and it is again the compositors that are almost entirely responsible for the pronounced tuberculosis rate in this age group. The unfavourable phthisis experience of the compositors extends up to age 30, and reappears at ages 60-69. In later life, and for most other diseases, however, compositors and bookbinders have lower rates than most other groups of printers. The phthisis rate is high for machine printers and for warehousemen, at certain ages; while stereotypers and electrotypers reveal no excess of phthisis.

\* An Investigation into the Sickness Experience of Printers. Industrial Fatigue Research Board: Report No. 54. H.M. Stationery Office; price 4s. 6d. net.



## ENTRY OF FOREIGNERS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

A MEMORANDUM\* has been issued by the Ministry of Labour describing the procedure, under the control of the Minister of Labour, relating to the entry of foreigners into this country in order to take up employment. In general, the control of the administrative provisions relating to the entry of foreigners into this country, their supervision while here and their departure from the country is in the hands of the Home Secretary. Under Article 1 (3) (b) of the Aliens Order, 1920, however, it is provided that an alien shall not be permitted to land unless—

"If desirous of entering the service of an employer in the United Kingdom he produces a permit in writing for his engagement issued to the employer by the Minister of Labour."

This requirement of a permit in the case of foreigners desiring to enter the service of an employer is additional to any other conditions and requirements imposed under the law relating to foreigners generally. It may be noted that the Minister's permission is not necessary to enable a foreigner to enter the country in order to take up business on his own account, or to become a partner in a business, or to accept the position of a Director of a Company registered under the Companies Acts.

According to the Census of 1921, the number of foreigners permanently resident and "gainfully occupied" in Great Britain totalled about 143,000. Many of these people had been resident in the country for many years, and a number of them were born here. They are therefore to be regarded, in so far as they are employed persons, as part of the labour available in the country.

In view of the prevailing volume of unemployment and to safeguard the interests of British workers, the admission of newcomers for employment is closely restricted. In general, the employer applying for a permit is required (i) to give a guarantee that no labour will be displaced, and (ii) to satisfy the following conditions:—

(a) He must prove that every possible effort has been made, without success, to find suitable labour from among permanent residents in this country; and

(b) The wages to be paid to the foreigners must not be less than those usually received by British employees for similar work.

It is the practice of the Department to consult representative organisations of employers and employed persons (including technical and scientific organisations) in all cases of doubt or difficulty. Permits are not issued to enable an employer to meet a seasonal demand by bringing labour from abroad.

With regard to the entertainment industry it is the practice to grant permits freely (except that the periods of the permits are limited) in respect of performers of international reputation. Permits are similarly granted, with a time limit, for performances presenting special features of novelty or attractiveness. The practice governing the entry of foreign musicians to play dance music is set out in the following answer to a question in the House of Commons on 5th February, 1929: "The conditions imposed depend on the circumstances of the proposed employment of the alien players, and also the kind of performance. Examples of the conditions laid down are as follows:—

"If the employer desires to bring in a complete band to play for dancing, he is required to engage, or to continue to engage, a British band equal in size to the alien band. If it is proposed to augment a British dance band by the introduction of alien musicians of outstanding ability, such introduction may be permitted up to about 25 per cent., on condition that no British player is discharged to make room for the aliens. Complete bands to play symphony or national music, e.g., a Hungarian Tzigane Company, are admitted on an assurance that no British band or British player is being displaced, and that the alien band will not play for dancing. No condition, other than a limitation of the period of stay in this country, is in general imposed in the case of concert instrumentalists and persons giving stage performances at music halls."

Another special case is that of young foreigners, male or female, who desire to take up supernumerary posts in offices, banks, etc., for limited periods in order to acquire some knowledge of the English language and British business methods. The issue of permits in such cases is desirable if only to secure similar facilities for young British subjects who seek to obtain foreign experience by temporary residence and employment abroad: moreover, the foreigners who have gained experience in this country are a valuable link later on in life for the furtherance of British export trade. Care is taken to see that these facilities are not misused by employers who are merely desirous of obtaining cheap clerical labour.

A permit, if issued, is generally for a limited period, from one week up to twelve months. All permits for actors, actresses, vaudeville artists and for young persons seeking experience are so limited. In certain circumstances other conditions are also imposed.

Prior to the War there were some occupations in which the majority of the persons engaged were foreigners and the normal method of augmenting labour for such occupations was by recruitment abroad. Foreign recruitment is not now permitted as a normal feature of any occupation, the employers concerned being required to take such steps as may be necessary to train and to employ persons already in the country. The following are instances of the operation

\* Cmd. 3318. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.

of this policy: an apprenticeship scheme for mosaic and terrazzo workers is now in operation, and British subjects are systematically trained for the work; several schools and training establishments have been set up by the hairdressing trade; permits for the entry of foreign waiters are generally refused, and leading employers are co-operating with the L.C.C. School for Waiters in training British youths.

It is the practice of the Ministry of Labour to issue permits for foreign technicians to assist employers in establishing new industries or new processes in existing industries. But in all cases the permit is limited as to time, and the condition is imposed that the foreigners services shall in part be used to train British subjects.

## STATE-AIDED SETTLEMENT OVERSEAS.

### REPORT OF OVERSEA SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 1928.

ACCORDING to the Report of the Oversea Settlement Committee for 1928,\* the total number of British settlers who were assisted, under the Empire Settlement Act, to go overseas in 1928 was 50,519 (of whom 16,573 were men, 14,574 women, and 19,372 children), as compared with 60,900 in 1927, and with 65,543 in 1926. The following Table shows the total sailings under the Empire Settlement Act to the several Dominions in each of the years 1926, 1927, and 1928:—

Dominion.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Canada ... ..	20,862	27,113	27,521
Australia ... ..	32,689	29,133	20,619
New Zealand ... ..	11,795	4,446	2,175
South Africa ... ..	197	208	197
Total ... ..	65,543	60,900	50,519†

It will be seen that there was a slight increase in the sailings to Canada, but a further reduction in the sailings to Australia and to New Zealand. The total number of departures under the Empire Settlement Act from 1922, when the Act came into force, to the end of 1928, has been 300,199.

The first Section of the Report gives an outline of the history of the colonisation of the Empire from the close of the Napoleonic Wars down to the passing of the Empire Settlement Act. This Section is introduced by a statement of the Government's policy in regard to migration, and of the underlying purpose on which that policy is based. In this connection the Report quotes a recent statement of the Secretary of State, that: "The object of a policy of Empire migration is first and foremost to build up the strength and wealth of the Empire as a whole by the better distribution of its population, and to increase the openings for success in life and the development of character of all our people . . . Incidentally, and accidentally, the actual movement of migration may help to relieve the labour market in times of industrial depression; and many of those who migrate . . . may actually be unemployed at the time of their deciding to go. But it is the probability of their succeeding which is the one factor which must weigh with the Government, and not the fact that they are unemployed."

In dealing with the future of Empire settlement, the Committee make certain recommendations in favour of providing more openings both for industrial as well as agricultural workers in the Dominions; of utilising labour from this country to supplement the local labour supply in the construction of public works in the Dominions; and of extending the benefits of assisted passages to all who can obtain assured employment overseas, whether in agriculture or in other occupations.

In other Sections of the Report the Committee examine the checks upon Empire settlement, and compare the movements of population in recent years with those of pre-war years. Contrasting the migration movement of the pre-war and of the post-war years, the Report points out that the six years 1908-1913, when the annual passenger movement (including migrants) averaged 390,000, were admittedly exceptional; and that the average annual passenger movement of 300,000 during 1923-1928 was, in fact, rather higher than that of the six years 1902-1907.

The Report refers to the visits to the Dominions of Mr. Amery and Lord Lovat, and to the recommendations of the Industrial Transference Board, of the Canadian House of Commons Committee on Agriculture and Colonisation, and of the Economic Mission to Australia. The Report also deals with the work of the Australian Development and Migration Commission, and with the questions of family settlement, training, the oversea settlement of women, etc., etc.

The appendices to the Report contain the text of the Empire Settlement Act; comparative statistical tables; a summary of schemes, promoted under the Empire Settlement Act, which were in operation at the end of the year under review; and details of assisted passage rates.

\* Cmd. 3308. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.  
† Including 7 to "India and other parts."

## THE SUPPLY OF JUVENILE LABOUR IN THE PERIOD 1928-1933.

TOWARDS the close of the year 1927, inquiries were instituted among all local Juvenile Employment Committees and local Advisory Committees for Juvenile Employment, in order to ascertain, in the light of the prospective state of industry, what effect the general decline in the birth-rate during the period of the war would have, during the coming years, on the supply of and on the demand for juvenile labour between the ages of 14 and 18, in their respective areas.\* A Memorandum† has now been issued by the Ministry of Labour, summarising the results of these inquiries. It is pointed out in the Memorandum that the views expressed by the Committees (and summarised in the Memorandum) are to be regarded as the views of the Committees themselves based upon special knowledge of the local conditions. They must not (except where the context clearly indicates the contrary) be considered as necessarily representing the views of the Ministry itself on any specific point.

Statistics given in the volume "Factors in Industrial and Commercial Efficiency," issued in 1927 by the Committee on Industry and Trade, showed that, owing to the reduced birth-rate during the period of the war, a gradual decline, taking the country as a whole, in the numbers of boys and girls likely to be available for employment was to be expected between the years 1927 and 1933, the estimated figures for the latter year being nearly 20 per cent. below those for the former. Thereafter, a sharp rise in 1934 and the three successive years would be followed by a further gradual decline till at least 1940.

The reduction will not, however, be uniform in the various districts. In some districts, mainly "munitions areas," where there was less military recruitment, and combined with a considerable influx of industrial labour during the war years, there was an actual increase in the number of births recorded during those years; consequently the numbers of children leaving school during the next few years in these districts are expected to be actually in excess of those for 1927-8, in one case to the extent of 20 per cent. In other districts, also largely "munition" areas, the decline in the number of boys and girls available for employment is expected to be so small as not to present any industrial problem.

In the largest group, however, probably embracing more districts than the other three put together, the reports received from the local Juvenile Employment Committees, based mainly on the numbers of children of the various age-groups now in attendance at school, show that a decline of from 15 to 30 per cent. is expected in the number of juveniles becoming available for employment within the next four or five years; and there are some districts (including, notably, the Greater London area), where a decline exceeding 30 per cent., and rising in a few cases to 50 per cent., is expected.

Many of the Committees which anticipate such a decrease hesitate to express an opinion as to whether there is likely to be an actual shortage of juvenile labour, either because, in many industries, it is difficult to forecast the state of employment for long ahead, or because there is a present surplus of other workers, in the older age-groups, or because an extension of machine methods may be practicable. Broadly speaking, however, it may be said that, apart from a possible temporary inconvenience in 1931 or 1932, the Committees, as a whole, do not anticipate any serious problem arising during the next few years. Many Committees, in fact, welcome the coming shortage, and hope that not only will young people have a more effectual choice of employment, but that the situation may be utilised to improve conditions of work, especially in the non-progressive occupations. Boys and girls now going into "blind alley" occupations will, it is hoped, turn more and more to skilled industry as trade revives.

In many districts there is already a large daily movement into the large towns from the smaller towns and villages round, sometimes from a considerable distance; and many Committees, particularly in Greater London, Lancashire, and the Midlands, look to improved local travelling facilities of this kind, rather than to transference, to relieve any shortage of juvenile labour.

At the time of reporting, Committees were not, in general, enthusiastic about the organised transference of young workers from a distance. In those areas, however, in which a large and continuous surplus of young labour is expected, the Committees see no alternative to some form of migration. Moreover, it is noted in the Memorandum that most of the Committees sent in their reports before the special arrangements made by the Ministry of Labour for the transference of boys from the depressed mining areas had come into full operation.‡ Since February, 1928, when these arrangements came into force, nearly 3,000 boys have been individually selected, and have been transferred to carefully chosen jobs outside the depressed areas. At the outset, many Committees were apprehensive of the dangers involved in this policy of transfer; but it is stated that the success obtained in transferring these boys during the last fifteen months has won the approbation and support of parents and Committees alike.

\* See the January, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 7.  
† Memorandum on the Shortage, Surplus, and Redistribution of Juvenile Labour during the years 1928 to 1933, based on the views of local Juvenile Employment Committees.—Cmd. 3327. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.  
‡ For some account of these arrangements, see the March, 1929, issue of this GAZETTE, page 80, and the present issue, page 159.

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

A STATISTICAL summary\* of the output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal-mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1928,† prepared by the Mines Department and based partly upon returns made for the purpose of wages ascertainment for certain districts and partly upon other returns supplied by individual colliery owners, shows that at undertakings which produced 59,099,369 tons of saleable coal, or about 96 per cent. of the total quantity raised in the quarter, 54,538,032 tons were disposable commercially.

The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £37,420,086, equivalent to 13s. 8-67d. per ton. The proceeds of commercial disposals amounted to £36,767,291, equivalent to 13s. 5-80d. per ton. There was thus a debit balance of £652,795 or 2-87d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that the debit balances ranged from 1-38d. in Scotland to 7-95d. in Durham. In North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire there was a credit balance of 5-59d., and in South Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire one of 9-54d.

The number of workpeople employed was 850,770, and the number of man-shifts worked was 54,226,527. The average output per man-shift worked was 21-80 cwt., the average for the districts ranging from 17-57 cwt. in Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire, to 24-22 cwt. in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The average earnings per man-shift worked were 9s. 2-84d., ranging from 7s. 4-72d. in Northumberland to 10s. 4-11d. in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

Information as to the value of allowances in kind is given in this Return for the first time; based, so far as Northumberland and Durham are concerned, on returns furnished for the purpose of the wages ascertainment, and for other districts on information supplied by the Mining Association of Great Britain. For Great Britain as a whole the average value of such allowances was 4-82d. per shift, the amounts ranging from 0-57d. in Scotland to 11-82d. in Northumberland and 1s. 1-11d. in Durham. For 1927 the average was 5-06d. and for 1928, 4-69d.

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

Quarter ended	Proportion of Industry covered.	Amount of Saleable Coal raised.	Credit (+) or Debit (-) balance per ton.‡	No. of Work-people employed.	Output per man-shift worked.	Earnings per man-shift worked.
1924.	Per cent.	Tons.	s. d.		Cwts.	s. d.
31st Mar.	94	67,047,657	+2 9-63	1,111,280	17-79	10 2-82
30th June	93	61,552,868	+1 0-34	1,107,457	17-48	10 11-17
30th Sept.	92	59,163,976	+0 0-26	1,082,340	17-33	10 10-24
31st Dec.	94	62,428,185	+0 7-61	1,078,758	17-74	10 7-04
1925.						
31st Mar.	94	62,458,898	+0 6-13	1,074,079	17-98	10 7-58
30th June	95	54,982,191	-0 11-81	1,032,216	17-85	10 6-77
30th Sept.	98	54,976,337	-0 2-82§	1,013,757	17-88	10 4-85
31st Dec.	98	62,662,455	+1 6-70§	1,041,997	18-31	10 5-14
1926.						
31st Mar.	99	66,071,166	+1 4-99§	1,074,395	18-46	10 4-79
1927.						
31st Mar.	96	63,329,641	+1 2-41	969,943	20-66	10 7-12
30th June	95	58,850,719	-1 0-65	981,393	20-47	10 2-84
30th Sept.	96	58,585,249	-1 2-00	946,487	20-47	9 9-53
31st Dec.	96	60,350,401	-1 0-43	945,480	20-82	9 7-38
1928.						
31st Mar.	97	61,833,281	-0 9-34	921,448	21-24	9 5-02
30th June	97	55,034,291	-1 5-02	890,863	20-98	9 3-09
30th Sept.	96	53,552,053	-1 4-11	859,259	21-13	9 3-25
31st Dec.	96	59,099,369	-0 2-87	850,770	21-80	9 2-84

## AGRICULTURAL WAGES AND EMPLOYMENT IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 1928.

THE Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have issued a Report of proceedings under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, for the year ending 30th September, 1928.¶

The minimum weekly wage fixed for the various Agricultural Wage Committee areas for adult male workers generally remained unchanged during the year. In Glamorgan, however, the rate for all classes of adult male workers was reduced by 2s. per week, and in Merioneth and Montgomery by 1s. 6d. per week. In addition, the number of hours in respect of which the weekly minimum wage is payable was varied in some areas.

The lowest minimum weekly rate for ordinary adult male workers remained at 30s., and the highest at 36s.¶ The rates most commonly paid were 30 and 31s.; and four-fifths of the rates for 1928 fell within the range 30s. and 32s. 6d. The two highest rates, of 35s. and 36s.¶, were fixed in only five areas (Cheshire, Derbyshire, the Holland division of Lincolnshire, and the East and the

\* Cmd. 3316. H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.  
† In the case of South Wales and Monmouthshire the period covered is the quarter ended 31st January, 1929.  
‡ Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.  
§ After crediting subvention.  
¶ H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. net.  
¶ Minimum rates of 37s. 6d. and of 42s. were in operation in the northern and in the eastern areas of Lancashire, respectively; but it is understood that the majority of the regular workers in these areas are of the special classes.



West-Ridings of Yorkshire). The average minimum wage for adult male workers (other than workers of the special classes) remained constant at 31s. 8d. per week throughout the year. This figure takes no account of overtime payments, or of additional earnings at special seasons.

Estimates based on cases investigated by inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, covering 4,400 ordinary male workers, show the average weekly earnings to be about 33s. 4d., or about 1s. 8d. above the minimum cash wages. This does not, however, include extra earnings at harvest, which vary from county to county. Similar information in regard to 2,200 horsemen and 2,000 stockmen indicates an average inclusive wage for these classes of about 36s. 9d. and 38s. 6d. per week, respectively.

During the year, seven Agricultural Wages Committees decided to make variations in the number of hours in respect of which the general weekly minimum wage is payable, two Committees effecting reductions and five increases. Allowing for these changes the position over the country as a whole is that, of the 47 Agricultural Wages Committees, 12 have fixed the minimum weekly wage on the basis of 50 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, and nineteen on hours ranging from 51 to 54 in summer and from 48 to 52 in winter. In seventeen areas the hours are the same all the year round (50 per week in eight areas, 54 in seven areas, and 51 and 48 in one area each).

No change has taken place during the year with regard to the weekly half-holiday. In every area except Cumberland and Westmorland, and Derbyshire, the Orders made by the Committees provide that, with certain exceptions, employment in excess of a specified number of hours or after a specified time on one weekday in each week shall rank as overtime employment in the case of ordinary male workers. The position of workmen of the special classes (shepherds, horsemen, cattlemen, etc.) varies greatly: these men are often required to work longer hours.

During the year several more Committees defined employment on certain of the public holidays as overtime employment; and at 30th September, 1928, ten Committees had applied the provision within varying limits.

With regard to the state of employment during the year covered by the Report, it appears from the information available that there was no appreciable unemployment among regular farm workers, though during the winter and spring a certain amount of unemployment among casual labourers was reported in a number of areas. Reports of the shortage of good all-round workers continued to be made during the year; and it was also reported that such workers as milkers, stockmen, horsemen and shepherds, as well as workers following the specialised occupations of thatchers, hedgers, ditchers, fencers, and drainers, were difficult to obtain.

It is stated in the Report that in some areas (e.g., Yorkshire) all the recruits required for agriculture are easily obtained from village boys, but that, on reaching manhood, many of the young farm hands migrate to the towns. In other districts, particularly Devonshire and parts of Wales, urban Boards of Guardians and other public bodies are able to place a number of town-bred boys on farms.

Agricultural instruction schemes exist in many counties for the purpose of enabling young workers to acquire skill in the various farm operations, but for the majority of the younger workers the training they receive must depend on the extent to which their employers interest themselves in the matter or are willing to see that proper instruction is given by the older or more experienced hands. The Report states that in some instances boys are utilised partly on domestic duties, and are given very little opportunity of acquiring any special skill with animals or implements, and that agriculture in such cases often tends to become a blind-alley occupation, which a boy deserts at the first opportunity. The institution of schemes of apprenticeship has been considered from time to time by many authorities, but very few definite developments have occurred in that direction.

### OVERTIME IN BELGIUM IN 1928.\*

DEVIATIONS from the 8-hour day and 48-hour week in Belgium, to enable an employer to cope with unusual increases of orders occasioned by unforeseen events, may be authorised by the Minister of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare, under Section 7 of the Act of 14th June, 1921, subject (a) to an agreement between the employer and the association or associations to which the majority of his workers belong, or, in default of an association, the majority of his workers; and (b) to a limit of two extra hours a day for not more than three months in any one year.

The following Table classifies the authorisations granted in 1928 according to their industrial distribution, the numbers of workpeople affected, and the number of additional hours authorised:—

Industry.	Number of Authorisations granted.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Number of Additional Hours authorised.
Building ... ..	25	1,240	140,610
Woodworking ... ..	175	4,831	354,878
Food and Drink ... ..	66	2,527	219,927
Clothing ... ..	89	3,472	282,074
Textile ... ..	173	6,695	527,273
Metal ... ..	411	13,881	976,597
Leather ... ..	58	2,488	167,198
Paper ... ..	22	1,038	99,614
Chemicals ... ..	25	3,009	408,816
Other ... ..	136	4,276	338,388
Total... ..	1,180	43,457	3,515,275

\* *Revue du Travail*, January, 1929. Brussels.

### WAGES AND HOURS IN THE GERMAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.

THE German Federal Statistical Office has conducted an inquiry relating to the month of June, 1928, into the actual earnings and hours of labour of the principal classes of workers in the chemical industry, similar to the inquiries already carried out for the textile and wood-working industries (see this GAZETTE for May, 1928, page 167, and September, 1928, page 323). The published Report\* states that the inquiry covered the following eight branches of the industry:—dyes, nitrogen compounds and artificial manures, tar distillation, drugs and fine chemicals, photographic chemicals, ethereal oils, artificial silk, and explosives. Acid and alkali manufacture were not included except in cases in which these branches of manufacture were carried on at works engaged in other sections of the industry specifically covered by the inquiry. In each branch, the workers covered were adults, classified in three categories, namely:—

1. *Male "Factory Workers."*—This group covered able-bodied semi-skilled and unskilled male workers over 21 years of age, with the exception of transport workers and semi-skilled artisans.

2. *Skilled Workmen.*—This group included all male able-bodied skilled workers over 21 years of age who possessed documentary evidence of qualifications requiring at least three years' training.

3. *Women on Productive Processes.*—This group covered all female workers over 20 years of age employed directly on production. Women engaged in the filling, labelling, packing and store rooms were excluded.

The workers were further subdivided into time-workers and piece-workers, workers under premium bonus systems being counted in with time-workers.

In all, the actual earnings of 86,269 workers were analysed, i.e., about one-third of all the manual workers employed in the chemical industry. Owing to the great concentration of the German chemical industry in large scale undertakings, this total was distributed over only 110 firms in 13 of the principal collective agreement areas.

Nearly four-fifths (78.4 per cent.) of the workers were on time-work (including premium bonus systems). The piece-work system, so far as it was applied, was most prevalent among skilled workers, of whom 34.8 per cent. in the chemical industry as a whole were so paid. The dyes industry had 40.7 per cent. of all workers on piece-work; while, on the other hand, only 5.2 per cent. of all workers in tar distillation were paid under that system.

The average actual hourly earnings (exclusive of payment for extra hours and overtime) and the average agreed hourly minimum wage (inclusive of social allowances payable in particular agreement areas) of the workpeople covered by the inquiry were as follows:—

Class of Worker.	Time-work.†		Piece-work.‡	
	Average actual Hourly Earnings.	Average agreed Hourly Rate.	Average actual Hourly Earnings.	Average agreed Hourly Rate.
Male "factory workers" over 21 years ... ..	R. pfennigs. 96.9	R. pfennigs. 81.0	R. pfennigs. 113.0	R. pfennigs. 95.6
Skilled workmen over 21 years ... ..	122.3	98.5	132.2	109.8
Women, over 20 years, on productive processes... ..	59.3	51.6	68.8	60.9

The large excesses of actual hourly earnings over agreed hourly rates are attributed, firstly, to the fact that the volume of employment in the chemical industry in June, 1928, had remained consistently at the high level attained during the general prosperity of 1927, although in other industries the year 1928 had witnessed a considerable decline. Secondly, account must be taken of the special allowances, included in the average hourly earnings, which were paid for arduous work, for work on aniline and acid processes, for exceptionally dirty work, for abnormal wear and tear of clothing, and for normal Sunday work in undertakings engaged on continuous processes. The effect of these special allowances is clearly shown when the percentage excesses of actual earnings over agreed rates of male workers are compared with those of female workers, who are not usually required to perform dirty, arduous or other abnormal work. A third factor, which tended to increase the relative level of the time-workers' earnings, in a large number of undertakings, was the premium bonus system.

The different industrial areas and branches of the industry showed appreciable variations in the amount of the average wage. Comparatively low wages prevailed in Pomerania, Silesia, Hanover and that part of Bavaria which lies along the right bank of the Rhine. The highest average wages were recorded in the Provinces of Saxony, Thuringia and Anhalt, as well as in the Rhine Province and South-west Germany. Earnings were relatively high in the nitrogen compounds, dyes and photo-chemical industries; whilst they were relatively low in the manufacture of explosives and of artificial silk, and in tar distillation. Local differences in process and plant, however, brought particular undertakings outside these generalisations.

The gross average weekly earnings, including pay for extra hours and overtime as well as deductions for income tax and workers'

\* *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, No. 4, 1929.

† Including premium bonus systems.

‡ Including supplementary piece-work allowances provided under agreements.

§ 1 Reichsmark = 100 Reichspfennigs = approximately 11.8d.

contributions to social insurance, and allowing for loss of earnings due to sickness, short time, etc., were as follows:—

Class of Worker.	Time-work.*		Piece-work.	
	R. marks.	R. marks.	R. marks.	R. marks.
Male "factory workers" over 21 years ... ..	47.95	55.74	55.74	68.14
Skilled workmen over 21 years ... ..	60.60	68.14	68.14	68.14
Women, over 20 years, on productive processes ... ..	26.40	31.20	31.20	31.20

A comparison of the earnings of time-workers in June, 1928, with the estimated earnings in 1913, as well as of the purchasing power of the earnings at both dates, before and after deduction of the payments made by the worker for income tax and social insurance, is attempted in the Report on the basis of statistics for 1913 prepared by the Federal Statistical Office in 1920-21. The figures, which are presented with considerable reservations, are as follows:—

Class of Worker.†	Average gross weekly earnings of time-workers.		Percentage increase in purchasing power from 1913 to 1928 (approximate).
	1913.	June, 1928.	
Male "factory workers" ... ..	Marks. 26.94	R. marks. 47.95	18
Skilled workmen ... ..	33.57	60.60	19

The percentage deductions from gross wages for income tax and social insurance, in 1913 and June, 1928, are stated to have been as follows:—

Class of Worker.	Percentage deductions from gross wages for					
	Income tax.		Social Insurance.		Income tax and Social Insurance.	
	1913.	1928.	1913.	1928.	1913.	1928.
Male "factory workers" ... ..	1.6	3.2	3.6	7.3	5.2	10.5
Skilled workmen ... ..	2.4	4.3	3.4	6.8	5.8	11.1
Women ... ..	...	1.3	...	8.5	...	9.8

When the weekly wages of 1913 and June, 1928, are compared, after deducting income tax and contributions for social insurance, the purchasing power of the average wages of the male factory worker is stated to have increased by about 11 per cent. and of the skilled worker by about 13 per cent.

A percentage analysis of the distribution of the total number of workers covered by the inquiry, according to the amount of gross weekly earnings, is shown in the following Table:—

Gross Weekly Earnings in R. marks.	Percentage of workers who earned the wages indicated in first column.					
	Male "factory workers" over 21 years.		Skilled workmen over 21 years.		Women, over 20 years, on productive processes.	
	Time-work.*	Piece-work.	Time-work.*	Piece-work.	Time-work.*	Piece-work.
25 and less ... ..	3.3	1.5	1.9	0.3	35.2	15.4
Over 25 to 30 ... ..	2.9	1.2	1.1	0.4	38.1	26.4
" 30 " 35 ... ..	5.6	2.4	1.8	0.5	20.7	30.4
" 35 " 40 ... ..	9.3	4.6	2.9	1.4	4.6	16.2
" 40 " 45 ... ..	16.4	10.6	5.9	2.1	1.2	8.7
" 45 " 50 ... ..	18.0	13.9	8.1	3.1	0.2	2.3
" 50 " 55 ... ..	17.1	14.3	11.1	4.8	0.0	0.4
" 55 " 60 ... ..	14.6	16.1	12.9	8.2	...	0.1
" 60 " 65 ... ..	8.3	15.7	13.3	13.1	0.0	0.1
" 65 " 70 ... ..	3.0	9.2	13.8	16.0	...	...
" 70 " 75 ... ..	0.9	3.5	12.5	19.9	...	...
" 75 " 80 ... ..	0.4	1.8	8.3	18.4	...	...
" 80 " 85 ... ..	0.1	1.3	3.7	8.4	...	...
" 85 " 90 ... ..	0.1	1.5	1.6	2.3	0.0	...
" 90 " ... ..	0.0	2.4	1.1	1.1	...	...

The following Table shows the average actual weekly working hours, inclusive of extra hours and overtime and allowing for time lost through illness, short-time etc.; the extra hours and overtime are also shown separately:—

Class of Worker	Average actual hours per week.			
	Inclusive of extra hours and overtime.		Extra hours and overtime only.	
	Time-work.*	Piece-work.	Time-work.*	Piece-work.
Male "factory workers" over 21 years ... ..	Hours. 49.1	Hours. 49.0	Hours. 1.7	Hours. 1.6
Skilled workmen over 21 years ... ..	48.7	50.9	2.9	2.5
Women, over 20 years, on productive processes ... ..	44.2	44.9	1.2	2.1

\* Including premium bonus systems.

† Over 18 years of age in 1913; over 21 years of age in June, 1928; no comparable figures for 1913 are available for female workers. The weekly earnings in 1913 are weighted averages, calculated on the basis of the full usual working week.

The relatively high figures representing average actual hours of work reflect the generally satisfactory degree of activity in the chemical industry. The shorter hours for women workers, apart from loss of time due to indisposition, is mainly attributable to the fact that they were not usually employed on alternating shifts and also to the lesser activity of those branches in which women were chiefly employed. The fact that the skilled workmen frequently utilised the intervals and rest periods to carry out repairs and adjustments to plant, partly explains the greater amount of overtime performed by these workers. The following Table shows the distribution of the workers covered, according to the weekly working hours:—

Class of Worker.	Percentage number of workers with an average working week of:—					
	Less than 48 hours.		48 hours.		More than 48 hours.	
	Time-work.*	Piece-work.	Time-work.*	Piece-work.	Time-work.*	Piece-work.
Male "factory workers" over 21 years ... ..	28.6	34.8	10.7	4.2	60.7	61.0
Skilled workmen over 21 years ... ..	29.9	19.6	9.9	2.3	60.2	78.1
Women, over 20 years, on productive processes ... ..	59.3	54.7	16.3	11.2	24.4	34.1

Details are given in the Report of the distribution of gross weekly wages according to actual hours worked by each class of worker on time-work and on piece-work. Separate figures of hours, earnings and agreed rates are also given under each branch of industry for each collective agreement area. The following Table sets out for the branches of the industry covered by the inquiry, and for all branches combined, the averages of the hours worked, the weekly earnings including payment for extra hours and overtime, the hourly earnings excluding payment for extra hours and overtime, and the agreed minimum hourly rates:—

Branch of Industry and Class of Worker.†	Average weekly hours worked, including extra hours and overtime.	Average weekly earnings, including payment for extra hours and overtime.	Average hourly earnings, excluding payment for extra hours and overtime.	Average agreed hourly minimum rate.
<i>Dyes</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	49.3	49.53	99.6	83.1
Skilled workmen " piece	49.2	54.59	109.9	96.3
Women " time	49.9	59.09	116.4	99.6
Women " piece	50.6	66.97	130.3	111.3
Women " time	44.9	27.23	60.4	53.2
" " piece	43.8	28.72	65.1	61.6
<i>Nitrogen and Artificial Manures</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	50.9	52.62	102.9	82.0
Skilled workmen " piece	51.1	61.78	120.3	97.0
Women " time	48.6	66.19	134.3	101.1
" " piece	51.6	71.52	137.9	108.2
<i>Tar Distillation</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	46.7	41.88	88.7	79.7
Skilled workmen " piece	44.4	51.46	115.6	78.7
Women " time	48.6	51.74	104.5	95.7
" " piece	41.4	20.03	48.5	48.3
<i>Drugs and Fine Chemicals</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	47.7	44.40	92.1	81.8
Skilled workmen " piece	46.9	49.99	105.7	94.5
Women " time	48.0	54.21	110.9	96.5
" " piece	48.9	56.50	114.3	104.3
Women " time	44.1	26.83	60.5	56.2
" " piece	45.9	32.72	70.6	63.2
<i>Photo-Chemicals</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	50.5	48.90	95.8	82.4
Skilled workmen " piece	48.9	60.32	120.2	102.7
Women " time	46.1	28.81	61.7	55.3
" " piece	46.7	33.30	70.4	60.7
<i>Ethereal Oils</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	45.8	41.88	91.2	81.0
Skilled workmen " piece	46.2	52.90	113.9	92.2
Women " time	44.9	25.33	55.8	53.6
" " piece	44.2	30.07	67.9	61.5
<i>Artificial Silk</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	46.8	41.63	87.8	75.7
Skilled workmen " piece	47.4	49.95	103.4	90.0
Women " time	53.5	65.75	119.4	106.6
" " piece	42.7	25.05	58.5	47.4
" " piece	43.6	30.60	69.0	57.8
<i>Explosives</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	48.2	44.05	90.3	76.8
Skilled workmen " piece	43.3	51.96	119.5	92.8
Women " time	49.8	57.69	113.3	93.2
" " piece	46.2	26.97	57.9	50.0
" " piece	45.8	28.98	62.2	59.7
<i>All Branches</i> —				
Male "factory workers" time	49.1	47.95	96.9	81.0
Skilled workmen " piece	49.0	55.74	113.0	95.6
Women " time	48.7	60.60	122.3	98.5
" " piece	50.9	68.14	132.2	109.8
Women " time	44.2	26.40	59.3	51.6
" " piece	44.9	31.20	68.8	60.9

\* Including premium bonus systems.

† Time-workers include those paid under premium bonus systems.



## HOURS OF LABOUR IN THE GERMAN CEMENT INDUSTRY.\*

An Order, dated 26th March, 1929, has been issued by the Federal Minister of Labour, bringing certain categories of workers in the cement industry under the provisions of Article 7 of the Order on Working Hours of 21st December, 1923, as amended by the Order of 14th April, 1927.

This Article provides that in branches of industry involving special danger to life or health, or for classes of workers engaged in such work (in particular, for underground workers in coal mines and for workers who are exposed in an unusual degree to the action of heat, poisonous substances, dust and the like, or to danger from explosives), the extension of hours of work beyond eight a day, by collective agreement or by sanction of a public authority, is permissible only if such extension of hours is urgently necessary in the public interest, or if it has been proved in practice by many years' experience to have no ill-effects and does not exceed half an hour.

The new Order of 26th March, 1929, brings within the scope of this provision the following categories of workers in the cement industry:—(1) workers engaged in the breaking down and mixing of raw materials in the dry state (crushing and grinding mills); (2) workers engaged in attending kilns not charged automatically; (3) burners engaged at automatically charged kilns; (4) workers engaged on the crushing and grinding of the burnt material (clinker mills); (5) workers engaged in cement bag-filling.

The Order does not, however, apply in cases where the potential danger to the health of the workers is certified by the Supreme State authorities or some other authority, to whom the duty has been delegated, to have been eliminated through the installation of special protective appliances. In the case of workers employed only part time on work of the nature specified above, the limitation of working hours applies only on those days when they are engaged on such work for at least four hours.

The Order is normally to have effect as from 1st May, 1929; but its application to individual undertakings may be postponed, by the permission of the Supreme State Authorities, for not more than a year in cases where the continued existence of the undertaking would otherwise be seriously jeopardised.

## UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

### REPORT OF SENATE COMMITTEE.

THE United States Senate, in May, 1928, asked the Senate Committee on Education and Labour to report upon the causes of unemployment and upon the relation to the relief of unemployment of (a) the continuous collection and interpretation of adequate statistics of employment and unemployment; (b) the organisation and extension of systems of public employment agencies, Federal and State; (c) the establishment of systems of unemployment insurance or other unemployment reserve funds, Federal and State, or private; (d) curtailed production, consolidation, and economic reconstruction; (e) the planning of public works with regard to the stabilisation of employment; and (f) the feasibility of co-operation between Federal, State, and private agencies with reference to (a), (b), (c), and (e). The Report† of the Committee has now been issued, and its suggestions and recommendations may be summarised as follows:—

**Statistics.**—Efforts should be made to provide an efficient system for obtaining statistics of unemployment, and the first step should be taken by the Bureau of the Census in 1930, when it should be ascertained how many were unemployed at the census date, and how many were not seeking employment and yet were unemployed at that date.

**Employment Exchanges.**—Efficient employment exchanges should be established and operated by the States and municipalities, but, apart from compiling statistics and endeavouring to arrange a plan which would permit the Government to be advised promptly and accurately of conditions throughout the various State exchanges, the Federal Service should not be active. In other words, the Government should remain as completely detached from the operation of the exchanges throughout the States as it is possible for it to be. The existing United States Employment Service should be reorganised, and the director and every employee of the Service should be selected and appointed after a rigid civil service examination. The Service should become an organisation of experts, whose duties would be to co-ordinate the work of the States.

**Unemployment Insurance.**—Government interference in the establishment and direction of unemployment insurance is not necessary and not advisable at this time. Neither the time nor the condition has arrived, in the United States, where the systems of unemployment insurance now in operation under foreign governments should be adopted by the Federal Government. Private employers should adopt a system of unemployment insurance, and should be permitted and encouraged to adopt the system which is best suited to the particular industry. If any public insurance scheme is considered, it should be left to the State legislatures to study that problem.

**Stability and Public Works.**—Private industry should recognise the responsibility it has to stabilise employment within the industry. The Government should encourage this effort in every way by sponsoring national conferences, by publishing information concerning the experience of particular industries in this work, and by taking every opportunity to keep the thought of stability uppermost in the minds of the employers. The Government should adopt legislation without delay which would provide a system of planning public works, so that they would form a reserve against unemployment in times of depression. States and municipalities and other public agencies should do likewise.

The Committee adds to its Report a suggestion that further consideration might well be given to two questions, viz., the effect upon unemployment of industrial developments, such as the consolidation of capital; and the necessity and advisability of providing, either through private industry, through the States, or through the Federal Government, a system of old age pensions.

## LABOUR DISPUTES IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES ABROAD IN 1928.

### CANADA.\*

DURING 1928, there were in Canada 101 industrial disputes, affecting 13,239 workpeople and resulting in a loss of 238,132 working days; the corresponding figures for 1927 being 79 disputes, affecting 22,683 workpeople and resulting in a loss of 165,288 working days. The industries chiefly affected in 1928 were coal-mining and building, strikes in which accounted for two-thirds of the total number of days lost. Of the 101 disputes occurring in 1928, 29 terminated in favour of the workers, 35 in favour of employers, 30 ended in a compromise, whilst 7 were either unteminated or had an indefinite result. Forty-five disputes were settled by negotiation between parties, 10 by conciliation or mediation, 2 by arbitration, 2 by reference to a Board under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act 1907, 18 by the return of the workers, 16 by the replacement of the workers, and in the remaining 8 disputes the method of settlement was indefinite or they were unteminated.

### INDIA.

Statistics published in the *Bombay Labour Gazette* for March, 1929, show that, during 1928, there occurred in India 203 industrial disputes affecting 506,851 workers and involving the loss of 31,647,404 working days, a total which exceeds the aggregate of working days lost in the 5 preceding years taken together. The corresponding statistics for 1927 are contained in the May, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE.

Over one half (110) of the disputes arose out of questions affecting wages and/or bonus, while 44 arose out of questions concerning the employment or dismissal of workers, 6 in respect of leave and hours and the remaining 43 were due to various other causes. In 27 disputes the workers were completely successful, partially successful in 41, and unsuccessful in 128. The remaining 7 disputes were still in progress at the end of the year.

The industries chiefly affected by disputes were the cotton and wool textile industries, in which 110 disputes accounted for the loss of 24,851,274 working days or approximately 75 per cent. of the total days lost in all disputes. This exceptionally high figure is mainly due to the general strike in the Bombay textile mills, which lasted nearly 6 months. Other industries largely affected were: jute, 19 disputes involving the loss of 1,556,808 working days; engineering, 11 disputes and 3,148,706 working days; and railways (including railway workshops), 9 disputes and 1,874,313 working days.

### AUSTRIA.†

During 1928 there occurred in Austria 240 strikes and 24 lock-outs, involving together 757 undertakings, as compared with 195 strikes and 21 lock-outs in 1927, involving 527 undertakings (revised figures). The total numbers of workers affected respectively by strikes and lock-outs were 32,915 and 5,342 (28,769 and 6,531 in 1927) and the number of days lost through strikes was 562,893, and through lock-outs 95,032 (476,709 and 209,851 respectively in 1927). Of the total number of strikes, 171 affecting 26,912 workers (81.7 per cent.) were due to wages questions.

The highest total of days lost through strikes occurred in the textile industry, the second highest in the metal and engineering industry. The strikes in these industries accounted for nearly 73 per cent. of the aggregate of days lost. The highest total of days lost through lock-outs occurred in the building industry.

Of the total number of strikes the workers were successful in 82.9 per cent. (23.7 completely and 59.2 per cent. partially) and in 17.1 per cent. they were unsuccessful.

### SWITZERLAND.

The official statistics of strikes and lock-outs published by the Federal Labour Office‡ include only strikes and lock-outs terminating during the year in question and exclude any dispute lasting less than one day.

During 1928, 45 disputes occurred (44 strikes and 1 lock-out), affecting 283 undertakings and 5,474 workers, of whom 5,339 were strikers and 135 were locked out. The number of days lost through strikes was 95,855, and through the lock-out 2,160. During 1927, the total number of disputes was 26, affecting 328 undertakings and 2,058 workers and involving a loss of 34,160 working days. The chief industries affected by strikes in 1928, if the number of working days lost be taken as the standard, were: building (39,007, or 40.7 per cent., of the total number of days lost); woodworking and glass (20,119, or 21.0 per cent.); watchmaking and jewellery (19,130, or 19.9 per cent.).

The great majority of the disputes arose out of wage questions.

## WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS OVERSEAS.

### GERMANY.

**Coal Mining.**—The wage dispute in the Ruhr coal-mining industry was settled by the issue, on 22nd April, of a conciliation award which increased the wages of both underground and surface workers by 2 per cent. The award was declared binding by the Minister of Labour on grounds of national interest. It is to have effect from 1st May, 1929, until 30th September, 1930.

The Conciliator, in issuing the award, took into consideration the fact that the German Government was about to apply a part of the surplus from the Wages Tax to the relief of the social insurance contributions paid by employers and workers in the mining industry, a sum of 40.5 million marks being allotted for this purpose. The employers are to participate in this relief to the extent of one-third of the amount and the workers to the extent of two-thirds. In the case of the workers, the relief is stated to be equivalent to a wage increase for underground workers of 3.45 per cent. and for surface workers of 1.25 per cent., or, together with the 2 per cent. increase under the award, increases of 5.45 and 3.25 per cent., respectively. The relief to the employers from the grant out of the surplus of the Wages Tax is stated to represent an overall average of 1.35 per cent. of the gross wage-bill, and the actual additional charge thrown upon the industry by the award, after allowing for the employers' share of the grant, to be 0.65 per cent. on the wage-bill.

**Metal Industry.**—A dispute involving some 180,000 workers in the Berlin metal industry was settled by a conciliation award issued on 23rd April. The award, which was accepted by the workers, provides for an increase in the rate for workers in Group A (highly skilled workers) from 1.06 to 1.12 marks an hour, and in the rate for Group B (ordinary skilled workers) from 0.95 to 1.0 marks an hour. Semi-skilled workers are to receive an increase of 4 pfennigs an hour, bringing their minimum wage up to 89 pfennigs an hour; the wages of unskilled workers are to be increased from 80 to 84 pfennigs an hour. Women workers are to be paid, as hitherto, at rates equal to 70 per cent. of the rates for male workers. The award came into force on 29th April, and is to remain valid until 30th September, 1930.

In the dispute in the Saxon metal industry, reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE, fresh conciliation proceedings were instituted, which resulted in the issue of a new award superseding that of 19th March. The new award provides for the raising of the minimum starting wage for skilled workers over 23 years of age from 81 to 86 pfennigs an hour. Experienced skilled workers over 23 years of age on time rates are to be paid compensatory allowances varying from 5 pfennigs an hour, if the hourly earnings do not exceed 89 pfennigs, to 2 pfennigs an hour, if the hourly earnings amount to from 99 to 104 pfennigs. The guaranteed minimum average earnings of a piece-worker of average capacity are fixed at 15 per cent. above a basic minimum time rate of 94 pfennigs. The award, if accepted or enforced, will have effect from 1st April, 1929, until 30th June, 1930.

As the result of further negotiations, the employers and workers in the Cologne metal industry have drawn up an agreement which appears to supersede the conciliation award issued towards the end of March last as reported in the last issue of this GAZETTE. Under the new agreement, the tariff wages for skilled workers and assistant workers are to be increased by 4 and 5 pfennigs an hour, respectively, while working hours are to be reduced by one hour to 51 a week. The new agreement is to be valid until 30th June, 1930.

### FRANCE.

**Coal Mining.**—In the Nord and the Pas-de-Calais, an agreement has been reached dating from 16th April, 1929, which increases from 10 to 17 per cent. the bonus on the basic wage of all workers, both underground and surface. The basic wage of the miner on No. 10 scale has also been increased from 35 francs to 38.49 francs a day, making 45.03 francs with the new bonus. For particulars of the previous agreement (16th November, 1928) see this GAZETTE for December, 1928, p. 437.

In the Loire, an agreement dating from 1st May, 1929, provides for increases varying from 5 to 7 per cent., which will add from 1.80 francs to 2.20 francs to the daily wage of underground workers according to occupation, and from 80 centimes to 1.70 francs to that of surface workers.

In the Gard, a provisional agreement has also been concluded, subject to confirmation by the trade union, which raises the bonus payable on the basic wage from 4½ to 12 per cent. for underground workers and from 2 to 10 per cent. for surface workers.

### BELGIUM.

Wages in the match industry in Belgium have been increased by 15 per cent. as from April, and paid holidays of three days a year are to be granted. It is proposed, later on, to introduce a working week of 45 hours worked in five days.

### POLAND.

**Coal Mining.**—The Polish Upper Silesian coal-mining dispute has been settled by an Arbitration Commission set up by the Government. The Commission recommended, on 21st March, the rejection of the worker's demand for a reduction of the working day to 7½ hours, and the grant of a general all-round wage increase of 5 per cent., the increase to take effect from March 1st and to remain in force until the 31st August, 1929. Both sides ultimately accepted the decision of the Commission. The mine-owners have obtained the sanction of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to raise the price of coal in the home market by amounts ranging from 0.80 zlotys to 3.00 zlotys per ton.

### FINLAND.

**Dock Workers.**—The strike of dock workers in the Finnish ports, which began on 2nd June, 1928, was settled on 12th April, 1929, when the Stevedores' Association and the Transport Workers' Union both accepted a conciliation proposal put forward by the Minister for Social Affairs. The chief terms of this compromise, which is to remain in force until 1st April, 1930, are as follows:—Stevedores affiliated to the Stevedores' Association guarantee to pay their workers the same time and piece rates as were paid in the autumn of 1928, and to increase hourly rates, if they do not already amount to 10 marks for men and 8 marks for women, by percentages ranging from 12.5 to 25 in the various ports in excess of 1927 rates. Hourly rates for women are to be 2 marks less than those paid to men.

## WAGES IN NEW ZEALAND.

THE Table below, which has been compiled from information contained in the New Zealand Official Year Books, gives the average minimum weekly rates of wages of adult workers in certain occupations at 31st March, 1914, 1923 and 1928. The rates quoted are the simple (unweighted) averages of the award rates of the Arbitration Court for the four chief industrial areas, that is, for the Northern, Wellington, Canterbury and Otago, and Southland industrial districts: the figures refer to male workers only, except where female workers are definitely referred to, as in the textile, clothing, and boot and shoe industries.

Industry and Occupation.	Average adult minimum weekly rates as fixed by Arbitration Award, at 31st March.		
	1914.	1923.	1928.
<b>Building:</b>			
Bricklayers	s. d. 68 5½	s. d. 99 11½	s. d. 99 11½
Carpenters	64 3½	93 0½	101 9
Plasterers	67 9½	96 10½	99 11
Bricklayers' Labourers	55 0	79 1	86 7
Other Builders' Labourers	52 6½	76 6½	83 5
<b>Sawmilling:</b>			
Sawyers	53 0½	91 11½	103 4
General Hands	51 0	80 2	84 4
<b>Metal and Engineering:</b>			
Moulders, Iron and Brass	64 7½	93 9½	99 0
Boilermakers—Journeyman	62 8	94 3	99 0
Blacksmiths, Farriers	61 7	74 9	99 0
Tinsmiths—Journeyman	62 8	94 2½	99 0
Fitters	64 7½	94 5	99 0
Electrical Workers	61 10½	94 1	99 0
<b>Textile: Wool:</b>			
Spinners (Male)	51 0	85 9	93 9
General Hands (Male)	46 6	74 6	82 6
Females—All Adults	26 3	41 0	45 0
<b>Clothing:</b>			
Tailors—Journeyman	53 9	90 0	95 0
Factory Hands	56 0	81 10	87 6
Tailoresses—Journeywomen	27 6	42 6	45 0
<b>Boot and Shoe:</b>			
Males	52 6	83 8	88 11
Female Journeywomen	27 6	47 6	50 0
<b>Coal Mining:</b>			
Underground Workers:—			
Miners	63 3	101 1½	110 2
Truckers	55 11	92 4½	94 1
Surface Workers:—			
Tipplers	53 7½	86 8	90 8
Labourers	54 3½	86 8	90 8
<b>Agriculture:</b>			
Ploughmen*	45 8	60 11½	65 4
General Farm Hands*	41 8	51 6½	54 4½
Shepherds*	46 6	55 5	75 0

The award rates at 1923 are of interest as they mark the lowest point reached in the slump after the wages boom of 1921–22; from 1923 onwards the award rates have, in general, increased gradually to the rates prevailing in 1928.

The normal hours worked in the various industries vary from 44 hours a week in such industries as mining, building, shipbuilding, clothing, etc., to 47 or 48 hours a week in factories, on railways or tramways, in hotels, etc. It is stated that since 1914 there has been a gradual and almost uninterrupted decline in the general average of weekly working hours.

\* The estimated value of board and lodging is included.

\* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 5th April, 1929. Berlin.

† United States Senate, 70th Congress, 2nd Session. Report No. 2072.

\* Labour Gazette, February, 1929. Ottawa.

† Statistische Nachrichten, April, 1928. Vienna.

‡ Rapports économiques et statistiques sociales, January, 1929. Berne.



## CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st MAY.

## Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	61%
Food only	...	...	49%

## FOOD.

The principal movements in retail prices during April were reductions of 4d. per lb. in the prices of tea, as a consequence of the abolition of the import duty. There were further reductions, by 1st May, in the prices of milk, and butter was also cheaper. On the other hand, bacon was dearer, the amounts of increase varying considerably and averaging 1½d. per lb. Butcher's meat also was somewhat dearer.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase compared with July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 49 per cent. at 1st May, 1929, as compared with 50 per cent. a month ago and 54 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 2nd April and 1st May, 1929:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest ¼d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 1st May, 1929, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	2nd April, 1929.	1st May, 1929.	July, 1914.	2nd April, 1929.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs	0 10	1 4½	1 5	+ 0 7	+ 0 ½
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 9½	0 9½	+ 0 2½	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	+ 0 0½
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 1	+ 0 0½
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	1 6½	1 6½	+ 0 8	+ 0 0½
Breast	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 5	...
Breast	0 4	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 1½	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 5	1 6½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 1½
Flour	per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 3½	+ 0 5	...
Bread	per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 8½	+ 0 2½	...
Tea	...	1 6½	2 4½	+ 0 6½	- 0 4
Sugar (granulated)	...	0 2	0 3	+ 0 1	...
Milk	per quart	0 3½	0 6	+ 0 2½	- 0 0½
Butter—					
Fresh	...	1 2½	1 11½	+ 0 8½	- 0 0½
Salt	...	1 2½	1 9½	+ 0 7	- 0 0½
Cheese†	...	0 8½	1 2½	+ 0 5½	- 0 0½
Margarine	...	0 7	0 7½	+ 0 0½	...
Eggs (fresh)	each	0 1½	0 1½	0	0
Potatoes	per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 6½	+ 0 2	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st May, 1929, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 2nd April, 1929.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs	71	69	70	68
Thin Flank	40	41	40	39
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	49	46	47	42
Thin Flank	17	21	19	14
Mutton, British—				
Legs	78	77	77	76
Breast	59	55	57	57
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs	76	66	71	69
Breast	29	31	30	28
Bacon (streaky)*	67	63	65	52
Fish	128	99	114	112
Flour	43	48	46	46
Bread	49	49	49	49
Tea	29	38	33	54
Sugar (granulated)	47	39	43	43
Milk	61	72	67	74
Butter—				
Fresh	53	59	56	61
Salt	48	50	49	53
Cheese†	60	63	61	64
Margarine	9	4	6	7
Eggs (fresh)	40	29	35	30
Potatoes	49	25	37	38
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase)	50	48	49	50

\* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

† The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

‡ Though the average prices, as expressed to the nearest ¼d., differ by 3½d., the average reduction in price was nearly 4d.

§ The average change was small, but sufficient to raise the average price, as expressed to the nearest ¼d.

## RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the controlled rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st May, 1929, was approximately 50 per cent. When de-controlled rents are also included, the combined average increase in working-class rents since July, 1914, is approximately 53 per cent. This latter figure has been utilised in calculating the final percentage increase for all the items included in these statistics.

As regards clothing, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st May the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged between 115 and 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group the prices of coal at 1st May were lower in a number of towns than a month earlier and averaged about 75 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained unchanged, at between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st May, as compared with July, 1914, was about 70 per cent.

## ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st May is, approximately, 61 per cent.\* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 62 per cent. at 2nd April, 1929, and 64 per cent. at 1st May, 1928.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1929 as in 1914) is to show the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or readjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in those families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

## SUMMARY TABLE: 1919 TO 1929.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1919 to 1929:—

## Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Month (beginning of)	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Jan. ...	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75	75	68	67
Feb. ...	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72	66	65
Mar. ...	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71	64	66
Apr. ...	110	132	133	82	74	75	75	68	65	64	62
May ...	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64	64	61
June ...	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63	65	...
July ...	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66	65	...
Aug. ...	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64	65	...
Sept. ...	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65	65	...
Oct. ...	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	67	66	...
Nov. ...	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69	67	...
Dec. ...	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	69	68	...

## NOTE.

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

\* If allowance is made for the changes in taxation since July, 1914, on the commodities included in these statistics, the average increase is about 1 per cent. less.

## EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

THERE was a further improvement in employment in most industries during April. The principal industries in which improvement occurred included the mining group, exclusive of coal mining and slate quarrying; building and public works contracting; brick, tile, cement and pottery manufacture; tinplate manufacture; shipbuilding, ship repairing and marine engineering; the shipping service; artificial silk and lace manufacture; the clothing trades and boot and shoe manufacture. In the coal mining industry there was a further reduction in the numbers of workpeople wholly unemployed, but this was more than counterbalanced by an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped. There were also increases in the numbers unemployed in the cotton, linen and jute industries, in textile bleaching, dyeing and finishing, in the glass bottle industry, and in river, dock and harbour services.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople, numbering approximately 11,880,000, insured against unemployment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 22nd April, 1929 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), was 9.9, as compared with 10.1 at 25th March, 1929, and 9.5 at 23rd April, 1928. For males alone the percentage at 22nd April, 1929, was 11.1, as compared with 11.4 at 25th March, 1929; for females the corresponding figures were 6.8 and 6.9. The percentage wholly unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, was 8.0, as compared with 8.4 at 25th March, 1929. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 22nd April, 1929, was approximately 1,175,000, of whom 905,000 were men and 197,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 25th March, 1929, it was 1,168,000, of whom 918,000 were men and 190,000 were women; and at 30th April, 1928, it was 1,171,000, of whom 942,000 were men and 160,000 were women. At 29th April 1929, the total had risen to 1,198,000, owing mainly to an increase in the numbers unemployed in the coal mining industry.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Employment in the coal mining industry showed a decline, on the whole, as compared with a month before, except in Northumberland, Durham, and Wales, where the improvement reported in March was maintained. The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 27th April, 1929, showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. as compared with 23rd March, 1929, and an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with 28th April, 1928. The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 27th April, 1929, was 5.00, as compared with 5.59 in the fortnight ended 23rd March, 1929, and with 4.98 in the fortnight ended 28th April, 1928.

In the iron mining industry employment again improved, and was moderate, on the whole. At the West Lothian shale mines there was an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed at the mines from which returns were received as compared with March, 1929, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with April, 1928. At limestone quarries in the Clitheroe and Buxton districts employment continued good; in the Weardale district it was reported as fair. At slate quarries in North Wales employment was again fairly good. At chalk quarries it continued slack. At tin mines employment remained good; at china clay quarries a further improvement was reported, and employment was fairly good.

**Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate Industries.**—In the pig-iron industry employment showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. Of 424 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of April, 1929, was 152, as compared with 145 at the end of March, 1929, and with 149 at the end of April, 1928. At iron and steel works employment was still bad, and showed little change as compared with March. In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement as compared with March. In the week ended 27th April, 1929, 388 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 368 in the week ended 23rd March, 1929, and with 384 in the week ended 28th April, 1928. In steel sheet manufacture employment showed a decline; in the week ending 27th April, 1929, 120 mills were in operation, as compared with 126 in the week ended 23rd March, 1929, and with 123 in the week ended 28th April, 1928.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.**—In engineering employment remained quiet on the whole, but showed a slight further improvement in most districts. It was fairly good in the motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft section, which showed an improvement, and in electrical engineering, which, however, showed a slight decline. In marine engineering employment, though still slack, improved in all districts; in constructional engineering it was bad, and rather worse than in March. In the textile machinery works much short time was reported; at some of the railway works Saturday working was suspended. In shipbuilding and ship repairing employment was still very bad, on the whole, but there was an improvement in most districts as compared with the previous month.

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

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

**Textile Industries.**—In the cotton industry employment showed little change as compared with a month earlier. In the American spinning section there was no improvement; a large amount of unorganised short time was worked, and a considerable number of mills were closed entirely owing to depression of trade. In the Egyptian spinning section organised curtailment of production continued to the extent of 33½ per cent. throughout April.

In the wool textile industry employment was still bad in both the woollen and worsted sections, but showed a slight improvement in all departments as compared with March. In the carpet section employment continued fairly good. In the hosiery industry employment continued fair on the whole; in the silk and artificial silk trades employment continued to show improvement; in the lace trade employment showed a further improvement and was fair on the whole; in the linen trade it showed little change, and was still slack. In the jute trade employment showed a slight decline, some short time being reported; in textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., it continued slack, and showed a decline as compared with March.

**Clothing Industries.**—In the retail bespoke and ready-made and wholesale bespoke branches of the tailoring trade and also in the dressmaking and millinery trades employment showed a further seasonal improvement, and was good at most centres; a shortage of skilled machinists and certain other grades was reported from a few centres, particularly in the London Area. In the shirt and collar and corset trades employment remained fairly good in most districts. In felt hat manufacture employment continued fairly good. In the boot and shoe industry employment showed a further improvement in most of the principal centres, and was moderate on the whole.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment in the leather trades showed little change on the whole as compared with March. In the tanning and currying section it continued slack; in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section there was a slight improvement; with saddlery and harness makers it remained moderate.

**Building, Woodworking, etc.**—Employment in the building trades showed a further general improvement during April, particularly in the painting and decorating section; with skilled workers it was fair to fairly good, on the whole, and with unskilled workers it was moderate. As regards individual occupations, employment with bricklayers was good generally; with carpenters it improved, and was fair; with masons it was fair to fairly good; with slaters it improved but was slack on the whole. Employment was generally moderate with plasterers, and remained good at most centres with plumbers. Employment with painters showed a further seasonal improvement, and was generally good; with tradesmen's labourers it was moderate, on the whole. In brick manufacture employment showed a further improvement, and was moderate, on the whole. In the Peterborough district it continued good.

Employment in the furnishing trades and in coachbuilding continued to be fairly good; in sawmilling a further improvement was reported, but employment, on the whole, was only moderate.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—With paper makers employment continued fairly good. With letterpress printers it was good; the improvement previously noted was maintained in London, and at Birmingham, Edinburgh and Glasgow, but at Leeds employment was only moderate. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good, on the whole, and showed some improvement in London. With lithographic printers employment continued fair generally; at Glasgow it was very good; at Bradford and Bristol it was fairly good; it was still slack at Sheffield. With bookbinders employment was moderate, and showed a decline.

**Pottery and Glass.**—In the pottery industry employment showed a further improvement, but much short time was still reported. In the best china ware, and in the tile and sanitary ware sections employment was fairly good. In the glass trade employment continued slack in the bottle-making section; in the other branches the improvement reported last month was maintained.

**Agriculture and Fishing.**—Conditions for cultivation were unusually good during April, and the work was accordingly well forward at the end of the month. The supply of labour was generally sufficient; casual labour for potato planting was plentiful but very little unemployment was reported. With fishermen employment was moderate on the whole.

**Dock Labourers and Seamen.**—With dock labourers employment was still slack generally. With seamen employment was moderate, on the whole, and the number of engagements was considerably higher than in March; at most ports, however, the supply of seamen was more than adequate for requirements.

## SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

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



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

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Workpeople included in the Returns for April, 1929.	April, 1929.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
Coal Mining	940,837	5.00	5.00	- 0.59	+ 0.02
Iron	6,732	5.81	5.81	+ 0.37	+ 0.01
Shale	2,537	5.91	5.91	- 0.04	- 0.04
Pig Iron	...	Days Worked per week by Mines.		Days.	Days.
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	Furnaces in Blast. Mills working.		Number.	Number.
Iron and Steel	68,594	Shifts Worked (one week)		Per cent.	Per cent.

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Month before.	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Month before.	Month before.	Year before.
Textiles:—		Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cotton	76,856	- 0.5	141,880	+ 0.1	- 3.7	
Woolen	59,909	+ 2.1	125,236	+ 4.3	- 2.4	
Worsted	84,300	+ 2.2	166,100	+ 4.6	- 3.8	
Carpet	10,274	- 1.8	19,022	- 0.1	- 3.9	
Boot and Shoe	49,365	+ 2.0	114,405	+ 7.9	- 2.2	
Pottery	11,026	+ 2.0	21,349	+ 3.4	+ 3.9	
Brick	9,892	+ 3.4	26,595	+ 5.2	+ 8.1	

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 22nd April, 1929, among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts:—

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured aged 16-64 inclusive, at July, 1928. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London	2,147,530	6.6	3.1	5.4	- 0.6	+ 0.1
South-Eastern	867,940	5.4	3.3	4.9	- 0.8	...
South-Western	815,570	8.2	4.7	7.4	- 0.7	...
Midlands	1,749,770	9.2	6.7	8.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
North-Eastern	1,968,990	14.4	7.7	13.0	- 0.3	- 0.1
North-Western	2,094,200	13.7	10.9	12.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
Scotland	1,263,500	13.7	7.3	11.9	- 0.4	+ 0.8
Wales	592,400	18.1	7.7	17.1	- 1.1	- 2.4
Northern Ireland	251,000	16.4	12.3	14.7	- 0.6	+ 0.8
Special Schemes	130,500	2.4	0.5	1.9	...	+ 0.5
TOTAL	11,881,500	11.1	6.8	9.9	- 0.2	+ 0.4

UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month from April, 1928, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople, and the approximate number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Date.	Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople.				Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.	
	Males.	Females.	Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily Stopped.	Date.	Numbers.
1928.					1928.	
23 Apr. ...	11.0	5.6	7.6	1.9	30 Apr. ...	1,171,000
21 May ...	11.4	5.8	7.5	2.3	21 May ...	1,143,000
25 June ...	12.2	6.8	7.7	3.0	25 June ...	1,239,000
23 July ...	13.0	7.8	8.1	3.5	30 July ...	1,354,000
20 Aug. ...	12.9	8.0	8.2	3.4	27 Aug. ...	1,367,000
24 Sept. ...	12.6	8.1	8.6	2.8	1 Oct. ...	1,384,000
22 Oct. ...	13.3	7.8	8.9	2.9	29 Oct. ...	1,421,000
26 Nov. ...	13.8	8.1	9.3	2.9	26 Nov. ...	1,439,000
17 Dec. ...	12.6	7.5	9.1	2.1	17 Dec. ...	1,312,000
1929.					1929.	
21 Jan. ...	13.8	8.5	9.8	2.5	28 Jan. ...	1,434,000
25 Feb. ...	13.9	7.9	9.8	2.4	25 Feb. ...	1,430,000
25 Mar. ...	11.4	6.9	8.4	1.7	25 Mar. ...	1,168,000
22 Apr. ...	11.1	6.8	8.0	1.9	29 Apr. ...	1,198,000

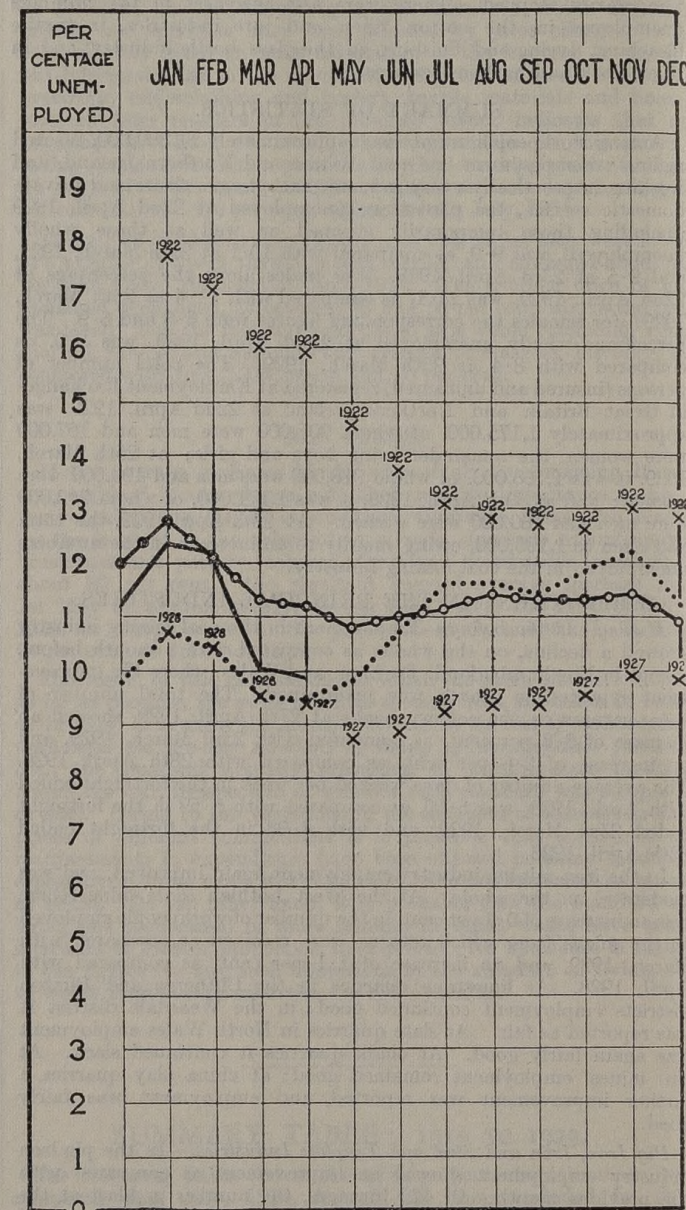
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

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

Plain Curve - - - - - = 1929.  
Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1928.  
Chain Curve - - - - - = Mean for 1922-25 and 1927-28.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-25 and 1927-28.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING APRIL, 1929.

Area.	Men.				Women.				Total.	
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Number.	Per cent. of Numbers Insured at July, 1928.*
South-Eastern:										
(a) London	1,171	5,634	2,261	5,412	14,478	0.67				
(b) Rest of South-Eastern	1,425	2,692	1,250	1,975	7,342	0.85				
South-Western	1,062	2,311	888	1,718	5,979	0.73				
Midlands	887	4,487	887	3,865	10,126	0.58				
North-Eastern	1,131	5,095	1,202	3,244	10,672	0.54				
North-Western	1,033	4,503	1,249	4,299	11,084	0.53				
Scotland	1,005	3,424	837	2,765	8,031	0.64				
Wales	472	1,853	386	616	3,327	0.56				
GREAT BRITAIN	8,186	29,999	8,960	23,894	71,039	0.62				

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

\* Aged 16-64 inclusive.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—The numbers of workpeople employed given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries. In the comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates the figures relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a decline on the whole, as compared with the previous month, except in Northumberland, Durham, and Wales, where the improvement reported last month was maintained. In Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, and the Midlands employment declined, and short time working was general.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.8 at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 13.2 at 25th March, 1929, and 17.9 at 23rd April, 1928. The percentage wholly unemployed decreased by 0.5 from 12.1 to 11.6, but the percentage temporarily stopped increased by 3.1 from 1.1 to 4.2.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 27th April, 1929, showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. as compared with 23rd March, 1929, and an increase of 0.6 per cent. as compared with 28th April, 1928.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 27th April, 1929, was 5.00, a decrease of 0.59 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 23rd March, 1929, but an increase of 0.02 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 28th April, 1928.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week\* during the fortnight ended 27th April, 1929, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals.

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	27th April, 1929.	Month before.	27th April, 1929.	Month before.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	48,349	+ 0.7	+ 6.0	5.49	+ 0.19	+ 0.18
Durham	134,104	+ 1.2	+ 6.2	5.26	- 0.05	...
Cumberland and Westmorland	9,556	- 0.8	- 18.5	5.48	- 0.06	+ 0.27
South Yorkshire	117,723	+ 0.9	- 2.3	5.03	- 0.54	+ 0.51
West Yorkshire	53,026	+ 0.2	- 7.3	4.33	- 1.35	- 0.09
Lancs and Cheshire	78,684	- 0.5	- 5.1	4.19	- 0.85	- 0.34
Derbyshire	56,785	+ 0.3	+ 0.3	4.07	- 1.51	- 0.58
Notts and Leicester	61,508	+ 0.1	- 1.5	4.04	- 1.61	- 0.51
Warwick	17,122	- 0.6	- 4.3	5.09	- 0.87	- 0.05
North Staffordshire	28,994	+ 0.1	- 4.8	4.29	- 1.16	- 0.03
South Staffs,† Worcs. and Salop	31,596	...	- 1.0	4.61	- 1.20	- 0.36
Glos. and Somerset	10,995	+ 0.2	- 4.4	4.93	- 0.71	+ 0.33
Kent	4,087	+ 3.0	+ 20.7	5.37	- 0.13	- 0.27
North Wales	14,861	+ 0.3	+ 1.4	5.75	- 0.17	+ 0.20
South Wales and Mon.	174,525	+ 2.4	+ 3.8	5.86	- 0.03	+ 0.27
England and Wales	841,915	+ 0.9	+ 0.1	4.99	- 0.57	+ 0.04
SCOTLAND:						
Mid & East Lothians	13,020	- 2.0	+ 5.9	5.18	- 0.43	- 0.21
Fife and Clackmannan	22,922	+ 2.6	+ 8.7	5.36	- 0.34	+ 0.03
Rest of Scotland	62,980	+ 0.6	+ 3.1	5.08	- 0.79	- 0.20
Scotland	98,922	+ 0.7	+ 4.7	5.16	- 0.64	- 0.16
GREAT BRITAIN	940,837	+ 0.8	+ 0.6	5.00	- 0.59	+ 0.02

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 27th April, 1929, was 0.79 of a day per week, of which 0.75 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The corresponding figures for the fortnight ended 23rd March, 1929, were 0.21 of a day per week and 0.18 of a day per week respectively; and for the fortnight ended 28th April, 1928, they were 0.82 of a day per week and 0.79 of a day per week. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 27th April, 1929, was reported to the Mines Department as 19,462,300 tons, as compared with 22,184,300 tons in the four weeks ended 23rd March, 1929, and 17,678,600 tons in the four weeks ended 28th April, 1928. The output of coal for the four weeks ended 27th April, 1929, and 28th April, 1928, was affected by holidays.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 22nd April, 1929, and the increases or decreases as compared with 25th March, 1929, and 23rd April, 1928, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.		Percentages.		Total.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.	Percentages.	Wholly Unemployed (incl. Casuals).	Temporarily stopped.		Month before.	Year before.
Great Britain and Wales	129,387	46,745	11.6	4.2	15.8	+ 2.6	- 2.1
Scotland	112,916	42,282	11.4	4.3	15.7	+ 2.6	- 2.1
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—	16,471	4,463	12.9	3.4	16.3	+ 2.2	- 2.5
Northumberland	6,549	178	12.3	0.3	12.6	- 0.7	- 7.0
Durham	22,822	3,325	14.3	2.1	16.4	- 0.9	- 3.0
Cumberland and Westmorland	2,422	311	19.4	2.5	21.9	- 0.3	+ 11.9
Yorkshire	15,221	11,160	8.1	6.0	14.1	+ 5.2	- 2.3
Lancs and Cheshire	9,571	10,261	9.9	10.6	20.5	+ 8.4	+ 3.7
Derbyshire	2,743	5,212	4.4	8.4	12.8	+ 7.8	+ 2.8
Notts and Leicester	2,993	3,957	4.4	5.8	10.2	+ 5.5	+ 2.0
Warwickshire	1,002	34	7.6	0.2	7.8	+ 0.5	+ 1.9
Staffs, Worcs. and Salop	6,048	5,872	8.1	7.9	16.0	+ 7.0	+ 2.3
Glos. and Somerset	1,329	368	9.8	2.7	12.5	+ 2.3	- 7.6
Kent	126	1	3.3	0.1	3.4	- 1.1	- 1.7
Wales and Monmouth	41,439	1,580	17.1	0.6	17.7	- 1.8	- 7.0

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,419,100 tons in April, 1929, as compared with 6,597,000 tons in March, 1929, and with 5,379,200 tons in April, 1928.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT was moderate on the whole, and there was an increase both in the number of workpeople employed and in the average number of days worked per week at the mines from which returns were received.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron and ironstone mining industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.6 at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 9.6 at 25th March, 1929, and 13.1 at 23rd April, 1928.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
	Fortnight ended 27th April, 1929.	Month before.	Month before.	Year before.	Month before.	Year before.
Cleveland	2,434	Per cent. + 5.6	Per cent. + 3.1	5.58	+ 0.96	- 0.36
Cumberland and Lancashire	3,019	+ 4.6	+ 13.2	6.00	...	+ 0.18
Other Districts	1,279	+ 0.3	- 1.8	5.80	+ 0.15	+ 0.28
ALL DISTRICTS	6,732	+ 4.1	+ 6.4	5.81	+ 0.37	+ 0.01

SHALE MINING.



According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 152 furnaces were in operation at the end of April, compared with 145 at the end of March, and 149 at the end of April, 1928.

Returns received from 79 firms, employing 19,122 workpeople at the end of April, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. compared with March, but showed no change compared with April, 1928.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of April, 1929, March, 1929, and April, 1928:—

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Apr. 1929.	Mar. 1929.	Apr. 1928.	Month before.	Year before.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
Durham and Cleveland	97	40	38	38	+ 2	+ 2
Cumberland and W. Lancs ...	44	12	11	11	+ 1	+ 1
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ...	31	10	9	10	+ 1	...
Derby, Leicester, Nottingham and Northants ...	65	28	28	29	...	- 1
Lincolnshire ...	24	15	14	14	+ 1	+ 1
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ...	50	12	12	10	...	+ 2
South Wales ...	23	10	10	8	...	+ 2
<b>Total, England and Wales</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>+ 7</b>
<b>SCOTLAND</b> ...	<b>90</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	<b>- 4</b>
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>424</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>+ 7</b>	<b>+ 3</b>

The production of pig iron in April amounted to 611,300 tons, as compared with 590,500 tons in March, and 563,100 tons in April, 1928.

**IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.**

EMPLOYMENT in April continued bad; it showed little change as compared with the previous month but was better than a year ago. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.3 at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 17.6 at 25th March, 1929, and 21.2 on 23rd April, 1928.

According to returns received from firms employing 68,594 workpeople in the week ended 27th April, 1929, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 0.4 per cent. as compared with March, 1929, and by 5.3 per cent. as compared with April, 1928. The average number of shifts\* during which the works were open was 5.5 in April, 1929, the same as in March, 1929, as compared with 5.3 in April, 1928.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*	
	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month before.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	7,358	+ 4.5	41,397	+ 4.7
Puddling Forges ...	2,319	+ 5.8	10,821	+ 7.2
Rolling Mills ...	25,199	- 0.8	132,820	+ 0.4
Forging & Pressing ...	2,809	- 8.4	15,318	- 6.8
Founding ...	7,640	- 0.1	43,978	- 1.1
Other Departments	8,556	+ 2.1	48,898	+ 2.8
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>68,594</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>377,302</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>

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

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received from the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 808,600 tons in April, 1929, as compared with 859,900 tons in March, 1929, and 644,100 tons in April, 1928.

**TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.**

In the tinplate industry employment showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. In the week ended 27th April, 1929, 388 tinplate mills were in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 368 in the week ended 23rd March, 1929, and with 384 in the week ended 28th April, 1928. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.9 at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 23.7 at 25th March, 1929, and 13.8 at 23rd April, 1928. In steel sheet manufacture, employment showed a decline as compared with the previous month. In the week ended 27th April, 1929, 120 mills were in operation, as compared with 126 in the week ended 23rd March, 1929, and 123 in the week ended 28th April, 1928.

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

Works.	Number of Works Open.			Number of Mills in Operation.		
	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	69	+ 5	...	388	+ 20	+ 4
Steel Sheet ...	13	...	...	120	- 6	- 3
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>82</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>+ 14</b>	<b>+ 1</b>

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in April, 1929, amounted to 111,126 tons, or 3,873 tons less than in March, 1929, but 13,511 tons more than in April, 1928.

**ENGINEERING.**

EMPLOYMENT in April remained quiet, on the whole, but showed a slight further improvement in most districts. It was fairly good in the motor vehicle, cycle and aircraft section, which showed an improvement, and in electrical engineering, which, however, showed a slight decline. In marine engineering employment, though very slack, improved in all districts; while in constructional engineering it was bad, and rather worse than in the previous month. In the textile machinery works much short time remained in operation, and at some of the railway works Saturday working was suspended.

Compared with a year ago employment was rather better in marine and general engineering and on motor vehicle work, but showed a falling off in constructional and electrical engineering.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineers: Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	3,403	394	50	144	1,253	5,244	- 368	- 571
South-Eastern ...	1,718	199	112	82	1,058	3,169	- 313	+ 234
South-Western ...	1,472	130	525	75	890	3,092	- 280	- 55
Midlands ...	5,252	905	36	855	5,989	13,037	- 162	- 1,950
North-Eastern ...	14,200	807	2,806	897	776	19,486	- 838	- 826
North-Western ...	16,815	1,104	87	260	1,028	19,294	+ 823	- 1,972
Scotland ...	8,733	300	1,728	908	807	12,476	- 50	+ 1,085
Wales ...	857	27	25	126	167	1,002	- 7	+ 403
Northern Ireland ...	827	12	355	19	168	1,381	- 41	- 731
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b> ...	<b>53,077</b>	<b>3,878</b>	<b>5,724</b>	<b>3,366</b>	<b>12,136</b>	<b>78,181</b>	<b>- 1,236</b>	<b>- 5,189</b>

**Percentage Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.**

London ...	4.3	3.2	6.5	5.4	3.3	3.9	- 0.3	- 0.5
South-Eastern ...	3.6	2.8	4.9	11.2	3.9	3.7	- 0.4	- 0.4
South-Western ...	4.4	4.0	8.6	12.9	3.3	4.4	- 0.4	- 0.1
Midlands ...	6.0	3.5	2.5	12.9	6.2	6.0	- 0.1	- 0.9
North-Eastern ...	12.1	9.7	13.7	12.3	6.0	11.7	- 0.5	- 0.7
North-Western ...	12.9	5.6	10.4	8.6	5.5	11.2	+ 0.5	- 0.2
Scotland ...	11.7	11.4	9.5	16.4	7.5	11.1	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Wales ...	12.1	6.9	12.5	16.8	8.0	11.3	- 0.1	- 3.5
Northern Ireland ...	12.0	4.1	7.3	63.3	7.4	9.6	- 0.3	- 5.9
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b> ...	<b>9.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>- 0.6</b>
<i>Ditto, Mar., 1929</i> ...	<i>9.1</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>11.3</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>8.7</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>
<i>Ditto, Apr., 1928</i> ...	<i>9.8</i>	<i>4.7</i>	<i>12.0</i>	<i>9.9</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>8.6</i>	<i>...</i>	<i>...</i>

On the North-East Coast employment continued bad, on the whole, but showed a further improvement. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire it remained moderate, but continued to improve.

In Lancashire and Cheshire employment was still bad; much short time was worked in the textile machinery section. Conditions on electrical and motor work were fair, and improved. At some railway works short time was in operation.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment continued fair in general and motor engineering, and good on electrical work. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district conditions remained fair.

In London and the Southern Counties employment was good, especially on electrical and motor vehicle work, and showed a further improvement on the previous month.

In Scotland and in Wales employment was bad, but showed a slight improvement. In Northern Ireland it was slack, but rather better than in March.

**SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.**

EMPLOYMENT was still very bad on the whole during April, but there was an improvement in most districts compared with the previous month. The figures for the North-Eastern Division and for Scotland continued to show a steady improvement, and there was also a considerable improvement in London, following a decline in the previous month. In Wales, however, the percentage unemployed rose to 40.1, and a decline in employment was also shown in the South-Western Division.

Compared with a year ago there was a slight improvement on the whole, largely owing to a substantial improvement in Northern Ireland. A decline was shown on the North-East Coast, in Scotland and in Wales, and an improvement in the South of England and in the North-Western Division.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, and the increase or decrease as compared with 25th March, 1929, and with 23rd April, 1928:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
South-Eastern ...	455	- 101	- 177	6.4	- 1.3	- 1.6
South-Western ...	2,704	+ 427	- 136	12.7	+ 2.0	- 0.3
Midlands ...	37	- 3	- 5	9.5	- 0.8	+ 0.2
North-Eastern ...	17,148	- 2,614	+ 1,408	28.9	- 4.4	+ 2.0
North-Western ...	6,820	+ 52	- 863	24.6	+ 0.2	- 1.9
Scotland ...	12,155	+ 1,151	+ 774	21.3	- 2.0	+ 1.5
Wales ...	5,315	+ 409	- 307	40.1	+ 5.0	+ 4.7
Northern Ireland ...	2,004	- 67	- 1,886	18.1	- 0.6	- 13.0
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b> ...	<b>46,182</b>	<b>- 3,587</b>	<b>- 1,853</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>

**COTTON INDUSTRY.**

EMPLOYMENT showed little change as compared with a month earlier, and was below the level of a year ago. In the American spinning section there was no improvement; a large amount of unorganised short time was worked, and a considerable number of mills were closed entirely owing to depression of trade. In the Egyptian spinning section, organised curtailment of production continued to the extent of 33½ per cent. throughout April. In the weaving department employment continued slack. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.7 on 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 11.5 on 25th March, 1929, and with 10.1 on 23rd April, 1928.

At Ashton employment with spinners was bad, and worse than a month earlier; the fancy weaving section, on the other hand, was well employed. At Hyde employment was good, except with card-room workers, with whom it was reported as slack; at Glossop employment on the whole was fair. The improvement recently reported at Stockport was not maintained; employment with spinners and card-room workers was bad, and worse than in March. At Oldham employment with spinners was reported as bad, and as worse than in the previous month, although better than a year ago; the Easter holidays were extended in a large number of cases, and there was a considerable increase, averaging from 7½ to 10 per cent., in short time. In the weaving department employment continued slack on the whole; it was described as fair with velvet workers, slack in the calico section, and bad with fustian and "fancy" weavers; large numbers of weavers were on short time, and others under-employed in various ways. At Bolton the curtailment of production in the Egyptian spinning section continued to the extent

of 33½ per cent.; employment was described as slack with spinners and as poor with card-room workers; with weavers employment was slightly better than a month earlier, rather less short time being reported. At Leigh organised short time continued in the spinning and card-room sections, but the improvement in the winding and weaving sections was maintained. At Bury a slight improvement was reported; and at Rochdale there was also a change for the better, although employment was still poor.

At Preston employment remained quiet, but was reported as more steady than for some months; production, however, was considerably below full capacity. At Blackburn employment was very depressed, and was worse than a month earlier; about 5,000 women were unemployed at the end of April. At Great Harwood a serious decline was reported, with an increasing amount of short time in the preparatory departments, and a large amount of "under-employment" in the weaving section. At Accrington employment was fair with spinners; in the weaving section employment was irregular, and manufacturers of the coarser materials found it necessary to resort to short time. At Darwen employment was bad; about 12,000 looms were idle at the end of April, the firms mainly affected being those making goods for the Indian markets; employment with preparatory workers was very irregular, many being stopped for indefinite periods. At Burnley employment continued slack; it was about the same as in March, and below the level of a year ago. At Padiham weavers were still fairly well employed. At Nelson the position showed on the whole some improvement; though there was still some under-employment among weavers, and employment with preparatory workers was bad, and worse than in March. In the Rossendale Valley employment continued very bad, with much short time and under-employment.

In Yorkshire generally there was a slight improvement. Employment at Halifax was quiet; there was a slight improvement at Brighouse and at Hebden Bridge. At Todmorden a large number of workpeople were engaged on three or, in some cases, only two looms instead of the normal four. At Bradford and at Huddersfield employment was reported as bad, with much short time being worked.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Preparing ...	10,635	- 0.7	- 1.5	17,698	+ 0.3	- 3.6
Spinning ...	20,554	- 0.1	- 2.8	35,312	+ 0.5	- 6.4
Weaving ...	31,039	+ 0.8	- 2.7	55,599	+ 0.8	- 2.3
Other ...	7,798	- 0.6	- 0.8	19,032	+ 0.3	- 1.3
Not Specified ...	6,830	+ 0.6	- 6.5	14,239	+ 2.3	- 5.8
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>76,856</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>141,880</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>- 3.7</b>

Returns from firms employing about 75,000 operatives in the week ended 27th April showed that nearly 15 per cent. were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 14½ hours each on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 22nd April, 1929:—

Department	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 22nd April, 1929.					
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Card and Blowing Room ...	852	3,919	4,771	1,033	5,316	6,349
Spinning ...	4,197	2,987	7,184	7,068	4,687	11,755
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	599	2,673	3,272	1,327	7,230	8,557
Weaving ...	1,747	4,985	6,732	2,697	7,012	9,709
Other Processes	448	179	627	507	279	786
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>7,843</b>	<b>14,743</b>	<b>22,586</b>	<b>12,632</b>	<b>24,524</b>	<b>37,156</b>



The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 25th March, 1929:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	+123	+706	+829	-200	+554	+354	+1,183
Spinning ...	+492	+552	+1,044	+1,586	-16	+1,570	+2,614
Beamling, Winding and Warping ...	+91	+558	+649	+272	+1,187	+1,459	+2,108
Weaving ...	+472	+1,836	+2,308	+1,173	+1,931	+3,104	+5,412
Other Processes ...	+28	+15	+43	+187	+33	+220	+263
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>+1,206</b>	<b>+3,667</b>	<b>+4,873</b>	<b>+3,018</b>	<b>+3,689</b>	<b>+6,707</b>	<b>+11,580</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 110,831,700 lbs. in April, 1929, compared with 139,378,100 lbs. in March, 1929, and with 130,074,300 lbs. in April, 1928.

The exports of cotton yarn were 13,130,000 lbs. in April, 1929, compared with 13,535,700 lbs. in March, 1929, and with 13,752,800 lbs. in April, 1928.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 349,414,400 square yards, as compared with 333,970,900 square yards in the previous month, and with 314,773,200 square yards in April, 1928.

### WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April was still bad in both the woollen and worsted sections, but showed a slight improvement in all departments as compared with March. In the carpet section employment continued to be fairly good. In the industry as a whole employment was below the level of a year ago.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.5 on 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 11.2 on 25th March, 1929, and with 7.1 on 23rd April, 1928.

**Worsted Section.**—The employment position showed a slight improvement in all departments, but was still bad. Employers' returns for the week ended 27th April indicated that nearly 20 per cent. of the operatives in the worsted section, taken as a whole, worked short time,\* losing about 10 hours each on the average; on the other hand, approximately 8 per cent. were reported to be working overtime to the extent of about 7 hours each.

In the wool-sorting, combing and preparing departments, the position generally was better than in March, but was still bad; in the merino and preparing sections employment was slightly worse, but there was some improvement in the carding (crossbred) section. In the week ended 27th April, about 29 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns lost, on an average, about 10 hours each in short time; during the same period 8 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 9½ hours each.

In worsted spinning there was a considerable improvement in the Heavy Woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley, and the position generally was moderate, and better than a month earlier, except in the Spen Valley district, where it was bad, and worse than in the previous month. According to the employers' returns, approximately 17½ per cent. of the operatives were on short time, losing, on the average, 12 hours each during the week ended 27th April; during the same period nearly 7 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of 6 hours each. In worsted weaving the improvement was small at Bradford and Keighley and somewhat larger at Halifax, Huddersfield and Leeds. According to the employers' returns 19½ per cent. of the workpeople lost, on the average, about 7 hours each in short time\* during the week ended 27th April; about 6½ per cent. worked 6½ hours each in overtime.

**Woollen Section.**—There was a slight improvement in all departments of this section of the industry also. Employers' returns for the week ended 27th April indicated that 28 per cent. of the workers in the spinning section were on short time, averaging about 7½ hours each, and about 25 per cent. of those in the weaving section, averaging about 9 hours each.\* On the other hand, 10½ per cent. of the workpeople in the spinning section were on overtime to the extent of 8 hours each, while about 5 per cent. of the weavers, etc., also worked overtime, averaging 5½ hours each. In the woollen section, as a whole, approximately 25 per cent. of the operatives lost, on the average, about 8 hours each in short time,\* and about 7 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of over 7 hours each.

The position continued to improve in the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district, where employment generally was described as moderate. In the Heavy Woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley employment was better than in March; it was moderate

to good in some parts of this district, and also in the Morley district. At Leeds employment was moderate, and there was a decided improvement at Halifax.

The rag and shoddy section of the industry showed further improvement, consequent on the improvement in the woollen trade generally, and was considered fair. At Rochdale, Apperley Bridge and Saddleworth employment with flannel manufacturers was reported as bad. Employment with woollen workers remained steady at Stockport. With blanket and rug workers there was an improvement in Yorkshire generally, except at Halifax.

In Scotland the position varied in different districts but, on the whole, there was a slight improvement.

**Carpet Section.**—Employment was fairly good, on the whole, and showed little change as compared with March. The position remained good at Kidderminster, and generally good in Scotland. Conditions in Yorkshire were fair.

Employers' returns for the week ended 27th April showed that approximately 20 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, losing 7 hours each on the average; about 2½ per cent. of the operatives were on overtime to the extent of 4 hours each.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers:—

Departments :	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1928 = 100.)	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.*	Index figure. (Jan., 1928 = 100.)
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,335	+ 2.0	93.4	26,129	+ 3.3	92.6
Spinning ...	40,832	+ 2.2	96.9	65,348	+ 4.3	99.2
Weaving ...	21,112	+ 2.2	98.5	44,899	+ 5.8	105.0
Other Depts. ...	10,188	+ 2.2	101.7	25,640	+ 4.3	98.9
Not specified ...	1,833	+ 2.3	95.4	4,084	+ 6.2	107.5
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>84,300</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>97.3</b>	<b>166,100</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>99.8</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting ...	1,166	+ 3.1	92.3	2,685	+ 3.0	102.1
Spinning ...	13,433	+ 1.7	94.1	29,256	+ 3.3	102.5
Weaving ...	25,265	+ 2.7	102.8	47,319	+ 6.3	110.3
Other Depts. ...	17,597	+ 1.7	96.2	40,603	+ 2.8	103.0
Not specified ...	2,448	+ 2.2	95.0	5,373	+ 3.2	107.3
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>59,909</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>125,236</b>	<b>+ 4.3</b>	<b>105.6</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>19,022</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>103.1</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry ...</b>	<b>154,483</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>310,358</b>	<b>+ 4.2</b>	<b>102.4</b>
<b>Districts :</b>						
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Bradford ...	36,358	+ 2.0	93.5	74,423	+ 3.8	91.2
Huddersfield ...	9,810	+ 2.9	109.7	22,357	+ 5.9	124.3
Halifax ...	10,085	+ 2.1	95.1	17,766	+ 5.0	94.9
Leeds ...	8,381	+ 2.7	95.7	15,801	+ 6.2	99.9
Keighley ...	9,178	+ 1.6	102.2	17,304	+ 4.3	113.3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,509	+ 2.8	100.5	5,755	+ 6.6	109.8
<b>Total, West Riding ...</b>	<b>77,321</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>153,406</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>99.3</b>
<b>West of England and Midlands ...</b>	<b>4,573</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>8,660</b>	<b>+ 2.8</b>	<b>97.1</b>
Lancashire ...	341	+ 1.8	116.9	682	+ 3.2	119.2
Scotland ...	2,065	+ 3.2	103.2	3,352	+ 7.5	138.6
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>84,300</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>97.3</b>	<b>166,100</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>99.8</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Huddersfield ...	12,877	+ 3.2	90.7	30,420	+ 7.9	93.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	11,218	+ 2.7	97.6	23,171	+ 0.9	111.5
Leeds ...	8,554	+ 0.7	109.2	18,444	- 0.2	123.8
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,663	+ 8.7	92.7	5,484	+ 11.0	84.7
Bradford ...	1,255	+ 1.5	100.5	2,845	+ 9.1	100.5
<b>Total, West Riding ...</b>	<b>36,567</b>	<b>+ 2.8</b>	<b>97.5</b>	<b>80,364</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>	<b>105.4</b>
Lancashire ...	5,179	+ 3.4	97.1	10,774	+ 7.8	106.5
West of England and Midlands ...	3,746	+ 2.7	102.9	6,848	+ 3.6	112.7
Scotland ...	14,275	+ 0.2	99.8	27,044	+ 3.7	105.7
Wales ...	142	- 22.4	104.5	206	- 19.2	90.9
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>59,909</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>125,236</b>	<b>+ 4.3</b>	<b>105.6</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>19,022</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>103.1</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry ...</b>	<b>154,483</b>	<b>+ 1.9</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>310,358</b>	<b>+ 4.2</b>	<b>102.4</b>

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed in the week ended 27th April, 1929, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the week ended 23rd March, 1929.

\* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages which were made by certain firms in February to April, 1929.  
† Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.

### BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a further improvement in most of the principal centres, and was moderate on the whole; a much smaller proportion of the workpeople were on short time, and overtime was worked at some factories. Employment was, however, still below the level of April, 1928, at most centres.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.5 at 22nd April, as compared with 14.5 at 25th March, and with 7.5 at 23rd April, 1928.

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

Department.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Per cent.	Week ended 27th April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Per cent.
<b>England and Wales:—</b>						
London ...	2,043	+ 0.6	- 5.6	4,710	+ 2.6	- 5.3
Leicester ...	8,267	+ 3.1	- 2.1	22,646	+ 14.3	+ 4.3
Leicester Country District ...	1,600	- 1.4	- 9.6	3,712	- 3.7	- 4.2
Northampton ...	6,171	+ 2.2	- 6.1	14,341	+ 10.3	- 6.2
Northampton County District ...	7,563	+ 1.4	- 5.0	17,155	+ 6.1	- 3.5
Kettering ...	3,707	+ 2.2	- 0.2	9,290	+ 2.0	+ 2.1
Stafford and District ...	2,537	+ 0.8	- 4.9	5,624	+ 21.9	+ 1.4
Norwich and District ...	4,483	+ 5.7	+ 2.6	9,890	+ 12.8	+ 9.9
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,409	- 1.5	- 14.0	2,407	+ 3.2	- 13.6
Leeds and District ...	1,739	- 0.8	- 7.7	3,540	- 0.2	- 14.3
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	5,217	+ 4.9	- 7.7	11,294	+ 5.4	- 10.5
Birmingham and District ...	962	+ 2.7	- 3.5	1,974	+ 18.9	+ 2.6
Other parts of England and Wales ...	1,708	+ 1.4	- 0.9	3,554	+ 14.0	+ 0.1
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>47,406</b>	<b>+ 2.3</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>	<b>110,137</b>	<b>+ 8.7</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>
Scotland ...	1,959	- 4.5	- 15.8	4,268	- 9.5	- 8.9
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>49,365</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>- 4.8</b>	<b>114,405</b>	<b>+ 7.9</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at 22nd April, 1929:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 22nd April, 1929.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	286	1	287	252	2	254	541
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	407	236	643	377	238	615	1,258
Wool Combing ...	214	190	404	562	374	936	1,340
Wool Carding ...	379	98	477	504	79	583	1,060
Wool Spinning ...	309	77	386	242	92	334	720
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	319	1,376	1,695	204	1,489	1,693	3,388
Wool Winding and Warping ...	76	12	88	155	76	231	319
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	56	177	233	99	530	629	862
Woollen Weaving ...	99	420	519	159	1,585	1,744	2,263
Worsted Weaving ...	101	208	309	66	1,089	1,155	1,464
Other Processes ...	660	96	756	518	181	699	1,455
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2,906</b>	<b>2,891</b>	<b>5,797</b>	<b>3,138</b>	<b>5,735</b>	<b>8,873</b>	<b>14,670</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 25th March, 1929:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 27	+ 1	+ 28	+ 119	- 1	+ 118	+ 146
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	+ 60	+ 38	+ 98	+ 23	- 79	- 56	+ 42
Wool Combing ...	- 23	+ 14	- 9	+ 15	+ 31	+ 46	+ 37
Wool Carding ...	- 2	- 14	- 16	+ 42	+ 14	+ 56	+ 40
Wool Spinning ...	- 65	- 15	- 80	- 38	- 42	- 80	- 160
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	- 42	- 43	- 85	- 49	- 59	- 108	- 193
Wool Winding and Warping ...	+ 1	- 7	- 6	- 9	- 13	- 22	- 28
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 7	- 40	- 33	- 56	+ 50	- 6	- 39
Woollen Weaving ...	- 10	- 28	- 38	- 35	- 189	- 224	- 258
Worsted Weaving ...	- 6	- 13	- 19	+ 8	+ 46	+ 38	+ 15
Other Processes ...	- 68	+ 2	- 66	- 134	+ 32	- 102	- 168
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>- 121</b>	<b>- 105</b>	<b>- 226</b>	<b>- 130</b>	<b>- 210</b>	<b>- 340</b>	<b>- 566</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 75,122,200 lbs. in April, 1929, compared with 49,965,500 lbs. in March, 1929, and 54,642,900 lbs. in April, 1928.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 2,999,500 lbs. compared with 3,284,800 lbs. in March, 1929, and with 3,728,100 lbs. in April, 1928.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 9,513,400 square yards, compared with 12,060,900 square yards in March, 1929, and 9,969,600 square yards in April, 1928.

The exports of blankets were 64,579 pairs, 81,262 pairs and 87,014 pairs in April, 1929, March, 1929, and April, 1928.

Returns from firms employing about 48,700 operatives in the week ended 27th April showed that a little over 29 per cent. of these operatives worked short time in that week, losing nearly 9½ hours each on the average; on the other hand, over 11 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 4½ hours each on the average.

Employment in London showed a further slight improvement; it was fair on the whole, and good at some establishments. At Leicester there was a general improvement; short time was much less prevalent, and a number of firms were well employed, and some even working overtime. In the Leicestershire country district there was a slight decline on the whole, and employment at Hinckley was reported as bad. At Northampton the general improvement continued, and employment with most firms was better than at any time since Christmas: it was better in the ladies' shoe section than in the other sections; as at Leicester, short time was much reduced, and several factories worked full time, while some were on overtime. Employment was, however, still considerably below the level of a year ago. Employment at Kettering (which has been for a considerable time better than at most of the other principal centres) showed only a small further improvement. Employment at Higham and Rushden varied greatly, some firms being on full time, while others were on half or three-quarter time; on the whole, however, employment at the end of the month was described as fair, and slightly better than in March. There was also an improvement at Irthlingborough and at Earl's Barton, and employment at Raunds was fairly good. At Wellingborough there was a slight improvement; better time was worked, and some firms were taking on workpeople. Employment at Stafford showed a great improvement, and at the end of the month was fair; according to the returns received from employers for the week ended 27th April, the number of operatives on overtime was greater than the number on short time. At Norwich also there was a further marked improvement, and employment was fairly good, except in the turnshoe section, which remained bad. Overtime was worked at a number of factories, and short time working



The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 22nd April, 1929:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 22nd April, 1929.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	109	31	140	101	30	131	271
Rough Stuff Department	341	7	348	216	7	223	571
Cleaving Department	495	8	503	567	8	575	1,078
Closing Department	21	801	822	11	1,185	1,196	2,018
Making Department	1,593	26	1,619	1,746	27	1,773	3,392
Finishing Department	1,093	290	1,383	798	138	936	2,319
Slipper Making	430	167	597	331	334	665	1,262
Clog Making	12	1	13	5	1	6	19
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	545	—	545	39	—	39	584
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,639</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>5,970</b>	<b>3,814</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>5,544</b>	<b>11,514</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 25th March, 1929:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department	+ 5	- 3	+ 2	- 51	+ 3	- 48	- 46
Rough Stuff Department	- 22	+ 3	- 19	- 136	- 11	- 147	- 166
Cleaving Department	- 232	- 4	- 236	- 654	+ 3	- 651	- 887
Closing Department	+ 6	- 141	- 135	+ 4	- 468	- 464	- 599
Making Department	- 220	+ 6	- 214	+ 137	- 1	+ 136	- 78
Finishing Department	- 36	- 38	- 74	- 299	- 37	- 336	- 410
Slipper Making	- 79	+ 11	- 68	- 186	- 430	- 498	- 498
Clog Making	...	+ 1	+ 1	+ 3	...	+ 3	+ 4
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work	+ 19	...	+ 19	- 21	...	- 21	- 2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>- 559</b>	<b>- 165</b>	<b>- 724</b>	<b>- 1,261</b>	<b>- 697</b>	<b>- 1,958</b>	<b>- 2,682</b>

The exports of boots and shoes in April, 1929, amounted to 126,149 dozen pairs, or 14,558 dozen pairs more than in March, 1929, and 5,419 dozen pairs more than in April, 1928.

### BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed a further improvement and was moderate on the whole. In the Peterborough district it continued good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, tile, etc., industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.1 at 22nd April, 1929, compared with 13.4 at 25th March, 1929, and 11.2 at 23rd April, 1928.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Apr., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 27th Apr., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire...	1,812	+ 1.6	+ 3.2	4,491	+ 3.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties	6,308	+ 4.1	+ 8.8	17,672	+ 5.6
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,598	+ 2.8	+ 7.2	3,981	+ 5.9
Scotland	174	+ 0.6	- 7.0	451	+ 1.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,892</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>	<b>+ 7.1</b>	<b>26,595</b>	<b>+ 5.2</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that of 9,178 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 25 per cent. were working on an average 6 hours less than full time in the week ended 27th April, 1929; on the other hand, 14.5 per cent., mainly in the Peterborough district, were working overtime to the extent of 6 hours each on an average.

### BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further general improvement during April particularly in the painting and decorating section; it varied somewhat as between different centres but was fair to fairly good, on the whole, with skilled operatives, and moderate with unskilled workers. As compared with April, 1928, employment was at about the same level.

As regards individual occupations, employment improved with bricklayers, and was good at most centres; it was better with carpenters and masons, and was generally fair with the former and fair to fairly good with the latter; it also improved with slaters, but was slack on the whole. Employment was generally moderate with plasterers, and remained good, at most centres, with plumbers. There was a further seasonal improvement with painters, and employment was generally good; it was moderate, on the whole, with tradesmen's labourers. As compared with April, 1928, employment was better with plasterers and plumbers, and considerably worse with slaters; it showed little variation with the remaining classes.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, who were recorded as unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with April, 1928:—

OCCUPATIONS.	*Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1928.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 22nd April, 1929.	Number Included in Previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	Year before.
Carpenters	127,050	10,158	322	8.0	- 2.7	- 0.3
Bricklayers	73,890	3,573	156	4.8	- 3.4	- 1.5
Masons	22,150	1,497	68	6.8	- 2.4	- 0.7
Slaters	5,940	922	53	15.5	- 3.2	+ 7.9
Plasterers	23,430	2,479	142	10.6	- 0.7	- 2.3
Painters	107,380	4,346	101	4.0	- 6.6	- 1.2
Plumbers	32,540	1,766	69	5.4	+ 0.2	- 3.5
Labourers to above...	240,930	30,860	1,048	12.8	- 2.3	+ 0.3
All other occupations	183,250	27,082	992	14.8	- 1.1	+ 0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>816,560</b>	<b>82,683</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>
<b>DIVISIONS.</b>						
London	172,710	12,294	9	7.1	- 2.5	- 0.2
South-Eastern	126,940	5,323	46	4.2	- 1.8	- 0.8
South-Western	99,450	7,353	78	7.4	- 1.6	- 1.4
Midlands	93,750	9,164	782	9.8	- 2.7	- 0.2
North-Eastern	99,410	15,101	805	15.2	- 4.3	- 1.9
North-Western	106,040	14,972	694	14.1	- 2.8	+ 1.7
Scotland	75,030	8,935	309	11.9	- 2.9	+ 2.8
Wales	28,870	6,803	252	23.6	- 3.8	- 1.9
Northern Ireland	14,360	2,758	6	19.2	- 2.2	- 2.1
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	<b>816,560</b>	<b>82,683</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>

### BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 143 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,281,000, show that in April, 1929, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £7,116,900, as compared with £5,392,200 in March, 1929, and £4,843,100 in April, 1928. Of the total for April, 1929, dwelling houses accounted for £4,222,300; factories and workshops for £1,009,900; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £436,700; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £1,448,000.

### POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further improvement, although there was still much short-time working. In the best china-ware and in the tile and sanitary-ware sections employment was fairly good. At Derby employment was fairly good; at Worcester it was steady. In the stoneware section in Scotland it was again reported to be slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.7 at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 13.7 at 25th March, 1929, and 12.8 at 23rd April, 1928. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Apr., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	Week ended 27th Apr., 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month before.	
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
China Manufacture	1,284	- 0.1	+ 1.9	2,592	- 1.4
Earthenware Manufacture	7,885	+ 2.3	+ 0.4	15,203	+ 4.2
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,857	+ 1.9	+ 2.3	3,554	+ 3.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,026</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>21,349</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>					
North Staffordshire	8,252	+ 1.8	- 1.1	14,618	+ 2.4
Other Districts	2,774	+ 2.4	+ 7.2	6,731	+ 5.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,026</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>21,349</b>	<b>+ 3.4</b>

\* Aged 16-64 inclusive.

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,009 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 4,200, or 42 per cent., were working on an average 11 hours less than full-time in the week ended 27th April, 1929; the amount of overtime worked was negligible.

### PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper-making industry during April remained fairly good. Short time was reported at a few centres, but otherwise full time was fairly general.

In the letterpress printing trade employment was good. The improvement previously noted was maintained in London and at Birmingham, Edinburgh and Glasgow; though at Leeds employment was only moderate, and worse than during March. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment continued good on the whole and showed some improvement in London.

Employment with lithographic printers continued fair generally. At Glasgow it was reported very good, and better than during March; whilst at Bradford and Bristol it was fairly good. On the other hand, it was still slack at Sheffield. Lithographic artists continued fairly well employed on the whole; at Manchester employment continued to improve but remained moderate.

In the bookbinding trade employment declined during the month, and on the whole was moderate.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding industries was 4.3 at 22nd April, compared with 4.4 at both 25th March, 1929 and 23rd April, 1928. In the paper and paper-board industry the percentage was 4.0 at 22nd April, compared with the same percentage at 25th March and 3.9 at 23rd April, 1928. In the cardboard box, paper bag and stationery industries the percentage was 4.6 at 22nd April, compared with 4.9 at 25th March and 4.4 at 23rd April, 1928.

The following Table summarises the returns received from certain trade unions:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of April, 1929.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Apr., 1929.	Mar., 1929.	Apr., 1928.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:						
London	38,894	2.3	2.9	4.8	- 0.6	- 2.5
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	16,444	2.8	2.5	4.1	+ 0.3	- 1.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties	10,744	1.7	1.3	2.5	+ 0.4	- 0.8
Scotland	6,527	2.8	3.3	4.8	- 0.5	- 2.0
Other Districts	10,395	1.9	1.8	3.0	+ 0.1	- 1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,004</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>
Lithographic Printing	10,985	2.8	2.9	3.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
Bookbinding	19,103	4.4	2.8	3.6	+ 1.6	+ 0.8

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during April was still slack generally. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 32.8 per cent. were unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, as compared with 31.7 per cent. at 25th March, 1929, and with 30.1 per cent. at 23rd April, 1928.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for each week of the month:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
6th April, 1929	3,749	1,917	5,666	8,148	13,814
13th " "	3,918	1,930	5,848	8,089	13,937
20th " "	3,663	1,884	5,547	8,144	13,691
27th " "	3,725	2,475	6,200	7,765	13,965
Average for 4 weeks ended 27th April, 1929	3,765	2,057	5,822	8,032	13,854
Average for Mar., 1929	3,754	1,972	5,726	7,600	13,326
Average for Apr., 1928	3,942	2,049	5,991	8,266	14,257

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during April was 957, compared with 748 in March, and with 1,032 in April, 1928.

East Coast.—There was an increased demand for labour on the North-East Coast, and employment was fair generally. At Middlesbrough it was still conspicuously good. There was a slight improvement at Hull, except with timber workers, and employment was reported to be moderate. At Goole there was a marked improvement, due to increased wool imports. Employment continued fair at Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Lynn, and slack at Ipswich.

Liverpool.—Employment was steady with coal trimmers and slack with other classes of dock workers. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 26th April was 14,390, compared with 14,570 in March, and with 14,798 in April, 1928. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £36,019 in the four weeks ended 26th April, compared with £35,173 in March, and with £35,685 in April, 1928.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—The improvement noted in March at the South Wales ports was maintained during April. Similar conditions obtained at Bristol, and there was no change at Avonmouth. At Gloucester employment was quiet, at Southampton employment showed a tendency to improve, but was still only quiet generally. At Plymouth and other South-Western ports work was slack, except at Falmouth, where there was a fair amount of activity.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—With the closing of the jute season, employment at Dundee declined. It also declined slightly at Leith. At Glasgow it was fair, and at Grangemouth fair, and better than in March. Employment was brisk at North Alloa. It continued fair at Belfast.

### SEAMEN.

DURING April employment was moderate on the whole. The number of engagements was considerably higher than in the previous month, but at most ports the supply of seamen was more than adequate for requirements.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 22nd April, 1929, was 16.7, compared with 19.4 at 25th March, 1929, and 15.0 at 23rd April, 1928.

The demand for men on the Thames was quiet during the first three weeks but became fair during the last week. On the Tyne it was moderate to fair, and on the Wear it was generally quiet. On the Tees the demand was moderate during the first part of the month but became more active during the last week; at the Hartlepoons it was fair during the first week but poor thereafter. It was quiet to moderate at Hull. At Southampton it continued fair throughout the month. At Bristol the demand was generally quiet, except during the second week, when it was fair. At Avonmouth it fluctuated from moderate to good. The demand was fairly good at Newport; at Cardiff it was fair, some shortage of carpenters being reported. At Swansea it was fair to good, and temporary scarcities of deck hands were experienced. On the Mersey the demand was fairly good generally, though in the second week it was only moderate; at Manchester it was fair throughout the month. The demand on the Clyde was fair to moderate; at Leith it was quiet; and at Belfast it was poor during the first half of the month, but improved during the second half.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	April, 1929.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Four Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	April, 1929.	April, 1928.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES:</b>					
Liverpool	11,399	+ 619	- 17	45,433	43,642
Manchester	740	+ 118	- 13	3,270	2,918
London	9,430	+ 1,584	- 150	35,057	35,390
Southampton	10,209	+ 2,345	+ 394	31,586	33,132
Tyne Ports	3,059	+ 745	+ 507	10,759	9,938
Sunderland	258	+ 85	- 35	856	1,333
Middlesbrough	555	+ 115	+ 102	1,781	1,941
Hull	1,007	- 33	+ 29	4,399	4,982
Bristol	945	+ 85	- 84	3,823	4,005
Newport, Mon.	857	+ 207	+ 288	2,691	2,614
Cardiff	2,889	+ 260	- 255	11,474	10,938
Swansea	762	+ 76	+ 138	3,039	2,502
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>					
Leith	332	+ 162	+ 14	1,013	1,316
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	286	+ 13	- 39	1,293	1,427



## UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 22nd April, 1929, and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

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

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

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

months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 181 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

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

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

## Special Note. Persons aged 65 and over.

Under the provisions of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, all persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts as from 2nd January, 1928. (The employers of such persons, however, are required to pay contributions at the employer's rates.) The estimates of the numbers of insured persons in each industry prepared on the basis of the information obtained from the exchange of unemployment books, therefore, no longer include persons aged 65 and over. Such persons no longer appear in the statistics showing the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, and the figures for dates subsequent to 2nd January, 1928, are therefore not comparable with those for earlier dates. For all practical purposes, however, the percentages unemployed can be regarded as comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

## NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 22nd APRIL, 1929.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.						GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.					
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARILY STOPPED.			TOTAL.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			
Fishing ... ..	3,467	51	3,518	17	5	22	3,484	56	3,540	3,464	55	3,519
Mining ... ..	128,884	542	129,426	46,482	263	46,745	175,366	805	176,171	175,327	805	176,132
Coal Mining ... ..	1,087	3	1,090	23	...	23	1,110	3	1,113	1,073	3	1,076
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	902	6	908	12	...	12	914	6	920	914	6	920
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	3,108	4	3,112	723	1	724	3,831	5	3,836	3,597	5	3,602
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	615	1	616	415	...	415	1,030	1	1,031	1,029	1	1,030
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	1,255	77	1,332	182	21	203	1,437	98	1,535	1,379	96	1,475
Mining and Quarrying not separately specified ... ..	808	5	813	72	7	79	890	12	892	872	12	884
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	1,158	14	1,172	322	...	322	1,480	14	1,494	1,480	14	1,494
Non-Metallic Mining Products:— Coke Ovens and By-Product Works Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture ... ..	1,943	55	1,998	529	14	543	2,472	69	2,541	2,452	69	2,521
Cement Works ... ..	1,055	24	1,079	184	15	199	1,239	39	1,278	1,212	35	1,247
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	6,613	710	7,323	1,502	221	1,723	8,115	931	9,046	7,952	931	8,883
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	2,352	1,966	4,318	2,036	2,638	4,674	4,388	4,604	8,992	4,376	4,603	8,979
Glass Trades:— Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture ... ..	1,682	268	1,950	505	32	537	2,187	300	2,487	2,177	300	2,477
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	2,123	118	2,241	805	17	822	2,928	135	3,063	2,926	135	3,061
Chemicals, etc.:— Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	4,979	608	5,587	358	90	448	5,337	698	6,035	5,301	694	5,995
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	536	169	705	28	14	42	564	183	747	564	183	747
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	597	114	711	17	5	22	614	119	733	614	119	733
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	2,948	713	3,661	680	214	894	3,628	927	4,555	3,616	920	4,536
Metal Manufacture:— Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	2,253	15	2,268	348	1	349	2,601	16	2,617	2,600	16	2,616
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	16,505	145	16,650	16,024	67	16,091	32,529	212	32,741	32,516	212	32,728
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	2,431	151	2,582	906	11	917	3,337	162	3,499	3,299	162	3,461
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	1,022	91	1,113	3,946	355	4,301	4,968	446	5,414	4,968	446	5,414
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture ... ..	1,556	85	1,641	557	11	568	2,113	96	2,209	2,111	96	2,207
Engineering, etc.:— General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	37,157	1,262	38,419	14,308	350	14,658	51,465	1,612	53,077	50,638	1,612	52,250
Electrical Engineering ... ..	2,790	618	3,408	373	97	470	3,163	715	3,878	3,151	715	3,866
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	5,226	20	5,246	476	2	478	5,702	22	5,724	5,347	22	5,369
Constructional Engineering ... ..	2,540	23	2,563	803	...	803	3,343	23	3,366	3,324	23	3,347
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:— Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	9,737	893	10,630	1,421	85	1,506	11,158	978	12,136	10,997	971	11,968
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	1,174	111	1,285	140	18	158	1,314	129	1,443	1,267	129	1,396
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building ... ..	3,453	31	3,484	1,957	15	1,972	5,410	46	5,456	5,402	46	5,448

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (Including Casuals).			TEMPORARILY STOPPED.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARILY STOPPED, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	44,542	128	44,670	1,479	33	1,512	46,021	161	46,182	44,018	160	44,178
Metal Trades:— Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ... ..	6,539	496	7,035	2,004	103	2,107	8,543	599	9,142	8,469	599	9,068
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	970	28	998	96	1	97	1,066	29	1,095	1,044	29	1,073
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ... ..	3,164	1,476	4,640	454	195	649	3,618	1,671	5,289	3,615	1,671	5,286
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ... ..	2,304	753	3,057	1,420	334	1,754	3,724	1,087	4,811	3,722	1,087	4,809
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu- facture ... ..	954	859	1,813	420	125	545	1,374	984	2,358	1,374	984	2,358
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ... ..	1,109	740	1,849	273	208	481	1,382	948	2,330	1,382	948	2,330
Metal Industries not separately specified ... ..	384	12	396	81	4	85	465	16	481	460	15	475
Textile Trades:— Cotton ... ..	11,527	19,570	31,097	15,960	29,025	44,985	27,487	48,595	76,082	27,481	48,589	76,070
Woolen and Worsted ... ..	5,454	5,123	10,577	5,797	9,160	14,957	11,251	14,283	25,534	11,204	14,265	25,469
Silk and Artificial Silk ... ..	2,280	1,788	4,068	804	1,850	2,654	3,084	3,638	6,722	2,922	3,516	6,438
Linen ... ..	3,425	5,749	9,174	821	2,697	3,518	4,246	8,446	12,692	497	1,799	2,296
Jute ... ..	1,554	2,538	4,092	67	220	287	1,621	2,758	4,379	1,621	2,757	4,378
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making ... ..	530	764	1,294	112	375	487	642	1,139	1,781	530	980	1,510
Hosiery ... ..	531	2,244	2,775	602	2,685	3,287	1,133	4,929	6,062	1,115	4,843	5,958
Knives ... ..	323	291	614	200	226	426	523	517	1,040	523	517	1,040
Carpet Manufacture ... ..	382	485	867	213	537	750	595	1,022	1,617	595	1,022	1,617
Textile Industries not separately specified ... ..	774	1,827	2,601	236	903	1,139	1,010	2,730	3,740	916	2,225	3,141
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ... ..	4,023	1,695	5,718	9,813	2,891	12,704	13,836	4,586	18,422	13,321	3,881	17,202
Leather and Leather Goods:— Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	2,355	517	2,872	1,508	210	1,718	3,843	727	4,570	3,840	726	4,566
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ... ..	834	672	1,506	217	205	422	1,051	877	1,928	1,031	873	1,904
Clothing Trades:— Tailoring ... ..	3,245	2,885	6,130	209	993	1,202	3,454	3,878	7,332	3,308	3,786	7,094
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery ... ..	649	2,121	2,770	15	326	341	664	2,447	3,111	640	2,305	2,945
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture ... ..	447	354	801	158	313	471	605	667	1,272	603	667	1,270
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth- ing, etc., Making ... ..	330	2,137	2,467	34	832	866	364	2,969	3,333	296	1,250	1,546
Dress Industries not separately specified ... ..	698	470	1,168	126	340	466	824	810	1,634	823	805	1,628
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades Food, Drink and Tobacco:— Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ...	6,833	2,231	9,064	5,284	2,416	7,700	12,117	4,647	16,764	11,904	4,630	16,534
Grain Milling ... ..	7,207	2,779	9,986	281	195	476	7,488	2,974	10,462	6,984	2,894	9,878
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con- fectionery ... ..	1,340	139	1,479	418	29	447	1,758	168	1,926	1,664	167	1,831
Food Industries not separately specified ... ..	1,916	2,995	4,911	322	1,965	2,287	2,238	4,960	7,198	2,237	4,950	7,187
Drink Industries ... ..	4,407	4,439	8,846	172	500	672	4,579	4,939	9,518	4,487	4,853	9,340
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ... ..	4,845	1,618	6,463	159	271	430	5,004	1,889	6,893	4,685	1,853	6,538
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork:— Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork Wood Box and Packing Case Making Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. Woodworking not separately specified ... ..	496	1,311	1,807	21	448	469	517	1,759	2,276	482	1,542	2,124
Printing and Paper Trades:— Paper and Paper Board Making ...	5,263	112	5,375	371	16	387	5,634	128	5,762	5,511	127	5,638
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ... ..	1,089	123	1,212	263	20	283	1,352	143	1,495	1,310	143	1,453
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining ... ..	6,345	882	7,227	467	186	653	6,812	1,068	7,880	6,676	1,051	7,727
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ... ..	1,233	354	1,587	281	139	420	1,514	493	2,007	1,424	475	1,899
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	1,274	329	1,603	305	227	532	1,579	556	2,135	1,562	553	2,115
Building and Construction of Works:— Building ... ..	750	1,431	2,181	513	319	372	803	1,750	2,553	784	1,603	2,387
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	106	115	221	7	17	24	113					



UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

The following Table gives, for the period 12th March to 8th April, 1929, inclusive, the number of claims to benefit made at Employment Exchanges and Juvenile Employment Bureaux, the average number of claims current at all Local Offices in Great Britain during that period, and an analysis of the decisions by the Insurance Officers, of the recommendations of Courts of Referees, and decisions by the Umpire, on claims considered by them :-

	Males.	Females.	Total.
<b>A.—Number of Claims.</b>			
Fresh and Renewal claims made ...	521,320	144,062	665,382
Average number of claims current ...	837,136	172,721	1,009,857

	Males.	Females.	Total.
<b>B.—Disallowances by Insurance Officers.</b>			
<i>Permanent provisions:</i>			
First statutory condition* (30 contributions in past 2 years) ...	62	49	111
Not unable to obtain suitable employment ...	1,567	2,128	3,695
Not genuinely seeking work ...	14,689	8,185	22,874
Trade disputes ...	110	138	248
Employment lost through misconduct ...	2,838	835	3,673
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	3,893	2,291	6,184
Other grounds ...	1,354	622	1,976
<i>Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):</i>			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time ...	94	43	137
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	547	603	1,150
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	3,827	1,168	4,995
Total claims disallowed ...	28,981	15,952	44,933

C.—Recommendations of Courts of Referees.†

(1) ORDINARY BENEFIT APPEALS.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Total cases considered ...	11,261	6,316	17,577
Recommended for allowance ...	4,428	2,028	6,456
Recommended for disallowance :-			
<i>Permanent provisions:</i>			
First statutory condition* ...	1	1	2
Not unable to obtain suitable employment ...	444	641	1,085
Not genuinely seeking work ...	3,451	2,610	6,061
Trade disputes ...	95	9	104
Employment lost through misconduct ...	658	179	837
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	753	466	1,219
Other grounds ...	233	101	334
<i>Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):</i>			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time ...	14	2	16
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	201	88	289
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	984	191	1,175
Total recommended for disallowance ...	6,833	4,288	11,121

(2) 78-DAY REVIEW CASES.†	Males.	Females.	Total.
Total cases considered ...	78,671	11,229	89,900
Recommended for allowance ...	75,029	9,910	84,939
Recommended for disallowance :-			
<i>Permanent provisions:</i>			
Not unable to obtain suitable employment ...	3	4	7
Not genuinely seeking work ...	3,563	1,249	4,812
Trade disputes ...	...	...	...
Employment lost through misconduct ...	...	...	...
Employment left voluntarily without just cause ...	1	...	...
Other grounds ...	68	63	131
<i>Transitional provisions (Sec. 14 (2), U.I. Act, 1927):</i>			
Less than 8 contributions paid in previous two years or 30 contributions paid at any time ...	...	...	...
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	...	...	...
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	7	1	8
Total recommended for disallowance ...	3,642	1,319	4,961

<b>D.—Decisions by Umpire.‡</b>				
Cases referred by Insurance Officer	Allowed...	75	9	84
	Disallowed...	162	24	186
Appeals by Associations	Allowed...	100	6	106
	Disallowed...	307	28	335
Appeals by Claimants	Allowed...	14	3	17
	Disallowed...	55	9	64
Total	Allowed...	189	18	207
	Disallowed...	524	61	585

\* This condition at present operates only in the case of juveniles under 18 years of age.  
 † Section 11 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, as amended by the Fourth Schedule to the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1927, provides that when an insured contributor has during a prescribed period (now fixed at four months), received benefit amounting in the aggregate to 78 days, the claim shall be reviewed by a Court of Referees.  
 ‡ The recommendations of Courts of Referees and decisions by the Umpire on trade dispute disallowances refer largely to test cases. The total number of individuals affected by such decisions is considerably in excess of the figures shown in the Table.

It should be noted that the disallowances by Insurance Officers, the recommendations of Courts of Referees, and the decisions by the Umpire are those recorded during the period, and relate in a proportion of cases to claims made earlier.

During the period 19th April, 1928, to 8th April, 1929, 627,303 applications for benefit were disallowed by Insurance Officers, and 213,318 ordinary benefit appeals were considered by Courts of Referees, of which 132,385 (or 62.1 per cent.) were recommended for disallowance. The 78-day review cases considered by Courts of Referees numbered 1,224,577, of which 50,962 (or 4.2 per cent.) were recommended for disallowance. During the same period decisions were given by the Umpire on 7,090 claims, of which 4,871 (or 68.7 per cent.) were disallowed.

These figures relate to claims for benefit, and not to separate individuals.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

The following Table shows approximately the receipts and payments and the liabilities of the Fund :-

	Four weeks ended 27th April, 1929.	Five weeks ended 30th March, 1929.	Four weeks ended 28th April, 1928.
<b>Contributions received from :-</b>			
Employers ...	£ 1,185,000	£ 1,500,000	£ 1,390,000
Employed Persons ...	1,010,000	1,275,000	1,190,000
Excisequer ...	840,000	1,100,000	1,020,000
Total ...	3,035,000	3,875,000	3,600,000
<b>Unemployment Benefit</b> ... 3,185,000			
<b>Cost of Administration</b> ... 400,000			
<b>Interest accrued on Treasury Advances</b> ... 135,000			
<b>Other Items</b> ... 10,000			
Total ...	3,730,000	5,210,000	3,335,000
<b>Treasury Advances outstanding</b> ... 36,370,000			
<b>Other Liabilities (net) including accrued Interest and Deposits</b> ... 320,000			

A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 28 of 1928, for the period ending 31st March, 1928).

NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE UNEMPLOYED.

PROPORTIONS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS.

In the following Table the numbers of insured workpeople recorded as wholly unemployed and as temporarily stopped from the service of their employers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 22nd April, 1929, are analysed so as to show for various industry groups the proportion of the total numbers unemployed classified as belonging to each such group :-

Industry Group.	Males.				Females.			
	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.	Number Wholly Unemployed.	Percentage of Total.	Number Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage of Total.
Fishing ...	3,467	0.4	17	0.0	51	0.0	5	0.0
Mining ...	136,659	17.2	47,909	29.4	638	0.4	292	0.4
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products	4,156	0.5	1,035	0.6	93	0.1	29	0.0
Brick, Tile, etc., making ...	6,613	0.8	1,502	0.9	710	0.5	221	0.3
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	2,352	0.3	2,036	1.2	1,966	1.3	2,638	3.7
Glass Trades ...	3,805	0.5	1,310	0.8	386	0.3	49	0.1
Chemicals, etc. ...	9,060	1.1	1,083	0.7	1,604	1.1	323	0.4
Metal Manufacture	25,090	3.1	22,428	13.7	688	0.4	498	0.7
Engineering, etc. ...	47,713	6.0	15,960	9.8	1,923	1.3	449	0.6
Construction and Repair of Vehicles ...	14,364	1.8	3,518	2.2	1,035	0.7	118	0.2
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	44,542	5.6	1,479	0.9	128	0.1	33	0.0
Metal Trades ...	23,820	3.0	7,367	4.5	9,590	6.4	2,386	3.3
Textile Trades ...	30,803	3.9	34,625	21.2	42,074	28.2	50,569	70.1
Leather and Leather Goods	3,169	0.4	1,725	1.1	1,189	0.8	415	0.6
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	6,833	0.9	5,284	3.2	2,231	1.5	2,416	3.3
Clothing Trades ...	5,369	0.7	542	0.3	7,967	5.3	2,804	3.9
Food, Drink and Tobacco	20,211	2.5	1,373	0.8	13,281	8.8	3,408	4.7
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork	13,930	1.7	1,382	0.9	1,471	1.0	361	0.5
Printing and Paper Trades ...	8,421	1.1	662	0.4	5,797	3.9	1,236	1.7
Building and Construction of Works ...	112,001	14.1	3,928	2.4	226	0.2	7	0.0
Other Manufacturing Industries ...	6,012	0.8	1,110	0.7	2,409	1.6	947	1.3
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	8,934	1.1	383	0.2	113	0.1	6	0.0
Transport and Communication	111,957	14.0	2,290	1.4	1,229	0.8	67	0.1
Distributive Trades, Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	69,044	8.7	2,463	1.5	27,923	18.7	1,643	2.3
Miscellaneous Trades and Services ...	5,212	0.7	51	0.0	805	0.5	16	0.0
All Industries and Services ...	796,298	100.0	163,326	100.0	149,522	100.0	72,229	100.0

COMPOSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

ON page 176 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives figures relating to the 22nd April, 1929, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 4 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 4) and including lines 1 and 5, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained :-

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1 Unemployed — Special Schemes ...	2,181	15	212	7	2,415
2 Claims admitted or under consideration ...	776,677	10,647	156,461	6,531	950,316
3 Insured non-claimants and claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	87,722	4,824	12,358	3,398	108,302
4 Uninsured persons on Register ...	18,365	22,347	17,363	24,029	82,104
5 Two months' file ...	49,695	3,159	27,286	3,231	83,371
Persons on Register (lines 2-4) ...	882,764	37,818	186,182	33,958	1,140,722
Books Lodged (lines 1-3 and 5) ...	916,275	18,645	196,317	13,167	1,144,404

NUMBERS ON REGISTERS OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND FILLED.

THE number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the last Monday in March, 1929, and on each Monday in April, are given in the following Table :-

Date.	Great Britain.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
25th March, 1929 ...	1,132,856	1,167,957
1st April, 1929 ...	Not available.	1,216,248
8th " " ...	1,178,067	1,188,826
15th " " ...	1,153,535	1,175,002
22nd " " ...	1,140,722	1,198,337
29th " " ...	1,163,808	1,194,603
Average (4 weeks) ...	1,159,033	1,194,603

The figures for 29th April, 1929, are analysed below :-

	29th April, 1929.			25th March, 1929.
	Persons normally in regular employment.	Persons normally in casual employment.	Total.	
Wholly Unemployed.				
Temporarily Stopped.				
<b>Great Britain.</b>				
Men ...	643,945	184,785	78,349	907,079
Boys ...	32,036	5,566	83	37,685
Women ...	119,423	66,128	1,080	186,631
Girls ...	29,000	3,403	10	32,413
Total ...	824,404	259,882	79,522	1,163,808
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland.</b>				
Men ...	662,576	185,982	81,202	929,760
Boys ...	32,697	5,642	83	38,422
Women ...	127,404	68,764	1,097	197,265
Girls ...	29,305	3,575	10	32,890
Total ...	851,982	263,963	82,392	1,198,337

The following Table gives particulars relating to the work of Employment Exchanges\* in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in filling vacancies for employment during the five weeks ended 29th April, 1929. Of the 145,788 vacancies filled, 77,965 were for men, 34,619 for women and 33,204 for juveniles :-

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†
	During Week.	At end of Week.	
25th March, 1929 ...	39,258	28,529	33,860
1st April, 1929 ...	Not available.	Not available.	52,279
8th " " ...	59,560	28,576	52,585
15th " " ...	37,122	28,129	32,585
22nd " " ...	35,946	26,460	31,520
29th " " ...	33,918	26,316	29,404
Average (5 weeks) ...	33,309	...	29,158

\* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.  
 † "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men in relief work in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 25th March, 1929, the average number of such placings was 5,444 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the five weeks ended 29th April, 1929, was 675 per week.

PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS AT PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

THE following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 29th April, 1929. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 29th April, 1929.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) as compared with 25th Mar., 1929.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
<b>London Division</b> ...	85,933	16,782	6,331	109,046	- 8,521
<b>South-Eastern Division</b> ...	32,317	5,551	3,955	41,823	+ 5,025
Brighton ...	1,308	294	261	1,934	- 260
Chatham ...	1,362	241	605	2,945	- 236
Ipswich ...	1,362	161	152	1,675	- 85
Norwich ...	2,866	580	129	3,575	- 519
Rest of South-Eastern	24,611	4,275	2,808	31,694	+ 4,525
<b>South-Western Division</b> ...	49,621	7,268	4,816	61,705	- 2,422
Bristol ...	10,581	2,246	1,191	14,018	- 446
Plymouth ...	5,233	564	356	6,153	- 59
Plymouth ...	3,809	411	646	4,866	- 176
Reading ...	1,097	111	245	1,453	+ 79
Southampton ...	4,257	361	499		



TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.\*

*Number, Magnitude and Duration.*—The number of disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 37, as compared with 28 in the previous month and 16 in April, 1928. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 7,900. In addition, about 15,200 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 16 disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 53, involving about 23,100 workpeople, and resulting in a loss, during April, of about 159,000 working days.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress:—

Industry Groups.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
Mining and Quarrying ..	2	8	10	9,000	121,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	2	7	9	12,000	23,000
Textile ...	3	5	8	500	6,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	5	5	10	500	4,000
Other Industries ...	4	12	16	1,100	5,000
<b>Total April, 1929 ...</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>23,100</b>	<b>159,000</b>
<i>Total, March, 1929 ...</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>23,100†</i>	<i>137,000†</i>
<i>Total, April, 1928 ...</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>2,900</i>	<i>30,000</i>

*Causes.*—Of the 37 disputes beginning in April, 8, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 12, directly involving 2,800 workpeople, on other wages questions; 9, directly involving 800 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 8, directly involving 700 workpeople, on other questions.

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING APRIL, 1929.

Occupations and Locality.	Approximate Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING:—</b> Colliery workpeople—Seaham Harbour, Durham.	3,800		1929. 2 March	1929. ...	Against proposed reduction in certain piece-work rates.	No settlement reported.
Granite masons and quarrymen—Cornwall.	1,000		2 April	...	For advance in wages ...	No settlement reported.
Colliery workpeople—Whitehaven.	2,600		4 April	6 April	Dispute respecting guaranteed wages of men working in abnormal places.	Amicable settlement effected.
<b>METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRIES:—</b> Workpeople employed in motor car manufacture—one firm—Birmingham.	5,000	6,000	25 March	4 April	Against proposed alterations in working conditions, involving reduction in wages.	Proposed alterations modified.
Shipyard joiners, painters, wood-cutting machinists, labourers, etc.—Belfast.	932	390	23 April	...	For advance in wages of 3s. per week	No settlement reported.
<b>FURNITURE MANUFACTURE:—</b> Cabinet makers, polishers, machinists, packers and porters—Enfield.	400	...	12 April	16 April	Against rearrangement of working hours, involving work on Saturday mornings, and other grievances.	Saturday mornings to be worked.
<b>BUILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC.:—</b> Members of the Electrical Trades Union employed by certain electrical contractors—London.	200	...	11 March	8 April	Against employment by a lift manufacturing firm at engineers' rates of wages of workpeople on electrical work in connection with lift installation.	Work resumed pending negotiations.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.  
† Revised figures.

‡ In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, very slight.  
§ Less than 500 working days.

|| The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople indirectly involved, i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

*Results.*—Settlements were effected in the case of 27 new disputes, directly involving 4,400 workpeople, and 8 old disputes, directly involving 5,900 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 9, directly involving 700 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 11, directly involving 2,900 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 15, directly involving 6,700 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of one dispute, directly involving 200 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1928 AND 1929.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first four months of 1929, as compared with the corresponding period of 1928:—

Industry Groups.	January to April, 1928.			January to April, 1929.		
	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes beginning in period.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Coal Mining ...	42	55,400	269,000	36	20,700	209,000
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	2	100	7,000	2	1,000	25,000
Bricks, Pottery, Glass, etc. ...	6	500	18,000	2	100	8,000
Engineering ...	6	300	1,000	4	11,400	35,000
Shipbuilding ...	9	1,400	5,000	7	2,700	22,000
Other Metal ...	7	300	2,000	6	5,000	128,000
Textile ...	7	1,200	8,000	15	1,500	22,000
Clothing ...	3	200	1,000	7	400	1,000
Woodworking and Furniture ...	9	300	4,000	7	600	5,000
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	2	300	1,000	1	400	20,000
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	17	1,600	29,000	14	1,000	12,000
Transport and Communication ...	6	700	3,000	10	1,800	3,000
Commerce, Distribution and Finance ...	3	200	8,000	2	100	3,000
Other ...	5	200	4,000	4	200	3,000
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>62,700</b>	<b>360,000</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>46,900</b>	<b>485,000</b>

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in April in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of about £6,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 86,000 workpeople and in a reduction of £7,150 in those of 114,000 workpeople.

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

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Estimated Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	28,000	1,750	£ 2,200	£ 250
Textile ...	...	9,000	...	5,000
Clothing ...	30,000	...	1,500	800
Other ...	28,000	13,500	2,300	1,100
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>86,000</b>	<b>114,250</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>7,150</b>

The principal body of workpeople in the mining group whose wages were changed in April were coal miners in the Cannock Chase district, for whom the percentage payable on basis rates was increased by the equivalent of about 3½ per cent. on current rates. There was also an increase in the case of shale miners and shale oil workers in Scotland amounting to 5 per cent. on the rates ruling at 18th October, 1927.

In the textile group the principal changes affected workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., industries in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland, whose wages were reduced under cost of living sliding scales by the equivalent of from about 2 to 2½ per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and by 1s. 3d. and 9d. per week in the case of men and women respectively in the other districts. In the wool textile industry in Yorkshire, reductions, usually equivalent to about 9 or 10 per cent. on current wages, were made by certain firms, mainly in the Dewsbury and Batley districts.

The increase in the clothing group affected mainly pieceworkers employed in boot and shoe repairing, etc., for whom the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were increased by 2½ or 5 per cent. on list prices.

In industries other than the above the principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased included female workers and juveniles employed in the drug and fine chemical industry, men employed by electrical contractors, and waterworks employees in the London area, and brush and broom makers. Workpeople whose wages were reduced included moulders employed on certain classes of work in

the light castings industry; and bakers at Liverpool and Edinburgh. Of the total increase of £6,000 per week over £2,100 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, nearly the whole of this amount being due to scales arranged by Trade Boards; £1,600 took effect under a scale dependent on the proceeds of the industry (coal mining); £650 took effect following arbitration; and the remaining sum was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople.

Of the total reduction of £7,150 per week, £4,800 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; nearly £400 took effect under a Trade Board Order; £130 was the result of arbitration; and the remaining sum was the result of direct negotiation, or of independent action by employers. Reductions amounting to nearly £350 were preceded by disputes causing stoppages of work.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY—APRIL, 1929.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by net		Estimated Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	29,000	73,000	£ 2,200	£ 4,150
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. ...	9,000	100	675	5
Iron and Steel ...	14,250	72,000	200	3,000
Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal ...	6,300	4,500	255	685
Textile ...	4,500	89,000	165	4,700
Clothing ...	...	2,750	...	490
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	100	2,200	10	175
Woodworking and Furniture Building and Allied Industries	200	6,650	20	660
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ...	4,000	200	560	15
Transport ...	150	13,500	25	1,180
Public Administration ...	5,000	1,700	365	135
Other ...	1,000	400	50	30
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>97,000</b>	<b>301,000</b>	<b>6,525</b>	<b>19,250</b>

In the corresponding four months of 1928, there were net increases of £10,350 in the weekly wages of 105,000 workpeople and net reductions of £115,100 in those of nearly 1,115,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

The principal change reported in April affected iron puddlers and mill men employed by certain firms in Scotland, whose hours were increased, following the introduction of a 45-hour week to be worked on a two-shift system.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1929.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coal Mining	Cannock Chase ...	1 April	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries.	Increase of 4·62 per cent. on basis rates of 1911, making wages 46·62 per cent. above basis rates.‡
Shale Mining, etc.	Scotland ...	17 April	Workpeople employed in or about shale mines and oil works (except apprentices).	Increase of 5 per cent. on tonnage and shift rates ruling at 18 October, 1927.
Granite Quarrying.	Leicestershire and Warwickshire.	1st full pay in April.	Pieceworkers (except setmakers) employed at granite quarries.	Decrease of 5 per cent. in piece rates.
	Aberdeen and Kema-nay.	1st pay day after 17 April.	Granite quarry workers ...	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers and of 4d. per ton on the making price of sets for setmakers.
Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacture.	Great Britain	1st pay day in Dec. 1928.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture and wholesale distribution of chemicals, drugs, druggists' sundries, proprietary medicines and essences:— Female workers 21 years and over.	Increase in the minimum rates of 2s. per week for Class I workers and of 1s. 6d. per week for Class II workers. Minimum rates after change: Class I workers, 36s.; Class II, 30s.
			Male juniors ...	Increase of from 1s. to 3s. per week for those 18 and under 21 years, the rates for those under 18 remaining unchanged, making minimum rates—12s. at 14 years increasing each year to 29s. at 15 and to 39s. at 20.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	West of Scotland (certain firms).	22 April	Workpeople employed in wrought iron manufacture.	Increase of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. at 14 years increasing each year to 27s. at 20.
				Basis rates revised consequent upon change over from a three-shift system to a two-shift system constituting an effective working week of 45 hours, day shift rates being increased, and tonnage rates reduced. The revised basis rates include: puddlers, 11s. 6d. per ton (13s. 6d. previously); scrap furnacemen, 3s. 8d. per ton (4s. 3d. previously); cutters down, 11d. per ton (1s. 2d. previously); and revised basis shift-rates adopted for day wage men varying from 5s. to 6s. 1d. per shift compared with 4s. to 6s. 6d. previously.**

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available however, details of changes in the current rate of wages of these classes are included in the list of principal changes recorded. The statistics are based on normal conditions of employment, and do not take into account the effect of short-time working etc.

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of about 74,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ In the case of adult able-bodied day wage men whose gross wages are less than 8s. 9d. per shift, a subsistence allowance is granted sufficient to bring wages up to 8s. 9d. per shift, provided that the maximum addition does not exceed 6d. per shift in any instance.

§ Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

|| The change took effect from the date shown following a Decision of the Industrial Court issued on 5 April 1929, to which the Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association and the National Union of Drug and Chemical Workers were parties.

\*\* Class I workers:—Fillers of scheduled poisons or workers dealing with scheduled poisons or with substances in a department or at a counter set apart for scheduled poisons and process workers. Class II:—Pill, tablet, lozenge, pastille, capsule, and suppository makers' assistants, fillers (other than those in Class I), finishers, bottle washers and general workers.

\*\*\* In the case of tonnage men, forge rollers now receive 10s. per shift plus a tonnage bonus on production over 19 tons per shift in place of a tonnage rate hitherto paid, and the forge roller squad now receive a basis shift rate plus a tonnage bonus on production over 19 tons per shift in place of a straight shift rate hitherto paid. See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour," on page 185.



PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1929 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)	
Light Castings etc. Manufacture.	England and Scotland	1 April	Rainwater and soil goods moulders and assistants employed in the light castings industry.	Decrease of 2½ per cent.* in the addition payable on the price lists of 1920, leaving wages 17½ or 12½ per cent. above the list plus a flat-rate bonus of 12s. per week. Bonus reduced by 2½ per cent.*	
	Scotland and North East Coast of England.	1 April	Piecework moulders employed in greensand pipe manufacture.		
Laminated Spring Manufacture.	Sheffield	1st full pay after 18 April	Laminated spring smiths and strikers, fitters and vicemen.	Decrease† of 1s. per week in flat-rate bonus (7s. to 6s.).	
Woolen and Worsted Spinning and Manufacture.	Yorkshire (certain firms).	Various dates Feb. to April.	Workpeople employed in the woolen and worsted spinning and manufacturing industries.	Withdrawal of enhancement of 10 per cent. on basis rates.‡	
	Leicester	1st pay day in April.	Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding engineers, etc.).	Bonus reduced† from 3½d. to 3d. in the shilling. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers: men, 42s. 6d.; women, 25s. 6d. per week, plus, in each case, 3d. in the shilling.	
Elastic Web Weaving.	Leicester	1st pay day after 17 April.	Male workers	Bonus reduced† from 14s. to 13s. in the £.	
Textile, Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, Finishing, etc.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.‡	1st pay day in May.¶	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 72½ per cent. to 68 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 57½ per cent. to 54½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers) and from 43½ per cent. to 40½ per cent. for hand pressers. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers:—The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.—men 21 and over, 28s. per week plus 8 per cent. plus 6s. per cent. on total; other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d. per week plus 6s. per cent.; women 18 and over, 18s. per week plus 6s. per cent.	
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire**; also Scotland.	1st pay day in May.¶	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engravers, and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	MALE WORKERS.—Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 21s. 10d. per week to 20s. 7d. per week for those 21 and over and by smaller amounts for those under 21. FEMALE WORKERS.—Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 13s. per week to 12s. 3d. per week for those 18 and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire and for those 21 and over in Scotland, and by smaller amounts for those under these ages. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers:—Lancashire—men 21 and over, 28s. plus 20s. 7d.; women 18 and over, 18s. plus 12s. 3d.; Scotland—men 21 and over, 25s. plus 20s. 7d.; women 21 and over, 15s. plus 12s. 3d.	
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in May.¶	Mechanics employed in dyeworks...	Decrease† of 1s. 3d. per week. Total rates after change: Bradford Leeds and Shipley, 62s. 10d.; other towns, 61s. 10d.	
	Middleton	1st pay day in May.¶	Timeworkers	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 21s. 11d. to 20s. 8d. per week for men 21 and over and from 13s. 6d. to 12s. 9d. per week for women 18 and over, and by smaller amounts for juveniles.	
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland.	1st pay day in May.¶	Reelers	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 60 per cent. to 55 per cent.	
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	1st pay day in May.¶	Engravers etc. employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 30s. 1d. per week to 28s. 7d. per week for engravers and from 21s. 10d. to 20s. 7d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.	
		1st pay day in May.¶	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage reduced† from 30s. 1d. to 28s. 7d. per week for men, from 18s. 1d. to 17s. 4d. per week for women, and by corresponding amounts for youths under 21.	
	Boot and Shoe Repairing.	Great Britain	1 April	Pieceworkers	Increase† in the minimum piece rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts (a) of 2½ per cent. on list prices for bespoke hand sewn, bespoke hand sewn surgical, bespoke pegged and bespoke rivetted work, leaving wages 7½ per cent. below list prices and (b) of 5 per cent. for repairing, leaving wages 12½ per cent. below list prices. (See also page 150 of April GAZETTE.)
	Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Manufacture.	Northern Ireland (excluding the County Boroughs of Belfast and Londonderry).	8 April	Female workers employed in the retail bespoke dressmaking branch—Workers other than learners...	Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, of ½d. per hour for Class B workers†† and 1½d. per hour for Class C workers.†† Minimum time and piecework basis time rates after change respectively: Class B—those 21 and over with not less than 2 years' experience after learnership and who are employed as fully qualified bodice, skirt, gown or blouse hands, 6½d., 7½d.; other workers, 5½d., 6½d.; Class C—½d. per hour less in each case. (See also page 150 of April GAZETTE.)
				Learners	Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, of ½d. per hour for Class C workers††, the rates for Class B†† remaining unchanged, leaving minimum rates: Class B: 1d. per hour during 1st year, increasing to 3½d. during 4th year; Class C: ½d. per hour less in each case. (See also page 150 of April GAZETTE.)
Felt Hat Making	Denton, Stockport, Hyde, Bury, Falls-worth, and Romiley Districts; also Carlisle.	1st pay day in April.	Timeworkers	Bonus reduced† from 50 per cent. to 45 per cent. Minimum rate after change: 10½d. per hour plus 45 per cent.††	
			Pieceworkers	Bonus reduced† from 55 per cent. to 50 per cent.	
Baking and Confectionery.	Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wallasey.	22 April	Bakers and confectioners	Decrease† of 2s. per week for adult workers and of 1s. per week for juveniles. Rates after change for daywork: adult workers—jorchands and ovenmen, 68s.; tablehands, 62s.; juniors—18 years, 25s.; 19 years, 30s.; 20 years, 40s.	
	Edinburgh and Leith	27 April	Bakers and confectioners	Decrease† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change: 72s.	

\* This reduction is the second of two equal instalments—the first of which operated from 5th February, 1929. Wages are now stabilised until 1st December, 1929.  
 † Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
 ‡ This reduction was the result of individual action on the part of the employers concerned. No trade union was a party to the arrangement. The change consisted in most cases of the withdrawal of the advance of 10 per cent. on basis wages which had been payable since August 1919, but in others the amount of reduction was slightly different. The cost-of-living wage, amounting generally to 72½ per cent. and 63½ per cent. for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively, which was formerly paid on the basis rates enhanced by the above 10 per cent. addition, is now payable on the net basis rates to the workers affected by the change. Certain classes of workers, including power house staffs, mechanics and spinning and weaving overlookers, were excluded from the effects of the change.  
 § The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet and Colour Dyers, Ltd., the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd., the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation, the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association, The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford Area, the change did not apply in the home dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers.  
 ¶ In respect of the preceding pay period.  
 † A special temporary payment of 2s., 2s. 6d. or 3s. per week (according to basic rates) for men, and of 1s. per week for women, is made in addition in the case of timeworkers engaged on productive process work for which a system of collective piecework has not yet been introduced.  
 \*\* The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above). For pieceworkers the cost-of-living wages were reduced from 62 per cent. to 58 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 55 per cent. to 53 per cent. for hand cutters, from 47 per cent. to 44 per cent. for menders and from 53 per cent. to 50 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.  
 †† Class B: workers employed in areas with a population of 2,000 or over administered by Urban District or Borough Councils. Class C: workers employed in other areas.  
 ††† This rate applies principally to men doing odd work for which no piece rate is provided. It does not apply to labourers, packers, etc. whose wages are governed by Orders under the Trade Boards Acts.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1929.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Mill Sawing	King's Lynn	Week ending 25 April.	Workpeople employed in sawmills	Decrease* of 1d. per hour for men and ½d. per hour for boys. Minimum rates after change: machinemen and sawyers, 1s. 2d.; labourers, 11½d.
Packing Case Making.	Leicester	1st pay day in May.†	Packing case makers	Decrease* of ½d. per hour (1s. 3½d. to 1s. 3d.).
Furniture Manufacture.	London	1 April	Bedding and mattress makers	Increase* of 1 per cent. in the basis for calculating rates of wages, making wages 66 per cent. above the list adopted in 1922.
	High Wycombe	Pay day in week ending 27 April.	Journeymen	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: men engaged on skilled processes, 1s. 5d.; windsor, cane and cheap rush-bottom chair makers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 4½d.
			Caners	Decrease* of ½d. per chair on bedroom chairs, and of ¾d. per hour on Manchester rockers, odd chairs and all other cane work. Rates after change: bedroom chairs—bored 18, 6½d. per chair; bored 19 and 20, 7½d.; bored 21 and 23, 8d. per chair; Manchester rockers, etc., 8d. per hour.
Electrical Contracting.	London district (within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross) and Watford.	1st pay day in May.†	Matters	Decrease* of ½d. per chair on ordinary chairs (9d. to 8½d.), and of proportionate amounts on children's and kindergarten chairs. Decreases* of from 3d. to 10d. per week.
			Apprentices	Increase of 5 per cent. on current rates (equivalent to an increase of 1d. per week for qualified men and ½d. per hour for mates). Net hourly rates after change: qualified men, 1s. 10½d., mates, 1s. 6½d.
Waterworks Undertakings.	London	Beginning of 1st pay week after 1st April.	Workpeople employed by the Metropolitan Water Board:—Engineers' staff	Increase in basis rates of 1d. per hour for all classes of adults (except engineering mechanics) and a pro rata increase for youths under 21 years of age, and existing cost-of-living bonus (amounting to 21s. 6½d. for adults) consolidated for all classes with the increased basic rates, abolishing the cost-of-living sliding scale. Rates after change include: stokers, 62s. 7d.; jointers, 60s. 6d. to 64s. 6d.; trenchmen, 58s. 6d.; labourers, 57s. 6d. (rural districts), 54s. 6d.
			General service staff, etc., including messengers, samplers, charwomen, etc.	Increase in basis rates of 2s. 11½d. per week for adult whole-time workers, of 1s. 6d. per week for part-time charwomen, and of 1s. 11½d. per week for youths, and existing cost-of-living bonus consolidated as above with the increased basic rates. Standard weekly rates of pay fixed as follows for London, Industrial Areas and Rural Areas respectively: leading motor 'bus drivers, Class I, 74s., 71s., 67s.; Class II, 68s., 65s., 61s.; public motor 'bus drivers, 64s., 62s., 58s.; private motor 'bus drivers, 60s., 58s., 54s.; petrol and steam motor parcel vanmen and goods motor drivers, 60s., 57s., 53s.; electric motor parcel vanmen and electric goods motor drivers, 56s., 53s., 49s.; motor bus conductors, 58s., 54s., 50s.† (See also page 122 of April GAZETTE.)
Road Transport.	Great Britain	15 April	Adult male staff employed as new entrants to any of the respective grades employed in connection with railway companies' road vehicles.	Increase in basis rates of 2s. 11½d. per week for adult whole-time workers, of 1s. 6d. per week for part-time charwomen, and of 1s. 11½d. per week for youths, and existing cost-of-living bonus consolidated as above with the increased basic rates. Standard weekly rates of pay fixed as follows for London, Industrial Areas and Rural Areas respectively: leading motor 'bus drivers, Class I, 74s., 71s., 67s.; Class II, 68s., 65s., 61s.; public motor 'bus drivers, 64s., 62s., 58s.; private motor 'bus drivers, 60s., 58s., 54s.; petrol and steam motor parcel vanmen and goods motor drivers, 60s., 57s., 53s.; electric motor parcel vanmen and electric goods motor drivers, 56s., 53s., 49s.; motor bus conductors, 58s., 54s., 50s.† (See also page 122 of April GAZETTE.)
	Nottingham	1st pay day after 29 April.	Road transport workers	Decrease* of 1s. per week for those 18 years and over and of 6d. per week for those under 18 years. Rates after change: one-horse drivers, 51s., two-horse drivers, 56s.; petrol wagon drivers—2 tons and over, 61s.; 15 cwt. to 2 tons, 56s.; under 15 cwt., 51s.; electric vehicle drivers—1 ton and over, 58s., under 1 ton, 51s.; loaders and garage hands, 51s., night loaders and garage hands, 55s.
Local Government (Non-Trading Services).	Cumberland County Council.	4 Feb.	Workpeople, excluding tradesmen, employed in Highways and Bridge Departments.	Increase* of 1d. per day or 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 44s. 6d.
	Ipswich	Week beginning 28 March.	General labourers, scavengers, refuse collectors, horse drivers, and roadmen.	Increase* of 1s. 4d. per week. Minimum rate after change 48s.¶
Brush and Broom Manufacture.	Ayr District of Ayr County Council.	8 April	Labourers	Decrease* of 1s. per week (45s. to 44s.).
	Great Britain	1 April	Workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade:— Certain classes of male timeworkers. All other male timeworkers	Increase* in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See page 150 of April GAZETTE):— Increase* of ½d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 2½d.). Increase* of ½d. per hour for those 16 and under 16½, 17 and under 18, and 19 and over, the rates for those of other ages remaining unchanged, making minimum rates:—2½d. at under 14½, increasing to 11½d. at 21 and over. Increase* of ½d. per hour for certain classes. Increase* of ½d. per hour for those 16 and under 16½, and 17 and under 18, the time rates for those of other ages and the piecework basis time rate for those of all ages remaining unchanged, making minimum time rates:—2½d. at under 14½, increasing to 6½d. at 21 and over. Increase* of ½d. per hour during the fourth three months of employment for those starting at 21 and over. Increase* of 1½ per cent. in the minimum piece rates, leaving wages 18½ per cent. below the list. Increases* proportionate to the above.
Pattern Card Making.	Manchester	1 April	Female pan hands	Increase* of ½d. per hour for those 16 and under 16½, and 17 and under 18, the time rates for those of other ages and the piecework basis time rate for those of all ages remaining unchanged, making minimum time rates:—2½d. at under 14½, increasing to 6½d. at 21 and over.
			Female workers (other than pan hands and learners).	Increase* of ½d. per hour for those 16 and under 16½, and 17 and under 18, the time rates for those of other ages and the piecework basis time rate for those of all ages remaining unchanged, making minimum time rates:—2½d. at under 14½, increasing to 6½d. at 21 and over.
Cerement Making	Great Britain	1 April	Female learners (other than pan-setting learners).	Increase* of ½d. per hour during the fourth three months of employment for those starting at 21 and over.
			Male and female pieceworkers	Increase* of 1½ per cent. in the minimum piece rates, leaving wages 18½ per cent. below the list.
			Apprentices	Increase* proportionate to the above.
			Apprentices	New scale of minimum rates adopted, resulting in decreases of from 1s. 3d. to 4s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 15s. 6d. at 16 years, increasing each year to 24s. at 18 and to 50s. at 21.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING APRIL, 1929.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.	West of Scotland (certain firms).	22 April	Workpeople employed in wrought iron manufacture (puddlers, shinglers, forge millmen, etc.).	Three-shift system previously in operation cancelled and an effective working week of 45 hours adopted—the revised hours to be worked in five shifts under a two-shift system, between the hours of 6 a.m. Monday and 6 a.m. Saturday.**
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\* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.  
 † In respect of the preceding pay period.  
 ‡ The new rates are embodied in an Agreement made between the four Main Line Railway Companies and the National Union of Railwaymen. Except in the case of those rates specially marked the standard rates also represent the current rates. All rates are subject to the temporary deduction of 2½ per cent. which has been applied to the earnings of railway employees in general since 13th August, 1928.  
 § An addition of 1s. per week is payable on these rates under the cost-of-living sliding scale applicable to all Conciliation Grades, making current rates 54s. and 50s. respectively.  
 ¶ It was arranged that no workmen should receive a lower rate than 48s. per week unless the cost-of-living figure drops below 55.  
 †† Viz., those 21 and over with three years' experience in certain operations, and those of all ages who have served at least five years' apprenticeship in one or more of these operations.  
 \*\* The 45-hour week referred to is exclusive of meal times. Under the three-shift system previously in force the men took their meals as circumstances permitted and the hours, including meal times, averaged 42½ per week. (See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages" on page 183.)



DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The total number of cases\* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during April, 1929, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, was 47. Five deaths\* were reported during the month, three due to epitheliomatous ulceration, and two to lead poisoning. In addition, two cases of lead poisoning among plumbers not employed in factories came to the knowledge of the Home Office during April, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

Table with columns (a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING, (b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING, (c) CASES OF ANTHRAX, (d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION, (e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION. Lists various occupations and their corresponding number of cases.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during April, 1929, as killed in the course of their employment was 183, as compared with 232 in the previous month and with 181 in April, 1928. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in April, 1929, numbered 57, as compared with 27 in the previous month and with 39 in April, 1928.

Table showing fatal industrial accidents by industry: RAILWAY SERVICE, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, MINES, QUARRIES over 20 feet deep, and FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued).

\* Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not. † Accidents occurring in the use or working of railways are included under "Railway Service."

POOR-LAW RELIEF.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and by the Department of Health in Scotland.)

THE number of persons\* relieved on one day† in April, 1929, in the poor-law areas in the thirty-one selected urban areas named below was 649,200, or 3.6 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 12.0 per cent. less than in April, 1928. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 363, 377, and 413 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Table showing Poor-Law Relief statistics by region (England and Wales, Scotland) and district. Columns include Indoor, Outdoor, Total, Rate per 10,000, and Increase/Decrease.

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE following statistics relate to assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act. The figures include both applicants and dependants. Approvals subsequently cancelled have been excluded.

Table showing assisted passages by destination: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Africa and other parts of Empire. Columns include Applications Approved, Departures in April, and Total Departures.

\* The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in asylums, registered hospitals and licensed houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only. † 27th April in England and Wales and 15th April in Scotland. ‡ These urban areas include more than one poor-law union in the case of England and Wales, except in the Leeds, Leicester, Birmingham, Sheffield and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen and Edinburgh districts. § Includes 282 not included in district figures. Amended figures.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the period for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries or cities. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.\*

Table showing percentage increase in retail food prices for various countries (Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Foreign Countries, British Dominions, &c.) from July 1914 to July 1929.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.\*

Table showing percentage increase in the cost of food, house-rent, clothing, fuel and light, and other household requirements for various countries from July 1914 to July 1929.

\* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Greece, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; Belgium, April, 1914; Italy (food), United States (all items), Canada, 1913; Australia (all items), November, 1914; Poland, January, 1914. † Fuel and light are also included in these figures. ‡ Figure for August. § Figure for June. ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. †† Figure for 3rd Quarter.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the statistics relating to this country; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 167-168 to compare the actual level of employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7).]

GERMANY.\*

Reichsarbeitsblatt, the journal of the Federal Ministry of Labour, states that employment improved during the month of March. The number of persons recorded as available and seeking work, which had attained a maximum of about 3,200,000 at the end of February, fell to 2,670,000 at the end of March, or by about 17 per cent. The latter total included an exceptionally large proportion (1,400,000 or 52.5 per cent.) of workers in seasonal trades.

The total number of persons in receipt of standard, seasonal and emergency unemployment benefit showed a fall from 2,620,000 at the end of February to about 2,076,000 at the end of March, a reduction of nearly 21 per cent. The latter total included about 1,456,000 on standard benefit, 428,000 on seasonal benefit and 192,000 on emergency benefit.

Returns relating to 4,534,200 organised workers, received from national trade unions, show that 765,200, or 16.9 per cent. of this total, were totally unemployed on 30th March, as compared with 22.3 per cent. on 23rd February and 9.2 per cent. on 31st March, 1928. In addition, 364,800, or about 8.0 per cent., were working short time, as against 8.9 per cent. at the end of February and 3.7 per cent. at the end of March, 1928.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment and short time in the various groups of trades represented in the above total:—

Table showing membership reported on at end of March, 1929, and percentage wholly unemployed and on short time for various groups of trades.

FRANCE.†

The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 27th April was 9,524 (5,517 men and 4,007 women). At the end of March the corresponding total was 8,597. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 17,389 (11,934 for men and 5,455 for women), as compared with 17,238 at the end of March. During the last week of April, the Exchanges succeeded in placing 29,397 persons in situations, including 11,251 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 2,353 foreign immigrants.

AUSTRIA.‡

The total number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of March was 225,034 (including 115,268 in Vienna) as compared with 264,148 (132,127 in Vienna) at the end of the preceding month. At the end of February, the latest period for which figures are available, the total of applications for employment registered at the Exchanges was 291,393 (including 146,026 in Vienna).

BELGIUM.§

There was an increase in unemployment in February, which was stated to be entirely due to severe frost. Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry, Labour and Social Welfare from 165 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 614,021, show that 28,685 (4.7 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of the month. In the preceding month the percentage was 3.5, and in February, 1928, 1.2. In addition, 41,728 members were employed intermittently during

\* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 25th April, 1929. Berlin. † Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 3rd May, 1929. Paris. ‡ Statistische Nachrichten, 25th April, 1929. Vienna. § Revue du Travail, 31st March, 1929. Brussels.



the month. The total days lost through unemployment in February numbered 956,276, or 6.49 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 4.20 and in February, 1928, 2.22.

#### HOLLAND.\*

There was a fairly considerable reduction in unemployment during March, according to the preliminary figures published in the journal of the Dutch Statistical Office, and compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges. These show that out of 338,160 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 30th March, 1929, 15,645 (4.6 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week, and 4,675 (1.4 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 23rd February) the percentages were respectively 18.3 and 2.6.

#### SWITZERLAND.†

There was a reduction of a seasonal character in unemployment during March. On 31st March, 1929, 7,098 applications for employment (5.4 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 15,979 at the end of February and 8,265 at the end of March, 1928. Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 7,516, 3,381, and 4,535 respectively.

#### SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES.

Unemployment declined during March in Denmark and Sweden, and during February in Norway.

**Denmark.**—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 272,238 workpeople 23.3 per cent. were unemployed on 31st March, 1929, as against 30.0 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 21.3 per cent. at the end of March, 1928.

**Norway.**—Out of 17,814 members of trade unions making returns 16.6 per cent. were unemployed on the last day of February, 1929. The corresponding figure for the end of January was 18.0 per cent., and that for February, 1928, 20.5 per cent.

**Sweden.**—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st March 1929, was 14.2, as compared with 14.6 per cent. on 28th February, and 13.1 per cent. on 31st March, 1928.

#### ITALY.‡

There was a considerable reduction in unemployment during March. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 293,277 workpeople were recorded as totally unemployed on 31st March, 1929, as compared with 489,347 at the end of February, and 411,785 at the end of March, 1928. The total for March, 1929, includes 89,501 engaged in the building, road construction, etc., industries, 79,736 in agriculture and fishing, and 39,313 in the textile industry. In addition, 15,846 persons were partially unemployed at that date, as compared with 15,854 at 28th February, and 47,036 at 31st March, 1929.

#### UNITED STATES.\*\*

Employment increased in March as compared with the preceding month. According to returns received by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics, covering 27,625 establishments in manufacturing, anthracite and bituminous coal mining, metalliferous mining, public utilities, trade (wholesale and retail) and the hotel industry, these establishments employed 4,815,598 workpeople in March, 1929, an increase of 0.8 per cent. as compared with the total for February. During the same period, the aggregate wages paid showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. Increases in employment in March as compared with February were shown by each of the industrial groups surveyed (except coal mining, where there was the beginning of a more or less seasonal falling-off); these increases varied from 0.2 per cent. in public utilities to 2.5 per cent. in metalliferous mining.

As regards manufacturing industries alone, 12,151 establishments, in 54 of the chief manufacturing industries of the States, reported 3,479,686 employed in March, or 1.2 per cent. more than the total for February, and 5.2 per cent. more than the total for March, 1928. The aggregate wages paid in March, 1929, increased by 2.1 per cent. as compared with the total for the preceding month.

**Index Number of Employment.**—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries alone in 1926 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for March, 1929, is 98.6, as compared with 97.4 per cent. in February, and 93.7 per cent. in March, 1928.

#### NEW ZEALAND.††

The proportion of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed in the week ended 17th November, 1928, amounted to 10.0 per cent., as compared with 11.3 per cent. in the week ended 18th August, and 9.7 per cent. in the week ended 19th November, 1927. (These figures relate to persons unemployed for more than three days during the specified week.)

\* Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 30th April, 1929. The Hague.

† Rapports économiques et statistiques sociales, April, 1929. Berne.

‡ Statistiske Efterretninger, 22nd April, 1929. Copenhagen.

§ Information supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics, Oslo.

¶ Information supplied by the Department of Social Affairs, Stockholm.

‡ Bollettino Mensile di Statistica, 22nd April, 1929. Rome.

\*\* Trend of Employment, March, 1929. Washington.

†† Monthly Abstract of Statistics, February, 1929. Wellington.

#### CANADA.\*

Employment at the beginning of April showed a seasonal decrease rather larger than that noted on the corresponding date of 1928. Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,508 firms with an aggregate of 940,086 on their pay-rolls on 1st April, as compared with 946,997 on 1st March, a decrease of 1.0 per cent. If the average employment of the reporting firms in the year 1926 be represented by 100, the index number of employment for April is 110.4, as compared with 111.4 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 102.3 on 1st April, 1928.

On 31st March, 6.0 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6.8 per cent. at the end of February, and 6.5 per cent. at the end of March, 1928.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

### Trade Boards Acts, 1909-1918.

#### MILK DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE.

An employer in the milk distributive trade was prosecuted at Newport (Mon.) police court on 5th April, 1929, on charges of (i) failing to keep wages records, (ii) furnishing false information, and (iii) and (iv) underpayment of two workers.

The defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined £2 on the first charge, and £5 on each of the other three charges, and was ordered to pay arrears of wages, amounting to £35, to the two underpaid workers.—*Ree v. T. R. Hayward, Newport (Mon.) Police Court, 5th April, 1929.*

#### GENERAL WASTE MATERIALS RECLAMATION TRADE.

An employer engaged in this trade was prosecuted at the Law Courts, Smethwick, on 2nd May, 1929, on the charges of (i) failure to post Trade Board notices, (ii) failure to keep wages records, and (iii) hindering an officer in the performance of her duties under the Act.

The defendant, who was legally represented, pleaded guilty to the first two charges, and was fined £1 on each count, or 13 days' imprisonment. On the third charge the defendant pleaded not guilty.

After hearing the evidence, the magistrate imposed a fine of £3, or 21 days. Special costs of £3 3s. were allowed.—*Ree v. Oliver Phillips, Law Courts, Smethwick, 2nd May, 1929.*

### Factory and Workshop Acts.

#### UNFENCED MACHINERY—INJURY TO WORKMAN.

A firm was prosecuted for failing to fence certain machinery. A workman who was employed at the coke oven plant stated in evidence that he had to cross a plank that was slippery with ice in order to attend to some machinery: he slipped and, in trying to avoid falling, put his right arm into an unguarded gear wheel which was near the plank: his arm was so badly crushed as a result that it had to be amputated. It was customary to use the plank, and he had never been told not to do so.

It was stated on behalf of the defendant firm that the machinery had not been fenced because, if the plank had not been placed where it was, the machinery would not have been within reach. If the foreman had seen the plank he would have had it removed; it had been placed there by another workman without authority.

A fine of £25 was imposed, and the defendants were ordered to pay the costs of the prosecution. The Court suggested that a proportion at least of the fine should be appropriated for the benefit of the injured workman: the factory inspector indicated that this would in all probability be done.—*Ree v. Richard Thomas and Company, Limited, Scunthorpe Petty Sessions, 10th April, 1929.*

### Merchant Shipping Act.

#### REFUSAL TO OBEY ORDERS.

The defendant, a quartermaster, was summoned for disobeying the lawful commands of his chief officer.

For the prosecution it was stated that the defendant, who was signed on on 24th December, 1928, reported sick on 19th February, 1929. On 25th March, during the course of the voyage, he asked to be relieved from duty at the wheel as he was again sick: a doctor who examined him five days later at Hamburg certified that he was unfit for work, and told him to stay on board. He declined to do this, however, and on the captain's refusing to give him money and shore leave, the defendant signified in writing his intention to do no more work.

The stipendiary magistrate ordered the defendant to forfeit six days' pay, and said that there was no justification for his refusal to work.—*Ree v. Vernieuw, Tower Bridge Police Court, 19th April, 1929.*

### Other Recent Decisions of Interest.

#### CONTRACT OF SERVICE—BASIS OF REMUNERATION OF SALESMAN—DISPUTE AS TO NATURE OF PAYMENTS.

The plaintiff, a salesman, brought an action against his employer, an auctioneer and estate agent, claiming £100 as balance of salary or as bonus.

\* The April Employment Situation, 1929. Ottawa.

The plaintiff stated in evidence that the defendant engaged him in November, 1917, as a salesman, to be remunerated on a salary and commission basis, and that the parties arranged provisionally that he was to receive £4 a week. By mutual agreement the plaintiff was paid £3 a week for some months after taking up duty on the 3rd January, 1918; later the defendant handed him a cheque for £100, and said he was giving the plaintiff £100 a year. Four additional cheques were given to the plaintiff by the defendant between January, 1922, and July, 1924. In September, 1928, the plaintiff left the service of the defendant.

The defendant gave evidence to the effect that the cheques in question had been given by him to the plaintiff as presents. He denied that when he handed over the first £100 he said to the plaintiff that he was giving him £100 a year; what he said was: "Here's a cheque for you."

His Honour Judge L. C. Thomas, in the course of his judgment, said that he was satisfied that, although originally the defendant might have contemplated paying the plaintiff on a basis of salary and commission, he did not in fact decide to do so; neither was he a party to any definite agreement under which the plaintiff would be entitled to claim the additional £100 a year; the defendant had been careful to avoid undertaking to pay more than £4 a week. Judgment was entered for the defendant.—*Dawson v. Thomas, Cardiff County Court, 11th April, 1929.*

#### TRADE UNION LAW—ALLEGED INTIMIDATION—REFUSAL BY OFFICIAL TO ISSUE UNION CARD.

The defendant, a branch secretary of the National Union of Seamen, was summoned for intimidating four seamen with the object of compelling them to pay contributions to the National Union of Seamen. The defendant had refused to issue union cards to the complainants because they would not pay contributions to the union: without such cards it would not be possible for them to get employment.

The stipendiary magistrate, dismissing the case, stated that the defendant was fully justified in doing what he had done, and that he had not enforced the union rules in an unreasonable way.—*Ree v. O'Reilly, Liverpool Police Court, 8th April, 1929.*

#### AGRICULTURAL WAGES BOARD—MINIMUM RATES—UNDERPAYMENT OF FARM HANDS.

A farmer was summoned for paying wages at less than the minimum rates laid down by the Kent Agricultural Committee to five employees.

It was said on behalf of the prosecution that it was an extraordinary thing that any farmer should plead that he was not aware of the provisions of an Order which had been in operation for four years. The defendant stated that in the case of three of the employees concerned he had not known that they had reached such an age that they were entitled to receive higher wages; in the remaining cases he contended that the number of hours worked had been over-estimated, while the payments made to the workers had been under-estimated by the prosecution.

The defendant was ordered to pay fines and arrears of wages amounting in all to £20 10s. 6d.—*Ree v. Auger, Rochester Petty Sessions, 8th May, 1929.*

#### JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT—LEAVING SCHOOL PREMATURELY—LIABILITY OF EMPLOYER AND PARENT.

A Local Education Authority prosecuted an employer for employing a child aged fourteen years so as to prevent his attending school on 28th November, 1928. The proceedings were described as a test case, and in no way a reflection upon the reputation of the defendant.

An Assistant Director of Education stated in evidence that the boy in respect of whom the proceedings were brought left school on attaining the age of fourteen on 27th October, 1928, and entered the employ of the defendant. The witness wrote to the defendant and pointed out that he was not entitled to employ the boy, since the latter ought not to leave school until the end of the term in which he reached the age of fourteen. In spite of this, however, the defendant continued to employ the boy.

The defence raised several technical objections to the summons on legal grounds, but these were rejected by the Bench.

A fine of 10s. was imposed, and costs were awarded to the prosecution. Notice of appeal was given.

The Court then dealt with a summons which had been taken out against the father of the boy for failing to send his child to school. A conviction was recorded, and a fine of 5s. imposed.—*Ree v. Llewellyn and Ree v. Phillips, Cemaes Petty Sessions, 17th April, 1929.*

#### BREACH OF CONTRACT OF SERVICE—REFUSAL OF MINERS TO WORK—DAMAGES AWARDED TO COLLIERY COMPANY.

Twenty-three miners were summoned for leaving work without notice: the colliery company claimed from each defendant 10s. damages in respect of 18th and 19th March, 1929, on which days the defendants had absented themselves from work.

For the prosecution it was stated that a question had arisen as to whether four of the defendants were working in an abnormal place, and ought to be paid 1s. 4d. a ton instead of the ordinary rate, 1s. 1½d.: arrangements were made for representatives of the management and of the workmen to meet and discuss the matter on the afternoon of 18th March.

On 16th March, the colliery company tested the working place by putting there four other men, who filled seventy-three tubs in the time taken by the original four men to fill forty-two.

On the morning of 18th March, when the defendants on presenting

themselves for work heard about the test, they all refused to start work. The under-manager asked them not to "down tools" until the representatives of both sides had met in the afternoon; but in spite of this the defendants left the pit, and did not appear for work again until 20th March. The four men whose working place had been tested were in fact producing as little coal as they could: just over five tons a shift instead of eight or nine tons.

The Bench convicted, and each defendant was ordered to pay 10s. damages and 9s. costs.—*West Riding Petty Sessions, 15th April, 1929.*

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-29.

### DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

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

The following is a recent decision of general interest:—

#### Case No. 2476/29. (6.4.29.) Section 8 (2) of Principal Act—Employment left voluntarily.

EMPLOYMENT LEFT BECAUSE JOURNEYMAN'S RATE OF WAGE NOT PAID IN FIRST YEAR FOLLOWING TERMINATION OF APPRENTICESHIP—APPLICANT MADE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN JOURNEYMAN'S RATE BY APPLICATION TO EMPLOYER AND TO HIS UNION—JOURNEYMAN'S RATE CUSTOMARILY PAID ON COMPLETION OF APPRENTICESHIP—HELD JUST CAUSE FOR LEAVING.

On terminating his apprenticeship to the joinery trade the applicant applied to his employer for a journeyman's rate of wages, but without success. The employer, who stated that it was the usual practice for a youth, on finishing his time, to work for the first year for a reduced rate of wage, offered him a rate 4½d. per hour lower than the journeyman's rate, and the applicant worked at this rate for eight months. He left the employment on the advice of his trade union.

The secretary of the man's union stated at the hearing before the Court of Referees that he had personally interviewed the employer regarding the case, and also had approached him through the union's branch officials.

The Court of Referees upheld the disallowance. They were not satisfied that the trade union had approached the employer definitely in regard to the applicant. They were of opinion that since the applicant had worked eight months he should have continued until other employment was secured.

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire, who, after an oral hearing at which a representative of the association gave evidence, gave the following decision:—

**Decision.**—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim should be allowed.

"I am satisfied on the evidence given to me at the hearing that it is customary in Lancashire to pay apprentice joiners the full journeyman's rate on completion of their apprenticeship at the age of 21. The applicant worked for eight months after completing his apprenticeship, having unsuccessfully endeavoured to obtain the customary rate of pay. The Court of Referees was not satisfied that the applicant's trade union had approached the employer definitely. If they had not the applicant is not to blame, as he appears to have sought their assistance before leaving his employment. On the completion of his apprenticeship the applicant would have been justified in refusing the employment as unsuitable (see Decisions 4948/20† and 7537/20†), and I see no reason for holding that he was not justified in voluntarily leaving his employment when it was obvious that he could not have obtained in that employment the full journeyman's rate of pay."

### INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (VARIATION AND AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1929.

The Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Order, 1929, § dated April 9, 1929, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") by the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1928, approved for the purposes of Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, a

\* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published annually by H.M. Stationery Office, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1927 (price 7s. 6d. net). A volume containing a special selection of important decisions given by the Umpire prior to 19th April, 1928, and remaining of interest at that date, has also been issued (price 15s. net). Selected decisions are also issued monthly in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription; the latest monthly pamphlet issued is that for March, 1929. Applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

† See Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 25).  
‡ See Vol. III, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 42).  
§ Statutory Rules and Orders No. 263 of 1929. H.M. Stationery Office price 1d. net.



Special Scheme for the Insurance Industry and varied and amended such Special Scheme, which Scheme as so varied and amended is hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme":

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

Now therefore the Minister by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the said Section 18, Sub-section (4) of Section 8 of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

(1) The variations and amendments of the provisions of the Scheme contained in the Schedule to this Order shall have effect as from 19th April, 1929.

(2) This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Variation and Amendment) Order, 1929, and this Order and the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1928, may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1929, and shall be construed as one.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour this 9th day of April, 1929.

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

#### SCHEDULE.

(1) Clause 13, Part ii (Transitional Provisions), of the Benefit Table forming part of the Scheme shall have effect as though in paragraph (2):—

(a) the words "twenty-four months" were substituted for the words "twelve months"; and

(b) the words "shall continue to be so treated throughout a period of three years" were substituted for the words "shall continue to be so treated throughout a period of two years".

#### BANKING INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1929.

The Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1929,\* dated April 19, 1929, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 & 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") by the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1928, approved for the purposes of Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, a Special Scheme for the Banking Industry and varied and amended the said Scheme, which Scheme, as so varied and amended, is hereinafter referred to as "the Scheme":

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

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the said Section 18, Sub-section (4) of Section 8 of the Unemployment Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1924, and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:—

1. The following amendment shall be made in the Scheme: Clause (7) of Part IV of the Scheme shall have effect as if the words "twenty-four months" were substituted for the words "twelve months" in both places where those words occur in the said clause.

2. This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1929, and this Order and the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1928, may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1924 to 1929, and shall be construed as one.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour this 19th day of April, 1929.

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

#### DECISION OF THE HIGH COURT.

On the 26th March, 1929, Mr. Justice Roche gave judgment in the High Court on a question referred by the Minister of Labour for decision pursuant to Section 10 (1), proviso (ii), of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920†:—

Whether the employment of a person as a carpenter and general estate and farm repairer on a private estate

was, or was not, such employment as to make that person an employed person within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920-1928.

The Judge held that the employment of the person in question was not "Employment in agriculture including horticulture and

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 287 of 1929 H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d. net.

† See the July, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 270.

forestry," and, accordingly, was not excepted under paragraph (a) of Part II of the First Schedule to the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920. Contributions were, therefore, payable in respect of the employment.

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

#### Recent Proceedings.

##### (A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

DRUG AND FINE CHEMICAL TRADE.—National Union of Drug and Chemical Workers v. Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association. *Difference*.—Claims for revision of agreement as to wages and conditions of service. *Decision*.—Amendments were made as regards the payment for overtime and as to rates of wages for women and juniors. Award issued 5th April, 1929. (1420.)

ENGINEERS—CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—Chemical and Allied Employers' Federation v. Amalgamated Engineering Union. *Difference*.—Continuous shift working—Interpretation of agreement of 1925. *Decision*.—The Court ruled that, so far as "continuous shift work" is concerned, the provisions of Clause 6 of the Agreement of 29th May, 1925, are to be regarded as applicable to a "continuous shift week of 56 hours" and not to part of a week, and that accordingly in any week in which "ordinary shift work" is reverted to, payment should be made for the whole of that week in accordance with the provisions of the December 1920 Agreement. Award issued 25th April, 1929. (1421.)

SUB-OFFICE POSTMASTERS AND POSTMISTRESSES.—Association of Sub-Office Postmasters v. Post Office. *Difference*.—Revision of basic salaries—Amendment of unit scale—Allowances for supervision of motor vans—Credit for certain telephone exchanges. *Decision*.—The Court decided that from 1st May, 1929—

(a) The minimum basic vacancy salaries shall be increased by £10 per annum, in the case of both men and women.

(b) The basic vacancy salaries at all salaried sub-offices shall be increased by £10 per annum.

(c) The salaries of present holders shall be increased by £10 per annum basic.

(d) For supervision of motor vans, etc., sub-office postmasters shall be paid the allowances provided in the agreement between the Postmaster-General and the scale payment sub-postmasters for such services.

Award issued 26th April, 1929. (1422.)

CLERICAL CLASSES, CIVIL SERVICE.—Joint Committee on Starting Pay v. H.M. Treasury. *Difference*.—Lytton and Southborough entrants, etc.—Initial salaries on entry to the established clerical classes—Officers promoted before the effective date of Award No. 1354. *Decision*.—The Court awarded that "Lytton and Southborough Entrants" who were promoted from the clerical classes before 1st October, 1927, and whose salaries on that date were less than they would have been had they remained unpromoted and received the benefit of Award No. 1354, shall have their salaries adjusted as from 1st May, 1929, as if at 1st October, 1927, their salaries had not been less than they would have been had they not been promoted. Award issued 26th April, 1929. (1423.)

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

IRON AND STEEL TRADE: SCOTLAND.—Employers v. Workpeople in the Wrought Iron Industry in Scotland.

Following the Award of Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C.\* negotiations were conducted between the parties as to the adjustment of tonnage rates consequential upon the decision on hours. The Joint Committee was, however, unable to reach agreement as regards the base rates of puddlers, scrap furnacemen, cutters down, and forge rollers, and the matter was, under the terms of the Agreement of the 2nd March, 1929, referred to Mr. Stoker as Arbitrator, with Mr. Hugh Waterston and Baillie James Walker again acting as Assessors. Before the hearing, Mr. Stoker personally inspected the work at three representative mills of the firms concerned. In the course of the Arbitration proceedings agreements were reached between the parties as regards forge rollers, and base rates as regards the remaining grades were determined by the arbitrator. Both the rates agreed during the arbitration proceedings and those determined by the arbitrator were embodied in an Award dated the 20th April, 1929, the new rates to come into force as from the 22nd April, 1929.

\* See the April, 1929, issue of this GAZETTE, page 150.

### RAILWAYS ACT, 1921.

#### NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.

FINDINGS have recently been issued by the National Wages Board on the following cases referred to them by the National Union of Railwaymen:—

(1) *Yard Inspector—York, London and North Eastern Railway—Class IV Inspector relieving Class III Inspector—Rate of Pay for Sunday and Night Duty*.—A Class IV Yard Inspector at York was required, under arrangements for annual leave, to take duty temporarily from 4th to 8th July, and from 13th to 28th July, 1925, in place of a Class III Yard Inspector. During these periods he performed Sunday Duty and Night Duty.

The Union argued that the purpose of Central Wages Board Minute No. 97, under which Higher Duty Pay is paid to Supervisors, Clerks, etc., for temporary duty in a higher class, is to safeguard the Companies from being called upon to pay twice for the same work, but that it does not absolve them from the liability to pay Inspector Smith at the minimum of the Class III rate for Sunday Duty or Night Duty, inasmuch as they were not required to pay Sunday Duty or Night Duty rate to the Class III Inspector whom Smith was relieving. The Company contended that the man whom Inspector Smith was relieving was receiving salary from the Company, and that accordingly Inspector Smith did not come within the provisions of the Minute.

The Finding of the Board was that the claim has not been made out.

(2) *Checker—Cullompton, Great Western Railway—Application to be regraded as Working Foreman*.—The submission of the Union was that the nature of the duties of checker Bending was such as to entitle him to be regraded as Working Foreman. The Company argued that the duties and responsibilities of Bending did not justify the grade of Working Foreman.

The Board decided that the case should be referred back to the parties for settlement.

(3) *Signalman—Hartlebury, Great Western Railway—Claim for payment as for continuous duty in respect of two turns of duty performed on Sunday*.—The signalman at the Hartlebury cabin are ordinarily required to work a turn on Sundays commencing at 2 p.m. and finishing at 9.54 p.m. Signalman Kite was instructed to return to duty on Sunday, 19th June, 1927, at 11.10 p.m. for the purpose of dealing with excursion trains and he signed off at 12.18 a.m.

The Union claimed that Kite is entitled to payment as for continuous duty, as he was required to return to duty within a period of less than two hours of the completion of his rostered turn, and in support of this contention referred to Finding No. 33 of the National Wages Board. The Company submitted that Finding No. 33 is applicable to week-days only, and that men are and always have been booked on duty on Sundays for turns of varying length as required, and the National Agreement of 3rd April, 1919, recognised this by providing the method of payment to be made in such circumstances.

The Finding of the Court was that, if a man is required to return to duty within a period not exceeding two hours of the completion of an eight-hour rostered Sunday turn, the additional duty shall be treated as continuous with the rostered turn.

(4) *Crossing Keeper—Ashley Heath Halt, Southern Railway—Claim to be regraded as Porter, Grade I*.—Crossing Keeper Best is one of two men employed at Ashley Heath Halt, which is under the control of the Station Master at Ringwood.

The Union claimed that Crossing Keeper Best should be regraded as Porter, Grade I, and based their claim on the following clause in Appendix "G" to the Memorandum of Agreement, dated 20th March, 1920:—

"Men in charge of and performing the whole of the indoor and outdoor duties of a Halt or Station to which a Stationmaster is not allocated, but which is supervised by a Stationmaster from another station to be absorbed in the standard grade of Porter, Grade I."

The Company submitted that Best did not come within the provisions of the clause set out above, inasmuch as he did not perform the whole of the duties of the Halt, as all the accounts and invoicing are performed at Ringwood Station.

The Board found against the claim.

The following case was referred to the Board by the Great Western Railway:—

(1) *Dredging Work, Cardiff Docks, Great Western Railway—Application that the terms of the National Agreement dated 1st December, 1920, be applied*.—A National Agreement, dated 1st December, 1920, provides that men employed on dredging plant shall work as and when required as follows:—(a) on day work or night work when the ordinary hours of starting and finishing are regular throughout the week or longer, i.e., six eight-hour turns or five long turns and one short turn; (b) day work and night work on tidal conditions, and on day and night tides consecutively; and (c) Sea watches. Under (a) the guaranteed day applies, under (b) and (c) the guaranteed week applies.

On 23rd March, 1921, an agreement was made locally between the National Union of Railwaymen and the Cardiff Railway recommending that in the case of the dredgers working outside the Dock Gates the Guaranteed Day arrangements should be continued.

The Great Western Railway Company (with which the Cardiff Railway Company was amalgamated in 1922) sought to terminate

the local Agreement. They contended that the intention of the National Agreement was that employing Companies should be entitled to work their dredging staff under any of the methods (a), (b) or (c) as and when required, and that the local agreement was drawn up under a misapprehension that a decision must be made as to whether the dredging staff at a particular dock definitely came under one of the three heads (a), (b) or (c) of the National Agreement. They also submitted that the local Agreement is uneconomic and inequitable in its operation.

The Union did not accept the Company's contention that the local Agreement was drawn up under any misapprehension. They contended that the local Agreement was an agreed application of the National Agreement and its terms were in no way in conflict with the provisions of the National Agreement.

The Board's Finding was that—

(a) Under the Agreement of 1st December, 1920, relating to Conditions of Service—Dredging Staff, men employed on dredging plant shall work as and when required by the Company in accordance with the provisions therein contained.

(b) The Agreement of 23rd March, 1921, made locally between the National Union of Railwaymen and the Cardiff Railway Company was, and purported to be, a method of applying the provisions of the National Agreement.

(c) The Cardiff Railway Company, or their successors, could by reasonable notice terminate the local Agreement of 23rd March, 1921.

(d) The notice to terminate the local Agreement of 23rd March, 1921, contained in the letter of 19th September, 1927, from the Great Western Railway Company was a reasonable notice.

(e) The Conditions of Service—Dredging Staff, set out in the National Agreement, dated 1st December, 1920, shall apply as from 1st June, 1929, to the whole of the dredging work performed at Cardiff, Great Western Railway.

### TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

#### Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

##### I.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

###### Made-up Textiles Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal M.T. (9), dated 23rd April, 1929, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers. Objection period expires 23rd June, 1929.

###### Wholesale Mantle and Costume Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.W.M. (N. 12), dated 30th April, 1929, to vary and to fix minimum rates of wages for certain male and female workers in Northern Ireland. Objection periods expire on the 13th and 29th May, 1929, respectively.

##### II.—CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FIGURE.

Lower rates of wages have become operative as from 1st May, 1929, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 62, and are set out in the Confirming Orders quoted below:—

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Great Britain), General Minimum Piece Rates, D (34) and D (36), column 5.

The alteration in the cost-of-living index figure does not necessitate changes in the general minimum time rates and guaranteed time rates specified or referred to in D (32), D (33) and D (36).

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain), M (39), M (40), M (41) and M (43), column 12.

Chain Trade Board (Great Britain), C (25) and C (27), column 8.

Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade Board (Great Britain), I (17), column 7.

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1901 TO 1929.

#### COTTON CLOTH FACTORIES REGULATIONS, 1929.

THE Home Secretary, on 27th April, 1929, made Regulations\* under Section 1 of the Factory and Workshop (Cotton Cloth Factories) Act, 1929,† to apply to all factories in which is carried on the weaving of cotton cloth. These Regulations, which may be cited as the Cotton Cloth Factories Regulations, 1929, deal with the ventilation and humidity of cotton cloth factories: they came into force on 15th May, 1929, from which date the Regulations under the Factory and Workshop (Cotton Cloth Factories) Act, 1911, are repealed.

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1929, No. 300. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.

† For a summary of this Act, see the April, 1929, issue of this GAZETTE, page 123.



## OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES.—*Report of the proceedings under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, for the year ending September 30, 1928.* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. (S.O. publication; price 1s.) (See page 161.)

FOREIGN LABOUR.—*Procedure regulating the entry of foreigners for employment in Great Britain.* (Aliens Order, 1920, Article 1 (3) (b)). Memorandum by the Minister of Labour. (Cmd. 3318; price 2d.) (See page 160.)

JUVENILE LABOUR.—*Memorandum on the shortage, surplus, and redistribution of juvenile labour during the years 1928 to 1933, based on the views of local Juvenile Employment Committees.* (Cmd. 3327; price 3d.) (See page 161.)

LABOUR LAW.—*International survey of legal decisions on labour law, 1927.* International Labour Office. (Geneva, 1928; price 8s.)

MINING.—(a) *Statistical summary of output, and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 31st December, 1928.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 3316; price 1d.) (See page 161.) (b) *Regulations and Orders relating to mines under the Coal Mines Act, 1911.* 1928 edition, including Orders up to 1st January, 1929. Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

SAFETY.—*Hydro-extractors, their safe construction and equipment.* Studies and Reports, Series F, Second Section (Safety) No. 3. (Published in London for the International Labour Office by P. S. King and Son, Ltd.; price 4s.)

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—*Schools and classes recognised under the regulations for further education, 1927-8.* List 113 (1927-8). Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

UNEMPLOYMENT.—*Memoranda on certain proposals relating to unemployment.* Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 3331; price 1s.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(a) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920-1927. Index to Unemployment Insurance Acts during the year 1928.* (S.O. publication; price 9d.) (b) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1928. Selected decisions given by the Unemployment Insurance Tribunal during the months of February and March, 1929.* U.I. 440. Pamphlets No. 2-3/1929. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 6d. each.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—*The Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1927.* (New Annual Series, No. 7.) Text. (S.O. publication; price 5s.)

## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

## LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, APRIL, 1929.

## ADMIRALTY.

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

Devonport: Blue Elvan: Steed Bros., Ltd., St. Germans, Cornwall.—London R.N.V.R. Headquarters: Dredging berth of H.M.S. "President": The Tilbury Contracting and Dredging Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Portsmouth: Steel Bars: H. J. Skelton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Tubing and Fittings: S. Dixon & Son, Ltd., Swingate, Leeds; Galvanised Steel Sheets: John Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol.—Yard Abroad: Portland Cement: The British Standard Cement Co., London, E.C.

## (Contract and Purchase Department.)

Alternators, Motor: Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby.—Anchors, Mooring: Darlington Forge, Ltd., Darlington.—Batteries: Ever-Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., London, N.—Blow Lamps and Gear: Parkinson & Cowan (Gas Meters), Ltd., Birmingham; J. Shaw & Sons (Wolverhampton) Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Boards, Supply, etc.: Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—Bolts and Nuts: E. Mercer, Ltd., Hollinwood; C. Richard & Sons, Darlaston; Stones Bros. Ltd., West Bromwich; Wilkes, Ltd., Darlaston.—Boots, Half, and Shoes, Black Leather: R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Raunds.—Braces, Webb: McBryde & Orr, Ltd., London, E.C.; Southwark Brace & Bolt Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Breakers and Pushers, Ring, Main: Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—Brushes, Sweeps: Newton & Cook, London, S.W.; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; F. Smith & Co., London, S.E.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall.—Buttons: Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham; Carr Bros., Ltd., Leicester; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; James Grove & Son, Ltd., Halesowen; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Cable, Electric: Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Calico: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Hugh Spencer & Co., Burnley; J. Parkyn & Co., Manchester.—Cartridges, Purifier: Sofnol, Ltd., London, S.E.—Chain, Mooring, and Pendant: Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Saltney.—Clothing, Waterproof: North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Cloth, Linen Duck: A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—Clutches, Vulcan: W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Coats, Waterproof: Zambrene, Ltd., London, E.C.—Collars, White: S. M. Kennedy & Co., Londonderry; A. Rice & Co., Ltd., Exeter.—Compressor, CO<sub>2</sub>: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—Condensers: Dubilier Condenser Co. (1925), Ltd., London, W.; Telegraph Condenser Co., Ltd., London, W.—Crane, Roof, Electric: Wharton Crane & Hoist Co., Ltd., Stockport.—Cutlery: Joseph Rodgers & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—Doors, Condenser: Hawthorn, Leslie & Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—Drill,

White Cotton: Stott & Smith, Ltd., Bury; Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Summerseat.—Fan Units, Electric, Portable: Electro Dynamic Construction Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Flour: J. Rank, Ltd., London; Spillers, Ltd. (W. Vernon & Sons Branch), Liverpool and London; E. Marriage & Son, Ltd., Felixstowe.—Fuses, Electric: Pinnacle Switchgear & Fuse Co., Weybridge.—Gear, Williams Janney: Variable Speed Gear Co., Ltd., Crayford, Kent.—Generators, Motor: Haslam & Newton, Ltd., Derby.—Glass, Table: James A. Jobling & Co., Sunderland; Robinson, Son & Co., Ltd., Warrington; Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Brierley Hill; Stuart & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge; Wm. Toogood, Ltd., London, S.E.; John Walsh Walsh, Ltd., Birmingham; Thos. Webb & Corbett, Ltd., Stourbridge.—Gloves, Anti-flash: Chas. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade.—Handkerchiefs, Black Silk: J. & T. Brocklehurst & Sons, Ltd., Macclesfield; Josiah Smale & Son, Ltd., Macclesfield.—Helmets, Anti-flash: I. & R. Morley, Loughborough.—Helmets, Sun: R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, S.E.; Helmets, Ltd., Wheathampstead.—Insulating Fittings, Boards, etc.: Micanite & Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.—Jean, Blue: John Wilkinson (Manchester & Nelson), Ltd., Nelson; H. Sharples & Co., Ltd., Radcliffe; W. A. Rothwell, Walkden; H. Fletcher, Manchester; J. Bentley & Sons (Radcliffe), Ltd., Manchester; R. & J. Partington (1920), Ltd., Manchester.—Jean, Brown: John Bentley & Sons (Radcliffe), Ltd., Radcliffe.—Jute Goods: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee; Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—Keys, Magnetic: Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.—Kit Bags, Seamen's: Gowen & Co., West Mersea; H. J. Barr, Wivenhoe.—Lathe, Hexagon Turret: H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Lathe, 24-in. Break: Denhams Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax.—Leads, Telephone: London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Leyton.—Lift, Electric: W. Wadsworth & Sons, Ltd., Bolton.—Linen Goods: A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; Thos. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; Stevenson & Son, Ltd., Dungannon; Jas. Lambert & Co., Ltd., Auchtermuchty; The Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; Wm. Ewart & Son, Ltd., Belfast.—Liners, Forged Steel Cylinder, and Bush: Hadfields, Ltd., Sheffield.—Linoleum for Tables: Fife Linoleum Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—Lockers, Ammunition: Mechans, Ltd., Glasgow.—Machine, Plate Edge: Scriven & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds.—Macintoshes (Planning): David Moseley & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—Malt: H. A. & D. Taylor, Ltd. (British Dia Malt Co.), Sawbridgeworth.—Mattresses: Hampton & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W.—Megaphone Mouthpieces: Burt Bros., Ltd., Birmingham; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham.—Motors, Main and Auxiliary Propelling: General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Netting, Mosquito: A. C. Pearce & Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—Oscillators: General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley.—Paint, Oxide of Iron: Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Wick, near Bristol.—Panels, Switch Fuse, etc.: Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—Razors, Hand Forged: Joseph Allen & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—Refrigerators: J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Dartford.—Rivets, Steel: Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; T. D. Robinson & Co., Ltd., Derby; Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; North-West Rivet Bolt and Nut Factory, Ltd., Airdrie; Monks, Hall & Co., Ltd., Warrington; Patent Shaft & Axeltree Co., Ltd., Wednesbury.—Serge, Blue: J. Shaw & Sons, Ltd., Stainland; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Alverthorpe; Joseph Hoyle & Son, Ltd., Longwood.—Sheets, Steel: W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. Lysaght, Ltd., London, E.C.; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool; Appleby Iron Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; D. Colville & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Park Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—Sheets, Strips, Discs, etc., M.S.: Rotherham Forge & Rolling Mills, Ltd., Rotherham; Swift, Levick & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—Shirts, White Tunic and Dress: Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., Londonderry.—Shoes, Brown Canvas: John Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds.—Shoes, Gymnasium: North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Shoes, Black Leather: G. M. Tebbutt & Son, Ltd., Northampton.—Shorts and Vests, Cellular, and Shorts, Cotton Fabric: Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; Salisbury Mfg. Co., London, E.—Socks and Stockings: F. R. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., Consett; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Countesthorpe; Kilgour & Walker, Ltd., Aberdeen; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Wolsey, Ltd., Leicester; A. Yates & Co., Sibley.—Socks, Blue Cashmere: J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Ilkeston.—Soda, Caustic: Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—Spirit, Methylated: Methylating Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Tapes, Measuring: John Rabone & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Tins: Huntley, Boorne & Stevens, Ltd., Reading.—Trays, Aluminium: Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Tubes, Brass: Hudson & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Tubing, Canvas Hose: Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Pendleton; G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Benthams.—Turbine Blading Material: J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—Valves, W/T: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Vehicles, 6-wheeled: Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.

## WAR OFFICE.

Bearskins: C. W. Martin & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—Bedsteads, Camp: "X" Chair Patents Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middx.—Belting, Leather: S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Belts, Waist, Buff: R. & J. Pullman, Ltd., Godalming.—Blankets, M.S.: J. France & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury; Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury.—Boxes, Ammunition: Ripplingalls Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—Cable, Electric: Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Enfield; India Rubber G.P. & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—Castings: A. Baird & Son, Ltd., Glasgow.—Cells, Le Clanche; Blocks, &c.: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Copper Ingot: British Metal Corp., Ltd., London, E.C.; Branders, Goldschmidt & Co.,

London, E.C.—Copper Rings: Thomas Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakmoor, Stoke-on-Trent.—Curtains, Mosquito: T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—Dressings, Field: A. Berton, Ltd., London, E.C.—Flannelette: Schofield, Preston & Co., Ltd., Nelson.—Flexible Lubricating Tubes: United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—Hessian, Packing: Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; D. Smith & Sons, Ltd., Alyth.—Hides, Collar: S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Hollow-ware (Kettles, Saucepans, &c.): T. Holcroft & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Lathes: Colchester Lathe Co., Colchester.—Lids, Glazed Board: H. Stevenson & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—Overalls, Combination: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., Swindon.—Pails, I.G.: Premier Galvanised Hollowware Co., Lye.—Petrol Tanks: Kensington Sheet Metal Co., Ltd., London, W.—Plates, Dinner: J. Maddock & Sons, Ltd., Burslem.—Plates, Dinner, Steel, Tinned: M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—Pumps, Lubricating: Yeoman, Admitt & Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Reins, Bit: W. Bennett, Walsall.—Rugs, Horse: E. H. Price, Hadleigh; C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; J. Hawley & Co., Ltd., Walsall.—Shorts, K.D.: D. Gurteen & Sons, Haverhill.—Silk, Parachute: J. Lewis & Co., Ltd., London, W.—Steel, Nickel Chrome, Slabs and Sheets: Industrial Steels Ltd., Sheffield; Clyde Alloy Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—Tin Ingot: Lewis Lazarus & Sons, London, E.C.—Tin Plates: Everitt & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Wilbraham & Smith, London, E.C.—Tubs, Coal: Sargeant, Turner & Sons, Ltd., Lye.—Twine: W. Wailes, Sons & Atkinson, Ltd., Leeds; Wrights Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—Tyres with Steel Rims: Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham.—Valises, Officers: E. H. Price, Hadleigh.—Valves, W.T.: General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.—Webbing, Cotton: Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley.—Wireless Telegraph Sets: The Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—Works Services: Building Works and Services: Caterham, Company Offices and Stores: E. J. Logan, London, W.C. Bulford, Officers' Mess and Married Soldier's Quarter: A. E. Lailey, Ltd., Salisbury, Woolwich, Royal Arsenal, Repairs to Gasholder: Westwood & Wrights, Ltd., Brierley Hill. Caterham, Barrack Block and Reception Block: J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Catterick, Accommodation for Mechanised Field Brigade R.A. G. Dougill & Sons, Darlington. Woolwich, Royal Military Academy and Adjacent building, Painting, etc.: S. Lupton & Sons, London, S.W.

## AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft, Conversion: Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—Aircraft, Fitting Auto Slots: Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—Aircraft, Fitting Brakes: Vickers (Aviation) Ltd., Weybridge.—Aircraft, Mock-up: Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—Aircraft Modifications: Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—Aircraft Reconditioning: H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames.—Aircraft Repairs: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Aircraft Spares: A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Brough, East Yorks; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; H. G. Hawker Engineering Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Southampton.—Aircscrews: Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—Aluminium Sheets: British Aluminium Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—Barometers: Negretti & Zambra, London, E.C.—Buildings and Works Services: Clearing Site (Abingdon): John Allen & Sons (Oxford), Ltd., Cowley, Oxford; Explosive Shed (North Weald): Pearce Bros., Bromley, Kent; Re-roofing Shed (Hawkinge): F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—Cotton, Old Rags: W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—Engines, Aircraft: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Engines, Aircraft and Spares: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Engines, Aircraft, Re-assembling: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—Engines, Aircraft, Repair: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—Kite Balloons: R.F.D. Company, Guildford, Surrey.—Lamps, Identification: Powell & Hammer, Ltd., Birmingham.—Milliameters: Everett, Edgecumbe & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—Proofing of Balloon Fabric: Ioco Rubber & Waterproofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow, W.; J. Mandelberg & Co., Ltd., Pendleton, Manchester.—Rolls Royce Spares: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—Soap, Soft: P. Lunt & Co., Ltd., Aintree, Liverpool.—Sparking Plugs, Aircraft: K.L.G. Sparking Plugs, Ltd., London, S.W.—Valves: Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—Valves, Bench: Swinden's Patents, Ltd., London, E.C.—Voltage Control boxes: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.

## H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Cardboards: Henry & Leigh Slater, Ltd., Macclesfield.—Cord: The Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast; Wright's Ropes, Ltd., Birmingham.—Envelopes: Smith & Young London, S.E.—Ink, Duplicating: Ellams Duplicator Co., Ltd., Bushey, Herts.—Paper (of various descriptions): Jas. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; Robt. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Airdrie, Lanarkshire; Alex. Cowan & Sons, Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; Golden Valley Paper Mills, Bitton, near Bristol; London Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Dartford; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Olive's Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury; E. Towgood & Sons, Ltd., Sawston, near Cambridge; Wiggins Teape and A. Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Chorley, Lancs.—Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc.: Account Book Binding, Division IX (1929); Account Book Binding, Division X (1929): Barclay & Fry, Ltd., London, S.E.

## POST OFFICE.

Ash Conveyor: Birmingham Head Post Office: E. Bennis & Co., Ltd., Bolton.—Conduits—Laying: Birmingham, Colmore Row: J. F. Hodge, Rednal, near Birmingham. Horndean and Waterlooville

(Hants): The Walker-Weston Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Horsham, Pound Hill and Forest Row (Sussex); Long Eaton (Derbyshire); Moore & Rowley, Northfield, Birmingham. Croydon (South) Section II; Henley-on-Thames; Clerkenwell Exchange ("L" Area); Brixton (Rodenhurst Road and Clarence Road); Sloane (Picnic Road); Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Liverpool (Wavertree, North, etc.); Swadlincote (Derbyshire); Glasgow (Outer Area); Glasgow (City): The Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Litherland, Liverpool. Shanklin and Ventnor (Isle of Wight) and Hamble (Hants); Harpenden (Herts): E. E. Jeavons & Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffordshire. Hove (Section I); Hove (Section II); Terminus (Main) N.: H. Farrow, Ltd., London, N.W. Codford (Wilts); H. Smith, Newport, Mon. Barming and Maidstone (Kent); Bridgewater Bros., Ashted, Surrey. Basingstoke-Salisbury (Sec. I); Basingstoke-Salisbury (Sec. II): W. Dobson (Edinburgh), Ltd., Edinburgh; Basingstoke-Salisbury (Sec. III): Basingstoke-Salisbury (Sec. IV); Windsor-Egham; Reading-Oxford (Sec. I); Cadnam and Lyndhurst (Hants); Canford Cliffs (Poole); Portsmouth-Petersfield (Sec. I); Portsmouth-Petersfield (Sec. II): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Stockport-Hazel Grove and Heaton Moor; Ilkley (Yorks); J. W. Thornley & Sons, Farnworth, near Bolton. Wiveliscombe (Somerset): G. F. Leadbeter, Newport, Mon. Putney-Fulham and Parsons Green: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Sutton-High Street, Cheam-London Road: A. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., London, W.C. Basingstoke-Salisbury (Section V): Wort & Way, Salisbury, Manchester-Ardwick-Denton Junctions; Ossett: W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton, Lancs. Reading-Oxford (Sec. II); Reading-Oxford (Sec. III): J. McLaren, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Chellaston (Derbyshire): W. & J. Cunliffe, Dunchurch, near Rugby. Edinburgh, etc.: Dobbie & Son, Leith. Palmers Green-Bowes Park: O. C. Summers, London, N. Nottingham (Broad Street): C. S. Tomlinson, Alfreton.—Main Supply Cables—Extending: Rugby Radio Station: The Leicestershire and Warwickshire Electric Power Co., Hinckley.—Telephone Exchange Equipment: Llandudno: Sketty (Glamorgan); East Grinstead; Sheffield Multi Exchange Area: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Romford (Essex): Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Crompton-Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford, for Charging Machines. Walter Jones & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W., for Ringing Machines. Pritchett & Gold and E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W. for Batteries. Foleshill (Coventry Multi-Exchange Area): The General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Nottingham Central (Nottingham Multi-Exchange Area); Arkwright (Nottingham Multi-Exchange Area); Carlton (Nottingham Multi-Exchange Area): Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Electric Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C., for Charging Machine. Alton Battery Co., Ltd., Alton, Hants, for Batteries. Messrs. Synthetic Ammonia and Nitrates, Ltd., (Norton): Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—Telephone Repeater Station—2-wire Repeater Equipment: Glasgow: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.

Apparatus, Protective and Measuring: Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; E. Turner, High Wycombe, Bucks.—Apparatus, Telephonic: Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; The Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford, Essex; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Battery Stores: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester; Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath, Essex.—Blocks, Wood: Executors of A. Bailey, Stone, Staffs.—Brackets: F. W. Male & Son, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—Cable, Various: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., London, E.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex.—Castings, Joint Box: United Steel Companies, Ltd. (Thos. Butlin & Co. Branch), Wellingborough.—Chassis: Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Scotstoun, Glasgow.—Compound: Dusek Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; W. H. Keys, Ltd., West Bromwich; Wilkins Campbell & Co., Ltd., West Drayton, Middlesex.—Cords for Telephones: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, E.—Cotton, Fine: J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—Ducts, Earthenware: Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville; Donington Sanitary Pipe and Firebrick Co., Ltd., Moira; Doultou & Co., Ltd., Springfield; H. R. Mansfield, Ltd., Burton-on-Trent; Jas. Oakes & Co. (Riddings Collieries), Ltd., Jacksdale; Oates & Green, Ltd., Halifax; Standard Brick and Terra Cotta Co., Ltd., Buckley.—Generators: Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—Lamps, Torchblowing: T. Bladon & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—Mail Bags: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee.—Oils: British Petroleum Co., Ltd., Llandarcy; Shell Mex, Ltd., Shell Haven, Essex; Snowdon Sons & Co., Ltd., London, E.—Pedals, Bicycle: Brampton Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—Pegs, Erinoid: B. W. Johnson, Nailsworth, Glos.—Pipe, Mild Steel: Warrington Tube Co., Ltd., Latchford, Warrington.—Sacking, Jute: Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee.—Sleeves, Lead: Geo. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—Soldier: Geo. W. Neale, Ltd., London, S.E.; Tyne Soldier Co., Felling-on-Tyne.—Staples, Insulated: Tower Mfg. Co., Ltd., Worcester.—Tents, Jointers: Adam and Lane and Neeve, Ltd., London, E.—Troughing, Wood: Calders, Ltd., London, S.E.—Valves, Wireless: Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N.

## CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Alternators: Brit. Thomson Houston Co., London, W.C.—Asbestos Cement Sheet: British Fibrocement Wks., Ltd., London, W.C.—Asbestos Cement Slates: Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., London, E.C.—



**Axlebox Bodies** : Birmingham R.C. & W. Co., Birmingham.—**Blankets** : T. & D. Lee & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.—**Boots** : Adams Bros., Raunds, Northants; Stephen Walker, Northampton.—**Building Materials** : The Crittall Mfg. Co., London, W.C.—**Buoy Moorings** : Brown, Lenox & Co., Ltd., Pontypridd, South Wales.—**Cable** : British Insulated Cables, London, W.C.—**Car** : Daimler Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Carriages** : Cravens Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Carriage Vestibules** : Laycock Engg. Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Cement** : T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Clothing** : T. Briggs, Ltd., London, E.C.; Compton Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; T. Morley & Son, Leicester; North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Colas** : Asphalt Cold Mix, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Copper Tube Plates** : Broughton Copper Wks. (1926), Ltd., Manchester.—**Cotton Waste** : W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cotton Wool** : Vernon & Co., Preston; Wardle Cotton Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Couplers and Spares** : A.B.C. Coupler & Engg. Co., London, S.W.—**Cranes** : J. Booth & Bros., Ltd., Leeds; H. Morris, Ltd., Loughborough; Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Drill** : T. Barnes & Co., Ltd., Manchester; J. H. Greenhow & Co., Manchester; E. Spinner & Co., Manchester.—**Drums, Lead Coated** : F. Robinson & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Electrical Apparatus** : Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tividale, Tipton.—**Electric Welding Accessories** : Quasi-Arc Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines** : Bergius Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Expanded Metal** : Wm. Jacks & Co., London, E.C.—**Fans** : Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Felt Mats** : Mitchells, Ashworth and Stansfield & Co., Ltd., Waterfoot, near Manchester.—**Fire Engines** : Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford; Merryweather & Sons, London, S.E.—**Flannel** : Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale, Lancs.—**Galvanized Sheets** : F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Generating Plant** : Belliss & Morcom, Ltd., Birmingham; Blackstone & Co., Ltd., Stamford, Lincs.; Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Hoyts Metal** : The Hoyt Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Laboratory Apparatus** : Baird & Tatlock (Ldn.), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lathe** : Ward, Haggas & Smith, London, S.W.—**Letter Boxes** : S. Withers & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Lightning Protectors** : Siemens Bros. & Co., London, S.E.—**Line Materials** : Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Liquaphalt** : Berry Wiggins & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Locking Apparatus** : Westinghouse Brake and Saxby Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Locomotive Engines** : R. Stephenson & Co., Ltd., Darlington; Vulcan Foundry, Ltd., Newton-le-Willows, Lancs.—**Lorries** : Albion Motor Car Co., Glasgow; Shelvoke & Drewry, Ltd., Letchworth, Herts.—**Medical Requisites** : Johnson & Johnson (Gt. Britain), Ltd., Slough, Bucks.—**Metal** : Phosphor Bronze Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Meters** : Ferranti, Ltd., Hollingwood, Lancs.—**Milling Machines** : J. Parkinson & Son, Shipley.—**Motor Launch** : J. I. Thornycroft & Co., London, S.W.—**Oil** : Vacuum Oil Co., London, W.; C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paper** : C. Morgan & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Pig Lead** : Grey & Marten, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Pipes** : J. Crankshaw & Co., Ltd., Norwich, near Bolton; Stanton Ironworks Co., near Nottingham; Wellington Tube Works, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Plant for Replacement of Watermains** : Holden & Brooke, Ltd., Manchester.—**Pole Line Materials** : J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Pumps** : Mather & Platt, Ltd., Manchester; Worthington-Simpson, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Puttees** : Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset.—**Quinine** : Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford.—**Rails and Fishplates** : Barrow Haematite Steel Co., London, S.W.; Bolckow, Vaughan & Co., London, S.W.; Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Middlesbrough; H. J. Skelton, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Road Rollers** : Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester.—**Safes** : Milner's Safe Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Safety Fuse** : Nobles Explosives Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Santonin** : Carnegie Bros., London, N.—**Sanitary Fittings** : J. Beresford & Son, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Spares for Dredger** : Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, N.B.—**Staff Instruments** : Railway Signal Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Stationery** : Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel** : P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Covers and Frames** : York Engg. & Foundry Co., York.—**Steel Poles** : Br. Mannesmann Tube Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel Sheets** : Wolverhampton C.I. Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.—**Steel Sleepers** : United Steel Co., Ltd., Workington.—**Steel Sleeper Keys** : Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, London, E.C.—**Steelwork** : J. Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol; F. Morton & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Surgical Instruments** : Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London, W.; Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Switches and Crossings** : Isca Foundry Co., Ltd., Newport, Mon.—**Telephone Materials** : Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Timber** : C. Leary & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tools** : V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Train Lighting Spares** : J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tryparsamide** : May & Baker, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tubes** : Tubes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tyres** : W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Water Fittings** : Tylors (W. & S.), Ltd., London, N.—**Water Meter Spares** : Ham, Baker & Co., Ltd., Langley Green, near Birmingham.—**Weighbridges** : W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham; H. Pooley & Son, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wire** : Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, near Wellington, Salop.—**Wireless Apparatus** : Marconi's Wireless Tel. Co., Ltd., London, W.C.

## H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

**Building Works** : Bacup Employment Exchange—Erection : E. Taylor & Co., Ltd., Littleborough; Steelwork : Edward Wood & Co., Ltd., Manchester. Barming, Maidstone, Telephone Ex-

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