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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during June showed very little general change as compared with recent months. It was good in the coal mining industry, in tinsplate and steel sheet manufacture, and in the carpet trade; fairly good in the tailoring, paper, coachbuilding, and certain sections of the metal trades; and fair in the furnishing, printing, and brick trades. In most of the other large industries employment was still slack. A further slight improvement was reported in the building trades, but there was a decline in the wool textile and hosiery trades.

The percentage unemployed among members of Trade Unions from which returns are received was 11.1 at the end of June, as compared with 11.3 at the end of May and with 15.7 at the end of June, 1922. The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.0* at 25th June, the same percentage as at 21st May and compared with 13.1* at the end of June, 1922. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 25th June in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was approximately 1,226,000, of whom 934,000 were men and 223,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 28th May the total was 1,261,000, of whom 959,000 were men and 229,000 were women.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are collected by the Department the changes in rates of wages reported as having taken effect in June resulted in an aggregate reduction of over £42,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 370,000 workpeople, and in an increase of over £8,000 in the wages of 75,000 workpeople.

The largest group of workpeople whose wages were reduced were those employed in the manufacture of boots and shoes, who sustained reductions of 1s. or 4s. a week in the case of adult male time-workers and 2s. a week in the case of women time-workers, the time rates of youths and girls being reduced by smaller amounts, and in a few instances slightly increased. Piece-workers sustained a reduction of 2½ per cent. on list prices. In the boot and shoe repairing trade the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were reduced by amounts generally ranging, for adult workers, from 2s. to 3s. a week. Other classes of workpeople whose wage rates were reduced included men employed in civil engineering constructional work, skilled men employed in the ship-repairing industry on the Thames, workpeople in the gold, silver and allied trades at Birmingham, road transport workers at Liverpool and Birkenhead, and farriers and bakers in various districts. Under the Trade Boards Acts there were also reductions in the minimum rates fixed for adult female workers in the shirtmaking trade, and for all classes of workpeople in the hand-hammered chain, paper box, paper bag, perambulator and invalid carriage, and brush and broom trades.

* The figures include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of systematic short time, previously not included.

The increases in wages occurred mainly in the iron and steel trades, under the operation of sliding scales dependent on the prices of iron and steel. Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands received an increase equivalent to about 5¼ per cent. on current rates, and steel sheet millmen and galvanisers an increase of about 4 per cent. on current rates.

During the first six months of 1923 the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of nearly £390,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 2,700,000 workpeople, and in a net increase of nearly £112,000 in the weekly wages of over 810,000 workpeople. In the first six months of 1922 there was a net reduction of over £2,700,000 in the weekly wages of 7,150,000 workpeople, and a net increase of £3,350 in the weekly wages of 17,500 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 30th June the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 69 per cent. above that of July, 1914. For food alone the corresponding percentage was 62.

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. Accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

For further particulars and details of the results for 30th June reference may be made to the article on page 243. For a general explanation of the method of calculation of the statistics reference may be made to the article on page 236.

TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in June was 54. In addition, 47 disputes which began before June were in progress at the beginning of the month.

The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in June (including those workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was 99,000, as compared with 48,000 in the previous month and 311,000 in June, 1922 (when a dispute was in progress in the engineering industry involving over 250,000 workpeople). The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during June was 1,244,000 working days, as compared with 807,000 days in May, 1923, and 2,078,000 days in June, 1922. Particulars of the principal disputes in progress are given on page 253.

NOTE.

The annual subscription for this GAZETTE, which was recently reduced from 8s. 6d. to 8s., has been further reduced to 7s. 6d. as from 1st July. Communications regarding subscriptions and remittances should be addressed to the Publishers, H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses given on the front page of the cover.

COST OF LIVING INDEX FIGURE.

IN response to a question in the House of Commons put by Mr. Gosling on 4th July, in connection with the dockers' dispute, the Minister of Labour furnished the following statement explanatory of the method of calculating the Ministry of Labour Index Figure. A more complete detailed statement was published in THE LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1921 (which is now out of print):—

The Ministry of Labour index figure (which relates to retail prices*) is arrived at monthly by a comparison of the prices of ordinary articles bought by working-class families before the war (food, coal, etc.) with the prices of the same articles to-day. This comparison means the careful calculation of two sets of prices:—

(1) *The prices of the articles purchased pre-war by the ordinary working-class household;*

(2) *The prices of the same articles month by month now.*

I.—*The prices of articles purchased pre-war by the ordinary working-class household.*

The first step was to arrive at a list of what was consumed in the average working-class household (including house room). A list of articles of food, and the proportions in which they were consumed, had been worked out some years before the war by examining the budgets of some 2,000 working-class families from areas all over the country. This list of articles, originally made in the year 1904, was, early in the war, extended to include other articles than food, and brought up to date for use as a basis for the present index number.

This complete list is grouped under five heads, as follows:—

(1) Food (beef, mutton, bacon, fish, flour, bread, potatoes, tea, sugar, milk, butter, margarine, cheese and eggs);

(2) Rent (including rates);

(3) Clothing (men's suits and overcoats, woollen and cotton underclothing and hosiery, woollen and cotton materials, and boots);

(4) Fuel and light (coal, gas, oil, candles, matches);

(5) Other items (including soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushes, pottery, tobacco and cigarettes, fares, and newspapers).

The prices of these articles in 1914 are, of course, on record, and form the basis of the comparison.

II.—*The prices of the same articles, month by month, now.*

The index figure is worked out monthly in the Department, and the method adopted has been the same since the commencement, many years ago.

At the beginning of each month the prices paid by working people for these items, *i.e.*, food, clothing, fuel and light, house room, etc., are obtained through numerous agencies in some 500 towns and villages all over the country. With regard to food, the prices are collected from well over 5,000 shops, including ordinary retail and multiple shops and co-operative stores; and the information so received is regularly checked by comparing it with prices given in shopkeepers' advertisements, price lists, etc. For other articles, such as clothing, fuel and light, etc., information is obtained mainly from the larger towns. As to working-class rents, data are supplied by associations of property owners and of tenants, and in some cases by local authorities. All the returns, when received, are carefully examined by the Department, and, if any of the figures seem to be inaccurate, immediate inquiries are made before they are adopted.

The Ministry of Labour index figure is then prepared each month by comparison of the prices now (as ascertained in Paragraph II), with the prices in 1914 (as ascertained in Paragraph I).

The comparison is worked out scientifically in accordance with recognised statistical practice. A full explanation of the statistical process employed was given in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1921. A rough way of illustrating how this comparison of prices works out in practice would be as follows: Let us take a basketful of bread, cheese, meat, etc., such as was bought weekly by an average working-class family before the war. We know the price of each article in that basket at July, 1914; and each month now we obtain the prices of exactly the same articles. For example, we know that on the average of the whole country a 4-lb. loaf cost about 5½d. in 1914, and costs nearly 9d. to-day; and the increase on the loaf is 53 per cent. In the same way we take percentage increases on the other articles in our basket.

But this comparison, article by article, is not enough; a further step is necessary. It is obvious that the amount of each article which an average working-class family ordinarily consumed before the war varied considerably, as between different articles; take, for instance, bread and cheese: in a household where seven or eight four-pound loaves are consumed weekly, it might be that only 1 lb. of cheese would be used, and this difference in amount must be borne in mind in making the calculation. For example, if the price of the four-pound loaf had risen between 1914 and to-day by 50 per cent., and the price of 1 lb. of cheese had risen by 60 per cent., the average increase would not be 55 per cent., *i.e.*, the mean between the two, but a lower figure than 55 per cent., because there is so much less cheese in our basket than bread. In other words, in

reaching our average index figure we have to consider not only the percentage increase of each article, but the relative importance of each article in the family budget. The resulting general average may, therefore, be higher or lower than that reached in respect of any one article.

Another point must be borne in mind. We do not say what amounts of bread, cheese, meat, etc., a working-class family ought to have had in 1914. Moreover, generally speaking, the size of the basket does not affect our calculations, for whether we are dealing with a larger or a smaller basket, the percentage increase is generally the same.

It is true that over a considerable period the proportion of any one article to the others in the basket may vary, and if such variation were considerable it might have some effect on the final figure. It is conceivable that as 10 years have now elapsed since the calculations commenced (and in the case of food considerably longer) some change may have taken place in the nature of, or the proportion of, the articles. The changes are almost certainly small, and even if proved to exist will probably not be all in the same direction—in which case they would tend to cancel one another out. At the same time it is desirable from time to time to examine the list of articles so as to keep the list and the proportions up to date. For this reason it has been for some time under consideration whether it would not be necessary before long to institute one of these periodic examinations, and accordingly the Minister of Labour announced in the House on 24th April last his intention of instituting an inquiry into the present-day distribution of working-class expenditure as soon as conditions become more normal. In this connection two things must be made clear. In the first place such an inquiry would be concerned with the contents and proportions of the articles in what has been called the basket, or, to use more technical language, with the ascertainment of an average present-day working-class budget. The scientific method of calculating the Ministry of Labour index figure itself would not be an issue in such an inquiry: that method, though often attacked, and often from opposite points of view, has successfully withstood criticism. In the second place, there is ground for supposing, from such information as is obtainable without special inquiry, that the effect of the variations since 1914 on the final figure would be negligible.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES ABROAD IN MARCH, 1923.

INFORMATION is frequently sought from the Ministry of Labour on the question how the wages of manual workers in other countries compare with those in this country, either generally or with reference to a particular industry or occupation. That satisfactory replies can seldom be given to questions of this sort should occasion little surprise, for even if the requisite statistical data were available—which is seldom the case—the problem of comparing the average wage levels of two or more countries at a given time is very elusive and complex, if only by reason of the fact that it is approachable from either of two totally different points of view, leading to divergent and sometimes absolutely opposite conclusions. Thus there are those who are interested in "wages" chiefly as an element in the cost of production, and those who are concerned with "wages" only as constituting an essential factor in the standard of well-being of the manual worker. The former wish to compare the labour costs of a given quantity of work of a given quality executed under identical conditions in different countries, *e.g.*, that of hewing a ton of coal or laying a hundred bricks. The latter are concerned to compare the money incomes of the workers in relation to their cost of living, irrespective of differences in the efficiency of labour. How divergent the conclusions drawn from these two methods of comparison may be is evident from the fact that competent American economists are of opinion that in the United States the average labour cost of a given volume of production is at least as low as in Europe, although the average income of the working classes is certainly higher in America than in any European country.

For the purposes of the present article the term "wages" is used exclusively in the sense in which it interests the manual worker, as being the standard by which he measures the level of his own material well-being against that of other classes in his own country or that of his own class abroad.

It must be stated at the outset that it is not, and never has been, possible to obtain an absolutely valid comparison between any two countries as regards the level of material welfare which their respective wage-earning populations occupy at a given time. For this purpose it would be necessary to possess for each country statistics for computing the average yearly earnings of all wage-earners (male and female) whether in factories, mines, transport, commerce, public service, agriculture, or domestic service; and the average real value of those earnings (calculated from average retail prices) in terms of goods and services such as are ordinarily consumed in working class households in the countries compared. Statistics so comprehensive are not available in respect of any country.

Even if the enquiry were limited to a single industry or craft, any effort to reach a true comparison would be barred by the lack of wages data covering the whole, or a sufficiently representative body, of the manual labour employed in that industry or craft in each country. Suppose, for example, it were desired to ascertain how bricklayers in this country compare at the present

* The Ministry of Labour figures, which relate only to retail prices, must not be confused with the Board of Trade figures, which relate to wholesale prices.

time as regards material well-being with men of the same trade in Germany. Finding that there exist neither here nor in Germany data for computing the present national average money earnings of bricklayers, one might be disposed to be content with data covering certain typical urban areas only, say, London and Berlin, provided the incomes of all, or, at any rate, of a representative sample of the bricklayers in the respective cities were comprised in the average. Here, again, the way would be blocked by lack of adequate statistical material, and the same would be true if one should attempt a comparison based on the incomes of no more than 50 typical bricklayers in each of the two cities. It would, in fact, be realised in the end that the only line of enquiry along which a solution of the problem could be approached with any prospect of success consisted in ascertaining, in the first instance, the time rates of wages at which the majority of bricklayers were being paid, either under the terms of collective agreements, or in accordance with conditions tacitly recognised by employers or workers, or both, to be fair, or at any rate current in the trade. The next step would be to ascertain what relation the money wage bears to the prices that bricklayers have to pay for the things they ordinarily consume.

This relation might be established by either of the following two methods, for the illustration of which it will be convenient to take the rates payable to bricklayers on 1st April in London and Berlin for 48 hours' work,* viz., 80s. and 84,000 marks respectively.

First Method.—In using this method an answer would be sought to the question: What sum in English currency, spent in London on 1st April, would have purchased at retail prices goods and services of working class consumption equivalent to those purchasable at retail prices on the same date in Berlin for 84,000 marks? To obtain the answer it would be necessary, first of all, to find the pre-war purchasing power, in Berlin, of the 84,000 marks. This would be about 28 marks (gold), the internal purchasing power of the German mark being at the period under consideration only about one three thousandth of what it was in 1914, as shown by the rise of the German official cost of living index number from 100 in 1914 to 295,400 in April, 1923. In July, 1914, 28 marks exchanged for 27s. 6d. sterling; but as working class cost of living was then about 14 per cent. higher in Germany than in the United Kingdom, a proportionately smaller sum, say, 100-114ths of 27s. 6d., or just over 24s., would have been needed in this country to procure the goods and services purchasable in Germany for 28 marks. But what cost 24s. in this country in 1914 would have cost 74 per cent. more at the beginning of April, 1923, when the cost of living index stood at 174 (July, 1914, =100). This gives a figure of 41s. 9d. as representing the sum which would on the 1st April have purchased in London goods and services of working class consumption equivalent to those purchasable at the same date for 84,000 marks in Berlin. In other words, the 80s. earned by the London bricklayer at that time compared with a real wage of 41s. 9d. earned by the bricklayer in Berlin; consequently, if the London bricklayer's real wage=100, that of the Berlin bricklayer=52.

This method, while perfectly sound in principle, has the disadvantage of being somewhat roundabout. But apart from this, its use entails certain risks of error due to the inevitable inequality in the statistical value of the data forming the basis of the official index numbers by which different countries measure changes in their cost of living over a given period. A further drawback arises from the fact that data for comparing pre-war purchasing power parities (or cost of living levels) exist for a few countries only, and are confined to food and rent expenditure.

Second Method.—This method would dispense entirely with the use of data concerning pre-war purchasing power parities and their changes in the respective countries, and would aim at ascertaining the quantities of each kind of food of working class consumption that could be purchased in each city at the retail prices there current with the wages payable for a given amount of labour, measured in hours. The quantities so procurable would then be expressed as index numbers, these being combined to form an average for each of the trades considered. In the making of these averages there is a choice between (a) taking the simple arithmetic mean of the index numbers for the various articles of food (which is the same as assuming that all the articles enter in equal proportions into the bricklayer's total weekly food bill), and (b) weighting the index number for each article by a figure corresponding to the relative importance of that article in the weekly food bill of working-class families in the United Kingdom. It has been thought best to present both kinds of averages. Thus, Table III., page 265, gives for a bricklayer in Berlin on 1st April a real-wage index figure of 57 (unweighted) and 61 (weighted), as compared with the London bricklayer's 100.

For the purposes of the comparison attempted in this article the second of these methods has been selected, as being the one that involves least risk of error arising from the incompleteness or other defects in the material which it is possible at any time to collect from a number of different sources.

In order to secure such material, a letter was addressed by the Department on 29th March to the chief State or

* For the purposes of the demonstration, the earnings of 48 hours have been taken throughout as the product of the hourly rate multiplied by 48—i.e., no allowance has been made for the fact that the working week may be less than 48 hours and that overtime rates would be paid for the difference. The date, 1st April, was chosen, because figures for 1st March for Berlin were not available, Berlin being the only European capital in respect of which the requisite data for the illustration of the two methods described existed.

Municipal authorities responsible for the collection and publication of labour and other social statistics in each of the following cities:—Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, Christiania, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Berne, Rome, Vienna, Prague, Warsaw, Madrid, Lisbon, Ottawa and New York.

With each letter were forwarded specially prepared tables showing (1) the rates of wages payable to adult workmen in London under collective agreements operative on 1st March, 1923, in 22 selected occupations; (2) the number of hours constituting a normal working day and week respectively in those occupations at that date; (3) the average retail prices in London at that date of a number of articles of food ordinarily consumed in urban working-class families in most industrially developed countries. The statistical authorities in each capital were at the same time requested to supply in return a table containing parallel data, and to continue, if possible, the exchange of similar returns with this Department month by month.

Replies forwarding the desired returns (or returns fulfilling as nearly as possible the conditions set out), and expressing concurrence in the proposed periodical exchange of similar information have so far been received from Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, Christiania, Copenhagen, Madrid, Ottawa, Prague, Stockholm and Warsaw. No replies have been received from Lisbon, New York, Rome or Vienna.

In the case of those capitals from which no replies, or replies giving partial data only were received, the course adopted has been to extract data and information from published official sources. This, however, was impossible in the case of Berne, which is therefore excluded from the Tables. (The reply from Copenhagen was received too late to be used in the present article.)

On the basis of the information thus supplied, or extracted from published sources, the Tables reproduced on pages 264 and 265 have been prepared.

In Table I. are shown in the original currency for each of 13 capital cities (including London) the time rates of wages payable on 1st March, 1923 (or the nearest available date), for a week of 48 hours in each of 17 selected trades, so far as these could be computed from the data furnished by the respective statistical offices or extracted from returns contained in official publications of the country in question.

Table II. shows for each city, in the original currency, weights and measures, the average retail prices on the same date of each of 19 selected articles of food usually consumed in urban working class households in industrially developed countries of the West.

The figures shown in Tables I. and II. were used, first of all, to ascertain, for each occupation, the quantities of bread, meat, flour, and so on, which could be purchased with the wages of 48 hours' work. It was found, for example, that the Berlin bricklayer's wage for 48 hours would purchase 390 lbs. of bread, or 123 lbs. of flour, or 10 lbs. of butter, or 227 eggs, and so on. The corresponding quantities purchasable with the wages of the London bricklayer were then taken as a basis and called 100, and a series of index numbers was computed, which showed, in respect of each article of food, taken separately, the relative purchasing power in London and in the foreign capitals under comparison, of the earnings of 48 hours in each occupation. In the case of the Berlin bricklayer referred to above, the numbers were found to be 88 for bread, 31 for flour, 26 for butter, 43 for eggs, as against 100 in each case for London.

From these figures the two series of index-numbers given in Table III. on page 265 were calculated, to show the relative purchasing power, in respect of all the items of food taken together, of the earnings in each trade and capital represented in Table I. The arithmetical averages of the index numbers, unweighted and weighted, thus obtained are reproduced in the following summary:—

SUMMARY TABLE.

Index Numbers showing, for all the Occupations covered by the Inquiry, the Relative Quantity of Food Purchasable with Wages Payable for 48 Hours' Work on 1st March, 1923.

Index Numbers.	London.	Amsterdam.	Berlin.	Brussels.	Christiania.	Madrid.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.	Prague.	Stockholm.	Vienna.	Warsaw.
Unweighted ..	100	97	54	66	88	61	228	195	63	66	90	57	89
Weighted ..	100	103	57	70	92	61	217	180	68	67	87	55	85

It may be well perhaps to state with some emphasis that the index numbers shown in the above Summary and in Table III. afford no absolutely safe basis for conclusions as to differences in the *general* level of real wages even in the selected cities. For this purpose it would be necessary to secure wages data for a much larger number of occupations, including those in which women are largely employed. Still less can the figures be accepted as accurately reflecting differences in *national* real-wage levels. The most that can be claimed for them is that they afford a rough indication of the differences that existed on or about 1st March, 1923, between the real-wage levels of the selected categories of typical urban male labour in the various capitals.

But even within this strictly limited field of application the accuracy of the conclusions suggested by a comparison between

the index numbers for the various capitals might reasonably be challenged on a number of grounds.

It would be quite legitimate, for example, to urge that the real value of a wage cannot be measured with complete accuracy by what it will purchase in the form of food alone, and that at least the more important of the other factors in the cost of living should also have been considered, more especially house rent and clothing. This is especially important in view of the fact that other countries, as well as Great Britain, have introduced rent restriction legislation, with the result that in Germany (for example) rents have become a practically negligible item. To this objection there is only one answer—viz., that current official statistics of retail prices and of the cost of living have not yet been developed in the different countries sufficiently to enable international comparisons to be made of the retail prices current for even approximately similar commodities under either of these heads.

Exception might also be taken to the fact that throughout the above calculations it has been assumed that each article of food accounts for the same proportion of the total food bill of working class families abroad as it does in this country—an assumption which is not warranted by the facts—and that for each town the index number for each article should have been "weighted" by a figure corresponding to the proportion which expenditure on that article represented in the workers' total weekly food bill in that town. Against this objection one can only plead the difficulty that was anticipated in obtaining in a relatively short time the requisite data from the statistical authorities of the various countries. It was thought, moreover, that by publishing for each town both the wage rates and the prices in the original currencies and measures opportunity would be afforded for the statistical authorities in each country to calculate what difference, if any, would be produced by applying "weights" corresponding to the relative importance of each article of working class food budgets in that country. It may be doubted, however, whether the resulting index numbers would differ materially from the weighted figures shown above and in Table III., for it will have been observed that the differences between the weighted and unweighted indices are, on the whole, not very marked.

Finally, it might be objected that for the calculation of relative real wages as an index to relative material well-being, not rates but *earnings* should have been considered, since in using the former no allowance is made for irregularity of employment due to cyclical or seasonal fluctuations of trade, to labour disputes, or to sickness or accidents. This, however, is an objection to which all attempts to compare, by means of wages and prices statistics, the levels of material welfare of the workers of any two countries at a given date must remain subject until some degree of uniformity of practice in the collection, collation, presentation and publication not only of statistics of wages and prices, but also of employment, has been reached by agreement amongst the official labour statisticians of the various industrial States. There can be little doubt, for example, that if, by means of comparative indices of the level of employment in the different countries and trades at a given date (as distinct from *changes* in that level), proper allowance could be made for the relatively high level of employment experienced by both France and Germany in the past two years, the weighted index numbers for Paris and Berlin (68 and 57 respectively) would be found to be too low, and thus to exaggerate the relative advantage of the London worker (100), who has been suffering heavily from unemployment during the same period.

LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE.

THE twenty-third Annual Conference of the Labour Party was held at the Queen's Hall, London, from the 26th to the 29th June, under the presidency of Mr. Sidney Webb, M.P. About 900 delegates were present, representing an affiliated membership of over three and a quarter millions.

On the first day of the Conference a proposal by the Executive to withdraw the clause in the Party constitution making it a condition of the eligibility of a delegate that he should not be "a member of any organisation having for one of its objects the return to Parliament or to any Local Governing Authority of a candidate or candidates other than such as have been endorsed by the Labour Party, or have been approved as running in association with the Labour Party," was adopted. The rejection by the Executive of the application of the Communist Party for affiliation was approved by a card vote of 2,880,000 against 366,000.

On the second day of the Conference a debate took place upon the decision of the Executive not to issue the party whips to Mr. Newbold, the Communist member for Motherwell, and a resolution introduced by the Barrow Labour Party in favour of the issue of whips to Mr. Newbold was defeated on a card vote by a majority of over two millions. Other topics dealt with were the attitude of certain Labour candidates towards the capital levy, the contesting of all by-elections, and the furthering of a common policy among representatives of Labour on local authorities.

On the third day of the Conference a long resolution submitted by the Executive in regard to national finance was adopted, affirming that the Labour Party's policy was to redeem a substantial portion of the National Debt by a graduated capital levy: "with the saving in annual interest and sinking fund thereby effected, and with other economies, notably on

"armaments, and by the taxation of land values, it will be immediately practicable to abolish the food taxes . . . ; to lighten the burden of income tax . . . ; to abolish the entertainment tax and corporation profits tax; to provide money for much-needed social expenditure." The Conference also discussed a statement made by Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., in regard to the setting up of a Parliamentary election fund. Later a resolution urging the Government to extend the scope of the Workmen's Compensation Act was carried unanimously. A resolution in regard to unemployment, calling on the Government to put in hand works of public utility and to reform the administration of unemployment insurance, was adopted. Two resolutions relating to disarmament were proposed by representatives of the Independent Labour Party. The first, asking the Government to summon an international conference and to make proposals to other nations for immediate disarmament by mutual agreement, was adopted. The second, stating that it should be the policy of the Labour Party in Parliament to vote against all military and naval estimates, led to a long debate, and was eventually defeated, on a card vote, by 2,924,000 to 808,000. Other subjects dealt with were the recent suspension from Parliament of certain members of the Labour Party, the competition in air armaments, foreign policy, workers' control in State and municipal services, and a proposed world economic organisation for the control of raw materials.

On the fourth and last day of the Conference a resolution was passed demanding the immediate undertaking by every local authority of a three years' programme of house building, providing adequate accommodation for every family at a rent within the wage-earner's means. A long resolution was also passed criticising the educational policy of the Government. A resolution demanding the socialisation of the land was referred to the Executive. Resolutions dealing with Trade Boards, the capitalist system, the saving of life at sea, the wages of seamen, the employment of Chinese and cheap Asiatic labour on British ships, the pensions of ex-Service men, Parliamentary procedure, rating reform, emigration of young people between the ages of 14 and 17, pure milk, the death penalty, and the disqualification of persons who are receiving or have received poor relief from being members of a local governing body, were passed. Other topics discussed were the monarchy, the treatment of subject races, and the control of the fighting services.

The new Executive elected at the Conference is composed as follows:—Thirteen representatives of national societies, viz., Messrs. J. R. Clynes, M.P., Frank Hodges, F. W. Jowett, M.P., C. T. Cramp, A. G. Cameron, Sidney Webb, M.P., F. O. Roberts, M.P., W. Adamson, M.P., Jack Jones, M.P., Robert Williams, W. H. Hutchinson, Edward Duxbury, W. R. Smith; five representatives of local constituency organisations, viz., Messrs. G. Lansbury, M.P., R. J. Davies, M.P., W. Lawther, H. Morrison, T. I. Mardy Jones, M.P.; and four women members, viz., Miss Susan Lawrence, Mrs. Harrison Bell, Dr. Ethel Bentham, Mrs. Agnes Dollan. The new chairman of the National Executive is Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., and the vice-chairman is Mr. C. T. Cramp.

WAGES IN THE COTTON AND WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTANT agreements between employers and workpeople have recently been concluded in regard to rates of wages in the cotton and wool textile industries.

In the cotton industry it has been agreed that the present rates of wages shall continue in operation until 25th January, 1924, and that after that date the employers will be at liberty to take whatever action they think fit on giving one month's notice. The operatives' organisations have agreed not to make any application for a general advance in wages until the end of a further period of nine months from 25th January, 1924, and that on 25th September, 1924, both sides shall be at liberty to take whatever action they think fit on giving one month's notice.

An Agreement arrived at by the National Wool (and Allied) Textile Industrial Council provides that the existing cost-of-living wage, which is 72½ per cent. on basis rates for day-workers with proportionate percentages for other workers, is to continue to operate until the cost of living index number as published in this GAZETTE falls to 65 per cent. or less above the pre-war level, when 65 per cent. on basis rates shall be paid to day-workers, and proportionate amounts to other sections until the termination of the Agreement in May, 1924. Under the previous Agreement it was provided that in the case of workers in receipt of basis rates in excess of 33s. and up to 51s. a week the cost-of-living percentage was calculated on 33s., or at 58 per cent. on the total basis rate, whichever yielded the larger amount, and on basis rates in excess of 51s. at 14½ per cent. on the first 13s. above that amount and at 5·8 per cent. on the remainder. The new Agreement provides for the same arrangement so long as the time-workers' cost-of-living wage is 72½ per cent., but substitutes a grading scheme whereby varying percentages are fixed for workers in receipt of basis rates in excess of 51s. a week, such percentages increasing in successive steps as the time-workers' cost-of-living percentage falls to 32½ per cent., when the same percentage is payable on all basis rates. When the index number falls to 65 or less this scheme gives a higher percentage to the better paid workers than the previous Agreement.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 26th June, 1923, the number of men in training was 13,190, and the number awaiting training 8,157. Since 1st August, 1919, 74,527 men have terminated training.

INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to the 4th July, 1923, 44,703 apprentices have been accepted for training with 17,856 employers, as compared with 44,701 apprentices with 17,854 employers on the 6th June, 1923.

The apprentices rejected up to 4th July, 1923, numbered 2,179, this being the same as on 6th June, 1923. Of those accepted 43,104 had terminated their training and 1,599 were still in training. The corresponding numbers on the 6th June, 1923, were 43,011 and 1,690.

The number of men who have received Institutional Training has increased during the four weeks from 2,312 to 2,313.

NATIONAL SCHEME.

On the 30th June, 1923, the number of employers on the King's National Roll was 28,162.

The undertakings given by these employers under the provisions of the National Scheme for the employment of disabled ex-Service men cover approximately 300,000 disabled ex-Service men.

The following statement gives particulars of the number of Local Authorities in Great Britain of the categories referred to below who have enrolled under the scheme and whose names are accordingly entered upon the King's National Roll:—

Local Authority.	On Roll.	Not on Roll.	Total.
ENGLAND AND WALES.			
*LONDON—			
County Council	1	—	1
Corporation of the City of London	1	—	1
Metropolitan Boroughs	28	—	28
Boards of Guardians	21	7	28
Totals	51	7	58
PROVINCES—			
County Councils	42	20	62
County Boroughs	82	—	82
Town Councils	187	66	253
Urban District Councils	446	335	781
Rural District Councils	182	466	648
Boards of Guardians	166	439	605
Totals	1,105	1,326	2,431
SCOTLAND.			
County Councils	10	23	33
County District Committees	24	75	99
Town Councils	73	128	201
Totals	107	226	333
Grand Totals	1,263	1,559	2,822

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES.

DURING the five weeks ended the 30th June, 1923, 35 meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour. A number of meetings of District Councils and Sub-Committees were also reported to have been held.

WAGES, HOURS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

At a meeting of the *Chalk* Sectional Council, on the 5th June, it was agreed that a reduction in time rates of 1d. per hour, with corresponding reductions of piecework rates, was to take place in two stages: the first ½d. to be deducted from the commencement of the third pay week in June, and the second ½d. from the first pay week in September. Special provisions were made in regard to two cases. The agreement is to operate until the end of the present year.

The National Joint Industrial Council for the *Waterworks Undertakings* Industry has appointed an Arbitration Board to deal with a difference between the Metropolitan Water Board and its employees. The decision of the Board is to be binding on each side. The Council decided to convene a conference of the Chairmen of the five Joint Industrial Councils for Public Utility Services to consider the advisability of calling a national conference of the Joint Industrial Councils on the question of the co-ordination of the pay of general labourers.

At a meeting on the 15th June the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Electricity Supply* Industry agreed to refer to arbitration by the Industrial Court claims that the Watford and Uxbridge Undertakings were not entitled to pay reduced rates under the No. 10 District Council Agreement of 14th March.

It was agreed at a meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Asbestos* Industry, on the 30th June, that under the sliding scale agreement a reduction of ½d. per hour should be made in the minimum rates, bringing the rates now paid to 1s. per hour for men and 8d. per hour for women.

* The Metropolitan Asylums Board is also on the Roll.

The *Tramways* National Joint Industrial Council have decided that certain boys employed by the Bradford Corporation Tramways Committee have hitherto been regarded as coming within the National Agreement when appointed as conductors, and that they are, therefore, entitled to a guaranteed week of 48 hours.

A supplementary agreement was signed at the Fourth Annual Meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Flour Milling* Industry with a view to co-ordinating clauses relative to classification, procedure, youths, women, etc., in several earlier agreements.

The schedule of wages applying to the workmen engaged by the Local Authorities affiliated to the Provincial Joint Industrial Council *Non-Trading Services (Manual Workers)* for Northumberland and Durham has been revised.

OTHER ITEMS.

The National Joint Industrial Council for *Insurance Committees, Administrative, Technical and Clerical Services*, has decided that the examination of the question of superannuation should continue, and that a scheme for superannuation should be prepared for adoption by Insurance Committees on the basis of contributions by the officers concerned.

The *Needles and Fish-hooks* Joint Industrial Council has arranged that a tour of inspection of factories should be made in connection with the subject of lighting in factories. The Instructor in tool making has reported satisfactorily on progress made and attendance of students. Four delegates have been nominated to attend an Educational Conference, called by the Higher Education Committee. A brief report upon the present state of industry has been made by the Employers' Side, emphasising the difficulties that are being experienced by the trade.

At a special meeting of the *Paper Making* Joint Industrial Council a resolution amending the constitution was adopted. The purpose of the resolution was to ensure the closer organisation of both employers and workpeople.

In conjunction with the Society of Printing Ink Makers the Joint Industrial Council for the *Printing and Allied Trades* of the United Kingdom has considered the producing and using of an ink substitute for bronze powder. The Health Committee of the Council is continuing its work of compiling and circulating information on such subjects as ventilation and measures for the prevention of consumption.

STRIKE OF DOCK LABOURERS.

AN unofficial strike of dock labourers commenced on 2nd July at Hull, Grimsby, Bristol and Cardiff, in consequence of a reduction of 1s. per day being put into operation in accordance with the terms of an agreement arrived at by the Joint Negotiating Committee of the National Docks Joint Council in September, 1922. This agreement provided for a reduction of 1s. per day for certain classes of dock labour in the ports of Great Britain as from the 2nd October, 1922, and for a further reduction of 1s. per day on or after 4th June so soon as the cost of living, as indicated by the Ministry of Labour cost of living index number, had fallen a further ten points. The cost of living index figure for 1st September, 1922, was 79, and it fell to 69 on 1st June, 1923, this figure being announced in last month's MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE (page 202). In accordance with the agreement, the dock labour employers in the various ports put into operation the second reduction of 1s. per day on Monday, 2nd July, and the men at the ports named immediately came out on strike, alleging that the fall in retail prices was not in accordance with the Ministry of Labour cost of living index number. The strike subsequently extended to London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Barry and Avonmouth; but at some of the ports, including London, the dispute was only partial, and at Liverpool it affected only a small minority of the dock workers.

The Annual Conference of the Transport and General Workers' Union, which began on Monday, 9th July, passed a resolution condemning the breach of the agreement by the men, and requesting them to return to work. The men have resumed work at Bristol, Avonmouth, Cardiff, Barry, Liverpool and Grimsby, but at the date of going to press work had not been resumed at the other ports affected.

In connexion with this dispute, a statement explanatory of the method of calculating the Ministry of Labour index figure was prepared, and is re-printed on page 236 of this GAZETTE.

SHIPBUILDING TRADE DISPUTE.*

THE United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders took a ballot of their members during the first week of July on the question of the continuance of the present dispute concerning the overtime and nightshift agreement accepted by other trades in the shipbuilding industry. It was announced that a two-thirds majority against acceptance would be required to authorise a continuance of the dispute.

The result of the ballot was announced on the 10th July, as follows:—

In favour of continuing the dispute	16,859
Against	7,415
	<hr/>
	9,444

In view of the majority exceeding the two-thirds majority required, the dispute continues.

* For an account of this dispute in its earlier stages, see MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for May (page 159) and for June (page 199).

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY DISPUTE.

THE Co-operative Wholesale Society gave notice, on the 12th April, to their employees at certain of their establishments at Pelaw (near Newcastle) and at Silvertown (London) that, as from the 9th April, their wages would be reduced by 2s. a week in the case of men, and by 1s. in the case of women. The reduction was made in consequence of a reduction in the rate fixed by the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board. The Trade Unions concerned were informed that the revised rates were being put into operation; but, as there had been no special negotiation either with the employees or with the Trade Unions, the Trade Unions instructed their members employed at these establishments to cease work on the 20th April.

The Society claimed that, as on the terms of employment in the two factories concerned the workers were to be paid 10 per cent. above the hourly rates fixed by the above-mentioned Trade Board, variations following Trade Board Orders could be operated accordingly without special negotiations.

The National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers and the Shop Assistants' Union, however, claimed that the Society had given a pledge in January, 1923, in the following terms:—

" . . . we agree that all future variations in wages, hours and conditions of employment shall be negotiated with the Unions concerned, and, failing agreement, to refer the matter to the Joint Committee [of Trade Unionists and Co-operators] in accordance with their constitution."

The Society stated that this pledge was given in respect of wages at two factories which are not governed by Trade Board rates, and at a later stage they had formulated the following proviso:—

" Always provided that the Co-operative Wholesale Society shall be entitled to apply to their workers, on or after the dates they become operative, all Trade Unions agreed or accepted variations in wages and conditions of employment, also variations made by Joint Industrial Council awards and Industrial Court decisions. The Co-operative Wholesale Society shall be entitled also to apply Trade Board variations, unless such variations are the subject of negotiation between other employers and the Trade Unions concerned."

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress intervened, and other attempts at negotiation were made, but without avail, and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers accordingly instructed all their members employed at any of the establishments of the Co-operative Wholesale Society to cease work on the 9th June. They also instructed their members employed at the retail co-operative stores not to handle goods from the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

The Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators subsequently decided that the matter fell within their province, and drew up the following terms on the 25th June:—

(i.) That work be resumed throughout the whole of the establishments of the Co-operative Wholesale Society where the members of the Unions are either on strike or have otherwise ceased work in connection with this dispute, without prejudice to their positions or prospects of promotion.

That the factories at Pelaw and Silvertown be reopened for work at the rate of wages prevailing previous to the reduction of 9th April, 1923, the whole of the employees on strike returning to work as speedily as the restarting of the factories permit, and that the case of Pelaw and Silvertown be submitted to the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators for arbitration on the matter of the reduction named.

(ii.) That other and/or future matters of wages and conditions of employment raised between the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers and the National Union of Warehousemen, Shop Assistants and Clerks shall be dealt with by the usual method of negotiation, and in the case of non-agreement by arbitration, in accordance with the constitution of the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators.

(iii.) That it is imperative that the issue raised in the proviso [quoted above] contained in Clause 2 of the proposal of 1st June, 1923, shall be disposed of, and in order that a final settlement may be arrived at in the matter the said proviso shall be fully inquired into by the Joint Committee of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, who shall meet within ten days from the date of work being resumed in the Co-operative Wholesale Society's establishments; the Committee to be empowered to call for any evidence they may deem necessary to enable them to come to a decision, such decision to be final and binding upon the parties to the dispute. This inquiry to be without prejudice to any existing practice between the Co-operative Wholesale Society and Trade Unions not party to the dispute, but which have members employed by the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

These terms were accepted by the Trade Unions concerned, and work was accordingly resumed on the 28th June, except in a few cases where an immediate resumption was impracticable. The terms were also accepted, with a reservation as regards the "proviso," by the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

DUST INHALATION IN GRINDING PROCESSES.

A REPORT on the effects of dust inhalation upon workers employed on the grinding of metals and the cleaning of castings has been issued by the Home Office.* It embodies the results of exhaustive inquiries, covering almost every branch of the metal trades, into the nature of the abrasive substances employed, the machinery and processes in which they are used, and the conditions existing in the works. Careful determinations have been made of the quantity of dust given off, and extended medical examinations of the workers concerned has been carried out.

The main conclusions arrived at include the following:—

Dust is generated in varying degrees, both as to quantity and fineness, in all processes of grinding and glazing of metals. The somewhat prevalent belief that dust is not generated at wet grinding as ordinarily carried on is erroneous.

The large amount of dust evolved at dry grinding on grindstones, manufactured wheels, and glazing appliances can, in most cases, be satisfactorily removed by the application of suitably designed dust exhaust plant.

The dust evolved at grinding on wet manufactured wheels is very much less in amount than at dry grinding, and that from machine grinding on such wheels is usually of such character and of such small amount that it may be disregarded.

In regard to grinding on sandstones the investigators are of opinion that a very considerable proportion, if not the whole, of the dust from the process of "racing" can be removed by suitably designed dust exhaust plant, while the dust from "rodding," "hacking" or "scaring" may be almost entirely suppressed by a plentiful water supply to the upper part of the grindstone. Localised exhaust ventilation fails to remove the dust evolved at wet grinding. It is believed, however, that frequent renewals of the air of the grinding room by means of extraction fans and fresh air inlets suitably arranged would greatly reduce the dust content of the atmosphere of such room. It is further recommended that wet grinding rooms should be frequently cleansed, and that facilities for washing and for the storage of food and clothing should be provided for persons employed at grinding on wet grindstones.

The substitution of manufactured wheels for grindstones is of paramount importance. In some trades such substitution is already complete, and in others the transition is in progress; but table-blade grinders, scythe grinders, and, to some extent, grinders of parts of textile machinery, stove grates and locomotives are still sceptical of efficient results being obtained by manufactured wheels.

As regards the cleaning of castings, it is stated that siliceous and other dusts are produced in various operations. This dust may be suppressed wholly or partially by localised exhaust ventilation, by damping the floor of the cleaning room, and by frequent cleansing of the room, plant and fixtures. In this connection the use of gridded benches for cleaning, with enclosed spaces beneath connected to an exhaust system, is recommended, as is also the provision of gratings in the floor of the cleaning room. Close-fitting doors for sand blasting rooms and chambers are essential, and operatives at sand blasting plant should be provided with efficient protective helmets, gauntlets and overalls.

Other conclusions and recommendations deal with the need for improved structural conditions, particularly in the Sheffield tenement factories, the maximum safe working speeds, the design of guards for manufactured wheels and of dust exhaust plants, and the proper maintenance and upkeep of grinding equipment. The respiratory diseases to which workers employed in the processes of grinding of metal and the cleaning of castings are especially subject are mentioned, and some of their symptoms described; and it is stated that, although the harmful effects of inhaling fine silica dust (in particular) are usually long delayed, they are none the less certain and inevitable.

The present statutory requirements relating to the processes under consideration are discussed in detail, and the inadequacy (in certain respects) of some of these regulations and the difficulty of administering others are set forth. The investigators make a number of recommendations for the amendment of the regulations, and suggest regulations in substitution for those now in force, dealing separately with—

- (a) the cutlery, edge tool and allied trades; and
- (b) all other metal grinding processes, including the cleaning of castings.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES IN 1922.

THE annual Returns† relating to railway accidents during the year 1922 have been issued by the Ministry of Transport. The statistics relate to Great Britain only, and not, as in previous Returns, to Great Britain and Ireland. For comparative purposes figures from 1921 are included (also relating to Great Britain only).

* Report on the Grinding of Metals and Cleaning of Castings, with special reference to the Effects of Dust Inhalation upon the Workers, by E. L. Macklin, O.B.E., H.M. Engineering Inspector of Factories, and E. L. Middleton, M.D., D.P.H., H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories. Published by H.M. Stationery Office, 1923. Price 4s. net.

† Returns of Accidents and Casualties: H.M. Stationery Office. Price 2s. 6d. net.

The following Table shows the total number of persons killed or injured in connection with the working of railways in 1922 and in 1921, classified according to the three groups by which accidents are distinguished in the statistics. All injuries, however slight, to passengers or to "other persons" are included; but reports as regards railway servants are rendered only in cases which cause the injured person to be absent from his work for at least one whole day.

	1922.		1921.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
(1) Accidents to Trains (Collisions, Derailments, &c.):—				
Passengers	5	406	18	589
Railway and Contractors' Servants	4	83	10	76
Other Persons	12	30	2	14
(2) Other Accidents in which the Movement of Trains or Railway Vehicles was concerned:—				
Passengers	73	1,870	70	1,485
Railway and Contractors' Servants	203	2,864	217	2,756
Other Persons	364	184	391	141
(3) Accidents not connected with the Movement of Railway Vehicles:—				
Passengers	7	571	4	564
Railway and Contractors' Servants	33	13,021	30	12,878
Other Persons	27	433	23	471
All Accidents	728	19,462	765	18,973

In train accidents injuries were caused in 1922 to 366 passengers and 55 servants by collisions; 4 and 1, respectively, being fatal.

In other accidents in which the movement of trains or railway vehicles was concerned, 5 passengers were killed and 558 were injured by falling on to the platform, ballast, etc., when alighting from trains; and 786 were injured (none fatally) by the closing of carriage doors. Of the servants, 39 were killed and 1,623 injured during shunting operations, 52 were killed and 71 injured while working on the permanent way, sidings, etc., 80 were killed and 152 injured while walking or standing on the line, and 1 was killed and 426 were injured while attending to the machinery, etc., of engines in motion. Of the "other persons," 132 were killed and 59 were injured while trespassing on the line; and 183 committed suicide.

Of accidents not connected with the movement of railway vehicles, the most common types were those occurring to servants while loading or unloading wagons, etc., moving goods and luggage in stations or sheds, attending to engines at rest, or working on the permanent way, and those caused by falls.

The following Table shows the classes of railway servants among which the largest number of accidents occurred in 1922:—

Class of Service.	"Train" and "Movement" Accidents.		Other Accidents.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Engine drivers and motormen	13	307	1	742	14	1,049
Firemen	7	498	1	899	8	1,397
Engine cleaners	3	85	—	698	3	783
Guards (goods and mineral) and brakemen	19	476	1	265	20	741
Guards (passenger)	3	76	—	101	3	177
Porters (goods)	11	164	5	2,014	16	2,178
Shunters, yardsmen, etc.	11	652	—	233	11	885
Loaders and sheeters	3	24	3	441	6	465
Capstan men and capstan lads	1	68	—	32	1	100
Checkers	1	10	—	533	1	543
Porters (passenger)	10	83	—	656	10	739
Clerks	1	9	—	92	1	101
Carmen and vanguards	—	8	2	369	2	377
Carriage cleaners	1	11	—	214	1	225
Signal fitters and telegraph wiremen	4	9	—	109	4	118
Mechanics and artisans	6	38	4	761	10	799
Signalmen	4	20	—	239	4	259
Permanent way men	74	143	3	2,795	77	2,938
Labourers	4	52	4	686	8	738
All other classes	28	206	6	1,090	34	1,296
Total, railway servants	204	2,939	30	12,969	234	15,903
Contractors' servants	3	8	3	52	6	60
Total	207	2,947	33	13,021	240	15,963

The 34 persons, included in the Table among "all other classes," who suffered fatal accidents in 1922 included 4 gatekeepers and gate lads, 5 greasers, 5 inspectors, 3 lamp men and lamp lads, 1 messenger, 1 policeman, 3 station masters, goods agents and yard masters, and 12 miscellaneous occupations. The fatal accident death-rate exceeded 1 per thousand persons employed among goods guards and brakemen, loaders and sheeters, permanent way men, gate keepers and gate lads, greasers, and lamp men and lamp lads. The general accident rate, for all accidents (fatal and non-fatal combined), was relatively highest among goods porters (109 per thousand), loaders and sheeters (90 per thousand), shunters, yardsmen, etc. (50

per thousand), permanent way men (48 per thousand), goods guards and brakemen (47 per thousand), checkers (46 per thousand), and firemen (40 per thousand).

Of the total of 15,968 non-fatal injuries sustained by railway and contractors' servants, 6,474 were contusions, 3,511 sprains, 2,227 cuts or lacerations, 446 scalds or burns, 424 fractures, 349 internal injuries, 98 dislocations; while 70 were cases of "shock," and 95 were cases necessitating the amputation of legs or arms, feet or hands, fingers or toes. The remaining 2,274 cases were miscellaneous injuries.

THE INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH BOARD.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

In their third annual report the Industrial Fatigue Research Board state that the industrial depression which prevailed during the year 1922 curtailed some of their activities. On the other hand, that part of the Board's work, laboratory research in particular, which is unaffected by the conditions of trade, actually expanded in scope, with definite results which may eventually have an important bearing on industrial occupations.

General investigations have been started or completed during the year into (a) Optimum length of spell; (b) Accident causation; (c) Machine design; and (d) Sickness incidence, and mortality; and industrial investigations into the Textile, Boot and Shoe, Pottery, Laundry and Glass industries, and into Post Office work. In addition a series of researches were in progress at the end of 1922 relating to various conditions of muscular and other work, and including such subjects as rate of recovery after exercise, tests for physical efficiency, effect of rest pauses and change of posture, effect of atmospheric conditions, vocational selection, personal qualities demanded in weaving, accuracy of movement, monotony, and legibility of type.

Part II. of the Report contains contributions from members of the investigating staff of the Board on such subjects as the technique of fatigue investigation, atmospheric conditions and industrial efficiency, machine design in relation to the operative, etc.

In conclusion the Board record an increasing interest in industrial fatigue research, as shown by the number of requests for information and of suggestions for investigation. Similar institutions concerned with fatigue study or with vocational guidance, some of them in enjoyment of subsidies from public funds, are also found in a number of foreign countries.

A complete list of reports and other publications of the Board is appended to the Report.

LABOUR DISPUTES ABROAD : STATISTICS FOR 1922.

(a) Sweden.*

THE total number of labour disputes in Sweden in 1922 was 392 as compared with 347 in 1921. These disputes directly affected 1,260 employers and 75,679 workers, and involved the loss of 2,674,580 working days. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 2,322 employers, 49,712 workers and 2,663,300 working days. The industries chiefly affected by disputes, measured by the number of workers involved, were timber (34 per cent. of the total), paper-making (22 per cent.) and building (12 per cent.).

Wage questions (largely proposed wage reductions) were the chief cause of 78 per cent. of the disputes during the year. The results of the disputes were as follows:—

Result.	Strikes.		Workers directly affected.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
In favour of employers	82	21	10,602	14
In favour of workers	91	23	4,893	7
Compromised	199	51	59,242	78
Unknown or indecisive	20	5	942	1
Total	392	100	75,679	100

The foregoing figures are provisional, and subject to possible amendment.

(b) Czechoslovakia.†

According to a communication received by the International Labour Office from the Ministry of Social Welfare at Prague, provisional statistics for 1922 show that the total number of strikes and lockouts during the year was 282, as compared with 355 in 1921. The groups of trades chiefly affected were wood-working (68 disputes); the pottery, brick, glass, etc., group and the metal and engineering group (44 each). The total number of working days lost in 1922 was 2,555,000, as compared with 1,960,000 in the previous year.

The following Table classifies the principal causes of the disputes:—

Cause of Dispute.	Number of Disputes.
Wages, against decrease	148
Wages, for increase	44
Wages, other	27
Trade Union questions, against dismissal of workers, etc.	56
Other causes	7

* Sociala Meddelanden, No. 6. 1923.

† Industrial and Labour Information, 8th June, 1923.

Of the 279 strikes settled in 1922, 50 ended in favour of the workers, 147 in favour of the employers and 82 in a compromise.

(c) Austria.

The Austrian Statistical Department gives a statistical summary of the labour disputes of 1922 in the issue for 25th June of its journal *Statistische Nachrichten*. These numbered 402 (as against 460 in 1921), of which 366 were strikes and 36 lockouts. Full particulars are available for 362 disputes only, of which 331 were strikes directly affecting 189,392 workers, and 31 were lockouts directly affecting 11,225 workers.

The industry most seriously affected by disputes was that of transport, in which 11 strikes occurred, directly affecting 100,766 workers. One of these was a strike of 85,491 railway, postal, telegraph and telephone employees which extended over the whole of Austria.

As regards the outcome of the strikes, 94 (with 12 per cent. of all workers affected) ended in favour of the workpeople, and 64 (with 4 per cent. of strikers) in favour of the employers, while 173 (with 84 per cent. of the strikers) ended in compromise.

DECASUALISATION OF DOCK LABOUR AT DUTCH PORTS.

MODIFICATION OF ARRANGEMENTS.*

IN connection with the article on the above subject on page 200 of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for June, later information shows that, owing to the decline in shipping activities towards the end of 1922, alterations have had to be made in the arrangements and the rates guaranteed to the workers reduced.

At *Rotterdam* the system has not been changed, but the number of registered workers has been considerably reduced. Guaranteed rates are now only 18 florins a week for married workers, 15 florins for unmarried workers if they live in lodgings and 12 if they live with their family.

At *Amsterdam* the system of guaranteed rates has been abolished, but the "reserve" of workers remains, though the number registered has been reduced by 600. On the recommendation of the employers, workers are furnished either with a grey or a green card. The number of cards of each colour is limited to 800. A holder of a grey card does not present himself any longer at the Reserve Office, but goes direct to the employer on whose recommendation he has been supplied with the card. If this employer cannot provide work the worker is passed on to another employer belonging to the North Shipping Association. Holders of grey cards have preference for work with all employers. Holders of green cards must report at fixed hours at the Reserve Offices. They are employed in turn as work is available after all the holders of grey cards have been supplied.

These regulations apply only to firms working on regular lines. In cases of firms for which the work is more casual, the procedure is practically the same as that followed in case of holders of green cards.

The Reserve Offices pay wages to holders of both grey and green cards.

SEAMEN IN THE UNITED STATES.

IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS.†

As the result of several conferences between representatives of the United States Shipping Board and representatives of the International Seamen's Union with reference to conditions of labour and wages of seamen, the increases in seamen's wages stated below have been announced (to take effect from 14th May), in addition to certain changes in working conditions, such as the inauguration of the three-watch system instead of the two-watch system, and the observance of the eight-hour-day in port.

The following Table shows the new rates, together with the percentage increase over the former rates:—

Occupation.	New Scale of Monthly Wages as from 14th May, 1923.	Increase over former Scale.
	Dollars.	Per Cent.
Carpenter	80	14
Carpenter's mate	70	17
Boatswain	75	15
Boatswain's mate	70	17
Quartermaster	70	17
Able seaman	62½	14
Ordinary seaman	47½	19
Storekeeper	70	17
Deck engineer	80	14
Pumpman	80	14
Donkeyman	75	15
Oiler	72½	12
Fireman (1) Oil burner	65	13
" (2) Coal burner	67½	17
Coal passer	60	20
Wiper	57½	15
Water tender	72½	12

* Belgian *Revue du Travail*, May, 1923.

† *Industrial Relations: Bloomfield's Labor Digest*, 26th May, 1923. Boston.

ANTI-"SWEATING" LEGISLATION IN AUSTRIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.*

(a) Austria: Home Weaving Industry.

UNDER authority conferred by the Austrian Trade Boards Act of 1918† a Home Work Commission has recently been established in Austria for the home weaving industry. Home workers, who are to be found in villages in Lower and Upper Austria, usually employ themselves in the winter months in the manufacture of cotton goods (bath towels, etc.), which are made on hand looms; in summer they are, as a rule, employed in agricultural work. Hitherto there has been no uniform regulation of wages in the industry, but the Home Work Commission has now fixed a minimum hourly wage with the object of preventing the exploitation of home workers.

A recent decision by the Commission fixes rates of wages to be paid by jobmasters in the tie-making industry of Vienna. This is the first case of the kind in which the wages have been fixed; the wage scale is very detailed, and the system of payment by the dozen is abolished.

(b) Czechoslovakia: Glass Painting and Engraving.

Under the Home Work Act of 12th December, 1919, the Minister of Social Welfare has set up a Home Work Commission for the protection of home workers employed in painting and engraving glass and in similar work.

The Act referred to provides that the Minister of Social Welfare shall appoint a central commission for each branch of manufacture in which home work is carried on. The functions of these central commissions are: (a) To fix for the branches of manufacture within their jurisdiction statutory minimum rates of wages for home workers and workshop assistants, and minimum prices for goods delivered by middlemen and home workers to contractors or intermediaries; (b) to give advice and make proposals to the Minister of Social Welfare on all matters connected with conditions of wages and work in the branch of industry for which they are competent.

The Chairman of the Central Commission must submit all resolutions of the Commission to the Minister of Social Welfare for ratification. Ratification may be refused if a resolution of the Commission is contrary to the provisions of the law.

Provision is also made in the Act for the appointment of a District Commission for any branch of home industry for which a central Commission exists.

CHANGES IN WAGES IN DENMARK: FOURTH QUARTER OF 1922.

A RECENT issue of the journal of the Danish Statistical Department‡ contains statistics of wages for the fourth quarter of 1922, compiled from returns furnished by the Danish Employers' Association. The data relate to a number of trades which, it is stated, are sufficient to be regarded as representative of manufactures and handicrafts generally.

The number of people covered by the latest returns is approximately 98,000, and the industries most strongly represented are metal and engineering (21,500), food preparation (12,800), building (11,700), pottery, glass and stone (9,000), textile (8,000), and printing and paper (6,500).

The general result of the computation shows that, if the country be taken as a whole, the average hourly earnings in the industries covered remained at the same level as in the previous three quarters of 1922 (viz., 1.42 kroner), which represented an increase of 183 per cent. above the level of 1914. For skilled workmen the average hourly earnings increased from 1.73 kroner in the third quarter to 1.74 kroner in the fourth quarter, and those for unskilled increased from 1.40 kroner to 1.41 kroner. The average hourly earnings of female workers during the same period remained stationary (0.90 kroner).

NEW SEAMEN'S ACTS IN NORWAY AND DENMARK.§

NEW Seamen's Acts on the lines of the Swedish Act, of which an account was given in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1922 (page 290), have been passed in Norway and Denmark. The former, dated 16th February, 1923, came into force on 1st July, 1923; the latter, dated 1st May, 1923, comes into force on 1st January of next year. All three Acts were drawn up by a Commission appointed to secure uniform legislation for seamen in the Scandinavian countries. The two new Acts contain provisions which partially fulfil the Genoa International Conventions on the minimum age for admission of children to employment at sea and unemployment indemnity in case of loss or foundering of the ship, and the Geneva Convention on the minimum age for the admission of young persons to employment as trimmers and stokers.

* *Industrial and Labour Information*, Vol. VI., No. 2 (1923).

† See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE, June, 1922, for a summary of the provisions of this Act.

‡ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 15th June, 1923. Corresponding figures for the third quarter of 1922 were given in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for March.

§ *Norsk Lovtidende*, No. 7, 1923, and the (Danish) *Meddelelser fra Socialraadet's Sekretariat*, May, 1923.

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

(The Prices used for these Statistics are Retail Prices.)

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	...	69%
Food only	...	...	...	62%

FOOD.

DURING June there was a seasonal advance in the average price of potatoes owing to old potatoes having been displaced by new potatoes at a higher price. Eggs were a little dearer at the end of the month than at the beginning. On the other hand, sugar, cheese, butter, bacon, fish and some descriptions of meat were slightly cheaper on 30th than on 1st June, while flour, bread, tea, milk and margarine remained practically unchanged in price during the month. At the end of the month the average increase in the prices of all the articles of food included in the statistics was 62 per cent. above the level of July, 1914.

In the following Table is given a comparison of average prices of the articles of food included in these statistics in July, 1914, at 1st June, 1923, and at 30th June, 1923:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated).			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) at 30th June, 1923, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st June, 1923.	30th June, 1923.*	July, 1914.	1st June, 1923.
Beef, British—					
Ribs	0 10	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 7½	—
Thin Flank	0 6½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3½	- 0 0½
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs	0 7½	0 10½	0 10	+ 0 2½	- 0 0½
Thin Flank	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 0½	- 0 0½
Mutton, British—					
Legs	0 10½	1 8½	1 8½	+ 0 10	- 0 0½
Breast	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 5	- 0 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs	0 6½	1 0½	1 0½	+ 0 5½	—
Breast	0 4	0 5½	0 5	+ 0 1	- 0 0½
Bacon (streaky)† ..	0 11½	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 6	- 0 0½
Flour .. per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 0 5	—
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9	0 9	+ 0 3½	—
Tea	1 6½	2 6½	2 6½	+ 1 0½	—
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 2	0 7½	0 7½	+ 0 5½	- 0 0½
Milk .. per quart	0 3½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 2	—
Butter—					
Fresh	1 2½	1 8	1 7½	+ 0 4½	- 0 0½
Salt	1 2½	1 6¾	1 6¾	+ 0 4	- 0 0½
Cheese‡	0 8½	1 2	1 1½	+ 0 4½	- 0 0½
Margarine	0 7	0 6¾	0 6¾	- 0 0½	—
Eggs (fresh) .. each	0 1½	0 1½	0 1½	+ 0 0½	—
Potatoes .. per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 4½	0 8½	+ 0 4	+ 0 4½

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 30th June, 1923, in relation to the prices of July, 1914, and 1st June, 1923:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 30th June, 1923, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding figure for 1st June, 1923.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—				
Ribs	82	76	79	80
Thin Flank	54	53	56	57
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs	39	37	38	40
Thin Flank	12	19	16	19
Mutton, British				
Legs	96	95	96	99
Breast	77	75	76	79
Mutton, Frozen				
Legs	82	73	77	79
Breast	24	26	25	28
Bacon (streaky)† ..	57	50	54	57
Fish	101	84	93	99
Flour	46	49	47	47
Bread	55	51	53	53
Tea	66	68	67	67
Sugar (granulated) ..	260	237	249	269
Milk	53	60	56	57
Butter—				
Fresh	32	34	33	37
Salt	28	29	29	32
Cheese‡	49	54	51	60
Margarine	- 6	- 8	- 7	- 7
Eggs (fresh)	35	27	31	27
Potatoes	88	72	80	- 8
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase).	63	60	62	60

* As 1st July fell on Sunday, the statistics relate to 30th June, in accordance with the usual practice of the Department in such cases.

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

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

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards rents, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920, indicate that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 30th June, 1923, was approximately 47 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges, and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Act falling within the remaining one-fifth.

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

In the fuel and light group there were reductions in some towns during June in the retail prices of coal, which on 30th June averaged approximately 85 per cent. above those of July, 1914. The charge for gas was also reduced in some areas, but the average price was not substantially affected, and was nearly 65 per cent. above the pre-war level. For lamp oil and for candles the average percentage increases over the pre-war level were about 70 per cent. and 35 per cent. respectively, or about the same as a month earlier. For matches also there was no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 30th June, as compared with July, 1914, was between 80 and 85 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 85 per cent.), the resultant figure for 30th June, 1923,* is approximately 69 per cent. above the pre-war level, or about the same as at 1st June.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1923 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 re-adjustments 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 some 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: 1915 TO 1923.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1915:—

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

Month (beginning of).	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
January ..	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78
February ..	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	88	77
March ..	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76
April ..	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74
May ..	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70
June ..	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69
July ..	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69*
August ..	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	—
September ..	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	—
October ..	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	—
November ..	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	—
December ..	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	—

NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of calculating these percentages is given on page 236 of this issue. A more detailed account was given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1921.

* See Note * in previous column.

† If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, the average increase at 30th June, 1923, is about 5 per cent. less.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during June showed very little general change as compared with recent months. It was good in the coal mining industry, in tinsplate and steel sheet manufacture and in the carpet trade; fairly good in the tailoring, paper, coachbuilding and certain sections of the metal trades; and fair in the iron and steel, furnishing, printing and brick trades. In most of the other large industries employment was still slack. A further slight improvement was reported in the building trades, but there was a decline in the wool textile and hosiery trades.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.*

Among 1,172,788 members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 11.1 at the end of June, as compared with 11.3 at the end of May, and with 15.7 at the end of June, 1922. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,750,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 25th June was 11.0†, the same percentage as at 21st May, and compared with 13.1† at the end of June, 1922. For males alone the percentage was 12.1† at 25th June, as compared with 11.9† at 21st May; for females the corresponding figures were 8.3† and 8.4†. The number of workpeople on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges at 25th June was approximately 1,226,000, of whom men numbered 934,000 and women 223,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 28th May was 1,261,000, of whom 959,000 were men and 229,000 women. It should also be noted that some unemployed persons—e.g., some of those who have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who are not insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts—do not register at the Employment Exchanges, and the Live Register figures, therefore, do not indicate the total number unemployed.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

Mining and Quarrying.—At coal mines employment continued good, and showed little change as compared with the previous month. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 23rd June was 1,163,029, an increase of 0.5 per cent. as compared with a month earlier, and of 6.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The average number of days worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 23rd June was 5.57, as compared with 5.59 in May and 4.49 in June, 1922.

At iron mines employment showed a slight decline; it was bad in the Cleveland district, moderate in Cumberland and Lancashire, and fair in other districts. At the mines covered by the returns received there was a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with May, but an increase of over 57 per cent. as compared with June, 1922. The average number of days worked per week by the mines was 5.39 in June, 1923, 5.70 in May, 1923, and 5.32 in June, 1922. At shale mines employment continued fair. At limestone quarries it was fair in the Buxton and Clitheroe districts, but slack in the Weardale area. A slight improvement was reported at slate quarries, but short time continued to be worked. At whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland employment was fairly good. It continued moderate at grindstone and building stone quarries in the Stanton-in-Peak and Rowsley district, and bad at the Clee Hill district quarries. At china clay quarries employment was good on the whole.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinsplate.—In the pig iron industry employment continued moderate, and showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. Of a total of 487 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of June was 222, as compared with 223 at the end of May and 115 at the end of June, 1922. The number of workpeople employed was 45 per cent. greater than a year ago. At iron and steel works employment was fair or moderate generally except in Scotland, where it was bad; it showed a decline as compared with the previous month. In the tinsplate and steel sheet trades employment continued good; at the end of June 527 mills were reported to be in operation, the same number as in May; the number in operation at the end of June, 1922, was 471.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering trades continued bad, but in many districts the slow improvement previously reported was maintained. The motor and cycle section, although still fairly busy, showed a tendency to decline in some districts. In the textile machinery section employment continued very bad; it was also very bad in the marine engineering section, in which it was adversely affected by the dispute in the shipbuilding industry. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment remained very bad. The lockout of boilermakers by members of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation continued throughout the month. In the other metal trades employment continued moderate, although certain sections declined during the month. It was good or fairly good in the brasswork and wire trades; fair in the nut, bolt, nail, tube, sheet metal, stove and grate, and hollow-ware trades; and slack or bad in the bedstead, lock and latch, cutlery and file, chain and anchor, and jewellery and plated ware trades.

Textile Trades.—In the cotton trade employment continued very depressed in the weaving department and in the American spinning section; in the section spinning Egyptian cotton it con-

tinued good. In the wool textile trade employment was reported as bad; it was worse than a month earlier, especially in the worsted trade. Every department of this trade showed a decline, but it was most marked in the wool sorting and wool combing departments. In the hosiery trade employment showed a decline and was moderate; in the silk trade it continued fair in the Eastern Counties, and was still bad in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton district. In the lace trade employment continued bad in the levers and plain net sections, and declined to slack in the curtain section; in the carpet trade it continued good; in the linen trade it was slack. Employment in the jute trade, though unsettled, was good on the whole; in Forfar, however, a slight decline was reported. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment continued slack on the whole, short time working being fairly general. It was fair, however, with silk dyers at Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton, and with hosiery trimmers and finishers at Leicester and Basford.

Clothing Trades.—In the tailoring trade employment continued fairly good on the whole, though a decline was reported at some centres. In the dressmaking and women's light clothing trades it was fairly good generally; in the felt hat trade it continued fair; in the shirt and collar trades it was moderate on the whole. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued slack on the whole, with much short time working. Taking the industry as a whole, there was a slight decline as compared with the previous month. In the leather trades employment in the tanning and currying section remained fair, but showed a slight decline. In the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section it was again moderate. With saddle and harness makers a further slight improvement was reported, but employment continued quiet.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades showed a further slight improvement. It was fairly good, on the whole, with bricklayers; fair with plasterers, carpenters and joiners, masons and painters; slack with plumbers; and bad with builders' labourers and with workpeople on construction of works. In the brick trades employment showed a further improvement, and was fair on the whole. In the Peterborough district it continued good.

In the furnishing trades employment continued fair, except in the Glasgow district, where it was moderate. With coach-builders it was fairly good generally, a slight improvement being reported. With millsawyers and wood-cutting machinists it was moderate; with coopers it was fair, except in Liverpool and Dundee, where it declined to dull; with brush and basket makers it continued fair; with packing-case makers it was slack.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade was fairly good on the whole, and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. Some slackness was reported in the hand-made section. With letterpress printers employment showed some improvement in London and generally continued fair in the Provinces, though there was a decline at Birmingham. It continued good with electrotypers and stereotypers in London. In the lithographic printing trade employment was generally reported as slack, though at several centres, including London, it was somewhat better than a month earlier. Lithographic artists were fairly well employed. Employment with bookbinders remained slack, and much short time was worked.

Pottery and Glass.—In the pottery trade employment continued slack generally, but showed a further slight improvement in the sanitary earthenware and tile sections; in the glass trades it continued bad on the whole.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture the supply of labour was adequate in practically all districts; and though with hay-making and turnip-hoeing in progress more temporary workers are being employed, there is some unemployment, especially in a few parts of the eastern counties. In the fishing industry employment continued fair on the whole.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment among dock labourers was still only moderate on the whole. With seamen employment continued moderate on the whole, and at the majority of ports large numbers of men failed to obtain engagements.

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed (a) among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained and (b) among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland month by month since May, 1922.

Date. (End of Month.)	Percentages unemployed among	
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.†
1922.		
May	16.4	14.0
June	15.7	13.1
July	14.6	12.6
August	14.4	12.3
September	14.6	12.2
October	14.0	12.3
November	14.2	12.6
December	14.0	12.4
1923.		
January	13.7	13.0
February	13.1	12.1
March	12.3	11.4
April	11.3	11.2
May	11.3	11.0
June	11.1	11.0

Further details and statistics as to the state of employment in a number of the principal industries are given on pages 246-250.

* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

† The figures include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of systematic short time, previously not included.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 1,172,788 in branches covered by the returns received reported 130,188 (or 11.1 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of June, 1923, compared with 11.3 per cent. at the end of May, 1923, and 15.7 per cent. at the end of June, 1922.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting at end of June, 1923.	Unemployed at end of June, 1923.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building†	122,276	9,170	7.5	- 0.4	- 0.1
Coal Mining	133,884	1,531	1.1	- 0.8	-12.1
Engineering and Ship- building	404,062	88,291	21.9	..	- 8.4
Miscellaneous Metal ..	54,552	4,699	8.6	..	- 3.5
Textiles:—					
Cotton	60,547	5,796	9.6‡	..	+ 5.9
Woolen and Worsted	12,232	252	2.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.8
Other	58,421	2,179	3.7	- 0.2	- 0.1
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	96,765	4,317	4.5	- 0.5	- 1.9
Furnishing	24,669	1,409	5.7	- 0.4	- 0.2
Woodworking	44,736	1,926	4.3	+ 0.1	- 2.7
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe.. ..	75,598	3,643	4.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Other Clothing	45,096	450	1.0	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Leather	6,475	550	8.5	- 0.3	- 2.8
Glass	1,248	24	1.9	- 0.4	- 2.7
Pottery	27,500	4,700	17.1	- 0.2	- 4.7
Tobacco§	4,727	1,251	26.5	+ 1.6	-26.7
Total	1,172,788	130,188	11.1	- 0.2	- 4.6

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

THE percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.0 per cent. (males 12.1 per cent, females 8.3 per cent.) at 25th June, as compared with 11.0 (males 11.9 per cent., females 8.4 per cent.) at 21st May. A Table showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appears on page 252.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in certain industries in June, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 246 to 250.

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for June, 1923.	June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
			Days.	Days.
Coal Mining	1,163,029	5.57	- 0.02	+ 1.08
Iron "	9,396	5.39	- 0.31	+ 0.07
Shale "	4,507	5.90	- 0.06	- 0.07
			Number.	Number.
Pig Iron .. .. .	..	222	- 1	+ 107
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	..	527	..	+ 56
			Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel	80,022	424,505	- 3.5	+ 34.8

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.¶	Year ago.¶
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Textiles:—						
Cotton	85,763	+ 1.9	- 5.5	143,346	+ 1.3	-16.6
Woolen	16,843	- 0.7	+ 5.8	34,130	- 1.6	+ 4.2
Worsted	29,808	- 1.7	+ 0.9	55,290	- 6.3	- 8.1
Boot and Shoe ..	51,863	- 0.4	+ 1.4	112,218	-10.4	- 9.3
Pottery	12,229	- 0.4	+ 3.8	22,435	+ 3.6	+ 1.1
Brick	6,852	+ 4.9	+21.6	16,228	+ 7.3	+22.0
Total	293,358	+ 0.5	- 0.7	383,647	- 3.4	- 9.5

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked-out are also excluded.
 † The percentage is based on returns relating to woodworkers and plumbers, and as regards woodworkers, who constitute the bulk of the membership reported on, the returns relate to April.
 ‡ In addition to those totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."
 § The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.
 ¶ These figures include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of systematic short time, previously not included.
 ¶ Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

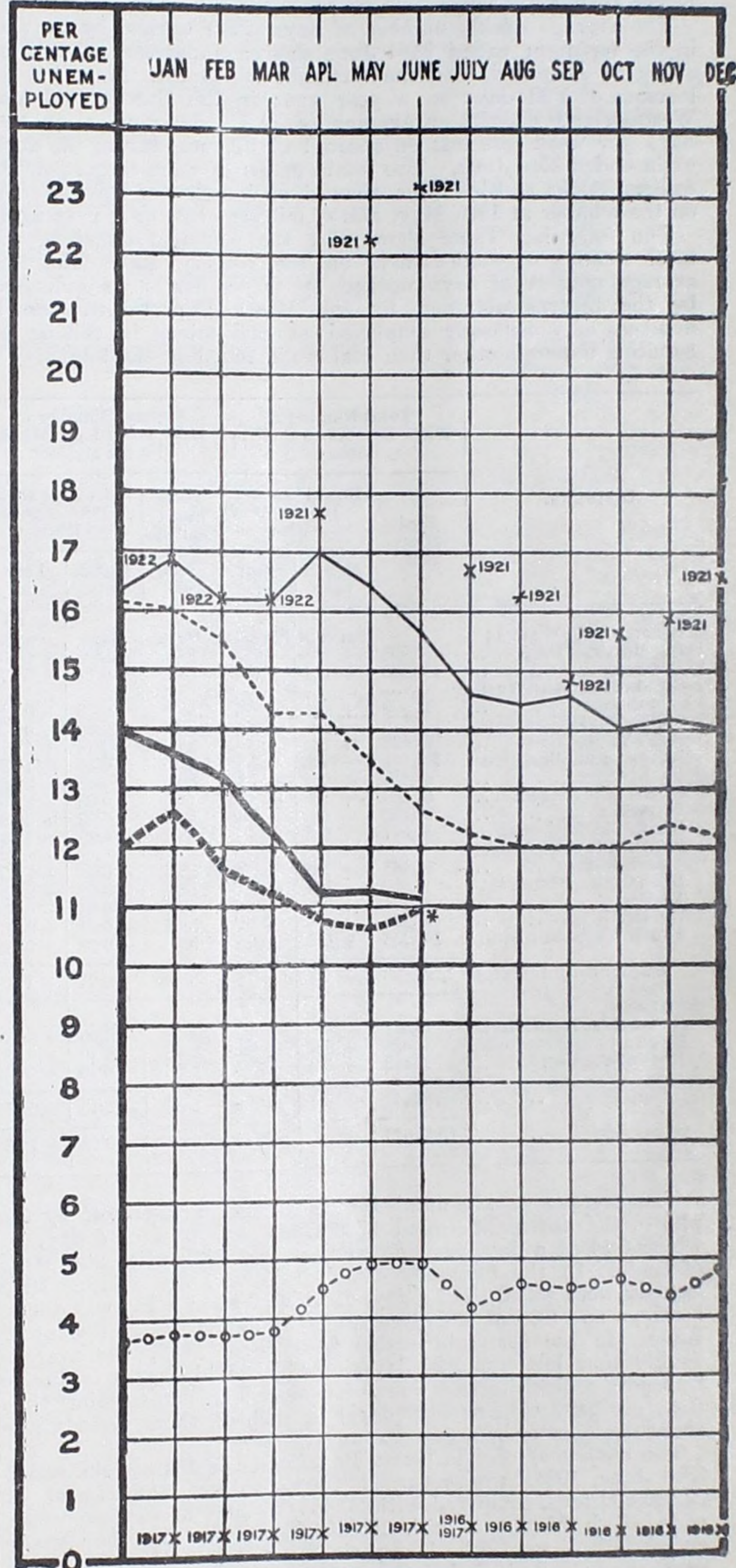
(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:—

Thick Curve ————— = 1923.
 Thin Curve ————— = 1922.
 Chain Curve -o-o-o-o-o = Mean of 1913-22.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1893-1922.

(2) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK-PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT:—

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - 1923.
 Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - 1922.



NOTE.

The Trade Union returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the previous column.

The figures for insured workpeople relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and exclude the Irish Free State. Detailed figures are given on page 252.

* The figures for the end of June include a due proportion of persons working systematic short time, and are therefore not comparable with those of previous months. A revised curve will be published in future issues of the GAZETTE.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during June continued good; it showed little change as compared with the previous month, but was much better than a year ago.

The average weekly number of days (5.57) worked by the pits in the fortnight ended 23rd June showed a decrease of 0.02 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 19th May, but an increase of 1.08 days on a year ago; in the Cumberland and Westmorland district an average of about one and a quarter days per week was lost on account of dispute during the fortnight ended 23rd June. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 23rd June showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. on the number at 19th May, and of 6.9 per cent. on a year ago.

The following Table shows, for the principal districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked by the collieries, as indicated by the returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals:—

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*			
	23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Days.
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
Northumberland ..	62,291	+ 0.6	5.47	- 0.03	+ 0.35	
Durham	170,500	+ 0.6	5.38	- 0.11	+ 0.77	
Cumberland and Westmorland ..	11,979	+ 0.9	4.44	- 0.75	- 0.23	
South Yorkshire ..	110,546	+ 0.8	5.64	+ 0.02	+ 0.84	
West Yorkshire ..	67,678	+ 0.2	5.69	- 0.13	+ 1.97	
Lancs. and Cheshire	105,561	- 0.1	5.15	- 0.36	+ 1.18	
Derbyshire	64,530	+ 0.3	5.70	- 0.02	+ 2.36	
Notts. and Leicester..	64,580	+ 1.0	5.59	+ 0.03	+ 2.25	
Warwick	21,595	+ 0.2	5.95	+ 0.02	+ 2.29	
North Staffordshire ..	35,047	+ 0.3	5.62	- 0.20	+ 1.44	
South Staffs.,† Worc. and Salop	35,463	+ 1.0	5.83	- 0.14	+ 1.60	
Glouc. and Somerset	14,816	+ 0.4	5.77	- 0.09	+ 2.07	
Kent	1,871	+ 1.3	5.69	+ 0.03	- 0.05	
North Wales	17,895	+ 0.8	5.63	- 0.31	+ 0.48	
South Wales and Mon.	240,336	+ 0.3	5.88	+ 0.39	+ 0.72	
England and Wales	1,024,688	+ 0.5	5.60	+ 0.01	+ 1.15	
SCOTLAND.						
Mid & East Lothians..	15,581	—	5.40	- 0.06	+ 0.04	
Fife and Clackmannan	30,422	+ 0.7	5.48	- 0.10	+ 0.42	
Rest of Scotland ..	92,338	+ 0.3	5.32	- 0.19	+ 0.64	
Scotland	138,341	+ 0.4	5.37	- 0.15	+ 0.53	
Great Britain	1,163,029	+ 0.5	5.57	- 0.02	+ 1.08	

The average weekly number of coal-winding days lost by the pits in the fortnight ended 23rd June was 0.19 of a day, of which 0.14 of a day was due to transport difficulties and want of trade. In the fortnight ended 19th May the average time lost per week was 0.18 of a day, of which 0.09 of a day was due to holidays and 0.05 of a day to transport difficulties and want of trade. In the fortnight ended 24th June, 1922, the average weekly time lost was 1.25 days, of which 1.14 days was due to transport difficulties and want of trade. The non-winding time (i.e., ordinary stop or idle days) in each of these periods was about one-quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain in the four weeks ended 23rd June, 1923, was returned to the Mines Department at 22,620,600 tons, compared with 20,464,000 tons in the four weeks ended 26th May, and with 15,826,800 tons in the four weeks ended 24th June, 1922. The periods ended 26th May, 1923, and 24th June, 1922, included the Whitsun holidays.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted in June to 8,634,743 tons, or 1,069,281 tons less than in May.

* The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron, &c., was got and drawn 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.

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

Iron Mining.

THERE was a slight decline in employment generally during June; in the Cleveland district it was reported as bad, in the Cumberland and Lancashire district moderate, and in other districts fair. Compared with a year ago a great improvement was shown.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort-night ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
			Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.
Cleveland	3,514	- 0.5	+ 92.0		4.81
Cumberland and Lancashire.. .. .	4,424	- 0.4	+ 52.4		5.72
Other Districts	1,458	..	+ 16.9		5.79
All Districts	9,396	- 0.4	+ 57.2		5.39

Shale Mining.

Employment was again fair. At mines employing 4,507 workpeople in the fortnight ended 23rd June, there was an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the total number employed, as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with June, 1922. The average number of days* worked per week by the mines was 5.90 in June, 1923, 5.96 in May, 1923, and 5.97 in June, 1922.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during June continued moderate, and showed a slight decrease as compared with May.

Of a total of 487 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of June, as shown by returns collected by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, was 222, compared with 223 at the end of May and 115 at the end of June, 1922.

Returns received by the Federation from 86 firms, employing 23,821 workpeople at the end of June, showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent., compared with the number employed at the end of May, but an increase of 45 per cent. as compared with June, 1922.

The following Table shows the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of June, 1923, May, 1923, and June, 1922, according to returns collected by the Federation:—

District.	Total Number of Furnaces	Number of Furnaces in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in June, on a	
		June, 1923.	May, 1923.	June, 1922.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Durham and Cleveland	115	48	48	27	..	+ 21
Cumberland and W. Lancs.	46	15	18	11	- 3	+ 4
Other parts of Lancs. and Yorks., including Sheffield.	38	18	18	11	..	+ 7
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants.	73	40	40	20	..	+ 20
Lincolnshire	22	19	19	9	..	+ 10
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick.	58	21	21	11	..	+ 10
South Wales and Monmouth.	33	12	11	9	+ 1	+ 3
Total (England and Wales) }	385	173	175	98	- 2	+ 75
SCOTLAND	102	49	48	17	+ 1	+ 32
TOTAL	487	222	223	115	- 1	+ 107

The production of pig iron in June amounted to 692,900 tons, as compared with 714,200 tons in May and 369,200 tons in June, 1922.

* See * footnote in previous column.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works was fair or moderate generally, except in Scotland, where it was bad. It showed a decline as compared with the previous month, but was much better than a year ago. In some districts the decline was reported to be due partly to lack of orders owing to the prolongation of the shipbuilding dispute.

According to returns received from firms employing 80,022 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 23rd June (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each case) showed a decrease of 3.5 per cent. on the previous month, but an increase of 34.8 per cent. on a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open in the week ended 23rd June was 5.3, the same number as in May, but an increase of 0.3 on a year ago.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	8,593	- 2.4	+ 50.2	48,133	- 5.0	+ 52.6
Crucible Furnaces	349	+ 2.9	+ 57.9	1,563	+ 5.5	+ 75.8
Bessemer Converters	577	+ 93.6	+ 11.6	2,652	+ 64.1	+ 10.5
Puddling Forges	4,706	+ 1.7	+ 27.2	21,149	- 0.5	+ 42.6
Rolling Mills	28,401	- 4.4	+ 27.9	141,833	- 5.2	+ 41.7
Forging and Pressing	3,136	+ 1.9	+ 24.1	16,301	+ 4.6	+ 36.8
Founding	8,439	- 2.6	+ 17.5	46,788	+ 1.0	+ 24.5
Other Departments	6,328	- 4.6	+ 21.1	35,238	- 3.7	+ 29.0
Mechanics, Labourers.. ..	19,488	- 5.0	+ 21.5	110,848	- 5.1	+ 25.5
Total	80,022	- 3.2	+ 26.3	424,505	- 3.5	+ 34.8
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland and Durham	6,217	- 8.4	+ 106.1	31,555	- 7.1	+ 116.5
Cleveland	8,552	+ 2.4	+ 27.8	48,291	+ 1.6	+ 35.2
Sheffield and Rotherham	20,235	- 0.5	+ 23.9	105,679	- 1.4	+ 31.1
Leeds, Bradford, etc.	2,607	- 1.4	+ 2.3	14,200	+ 4.0	+ 10.7
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire.. ..	8,190	+ 4.2	+ 33.8	43,429	+ 4.4	+ 50.4
Staffordshire	8,361	- 1.0	+ 19.6	43,015	- 3.8	+ 23.0
Other Midland Counties	4,103	- 0.5	+ 22.0	21,606	- 3.2	+ 43.0
Wales and Monmouth.. ..	9,493	+ 0.4	+ 10.0	51,115	- 1.1	+ 8.4
Total, England and Wales	67,758	- 0.4	+ 26.2	358,890	- 1.0	+ 33.0
Scotland	12,264	- 16.3	+ 27.3	65,615	- 15.2	+ 45.6
Total	80,022	- 3.2	+ 26.3	424,505	- 3.5	+ 34.8

The production of steel ingots and castings in June, as returned to the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 767,700 tons, compared with 821,000 tons in May, and with 400,200 tons in June, 1922.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good during June and showed little change as compared with the previous month. At the end of the month 527 mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, the same number as at the end of May, compared with 471 at the end of June, 1922.

The following Table shows the number of works reported to be open and the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received at the end of June, 1923:—

Works.	Number of Works Open			Number of Mills in Operation		
	At end of June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate	76	..	+ 4	410	+ 2†	+ 44
Steel Sheet	12	- 1	..	117	- 2	+ 12
TOTAL	88	- 1	+ 4	527	..	+ 56

THE exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in June, 1923, amounted to 98,037 tons, or 8,933 tons less than in May, 1923, but 25,471 tons more than in June, 1922.

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown was actually worked by all the men employed.
† Revised figure.

SHIPBUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades remained very bad during June.

The lock-out of boilermakers by members of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation continued throughout the month (see p. 239), and in the affected districts employment was almost at a standstill, except at the repair yards of a number of small firms not involved in the dispute.

In other districts, employment on repair work remained fair at Liverpool; at the Bristol Channel ports it improved, but was far from good. On the Thames work was resumed at the beginning of the month after a dispute, but the industry was still depressed. With barge builders on the Thames employment was still fair, and boatbuilders at Yarmouth and Lowestoft generally worked full time. At Falmouth employment was reported as fair.

The following Table shows the number of people insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were registered as unemployed, or as working systematic short time in such a manner as to qualify for benefit, at June 25th, 1923. For an explanation of the method of compiling the figures see page 252.

Divisions.	Number of insured contributors registered as unemployed or as working systematic short time at 25th June.
London	4,091
South Eastern	1,356
South Western	8,259
Midlands	168
North Eastern	41,211
North Western	13,845
Scotland	38,812
Wales	4,896
Northern Ireland	6,368
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	119,006
<i>Males</i>	<i>118,551</i>
<i>Females</i>	<i>455</i>

SHIPBUILDING IN THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1923.

According to Lloyd's Register Quarterly Shipbuilding Returns, the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction in Great Britain and Ireland at the end of June, 1923, amounted to 1,337,759 tons, as compared with 1,492,138 tons at the end of March, 1923, and 1,919,504 at the end of June, 1922. These figures include a considerable amount of tonnage (130,000 tons at the end of June, 1923) on which work has been suspended for some time; and, when allowance is made for this, the tonnage actually under construction at the 30th June, 1923, amounted to 1,208,000 tons, or 682,000 tons less than the average tonnage under construction during the 12 months immediately preceding the war. The tonnage commenced during the June quarter showed a considerable decrease, amounting to 241,283 tons, as compared with 355,203 tons during the previous quarter.

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

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry was still bad during June, but in many districts the slow improvement previously reported was maintained. In the textile machinery section employment remained very bad. The marine engineering section also remained very bad and was adversely affected by the dispute in the shipbuilding industry. The motor and cycle section, although still fairly busy, showed a tendency to decline in some districts.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were registered as unemployed, or as working systematic short time in such a manner as to qualify for benefit at 25th June, 1923. For an explanation of the method of compiling the figures see page 252.

Division.	Number of Insured Contributors registered as Unemployed or as working systematic short time at 25th June.					TOTAL.
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Stoves, Grates, Pipes, &c., and General Iron Foundries.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making.	Constructional Engineering.	
London	14,728	484	461	159	168	16,000
South Eastern	6,570	276	263	197	34	7,340
South Western	4,121	220	89	945	87	5,462
Midlands	19,028	5,123	1,352	22	573	26,098
North Eastern	32,992	3,285	565	7,842	1,205	45,889
North Western	36,711	1,497	995	699	180	40,082
Scotland	23,866	3,149	220	4,131	539	31,905
Wales	922	219	37	11	20	1,209
Northern Ireland	2,275	362	13	45	10	2,705
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	141,213	14,615	3,995	14,051	2,816	176,690
<i>Males</i>	<i>138,870</i>	<i>13,907</i>	<i>3,620</i>	<i>14,033</i>	<i>2,806</i>	<i>173,196</i>
<i>Females</i>	<i>2,343</i>	<i>708</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>3,494</i>

On the north-east coast employment remained bad, large numbers of men being totally unemployed or on short time, especially in the marine engineering section, which continued to be affected by the shipbuilding dispute. In Lancashire and Cheshire employment in the textile machinery section remained very bad, large numbers of men being suspended and others working short time; railway works continued fairly busy, and in other sections improvements were reported in various districts, though employment remained bad.

In Yorkshire there was a very slight improvement on the whole, and employment remained bad generally, though printing machinery makers at Otley were fairly well employed. At Nottingham lace machine builders were on short time, but makers of hosiery machinery and motor cycles and cycles continued to be fairly well employed. The improvement at Lincoln was maintained, much overtime being reported, and at several towns in the district some firms of agricultural implement makers were fairly busy. The railway works at Derby continued fairly well employed. At Leicester employment, though still much below normal, was fair in some sections. In the Birmingham, Coventry and Wolverhampton district employment in the motor, motor cycle and cycle trades continued fairly good, but there was stated to be a less marked demand for additional labour; in other engineering trades an improvement was reported, though short time and unemployment were still very frequent.

In the Eastern Counties employment continued fair at Norwich and Chelmsford, but was slack at Ipswich and Colchester. In the London area it was rather better than in May, and patternmakers were fairly well employed. An improvement was reported in the Southern Counties, especially at Bristol, where some firms resorted to the working of double shifts; many men were, however, still unemployed. At the railway works at Swindon a slow and steady improvement was maintained. In London and the Southern Counties employment at motor works continued fair on the whole, but showed a decline in some cases. In South Wales there was a marked improvement in the state of employment as compared with the previous month.

In the Glasgow district employment was very bad, and was affected by the shipbuilding dispute, many discharges taking place during the month. In the East of Scotland employment continued bad. In the Belfast district little improvement was reported.

COTTON TRADE.

In this trade employment continued very depressed during June in the weaving department and in the section of the spinning department which spins American cotton. The Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations have recommended the continuance of the curtailment of production in the American spinning section to the extent of 50 per cent. during July and August, in addition to the usual holidays. Employment in the section spinning Egyptian cotton continued good. It is reported that a number of mills spinning American cotton have changed over to Egyptian cotton.

Taking the trade as a whole the state of employment was about the same as in the previous month; but it was worse than in June of last year, in every department and in almost every district.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing.. ..	11,229	+ 3.9	- 4.5	16,497	+ 0.3	- 21.8
Spinning	21,140	+ 2.3	- 6.1	32,935	+ 0.5	- 19.5
Weaving	36,906	+ 2.0	- 6.5	60,594	+ 2.4	- 13.7
Other	7,967	+ 0.1	- 3.1	18,204	+ 0.5	- 11.2
Not specified ..	8,521	+ 0.3	- 2.7	15,116	+ 0.3	- 20.9
Total	85,763	+ 1.9	- 5.5	143,346	+ 1.3	- 16.6
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton	4,019	+ 4.1	- 4.3	6,241	- 2.1	- 21.8
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	8,023	+ 3.5	- 5.7	11,461	+ 14.8	- 23.1
Oldham	8,434	+ 1.5	- 9.4	12,003	- 1.0	- 39.7
Bolton and Leigh ..	13,279	+ 1.5	- 1.0	22,769	+ 3.1	- 6.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, and Todmorden	8,338	+ 3.6	- 9.8	11,679	+ 1.5	- 19.9
Manchester	6,025	- 1.4	- 7.0	9,704	- 4.7	- 14.2
Preston and Chorley..	6,390	+ 0.9	- 9.2	11,313	+ 3.3	- 10.2
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	8,861	- 0.1	- 11.5	16,192	- 2.0	- 20.7
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	12,589	+ 4.1	- 1.9	25,274	- 0.4	- 10.2
Other Lancashire Towns	3,069	+ 1.6	- 4.0	5,642	+ 6.6	- 4.9
Yorkshire Towns ..	3,785	+ 0.6	+ 3.0	6,375	- 0.5	- 7.2
Other Districts ..	2,951	+ 2.6	+ 4.6	4,693	- 1.5	- 4.1
Total	85,763	+ 1.9	- 5.5	143,346	+ 1.3	- 16.6

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

Returns from firms employing 7,813 workpeople in the Oldham district showed that, during the four weeks ended June 23rd, about 32 per cent. of these workpeople were on full time; about 22 per cent. were stopped for two weeks, another 24 per cent. for one week, and about 2 per cent. for the whole period. In addition a considerable number of operatives were on short time in various other forms for all or part of the month. In the other districts, taken collectively, about 29 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were on short time, to the extent of about 16 hours a week on the average in the week ended 23rd June. The districts most affected were Bury and Rochdale, where about 64 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, to the extent of 19 hours a week on the average; and Stockport, where 44 per cent. were on short time, to the extent of 18 hours a week on the average, during the week ended 23rd June.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment in the spinning section continued bad; on the average about half time was worked, most firms only working alternate weeks. In the Stalybridge district about 20 per cent. (on Egyptian cotton) worked full time. In the manufacturing section at Oldham employment was bad, and worse than a month earlier, except in the velvet section, where it continued fair. At Bolton employment was fair in all the principal departments. At Leigh it was very good with spinners, and better than in May. In the Bury and Rochdale districts employment was bad.

In all the principal weaving districts, including Burnley, Blackburn, Darwen and Preston, employment continued very bad; it was about the same as in the previous month, but considerably worse than in June of last year. A large proportion of the looms were standing idle; some sheds were closed entirely, while others were open, but the operatives were engaged on a reduced number of looms, e.g., two looms, instead of three or four as usual. It was expected that the usual holidays would be extended at some weaving centres.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 26,957,700 lbs. in June, 1923, compared with 45,827,500 lbs. in the previous month, and with 118,859,200 lbs. in June, 1922.

The exports of cotton yarn were 10,029,300 lbs. in June, 1923, compared with 12,574,500 lbs. in May, 1923, and 15,743,900 lbs. in June, 1922.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 300,669,100 square yards, as compared with 409,962,600 square yards in the previous month, and with 311,907,300 square yards in June, 1922.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the wool textile trade in June was reported as bad; it was worse than a month earlier, especially in the worsted trade. Every department of this trade showed a decline, but it was most marked in the wool-sorting and wool-combing departments.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

During June employment on the whole showed a decline. At Huddersfield there was much variation as between one firm and another; at some mills the workpeople were losing two or three days a week, while at others overtime was worked. There was a decline in the heavy woollen district (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.). In the rug and blanket trade employment continued fair; in the rag and shoddy trade it was again very bad. At Leeds and Morley there was a slight improvement with makers of lower grade cloths, but a falling off in the demand for best class goods; on the whole employment with weavers showed a decline, while with willeyers and fettlers it continued slack. In the Rochdale and Stockport district employment in the flannel trade showed a further decline, but was still fairly good on the whole; most of the mills were working fairly good time, but some had a proportion of their looms idle.

In the Scottish tweed trade there was a decline, and a considerable number of factories were on short time.

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 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting	375	+ 1.6	+ 3.6	877	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Spinning	3,975	- 0.3	+ 11.1	7,989	- 0.6	+ 9.6
Weaving	6,644	- 1.8	+ 4.2	12,045	- 4.7	+ 2.7
Other Departments ..	5,023	+ 0.2	+ 5.3	11,291	+ 1.4	+ 4.4
Not Specified	826	+ 0.7	- 1.3	1,928	- 3.4	- 5.7
TOTAL	16,843	- 0.7	+ 5.8	34,130	- 1.6	+ 4.2

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Huddersfield District ..	1,340	- 1.2	+ 8.0	3,438	+ 5.6	+ 9.7
Leeds District ..	1,807	- 0.7	+ 5.5	3,755	- 2.7	- 1.6
Dewsbury and Batley District ..	1,677	- 0.2	+ 9.3	3,758	- 5.1	+ 20.1
Other Parts of West Riding ..	2,113	- 0.7	+ 8.1	4,718	+ 1.7	+ 10.0
Total, West Riding	6,937	- 0.7	+ 7.7	15,669	- 0.3	+ 9.0
Scotland ..	5,084	- 1.9	+ 2.5	9,632	- 7.5	- 2.5
Other Districts ..	4,822	+ 0.6	+ 6.6	8,829	+ 3.0	+ 3.8
TOTAL ..	16,843	- 0.7	+ 5.8	34,130	- 1.6	+ 4.2

Returns from firms employing 16,584 workpeople in the week ended 23rd June showed that about 28 per cent. of these workpeople were working short time in that week, to the extent of about 10 hours a week on the average.

WORSTED TRADE.

Employment with wool sorters showed a decline, and was bad; 30 per cent. of the operatives were on short time. With wool combers employment was moderate, worse than in May, and considerably worse than in June of last year; short time increased, and the machinery was running for about 65 per cent. of the normal hours. Some wool combing firms were stopping night work, and sharing the available work among the whole of their employees. There was an increased amount of short time in the wool carbonising department.

In the worsted spinning department there was a decline on the whole; employment in the spinning of crossbred yarns showed a slight improvement, but in the spinning of botany yarns (for the fine cloth trade) it showed a decline.

In the weaving department there was a decline, which was most marked in the Huddersfield district. The fine men's-wear trade in this district continued to decline, and was very dull at the end of the month, and 25 per cent. of the looms were standing, or waiting for warps. The decline in the Bradford dress goods trade, which had also been going on for several months, continued during June.

The following table summarises the information received from those firms which furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

Departments.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Wool Sorting and Combing ..	4,348	- 3.1	- 2.6	10,252	- 13.6	- 18.9
Spinning ..	14,878	- 1.4	+ 2.0	22,335	- 5.0	- 5.8
Weaving ..	5,413	- 2.2	- 0.4	11,362	- 4.0	- 4.7
Other Departments ..	2,931	+ 0.4	+ 5.8	7,241	- 3.6	+ 1.7
Not specified ..	2,238	- 2.0	- 4.4	4,100	- 4.2	- 13.5
TOTAL ..	29,808	- 1.7	+ 0.9	55,290	- 6.3	- 8.1

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Bradford District ..	15,423	- 2.3	+ 1.8	29,934	- 7.6	- 7.6
Keighley District ..	5,147	- 0.7	- 1.2	9,585	- 3.6	- 5.6
Halifax District ..	2,711	- 0.5	- 3.0	4,479	- 0.8	- 15.0
Huddersfield District ..	3,284	- 3.3	+ 0.2	6,037	- 11.5	- 14.0
Other Parts of West Riding ..	2,135	+ 1.3	+ 4.9	3,644	- 1.3	+ 1.4
Total, West Riding ..	28,700	- 1.7	- 0.8	53,679	- 6.4	- 8.1
Other Districts ..	1,108	- 1.1	+ 3.0	1,611	- 0.5	- 6.2
TOTAL ..	29,808	- 1.7	+ 0.9	55,290	- 6.3	- 8.1

Returns received from firms employing 27,703 workpeople in the week ended 23rd June, showed that about 21 per cent. of these workpeople were working short time, to the extent of about 13 hours a week on the average.

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep or lambs) were 44,486,800 lbs. in June, 1923, compared with 51,562,700 lbs. in May, 1923, and 54,378,900 lbs. in June, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,780,400 lbs., compared with 4,072,100 lbs. in May, 1923, and 4,577,000 lbs. in June, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 17,730,800 square yards, compared with 17,373,000 square yards in May, 1923, and 16,034,200 square yards in June, 1922.

The exports of blankets were 128,351 pairs, 117,455 pairs and 59,804 pairs in June, 1923, May, 1923, and June, 1922, respectively.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

DURING June employment remained slack on the whole, with much short time working. In the industry as a whole there was a slight decline as compared with May.

Employment at Leicester declined, and only a few firms were well employed at the end of the month. There was no marked change at Northampton, where employment was quiet. At Wellingborough it continued bad. At Higham and Rushden it was fair; some short time was worked, but it was not general. Apart from a slight improvement in the middle of the month, employment at Kettering remained poor. At Stafford it was again fair, full time being worked. At Norwich there was a decline; there was much short time and unemployment, and employment was not nearly so good as in June of last year. In the Bristol and Kingswood district employment was still quiet but there was a marked improvement during the month. Employment at Leeds was bad. In the slipper trade in the Rossendale Valley employment remained fair.

In Scotland employment was bad at Arbroath, Dundee, and Maybole, but fair at the other principal centres.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.*	Year ago.*
England and Wales:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London ..	2,102	- 0.5	- 6.3	4,614	- 11.1	- 15.3
Leicester ..	8,807	- 2.5	+ 0.9	19,635	- 19.3	- 14.2
Leicester Country District ..	2,656	- 1.6	- 4.4	5,849	- 9.0	- 11.7
Northampton ..	6,902	+ 1.2	- 2.7	16,500	- 5.7	- 11.8
Northampton Country District ..	7,882	+ 1.7	+ 4.9	17,596	- 4.7	- 0.0
Kettering ..	3,292	+ 0.3	+ 5.1	7,935	- 10.6	- 1.1
Stafford and District ..	2,526	- 1.8	+ 3.1	5,522	- 14.4	- 12.7
Norwich and District ..	4,228	- 3.4	- 7.6	7,655	- 17.2	- 24.8
Bristol, Kingswood and District ..	2,466	+ 3.8	+ 16.9	4,841	- 0.5	+ 15.1
Leeds and District ..	1,847	- 1.3	- 2.4	3,699	- 9.1	- 12.3
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ..	4,406	- 0.7	+ 12.1	9,179	- 9.7	- 6.4
Birmingham and District ..	997	- 0.5	+ 0.4	1,932	+ 1.3	- 6.5
Other parts of England and Wales ..	1,242	+ 1.1	+ 8.5	2,041	- 12.8	- 10.8
England and Wales ..	49,353	- 0.4	+ 1.6	106,998	- 10.7	- 9.6
Scotland ..	2,510	+ 0.3	- 0.9	5,220	- 3.0	- 2.3
Great Britain ..	51,863	- 0.4	+ 1.4	112,218	- 10.4	- 9.3

Returns from firms employing 41,807 workpeople in the week ended 23rd June showed that about 40 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, to the extent of 12 hours a week on the average.

The exports of boots and shoes in June, 1923, amounted to 90,425 dozen pairs, or 2,902 dozen pairs more than in May, 1923, and 37,179 dozen pairs more than in June, 1922.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade during June was again fair on the whole, and showed continued improvement. In the Peterborough district it continued good, but in the Coventry district employment was still bad, and many works were closed; an improvement was reported from the Nottingham district. Compared with a year ago there was a general improvement.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.*	Year ago.*
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,345	+ 2.5	+ 15.8	3,189	+ 4.0	+ 16.7
Midlands and Eastern Counties	4,118	+ 5.2	+ 26.6	9,798	+ 7.4	+ 27.2
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,180	+ 3.2	+ 8.9	2,766	+ 8.7	+ 9.4
Other Districts ..	239	+ 25.9	+ 52.6	475	+ 21.5	+ 40.1
TOTAL ..	6,852	+ 4.9	+ 21.6	16,228	+ 7.3	+ 22.0

Returns from firms employing 6,276 workpeople show that 6 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time, to the extent of six hours on the average, during the week ended 23rd June.

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

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

DURING June employment in these trades, taken as a whole, showed a further slight improvement; it was generally moderate to fair, although there was considerable variation as between different centres and the various occupations within each centre. It was reported as very good in certain districts, including Bournemouth and Poole, Eastbourne, West Middlesex, North West Surrey, Leicester and Harrogate, and some overtime was worked at a few centres; on the other hand, however, it was reported as bad or very slack in some districts, including Middlesbrough, Carlisle, Barrow-in-Furness, Grimsby, Great Yarmouth and Chatham, and slack or quiet at certain other centres, short time being worked in some cases.

Employment was fairly good, on the whole, with bricklayers, and fair with plasterers, carpenters and joiners, masons and painters, some improvement being noticeable in a number of districts, especially with bricklayers, plasterers and carpenters and joiners; there was a shortage of certain classes of skilled labour, particularly bricklayers, in several towns, and in some other centres the margin of available skilled labour was small. Employment was generally slack with plumbers, and it continued bad with builders' labourers and workpeople on construction of works.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were registered as unemployed or as working *systematic* short time in such a manner as to qualify for benefit at 25th June. For an explanation of the method of compiling the figures see page 252.

Divisions.	Number of Insured Contributors registered as Unemployed, or as working Systematic Short-Time at 25th June, 1923.		
	Building.	Works of Construction.	Total.
London	24,277	3,737	28,014
South Eastern	8,995	2,573	11,568
South Western	8,381	2,875	11,256
Midlands	11,772	2,969	14,741
North Eastern	10,810	3,910	14,720
North Western	12,989	2,967	15,956
Scotland	6,961	3,074	10,035
Wales	2,942	2,161	5,103
Northern Ireland	2,453	397	2,850
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	89,580	24,663	114,243
Males	89,400	24,043	114,043
Females	180	20	200

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades continued slack during June, and showed little change, on the whole, as compared with the previous month. The sanitary earthenware and tile trades, however, continued to show improvement. At Bristol and Worcester employment was fairly good; in the Glasgow district it was very bad, and worse than during the previous month.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.	Week ended 23rd June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago. Year ago.*	Per cent.
China Manufacture	1,449	- 1.0 - 10.1	2,759	+ 5.5 + 1.6	
Earthenware Manufacture	9,007	- 0.6 + 4.7	16,566	+ 4.2 - 0.6	
Other Branches (including unspecified)	1,773	+ 1.2 + 13.3	3,110	- 1.1 + 11.4	
TOTAL	12,229	- 0.4 + 3.8	22,435	+ 3.6 + 1.1	
DISTRICTS.					
Potteries	9,416	- 0.7 + 4.0	16,505	+ 5.7 + 2.8	
Other Districts	2,813	+ 0.6 + 3.2	5,930	- 1.8 - 3.3	
TOTAL	12,229	- 0.4 + 3.8	22,435	+ 3.6 + 1.1	

Returns from employers relating to short-time working showed that of 11,799 workpeople covered, 27 per cent. were working, on an average, about 17 hours less than full time in the week ended 23rd June, 1923.

SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT during June with seamen continued moderate on the whole. At the majority of the ports considerable numbers of men failed to obtain engagements.

The demand for men on the Thames improved during the first half of June, but declined afterwards, and was reported to be moderate at the end of the month. It remained quiet at the Tyne and Tees ports. On the Wear employment improved a little towards the middle of June and declined later, being described as very poor at the close of the month. The demand was fair at Hull, and fairly good at Southampton. At Bristol it was very poor in the first half of the month, and improved subsequently. Employment at Avonmouth was brisk in the early part of June, and declined afterwards. It was fair at Cardiff, Swansea and

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

Newport. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand for men declined during the first half of the month, and showed a substantial improvement after, being reported as fairly good at the end of June.

The demand on the Clyde, which had previously been fair, became very quiet after the third week in June. Employment at Leith improved in the first half of the month, and declined subsequently. It was very poor at Belfast.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during June:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	June, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Six months ended.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	June, 1923.	June, 1922.
ENGLAND & WALES:					
<i>East Coast—</i>					
Tyne Ports.. .. .	897	- 35	- 445	7,524	9,363
Sunderland	163	+ 29	+ 111	953	941
Middlesbrough	376	- 64	+ 103	2,389	1,980
Hull	1,800	+ 343	+ 883	8,888	7,245
Grimsby	18	+ 14	- 8	57	102
<i>Bristol Channel—</i>					
Bristol†	1,187	- 44	+ 132	5,959	5,934
Newport, Mon.	675	- 484	- 105	6,032	5,992
Cardiff‡	2,674	- 103	+ 193	16,810	17,922
Swansea	827	- 138	+ 194	4,666	3,857
<i>Other Ports—</i>					
Liverpool	13,273	- 993	+ 1,088	72,510	65,938
London	6,819	- 1,356	+ 217	43,900	42,233
Southampton	11,968	+ 801	+ 1,159	53,449	49,454
SCOTLAND:					
Leith	316	- 45	- 116	2,225	1,974
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	94	- 153	- 123	1,423	1,324
Glasgow	3,387	+ 506	+ 194	16,006	12,855
NORTHERN IRELAND:					
Belfast	163	- 159	- 65	1,268	1,617
TOTAL	44,637	- 1,881	+ 3,412	244,059	228,731

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during June was still only moderate on the whole.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in 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—					
2nd June, 1923	4,767	2,828	7,595	7,749	15,344
9th "	4,615	3,137	7,752	7,471	15,223
16th "	4,521	3,092	7,613	7,467	15,080
23rd "	4,327	2,409	6,736	7,230	13,966
30th "	4,723	2,891	7,614	7,470	15,084
Average for 5 weeks ended 30th June, 1923	4,584	2,873	7,457	7,468	14,925
Average for May, 1923	4,940	2,998	7,938	7,851	15,789
Average for June, 1922	5,301	3,009	8,310	8,063	16,373

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in June was 750, as compared with 865 in the previous month, and with 971 in June, 1922.

East Coast.—With coal trimmers and teamers on the Tyne and Wear employment continued good. With other classes of workers on the Tyne it was fair on imports but slack on exports. On the Wear it was fair, and at Blyth there was a decline as compared with the previous month. Employment continued good at Hartlepool; at Middlesbrough and Hull it was fair, while at other East Coast ports it was dull generally.

Western and Southern Ports.—At Liverpool employment was slack. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered, at the Clearing Houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme, as employed in the four weeks ended 25th June, was 14,562, compared with 14,502 in the four weeks ended 28th May, and with 14,217 in the corresponding period of last year.

At the South Wales ports employment was fair on the whole, and better than in May.

At Southampton there was a large surplus of workers, in spite of considerable activity at the docks. At Plymouth and other South-western ports employment remained fair.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow employment was moderate. It was fair at Dundee and slack at Leith. At Belfast it was fair and better than in the previous month.

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

THE number of persons remaining on the "live registers" of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland—i.e., of applications for employment outstanding from workpeople—at 25th June, 1923, was 1,226,405† of whom 934,375 were men, 36,377 boys, 223,094 women, and 32,559 girls. Compared with 28th May, there was a decrease of 34,229, which was distributed as follows:—Men, 24,770; women, 5,435; juveniles, 4,024.

During the four weeks ended 25th June the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 65,444, of which 38,366 were for men, 16,097 for women, and 10,981 for juveniles.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 25th June, 1923:—

Week ended	Applica- tions by Employers.	Vacancies Filled.	Applications outstand- ing at end of week.	
			From Workpeople (Live Register.) †	From Employers.
23th May, 1923	19,027	15,638	1,260,634	19,097
4th June, 1923	21,073	17,377	1,225,688	18,825
11th " "	18,908	15,672	1,235,454	18,847
18th " "	19,272	16,096	1,238,995	18,527
25th " "	19,373	16,299	1,226,405	18,376
Total (4 weeks)	78,626	65,444	—	—

A detailed analysis of the figures in the preceding paragraphs is not yet available, but statistics for the four weeks ended 4th June are dealt with below:—

Applications from Workpeople.—The total number of 547,766 applications from workpeople during the four weeks ended 4th June showed a daily average of 24,898—an increase of 4.1 per cent. compared with the daily average of the previous month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 16,266, women for 6,459, and juveniles for 2,173—increases of 6.0 per cent. and 7.5 per cent. respectively in the case of men and women, and a decrease of 14.8 per cent. in the case of juveniles.

Vacancies Notified.—During the four weeks ended 4th June there were 79,110 vacancies notified, representing a daily average of 3,596, as compared with 3,903 during the preceding period. Of this daily average, 1,913 were for men, 1,082 for women, and 599 for juveniles. Compared with the previous month, the number of vacancies notified for men, women and juveniles decreased by 11.8 per cent., 2.3 per cent. and 4.5 per cent. respectively.

Vacancies Filled.—The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 65,818—a daily average of 2,992, as compared with 3,207 during the previous statistical month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 1,703, women for 775, and juveniles for 514. The corresponding figures for the previous month were: Men, 1,906; women, 747; and juveniles, 554.

Juveniles.—During the period, 23,133 applications were received from boys, and 24,672 from girls. The number of vacancies notified for boys was 6,479, and 5,608 vacancies were filled. In the case of girls, 6,700 vacancies were notified, and 5,701 were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles, 21.1 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

Statistics relating to *Building Trades* (men) and to *Domestic Service* occupations (women) for the four weeks ended 4th June have been summarised under the principal occupations, and the outstanding features are dealt with below:—

In the building trades 9,196 vacancies were notified for men and 7,891 vacancies were filled. The principal occupations concerned were:—Carpenters, 2,271 vacancies notified and 1,926 filled; bricklayers, 1,746 vacancies notified and 1,275 filled; painters, 1,980 vacancies notified and 1,777 filled; and builders' labourers, 1,442 vacancies and 1,404 placings.

The number of men on the "live register" in the building trades was 77,289† at 4th June, compared with 81,209† at 7th May.

The number of vacancies notified for women in domestic service during the four weeks ended 7th May was 14,927. Of this number, 6,267 were for resident domestic servants, 2,946 for non-resident domestic servants, 3,360 for charwomen, and 1,716 for waitresses; other domestic occupations accounting for 638.

Of the 10,191 vacancies filled, 3,062 were placings in resident domestic service, 2,163 as non-resident, 3,005 as charwomen, and 1,482 as waitresses.

The total number of women remaining registered on 4th June for work in domestic services was 31,282, compared with 32,458 on 7th May.

The figures above, except those in the first three paragraphs, are exclusive of dock labourers and coal porters. The number of casual jobs found for men in these occupations during the period of four weeks ended 4th June was 2,062.

* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The figures for Great Britain alone, as already published in the Press, show that on 25th June, 1923, there were on the Live Registers 908,700 men, 212,100 women, and 68,200 juveniles, compared with 1,165,000 men, 235,000 women, and 85,800 juveniles at 1st January, 1923.

† Workmen on short time are not included.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas and for the principal towns therein the number of persons remaining on the "live registers" at the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 2nd July, 1923. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange Area:—

Area.	Number of Persons remaining on the Live Registers at 2nd July, 1923.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with 28th May, 1923.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London	145,763	32,440	12,442	190,635	+ 2,648
South Eastern Division ..	50,098	7,579	4,114	61,791	– 1,078
Brighton	2,551	464	293	3,308	– 22
Chatham	3,060	363	433	3,856	– 350
Ipswich	3,465	386	304	4,155	+ 173
Norwich	4,029	506	219	4,754	+ 574
Rest of South Eastern	36,993	5,860	2,865	45,718	– 1,453
South Western Division ..	57,685	9,302	5,074	72,061	– 7,273
Bristol	12,222	2,830	1,118	16,230	+ 264
Plymouth	5,620	867	415	6,902	– 384
Portsmouth	6,934	779	616	8,329	+ 196
Reading	1,243	119	249	1,611	– 726
Southampton	6,409	581	459	7,449	+ 1,178
Swindon	699	113	236	1,048	– 215
Rest of South Western	24,498	4,013	1,981	30,492	– 5,230
Midlands Division ..	115,805	32,709	7,297	155,811	+ 319
Birmingham	30,502	9,006	1,306	40,814	– 147
Coventry	3,550	586	109	4,245	+ 458
Cradley Heath	3,428	789	149	4,366	– 230
Derby	2,036	658	275	2,969	+ 146
Leicester	2,246	729	71	3,046	+ 708
Northampton	1,439	476	79	1,994	– 117
Nottingham	6,983	2,239	254	9,476	+ 564
Smethwick	3,926	1,086	346	5,358	– 171
Stoke-on-Trent	6,211	3,430	255	9,896	– 37
Walsall	4,577	747	797	6,121	– 329
West Bromwich	2,976	564	180	3,720	– 271
Wolverhampton	5,698	1,815	285	7,798	– 216
Rest of Midlands	42,233	10,584	3,191	56,008	– 39
North-Eastern Division ..	180,663	20,824	9,871	211,358	+ 5,137
Barnsley	1,085	179	78	1,342	– 119
Bradford	4,748	1,925	116	6,789	+ 2,719
Darlington	2,035	124	127	2,286	+ 732
Dewsbury	1,068	246	48	1,362	– 61
Doncaster	259	146	93	498	– 11
Gateshead	5,692	463	428	6,583	– 454
Grimsby	2,037	161	165	2,363	+ 3
Halifax	2,034	534	50	2,618	+ 429
Hartlepool	6,471	291	281	7,043	– 392
Huddersfield	2,413	802	104	3,319	+ 440
Hull	8,683	748	980	10,411	– 484
Leeds	12,893	2,065	557	15,518	+ 969
Lincoln	2,618	371	134	3,123	– 68
Middlesbrough	9,184	226	317	9,727	– 44
Newcastle-on-Tyne	17,508	1,281	92	19,701	– 1,057
Rotherham	1,694	152	197	2,043	+ 346
Sheffield	21,829	2,225	1,093	25,147	– 246
South Shields	6,532	316	310	7,158	+ 443
Stockton-on-Tees	6,657	138	223	7,018	+ 233
Sunderland	14,330	716	673	15,719	– 216
York	1,489	297	489	2,275	– 148
Rest of North-Eastern	49,401	7,418	2,466	59,315	+ 2,123
North Western Division ..	187,226	90,121	18,717	296,064	– 24,522
Accrington	3,326	2,669	358	6,353	– 1,483
Ashton-under-Lyne	3,583	2,564	387	6,534	– 1,001
Barrow	6,524	279	499	7,302	– 1,218
Birkenhead	6,053	349	1,007	7,409	– 433
Blackburn	4,793	5,645	626	11,064	+ 1,208
Blackpool	514	255	19	788	+ 34
Bolton	5,507	1,448	287	7,242	– 151
Burnley	4,459	5,192	611	10,262	– 1,629
Bury	1,496	2,358	249	4,103	+ 220
Chorley	1,164	428	107	1,699	– 239
Liverpool	43,085	6,305	3,513	52,903	– 1,228
Manchester	22,946	7,032	1,529	31,507	+ 101
Nelson	601	369	31	1,001	– 900
Oldham	10,909	7,293	863	19,065	– 9,489
Preston	3,981	3,206	398	7,585	+ 1,278
Rochdale	4,835	4,169	581	9,585	– 2,826
St. Helens	2,461	257	262	2,980	+ 29
Salford	8,496	5,667	1,585	15,748	+ 1,747
Stockport	3,181	3,543	496	7,220	– 343
Warrington	2,783	308	151	3,242	+ 877
Wigan	2,015	4,233	726	6,974	+ 7
Rest of North Western	44,514	26,552	4,432	75,498	– 9,083
Scotland Division ..	138,552	21,480	7,871	167,903	– 4,672
Aberdeen	5,060	716	179	5,955	– 729
Clydebank	4,098	232	229	4,559	+ 116
Dundee	7,041	2,537	383	9,961	+ 816
Edinburgh	10,249	1,418	440	12,107	– 898
Glasgow	62,192	9,336	3,813	75,341	– 3,207
Greenock	9,900	621	313	10,834	+ 581
Motherwell	1,549	131	99	1,779	– 601
Paisley	5,797	740	357	6,894	– 430
Rest of Scotland	32,666	5,749	2,058	40,473	– 320
Wales Division ..	31,540	2,267	1,980	35,727	– 549
Cardiff	5,283	545	478	6,306	– 817
Llanelli	462	63	58	583	– 42
Newport	2,921	181	167	3,269	+ 279
Swansea	4,246	139	198	4,583	+ 1,828
Rest of Wales	18,628	1,339	1,019	20,986	– 1,797
Northern Ireland ..	25,816	11,637	874	38,327	– 967
Belfast	15,744	7,946	590	24,280	+ 105
Londonderry	2,070	613	52	2,735	+ 178
Lurgan	456	242	11	709	– 366
Lisburn	427	195	21	643	– 120
Newry	746	179	8	933	+ 4
Rest of Northern Ireland	6,373	2,462	192	9,027	– 768
Total Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland ..	933,133	228,359	68,180	1,229,672	– 30,957

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

UNDER the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 and 1921, substantially all persons for whom Health Insurance contributions have been paid, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Employees of local 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, be excepted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under 16 years of age. An applicant for unemployment benefit must, *inter alia*, prove continuous unemployment, and it is provided that for this purpose any three days of unemployment within a period of six consecutive days shall be treated as a continuous period of unemployment, and any two such continuous periods separated by a period of less than three weeks shall be treated as one continuous period of unemployment. Persons employed in establishments where, owing to trade depression, the number of working days has been reduced on a systematic basis in such a manner as to fall within the above provision are accordingly eligible for benefit. Payment of unemployment benefit is subject to certain statutory conditions and disqualifications.

Coincident with the present exchange of insurance books opportunity has been taken to revise the classification of insured work-people so as to bring it, so far as practicable, into conformity with the industrial grouping adopted in connection with the 1921 Census of population. Since the composition of the several industrial groups has undergone modification this change, which

will have great permanent advantages, has the disadvantage of making the returns given in this and subsequent issues of the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE not strictly comparable with those in earlier issues. In the present issue the numbers of persons unemployed are arranged according to the industry of the employers by whom they were last employed. At the annual exchange of insurance books insured persons are being classified according to the industry of their present or last employer under precisely the same groupings as those presented below. Some three months will elapse before the results of that tabulation are available, and until then it will not be possible to give the total numbers of insured persons in each industry, and consequently it will not be possible to give during that period the industrial percentages of unemployment which have been regularly given in recent years. As soon as the totals referred to are available the full table of figures will be restored and comparative statistics will be presented for each of the intervening months.

It should be noted that in arriving at the figures relating to 25th June shown in the Table below account is taken not only of claims to benefit current at the date of the return, but also of a due proportion of claims to benefit in respect of systematic short time.* The figures also include insured persons who, though not claiming benefit, are either maintaining registration at Employment Exchanges or are known to be unemployed.

Insured persons who have lost their employment owing to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which they were employed are not generally eligible for benefit, and are not included in the figures.

INDUSTRY.	MEN.	WOMEN.	JUVE- NILES.	TOTAL.	INDUSTRY.	MEN.	WOMEN.	JUVE- NILES.	TOTAL.
Building	88,403	165	1,012	89,580	Brought Forward	607,561	57,912	14,472	679,945
Construction of Works	24,488	19	156	24,663	Tramway and Omnibus Service	3,028	89	36	3,153
Electrical Wiring and Construction	1,880	23	73	1,976	Other Road Transport	25,717	89	273	26,079
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	116,773	448	1,785	119,006	Fishing	2,308	42	34	2,384
Engineering: Engineers Iron, Steel Founding	136,871	2,252	2,090	141,213	Shipping Service	20,115	324	320	20,759
Stoves, Grates, Pipes, etc., and General Iron Foundries	13,620	657	338	14,615	Canal, River, Dock, Harbour Service	49,503	136	136	49,775
Electrical Engineering	3,529	338	128	3,995	Other Transport and Communication and Storage	5,165	422	114	5,701
Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making	13,917	17	117	14,051	Coal Mining	31,294	318	409	32,021
Constructional Engineering	2,766	9	41	2,816	Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	3,513	4	37	3,554
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Aircraft	16,614	1,198	477	18,289	Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	1,158	9	3	1,170
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	3,541	180	80	3,801	Stone Quarrying and Mining	1,332	7	17	1,356
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building	2,185	27	12	2,224	Slate Quarrying and Mining	106	2	1	109
Saw Milling and Machined Woodwork	6,434	180	343	6,957	Other Mining and Quarrying	1,807	167	26	2,000
Furniture, Uphol-tering, etc.	5,510	935	296	6,741	Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	679	39	17	735
Wooden Boxes and Packing Cases	1,759	249	92	2,100	Paper and Paper Board Making	2,854	826	193	3,878
Other Woodworking	2,686	886	186	3,758	Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery	1,162	2,617	315	4,094
Explosives	1,992	429	59	2,480	Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	8,414	3,845	651	12,910
Chemicals	10,160	1,497	394	12,051	Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining	163	82	7	252
Oils, Greases, Glue, Soap, Inks, Matches, etc.	4,955	1,333	290	6,578	Stationery and Typewriter Requisites (Not Paper)	93	117	23	233
Coke Ovens and By-product Works	949	65	4	1,018	Cotton Industry	38,576	75,627	8,025	122,228
Paints, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead	431	130	31	592	Woolen and Worsted Industry	9,493	8,404	768	18,665
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	2,767	3	18	2,788	Silk Industry	875	1,374	163	2,412
Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills	42,975	323	822	44,120	Linen Manufacture	3,937	8,498	563	12,998
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	6,341	535	138	7,014	Jute Industry	1,724	2,956	71	4,751
Manufacture of Tin Plates	940	168	26	1,134	Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc.	838	1,981	241	3,060
Electrical Cables, Wire & Electric Lamps	4,551	2,051	529	7,131	Hosiery Industry	1,263	4,302	583	6,148
Hard Tools, Cutlery, Saws, Files	3,820	896	142	4,858	Lace Industry	2,960	1,801	158	4,919
Iron and Steel Tubes	3,622	230	58	3,910	Carpet Industry	404	439	53	896
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope	1,834	292	72	2,198	Other Textiles	1,205	4,320	363	5,888
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc.	2,706	2,176	197	5,079	Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	9,287	2,813	472	12,572
Heating and Ventilating Engineering	358	6	11	375	Tailoring	4,160	5,748	605	10,513
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Founding	4,156	2,291	223	6,670	Dress and Mantle Making, Millinery	735	5,051	831	6,617
Other Metal Industries	10,991	6,157	772	17,920	Hats and Caps (including Straw Plait Manufacture)	1,150	1,261	107	2,518
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc.	4,188	2,093	156	6,437	Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc.	336	4,199	368	4,903
Musical Instruments	953	141	63	1,157	Other Dress	1,097	2,251	306	3,654
Scientific and Photographic Instruments and Apparatus	766	148	46	960	Boat, Shoe, Slippers and Clog Trades	9,874	2,435	511	12,820
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	719	684	98	1,501	Bread, Biscuit, Cake, &c., Making	11,906	3,838	913	16,657
Rubber	4,072	1,878	243	6,193	Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarettes and Snuff Manufacture	964	1,985	204	3,153
Tanning, Currying and Leather Dressing	3,797	784	132	4,713	Grain Milling	1,379	171	22	1,572
Saddlery, Harness & other Leather Goods	2,166	1,161	157	3,484	Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	1,432	2,587	939	4,958
Bricks, Pipes, Tiles, Fireclay Goods	3,927	921	113	4,960	Other Food	3,676	6,335	469	10,479
Pottery, Earthenware, China, Porcelain	3,605	3,875	255	7,735	Drink	5,013	1,920	154	7,087
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	1,372	35	37	1,444	Gas, Water, and Electricity	12,734	206	73	13,013
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	1,405	80	16	1,501	Oilcloth, Linoleum, &c., Manufacture	505	121	15	641
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical and Scientific Glass)	7,956	380	174	8,510	Brush and Broom Making	592	309	32	933
Glass Bottles	3,379	155	309	3,843	Distributive Trades	49,306	18,431	5,695	73,432
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	10,872	13,807	844	25,523	National Government	18,626	2,321	259	21,206
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	1,108	4,051	312	5,471	Local Government	13,803	335	59	14,197
Commerce, Banking, Insurance, Finance	5,612	1,334	386	7,332	Professional Services	3,090	1,101	193	4,384
Railway Service	11,140	221	119	11,480	Entertainments and Sport	5,753	2,355	213	8,321
Carried Forward	607,561	57,912	14,472	679,945	Other Industries and Services	25,137	2,673	582	28,392
					Totals*	1,007,802	246,195	41,139	1,295,136

* The number of insured contributors claiming benefit in respect of systematic short time at 25th June was 62,169, of whom 32,832 were men, 24,748 women, and 4,589 juveniles. Of these about one-half may be assumed to have been unemployed at the date of the return and these have been included in the figures.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in June in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 54, as compared with 49 in the previous month and 32 in June, 1922. In these new disputes 31,000 workpeople were directly involved, and 2,000 indirectly involved (*i.e.*, thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, 66,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 47 disputes which began before June, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 101, involving 99,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during June of 1,244,000 working days.

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

Groups of Industries.	Number of Disputes in progress in June.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in June.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in June.
	Started before 1st June.	Started in June.	Total.		
Building	2	12	14	4,000	54,000
Mining & Quarrying	4	12	16	16,000	113,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	13	4	17	32,000	697,000
Textile	2	4	6	31,000	230,000
Transport	3	3	6	6,000	17,000
Food, etc., Trades ..	2	3	5	7,000	96,000
Other Trades.. .. .	21	16	37	3,000	37,000
Total, June, 1923 ..	47	54	101	99,000	1,244,000
<i>Total, May, 1923 ..</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>48,000</i>	<i>807,000</i>
<i>Total, June, 1922 ..</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>311,000†</i>	<i>2,078,000†</i>

Causes.—Of the 54 disputes beginning in June, 12, directly involving 8,000 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 12, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other wages

questions; 15, directly involving 14,000 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; 4, directly involving over 6,000 workpeople, in sympathy with workpeople involved in other disputes; and 11, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected during June in the case of 32 new disputes, directly involving 20,000 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, directly involving 3,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 7, directly involving 10,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 17, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 22, directly involving 10,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 12 disputes, directly involving 9,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTALS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1922 AND 1923.‡

Groups of Industries.	January to June, 1922.			January to June, 1923.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	40	7,000	94,000	33	17,000	304,000
Mining and Quarrying	95	83,000	980,000	80	123,000	815,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding	33	355,000†	17,002,000†	36	35,000	1,316,000
Other Metal	35	9,000	199,000	21	2,000	39,000
Textile	8	3,000	49,000	16	33,000	1,174,000
Clothing	13	2,000	45,000	12	4,000	25,000
Transport	30	5,000	49,000	23	9,000	40,000
Agriculture and Fishing	3	2,000	51,000	4	8,000	247,000
Printing, Paper, &c., Trades	5	5,000	63,000	10	6,000	166,000
Woodworking and Furnishing	14	1,000	31,000	11	1,000	28,000
Chemical, Brick, Glass, Pottery, etc. .. .	8	1,000	23,000	17	2,000	44,000
Food, &c. Trades ..	10	4,000	60,000	16	9,000	151,000
Other Trades	14	1,000	11,000	30	3,000	6,000
Employees of Public Authorities	24	4,000	84,000	20	4,000	54,000
Total	332	482,000	18,741,000	329	256,000	4,409,000

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING JUNE, 1923.

Occupations and Locality.§	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.§	Result.§
	Directly.	Indirectly.§	Began.	Ended.		
BUILDING TRADES:— Miners, labourers, fitters, crane drivers, etc., employed on Tube Railway and deep-sewer construction—London.	2,000||		1923. 1 June	1923. 8 July	Dispute arising in connection with reduction in wages under a decision of the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board.	Work resumed at reduced rates, pending consideration of case by the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board.
MINING AND QUARRYING:— Coal hewers, other underground workers, and surface workers—Whitehaven (near).	1,015	1,408	15 May	..	Dispute as to proposed change in method of working and alterations in rates of wages.	No settlement reported.
Coal miners, etc.—Merthyr Tydvil (near).	{ 4,000 4,000		4 June 25 June	7 June 28 June	Refusal to work with non-members of the South Wales Miners' Federation.	Non-members joined the Federation.
METAL, ENGINEERING, AND SHIPBUILDING:— Platers, rivetters, caulkers, etc. (shipbuilding and repairing) and other workpeople—Federated Districts.¶	10,000	17,000**	30 April	..	Lock-out of members of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders to enforce acceptance of an Agreement governing overtime and night-shift working made between the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation and the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, of which the Society was a member.	No settlement reported. (See page 239.)
TEXTILE TRADES:— Cotton spinners, etc.—Stockport.	939		22 Feb.	16 June	Against proposed change in piece-price list involving reduction in wages.	Temporary price list involving modified reduction in wages agreed upon pending the drawing up of a new permanent list. (See Note ††.)
Jute workers—Dundee.	29,000††	..	23 Feb.	..	Dispute respecting the number of spinners to be employed on certain spinning frames at one establishment.	
TRANSPORT:— Carters and motormen.—Liverpool, Birkenhead and district.	5,000	..	1 June	2 June	Against proposed reduction in wages and other alterations in working conditions.	Proposed reduction accepted, other proposals modified or withdrawn, and conditions stabilised until 30th April, 1924. (See also page 258.)
FOOD, &c., TRADES:— Employee of Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.:— Grocery, confectionery, drug, etc., packers—Pelaw and Silvertown.	845	..	21 April	} 27 June		(See page 240.)
Workpeople at various C.W.S. establishments in England and Wales.	6,000	..	11 June			

* 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.

† A dispute involving over 250,000 workpeople in the engineering industry was in progress in June, 1922.

‡ 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 extent of such duplication is, however, very slight.

§ 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.

¶ The districts involved include the Clyde, East Scotland, North-East Coast, Hull, Southampton, Birkenhead, and Barrow.

** Estimated number indirectly involved by the end of June.

†† 29,000 was the estimated number involved from 23rd March to 18th April and from 1st to 7th June, when general lock-outs were in progress. After the withdrawal of the second lock-out the dispute continued at the original works only.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in June in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of over £42,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 370,000 workpeople and in an increase of over £8,000 in the weekly wages of 75,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected are shown below:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Metal	54,000	39,000	£ 7,250	£ 4,000
Clothing	1,000	211,000	30	26,100
Other	20,000	118,000	850	12,300
Total	75,000	368,000	8,130	42,400

The increases in wages in the metal group occurred mainly in the iron and steel trades, and were the result of the operation of sliding scales dependent on the prices of iron and steel; iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands received an increase equivalent to about 5½ per cent. on current rates, and steel sheet millmen an increase of about 4 per cent. on current rates, the latter increase applying also to men employed in galvanising departments. The principal decreases affected skilled men employed in the ship-repairing industry in the Thames district, workpeople employed in the gold, silver and allied trades at Birmingham, and farriers in various districts.

The principal change in the clothing group affected workpeople employed in the boot and shoe manufacturing industry, in which adult male time-workers sustained reductions of 1s. or 4s. per week and women time-workers 2s. per week, while in the case of youths and girls there were smaller reductions, and in a few instances slight increases; pieceworkers generally sustained a reduction of 2½ per cent. on list prices. The minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople in the boot and shoe repairing industry were also reduced during June, by amounts generally varying for adults from 2s. to 3s. a week. The minimum rates fixed under the Trade Board Acts for female workers in the shirt-making industry were decreased by 1d. per hour in the case of workers other than learners.

The principal bodies of workpeople in other trades affected by reductions in June included men employed on civil engineering constructional work, road transport workers at Liverpool and Birkenhead, and bakers in various districts in Great Britain. There was an increase in the wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland. Under the Trade Boards Acts the principal decreases in the minimum rates, in addition to those mentioned above, affected workpeople employed in the hand-hammered chain, paper box, paper bag, perambulator and invalid carriage, and brush and broom trades.

Of the decreases taking effect in June, 55 amounting to

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923.

NOTE.—The following Table relates mainly to changes which came into operation in June, with effect either from that month or from earlier dates. Certain earlier changes, however, of which particulars were received during June, are also included. The weekly rates quoted are in respect of a full ordinary working week, and do not take into account the effect of short time working.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics).
BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES.				
Building	Bury St. Edmunds	9 June	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease of ½d. per hour for painters and labourers, and 1d. per hour for other tradesmen. Rates after change: woodcutting machinists, 1s. 4½d.; painters, 1s. 1½d.; other tradesmen, 1s. 3½d.; labourers, 10½d.
	Bideford	16 June	Building trade operatives ...	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 3d.; labourers, 11½d.
	Works of Construction	Great Britain† ...	1 June	Men employed on civil engineering constructional work	Decrease of 1d. per hour for men employed in the County of London and in Class I and Class II towns, of ¾d. per hour in Class III and Class IV. towns, and of ½d. per hour in Class V towns. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: County of London, 1s. 2½d.; Class I, 1s. 2d.; Class II, 1s. 1d.; Class III, 1s. 0½d.; Class IV, 11½d.; Class V, 10½d.
Glass Working	Manchester and District	1 June	Decorative glassworkers ...	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7d.).§
MINING AND QUARRYING.				
Coal Mining	Radstock	28 June	Workpeople (both underground and surface) employed in or about coal mines other than those workpeople whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Increase of 0.40 per cent. on standard base rates of 1918, making wages 35.88 per cent. above the standard of 1918.

£28,500 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; 8, amounting to £15,500 per week, took effect under Trade Board Orders (including £8,350 under cost of living sliding scales, incorporated above); 8, amounting to £3,850 per week, were arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople (including over £1,000 under cost of living sliding scales, incorporated above); 2, amounting to £120 per week, were arranged by arbitration; and the remaining 44 cases, amounting to £3,750 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties or by individual action on the part of the employers. Reductions preceded by disputes involving stoppages of work accounted for less than £1,300 per week. Of the increases in wages, 11, amounting to £7,750 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remaining 6 were arranged by direct negotiation or took effect as the result of an Order under the Trade Boards Acts.

Summary of Changes in January—June, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the six completed months of 1923:—

Group of Trades.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases	Increases.	Decreases.
Building	1,500	458,000	£ 450	£ 74,700
Mining and Quarrying ..	695,000	11,000	97,100	1,700
Iron and Steel	104,000	85,000	12,500	5,900
Engineering and Shipbuilding	2,000	153,000	300	26,700
Other Metal	3,000	130,000	600	23,900
Textile	50	245,000	10	17,800
Clothing	1,000	536,000	30	85,000
Transport	2,700	292,000	550	48,800
Paper, Printing, &c. ..	—	64,000	—	8,900
Furniture and Woodworking	100	35,000	15	8,900
Chemical, Glass, Brick, Pottery, &c.	100	122,000	15	19,800
Food, Drink and Tobacco	50	231,000	10	27,500
Public Utility Services ..	1,200	244,000	170	26,600
Other	—	73,000	—	9,400
Total	810,700	2,679,000	111,750	385,600

In the corresponding six months of 1922 there was a net reduction of over £2,700,000 in the weekly wages of about 7,150,000 workpeople, and a net increase of £3,350 in the weekly wages of 17,500 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

The principal change taking effect in June was the adoption of the three-shift system for coal trimmers, tippers, etc., at the Bristol Channel ports, in lieu of the two-shift system previously worked.

* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Details of changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, however, so far as reported to the Department, are included in the list of principal changes reported. The statistics relate to weekly full-time rates of wages, on the basis of employment of the full numbers of persons in the respective industries. † The rates were put into operation by the employers without agreement with the Trade Unions concerned. ‡ The change took effect under a decision arrived at last May by the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board for Great Britain. § See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)	
MINING AND QUARRYING—(continued).					
Iron Mining	Cleveland	16 April*	Ironstone miners, etc.	New schedule of base rates adopted following an increase in working hours,* such rates being subject at present to an addition of 88½ per cent. The new base rates include the following:—Underground men—face deputies, 5s. 5d.; shifters, platelayers, and wagon waymen, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; haulage enginemen, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; firemen, 3s. 5d. to 3s. 7d.; labourers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift; surfacemen—winding enginemen, 4s. 11d. or 5s. 3d.; banksmen, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; hauling enginemen, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; ordinary firemen, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; platelayers, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 11d.; labourers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per shift.	
	Cumberland	10 June	Iron ore miners	Increase† of 6d. per shift in the bargain price (10s. 9d. to 11s. 3d.), of 6d. per shift in the minimum wage (8s. 1d. to 8s. 7d.).	
	West Cumberland	11 June	Winding enginemen Other underground and surface workers	Increase† of 4½d. per shift (9s. 3½d. to 9s. 8d.). Increase† of 3d. per shift for men, and of 1½d. per shift for boys under 16 years.	
	West Lancashire	15 Mar.	Limestone quarrymen	Increase† of 3d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 4½d. per shift for other men, and of 2½d. per shift for boys under 16. Rates after change: blacksmiths and joiners, 9s. 3d.; knobblers, 9s. 6½d.; day borers (1st class), 9s. 0½d.; day labourers (1st class), 8s. 4½d.; ruddmen, 7s. 10½d. per shift.	
	Macclesfield and District	26 May	Freestone, gritstone and sandstone quarrymen	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: masons, 1s. 5d.; rock getters, 1s. 4d.; labourers (skilled), 1s. 1d.; (unskilled), 1s. per hour.	
Quarrying	Buxton District	4 April	Quarrymen, rock getters, sawyers and labourers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen and rock getters, 1s. 4d.; sawyers, 1s. 3d.; labourers, 11d. per hour.	
			Limestone quarryworkers:— Pieceworkers... .. Craftsmen rated at 1s. 6d. per hour or over Stonegetters	Decrease of 5 per cent. Decrease of 2d. per hour. Decreases of ½d. or 1d. per hour, subject to a minimum rate of 1s. 5d. Decrease of 7½ per cent. (subject to a minimum rate for labourers of 1s. per hour).	
	Portland Thames and Medway District	26 June 3rd pay in June†	Other timeworkers Limestone quarry labourers Chalk quarry workers	Decrease of ½d. per hour or 4d. per day. Decrease of ½d. per hour for day workers and a corresponding decrease for pieceworkers. Hourly rates after change: Grays Area†—labourers, 1s.; carmen, 11½d.; Little and West Thurrock Area—labourers, 1s.; loco. drivers, 1s. 3d. and 1s. 2d.; Kent area—loco. drivers, 1s. 1½d.; labourers, 11½d.†	
	Cornwall	26 May	Granite quarry workers	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: masons and cutters, 1s. 3d.; labourers, 11½d. per hour.	
	South Wales	1 June	Masons and quarrymen in penant stone quarries	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: masons, 1s. 7d.; quarrymen, 1s. 6d.	
IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.					
Iron and Steel Manufacture	England and Wales	4 June	Steel sheet millmen	Increase† of 6 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 62 per cent. above the standard of 1891.	
	Midlands (including parts of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire)	4 June	Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen	Increase† of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 50 per cent. above the standard.	
	Barrow-in-Furness	4 June	Non-scale workers (chiefly labourers, etc.)	War bonus increased† by 1s. 6d. per week for men, 9d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years of age, and 4½d. per week for boys under 18 years.	
Wire and hoop millmen		4 June		Increase† of 7½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 50 per cent. above the standard.	
	ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING, ETC.				
	Shin-repairing	Thames District	6 June§	Shipwrights, blacksmiths, joiners, painters, sheet metal workers, patternmakers, electric crane drivers, sawyers, fitters, plumbers, electricians, french polishers and rivet heaters under 18 years of age	Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change: patternmakers, 68s.; shipwrights and blacksmiths, 65s. 6d.; painters, joiners and sheet metal workers, 67s.; fitters, plumbers, electricians and sawyers, 64s.; french polishers, 66s. 6d.; electric crane drivers, 61s.; rivet heaters under 18 years of age, 29s. 9d.
Riggers				Decrease of 2½d. per day (except Saturday). Rates after change: Saturday, 7s. 9d.; other week-days, 11s. 7d.	
Milford Haven		8 June	Platers, rivetters, burners, welders and holders-up	Decreases of 1s. per week for platers, rivetters, burners and welders, and of 10d. per week for holders-up. Further decreases of 1s. per week for platers, rivetters, burners and welders, and of 10d. per week for holders-up. Rates after change: platers, 84s. 10d.; rivetters, 77s. 7d.; burners, 91s. 6d.; welders, 96s.; holders-up, 70s. 9d. Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week (72s. 6d. to 70s.).	
Galvanising	England and Wales (certain firms)¶	4 June	Fitters and smiths.		
	Bedstead Manufacture	Birmingham, Smethwick, Dudley, Bilston, Manchester, Warrington, Sowerby Bridge, Keighley and Glasgow	1 June	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing)	Increase† of 6 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 62 per cent. above the standard.
		1 May		Decrease¶ in flat rate bonus, of 2s. per week for men 18 years of age and over, and of proportionate amounts for other workers.	
				Decrease of 2½ per cent. (making a total deduction of 12½ per cent.) in the basic time and piecework rates for men, and in the basic piecework rates for women engaged in dipping bedsteads in black. Rates after change: Men—cupola men, 1s. 3d. per hour (56 hours); framesetters, 1s. 4d. per hour (48 hours); stockfitter in charge, 85s. per week; stockfitter (second hand, able to fit all classes of stocks), 70s. per week; bending, 1s. 3d. per hour; cutting off and other sections, 1s. 1½d. per hour; less 12½ per cent. in each case, and subject to the addition of a bonus of 14s. per week.	

* Particulars of the increase in hours were given on page 184 of the May GAZETTE. The new schedule of base rates, which is stated to be generally higher than those previously in operation, was not finally agreed upon until June.
 † This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.
 ‡ The reduction forms the first instalment of a total reduction of 1d. per hour, the remaining ½d. to take effect in September. The first instalment did not apply to Grays Area nor in the West Thurrock Area for men filling chalk into wagons below the top of the wagons to the bottom of the working levels.
 § Further reductions in wages have been arranged to take effect for various classes of workpeople in July, August, September and October.
 ¶ Members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.
 ¶ This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
OTHER METAL TRADES—(continued).				
Light Castings Manufacture	West of Scotland...	2 April	Ironmoulders	Decrease of 4s. per week (being the withdrawal of the special advance granted in 1920).
Nut and Bolt Manufacture	Lancashire and Yorkshire	2nd pay day in June	Adult male pieceworkers employed in the nut and bolt trade	Addition of 60 per cent. previously paid, on base piece rate earnings, reduced to 57½ per cent.
Cutlery, etc., Manufacture	Sheffield	Feb.-May	Spring knife cutlers, except those in two-ended flat-back section	New lists of piece prices adopted, such lists to be subject to a bonus of 25 per cent.
Surgical Instrument Manufacture	London District...	1st pay day after 23 April	Surgical instrument makers ...	Decrease of 1d. per hour for timeworkers (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.).
Hame Making	Walsall	11 June	Hame makers	Decrease of 5 per cent., leaving pre-war prices subject to an addition of 85 per cent.
Gold, Silver and Allied Trades	Birmingham ...	1st pay day in June*	Workpeople employed in the gold, silver and allied trades	Decrease* of 5 per cent. (calculated on total wages). Rates after change: men—skilled, 61s. 2d. or 57s. 2d.; semi-skilled, 47s. or 44s. 11d.; unskilled, 44s. 1d. or 40s. 9d. Women—skilled, 27s. 10d. or 26s. 1½d.; semi-skilled, 24s. 6d. or 22s.; unskilled, 20s. 5d. or 18s.
Manufacture of Metal Pens and other Metal Smallwares	Birmingham and District	1st pay day in June	Male timeworkers over 21 years of age	Decrease* of 1s. 4d. per week for skilled men and charge hands, and of 1s. per week for others. Rates after change: toolmakers over 25 years, 78s. and 68s. 6d.; toolmakers 21 to 25 years, 58s. 6d.; charge hands in hardening shops and rolling mills, 70s. 6d.; charge hands in shaking mills and tempering and colouring shops, 62s. 6d.; others, 48s.
			Male timeworkers under 21 years of age and apprentices	Decreases* of amounts, varying according to age, from 2d. to 9d. per week.
Farriery	London District ...	1st full pay after 4 June	Female dayworkers, including learners	Decreases* of amounts, varying according to age, from 2d. to 5d. per week.
			Female pieceworkers	Decrease* in the basic piecework rate of 5d. per week (26s. 2d. to 25s. 9d.).
	Manchester, Hanley and Stoke-on-Trent Certain large towns in Lancashire and Cheshire† Smaller towns in Lancashire and Cheshire† with Kendal and High Peak District Various towns in Yorkshire‡	1 June	Farriers	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 74s. 11d. per week; doormen, 71s. 11d. per week.
			Farriers	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6d. per hour or 70s. 6d. per week; doormen, 1s. 5½d. per hour or 68s. 6½d. per week.
				Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d. per hour or 68s. 6½d. per week; doormen, 1s. 5d. per hour or 66s. 7d. per week.
Birmingham ...	11 June	Farriers	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 64s. 8½d.; doormen, 61s. 8½d. per week.	
Chain Making	Great Britain ...	1st full pay in May 12 May	Farriers	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6½d.; doormen, 1s. 6d.
Flannel Manufacture	Wales	1 May	Farriers	Decrease of 1d. per hour.
			Workpeople employed in the hand-hammered chain-making trade	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for firemen, 62s. 6d.
Jute	Aberdeen, Barrow-in-Furness, Dundee and Tayport districts	11 June	Workpeople employed in the hessian weaving.	Decrease* of 5 per cent. in the general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates fixed, under the Trade Boards Acts, leaving the rates as varied at 20 November, 1922, subject to a deduction of 5 per cent. (See p. 230 of June GAZETTE.)
Silk Manufacture	Leek	29 June	Female weavers employed on piecework	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at Hull, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at other towns, 1s. 5d.
Lace Manufacture	Newmilns	1st pay day in June	Mechanics employed in silk works	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6½d.; doormen, 1s. 6d.
Asbestos Manufacture	Great Britain ...	2nd pay after 13 June	Madras workers	Decrease of 1d. per hour.
Rope, Twine and Net	Great Britain ...	4 June	Workpeople employed in the asbestos trade	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for firemen, 62s. 6d.
			Female workers employed in the net section	Decrease* of 5 per cent. in the general minimum time rates and piecework basis time rates fixed, under the Trade Boards Acts, leaving the rates as varied at 20 November, 1922, subject to a deduction of 5 per cent. (See p. 230 of June GAZETTE.)
	London	1st pay after 1 June	Female homeworkers employed on hand braiding, hand knotting or hand baiting, cotton norsells and hemp norsells	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at Hull, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at other towns, 1s. 5d.
Textile Finishing, Dyeing, etc.	Nottingham ...	11 June	Ropemakers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d. per hour or 68s. 6½d. per week; doormen, 1s. 5d. per hour or 66s. 7d. per week.
			Lace dyers Lace dippers and stainers ...	Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at Hull, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at other towns, 1s. 5d.
Textile Finishing, Dyeing, etc.	Nottingham ...	11 June	Workpeople employed in the lace dressing and finishing trade	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d. per hour or 68s. 6½d. per week; doormen, 1s. 5d. per hour or 66s. 7d. per week.
			Decrease* of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at Hull, 1s. 5½d.; doormen at other towns, 1s. 5d.	

TEXTILE TRADES.

* This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 † Including Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Colne, Lancaster, Leigh, Middleton, Nelson and District.
 ‡ Including Alsager, Bentham, Cheadle, Chester, Clitheroe, Congleton, Crewe, Furness District, Garstang, Kirkham, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich, Ormskirk and Tarporley.
 § Including Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Todmorden.
 ¶ See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
TEXTILE TRADES—(continued).				
Making-up and Packing	Manchester	Pay day 6 or 7 July	Workpeople employed in the making up and packing industry	Decrease* of 1s. 11d. per week for men 21 years and over, and 11½d. per week for women 18 years and over.† Rates after change: men—hydraulic packers and makers-up (prints), 66s. 5d.; makers-up (grey), 60s. 10d.; cloth lookers, 56s. 8d.; markers-off, stampers and pressers-off, 55s. 11d.; hoistmen, plaiters, cutters and lappers, 51s. 9d.; general warehousemen, 50s. 4d.; porters, 46s. 6d.; women—markers-off, 34s. 10d.; cutters, 32s. 1d.; stitchers, plaiters, tiers-up, parcellers, sorters and tapers, 30s. 8d.; general hookers, 29s. 3d.; d'hoote hookers, 26s. 6d.
CLOTHING TRADES.				
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	Great Britain	7, 8 or 9 June	Workpeople 16 years and over:— Male timeworkers employed in departments other than heel building and stock or shoe rooms Male timeworkers employed in heel building departments and in stock or shoe rooms Female timeworkers employed in closing and heel building departments and stock or shoe rooms Pieceworkers Timeworkers:— Male workers 21 years and over employed in operating power sole-stitchers and Blake or Richardson machines Foremen and managers ... Pressmen (responsible for cutting and costing) Other male workers (except learners and surgical boot-makers) Male learners Female workers employed as foremen and managers Female workers employed on benching and/or finishing Other female workers (except surgical bootmakers) Surgical bootmakers (male and female) Male indentured apprentices Pieceworkers Female workers other than learners Female learners	Decreases* of 1s. 6d. per week for those aged 16 years, 2s. at 17 and 18, 2s. 6d. at 19 and 20, 3s. at 21, 3s. 6d. at 22, and 4s. per week at 23 years. Rates after change, 18s. at 16 years, increasing to 27s. at 18, 50s. at 21, and to 56s. at 23 years. Decreases of 3d. and 1s. per week for those aged 22 and 23 years respectively, and increases of 6d. per week at 16, 19, and 20 years, and 1s. per week at 18 years, the rates for those of 17 and 21 years remaining unchanged. Rates after change: 18s. at 16 years, increasing to 27s. at 18, 50s. at 21, and to 56s. at 23 years. Decreases* of 1s. per week for those aged 16 and 17 years, 1s. 3d. at 18, 1s. 6d. at 19, and 2s. at 20 years. Rates after change: 16s. at 16 years, increasing to 24s. 3d. at 18, and to 34s. at 20 years. Decrease* of 2½ per cent. on list prices.‡ Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.):— Decrease* of 2s. or 3s. per week, or ½d. or ¾d. per hour. Decrease* of 2s. per week in the general minimum time rate and guaranteed time rate (74s. to 72s.). Decrease* of 3s. per week (70s. to 67s.). Decrease* of 3s. per week (60s. to 57s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Decrease* of 2s. per week in the general minimum time rate (74s. to 72s.), and of 3s. per week in the guaranteed time rate (70s. to 67s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week for learners, and of 3s. per week for other workers (60s. to 57s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 and under 15, 12s. increasing to 21s. at 17 and under 18, and to 40s. at 21 and over. Decrease* of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). New scales of minimum rates fixed resulting in decreases* of 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. Percentage reduction on standard piece prices increased from 7½ to 12½ per cent.* Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rate and piecework basis time rate respectively after change: 6½d., 7½d. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) New scales of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. or ¾d. per hour (except for those in first year of employment, for whom there was no change). Minimum rates after change in Areas A and B respectively: During 1st year, 1½d., 1½d.; 2nd year, 2½d., 2d.; 3rd year, 4d., 3½d.; 4th year, 5½d., 5d. (See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.) Decreases* of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, of 6d. to 1s. per week for youths under 21 years, and for women and girls. Rates after change for time-workers: men—skilled dyers, 71s. or 66s.; dyers (one colour), 61s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers and other skilled workers, 56s.; labourers, 51s.; and boys—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 42s. at 20; women and girls—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 28s. at 21. Decrease of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Rates after change for men timeworkers—skilled, 52s. 6d.; unskilled, 45s.
Boot and Shoe Repairing	Great Britain	1 June	Female workers employed on benching and/or finishing Other female workers (except surgical bootmakers) Surgical bootmakers (male and female) Male indentured apprentices Pieceworkers Female workers other than learners Female learners	Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Decrease* of 2s. per week in the general minimum time rate (74s. to 72s.), and of 3s. per week in the guaranteed time rate (70s. to 67s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week for learners, and of 3s. per week for other workers (60s. to 57s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 and under 15, 12s. increasing to 21s. at 17 and under 18, and to 40s. at 21 and over. Decrease* of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). New scales of minimum rates fixed resulting in decreases* of 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. Percentage reduction on standard piece prices increased from 7½ to 12½ per cent.* Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rate and piecework basis time rate respectively after change: 6½d., 7½d. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) New scales of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. or ¾d. per hour (except for those in first year of employment, for whom there was no change). Minimum rates after change in Areas A and B respectively: During 1st year, 1½d., 1½d.; 2nd year, 2½d., 2d.; 3rd year, 4d., 3½d.; 4th year, 5½d., 5d. (See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.) Decreases* of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, of 6d. to 1s. per week for youths under 21 years, and for women and girls. Rates after change for time-workers: men—skilled dyers, 71s. or 66s.; dyers (one colour), 61s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers and other skilled workers, 56s.; labourers, 51s.; and boys—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 42s. at 20; women and girls—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 28s. at 21. Decrease of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Rates after change for men timeworkers—skilled, 52s. 6d.; unskilled, 45s.
Shirt Making	Great Britain	4 June	Female learners employed in all branches of the hat, cap and millinery trade, other than the wholesale cloth hat and cap-making branch	Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Decrease* of 2s. per week in the general minimum time rate (74s. to 72s.), and of 3s. per week in the guaranteed time rate (70s. to 67s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week for learners, and of 3s. per week for other workers (60s. to 57s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 and under 15, 12s. increasing to 21s. at 17 and under 18, and to 40s. at 21 and over. Decrease* of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). New scales of minimum rates fixed resulting in decreases* of 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. Percentage reduction on standard piece prices increased from 7½ to 12½ per cent.* Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rate and piecework basis time rate respectively after change: 6½d., 7½d. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) New scales of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. or ¾d. per hour (except for those in first year of employment, for whom there was no change). Minimum rates after change in Areas A and B respectively: During 1st year, 1½d., 1½d.; 2nd year, 2½d., 2d.; 3rd year, 4d., 3½d.; 4th year, 5½d., 5d. (See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.) Decreases* of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, of 6d. to 1s. per week for youths under 21 years, and for women and girls. Rates after change for time-workers: men—skilled dyers, 71s. or 66s.; dyers (one colour), 61s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers and other skilled workers, 56s.; labourers, 51s.; and boys—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 42s. at 20; women and girls—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 28s. at 21. Decrease of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Rates after change for men timeworkers—skilled, 52s. 6d.; unskilled, 45s.
Hat, Cap and Millinery	Scotland	4 June	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and dry cleaning trade	Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Decrease* of 2s. per week in the general minimum time rate (74s. to 72s.), and of 3s. per week in the guaranteed time rate (70s. to 67s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week for learners, and of 3s. per week for other workers (60s. to 57s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 and under 15, 12s. increasing to 21s. at 17 and under 18, and to 40s. at 21 and over. Decrease* of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). New scales of minimum rates fixed resulting in decreases* of 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. Percentage reduction on standard piece prices increased from 7½ to 12½ per cent.* Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rate and piecework basis time rate respectively after change: 6½d., 7½d. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) New scales of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. or ¾d. per hour (except for those in first year of employment, for whom there was no change). Minimum rates after change in Areas A and B respectively: During 1st year, 1½d., 1½d.; 2nd year, 2½d., 2d.; 3rd year, 4d., 3½d.; 4th year, 5½d., 5d. (See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.) Decreases* of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, of 6d. to 1s. per week for youths under 21 years, and for women and girls. Rates after change for time-workers: men—skilled dyers, 71s. or 66s.; dyers (one colour), 61s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers and other skilled workers, 56s.; labourers, 51s.; and boys—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 42s. at 20; women and girls—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 28s. at 21. Decrease of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Rates after change for men timeworkers—skilled, 52s. 6d.; unskilled, 45s.
Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	England and Scotland	1st pay day in June	Workpeople employed in fabric glove manufacture	Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Decrease* of 2s. per week in the general minimum time rate (74s. to 72s.), and of 3s. per week in the guaranteed time rate (70s. to 67s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week for learners, and of 3s. per week for other workers (60s. to 57s.). Decreases* of 1s. or 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 14 and under 15, 12s. increasing to 21s. at 17 and under 18, and to 40s. at 21 and over. Decrease* of 1d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7d.). New scales of minimum rates fixed resulting in decreases* of 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. Percentage reduction on standard piece prices increased from 7½ to 12½ per cent.* Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rate and piecework basis time rate respectively after change: 6½d., 7½d. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) New scales of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts. (See also p. 193 of May GAZETTE.) Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of ½d. or ¾d. per hour (except for those in first year of employment, for whom there was no change). Minimum rates after change in Areas A and B respectively: During 1st year, 1½d., 1½d.; 2nd year, 2½d., 2d.; 3rd year, 4d., 3½d.; 4th year, 5½d., 5d. (See also p. 230 of June GAZETTE.) Decreases* of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, of 6d. to 1s. per week for youths under 21 years, and for women and girls. Rates after change for time-workers: men—skilled dyers, 71s. or 66s.; dyers (one colour), 61s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers and other skilled workers, 56s.; labourers, 51s.; and boys—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 42s. at 20; women and girls—10s. 6d. at 14 years, increasing to 28s. at 21. Decrease of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Rates after change for men timeworkers—skilled, 52s. 6d.; unskilled, 45s.
Glove Manufacture	Barnstaple, Bideford and Torrington	1 April	TRANSPORT TRADES.	
Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc., Labour	Tyne	11 June	Masters, engineers, firemen, mates and boys employed on tug boats	Decrease of 5s. 9d. per week for masters, of 4s. 6d. for engineers, of 3s. 3d. for firemen and mates, and of 2s. 6d. for boys. Rates after change: masters, 70s.; engineers, 60s.; firemen and mates, 50s.; boys, 20s. per week.
	Wear	24 June	Masters, engineers, firemen, mates and boys employed on tug boats	Decrease of 5s. 9d. per week for masters, of 4s. 6d. for engineers, of 3s. 3d. for firemen and mates, and of 2s. 6d. for boys. Rates after change: masters, 70s.; engineers, 60s.; firemen and mates, 50s.; boys, 20s. per week.

* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 † See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
 ‡ Except those employed in the closing departments and stock or shoe rooms on the following operations or processes, viz.: knot tying, inking, solutioning, brushing off by hand or machine, loop covering, trimming ends by hand, and repairs and odd jobs; also excluding engineers, mechanics, electricians, stokers, porters, sweepers-up, lift or hoist men, caretakers and timekeepers, and labourers and odd-job men not engaged in actual manufacturing.
 § The effect of this reduction is that in the case of statements compiled or revised under the 1919 agreement which came into force on or before 31st December, 1919, net list prices are paid to men, while women are paid at 2½ per cent. above the list; in the case of those which came into operation on or after 1st January, 1920, net list prices are paid to women, while men are paid 2½ per cent. below the list; in the case of the Northampton County Clickers' statement which came into operation on 2nd June, 1919, wages are 5 per cent. below list prices, and in the case of those statements the piecework prices of which include the percentage increase granted by the Interim (1920) Agreement wages are 10 per cent. below list prices for men and 7½ per cent. below for women.
 ¶ Area A: (a) All Royal, Parliamentary and Police Burghs which had according to the most recent census a population of over 12,000, and (b) to the following Special Lighting Districts, the boundaries of which have been defined, viz., Bellshill and Mossend, Blantyre, Cambuslang and Larkhall, all in the county of Lanark and the Vale of Leven in the county of Dumbarton. Area B: The whole of Scotland other than Area A.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
TRANSPORT TRADES—(continued).				
Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc., Labour (contd.)	Fleetwood	Week beginning 25 May 1 June	Regular labourers and watchmen employed at fish docks	Decrease of 3s. per week for regular labourers (55s. 6d. to 52s. 6d.), and of 2s. 6d. for watchmen (50s. to 47s. 6d.).
	Belfast		4 June	Casual labourers employed at fish docks Dock labourers, etc., on cross-Channel boats	New scale of wages fixed, resulting in reductions varying according to whip and number of boxes. Decrease of 4s. per week for permanent men, of 1d. per hour for casual men, and a proportionate decrease for pieceworkers. Rates after change: permanent men, 66s. per week; casual men, 1s. 6½d. per hour; casual men (coal trade), 1s. 5½d.; winchmen, cranemen, holdsmen in charge, 1s. 7½d.
	Liverpool, Birkenhead, Bootle and Wallasey	4 June	Road transport workers ...	Decrease of 3s. per week for men and of 1s. 6d. for juniors. Rates after change: single-horse drivers, 55s.; teamsmen, 61s.; motor drivers (2 tons and under), 61s., (over 2 tons), 68s.; second men, 61s.; trailer-men, 56s. per week.
Road Transport	Certain towns in South Yorkshire*, with Chesterfield, Staveley and Worksop	11 June	Road transport workers employed by Co-operative Societies	Decrease of 2s. per week. Minimum rate after change for one-horse carters, 56s.
AGRICULTURE AND FISHING.				
Agriculture	Cumberland and Westmorland, and Furness District of Lancashire	20 May	Male workers	Rates adopted up to 11 November for skilled workers for a week of 63 hours of 37s. for adult workers, with proportionate rates for those 16 and under 21 years, and for other workers of 30s. for a week of 54 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter.†
	Staffordshire	28 May	Female workers Able-bodied adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 5d. per hour adopted up to 11 November.† Rate of 30s. adopted for a guaranteed week of 54 hours up to 27 October.†
	Brecknockshire and Radnorshire	1 May	Male agricultural labourers ...	Rates adopted up to 1 August for a week of 53 hours varying from 14s. at 14 and under 15 years, to 22s. 3d. at 18, and to 30s. at 21 and over.†
Fishing	Stornoway	14 May	Female workers employed in the kippering trade:— Qualified workers Learners Splitters	Rate of 30s. per week adopted. Weekly rates adopted of 18s. during first and second seasons, 25s. during third season, and 30s. thereafter. Rate of 8d. per hour adopted.
PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES.				
Paper Making	Maidstone, Wells and Totnes	28 May	Workpeople employed in hand-made paper mills	Decrease† of 2d. per "day's work"§ for journeymen, and 1d. per "day's work"§ for apprentices. Rates after change per "day's work"§ for journeymen: vatmen, 11s. 4d.; couchers, 11s. 2d.; dryworkers and layers, 9s. 6d.
Paper Tube Manufacture	Bradford, Keighley, and Huddersfield	1st full pay in March	Paper tube workers	Decrease of 7½ per cent. on existing rates for adult male workers, and of 3s. per week for youths, girls and women. Rates after change: men—Class I, 68s. 6d.; Class II, 57s. 4d.; Class III, 54s. 4d.; women—polishers and women 18 years and over employed on machines, 37s.; all other women 18 and over, 32s. 6d.
	Oldham, Rochdale and Castleton	1st full pay in March	Paper tube workers	Decrease of 5 per cent. on existing rates.
Paper Bag Making	Great Britain	1 June	Workpeople employed in the paper bag making trade:— Male workers: Machine tacklers Paper bag cutters	Decrease† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively¶:— Decreases of from 1s. to 3s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 22s. at 16 years, increasing to 66s. at 23 and over. Decreases of from 1s. 6d. to 3s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 32s. 6d. at 18 years, increasing to 60s. at 23 and over.
			Hydraulic pressers, slitters, stockkeepers, packers and despatchers, 21 years and over Other workers (except learners) Learners Female timeworkers: Other than learners Learners** Female pieceworkers	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 1st year, 52s. 6d., increasing to 57s. after three years' employment. Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week (55s. to 52s. 6d.). Decreases of from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week. Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week (30s. 6d. to 29s.). Decreases of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Decrease in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 1s. per week (32s. to 31s.).
			Workpeople employed in the paper box making trade:— Male timeworkers Die makers, forme setters, cutters (including shears and guillotine), machine minders and head stockkeepers 18 years and over Other workers (except learners) Learners Male pieceworkers Female timeworkers: Other than learners Learners** Female pieceworkers	Decreases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively¶:— Decreases of from 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 31s. at 18 years, increasing to 66s. at 23 and over. Decrease of 2s. per week (51s. to 49s.). Decreases of from 6d. to 2s. per week. Decrease in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 3s. per week (57s. 6d. to 54s. 6d.). Decrease of 1s. per week (30s. 6d. to 29s. 6d.). Decreases of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week. Decrease in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 1s. per week (32s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.).
Paper Box Making	Northern Ireland	16 June	Female workers:— Other than learners Learners	Decrease in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 1d. per hour. Minimum time rate after change, 6½d. New scales of minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, resulting in decreases varying according to age and length of employment from 1s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. per week.

* Including Barnsley, Sheffield, Doncaster, Goole and Pontefract.
 † The new rates were agreed upon by the local Conciliation Committees set up under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921.
 ‡ The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 § A "day's work" refers to a quantity of paper which varies according to size of paper.
 ¶ Class I: Tacklers. Class II: Guillotine cutters, paper grinders and cutters, bobbin makers (machine), bobbin turners, mailing tube makers, waste presser (machine). Class III: Tube sorters, bobbin makers (hand), waste pressers (hand), paste makers, emptiers and all other male workers over 21 years of age.
 ¶ See also page 231 of June GAZETTE.
 ** Except those beginning at 14 and under 15 years, whose rate remains unchanged during the first six months' employment.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
PAPE R, PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES—(continued).				
Newspaper Printing	Manchester	1st pay day in June	Engineers, electrical fitters and electrical assistants employed in certain morning and evening newspaper offices.	Decrease of 7s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: daywork—electricians (mechanics), and engineers, 110s.; electricians' assistants, 95s.; night-work—electricians (mechanics) and engineers, 140s.; electricians' assistants, 105s.
FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING TRADES.				
Furniture Manufacture	North East Coast*	1 June	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists and french polishers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: french polishers, 1s. 6½d.; others, 1s. 6½d. plus ½d. per hour "tool" money.
	Hull	8 June	Upholsterers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7½d. to 1s. 6½d.).
		15 June	Upholstresses and carpet sewers Cabinet makers, chairmakers, upholsterers, french polishers, machinists, skilled carpet planners and lino layers (wholesale and retail trade)	Decrease of ¼d. per hour (8¾d. to 8½d.). Decrease† of ½d. per hour for timeworkers, and of proportionate amounts for upholsterers on piecework. Rates after change: lino layers, 1s. 6d.; others, 1s. 7d.
	High Wycombe ...	Pay day in week ending 23 June	Upholstresses	Decrease† of ½d. per hour (8d. to 7½d.).
			Journeyman	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: skilled processes, 1s. 5½d.; Windsor, cane and cheap rush-bottom chairmakers, packers, markers-out and benders, 1s. 5d.
	Nottingham ...	1 June	Apprentices and learners ...	Decreases† of from 3d. to 10d. per week. Rates after change: 1st six months, 10s. 3d.; 4th six months, 16s. 1d.; 8th six months, 31s. 2d.
			Cabinet makers, carvers, chairmakers, french polishers, machinists, upholsterers, sanders by hand or single band machines and packers	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: sanders and packers, 1s. 3d.; others, 1s. 6d.
	Aberdeen	Week ending 15 June	Upholstresses and female french polishers	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: polishers, 9½d.; upholstresses, 7½d.
			Journeyman	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: woodcarvers, 1s. 6d.; others, 1s. 5d.
	North East Coast† and Hull	7 June	Women	Decrease† of ¼d. per hour (8¾d. to 8½d.).
Woodcutting machinists ...			Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6½d.).	
Hartlepoons ...	{ 1 Mar. } 1 May	Labourers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 2d.).	
		Machinists, sawyers, etc. ...	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 1d.).	
Sheffield and Rotherham	Pay day in week ending 9 June	Machinists and sawyers ...	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: planing and moulding machinists, saw sharpeners and wood turners, 1s. 5d.; band and circular sawyers, 1s. 4½d.; horizontal sawyers, 1s. 4d.; deal frame sawyers, 1s. 3½d.	
		Deal carriers	Decrease† of ½d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5½d.).	
Mill Sawing	Bristol	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: machinists and sawyers, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.	
		Leicester	Workpeople employed in saw-mills	Decrease† of 1d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 5½d.).
Scotland	1 June	Machinists and sawyers ...	Decrease† of ½d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 2½d.).	
		Woodcutting machinists ...	Decrease† of ¾d. per hour for journeymen. Minimum rate after change for journeymen, 1s. 3¾d.	
Packing Case Making	Scotland (except Aberdeen)	Week ending 9 June	Packing case makers and wood-cutting machinists employed in packing case shops	Decrease† of ¾d. per hour for journeymen and ¼d. per hour for apprentices. Rates after change: packing case makers—Glasgow, 1s. 3¾d.; Edinburgh, Leith, Dunfermline and Dundee, 1s. 2¾d.; wood-cutting machinists (all districts), 1s. 3¾d.
		Week ending 9 June	Workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade:—	Decreases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See also p. 231 of June GAZETTE.):—
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade	Great Britain ...	1 June	Timeworkers 21 years and over:—	Decrease of ¾d. or ½d. per hour.
			Male workers	Decrease of ¼d. per hour.
Athletic Wood-working Trade	London, Bolton, Cambridge, Nottingham, Horbury and Leeds	1st pay day in June	Female workers	Decreases of from 6d. to 1s. 9d. per week.
			Timeworkers under 21 years:—	Decreases of from 6d. to 1s. 3d. per week.
Heavy Chemical Manufacture	England and Wales§	1st pay day after 21 May.	Male workers (except porters and labourers)	Decrease of ¾d. or ½d. per hour.
			Female workers	Piecework basis time rates fixed at 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates.
Glass Manufacture	Various towns in England¶	Last pay day in June	Male porters and labourers	Bonus of 75 per cent. previously paid on list prices reduced† to 65 per cent.
			Flint glass ware makers ...	Decrease of ¼d. per hour. Minimum rate|| after change, 1s. 1¾d.
Brick Making	Lancaster	1st pay in May	Decorative glass-workers ...	Decrease of 3d. per move.
			Peterborough	Press boys employed by brick-makers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 6d.). Increase of ½d. per hour (4d. to 4½d.)
Baking and Confectionery	Northumberland, Durham, Middlesbro' and Carlisle	June	Workpeople employed in the athletic wood-working trade	TRADES.
			Bakers and confectioners employed by co-operative societies	Decrease† of 1s. per week for adult male workers (66s. to 65s.)**, and of 6d. per week for male juniors and females.

* Including Newcastle, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Stockton, West Hartlepool and Darlington.
 † The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 ‡ Including Blyth, Dunston, Jarrow, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Seaham Harbour, Sunderland, Tyne Dock and Tees district (including Hartlepoons, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Thornaby).
 § The change was not the subject of an agreement made by the Joint Industrial Council for the Heavy Chemical Industry, but took effect under an arrangement made by the Chemical Employers' Federation.
 ¶ It is understood that in South Wales, while the minimum rate was changed as stated above, the rate for the majority of the workers remains at 1s. 2d. and upwards.
 ¶ Including Birmingham, Manchester, Stourbridge, Tutbury and Warrington.
 ** The rates quoted are those paid to tablehands before and after the change.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES—(continued).				
Baking and Confectionery (contd.)	Certain towns in Yorkshire*	Pay day in week ending 26 May	Adult male workers employed by private traders	Decrease† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 67s.; doughmixers and ovenmen, 62s.; tablehands, 57s.
	Chester	18 June	Workpeople employed in the baking and confectionery trades	Decrease† of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers (67s. 6d. to 65s.)† of 1s. 3d. per week for youths and women 18 years and over, and of 7½d. per week for boys and girls under 18.
	Birmingham and Midland District§	Pay day in week ending 7 July	Workpeople employed in the baking and confectionery trades	Decrease† of 2s. 4d. per week for adult workers and proportionate decreases for juniors. Minimum rates after change: foremen, 61s. 4d. or 66s. 4d.; dough-makers, singlehands and secondhands, 60s. 4d.; tablehands, 56s. 4d.
	Certain districts in North Staffordshire and Cheshire¶	June	Bakers and confectioners ...	Decrease† of 2s. 6d. per week for adult male workers (65s. to 62s. 6d.)†, 1s. 3d. per week for women 18 and over and youths, and 7½d. for juveniles and improvers and girls under 18 years.
	Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham	9 June	Bakers and confectioners ...	Decrease† of 2s. 6d. per week (58s. to 55s. 6d.)†
	Bristol	1st pay day in June	Adult workers	Decrease† of 1s. 3d. per week (62s. 3d. to 61s.)†
	Cornwall**	Last pay day in June	Adult workers	Decrease† of 2s. per week (60s. to 58s.)†
	Swansea	1 June	Adult workers	Decrease† of 2s. 6d. per week (62s. 6d. to 60s.)†
	Dundee	1st pay day in June	Adult workers	Decrease of 2s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 7s.
	Edinburgh and Leith	Pay day in week ending 23 June	Adult workers	Decrease† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 73s. 6d.
Brewing	Certain towns in North and North-east Lancashire††	1st pay day in May	Men 19 years and over	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rate after change, 52s. per week.
	Certain towns in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire‡	2nd pay day in June	Women Youths Brewery workers	Decrease† of 1s. 6d. per week (36s. 6d. to 35s.). Decrease† of 6d. to 1s. 1d. per week. Decrease of 3s. per week for adult males, and of 1s. 6d. per week for women and youths. Rates after change for adult male workers: Grade A†, 58s.; Grade A2, 56s.; Grade B, 54s.; Grade C, 51s.
	Monmouthshire and East Glamorganshire	Week ending 16 June	Brewery workers	Decrease of 2s. per week for adult male workers (63s. to 61s.), and of 1s. per week for women and boys.
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.				
Tanning, Currying, etc.	London District (within a 17 mile radius of Charing Cross)	1st pay day in June	Workpeople employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades (except unskilled labourers)	Decreases for timeworkers of ½d. per hour for skilled and semi-skilled men, and ¼d. per hour for women and youths, and corresponding decreases for pieceworkers. Rates after change for men: skilled, 1s. 4½d.; semi-skilled, 1s. 2½d.
	London District (Outer area)			Decreases for timeworkers of ¼d. per hour for skilled and semi-skilled men, and of ¼d. per hour for youths, and corresponding decreases for pieceworkers. Rates after change for men: skilled, 1s. 2½d.; semi-skilled, 1s. 0½d.
Roller Leather Manufacture	Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales	1st pay day in June	Workpeople employed in domestic and persian roller leather manufacture	"Cost of living" wage reduced† from 75 per cent. to 70 per cent. on minimum base rates.
Buffalo Picker Making	Bradford, Halifax, Retford, Rochdale, Todmorden and District	1st full pay in June	Buffalo picker makers, tanners and skip makers:— Timeworkers	Decrease of ½d. per hour for skilled and semi-skilled workers, and of ¼d. per hour for unskilled workers. Rates after change: skilled, 1s. 2½d.; semi-skilled, 1s. 1½d.; unskilled, 1s. 0½d.
Saddlery	Glasgow and West of Scotland	{ 29 Mar } { 4 June }	Pieceworkers	Decrease of 5 per cent. on present earnings.
		Saddlemakers	Decrease of 1d. per hour. Decrease of 1d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 1s. 3d.	
Basket Making	Lancashire and Cheshire§§	4 June	Skip and basket makers ...	Decrease of 5 per cent. on Lancashire list prices, leaving wages 90 per cent. and 80 per cent. above the list for timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively. Rate after change for timeworkers: 8d. per hour plus 90 per cent.
			Agricultural basket makers ...	Bonus of 105 per cent. previously paid on pre-war price list reduced to 100 per cent.
			Workpeople employed in basket hamper, and cane and wicker furniture manufacture:— Timeworkers Pieceworkers	Decrease† of 1d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 3½d.). Bonuses previously granted on list of October, 1916 (with amendments thereto), reduced† by 7½ per cent.
Brush and Broom	Midland Counties	4 June	Cane and wicker workers ...	Decrease† of 5 per cent. on earnings.
			Workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade:— Male timeworkers 21 years of age 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	Decreases in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively:— Decrease† of ½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1d.).

* Including Bradford, Barnsley, Bridlington, Doncaster, Dewsbury, Hull, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield, and York.
 † The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 ‡ The rates quoted are those paid to table-hands before and after the change.
 § Including Brierley Hill, Burton-on-Trent, Cannock, Coventry, Darlaston, Dudley, Leamington, Rugby, Smethwick, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Willenhall, and Wolverhampton.
 ¶ The rates quoted are for day work and 1s. per night extra is added for each night worked, making 6s. per week extra on continuous night work.
 ¶ Including Macclesfield, Leek, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Congleton, Crewe, Winning on, Winsford, Sandbach and Potteries district (including Stoke-on-Trent, Burslem, Fenton, Hanley, Longton, and Tunstall).
 ** Including Truro, Camborne, Redruth, Falmouth, and Penzance.
 †† Certain firms (members of the Blackburn Brewers' Association and the East and North-East Lancashire Consultative Brewers' Association) at Accrington, Barrow-in-Furness, Blackburn, Brierfield, Burnley, Haslingden, Preston, Rawtenstall, Waterfoot, and Whittle Springs.
 ††† Grade A—Nottingham, Mansfield, Daybrook, Derby, Beeston, and Chesterfield. Grade A2—Worksop. Grade B—Kimberley. Grade C—Retford.
 ¶¶ Including Ashton-under-Lyne, Blackburn, Bolton, Heywood, Knutsford, Leigh, Liverpool, Manchester, Northwich, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Stockport, and Warrington.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES—(continued).				
Brush and Broom (contd.)	Great Britain ...	1 June	All other male timeworkers...	Decrease* of ½d. per hour for those of 14½ and under 15, 15½ and under 16, 18 and under 19, and 21 years and over; the rates for other ages remaining unchanged. Minimum rates after change: under 14½ years, 2½d., increasing to 10½d. at 21 years and over.
			All pieceworkers ...	Decrease* of 1½ per cent.
			Female pan hands ...	Decrease* of ½d. per hour for certain classes.†
			Female workers (other than pan hands and learners)	Decrease* of ½d. per hour for those of 14½ and under 15, 15½ and under 16, and 18 and over; the rates for other timeworkers remaining unchanged; also decrease of ½d. per hour in the piecework basis time rate. Minimum time rates after change: under 14½, 2½d., increasing to 6½d. at 21 and over.
			Female learners (other than pan-setting learners)	Decrease* of ½d. per hour during first six months for those commencing at 16 and under 21 years, and during third three months for those commencing at 21 years and over; the rates for other periods to remain unchanged.
			Apprentices ...	Decreases* proportionate to the above.
PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.				
Gas Undertakings	Belfast ...	5 April	Workpeople employed by Corporation (except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades)	New schedule of wages adopted, resulting in various small increases or decreases. Rates after change: stokers (vertical retorts), 11s. 6d. per shift; works and distribution labourers, stove maintenance men and cleaners, 1s. 0½d. per hour.
Electricity Undertakings	Belfast ...	1 April	All classes of workpeople except those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Hourly rates after change for labourers (indoor), 1s. 0½d.; (outdoor), 1s. 0½d.
Non-trading Services of Local Authorities	South Shields ...	1st full week in June	Adult male workers ...	Revised scale of wages adopted, resulting in a decrease of 2s. 9d. per week on basic wage, and of 1s. per week in bonus. Rates after change: general labourers, 34s.; scavengers, 33s. per week, plus 14s. bonus in both cases.
	Scarborough ...	1 June	Adult male workers ...	Decrease* of 2s. 6d. per week. Rate after change for general and road labourers, scavengers and refuse collectors, 30s. plus 17s. 6d. bonus.
	East Midlands† ...	1st pay day in June	Adult male workers ...	Decrease* of ½d. per hour. Scheduled minimum hourly rates after change for road and general labourers, street and road scavengers, etc.: Grade A areas, 1s. 1½d.; Grade B, 11½d.; Grade C, 10½d.; Grade D, 10½d. (industrial) and 9½d. (agricultural).‡
	Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshires§	1st pay in June	Adult male workers ...	Decrease* of 1s. per week, leaving scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A areas, 53s.; B1, 49s.; B2, 46s.; C1, 41s.; C2, 39s.; D, 34s.§
	Camberwell ...	22 June	Council employees ...	Decreases of from 1s. to 10s. per week.¶ Rates after change: general labourers and refuse collectors, 62s. 2d.; road sweepers, 58s. 10d.; female bath, lavatory, etc., attendants, 46s. 4d.
	Aberdeen ...	1 June	Adult males in non-trading and Water Departments	Decrease* of 2s. per week. Rates after change: general labourers, 48s.; scavengers and refuse collectors, 51s.
Dundee ...	30 June	Labourers in Works Department	Decrease of ¾d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 2½d.).	

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING JUNE, 1923.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Glass Working Making-up and Packing Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc., Labour	Manchester and District Manchester ...	1 June	Decorative glassworkers ..	Uniform week of 46½ hours adopted.¶
			Certain classes of male workers**	Increase of 1½ hours per week (46½ to 48).¶
			Coal trimmers, tippers, etc. ...	Adoption of the three-shift system. The hours of the shifts are as follows:—6 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. (week-days), and 6 a.m. to 12 noon (Saturdays).††

* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.
 † The rates previously paid remained unchanged for those employed on broom heads up to 11½ in. stock and banisters up to 8½ in. blade, middles made of all fibre or fibre and drafts mixed up to 3½ in., and out sides of any material up to and including 3½ in.; banisters (whisk) up to 7½ in. blade made with common Venetian tops (imported as tops); sweeps' brushes up to and including 5 in. head and Toy Hearth brushes up to and including 3½ in. (both made with fibre, fibre and drafts, drafts only or chin a below 3 in.)
 ‡ The Authorities affected are those which follow the recommendations of the Joint Industrial Council for the East Midlands Area, and include: Grade A—Derby, Grimsby, Ilkeston, Leicester (road labourers, 1s. 2d.), Mansfield, Northampton, Nottingham; Grade B—Boston, Chesterfield R.D.C. (from 16th July) Coalville, Eastwood, Grantham, Hinckley, Kettering, Loughborough, Mansfield Woodhouse, Ripley, Rushden (from 12th July), Swadlincote, Sutton-in-Ashfield; Grade C—Ashby Wolds, Rothwell, Warsop, Wigston Magna; Grade D—Blackwell R.D.C., Daventry (from 1st week in July), Shardlow R.D.C.
 § The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreement of the Joint Industrial Council for Gloucestershire, Somerset, and Wiltshire, and include the following: Grade A—Bristol (road labourers 6s. 6d. and other classes usually 3s. above minimum fixed by the Industrial Council for various classes); Grade B1—Gloucester, Swindon, Taunton; Grade D—Taunton R.D.C.
 ¶ The above decreases were the result of a decision by the Council to adopt the rates of wages laid down by the Administrative County of London Industrial Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services Manual Workers; and in the case of craftsmen, the appropriate trade union rate; it was arranged that the necessary reductions should be made in three equal instalments to take effect in April, May and June respectively.
 ¶ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."
 ** Viz., packers, clothlookers (print and grey), headmen (sundry department), and/or case foremen and head scalesmen, hoistmen, general warehousemen and porters.
 †† It was agreed that the additional third shift was to be for an experimental period of six months, and that during this period it would not be necessary to work more than one-third of the tips on the third shift. A definite meal time allowance of half an hour was provided for in each shift. Under the two shift-system previously in force the length of a shift was usually 8½ hours, including half an hour meal-time allowance.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN JULY, 1923.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in July:—Decreases.—Skilled men employed in the Thames ship-repairing industry; railway servants; dock labourers; omnibus workers in London; certain classes of workpeople employed in the printing and bookbinding trades; brewery workers at Burton; men employed in the electricity supply industry in various districts; and employees of local authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Increases.—Coal miners in Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire and the East Midlands, South Wales and Monmouthshire, Scotland; ironstone miners in Cleveland; and blast-furnace workers in Cleveland and Cumberland.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON TRADE.

THE results of recent ascertainment of the selling prices of iron are given below:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit* on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average Selling Price Per Ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
Pig Iron:		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cumberland	Mar.-Apr. (March)	105 8	+10 1	+ 1 9½
	Apr 1	101 6½	+ 5 0½	+10 11
Northamptonshire ..	Jan.-Mar.	77 8	+ 4 10½	- 0 6½
Nottinghamshire ..	Jan.-Mar.	84 0½	+ 3 9	+ 3 2
Lincolnshire	Jan.-Mar.	79 8	+ 3 1	- 1 11½
Scotland	Jan.-Mar.	99 1	+ 1 4	- 2 3
Manufactured Iron:				
North of England ..	Mar.-Apr.	217 7¼	+10 7½	- 8 3
(Bars and angles)				
West of Scotland ..	Mar.-Apr.	222 3¼	+ 5 3½	-11 0½
(Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)				

Pig Iron.—The rise in the ascertained price of Cumberland pig iron for March and April resulted in an increase of 10½ per cent. on standard rates for blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire, and of 9d. per shift in the bargain price and of 8½d. per shift in the minimum wage of iron-ore miners in the Furness district; while the rise in the ascertained price for March resulted in an increase of 5d. per shift in the bargain price and minimum wage of iron-ore miners in West Cumberland, and the wages of limestone quarrymen were also increased by 3¼d. per shift. The ascertainment for April resulted in an increase of 6d. per shift for limestone quarrymen and of 7d. per shift in the bargain price and minimum wage of iron-ore miners. Particulars of all these changes were given in the issues of the GAZETTE for May and June (pages 176 and 214). The Northamptonshire ascertainment resulted in an increase, from 20th April, of 6¼ per cent. for blastfurnacemen and ironstone and limestone quarrymen in that county. In Nottinghamshire the wages of blastfurnacemen, and in Leicestershire and the adjoining parts of Lincolnshire the wages of ironstone miners were increased by 2½ per cent. on standard rates, details being given in the May GAZETTE. The Lincolnshire ascertainment for the same period increased the wages of blastfurnacemen and ironstone miners in North Lincolnshire by 3¼ per cent. on standard rates. The West of Scotland ascertainment resulted in an increase, generally from 29th April, of 1 per cent. on standard rates for blastfurnace workers.

Manufactured Iron.—In the North of England the wages of puddlers and millmen were increased by 7½ per cent, while in the West of Scotland the increase amounted to 2½ per cent. Particulars of these increases were given in the June GAZETTE.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

QUARTERLY RETURNS OF SALES.

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales† in the First Quarter of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with	
	1923.	1922.	1918.	Year ago.	Five Years ago.
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ..	£ 15,200,556	£ 15,452,282	£ 13,322,414	- 1.6	+ 14.1
Productive	5,085,818	5,057,237	4,077,603	+ 0.6	+ 24.7
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ..	3,959,998	4,175,832	4,240,851	- 5.2	- 6.6
Productive	1,236,870	1,410,558	1,492,831	- 12.3	- 17.1
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:—					
Productive Departments ..	75,911	105,509	188,196	- 28.1	- 59.7
Total, Distributive Departments ..	19,160,554	19,628,114	17,563,265	- 2.4	+ 9.1
Total, Productive Departments ..	6,398,599	6,573,304	5,758,630	- 2.7	+ 11.1
Grand Total, GREAT BRITAIN	25,559,153	26,201,418	23,321,895	- 2.5	+ 9.6

* Stated to the nearest farthing.

† No ascertainment was made for this period.

‡ The figures given for Productive Departments represent Sales and Transfers to the Distributive Departments.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns have been received from 142 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving particulars of the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed in June. The summarised figures for June are given in the following Table, together with similar figures relating to plans passed in these localities in the first six months of this year.

In the 142 localities to which the figures relate, plans were passed in June for buildings of an estimated cost of over £3,860,000, compared with an average of nearly £3,300,000 in the preceding five months.

District and Aggregate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received	Estimated Cost of Buildings for which plans were approved in the 142 towns from which returns have been received.					TOTAL.
	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses, and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, and Additions and Alterations.	

(a) JUNE, 1923.

	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES—						
Northern Counties (917,000)	79,700	1,500	9,100	5,300	20,500	116,100
Yorkshire .. (2,090,000)	380,900	12,300	42,500	6,800	80,500	523,000
Lancashire and Cheshire (3,035,000)	400,400	73,000	61,400	15,500	78,000	628,300
North and West-Midland Counties .. (2,855,000)	284,000	80,000	61,300	29,300	148,900	603,500
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (641,000)	191,000	4,400	31,000	6,900	18,400	251,700
Outer London* (1,934,000)	446,300	85,500	31,300	26,700	92,500	682,300
South-Eastern Counties (1,038,000)	217,900	3,200	40,000	10,000	72,900	344,000
South-Western Counties (432,000)	53,700	4,100	6,500	8,300	7,200	79,800
Wales and Monmouthshire .. (677,000)	125,100	800	31,600	25,800	24,900	208,200
SCOTLAND .. (2,146,000)	134,900	74,000	23,600	7,700	184,600	424,800
Total .. (15,765,000)	2,313,900	338,800	338,300	142,300	728,400	3,861,700

(b) JANUARY TO JUNE, 1923.

	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES—						
Northern Counties (917,000)	543,200	61,700	74,500	94,900	152,500	926,800
Yorkshire .. (2,090,000)	1,657,500	224,100	216,800	239,200	577,700	2,915,300
Lancashire and Cheshire (3,035,000)	1,081,000	410,200	337,600	134,100	478,800	2,441,700
North and West-Midland Counties .. (2,855,000)	1,953,000	409,200	340,800	254,500	714,800	3,672,300
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (641,000)	939,400	67,900	89,500	45,600	113,000	1,305,400
Outer London* (1,934,000)	2,335,100	237,400	298,800	243,100	372,500	3,486,900
South-Eastern Counties (1,038,000)	1,343,600	29,300	130,200	52,800	437,500	1,933,400
South-Western Counties (432,000)	386,200	10,100	18,400	45,300	74,000	534,000
Wales and Monmouthshire .. (677,000)	335,900	25,000	81,800	62,700	79,000	584,400
SCOTLAND .. (2,146,000)	795,300	244,300	92,200	322,000	1,032,700	2,486,500
Total .. (15,765,000)	11,420,200	1,719,200	1,680,600	1,494,200	4,032,500	20,346,700

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during June, 1923, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act (see March, 1923, GAZETTE, page 84), and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes up to the end of June, 1923, together with the numbers of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes:	Assisted Passages Granted in June, 1923	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in June, 1923	Total Departures.	
		1922	Jan.—June, 1923		1922	Jan.—June, 1923
To Australia	2,447	7,058	14,313	2,499	6,118	11,677
„ New Zealand	407	1,133	2,598	—	694	1,821
„ Ontario	117	—	1,381	162	—	1,024
Minor Schemes	340	—	914	342	—	873

The figures given in the above Table include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

* Particulars are not available for the London County Council area.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.*

THE total number of cases† of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during June, 1923, was 44. There was one death reported during the month, due to lead poisoning in paint and colour work. In addition two cases of lead poisoning (including one death) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during June, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.		(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.	
Among Operatives engaged in—			
Smelting of Metals ..	...	Mercury Poisoning ..	...
Plumbing and Soldering ..	2	Phosphorus Poisoning ..	...
Printing	1	Arsenic Poisoning ..	...
File Cutting and Hardening ... ..	...	Toxic Jaundice—	
Tinning of Metals ...	1	Arseniuretted Hydrogen	
Other Contact with Molten Lead ... ..	...	Gas ... ..	...
White and Red Lead Works	4	Other ... ..	...
†Pottery	2	Epitheliomatous Ulceration—	
Vitreous Enamelling ...	...	Paraffin	1
Electric Accumulator Works	22	Pitch	3
Paint and Colour Works ...	...	Tar ... ..	...
Indiarubber Works ...	1	Chrome Ulceration—	
Coach and Car Painting ...	...	Manufacture of Bichromates ..	...
Shipbuilding ... ..	...	Dyeing and Finishing	3
Paint used in other Industries	1	Chrome Tanning ...	...
Other Industries ... ..	...	TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF POISONING	7
TOTAL OF ABOVE... ..	34	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—	
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	2	Wool	1
		Handling of Horsehair	1
		Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	1
		Other Industries ... ..	...
		§TOTAL, ANTHRAX	3

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons relieved on one day* in June, 1923, in the 31 selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 512 per 10,000 of population, showing a decrease of 4 per 10,000 on the previous month, and of 171 per 10,000 on a year ago.

As compared with May, 1923, the total number relieved showed a decrease of 6,633 (or 0.7 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients of relief was lower by 1,335 (or 1.1 per cent.), while the number of outdoor recipients decreased by 5,298 (or 0.7 per cent.). One district showed no change, eleven districts showed increases, and every other district showed a decrease. The largest increase was in the Paisley and Greenock district (99 per 10,000).

As compared with June, 1922, the total number relieved decreased by 296,026 (or 25 per cent.). The number of indoor recipients increased by 1,383 or 1.1 per cent., and the number of outdoor recipients decreased by 297,409 (or 27.9 per cent.). One district showed an increase and every other district showed a decrease. The most marked changes were an increase in the Paisley and Greenock district (332 per 10,000), and decreases in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (953 per 10,000), in the Sheffield district (681 per 10,000), and in the Stockton and Tees district (622 per 10,000).

Nine other districts showed decreases ranging from 116 to 502, and eighteen districts showed decreases ranging from 9 to 99 per 10,000 of population.

Selected Urban Areas.†	Number of persons in receipt of poor law relief on one day* in June, 1923.				Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.		
					Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.‡						
<i>Metropolis.</i>						
West District ..	8,899	9,383	18,282	225	- 2	- 57
North District ..	10,047	25,000	35,047	349	..	- 26
Central District ..	2,523	3,149	5,672	427	+ 2	- 38
East District ..	9,840	54,007	63,847	1,007	- 8	- 9
South District ..	19,488	83,806	103,294	544	- 2	- 69
TOTAL, Metropolis ..	50,797	175,345	226,142	504	- 3	- 48
West Ham ..	4,116	66,730	70,846	962	+ 7	- 50
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District ..	2,566	35,581	38,137	784	- 3	- 79
Stockton and Tees District ..	1,107	23,221	24,328	925	+ 64	- 622
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ..	3,828	7,439	11,267	144	+ 2	- 27
Wigan District ..	1,715	11,848	13,563	312	- 11	- 249
Manchester District ..	8,658	31,413	40,071	397	+ 32	- 317
Liverpool District ..	9,741	55,570	65,311	552	- 15	- 273
Bradford District ..	1,718	4,169	5,887	160	- 4	- 67
Halifax and Huddersfield ..	1,205	3,498	4,703	125	+ 9	- 55
Leeds District ..	2,436	9,793	12,229	255	- 12	- 90
Barnsley District ..	923	7,781	8,704	278	- 11	- 136
Sheffield District ..	2,605	40,907	43,512	864	- 29	- 681
Hull District ..	1,761	14,029	15,790	510	+ 35	- 78
North Staffordshire ..	2,026	5,880	7,906	196	- 7	- 116
Nottingham District ..	2,038	9,536	11,574	254	- 3	- 79
Leicester District ..	1,202	2,672	3,874	165	+ 3	- 58
Wolverhampton District ..	3,213	24,997	28,210	402	- 16	- 449
Birmingham District ...	6,852	44,491	51,343	558	- 28	- 502
Bristol District ...	2,543	13,377	15,920	393	- 6	- 35
Cardiff and Swansea ..	2,313	12,645	14,958	324	- 19	- 94
TOTAL "Other Districts"	58,440	358,847	417,287	414	- 3	- 238
SCOTLAND.‡						
Glasgow District ..	4,827	115,099	119,926	1,239	- 38	- 200
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	725	19,526	20,251	1,058	+ 99	+ 332
Edinburgh ..	1,508	16,006	17,514	417	+ 11	- 57
Dundee and Dunfermline	699	3,742	4,441	216	+ 2	- 160
Aberdeen ..	506	5,567	6,073	382	- 60	- 99
Coatbridge and Airdrie ..	368	6,553	6,921	682	- 8	- 953
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts	8,633	166,493	175,126	856	- 12	- 147
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in June, 1923	121,986	767,415	889,401	512	- 4	- 171

* The figures for England and Wales relate to 30th June, and those for Scotland to 16th June.

† These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one poor law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

‡ Exclusive of casuals; of patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of lunatics in Asylums Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only. The figures for Scotland include destitute able-bodied unemployed in receipt of poor law relief.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.‡

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during June, 1923, was 177, as compared with 189 in the previous month and with 149 a year ago. The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.	FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued):
Brakemen and Goods	Boiler Making & Constructional Engineering ..
Guards	1
Engine Drivers	2
Firemen	1
Guards (Passenger)	1
Permanent Way Men	6
Porters	1
Shunters	1
Mechanics	1
Labourers	1
Miscellaneous	5
Contractors' Servants ... ..	...
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	15
MINES.	79
Underground	79
Surface	9
TOTAL, MINES	88
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep	7
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	53
Cotton	2
Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy	2
Other Textiles ... ..	...
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing	1
Metal Extracting and Refining	5
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making	4
Metal Founding	1
Engineering and Machine Making	3
Docks, Wharves, etc., s. 104	4
Buildings, s. 105	7
Warehouses, s. 104 and Railway Sidings, s. 106	2
TOTAL	66
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	1
Total (excluding Seamen)	177

* Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

† Cases include all attacks reported to the Home Office 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.

‡ The persons affected in the Pottery industry were males.

§ In addition one case among dock labourers was reported.

|| Based on Returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES ABROAD IN MARCH, 1923.

(Tables referred to in the article on pages 236-238.)

TABLE I.—MONEY WAGES, CALCULATED, FOR PURPOSES OF DEMONSTRATION, ON THE BASIS OF 48 HOURS' WORK AT ORDINARY TIME RATES, ON 1ST MARCH, 1923.*

Occupation.	London.		Amsterdam	Berlin.	Brussels.	Christiania.	Madrid.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.	Prague.	Stockholm.	Vienna.	Warsaw.
	s.	d.	Guilders.	Marks.	Francs.	Kroner.	Pesetas.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Francs.	Crowns.	Kronor.	Kronen.	Marks.
BUILDING TRADES:—														
<i>(a) Skilled:—</i>														
Mason	80	0	40·80	84,000	150	76·80	60·00	60	40·80	168	187·20	64·80	366,240	211,056
Bricklayer	80	0	40·80	84,000	150	76·80	60·00	60	40·80	168	187·20	64·80	366,240	211,056
Carpenter	80	0	40·80	84,000	162	72·96	67·50	54	33·60	168	187·20	64·80	384,960	..
Joiner	80	0	40·80	72,715	156	72·96	75·60	..	33·60	180	..	64·80	..	..
Plumber	82	0	45·12	76,800	138	72·96	64·50	54	38·40	168	..	60·00	..	..
Painter (General)	76	0	44·16	74,880	132	76·80	62·40	54	31·20	168	192	72·00	397,920	211,056
<i>(b) Unskilled:—</i>														
Labourer (General)	60	0	33·60	79,248	108	72·00	45·00	..	22·80	156	148·80	57·60	296,160	167,424
ENGINEERING TRADES:—														
<i>(a) Skilled:—</i>														
Fitter	62	2	32·16	60,720	122·40	72·00	78·00	27·60	28·80	106·56	192	42·24	312,096	126,492
Ironmoulder (Hand)	61	3	27·84	60,720	127·20	72·00	72·00	36	28·32		139·20	42·24	..	
Patternmaker	66	10	32·16	60,720	169·92	72·00	78·00	36	32·88		..	42·24	..	
Turner	62	2	32·16	60,720	132	72·00	72·00	25·92	28·80		131·52	42·24	334,560	
<i>(b) Unskilled:—</i>														
Labourer	44	2	23·52	54,900	92·16	67·20	42·00	18·24	18·00	84	105·60	36·00	..	91,455
FURNITURE TRADES:—														
<i>(a) Skilled:—</i>														
Cabinetmaker	84	0	37·44	90,864	144	76·80	72·00	..	21·60	192	216	57·60	312,672	..
PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES:—														
<i>(a) Skilled:—</i>														
Compositor (Book and Job):—														
(1) Hand	89	0	36·00	68,400	137	78·00	73·50	59·08	35·00	165·60	..	58·08	297,948	321,183
(2) Machine	96	0	40·32	73,531	149	78·00	112·00	..	35·00	..	321·60	63·84	..	449,656
Machine Minder	89	0	36·00	..	143	78·00	73·50	..	32·00	..	..	58·08	..	321,183
Bookbinder	82	6	35·00	63,744	134	84·00	55·50	41·45	34·00	153·60	249·60	52·80	243,241	321,183

* In the case of Berlin, New York, Paris and Vienna, wage rates for 1st March were not available. For the preparation of this table it was, therefore, necessary to select the most suitable alternative figures from published official documents. For Berlin the wage rates adopted were those ruling on 1st April, Vienna at the end of February, New York various dates from November, 1922, and Paris February and March, 1923, except for the engineering trades, the figures for which are averages for the year 1921.

TABLE II.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD ON 1ST MARCH, 1923.*

Commodity.	London.		Amsterdam.		Berlin.		Brussels.		Christiania.		Madrid.		New York.	
	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.
Bread (household)	4 lb.	d. 8·7	kilo	Cents 23·75	kilo	Marks. 474	kilo	Francs. 1·20	kilo	Kroner .47	kilo	Pesetas .65	lb.	Cents 9·7
Flour (wheaten)	7 lb.	17·6	do.	25·50	do.	1,500	do.	1·93	do.	.58	do.	.85	do.	4·0
Butter (fresh)	lb.	25·1	do.	237·50	do.	18,000	do.	12·10	do.	6·19	do.	6·00	do.	58·0
Ditto (salt)	do.	24·4	..	..	..	..	do.	11·90	..	..	..	..	..	..
Margarine (cheapest)	do.	6·0	kilo	130	kilo	5,600	do.	6·40	do.	2·06	..	..	lb.	28·7
Eggs (not new laid or preserved)	each	2·2	each	7	each	370	each	.42	each	.21	..	..	..	..
Milk (unskimmed)	qt.	8·0	litre	18	litre	860	litre	.91	each	.40	each	.20	each	4·6
Beef (home produce):—														
Ribs	lb.	19·3	kilo	140	kilo	7,600	kilo	12·79	kilo	3·42	..	..	lb.	34·7
Thin flank	do.	8·6												
Beef (chilled or frozen):—														
Ribs	lb.	11·0	kilo	120	..	..	do.	7·25	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thin flank	do.	4·8	do.	80	..	..	do.	4·10	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mutton (home produce):—														
Leg	lb.	19·9	kilo	220	kilo	8,000	do.	11·50	kilo	3·65	..	..	..	..
Breast	do.	9·7	do.	120	kilo	7,600	do.	5·00	do.	3·43	kilo	4·00	..	..
Mutton (frozen):—														
Leg	lb.	12·5	..	..	..	..	do.	8·00	kilo	2·22	..	..	..	..
Breast	do.	4·9	do.	2·00		
Potatoes	7 lb.	5·3	kilo	5·5	kilo	76	do.	.25	do.	15	kilo	.35	lb.	2·8
Sugar (white, granulated)	lb.	6·5	do.	68	do.	2,000	do.	3·63	do.	1·16	do.	1·70	do.	8·0
Coffee (cheapest) .. .. .	..	..	do.	125	..	22,000	do.	9·00	do.	3·65	do.	8·00	..	..
Tea (cheapest) †	lb.	24·0	do.	245	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	lb.	52·0

Commodity.	Ottawa.		Paris.		Prague.		Stockholm.		Vienna.		Warsaw.	
	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.	Unit.	Price.
Bread (household)	lb.	Cents. 6·7	kilo	Francs. 1·15	kilo	Crowns. 2·50	kilo	Kronor. .66	kilo	Kronen. 5,234	kilo	Marks. 2,682
Flour (wheaten)	do.	5·1	do.	1·60	do.	3·45	do.	.45	do.	6,725	do.	4,270
Butter (fresh)	do.	50·4	do.	18·69	do.	26·00	do.	..	do.	..	do.	..
(salt)												
Margarine (cheapest)	do.	28·1	..	..	kilo	13·00	kilo	3·91	..	..	do.	26,272
Eggs (not new laid or preserved)	do.	..	..	..	..	..	do.	1·98	kilo	23,700	..	21,865
Milk (unskimmed)	each	5·1	each	.50	each	0·90	each	.165	each	1,400	each	474
Beef (home produce):—												
Ribs	lb.	19·4	kilo	13·23	kilo	13·00	kilo	2·15	kilo	22,000	kilo	8,429
Thin flank	do.	9·6	do.	4·92								
Beef (chilled or frozen):—												
Ribs .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thin flank .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mutton (home produce):—												
Leg	lb.	31·6	kilo	15·13	kilo	12·50	kilo	2·84	..	..	kilo	7,808
Breast	do.	6·13								
Mutton (frozen):—												
Leg .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Breast .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Potatoes	lb.	1·8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sugar (white, granulated)	do.	11·2	kilo	.60	kilo	0·55	kilo	.14	..	..	..	..
Coffee (cheapest) .. .. .	..	..	do.	4·18	do.	5·05	do.	1·09	kilo	818	kilo	333
Tea (cheapest) †	lb.	62·6	..	..	do.	4·00	do.	2·42	do.	11,875	do.	4,018
										15,350	do.	5,670

* Food-prices on 1st March were not available for Berlin, Brussels, New York, Paris, and Vienna. The figures used relate to 1st April (Berlin), 15th May (Brussels), 15th February (New York), March (Paris), and March (Vienna).
 † Coffee substituted where tea is not a common article of consumption.

COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES ABROAD IN MARCH, 1923.

(Continued.)

TABLE III.—INDEX NUMBERS SHOWING THE COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES, IN EACH OF THE OCCUPATIONS COVERED BY THE ENQUIRY, COMPUTED FROM THE FIGURES GIVEN IN TABLES I. AND II.

London = 100.

Occupations.	London.	Amsterdam.	Berlin.	Brussels.	Christiania.	Madrid.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.	Prague.	Stockholm.	Vienna.	Warsaw.
(a) Unweighted.													
BUILDING TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled:—</i>													
Mason	100	101	57	67	83	49	289	235	66	62	98	59	83
Bricklayer	100	101	57	67	83	49	289	235	66	62	98	59	83
Carpenter	100	101	57	72	79	55	260	194	66	62	98	62	..
Joiner	100	101	49	69	79	62	..	194	71	..	98	..	..
Plumber	100	109	51	59	77	51	254	216	65	..	88	..	..
Painter (General)	100	114	54	61	87	54	275	190	70	67	114	67	87
<i>Unskilled:—</i>													
Labourer (General)	100	110	72	64	103	49	..	176	82	68	116	64	88
ENGINEERING TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled:—</i>													
Fitter	100	102	53	69	99	82	171	212	54	54	81	64	64
Ironmoulder (Hand)	100	90	54	74	101	77	227	214	55	60	83	..	65
Patternmaker	100	95	49	90	93	76	208	227	51	..	76	..	60
Turner	100	102	53	75	99	75	160	212	54	56	81	69	64
<i>Unskilled:—</i>													
Labourer	100	104	66	74	131	62	158	187	60	63	97	..	65
FURNITURE TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled: Cabinetmaker</i>	100	88	59	61	79	56	..	119	72	68	83	48	..
PRINTING & BOOKBINDING TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled:—</i>													
Compositor (Book & Job): Hand	100	79	42	54	76	54	256	181	59	..	79	43	113
Machine	100	82	42	55	70	76	..	168	..	89	80	..	147
Machine Minder	100	79	..	57	76	54	..	166	..	..	79	..	113
Bookbinder	100	86	42	58	88	44	194	190	59	80	77	38	123
ALL OCCUPATIONS*	100	97	54	66	88	61	228	195	63	66	90	57	89
(b) Weighted													
BUILDING TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled:—</i>													
Mason	100	107	61	70	86	50	274	217	71	63	95	57	79
Bricklayer	100	107	61	70	86	50	274	217	71	63	95	57	79
Carpenter	100	107	61	76	82	55	247	179	71	63	95	60	..
Joiner	100	107	53	73	82	63	..	179	76	..	95	..	..
Plumber	100	116	54	64	80	52	242	200	70	..	86	..	..
Painter (General)	100	122	57	65	91	55	260	175	75	68	112	65	83
<i>Unskilled:—</i>													
Labourer (General)	100	118	77	67	108	50	..	161	88	67	112	61	84
ENGINEERING TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled:—</i>													
Fitter	100	108	57	73	104	83	162	196	58	54	79	62	61
Ironmoulder (Hand)	100	96	58	78	105	78	215	197	59	61	81	..	62
Patternmaker	100	101	53	95	97	78	197	210	54	..	74	..	57
Turner	100	108	57	79	104	77	152	196	58	57	79	67	61
<i>Unskilled:—</i>													
Labourer	100	111	71	78	136	63	150	173	64	65	95	..	62
FURNITURE TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled: Cabinetmaker</i>	100	94	63	64	83	57	..	114	78	70	80	46	..
PRINTING & BOOKBINDING TRADES:—													
<i>Skilled:—</i>													
Compositor (Book & Job): Hand	100	85	45	57	79	55	242	167	63	..	77	42	108
Machine	100	88	45	58	73	78	..	155	..	91	78	..	141
Machine Minder	100	85	..	60	79	55	..	153	..	..	77	..	108
Bookbinder	100	82	45	51	92	45	184	175	63	82	75	37	117
ALL OCCUPATIONS*	100	103	57	70	92	61	217	180	68	67	87	55	85

* It is to be observed that in combining the index numbers for the above occupations, no allowance has been, or could be, made for differences in the relative importance of the trades in the various cities. For this purpose it would be necessary to possess up-to-date statistics of the numbers of adult male workers employed in each of the selected occupations in each city, compiled and presented in a form that would admit of international comparison. In this, as in most other branches of social statistics, little, if any, progress has yet been achieved in the direction of uniformity of practice among the official statisticians of the world.

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 periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries. 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.*

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.	
	July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1922.	Rise.	Date.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.			
UNITED KINGDOM ..	109	158	120	80	62	30 June	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Austria (Vienna) ..	..	..	9,320†	328,100	1413100	June
Belgium‡ ..	..	359	310	281	326	June
Czechoslovakia§ ..	..	..	1,246	1,350	828	May
Denmark ..	112	153	136	84	80	Jan.	
Finland ..	..	882	1,178	1,005	912	April
France (Paris) § ..	161	273	206	197	231	June	
„ (other towns) § ..	188||	288||	250||	212||	237	May	
Germany ..	..	..	1,391	6,736	934,600	June
Holland (The Hague) ..	..	143	113	80	58	May
„ (Amsterdam) ..	110	117	85	44	43	April	
Italy (Rome) ..	106	218	302	359	391	May	
„ (Milan) ..	210	345	406	392	402	June	
Norway ..	189	219	195	133	113	June	
Poland (Warsaw) ..	..	..	45,555	129,711	1247700	April
Sweden § ..	210	197	132	79	61	June	
Switzerland ..	..	..	110	57	61	May
United States ..	86	115	45	39	40	May	
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.							
Australia ..	47	94	61	48	56	May	
Canada ..	86	127	48	38	38	June	
India (Bombay) ..	..	88	74	60	46	June
Irish Free State ..	..	..	..	87†	81	April
New Zealand ..	44	67	64	44	43	June	
South Africa ..	39	97	39	16	18	May	

* Exceptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; Germany, average, 1913-14; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome, Milan, Florence, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Poland, January, 1914; Amsterdam, average, 1913; South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ The increases shown are for families of the lowest income class; in June, the increase for all working-class families ranged from 326 to 328 per cent. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. || Figure for August.

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.†

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.*	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†					Latest figures available.	
		July, 1919.	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1922.	Rise.	Date.	
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.			
UNITED KINGDOM ..	A, B, C, D, E	105-	152	119	84	69	30 June	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES								
Austria (Vienna) ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	..	9,700§	264,400	1151200	June
Belgium ..	A, C, D, E	..	353	279	266	319	June	
Bulgaria ..	A, D	..	..	1,512	2,331	2,543	Jan.
Denmark ..	A, B, C, D, E	111	162	137	99	98	Jan.	
Finland ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	811	1,039	1,018	996	April	
France (Paris) ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	263‡	195‡	189‡	224	1st Qtr.	
Germany ..	A, B, C, D	..	..	..	5,282	764,900	June
Italy (Rome) ..	A, B, C, D, E	105	213	287	329	349	May	
„ (Milan) ..	A, B, C, D, E	180	341	394	388	391	June	
Luxemburg ..	A, C, D	..	..	284	259	339	May
Norway ..	A, B, C, D, E	180	202§	202§	155§	139	June	
Poland ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	..	25,609	78,698	835,000	April
Spain (Madrid) ..	A, D	74‡	90‡	84	79	78	May	
„ (Barcelona) ..	A, D	81‡	91‡	78	73	67	May	
Sweden ..	A, B, C, D, E	157	170	136	90	74	July	
Switzerland ..	A, D	..	..	..	59	63	May
United States ..	A, B, C, D, E	77§	117§	80||	67§	69	Mar.	
BRITISH DOMINIONS, &C.								
Australia ..	A, B	33‡	67‡	46‡	43	42	4th Qtr. ¶	
Canada ..	A, B, C, E	..	..	..	..	40	Nov. ¶
Egypt (Cairo) ..	A, D	..	..	52	46	46	June
India (Bombay) ..	A, B, C, D	..	89	77	65	51	April	
Irish Free State ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	..	..	85§	81	April
New Zealand ..	A, B, D	32	49	57	44	43	Mar.	
South Africa ..	A, B, D	25	62	30‡	20	20	May	

* A=Food; B=House-Rent; C=Clothing; D=Fuel and Light; E=Other or Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Rome, Milan, and New Zealand, January to June, 1914; Egypt and Germany, average, 1913-1914; Poland, January, 1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Bulgaria, average, 1901-1910. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. § Figure for June. || Figure for May. ¶ 1922.

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 United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 244-245 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment" (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

GERMANY.*

Employment in May.—According to statistical data from various sources, the conditions in the labour market continued to improve during May. The movement was not, however, of a completely uniform character. In particular, the fact must be taken into consideration that in many trades unemployment, short time and the number of applications for situations still continued at so high a level that, in spite of what, on the whole, must be admitted to be an improvement in the state of employment, the situation cannot by any means be described as favourable.

The total number of unemployed workpeople in receipt of out-of-work donation declined from 265,959 on 1st May to 254,921 on 1st June. A further drop of about 33,000 took place between 1st and 15th June, but the returns for the latter date are not complete. In addition 279,315 were reported as being in receipt of assistance owing to working short time.

Returns from Trade Unions point to less unemployment among organised workers. Out of nearly 6 million members included in the returns, 370,953, or 6.2 per cent., were unemployed on 26th May, as against 7.0 per cent. in the preceding month and 0.7 per cent. in May, 1922. The following Table gives particulars for the leading Unions:—

Unions.	Membership reported at end of May, 1923.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.		
		May, 1923.	Apr., 1923.	May, 1922.
All Unions making Returns ..	5,950,000	6.2	7.0	0.7
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Building (Soc. Dem.) ..	533,000	8.2	11.0	0.7
„ (Christian) ..	57,000	4.6	6.7	0.1
Painters (Soc. Dem.) ..	53,000	4.0	8.3	0.3
Metal (Soc. Dem.) ..	1,495,000	6.8	6.5	0.4
„ (Hirsch-Duncker) ..	120,000	3.5	2.1	0.2
Textile (Soc. Dem.) ..	691,000	4.6	4.7	0.3
„ (Christian) ..	134,000	6.0	8.1	0.3
Clothing ..	69,000	3.5	4.7	0.0
Boot and shoe ..	88,000	6.4	5.6	0.5
Transport ..	524,000	4.3	4.1	0.7
Printing ..	62,000	11.2	11.4	1.5
Bookbinding ..	92,000	7.5	8.4	0.5
Woodworking (Soc. Dem.) ..	418,000	4.7	7.1	0.4
Glass ..	44,000	5.5	5.3	0.5
Porcelain ..	58,000	2.2	..	0.6
Food preparation ..	78,000	4.7	4.3	..
Baking and confectionery (Soc. Dem.) ..	75,000	8.7	10.2	3.9
Tobacco (Soc. Dem.) ..	85,000	21.5	32.3	2.5
Factory workers (irrespective of trade) ..	592,000	5.1	7.4	0.6
Factory and transport workers (Christian) ..	128,000	10.1	13.5	0.6
Municipal and State workers	207,000	4.9	2.5	1.2

The above totals do not include persons partially employed, of whom in May there were 21.7 per cent. among the 5,400,000 Trade Union members included in the returns on this point. In April the corresponding percentage was 28.5.

Returns from public Employment Exchanges show that in the month under review the number of situations offered by employers increased somewhat, while that of applicants for employment declined. The Exchanges reporting registered 1,112,056 applicants, against 508,090 vacancies. On the average there were 280 applications for each 100 situations for male workers and 141 for each 100 for female workers; in April the corresponding figures were 365 and 164.

Sickness insurance societies reported an increase in membership (i.e., of persons under obligation to insure, and therefore assumed to be in work) from 12,388,527 on 1st May to 12,594,055 on 1st June, a rise of 1.7 per cent.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in May.—According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th June, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in the principal industrial districts amounted to 109,002 at the end of May, as compared with 132,000 at the end of the preceding month, and 38,573 at the end of May, 1922. At both of the two later periods over 60 per cent. of the total unemployed were in Vienna.

* *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt*, 1st July, 1923.

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in June.—The total number of unemployed remaining on the "live register" at the Employment Exchanges in the week ended 30th June, 1923, was 8,739 (5,936 men and 2,803 women). The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled was 9,483 (5,218 for men and 4,265 for women). During the week under review the Exchanges succeeded in placing 28,118 persons (22,532 men and 5,586 women) in situations, and in addition found employment for 4,844 foreign immigrants.

According to the latest returns, six departmental and 37 municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 5th July, the number of persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit through their agency being 2,067 (1,938 men and 129 women). This shows a decrease of 20 when compared with the corresponding figure (2,087) for the preceding week. It is to be noted that these figures do not fully indicate the number of persons out of employment, since some localities are without unemployment funds, and where they do exist their record of unemployed persons is not complete.

BELGIUM.†

Unemployment in April and May.—The most recent figures available are provisional in character and relate to May. Returns received by the Belgian Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,705 approved unemployment funds, with a total membership of 649,774, show that 17,836 of these were either wholly or partially unemployed at the end of the month. The aggregate days of unemployment in May numbered 224,358, or 1.44 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; for April the corresponding percentage was 1.08, and for May, 1922, 4.35.

Revised and final figures are given for April, in which month 1,727 funds, with an aggregate membership of 645,104, reported 4,869 (or 0.8 per cent.) wholly unemployed, and 10,890 partially so on the last working day of the month.

During May 14,563 applications for employment were received at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 13,350 in April. Vacancies notified by employers numbered 11,832 (12,549 in April). For every 100 situations registered as vacant there were thus 123 applications as compared with 106 in April.

SWEDEN.‡

Unemployment in April.—The percentage of unemployed members of trade unions on 30th April was 15.6, as compared with 19.9 at the end of the preceding month, and 28.3 at the end of April, 1922. The following Table gives corresponding particulars for the principal unions covered by the returns:—

Unions.	Membership reporting on 30th April, 1923.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		30th April, 1923.	31st Mar., 1923.	30th April, 1922.
All Unions making Returns ..	127,257	15.6	19.9	28.3
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Iron and steel	8,945	23.7	54.8	27.9
Engineering	31,630	18.5	21.9	41.0
Textile	4,511	1.7	2.4	5.3
Clothing	3,632	6.5	11.2	10.7
Boot, shoe and leather	6,176	8.5	7.2	22.6
Food preparation	3,318	7.4	12.6	10.8
Tobacco	3,001	2.6	7.9	2.8
Sawmilling	7,858	23.8	27.4	30.6
Woodworking	5,837	24.1	31.1	49.8
Paper and Pulp	6,454	10.5	3.9	18.0
Municipal workers	5,714	2.9	4.8	4.1
Commercial employees	6,064	9.3	9.5	12.0
General and factory workers	11,700	28.2	25.9	32.8
(trades not specified)				

SWITZERLAND.§

Unemployment in May.—According to figures compiled by the Central Employment Department of Switzerland, on the basis of returns from Employment Exchanges, the number of applicants for work remaining on the "live register" on the 31st May was 30,228 (as compared with 35,512 at the end of the preceding month and 71,100 at the end of May, 1922). Of these, 11,512 were employed on relief works, leaving 18,716 entirely without work. Among the applicants for employment were 3,822 normally engaged in the building trades, 3,673 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, 3,422 in the watch, clock and jewellery trades, and 3,035 in the textile trades. In addition to the foregoing persons entirely without work, 15,640 were reported as only partially employed, including 8,587 in the textile trades, 2,948 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 1,501 in the watch, clock and jewellery trades. The vacancies offered by employers remaining unfilled at the end of May numbered 3,587.

During the month of May on an average 302 applications were made for each 100 vacancies for men, and 116 for each 100 for women. In April the figures were 303 and 131 respectively.

HOLLAND.

Unemployment in June.—H.M. Commercial Secretary at the Hague reports that, according to figures supplied by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance, in the week ended 9th June, out of 283,227 members of unemployment funds making returns, 24,323 (or 8.6 per cent.) were totally unemployed, and 6,202 (or 2.2 per cent.) partially so. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 12th May) the corresponding percentages were 8.8 and 2.2 respectively.

NORWAY.

Unemployment in May.—According to information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics the percentage of members reported as unemployed at the end of April in certain trade unions making returns to the Bureau was 8.6, as compared with 9.0 on 30th April, and 16.3 at the end of May, 1922.

CANADA.*

Employment in June.—For 1st June, 1923, Returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,865 firms, with an aggregate pay-roll of 800,605. On 1st May the same firms reported 754,021. There was thus an increase of about 47,000 at the later date. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index number of employment for 1st June last is 97.3, as compared with 91.4 for the 1st May and 89.2 for 1st June, 1922.

AUSTRALIA.†

Unemployment in 1st Quarter, 1923.—The percentage of members of Trade Unions unemployed in the first quarter was 7.2, as compared with 8.6 in the preceding quarter and 9.2 in the first quarter of 1922.

UNITED STATES.‡

Employment in May.—The Federal Department of Labour Statistics at Washington presents reports concerning the volume of employment in May, 1923, from 6,075 representative establishments, covering 2,249,425 employees in forty-seven manufacturing industries. A comparison of the figures with those for identical establishments in April, 1923, shows that, on the whole, there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number of persons employed. Increases are shown in twenty industries and decreases in twenty-seven. The largest increase (6.0 per cent.) was in tobacco, while the brick and tile and petroleum refining industries showed increases of 4.2 and 3.9 per cent. respectively. Decreases are shown in fertilisers (26.5 per cent.), women's clothing (7.1 per cent.), millinery and lace goods (4.3 per cent.) and leather (3.9 per cent.).

The aggregate wages paid show a net increase of 4.1 per cent. over those of the preceding month. There were increases in thirty-five industries, the iron and steel industry leading with 13.1 per cent. Increases were also shown in brick and tile (11.3 per cent.), woollen goods (11.1 per cent.), slaughtering and meat packing (10.4 per cent.), carpets (8.2 per cent.), cotton goods (6.9 per cent.) and sawmills (6.7 per cent.). Steel ship-building, hardware and baking showed increases of 6.6, 5.7 and 5.6 per cent. respectively. The greatest decreases are shown in fertilisers (18.4 per cent.) and women's clothing (13.1 per cent.).

The following Table affords a comparison between returns from identical establishments in thirteen manufacturing industries in May, 1923, and May, 1922:—

Industry.	Number of Establishments reporting.	Number of Workpeople.			Aggregate Weekly Earnings.		
		May, 1922.	May, 1923.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(−)	May, 1922.	May, 1923.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(−)
Iron and steel ..	117	142,309	170,672	+ 19.9	3,142,584	5,273,808	+ 67.8
Car building and repairing ..	89	41,862	56,985	+ 36.1	1,117,874	1,645,136	+ 47.2
Automobiles ..	38	100,013	138,632	+ 38.6	3,385,293	4,812,468	+ 42.2
Cotton goods ..	64	42,972	61,670	+ 43.5	665,998	1,228,429	+ 84.4
Dyeing and finishing textiles ..	25	12,610	15,606	+ 23.8	254,609	383,386	+ 50.6
Hosiery and knit goods ..	73	30,445	30,700	+ 0.8	501,936	549,693	+ 9.5
Woollen goods ..	22	15,379	24,515	+ 59.4	356,702	641,260	+ 79.8
Silk goods ..	37	14,122	17,130	+ 21.3	247,507	404,007	+ 63.2
Men's clothing ..	43	25,554	26,728	+ 4.6	613,171	815,923	+ 33.1
Boots and shoes ..	74	53,050	58,706	+ 10.7	1,137,209	1,373,460	+ 20.8
Tobacco, &c. ..	70	14,794	14,629	− 1.1	265,575	263,580	− 0.8
Leather ..	35	11,136	12,430	+ 11.6	235,118	309,117	+ 31.5
Paper and pulp ..	79	25,065	29,251	+ 16.7	584,991	781,348	+ 33.6

The net increase in the number of persons employed in the thirteen industries was 24 per cent. Twelve industries show increases and one a decrease. Woollen goods, cotton goods, automobiles and car building and repairing show the largest increases (59.4 per cent., 43.5 per cent., 38.6 per cent. and 36.1 per cent. respectively).

Twelve industries also show increases in aggregate earnings, the largest being 84.4 per cent. in cotton goods and 79.8 per cent. in woollen goods.

* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 6th July, 1923. Paris.
 † Revue du Travail, June, 1923. Brussels.
 ‡ Sociala Meddelanden, No. 6, 1923. Stockholm.
 § Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th June, 1923. Berne.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the General Statistics Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.
 † Information supplied by cablegram through the courtesy of the Commonwealth High Commissioner in London.
 ‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, Etc.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906.

INFANT—AGREEMENT AS TO AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION—JURISDICTION OF COUNTY COURT JUDGE—POWER TO RECTIFY OR REMOVE FROM REGISTER.

An agreement was made on behalf of an infant in settlement of a claim under the above Act. A memorandum of this agreement was recorded by the Registrar, the sum of £50 being the amount specified, and this amount was subsequently paid into Court. Proceedings were later instituted for a payment out of a portion of this sum, when the County Court Judge expressed the opinion that the amount of compensation appeared to him to be inadequate, and in his view the infant's next friend was not authorised by the Act to make an agreement of this nature. He refused to make any order for payment out of a portion of the £50, and unless the applicant made an application to have the register rectified he would direct the Registrar to inquire into the whole matter and report to him thereon. An application was then made, and the Judge ordered the removal of the record from the register. Against this decision the employers appealed. It was held that the County Court Judge was not authorised to make such an order, but could only make an order for the removal of the record of the agreement from the register under the special powers conferred by Schedule 2 (9) (e), which provides as follows:—

"The Judge may, within six months after a memorandum of an agreement as to the redemption of a weekly payment by a lump sum, or of an agreement as to the amount of compensation payable to a person under any legal disability, or to dependants, has been recorded in the register, order that the record be removed from the register on proof to his satisfaction that the agreement was obtained by fraud or undue influence or any other improper means, and may make such order (including an order as to any sum already paid under the agreement) as under the circumstances he may think just."

It was further held that there was no allegation of "improper means" or anything of that kind which would bring the present agreement within the scope of Schedule 2 (9) (e).

The appeal was therefore allowed and the order of the County Court Judge discharged.—*Ware v. Whitlock. Court of Appeal. 3rd and 4th May.*

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906.

The Court of Appeal heard an appeal by David Donn from the refusal of a County Court Judge to award him compensation under the above Act.

While cleaning the feed roller of an oil-extracting machine in 1921 Donn got the left hand caught, and half the left thumb had to be amputated in consequence. He received compensation until September, when he returned to the respondents to do light work. He left the work given to him in November. It appeared that before his employment at the mill owned by the respondents Donn had been engaged in the boot-making business, and he complained that the County Court Judge had not only found that he was not incapacitated by the accident for work at the mill, but had also refused to take into account the fact that the injury from which he suffered incapacitated him from boot and shoe making work, which he had formerly done. On behalf of his employers it was contended that the County Court Judge could only take into account the employment in which the man was injured.

The Master of the Rolls, in delivering judgment, said the Court could not interfere with the Judge's finding that the man was not disabled as far as the mill was concerned, but that it was a misdirection in refusing to take into account the fact that the injury to the man's thumb disabled him from his boot and shoe making work.

The appeal was accordingly allowed.—*Donn v. British Oil and Cake Mills, Ltd. Court of Appeal. 22nd June, 1923.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire appointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit, are published by H.M. Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual subscription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office, or at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

CASE No. 4854, SECTION 8 (2).—MISCONDUCT—APPLICANT USED ANOTHER MAN'S TALLY IN ORDER TO SECURE EMPLOYMENT.

The applicant had last been employed casually as a dock labourer on 27th February, 1923, and was dismissed when it was found that he was using another man's tally. He stated that

he had no tally of his own, but in order to obtain work he used another man's tally. His reason for doing this was that he could not otherwise obtain employment, and his father was ill. It was alleged that the man whose tally he used was going into the country and would not require it any more.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed for three weeks. The Court were of the opinion that the applicant's conduct when at work was not unsatisfactory, but he was in fault in using another man's tally.

The applicant's Association declined to accept the recommendation of the Court of Referees, on the ground that the applicant's misconduct was the means of his securing work rather than a reason for his discharge. While not desiring to mitigate the offence of using another man's tally, they contended that the refusal of unemployment benefit was not a proper form of punishment for the offence.

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

"The applicant obtained employment by using a tally belonging to another man, and was discharged when it was discovered that he had no tally of his own. He would not have got the employment but for his misconduct, but I cannot say that he lost his employment through misconduct."

CASE No. 4861, SECTION 8 (1).—TRADE DISPUTE—STOPPAGE OF WORK, DURATION OF—BY AGREEMENT SOME DISPUTANTS RETURNED TO WORK PENDING NEGOTIATIONS—PERSONS STILL ON STRIKE CAUSED STOPPAGE OF WORK TO CONTINUE.

The applicant lost employment as a shifting mistress at some jute mills on 22nd February, 1923, owing to a strike of the spinners with whom she worked and the lock-out of the preparers, winders, reelers and weavers on the question of the number of spindles to be attended to by individual spinners. At a meeting held on 17th April between the employers and workpeople it was agreed that a joint committee should be set up to negotiate on the question in dispute. Pending the negotiations, however, the employers were to withdraw the lock-out notices to permit the locked-out workpeople to resume work, but while some of the spinners on strike were to remain out, their places were not to be filled by other operatives in the meantime. Under this arrangement work was restarted on 20th April, but the applicant was unable to resume work because the flat in which she had been employed was one of those which, in accordance with the agreement, was not restarted. On behalf of the applicant it was admitted that she had lost employment owing to the dispute, but it was contended that she was entitled to unemployment benefit as from 20th April, on the ground that, as from that date, the dispute had ceased to exist.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court held that an armistice only had taken place on 20th April, that the dispute still existed, and would continue to exist until there was a general resumption of work.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire against the Court's recommendation.

Decision.—"On the facts before me, my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed."

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees."

"It is not disputed that the applicant lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which she was employed. There was a strike at those premises, followed by a general lock-out affecting other premises. Then it was agreed that pending negotiations the lock-out notices should be withdrawn, but that some of the workers who were originally brought out on strike should remain out, and that their places should not be filled."

"It is suggested that the stoppage of work due to the trade dispute was at an end, and that the workers who remained out in accordance with this agreement were from that time unemployed by virtue of this agreement, and not by reason of the trade dispute. But in my opinion, it is impossible to say that the stoppage of work due to the trade dispute was at an end merely because it had been arranged that other workers who had been brought into the dispute by the lock-out notices should go back, and that the places of those who remained out on strike should not be filled. This was an arrangement to facilitate negotiations and to mitigate the consequences of the general stoppage, but did not, so far as the spinners were concerned, put an end to the stoppage of work brought about by the strike."

CASE No. 4878, SECTION 7 (1) (iii).—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT, REFUSAL OF—IRON ORE MINER REFUSED LABOURING IN MINE—PROVISO "B"—CONDITIONS LESS FAVOURABLE, ETC.—UNEMPLOYED 1 YEAR.

The applicant, an iron ore miner, 26 years of age, had been unemployed for 12 months when on 11th April, 1923, he was offered employment as an underground labourer at a mine situated about four miles from his home. The work was expected to last indefinitely, and would have been paid for at the rate of 6s. 3d. per shift of 8 hours, 6 shifts per week.

The offer was refused on the grounds that work as a labourer was unsuitable, and that the applicant expected re-engagement shortly at his own pit. He admitted, however, that he had no immediate prospect of re-engagement.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed on the ground that the work offered was suitable. In the absence of prospects of work in his own

trade, the Court thought the work offered was the next most suitable employment.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire on the grounds that:—(1) The work offered was not such as the applicant could reasonably be expected to do. It consisted of filling trucks and pushing them along the roads underground to the shaft, many of these roads were steep and dangerous except to young and nimble-footed men, and this work, which was very strenuous, was usually done by men from 17 to 21 years of age. The work of a miner, *i.e.*, boring of holes, blasting, etc., necessitated more skill and less energy than labouring, and (2) the change from miner to labourer involved a change of status which would prejudice the applicant's future prospects.

From further information which was obtained it appeared that the prevailing rate of pay for labourers was 6s. 9d. per shift; while the rates for miners, which the applicant had previously obtained, were at the time of the offer 8s. 1d. per shift, though a miner engaged on "bargain" work might earn up to 10s. 9d.

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

"The employment offered was on conditions less favourable than those which the applicant would have obtained had he continued in his usual employment as a miner. In accordance, therefore, with the provisions of Section 7 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, the applicant was entitled to regard the employment as unsuitable for him.

"The decision turns solely on the question what is 'suitable employment' under Section 7 of the Act of 1920, and need not be regarded by Local Employment Committees as determining whether, in cases of uncovenanted benefit, a person is genuinely seeking but unable to obtain 'whole-time employment.'"

CASE NO. 4889, SECTION 7 (1) (v).—COURSES OF INSTRUCTION—FAILURE TO FULFIL REQUIREMENT TO ATTEND COURSE—REASONABLENESS OF THE REQUIREMENT NOT A QUESTION FOR THE UMPIRE.

The applicant, a wire stitcher, 17 years of age, had been required by the Insurance Officer to attend an approved course of instruction under Section 7 (1) (v) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and her claim for benefit was disallowed because she refused to attend the course.

The applicant's Association contended that as the applicant had fulfilled the full period of learnership for female workers in her industry, and was a fully competent worker in her trade, it was unreasonable to expect her to undertake a further course of instruction on work unconnected with her trade. There was a great deal of jobbing work in the printing trade, and the Association's rules required the applicant to be in attendance at the Association's offices from 9 a.m. to noon daily, so that she could be sent off to a situation at a moment's notice. If the applicant attended the course of instruction she would not be able to conform to this rule.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court held that the provisions of Section 7 (1) (v) must apply.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire.

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

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees.

"The question whether the applicant ought to be required to attend a course of instruction has to be determined by the Insurance Officer, and on this question there is no appeal to a Court of Referees or to me, and I cannot pronounce any opinion as to the reasonableness of the requirement.

"There is no doubt that the applicant was required to attend a course of instruction approved under Regulations duly made, and that she has not attended in accordance with the requirements. In these circumstances she has failed to fulfil one of the statutory conditions for receipt of unemployment benefit."

CASE NO. 4894, SECTION 7 (1) (iii).—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT, REFUSAL OF—REFUSED WORK AWAY FROM HOME BECAUSE COUNTRY MONEY NOT PAID—EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE NOT AGENTS OF PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER—LOCK-OUT THREATENED, BUT WORK ONLY 13 MILES AWAY.

The applicant, a bricklayer, whose home was in Manchester, had been unemployed for about 10 days when he was offered employment on 7th April, 1923, by the local Employment Exchange, as a bricklayer with a firm in Glossop at the standard rate of 1s. 8d. per hour, 44 hours per week.

The applicant stated that in accordance with the rules of his Association, and an agreement between the Employers' Association and his Association, he was entitled to travelling and lodging allowances, and as the prospective employers would not pay these allowances he declined the offer. He also contended that it was unreasonable to send him away from home to work at that time because a lock out in the building trade was threatened.

On behalf of the applicant a representative of his Association stated that one of the Association's working rules laid down that a man sent more than four miles beyond the boundary of his town was to be paid lodging money plus allowances. He argued that the Employment Exchange in offering the vacancy to the applicant was acting as an agent of the Glossop firm, and accordingly the applicant would have been sent out of town as laid down by the rule. Had the employer himself engaged the applicant in Manchester he would have been bound by the rule on sending the man to Glossop to work.

Recommended, by a majority of the Court of Referees, that the claim for benefit should be allowed on the ground that the applicant was entitled to refuse the work unless the rule in question was complied with. The Chairman dissented because the prospective employer was a *bona fide* Glossop contractor.

The Insurance Officer agreed with the Chairman, and declined to accept the recommendation of the majority of the Court.

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

"The applicant, who is a bricklayer living in Manchester, was offered, through his Employment Exchange, work at Glossop, 13 miles from his home, with an employer whose place of business was at Glossop.

"This offer he refused (1) because the prospective employer would not pay travelling allowances and lodging money, and (2) because owing to a threatened lock-out in the building trade it was unreasonable to send him to work outside his district.

"As to the first point, the agreement between employers and employees in the building trade contained in the Working Rules applicable to the North-Western Area provides that 'men sent beyond four miles from boundary' shall be paid lodging money plus allowances to return home.

"It was argued on behalf of the applicant that when men are engaged through an Employment Exchange the Exchange acts as the agent of the employer, and accordingly that men so engaged are to be regarded as sent by the employer.

"I cannot assent to this view. The Employment Exchanges are not empowered to act as the agents of the employers for engaging labour, and are no more the agents of employers who make use of the Exchanges to get into touch with persons wanting work than they are the agents of persons who register for employment.

"But it is not necessary for me to say whether on the true construction of the working rules men engaged through an Exchange can be said to be sent by the employer to the district in which he employs them.

"From evidence received in other cases I understand that there is no generally observed practice to pay lodging money and allowances in cases where an employer gets men from another district through the Employment Exchange, and in the absence of evidence to the contrary I am not prepared to say that the employment offered was unsuitable, having regard to the provisions of Section 7 (1) (c) of the Act.

"As to the second point, in my opinion the mere fact that there was a prospect of a lock-out in the trade is not sufficient reason for refusing employment at no great distance from the applicant's home."

CASE NO. 4909, SECTION 7 (1) (iii).—SUITABLE EMPLOYMENT, REFUSAL OF—WORK AWAY FROM HOME—WAGES ALLEGED INADEQUATE FOR SUPPORT OF TWO HOMES—STANDARD RATE OFFERED—IMMINENT LOCK-OUT IN INDUSTRY THREATENED.

The applicant, a plasterer, had been unemployed for 5 months when, on 27th March, 1923, he was offered work, which was expected to last at least 3 months, in his usual occupation with a firm situated about 43 miles from his home. The standard rate of 1s. 4½d. per hour for 44 hours per week would have been paid, and the employer would have advanced the railway fare, which amounted to 10s. 10d.

The applicant refused the offer, stating that he was a married man with 5 young children, and that he could not afford to support himself in lodgings and his family at home in Barrow. He had last been employed in London at the rate of 2s. per hour plus 5s. per day lodgings allowance, but he would have been prepared to accept the Barrow rate of 1s. 8d. per hour.

Recommended by the Court of Referees, that the claim for benefit should be disallowed under Section 7 (1) (iii). They held that the applicant had refused an offer of suitable employment.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire and attended the hearing of the appeal.

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

"I agree with the Court of Referees that the employment offered was suitable, and that the applicant's domestic affairs do not afford sufficient ground for his refusing an offer of employment away from home at the standard rate of wages for the district.

"At the hearing of the appeal a point was taken which was not taken before the Court of Referees. It was suggested that the applicant was justified in refusing employment at a distance of 43 miles from his home because it was feared that there would be a general stoppage of work in the building trade about a week later.

"In several recent cases I have held that an applicant is not justified in refusing work at no great distance from home on this ground. I doubt very much whether a mere expectation of a general stoppage of work in the near future would, in any case, be sufficient justification for refusing an offer of employment at any distance from home by men who would be parties to the dispute if it occurred. But it is not necessary to decide that point, as in this case I am of opinion that the distance was not so great that the applicant was justified in refusing to take up the employment on the ground that it was feared that there might be a stoppage of work before long."

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO MAKE A SPECIAL ORDER
Excluding Certain Employment from the Provisions of the
Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1923.

THE Minister of Labour hereby gives notice that he proposes, by virtue of the powers conferred upon him by paragraph (c) of Part I. of the First Schedule to the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, to make a Special Order excluding from the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1923, employment

under any Police Authority as a member of the first class of the Police Reserve called up for active service with a Police Force.

Copies of the draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Insurance Department, Queen Anne's Chambers, London, S.W. 1.

Objections to the draft Special Order must be sent to the above address within 21 days from the sixth day of July, 1923.

Every objection must be in writing and must state:—

- (a) The draft Order or portions of the draft Order objected to;
- (b) The specific grounds of objection; and
- (c) The omissions, additions or modifications asked for.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour, this sixth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three.

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

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (TRADE DISPUTE DISQUALIFICATION) COMMITTEE.

THE Minister of Labour has appointed Mr. F. A. Hargreaves, F.C.A., Chairman of the Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers' Association, in place of Sir Thomas Robinson, M.P., as a member of the Trade Dispute Disqualification Committee, from which Sir Thomas Robinson has resigned owing to pressure of other duties. This Committee was appointed to consider whether any amendment to the Trade Dispute Disqualification for Unemployment Benefit under Section 8 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, can be agreed upon.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

MEAL ALLOWANCE TO CERTAIN CRAFTSMEN.—The Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades *v.* The London and North Eastern Railway at Hull. To entitle a man to the meal allowance under Condition 9, Schedule F of Decision No. 728, two things must occur:—(1) To be sent away from his home station or district, and (2) to have his usual method of obtaining a midday meal interfered with. *Decision.*—That the men concerned do not come within Condition 9, Schedule F of Decision No. 728. Issued 5th June, 1923. (810.)

COACH PAINTERS—LOOSING RATE.—The Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway at Wolverton. At Wolverton youths on completion of their apprenticeship are paid a "loosing rate," from which they progress in stages to the full journeymen's rate. When their apprenticeship is completed at the age of 21, youths are paid 10s. per week less than the full journeyman's rate, which they eventually obtain at the age of 23 years. The men concerned were discharged owing to trade depression, and obtained employment with private contractors at full journeymen's rate. They later resumed employment with the railway company, and, being less than 23 years of age, are being paid the rate which they would have had had they not left the company's service. Under Decision No. 728 every adult employee is entitled to the scheduled rate, except in certain specified cases (para. 29). One of these cases is where the practice exists of paying a loosing rate or a young journeyman's rate. Where such practice exists the young employee is not entitled to the scheduled rate until after the expiration of the loosing period. *Decision.*—As this case does not fall within the last part of paragraph 29 of Decision 728, the young men in question should be paid the rate mentioned in Note 4 to Schedule B of Decision No. 728, to which they are respectively entitled (*i.e.*, the full rate of their Grade). Issued 5th June, 1923. (811.)

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE—WORK OF DAY SHIFT WORKERS ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON—WORK IN RUNNING SHEDS ON BOXING DAY—MEAL ALLOWANCE—LODGING ALLOWANCE.—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Work of Day Shift Workers on Saturday.* *Decision.*—The question was remitted back to the parties for consideration, and, failing agreement by them, it may be referred back by either of them to the Court. *Work in Running Sheds on Boxing Day.* *Decision.*—So long as running repairs are being carried on in a running shed on a bank or public holiday, however much reduced in amount, the normal work is not suspended, and the extra rate is not payable under Condition 7, Schedule F to Decision No. 728. *Meal Allowance.* Condition 9 of Schedule F to Decision No. 728 requires that "men who are sent away from their home station or district, and whose usual method of obtaining a midday meal is interfered with, shall be paid a meal allowance of 1s." *Decision.*—As the man concerned had been "loaned" to the outdoor department, and his usual method of obtaining his midday meal interfered with, he was accordingly entitled to meal allowance. *Lodging Allowance.* Condition 10 of Schedule F to Decision No. 728 provides that "men who are required to lodge away from home shall be paid an inclusive meal and lodging allowance of 2s. per night or 3s. per day and night." The company have regarded this condition as bound up with Condition 9 (above), and have paid a night allowance of 2s. when away from home. The Union claim that the man concerned should be paid lodging allowance of 3s. *Decision.*—Conditions 9 and 10 deal with separate and distinct matters. Condition 10 is

independent of Condition 9, and deals with men who are required to lodge away from home for a day and a night; they are entitled to an allowance of 3s. Issued 5th June, 1923. (812.)

FITTERS, ELECTRICIANS, LABOURERS ON CONSTRUCTIONAL AND MAINTENANCE WORK—RATES OF WAGES—HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT.—National Oil Refineries, Ltd., *v.* Amalgamated Engineering Union, Electrical Trades Union, Transport and General Workers' Union, National Union of General Workers, Workers' Union. *Decision.*—The Court decided, with regard to wages, that a claim had not been established for a uniform and general allowance above the rate of 67s. 6d. per week for craftsmen, with *pro rata* rates for semi-skilled and unskilled men. The Court, however, directed also that the parties should meet at an early date to determine what parts of the work are so dirty or dusty as to warrant special allowances, and what those allowances shall be. Any items upon which the parties cannot agree within four weeks of the date of the decision may be referred by either party to the Court for final decision. With regard to the hours of employment, the Court decided that the 44-hour working week shall continue for the present, on the understanding that the basic weekly hours of the men concerned shall, as at present, be regarded as being 47. The matter shall be reviewed when constructional work is near completion. Issued 8th June, 1923. (813.)

PREFERENTIAL OR MERIT ADVANCES—WITHDRAWAL—FIRST MATES, WHEEL BALANCERS AND OTHERS.—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway (London and North Western Section). The men concerned are described as "first mates" in the erecting shops, two men employed on wheel-balancing machines, one man employed on an American wheel lathe, and various men engaged on special work. All these men were formally in receipt of extra rates, but in applying Decision No. 728 the Company, as from 1st October, 1922, withdrew the extra rates on the ground that the work is not superior to that of other men of the same grade. In the case of the men on the wheel-balancing machines, the Company continue to pay an extra rate in respect of their duties as charge hands, but have otherwise reduced them to the standard rates. The Union claim that the Company were not entitled to withdraw the extra rates without prior negotiation with the men, or their representatives, and that the extra rates should be restored as from 1st October, 1922. *Decision.*—The Court's Decision No. 728 does not preclude the Company from paying or continuing to pay extra remuneration in respect of such special qualifications, or conditions of service, nor does it interfere with the right of the Company to review any such extra payments at any time. If the reductions purport to have been made in terms of that Decision the Companies would appear to have acted under a misapprehension as to the proper meaning of the Decision, and the reduction should be restored. If, however, the reductions have not been so made, but have been made by the Company in the exercise of their discretion, such action could only be reviewed by the Court, in so far as it was at variance with the provisions of Decision No. 728. The action taken by the Company falls to be considered in the light of the provisions of paragraph 29 of Decision No. 728, the effect of which is referred to above. The Court also came to the conclusion that where the restoration of any rate is made pursuant to the Decision it shall take place as from the beginning of the pay period next after February 28th, 1923. Issued 12th June, 1923. (814.)

ALLOWANCE PAID UNDER AN AGREEMENT—WITHDRAWAL—FITTERS, ELECTRICIANS AND OTHERS—LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY (LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE SECTION).—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Decision.*—The allowance should be restored in those cases where it has not already been restored, and should be continued until the matter has been determined by discussion between the parties, and failing agreement, by a decision of the Court. The Decision shall operate as from the beginning of the pay period next after March 28th, 1923. Issued 12th June, 1923. (815.)

TENDER FITTERS, WHEEL TURNERS, AXLE TURNERS—SKILLED MEN ON LESSER SKILLED WORK—RATE OF PAY—KILMARNOCK, EARLESTOWN.—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Decision.*—If, in any of the cases in question, fully skilled fitters and turners are employed on the work in question, they are entitled to be paid the fitters' and turners' rate. The Decision shall operate as from the beginning of the pay period next after March 28th, 1923. Issued 12th June, 1923. (816.)

CRANK TURNERS, AXLE TURNERS—EXTRA RATES—WITHDRAWAL—LOCOMOTIVE DEPARTMENT, CREWE—LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN SECTION.—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Decision.*—The extra rates should be restored as from the beginning of the pay period next after February 28th, 1923, and should be continued until the matter has been determined by discussion between the parties and, failing agreement, a further decision of the Court. Issued 12th June, 1923. (817.)

MACHINISTS—MEN WHO HAVE SERVED AN APPRENTICESHIP—RATES OF PAY.—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* London, Midland and Scottish Railway (Glasgow and South Western Section). *Decision.*—Having regard to the special qualification of the men concerned, they should be paid 46s. per week apart from war wage or bonus. The Decision is to operate as from the beginning of the first full pay next after March 28th, 1923. Issued 14th June, 1923. (818.)

TOOL TURNERS—EXTRA RATES—WITHDRAWAL—LOCOMOTIVE DEPARTMENT, CREWE—LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN SECTION.—Amalgamated Engineering Union v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Decision.*—The extra rate should be restored pending a determination as to its continuance or discontinuance by discussion between the parties and, failing agreement, a further decision of the Court. In view of the time that has elapsed between the date when the Company made the change complained of (1st October, 1922) and the proceedings taken by the Union, the Court decided that the Decision should operate as from the beginning of the pay period next after 28th February, 1923. Issued 15th June, 1923. (819.)

TOOL TURNERS, TEMPLATE MAKERS, DIE SINKERS—TOOL MAKERS—WITHDRAWAL BY COMPANY OF EXTRA RATE OR ALLOWANCE—DECISION No. 728.—Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. *Decision.*—The extra rate should be restored to the tool turners and template makers in the frame shop, pending a determination as to its continuance or discontinuance in the manner indicated in Decision No. 819 (above). In the case of a particular workman mentioned in the Decision, the Court decided that he should be paid the tool turners' rate for such period of his employment as he is engaged on the tool lathe. As regards the men employed on die sinking, the Court do not dissent from the grading of these men as die sinkers or from their payment as such when so employed. When, however, they are engaged on tool making they should receive such higher rate as is paid for that work. In the case of another craftsman mentioned, if any part of his claim arises since the date of coming into operation of the Decision, so much of his claim shall be recognised and paid. The Decision is to operate as from and after the last pay in April, 1923. Issued 15th June, 1923. (820.)

LONDON FIRE BRIGADE.—London County Council v. Representative Body of the London Fire Brigade. The Council claimed that a reduction should be made in the rates of pay of sub-officers and firemen commensurate with the fall in the cost of living since December, 1919. *Decision.*—It is too soon yet to make a break with the scheme which places the London Fire Brigade and the Police more or less on an equality, and in these circumstances the Court have come to the conclusion that the claim should not at this stage be conceded. Issued 15th June, 1923. (821.)

TOTON RUNNING SHEDS—CLASSIFICATION—RATES OF TUBERS—GRADING OF ASSISTANT TUBERS—DECISION No. 728.—Workers' Union v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. The Union claimed that Toton, on account of its proximity to Derby, and its importance as a running shed, should be transferred from its existing classification in the Schedules to Decision No. 728 to Class I. The Union also asked for an interpretation as to the rates to be paid to tubers, and that assistant tubers should be classed as tubers and paid the tubers' rate. *Decision.*—With reference to the re-classification of Toton, the function of the Court is limited under Rule 7 of the Industrial Court (Procedure) Rules, 1920, to the question of interpretation of Decision No. 728. Consequently, this is a matter which cannot be dealt with on the present reference. The Court also decided that the rate of the tubers was not inconsistent with the terms of Decision No. 728. The decision of the Court regarding assistant tubers to be graded as tubers is that the claim has not been established. Issued 18th June, 1923. (822.)

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

COAL PORTERS: LONDON.—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Society of Coal Merchants, London. Difference: Proposal by the employers to introduce reductions in landing rates. Agreement: The employers would withdraw their notices for a reduction and would continue to pay as usual. A further conference would take place before September in order to discuss the existing agreement in its entirety and to arrive at a new agreement to operate as from 1st September. Agreed 28th June, 1923. (I.R. 536/1923.)

QUALIFICATIONS OF MINE SURVEYORS.

The Secretary for Mines has made an order, dated the 9th July, 1923, with the concurrence of the Board for Mining Examinations, revoking, as from the 1st September next, the present Order under which Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines are issued under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, and making other provisions in its place.

As from the 1st September, 1923, the Board for Mining Examinations will be the sole authority competent to grant Surveyors' Certificates for the purposes of the Coal Mines Act, 1911; and, except in special circumstances as prescribed by the Order, examination by the Board will be a necessary preliminary to the grant of a Certificate.

Copies of the Order, which will shortly be available, may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, either directly or through any bookseller.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

ORDERS.

ORDER made by the Minister of Labour for Northern Ireland, under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by the undernoted Trade Board:—

Paper Box Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.B. (6), dated the 8th June, 1923, confirming general minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rate for female workers, and specifying the 16th June, 1923, as the date from which these rates are effective.

The general minimum time-rates (as varied) are:—

- (a) 6½d. per hour for workers other than learners.
- (b) 7s. 9d. to 23s. 6d. per week of 48 hours (according to age and period of employment) for learners.

The piece-work basis time-rate (as varied) is 7d. per hour.

NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

The Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain) has issued a proposal, dated 18th June, 1923, to vary the piece-work basis time-rate and overtime rates for male workers employed in the Net Section of the trade as Charge Hands or as Net Riggers, and the overtime rates for female workers employed in Hand Machine Braiding on piece-work.

Particulars of the proposed variations may be obtained by reference to the London and Edinburgh Gazettes.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED RELATING TO LABOUR.

AGRICULTURE.—*Interim report on fruit and vegetables. Departmental Committee on distribution and prices of agricultural produce.* (Cmd. 1892: price 3d.)

ALIENS.—(1) *Statistics in regard to alien passengers who entered and left the United Kingdom in 1922.* (Cmd. 1893: price 6d.) (2) *Aliens Order, 1920. A Return of alien passengers, excluding transmigrants, landed, embarked, and refused leave to land, in the United Kingdom, during the three months ending March 31st, 1923.* Home Office. (Cmd. 1868: price 2d.)

ARBITRATION.—*Industrial Courts Act, 1919. Industrial Court Decisions, 692-747, 1st October, 1921, to 30th December, 1922.* Vol. IV. Part III. (S.O. publication: price 5s. 6d.)

CENSUS.—*Census of England and Wales, 1921, (a) County of Hertford, (b) County of Lancaster.* (S.O. publications: prices 7s. 6d. and 20s. respectively.)

EX-SERVICE MEN.—*The initial salary of "Lytton entrants," and the appointment of ex-service men to posts in the Civil Service. Interim report.* Treasury. (S.O. publication: price 1d.)

HEALTH SERVICES.—*Fourth annual report of the Scottish Board of Health, 1922.* (Cmd. 1887: price 5s.)

HOUSING.—(1) *Interim report of the Inter-departmental Committee appointed to survey the price of building materials.* Ministry of Health and Board of Trade. (Cmd. 1908: price 6d.) (2) *Memorandum on Clause 15 of the Housing (No. 2) Bill,* (Cmd. 1913: price 3d.)

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE.—*Report on grinding of metals and cleaning of castings, with special reference to the effects of dust inhalation upon the workers.* Home Office. (S.O. publication: price 4s.) (See also page 240 of this GAZETTE.)

MINING.—(1) *Coal Mines Act, 1911, Regulations and Orders, 1922 edition. (Including Orders up to 30th November, 1922):* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 1s.) (2) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 31st December, 1922.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 4d.)

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—*National Health Insurance Fund Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1921.* Ministry of Health. (H.C. 85: price 9d.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*Persons in receipt of Poor Law Relief in England and Wales. Quarterly statement. January to March, 1923.* (S.O. publication: price 4d.)

RAILWAYS.—*Returns of accidents and casualties as reported by the several Railway Companies in Great Britain during the year ending 31st December, 1922.* Ministry of Transport. (S.O. publication: price 2s. 6d.) (See also page 240 of this GAZETTE.)

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.—*Third annual report of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board to December, 1922.* (S.O. publication: price 2s.) (See also page 241 of this GAZETTE.)

SAVINGS BANKS.—*Post Office Savings Banks: accounts of all deposits received and paid during the year ended 31st December, 1921, together with a statement showing the aggregate amount of the liabilities of the Government to depositors.* Treasury. (S.O. publication: price 4d.)

WAGES.—*Wages changes in various countries, 1914 to 1922.* Studies and Reports, Series D. No. 10. (International Labour Office: price 2s.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, JUNE, 1923.

ADMIRALTY.

(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.)

Air Compressor: Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Batteries:** D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire.—**Branch Breakers, Spares for:** Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Brass, Naval Sheets and Plates:** Vivian & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Brooms and Brushes:** W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; J. Root & Son, London, N.; Rigby, Battcock, Ltd., London, E.; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Prison Commissioners, London, S.W.; S. Ludbrook & Co., Ltd., London, E.; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Institution for the Blind, Leeds; Chestnutt, Cooper & Co., London, E.; Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans; W. R. Speer & Sons, London, E.—**Brown Jean:** Union Mill Co., Manchester.—**Brushes, Painters', etc.:** Chadwick & Shapcott, Ltd., London, W.C.; E. A. & W. Greenslade, Ltd., Bristol; C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; J. T. Millwood & Sons, London, E.; W. Morier & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Newton & Cook, London, S.W.; A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; R. A. Rooney & Sons, London, E.C.; J. Root & Son, London, N.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; Webb & Foulger (Brush Mfrs.), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Buttons, Gilt:** Firmin & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Caps, Blue Cloth:** Reese & Bonn, Ltd., London, E.—**Caps, White Duck:** S. Schneiders & Son, London, E.—**Capstans, Electric:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Chain, Mooring and Gear:** H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Chester.—**Chemicals:** F. Allen & Sons (Poplar), Ltd., London, E.; Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire; United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Coffee:** Ridgways, Ltd., London, E.; W. Williams & Co. (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coils:** H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Compasses, Conversion of:** Dent & Co. & Johnson, Ltd., Linwood, near Paisley; Kelvin, Bottomley & Baird, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Controlling Boards:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cotton Cleaning Cloth:** Fairlea Mill Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot, Yorks.—**Cotton Fabric Shorts:** Frank Lane, London, E.C.—**Cork Carpet:** M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Cranes, Revolving Jib:** T. Smith & Sons (Rodley), Ltd., Rodley, Leeds. (Sub-Contractors for Motors: Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester.)—**Electrodes:** Quasi-Arc Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Oil:** Campbell Gas Engine Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Flour:** C. Brown & Co., Ltd., Croydon; E. Marriage & Sons, Ltd., Felixstowe; North Shore Mill Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Marriage, Neave & Co., Ltd., Battersea.—**Fossil Meal:** Reid, McFarlane & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Ground Dyers:** Burrell & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Hare & Co., Bristol.—**Gum Shellac, Orange:** W. G. Barton & Co., London, E.C.—**Hammer, Compressed Air:** John Cochrane (Barrhead), Ltd., Glasgow.—**Hoses, Flexible Oil Fuel:** Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; United Flexible Metallic Tubing Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**India Rubber Goods:** J. E. Baxter & Co., Ltd., Leyland; Greengate & Irwell Rubber Co., Ltd., Salford; C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; North British Rubber Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Insulating Material:** Ioco Rubber & Waterproofing Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Ed. Macbean & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Mica Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Bromley (Kent); Mica & Micanite Supplies, Ltd., London, N.; Micanite & Insulators Co., Ltd., London, E.; R. Whiffen, Ltd., Manchester; H. Clarke & Co. (Manchester), Ltd., Manchester; Butterfield & Renton, Harrogate; Attwater & Sons, Preston.—**Lathe Bar:** Pollock & Macnab, Ltd., Bredbury, Stockport.—**Lead, Red:** Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Chester.—**Leather for Royal Marines:** J. Conyers & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; Western Tanning Co., Ltd., Bristol; E. C. Jenner & Co., London, S.E.; J. & A. Hillman, Ltd., Dudley; Wm. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton; H. Densham & Son, Ltd., Bristol; Randall & Porter, Ltd., Ulverston, Lancs.—**Linseed Oils:** Dixon, Cardus, Ltd., Southampton; S. Earle & Co., Ltd., Hull; J. L. Seaton & Co., Ltd., Hull; Smith Bros. & Co., London, E.; Younghusband, Barnes & Co., London, S.E.—**Machine, Tool and Cutter Grinding:** Churchill Machine Tool Co., Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester.—**Milk, Condensed:** St. Ivel, Ltd., Frome; Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., London, E.C.—**Motor Alternators, etc.:** Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford; Newton Bros (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Oakum, Black:** Tough Bros., Dundee.—**Paints, Mixed and Dry Colours:** L. Berger & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Blacklock & McArthur, Ltd., Glasgow; Colthurst & Harding, Ltd., Bristol; N. J. Fenner & H. B. Alder & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; R. Gay & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Bristol; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; J. Hare & Co., Bristol; Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Low, Clayton & Hicks, Ltd., London, W.; Naylor Bros. (London), Ltd., Slough; A. G. Soutar & Co., Ltd., London; W. R. Todd & Son, Ltd., Hull.—**Pipe Bending Presses:** Fielding & Platt, Ltd., Gloucester.—**Pumps, Hydraulic and Accumulator:** Fullerton, Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley.—**Screwing Tackle, Engineers:** Nuckey, Scott & Co., London, N.; H. Williams & Son, London, E.; B. D. & Co. (Edward A. Boynton), London, E.C.; Lehmann, Archer & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Easterbook, Allcard & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; E. H. Pickford & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steam Cooking Plant:** Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tapes:** G. H. Wheatcroft & Co., Wirksworth; J. & N. Philips & Co., Ltd., Tean, Stoke-

on-Trent; Bole Hall Mill Co., Tamworth.—**Timber for Tobacco Cases:** A. & G. Paterson, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Travellers, Electric:** Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Parkhead, Glasgow. (Sub-Contractors for Motors: Laurence Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich.)—**Twines:** Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., Dundee; Wm. Gale & Sons, Bridport; T. Gill & Sons, Ltd., Summerbridge; J. Holmes & Son, Wakefield; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow.—**Washing at H.M. Establishments, etc., at Portsmouth:** Alverstoke & Fareham Laundries, Gosport; Brunswick Dyeing & Cleaning Co., Portsmouth; Flux's Gosport Steam Laundries, Ltd., Gosport; Brunswick Family Laundry Co., Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Winches, Steam Sounding:** Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne.

ADMIRALTY.

(CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.)

Plymouth: **Portland Cement:** Smeed, Dean & Co., Sittingbourne. **Creosoted Timber:** Plymouth & Oreston Timber Co., Ltd., Plymouth.—**Portsmouth:** **Portland Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **Glazed Bricks:** Scourse & Kingston, Ltd., Bedminster, Bristol. **Wood Blocks:** Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Gibraltar:** **Galvanised Steel Fabric Reinforcement:** British Reinforced Concrete Engr. Co., Ltd., Manchester. **Timber:** Wm. Crundall & Co., Dover. **Fir Timber:** Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Rangoon:** **Steel Piling:** British Steel Piling Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

WAR OFFICE.

Boots: Lewis Morrison, Ltd., Aberdeen; St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd., Raunds; Stephen Walker, Northampton.—**Brass Sheet:** Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Smethwick.—**Brushes, Hair:** Beechwood, Ltd., Chesham.—**Caps, Service Dress, etc.:** L. Silberston, London, N.W.—**Carriers, W. T.:** J. B. Brooks & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Covers, Dish, etc.:** H. W. Carter & James, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Curtains, Mosquito:** Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.—**Drums, Oil:** G. T. Johnson & Co., Liverpool.—**Fuel Economiser, Supply and Erection of:** E. Green & Son, Ltd., Wakefield.—**Gas Meters:** The Rotary Meter Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Magnesium Powder:** Magnesium Co., Ltd., Blackheath, S.E.—**Mattresses, Single:** Atkinson & Co., Ltd., Addington Street, S.E.; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., Southgate Road, N.—**Nickel:** Mond Nickel Co., Ltd., Swansea.—**Oil, Lubricating:** Valvoline Oil Co., London, E.C.—**Pneumatic Covers:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sacks, Oat:** Barber & Morrison, Ltd., Deptford, S.E.; Hardie & Smith, Ltd., Dundee.—**Sanitary Appliances:** Finch & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sheets, Linen:** J. Gunning & Son, Ltd., Cookstown, Co. Tyrone; W. Lumsden & Son, Freuchie, Fife; T. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; W. Thomson & Son, Strathmiglo, Fife.—**Sitz Baths:** T. G. Blood, Birmingham; Hy. Loveridge & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Water Meters:** George Kent, Ltd., Holborn.—**Wire Fencing:** Wm. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Zinc:** British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Works Services: Maintenance Works:** Freshwater: Arundel (Painters), Ltd., Bradford. Sandown: Arundel (Painters), Ltd., Bradford. South Aldershot: Bagnall, A., & Sons, Ltd., Shipley. Blackdown, Surrey: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., Shipley, Yorks. Glasgow, Maryhill and Paisley: Brown, J., Hamilton. Hamilton: Brown, J., Hamilton. Sandhurst, T. Carr, Halifax, Yorks. Bordon, Hants.: T. H. Jones, South Farnboro', Hants. Holywood: Miskimmin & Sons, Ltd., Belfast. Belfast: Miskimmin & Sons, Ltd., Belfast. Winchester: Ross, H. G., Netley Abbey.—**Building Works and Services:** Warley Barracks: A. J. Arnold, Chelmsford. Canterbury: G. Browning, Canterbury. Preston: C. & G. L. Desoer, Ltd., Liverpool. Drainage at Seaforth Barracks, Liverpool: C. & G. L. Desoer, Ltd., Liverpool. Dover, Shaft Barracks: G. Lewis & Sons (Dover), Ltd., Dover. Married Soldiers' Quarters, Francis Street, and Willow Street, Westminster: Roberts, C. P., & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Painting:** Burscough: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., Shipley.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft: Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Blackburn Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft (Reconditioning and Conversion):** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircraft Spares:** A. V. Roe & Co., Manchester; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Bristol; Blackburn Aeroplane Co., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Hayes; Supermarine Aviation Co., Southampton; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Airscrews:** D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Airscrews (Bison):** D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Aluminium Paint:** Titanine, Ltd., London, W.—**Artificers Works (Halton):** H. J. & A. Wright, Ltd., Great Missenden.—**Bombs, Practice:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Trojan, Ltd., Croydon.—**Building Works Services—Erection of Married Quarters (Leuchars):** Alex. Kinnear, London, N.—**Building Works Services—Conversion of Buildings (Old Sarum):** T. W. Heath, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Coal (Netheravon):** Bradbury, Son & Co. (1920), Ltd., Southampton.—**Coal (Martlesham Heath):** Mellonie & Goulden, Ltd., Ipswich.—**Coal (Shotwick):** John Jones & Co., Chester.—**Coke (Uxbridge):** Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cotton Fabric (Proofing):** J. Man-

delberg & Co., Ltd., Pendleton, Manchester.—**Dope, Cellulose Acetate:** British Cellulose & Manfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engine (Aero):** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines (Aero) Spares:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Ford Spares:** Wallace-Harmer Motors, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Kegresse Device (fitting to Crossley Light Tenders):** Citroen Kegresse, London, S.W.—**Kite Balloons "R" Type:** C. G. Spencer & Sons, London, N.—**Linen, Old Rags:** S. & M. Myers, London, E.—**Loco. Tractor Spares:** W. H. Dorman & Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Magnetos (A.Q.) and Spares:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Magnetos (A.V. 14) and Spares:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Magnetos (A.Q. 9) and Spares:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Marine Distress Signals:** Royal Arsenal, London, S.E.—**Modifying "Jupiter" Engine to Pusher Type:** The Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Motor Generators, Starters and Transformers, etc.:** W. Mackie & Co., London, W.—**Radiators (D.H. 9a):** Excelsior Motor Radiator Co., Leeds.—**Reconditioning of Aircraft:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Repair of Aircraft Spares:** De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware.—**Seaplane, Work on:** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex.—**Soaps:** P. Lunt & Co., Liverpool.—**Sparking Plugs (K.L.G.) and Washers:** Robinhood Engineering Works, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Timber, Imported Swedish:** G. H. Renton & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tyres (Inner Tubes and Valve Seatings):** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tyres (Rapson):** The Rapson Tyre & Jack Co., Ltd., New Malden.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Alternator Spares: Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Boots:** Stephen Walker, Walgrave, Northampton.—**Boring Machine:** The Atlas Engineering Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Bridge Work:** Braithwaite & Co., London, S.W.—**Cement:** Cement Marketing Co., London, E.C.; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Tunnel Cement Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cloth:** P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Coal Tar:** J. E. C. Lord, Weaste, Manchester.—**Copper Tube Plates:** Messrs. Elliott's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Copper Wire, etc.:** The Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, near Wellington, Salop.—**Disinfectant:** The Sanitas Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Drums:** F. Robinson & Sons, Hull.—**Dungaree:** Cottrill & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Fireboxes, Copper:** Kitson & Co., Ltd. & Reduced, Leeds.—**Flannel:** J. Bradbury & Co., Uppermill, Yorks; J. Radcliffe & Co., Rochdale.—**Haulage Gear:** Beckett & Anderson, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Iron Work:** W. Macfarlane & Co., Ltd., Possilpark, Glasgow.—**Knickers and Blouses:** T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Linotype Composing Machine:** Linotype & Machinery Ltd., London, W.C.—**Locomotives, etc.:** The Hunslet Engine Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Meters, etc.:** Ferranti, Ltd., Hollinwood, Lancs.—**Motor Lorry Chassis:** Dennis Bros., Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.—**Motor Lorries:** Cubitt's Engineering Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Neo-Salvarsan:** A. C. Henry, London, E.C.—**Oil:** Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paint:** Torbay Paint Co., London, E.C.—**Paper, Straw:** Dunster & Wakefield & Co., London, E.C.—**Petrol:** F. & A. Swanzy, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Pipes, Wrought Iron, etc.:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Glasgow.—**Pipes, Cast Iron, etc.:** Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Co., Chesterfield.—**Planking, Teak Dock:** The Lytham Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., Lytham.—**Poles, Redwood:** Calders, Ltd., London, W.—**Printing Machine:** Furnival & Co., Ltd., Reddish, Stockport.—**Printing, Paper:** C. Baker & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pumping Machinery:** Worthington-Simpson, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Quinine Hydrochlor:** Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford, Essex.—**Rails and Fishplates:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, London, E.C.—**Railway Materials:** R. Hudson, Ltd., Leeds.—**Railway Track:** The Light Railways, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Serge, etc.:** T. & J. Tinker, Bottoms Mills, near Huddersfield.—**Serge:** Co-operative Wholesale Society, Buckfastleigh, Devon.—**Sheets, G.C.:** The Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Mersey Ironworks, near Birkenhead.—**Shovels, etc.:** V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Spare Parts for Carriages and Wagons:** The Gloucester Railway Carriage & Wagon Co., Gloucester; Hurst, Nelson & Co., Ltd., Motherwell; P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Spares for Dredger:** W. Simons & Co., Ltd., Renfrew.—**Stationery:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steam Engine:** M. L. Huybrecht, Sweveghem, Belgium.—**Steelwork:** William Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge.—**Steel Rails:** Barrow Hæmatite Steel Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel Fishbolts, etc.:** C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Steelwork, etc.:** Sir William Arrol & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Steel, Corrugated:** Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.—**Steel Plates:** G. Bailey, Toms & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steelwork, etc.:** Widnes Foundry Co., Ltd., Widnes.—**Sulfarsenol, etc.:** Willecox, Joseau & Co., London, E.C.—**Surgical Dressings:** Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Surgical Instruments:** Down Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Telegraph Line Materials:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Telephone Switchboard, etc.:** The British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Telephone Cable:** British Insulated & Helsby, London, W.C.—**Tiles, Asbestos, Cement, Roof, etc.:** Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tyres, Engine:** Taylor Bros. & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Underframes, Wagon:** Leeds Forge Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Varnish:** Robert Kearsley & Co., Ripon.—**Water Cranes, Cast Iron, etc.:** J. Blakeborough & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telegraphic: Murray Printing Telegraph Systems (Donald Murray), London, E.C.—**Apparatus, Telephonic:** Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L.M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.; General Electric Co., Ltd. (Peel-Conner Telephone Works), Coventry; Phoenix Telephone and Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Sterling Tele-

phone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Apparatus, Testing, Protective, etc.:** British L.M. Ericsson Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts.—**Apparatus, Wireless:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Blocks for Frames, Jointing Pit:** Waltham Cross Joinery Co., London, N.—**Bolts for Combiners:** C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Boxes, Battery:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Brackets:** D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs.—**Cable, Submarine:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott and Helsby; Connollys' (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; Enfield Ediswan Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Leyton; Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; The Receiver, Messrs. H. W. Smith & Co. (1920), Ltd., Lydbrook, Glos.; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, Essex; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Candles for Safety Lamps:** Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Carriers, Service:** Middlemores (Coventry), Ltd., Coventry.—**Casing and Cover:** W. Duncan Tucker & Sons, Ltd., London, N.—**Casks:** J. Muddeman & Son, Bournbrook, Birmingham; Tyson & Co. (Millwall), Ltd., London, E.—**Cells, Secondary and Parts:** Accumulators of Woking, Ltd., Woking.—**Chloride of Ammonia (Voltoids):** Brunner, Mond and Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire.—**Chloride of Manganese:** F. S. Bayley, Clanahan & Co., Manchester.—**Clothing, Waterproof:** G. MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Maryhill, Glasgow.—**Coils, Loading:** Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Compound:** Dussek Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cords, Telephone:** Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville, Burton-on-Trent; Donington Sanitary Pipe & Firebrick Co., Ltd., Moira, Burton-on-Trent; J. Oakes & Co., Jacksdale, Notts.—**Motor Cycle Combinations:** B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Redditch and Small Heath, Birmingham.—**Metal Fittings, Wireless:** J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Mudguards for Bicycles:** Wasdell Rim & Tube Co., Birmingham.—**Panels, Charging:** Power Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Paper for Envelopes, etc.:** J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Burnside, Kendal; C. Townsend Hook & Co., Ltd., Snodland, Kent.—**Poles, Telegraph:** Gabriel, Wade & English, Ltd., Hull.—**Rods, Sweep's:** F. J. Mathews & Son, Birmingham.—**Roofs, Galvanised, Iron:** T. Williams & Sons, Ltd., Halesowen, Birmingham.—**Rope, Hemp:** Frost Brothers, Ltd., London, E.—**Screws for Wood:** Nettlefold & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Spindles:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Spirit, Motor:** Anglo-American Oil Co., London, E.C.—**Staples, Copper:** Rylands Brothers, Ltd., Warrington.—**Tents, Jointers, Collapsible:** J. Smith & Co. (London), Ltd., Goodmayes, Essex.—**Tools, Instrument:** W. Wilkinson & Sons, Penketh, Warrington.—**Tubes, Air:** C. Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Vehicles, Motor and Parts:** H. G. Burford & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Wire, Bronze, Insulated:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Wire, Copper:** F. Bolton & Sons, Oakamoor, Staffs.; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Enfield Ediswan Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop; F. Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Salford.—**Wire, Flameproof, V.I.R.:** Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Zincs, Rod, Lacleanche:** Siemens Brothers & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bag Cleaning Plant:** Crewe Railway Station Sorting Office; Dallow, Lambert & Co., Ltd., 63, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.—**Cable Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing:** Low Moore: Western Electric Co., Ltd., Connaught House, Aldwych, W.C. Paddington-Kensington-London Wall Junction: Western Electric Co., Ltd., Connaught House, Aldwych, W.C. Halifax-Bradford: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Surrey House, Embankment, W.C. Warrington-Northwich: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Surrey House, Embankment, W.C. Swansea-Pontardawe: Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Western Shore, Southampton.—**Conduits, Laying:** Fulham, etc.: O. C. Summers, 111-113, York Road, N. Malden: O. C. Summers, 111-113, York Road, N. Plymouth: J. F. Hodge & Co., Rednal, near Birmingham. Harrogate (South): J. F. Hodge & Co., Rednal, near Birmingham. Liverpool (Old Swan): H. Wilson, 252, Hanson Lane, Halifax. West Hartlepool: H. Coxhead & Co., Ltd., 33, Albert Road, Middlesbrough. Cooden (Bexhill) and Woldingham (Surrey): J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., 41, Ebury Bridge Road, S.W. War Office-S.W.D.O., etc.: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., 41, Ebury Bridge Road, S.W. Tunbridge Wells-Eastbourne-Hastings (Section IV.): C. V. Buchan & Co., Ltd., Victoria Road, Southwick, Brighton. Plymouth-Polmarkyn (Sections I. and II.): C. V. Buchan & Co., Ltd., Victoria Road, Southwick, Brighton. Exeter-Plymouth (Section I.): C. V. Buchan & Co., Ltd., Victoria Road, Southwick, V. Brighton. Tunbridge Wells-Eastbourne-Hastings (Sections I., II., III., V. and VI.): G. P. Trentham, Ltd., 1 and 2, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham. Leigh (Lancs.): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Pool Street, St. George's Road, Bolton. Rhyl-Colwyn Bay: A. Monk & Co., Liverpool Road, Irlam, Lancs. Heswall (Cheshire): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., 121, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. Eversley (Hants.): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., 21, Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W. Woodford (Snakes Lane, Chigwell Boundary): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., 21, Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W. Meadway (Golders Green): J. A. Ewart, Ltd., 21, Old Queen Street, Westminster, S.W. Glasgow: W. Irwin & Co., Ltd., Burley Road, Leeds.—**Sheffield-Chesterfield (Section I.):** Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., 2, Cock Lane, Northfield, Birmingham. Bridgnorth and Wellington: Hodge

Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., 2, Cock Lane, Northfield, Birmingham. Sheffield-Chesterfield (Section II): C. S. Tomlinson, Victoria Street, South Normanton, near Alfreton. Sheffield-Chesterfield (Section III.): E. E. Jeavons & Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs. Granton (Edinburgh): W. Dobson, Yeaman Lane, Dundee Street, Edinburgh. Exeter-Plymouth (Sections II., III. and IV.): W. Dobson, Yeaman Lane, Dundee Street, Edinburgh. Gloucester-Newport (Sections I. and II.): W. Dobson, Yeaman Lane, Dundee Street, Edinburgh. Lasswade: W. Dobson, Yeaman Lane, Dundee Street, Edinburgh. Manchester (Blackfriars): Chandler Bros., 10, Piccadilly, Manchester. Liverpool (N.): The Northwest Construction Co., Ltd., 181, Chapel Street, Salford. Exeter-Plymouth (Section I.): Fothergill Bros., Ltd., 20 and 21, Cathedral Yard, Exeter. Hastings, Hove and Mayfield (Sussex): H. Collingridge, Harrow Drive, Romford, Essex. Gloucester-Newport (Sections III. and IV.): G. F. Leadbeter, 10, Conway Road, Newport (Mon.). Weston (Bath): S. Ambrose, 19, Green Park, Bath. Westbury (Wilts.): A. Blair, Lyell & Co., Ltd., 36, Cannon-street, Birmingham. Neston: W. P. & P. G. Hayes, Chester Road, Grappenhall, Warrington.

—**Manholes, Constructing:** Cardiff-Newport: G. F. Leadbeter, 10, Conway Road, Newport (Mon.).—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Middlesex Hospital, W.: The Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., Relay House, 27, Streatham Hill, S.W. Stirling: Western Electric Co., Ltd., Connaught House, Aldwych, W.C. Sub-Contractors: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Clifton Junction, near Manchester, for Batteries; Electrical Construction Co., Ltd., E.C., for Charging Set. Wednesbury: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E. Sub-Contractors: Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., S.W., for Batteries; The English Electric Co., Ltd., for Charging Machine; Crompton & Co., Ltd., Chelmsford, for Ringing Machines.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works: Fenny Stratford Repeater Station—Erection: Arthur Cole, Limited, Luton. Liverpool Bank Telephone Exchange—Asphalte: The Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalte Company, Limited, London. Glazing: Williams and Watson, Limited, Liverpool. Mason: E. & C. Smitton, Liverpool. Liverpool Old Swan Telephone Exchange—Asphalte: Engert and Rolfe, Limited, London. E. Marton Telephone Exchange—Erection: C. F. Mundell and Company, Limited, Middlesbrough. Maryhill Employment Exchange—Erection: T. Henderson, Glasgow. Mason: John Porter and Sons, Limited, Glasgow. Painting: The Norfolk Decorators, Glasgow. Plastering: James Cruickshanks and Company, Glasgow. Plumbing: James Anderson and Company, Glasgow. Parkhead Employment Exchange—Extension: Bremner and Company (Glasgow), Limited, Glasgow. Painting: The Norfolk Decorators, Glasgow. Plastering: H. Lind, Glasgow. Plumbing: Jas. Anderson and Company, Glasgow. Royal Mint—Joinery: The Central Aircraft Company, London, N.W. York H.P.O.—Alterations: W. Birch and Sons, Limited, York.—**Engineering Services:** Houses of Parliament—Air Compressors: The Hamworthy Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Kew Insurance Office—Cooking Apparatus: R. & A. Main, Limited, London, N. Liverpool Government Offices—Electric Wiring: T. Clarke and Company, Limited, London, S.W. Boilers and Mains: The Thames Bank (Blackfriars) Iron Company, Limited, London, S.E.—**Fittings and Furniture:** Card Index Cabinets: Thomas Bradford and Company, Salford. Chairs, Dressing Chests, Wardrobes, etc.: The North of England School Furnishing Company, Limited, Darlington; Robert Young's Construction Co., Ltd., London, N.; Arthur Cole, Limited, Luton; H. B. Tarleton, Redditch. Presses: H. Morris and Company, Limited, Glasgow; The Lord Roberts Memorial Workshops, London, S.W.; Thomas Bradford and Company, Salford; The North of England School Furnishing Company, Limited, Darlington; Geo. M. Hammer and Company, Limited, London, S.E.—**Miscellaneous:** Balustrading (W.I.): Strode and Company, Limited, London, N.W. Cartage: F. W. Surridge, London, S.W. Removal: Beck and Pollitzer, London, E.C.

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